

ACORN

104, Cockshed Lane, (108, Cockshot Road), (Olive Lane), (Maltmill Lane), Hill, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mrs. Hannah Rollason [1890]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1960s]
Enterprise Inns (acquired September 1991)

LICENSEES

Jonah Rollason [1870] – **1884**;
Mrs. Hannah Rollason (**1884** – [1911])
Norman Plant [1939] – [1941]
Jeff Green [1977]
K F Eaton [1983]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a bowling green

Jonah Rollason = Jonah Rollinson

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/7/1870

“*Jonah Rollason*, beerhouse-keeper, of Cocksedge, was convicted on the evidence of Police-constable Rowbury of selling at illegal hours on Sunday, the 26th of June, and was fined £1 and costs.”

1871 Census

Cockshead Lane

- [1] *Jonah Rollason* (40), licensed victualler, born Cockshead Lane;
- [2] *Hannah Rollason* (35), wife, born Cockshead Lane;
- [3] Mabel Rollason (13), daughter, scholar, born Cockshead Lane;
- [4] Roland Rollason (8), son, scholar, born Cockshead Lane;
- [5] Emily Rollason (3), daughter, born Cockshead Lane:

1881 Census

Maltmill Lane – ACORN INN

- [1] *Jonah Rollason* (50), beer retailer, born Netherton;
- [2] *Hannah Rollason* (44), wife, born Coombes Wood;
- [3] Roland Rollason (18), son, rivet maker, born Halesowen;
- [4] Emily Rollason (13), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Philip Phillips (21), boarder, carter, born Olive Farm, Halesowen;
- [6] Mabel Phillips (22), boarder, born Olive Lane, Halesowen:

Jonah Rollinson, beer retailer, Maltmill Lane. [1884]

Jonah Rollason died in the 4th quarter of 1884.

Emily *Rollason* married Thomas Parkes in the 1st quarter of 1889.

County Advertiser 6/9/1890 - Advert

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or Township of Hill, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District or Division of Halesowen, in the said County, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Hannah Rollason*, Beer Retailer, now residing at the ACORN INN, Cocksheds, in the Parish or Township of Hill, in the County of Worcester, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply at the Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting for the Division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office at Halesowen, in the said County, on the 30th day of September, 1890, for the Grant of a License or Certificate authorising me to Apply for and hold an Excise License for the Sale by Retail, at a House and Premises situate at Cocksheds, in the Parish or Township of Hill, aforesaid, of Wines and Spirits, to be Consumed either on or off

the Premises, in pursuance of the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, 1828, and Acts amending the same, of which said Premises I am the Owner, and the same are of the annual value by law required, and are now in my own occupation.

Given under my hand this 30th day of August, 1890.

The Mark of *Hannah Rollason*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/10/1890

“Halesowen. The adjourned licensing sessions was held yesterday.....

Mr. Smith applied on behalf of *Hannah Rollason*, of the ACORN INN, Cockshed, for a spirit license, which was refused.”

1891 Census

Cocksheds Lane – ACORN INN

[1] *Hannah Rollason* (52), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Halesowen;

[2] Emily Parkes (23), daughter, born Halesowen;

[3] Thomas Parkes (33), son-in-law, gas and water tube fitting maker, born Rowley:

County Advertiser 26/8/1893

“The annual licensing session for the petty sessional division of Halesowen was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

Superintendent Chare presented the following report I have also to report to your Worships that there are several licensed persons who are carrying on other businesses on their licensed premises, viz, one that of a butcher, and the others grocers and a greengrocer. I have given notice to three of them to appear before your Worships *Hannah Rollason*, ACORN INN, Cocksheds, who carries on the business of a grocer on her licensed premises I consider the premises not large enough for the business for which they are licensed. I respectfully ask for an expression of opinion in the matter, and shall be glad to carry out anything you may suggest.....

With respect to those persons who carried on other businesses, Mr. Howard said the Bench could not allow licensed premises to be of such a character as would open the door to breaches of the law, and it was necessary for these persons to make such alterations in the re-arrangement of their businesses as would satisfy the police, otherwise the Bench could not renew the licenses.

Mr. Arthur Smith (Birmingham) said he represented Mrs. *Rollason*, and he should advise her that there was no necessity for an alteration in her premises. Mr. Howard said the question could be discussed at the adjourned licensing sessions.”

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

Mr. Ward applied on behalf of William Parsons, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, for the conversion of his six days’ into a seven days’ license. He pointed out that two very similar applications had been made by Parsons, who considered there was a great need for the sale of spirits on the Sabbath day. The nearest fully-licensed house was 500 yards from his client’s house, and his house was situated in the midst of a locality which had a population of about 1,500 people. There was a great demand for intoxicating liquors, and he mentioned that there was a Foresters’ Club held at applicant’s house, and the members were greatly inconvenienced when they had to attend Sunday funerals, through the house not being open when they went for their regalia. He urged the Bench to grant the application, and thus place the whole of the license holders in that district upon an equality. Mr. A. Smith opposed the application on behalf of the next door neighbour, named Eades, and also Mrs. *Rollason*, landlady of the ACORN INN, on the ground that there was no need to increase drinking facilities of the district. He handed in a petition against the application.

Mr. Ward here handed in a petition signed by 135 inhabitants, and four medical men in favour of the application.

Mr. Lea Smith remarked that they knew how the memorials were drawn up.

Inspector Raybould said the district was amply supplied with intoxicating drink.

After a few minutes deliberation in private Mr. Lea Smith said the Bench had unanimously decided to refuse the application.”

County Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing meeting of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held on Tuesday last.....

Mr. William Parsons, of the VICTORIA INN, Maltmill Lane, the Hill, applied for the alteration of his license from a six days’ to a seven days’ license. Mr. W. Waldron appeared on behalf of the applicant, and Mr. A. Smith opposed.....

Mr. Waldron pointed out that the report of the Superintendent showed a most healthy condition of the district as far as the licensed victuallers were concerned. There were 64 licensed houses, and of this number only one had a six days’ license. There was only a beer license held by Mrs. *Rollinson*, only 100 yards away. The population had grown, and there were 300 houses in the district.

George Cox, labourer, and Thomas Parkes, gave evidence of cases of emergency in which brandy had been asked for at the house on Sunday, and it could not be supplied.

Mr. Smith stated that he appeared on behalf of the Rev. J. S. Stanwell, Primitive Methodist Minister, the Rev. William Hall, Methodist New Connection Minister, and Mrs. *Hannah Rollinson*, the holder of the neighbouring license. He submitted that the question of requirements was the gist of any such application, and the evidence of the applicant on a former occasion was to the effect that there were 300 houses in the district, so his evidence showed there was no increase in requirements. When the license was granted it was a compromise, as the Bench refused to assist in Sunday trading. The application was refused.”

County Express 12/5/1900

“Thomas Potter, The Hill, was charged with being drunk on the premises of the ACORN INN, at The Hill, on the 28th ult; Mr.

Vernon defended. Police-constable Emms said he was called to the house to eject the defendant, who was very drunk, and very excited. Cross-examined: He was told afterwards there was some dispute about money. Fined 2s 6d and costs. There was a further charge of refusing to quit, and the defendant was ordered to pay costs.”

1901 Census

Cocksheds Lane – ACORN INN

- [1] *Hannah Rollason* (62), widow, beerhouse keeper and grocer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Thomas Parkes (43), son-in-law, born Rowley;
- [3] Emily Parkes (33), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Thomas L. Parkes (8), grand-son, born Halesowen;
- [5] Alice Hipkiss (16), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 4/3/1905

“The adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division.....

Mr. E. H. Grove applied on behalf of William Parsons, of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Blackheath, for a full license, the present one being only a six days’ license. The application was opposed by Mr. S. Vernon for *Hannah Rollason*, of the ACORN INN, and Mr. George Eades, of Malt Mill Lane, also opposed it. The Revs. J. S. Jones, D. J. Price, and Mr. S. H. Bate opposed on behalf of the Blackheath and District Free Church Council. Mr. Grove explained that it was in deference to the wishes of the population that the license of the house should be extended to seven days. The applicant had kept the house for the last ten or eleven years, and had had licenses for twenty years, and had always kept them in a satisfactory manner. There was a drinking population of 1,000 in the neighbourhood, and new streets were being erected. It was the only six days’ license in the division.

Evidence in support of the application was given, and a petition signed by 120 of the inhabitants was put in in favour of the extension of the license.

Mr. Eades opposed because his property adjoined the public house, and he was afraid it would create a nuisance. The Rev. J. S. Jones said the Methodist New Connexion Chapel was close to the house. On Sunday they put a resolution to the congregation, and in the afternoon there were 50 adults present, and at night 86 adults. The resolution of opposition to the application was carried. Mr. S. H. Bate also contended that as the Primitive Methodist Chapel was in close proximity to the house it would be bad for the children who were going to school. Eventually the Bench decided to refuse the application.”

County Advertiser 15/6/1907

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the ACORN INN, Olive Lane, Halesowen, on Monday evening, touching the death of John Hipkiss (51), fitting maker, formerly living at Olive Lane, Halesowen, who had committed suicide by hanging himself at his home on Sunday morning.

The circumstances under which the man had taken his life aroused much interest and feeling in the district, and a large crowd assembled round the public house whilst the inquiry was being held.

Thomas Hipkiss, of Olive Lane, said deceased was his uncle, and had resided with him for some time. Deceased was a married man, but had been living apart from his wife for twelve months. He did not know whether it was true that they had separated owing to some property. Deceased had some property which he had turned over to his wife. Witness last saw deceased alive on Saturday night. Early on the following morning witness found his uncle hanging in the brewhouse, his body being suspended by means of a rope attached to a beam. Witness did not cut the deceased down, but called a neighbour to his assistance.

The Coroner said witness did not cut the deceased down when the neighbour came. If the man had only just hung himself such a delay would have proved fatal.

Witness said he went to cut the man down, but a neighbour would not let him, and told him to send for the police, which he did.

Continuing, witness said his uncle had been out of work for several weeks, and all he had been receiving was 10s per week from a Foresters’ club. On the previous Saturday a collection was made for him amongst his fellow workmen, which amounted to 9s.

The Deputy Coroner said he understood deceased owned several lots of property. – Witness: People say he does.

The Deputy Coroner: Why should the men collect money for him? – Witness: I can’t explain the reason.

At this point a jurymen said he should like the widow of the deceased man to be called.

Another Juror: I second that proposition.

The son of the deceased, Harry Hipkiss, who was present at the inquiry, said his mother was not fit to attend.

A Jurymen: She was fit to attend this morning.

Mr. Hipkiss: How do you know she was? – The Juror: By facts.

The Deputy Coroner (to Mr. Hipkiss): You must not argue with the jury.

The Deputy Coroner inquired for what reason the jury wished the widow to be called?

A Juror: To speak for herself.

Another Jurymen replied that he should like the widow to make a statement with regard to the property. The man was only in receipt of 10s per week, out of which he paid 4s 6d for rent, leaving him 5s 6d to live upon. He considered the matter should be cleared up.

Several other jurors thought the widow should be present, and at length the Deputy Coroner sent Police-sergeant Brown to fetch her.

Joseph Howard, of Olive Lane, Halesowen, stated that when he was called to the deceased’s house he found him quite dead. Witness had never heard deceased complain about his wife and children.

A Juror said deceased had suffered from a poisoned hand, and he had been led to take his life because his family had left him.

The Foreman of the Jury (Mr. Walter Smart) asked if they were in order when they inquired into the affairs of the deceased.

The Deputy Coroner replied that they were perfectly in order if it had any relation to the man's death.

The Foreman said he supposed they had to inquire into any cause leading up to the man's death?

The Deputy Coroner: That is so. If deceased had received any treatment which had led up to his death it was a very material piece of evidence.

The Foreman of the jury remarked that deceased seemed to have been in possession of some property. If he had turned that property over to his wife and family, and then should have to exist on grants from a benevolent society, that did not seem to him humane treatment. (Cries of 'Shame.')

The Deputy Coroner asked the jury to be quiet, reminding them that the facts had not yet been established.

The Foreman of the jury said they had not yet had the facts, but if the rumours prevalent in the district were correct, they ought to have a thorough investigation. He considered the widow should be present to clear up the matter.

The Deputy Coroner said they would have the woman before them presently.

With a view to clearing up the matter, the son of deceased applied for permission to say a few words. His father, he said, was a good man as long as he kept sober.

The Deputy Coroner said what the jury desired to know was whose property it was, how much a year it brought in, and why the deceased was not enjoying it. (Laughter.)

The son replied that his father worked for half the property, and his mother and sisters for the other half.

At this stage, Police-sergeant Brown returned with the widow, Mrs. Mary Hipkiss, who met with a hostile reception from the large crowd which had gathered round the public house.

She at once gave evidence, and in reply to questions said she had not spoken to her husband for six months. She left him because of his drunken habits. It was not true that the house she was living in at Vicarage Road, Hill, belonged to her husband. They lived comfortably together until deceased started to have too much beer. Eight houses had been transferred to her, and they were purchased with money earned by herself and her children in a drapery business, which they had had for fifteen years. The property was transferred to witness in consequence of deceased's drinking habits. Deceased, at the time the property was transferred, had lost his situation.

A Juror: And he lost his property when he turned it over to his wife. (Cries of 'Shame.')

The Deputy Coroner said the jury must not cry 'Shame.' He objected to the woman being bullied by the jury.

Several of the jurors denied that deceased had given way to excessive drinking, and one alleged that the man's death was due to witness having turned him adrift.

Replying to further questions, Mrs. Hipkiss said the property was transferred to her about two years ago. There was a mortgage of £840 still upon the property. She admitted that she had not sent deceased anything since he was ill, but he had been in the habit of having anything he wanted from his sons and daughters.

A Juror said that he had worked with the deceased for twenty years, and he had no hesitation in saying that he was of sober habits.

Replying to the Deputy Coroner, the widow said the property was voluntarily transferred to her, as her husband did not wish the property to be eventually confiscated. He gave way to drink, and had led her a fearful life. She had tried to do the best she could with her husband when he was under the influence of drink. When he was sober he was a good man.

Thomas Hipkiss was recalled, and in reply to the Deputy Coroner, said deceased was not sober at the time witness went to bed on Saturday night. He had never heard him make any complaint against his wife and children.

Police-sergeant Brown deposed to being called to deceased's house on the morning in question and cutting down the body.

The Deputy Coroner, in summing up, said his sympathy was with the widow, because he did not think she had in any way confiscated the property. The interest on the mortgage would amount to £40 per annum and after paying rates and the cost of repairs there would not be a large balance left. There was no doubt that the man's mind was unhinged at the time he took his life.

The foreman of the Jury said he was satisfied with the widow's explanation. There was no confiscation of property and there was no blame attached to the family. The only verdict he thought they could possibly return was one of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind.

Several of the jurors, however, strongly objected to this verdict on the ground that they had seen deceased on the day prior to his death and he was then in his proper mind.

The Deputy Coroner said suicidal mania came on suddenly.

A Juror: There was something which led up to it.

The Deputy Coroner said they had had quite enough in evidence of years of drink.

The jury returned a verdict that deceased committed Suicide, but expressed the opinion that there was no evidence to show the state of his mind at the time.

At the close of the inquiry there was another hostile demonstration against the widow, who had to be escorted to her home by Police-sergeant Brown, and Police-constables Clinton and Emms. The crowd also assembled round the woman's house, and the police had eventually to move them off."

AND

"Remarkable Scenes at the Funeral.

On Tuesday afternoon the remains of the deceased man were interred at the Blackheath Parish Churchyard. An attempt was made to keep the time of the ceremony secret, but notwithstanding this there was a large crowd, mainly of women, present. They were unable to gain admission to the churchyard owing to the vigilance of Police-sergeant Brown, Police-constables Clinton and James, assisted by a strong body of church officials. It was thought that a hostile demonstration would be made against the widow, but she was not fit to attend, and the crowd consoled themselves by booing and jeering at the other mourners.

A remarkable scene followed on the evening, when some friends of the deceased man who were under the impression that the funeral would take place on the following day organised a demonstration on a very extensive scale. An effigy made to represent the deceased man hanging by a cord attached to a pole was carried through the streets for some hours....."

County Express 26/2/1910

“On Wednesday night Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy-coroner) held an inquest at the ACORN INN, Olive Lane, Halesowen, concerning the death of James Hurley (46), iron-worker, Olive Lane, Halesowen, whose body was found in a wash tub at the rear of his home on Monday.

The widow, Amphlias Hurley, stated that her husband had recently suffered from a severe attack of influenza. He also had been out of work for three months, and for a time had been much depressed. He resumed work a week ago. On Sunday night deceased appeared to be much better when he retired to rest, but his head was still bad. Witness did not hear him get up the next morning. She was aroused by her brother-in-law, who said deceased was missing, and shortly afterwards he was found in the wash tub. Thomas Hurley, brother, stated that he knew deceased had suffered from influenza, but he had not heard him complain about anything. Witness woke at ten minutes to six, and found the house in darkness, and the door open. Witness made a search for deceased, and ultimately found him head downwards in the wash tub. Witness tried to pull deceased out, but failed, his body being wedged in the tub.

PC Bullock deposed to assisting the last witness to get deceased's body out of the tub. It was doubled up, and they could just see his two feet.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane.”

1911 Census

108, Cockshot Road – ACORN INN

- [1] *Hannah Rollason* (74), widow, beer retailer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Thomas Parkes (53), son-in-law, fitting makers foreman, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] Emily Parkes (43), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Thomas Leonard Parkes (18), grand-son, municipal engineers student, born Halesowen:

Hannah Rollason died in the 2nd quarter of 1919.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/3/1923

“Smethwick Harriers had a slow run from headquarters, all finishing together. On Saturday, 24 March, there will be an outlying run to the ACORN, Blackheath, with presentation to follow.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/3/1924

“An outlying run will take place tomorrow from HOLLY BUSH to the ACORN, Blackheath. Runners and friends meet at HOLLY BUSH at 3pm. Ladies especially invited. Tea, social and presentation of the season's prizes will follow.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/3/1938

“Halesowen Licensing Justices yesterday refused to grant a wine license in respect of the ACORN INN, a beer-house at Hill and Cakemore.”

1939 Register

104, Cockshed Lane – ACORN INN

- [1] *Norman Plant*, date of birth 1/5/1907, manager licensed premises, married;
- [2] Edith Plant, dob 27/3/1908, assisting husband, married;
- [3] Annie Vale, dob 22/1/1888, bar general, widow;

Walsall Observer 15/2/1941

“When prosecuting at Cannock for several offences against game laws, Mr. Frank Cooper, of Walsall, said, ‘One could understand the old-fashioned poacher. Fond of sport and wanting his Sunday dinner, he went out prepared to take considerable risks. The modern brand, if well enough off to own a car, goes prowling along country roads with rifle with silencer, shoots at birds, skips in and out of a field and gets away in his car.’

All the defendants were Home Guards, and one, Wm. Herbert Churchill, 32, Shenstone Avenue, Quinton, Birmingham, successfully contended that a Home Guard is entitled to carry a firearm without a certificate, a summons against him for having possession of a gun without a license being dismissed.

Jack Clifford Walton, aircraft fitter, of 26, Mill Road, Brownhills, was fined £3 3s 6d for killing game without a license and £2 13s 6d for trespassing for game.

Gilbert Colin Davis, YMCA, Dale End, was fined £4 with £1 costs for killing game without a license, sporting without a certificate and trespassing for game, Churchill was also fined £4 and £1 costs for aiding and abetting him.

Norman Plant, of ACORN INN, Cockshead Lane, Blackheath, and Lees Broadbent, 84, Garland Crescent, Blackheath, were each fined £1 with 12s costs for being in possession of a gun without a certificate.”

Norman Plant was a whippet breeder.

See also OLD CROSS GUNS, Cradley Heath.

Jeff Green was married to Barbara.

Sandwell Evening Mail 13/5/1994

“Gigs Tomorrow Fred Zeppelin (The ACORN, Blackheath).”

[1996]

Closed [2000]

Demolished [2006]

APPLE TREE

Birmingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Nock [1861] – [1866]

NOTES

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 20/1/1861

“J. White of Halesowen will fight any of the following men at 7st 12lb or 8st, for £10 a side, open for £25 a side; W. Parkinson of Westbromwich, D. Bedworth of Dudley Port, or T. Papish of Dudley £25 to £20. By sending a deposit to *Bells Life* and articles to Mr. *J. Nock's*, APPLE TREE INN, Halesowen, a match will be ensured.”

1861 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *James Nock* (37), nail maker, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ann Nock (36), wife, nail maker, born Halesowen;
- [3] Jane Nock (13), daughter, nail maker, born Halesowen:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/2/1863

“J. White of Halesowen will fight J. Garrott of Cradley Heath, and confine himself to 8st 2lb, and Garrott can be 9st 2lb, for £25 a side; or he will fight Harrison of Dudley, and confine himself to 8st 2lb, and Harrison at catch weight; or he will fight Tierney of Birmingham, or any other man in England, with an allowance of 2lb in weight, for £25 a side. Money ready at *J. Nock's*, APPLE TREE INN, Halesowen.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/3/1864

“Brettle of Birmingham has undertaken to find a man at 7st 13lb weight to fight Dollar White of Halesowen at 8st 11lb, for £50 a side; to meet at Mr. *Nock's*, APPLE TREE, Halesowen, on Wednesday, March 16, to name the man and draw up articles.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/6/1866

“J. White of Halesowen will fight Jem Fox at 8st 2lb, from £10 to £25 a side; or any one in Bristol at 8st 2lb, for £25 a side, half way between home and home; Stokes of Worcester can be accommodated from 8st 2lb to 8st 6lb, for the like amount. Either match can be made by sending a deposit to *Bells Life*, and articles to *J. Nock's*, APPLE TREE INN, Halesowen. The referee to be chosen on the day of weighing.”

ASHLEY HOTEL

393, (395), (73), Long Lane, Hill and Cakemore, Blackheath, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Alfred Cox Snr.

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909) [1932]

Union Pub Co. [2007]
Amber Taverns [2013], [2015]

LICENSEES

Alfred Cox Snr. [1867] – [1878]
Major George Cox [1880] – **1881**;
Alfred Cox Jnr. (**1881** – [1884]
Frank Rochford Garrard [1891] – [1892]
George Allen White [1896] – **1903**;
John Beetlestone (**1903** – []
John Lyman (**1904**)
James Richards (**1904**);
John Wakeman (**1904**)
John Lyman (**1904** – [1909]
John Beetlestone [1909]
John ‘Jack’ Fletcher [1911] – [1912]
Samuel Blakeway (**1913** – [1921]
George V Foord [1924]
Frederick Crampton [1939]
Charles McNeil [1966]
Bob Sandall [1981]
Kenneth Prosser [2002]
Barbara Woodin and Raymond Bowater [2007]

NOTES

73, Long Lane [1911]
393 Long Lane [1912], [1916], [1921], [1939], [2006], [2007]
395 Long Lane [1996]

It was originally called ASHLEY HOUSE.

County Advertiser 14/9/1867

“The annual licensing meeting of the magistrates was held at the close of the Petty Sessional business. There were four applications for spirit licenses, as follows *Alfred Cox*, Ale and Porter Stores, Long Lane, Black Heath, refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/10/1870 - Advert

“Wanted, a bay Window, in good condition. Address, price, size, &c.
Alfred Cox, Brewer, Rowley.”

1871 Census

Long Lane

- [1] *Alfred Cox* (42), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] Eliza Cox (40), wife, born Handsworth;
- [3] Agness Eliza Cox (19), daughter, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [4] *Major George Cox* (14), son, born Langley Green;
- [5] Emily Rosetta Cox (12), daughter, scholar, born Langley Green;
- [6] Walter Cox (10), son, scholar, born Langley Green;
- [7] Caroline Elizabeth Cox (8), daughter, scholar, born Long Lane:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/10/1871 - Advert

“Wanted, a Drayman, who can read and write, and make himself useful in the Brewery.
Apply, Rowley Brewery, near Station.”

Alfred Cox Snr. was also a brewer and hop merchant, Rowley Brewery.
He was also a veterinary surgeon [1873]

Birmingham Daily Post 6/12/1875 - Died

“On the 30th ult, aged 44 years. Eliza, the beloved wife of *Alfred Cox*, of Rowley Brewery, Rowley Regis; deeply regretted by all who knew her.”

County Express 2/9/1876

“Benjamin Piggott, drayman, in the employ of Mr. *Alfred Cox*, brewer, of Cakemore, was charged with having embezzled 12s 6d, the money of his employer. George Phillips, clerk, and collector, in the employ of the prosecutor stated that on the 28th of July he was out collecting accounts, and called at the house of Mr. John Skidmore, at Langley, for an account of 12s 6d, but a receipt was produced, signed by the prisoner, dated 8th April, 1876.

Mrs. Skidmore stated that on the 18th of April prisoner called at her house and she paid him an account of 12s 6d, and he receipted the bill produced. Police-sergeant Chapman said that he apprehended the prisoner at West Bromwich, on the 10th ult, and charged him with the offence. He said in reply, ‘I told him distinctly last Saturday week that I lost the money out of a hole in my trouser pocket. I offered to pay him last Monday, but he refused to receive it.’

Prisoner in defence made a long statement to the effect that he had lost the money and offered to refund it before anything was said about the present charge; Mr. *Cox*, had, however, taken the proceedings out of spite, because he refused to work extra hours. In answer to the Bench the prosecutor said the books had been examined and this was the only charge he had against the prisoner. The Bench said they wished to give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt as to whether he had any felonious intent. They did not think it was quite a clear case, and they had decided to dismiss it.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1876 - Advert

“Whelps. Five first-class Retriever Whelps for Sale. Price £1 each.
Apply to Mr. *Alfred Cox*, ASHLEY HOUSE, near Rowley Station.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/7/1878 - Advert

“Bicycle. A Bargain. A 50in Spider Bicycle; roller bearing, and patent brake on the front wheel; lamp; bells; all complete. Nearly new. Owner giving up riding.
Apply, *Walter Cox*, Rowley Brewery, near Rowley Station.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/10/1878 - Advert

“By Rodderick & Son. To be Sold by Auction at the Property Mart, 6, Temple Row West, Birmingham, on Tuesday, October 23, 1878, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.....

By direction of the Trustees of Mr. *Alfred Cox*, deceased.

Lot 2. Black Heath. The commodious and very substantial Freehold Residence, known as ASHLEY HOUSE, for many years in the occupation of the late Owner, who built it situate in Long Lane, Black Heath, Rowley Regis, about five minutes’ walk from the railway station, three miles from Dudley, and six miles from Birmingham; containing Dining, Drawing, and Breakfast Rooms; six Chambers, and other ample accommodation for a family, and having a Full Victuallers’ License attached, with Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Cellars, and other necessary business premises, so that if desired, a very profitable Retail Wine, Spirit, and Ale Trade could be carried on.

Also the Substantial Modern Freehold Ten-Quarter Brewery adjoining, known as the Rowley Brewery, comprising a lofty and imposing pile of Buildings, containing a Cooling Room, Malt Store (with Hoist), Crushing and Hop Rooms, Brewhouse, Mashing, Tunning, and Working Rooms, all built, arranged, and fitted up with great care by the late Owner, who for many years past carried on an extensive and very profitable business. Attached are Stabling, Cart-sheds, and other conveniences, and adjoining is a large Barrel Yard and vacant land, affording ample space for extension. Upon the property is a deep well affording an ample supply of pure spring water, of remarkable brewing qualities.

The Steam Engine and other machinery, Coppers, and other Trade Fixtures and Working Plant, and the Stores and Rolling Casks, Horses, Vans, Office Furniture, and other Effects appertaining to the Brewery, at valuation which will probably amount to £1,500. Early possession will be given, and the Purchaser will not only acquire a most excellent Business Premises and Residence, but also the Goodwill and Possession of an old-established and genuine Business, in a neighbourhood affording every scope for extension. The property contains 2,718 square yards.....”

County Advertiser 13/3/1880

“John Bateman and Christopher Bateman, miners, Blackheath, were charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of *Major George Cox*, Blackheath. Mr. Stokes prosecuted, and Mr. Hayes defended.

It seems from the evidence given the defendants were at complainant’s house on the 21st inst, and were very quarrelsome. They were ordered to leave, but refusing to comply were ejected. There were twelve previous convictions against John Bateman, and five against the other defendant. Each was fined 5s and costs, or fourteen days.

The defendant John Bateman was also charged with assaulting John Alfred Charlton, a person who assisted *Cox*, the landlord, to put defendant out. A fine of 2s 6d and costs was inflicted.

The defendant was further charged with assaulting Police-constable Knowles on the same date. Defendant was disorderly after he was ejected from the house. The officer took him into custody and defendant assaulted him. Defendant was fined 10s and costs, or in default twenty-eight days.”

County Express 12/2/1881 - Marriages

“On the 8th inst, at the Parish Church, Blackheath, by the Rev. F. Keatch, vicar, Alfred James, youngest son of the late John Clay, of Blackheath, to Emily Rosetta, second daughter of the late *Alfred Cox*, of Rowley Brewery, Blackheath.”

1881 Census

Long Lane – ASHLEY HOTEL

- [1] *Major G. Cox* (27), outrider (brewery), born Oldbury;
[2] *Caroline Cox* (18), sister, barmaid, born Halesowen;
[3] *Annie Sharp* (29), domestic servant, born Redditch:

County Advertiser 2/7/1881 - Advert

“Notice Is Hereby Given that the Partnership hereto subsisting between us, the undersigned, *Alfred Cox* and *Major George Cox*, carrying on business as Brewers, under the Style or Firm of ‘*Alfred and Major George Cox*,’ at Long Lane, in the parish of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, was this day Dissolved by mutual consent. All debts due and owing by the said Firm will be received and paid by the said *Alfred Cox*, by whom the said business will in future be carried on.

Dated this 29th day of June, 1881. *Alfred Cox. Major George Cox.*

Witness to the signing by both parties, Edward Docker, Clerk to Messrs. Gem and Docker, Solicitors, Birmingham.”

County Advertiser 9/7/1881

“On Thursday, at Worcestershire Assizes, before Mr. Justice Cave, an action for breach of promise of marriage was brought by *Elizabeth St. Aubyn*, a widow, in business as a haberdasher at Rowley Regis, against *Major Cox*, a brewer and licensed victualler of the same town. The case was, however, withdrawn by consent of the judge upon the application of Mr. Jelf, who stated that terms had been agreed upon. The terms were for the defendant to pay £130 damages.”

Dudley and District News 27/8/1881

“Halesowen. Annual Licensing Session.

The license of the ASTLEY [sic] HOTEL, Long Lane, was transferred from *Major George Cox* to *Alfred Cox*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/12/1882 - Advert

“Servant-Girl (good, strong, industrious) Wanted, with good character; one used to public-house preferred.
Apply, Mrs. *A. Cox*, ASHLEY HOTEL, Black Heath, Rowley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1883 - Advert

“Men (two) Wanted at once, to Work in Brewery; sober and industrious.
Apply, Rowley Brewery.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/12/1883 - Advert

“Servant Girl Wanted, honest and good character, for public business.
Apply Mrs. *A. Cox*, Rowley Brewery near Dudley.”

County Advertiser 22/8/1885

“*Henry Goodman*, brewer, Blackheath, was charged with assaulting *Sarah Taylor*, a married woman, on the 7th inst. Complainant gave evidence that she went to *Cox*’s public house on the evening named in the charge. She alleged that the defendant, who had a shawl over him as a disguise, dragged her to the floor. She had half-an-hour’s struggling with him, she should think, until her breath was gone. She pulled the shawl off him, and then saw who it was. He followed her into the passage of the house, and there threw her down a second time.

Mr. Cox, of the ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, stated that defendant was one of his workmen, and came to his house on the evening in question to have his allowance beer. Complainant came in, and asked a man named *Joseph Taylor* to give her or lend her a penny or pay for some beer. Complainant stood in the passage, and as defendant went by he caught against her shoulder, whereupon she pushed him down, and broke his pipe, and she also asked him for a pipe of tobacco. The Bench dismissed the case.”

Dudley Mercury 3/8/1889

“It is announced that the Rowley Brewery, near Dudley, is changing hands, and that *Mr. Belfield*, of Birmingham, has negotiated the sale thereof. The purchasers are private buyers.”

[The Rowley Brewery continued until c.1899.]

1891 Census

Long Lane – ASHLEY HOTEL

- [1] *Frank Rochford Garrard* (27), unmarried, brewer, born 62, Baker Street, London;
[2] *William N. B. Rochford* (29), brother, brewer and farmer, born 62, Baker Street, London;
[3] *Reginald W. Bird* (17), boarder, articled pupil, born Framlingham, Suffolk;
[4] *Susannah Cook* (27), housekeeper, born New Cross, Deptford, Kent:

Frank Rochford Garrard was also a brewer. [1892]

Manchester Courier 17/12/1894

“ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, near Halesowen, was completely destroyed on Saturday, by fire. Luckily all the inmates were rescued, although one had a narrow escape of being suffocated. The loss is about £2,000, which is covered by insurance.”

County Advertiser 14/12/1895

“A meeting of the Oldbury and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association was held on Wednesday afternoon, at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath. Mr. W. Smith presided.....”

County Advertiser 14/3/1896

“On Monday night the annual meeting was held, in the National Schools, Long Lane, Blackheath, to appoint representatives for the Cocksheds Ward on Hill Parish Council. The following were nominated for five seats.....”

George Allen White, ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane.”

[He was elected.]

County Advertiser 23/1/1897

“A complimentary dinner to the chairman in acknowledgement of one he gave to the Council a few weeks back at his home was provided at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, on Tuesday last.....”

[This appears to be in connection with the Council.]

County Advertiser 15/5/1897

“On Monday afternoon, Mr. A. H. Herbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, concerning the death of James Johnson (26), furniture dealer, of Long Lane, near Blackheath, who committed suicide on the 7th inst. Mr. George Hadley was foreman of the jury.

Maria Doyle, wife of John William Doyle, of Manchester, identified the body as that of her brother. On the 7th inst she was in the shop with him, and he then appeared to be in his usual spirits. He was not peculiar of mind, and nothing led her to believe that he would commit suicide. At ten o’clock witness found him lying on his back in the stable. There was nothing to lead him to go into the stable. Witness called his name, but, receiving no answer, she called for assistance, and Mr. Churchill came and immediately went for the doctor. Witness then fetched Mr. Hughes, and he turned the deceased over, and then she saw he had cut his throat.

Witness did not notice that there was blood about till then. He was not quite dead, and witness asked him if he would get up and go into the house, but he replied, ‘No; good bye. God bless mother; that’s all.’ Witness did not know a girl called Parkes, although after the suicide she heard that a charge of assaulting the girl had been made against deceased. She had never seen the girl Parkes in the shop, nor did she see the father or mother of the girl in the shop on the night of the 7th inst. Witness was informed by her cousin that the father and mother did come. Her cousin said she heard them talking, and that the father said he would take proceedings against deceased. Her cousin asked him what was the matter, and he replied that they were trying to kick up a rumpus about the little girl. When she found her brother in the stable, it was quite dark. She did not see a razor or knife near the deceased. Deceased had had a lot of worry over extra business which he had on hand, but she never heard him threaten to destroy himself.

Thomas Parkes, a miner, residing at No.6, Causeway, Blackheath said he had a daughter named Elizabeth Parkes, who was eleven years of age. In consequence of what she told him he went to deceased’s shop on Friday night last at about 8.30. Witness said to deceased, ‘Have you any recollections of this child?’ He replied, ‘Yes, I think so; she came for half a gallon of oil for Mrs. Lewis.’ Witness then asked him how he accounted for his misconduct towards the girl. Deceased hesitated for a bit, and then witness said, ‘You know she has got a truss on.’ Deceased said he did not think any harm had been done. Witness then said if it had been in your father’s days and anyone had indecently assaulted your sisters he would have brought someone else with him.

Police-constable Sherwood. The girl told him to his face that he took her upstairs, and told her she was a big girl for her age. He measured her leg and asked where she got the truss from. As witness was leaving he said, ‘This might not be the last of it.’ Witness at the time did not intend to take any proceedings. When he got home he and his wife talked the matter over, and as the child had received no injury they decided to let the matter rest. He thought the deceased was under the impression that he was going to fetch the police, because it did not take much effect upon him. He understood what was said to him, but did not seem to take much interest in the matter. Witness was of opinion that deceased was not quite responsible for his actions.

Dr. J. G. Beasley said he was called to see deceased at a quarter to eleven on Friday night. He was lying on his back with a deep wound in his throat, the main artery on the right side being divided. He found a penknife (produced) by his side. A wound in the throat like that would cause death in three or four minutes. He knew deceased intimately, but was not aware of any mental ailment. It was probable that deceased’s mind would be unhinged by the charge made against him.

In reply to Mr. Johnson, a brother, witness said he had never heard a breath of scandal against deceased during the time he had known him.

The Deputy Coroner said no doubt deceased was well known to the jury. They had heard that Mr. Parkes made a charge against deceased, and that it seemed to make little impression on him, he not denying it. The question for them to consider was how deceased came by his death, and what was his state of mind at the time. There was no doubt that the wound was inflicted by deceased, but whether his mind was unhinged at the time it was their duty to say. He was rather an eccentric man, and had a lot of worry in business matters. If they found that his mind was unhinged at the time then they would return a verdict of suicide whilst temporary insane.

Mr. Thomas Johnson, schoolmaster, of Manchester, a brother to deceased, said he had got a witness who would deny the statements made by Mr. Parkes. He wished the coroner to hear that witness.

Mr. Herbert: I am afraid that I shall not be able to take the evidence of your witness unless the jury wish to hear it. He did not see why they should take the statement; it would make no difference to the verdict. There seemed to be a charge made, but what was the effect upon deceased the jury would have to consider.

Mr. Johnson said his witness could utterly refute the charge that she was there the whole of the time.

The Coroner: Mr. Johnson I shall not be able to receive the statement.

Mr. Johnson: Mr. Parkes was allowed to make the charge, and I am here to refute it.

The Coroner: The jury are here to enquire whether a charge was actually made, and not to inquire into the truth of the charge.

The jury then, after some deliberation in private, returned a verdict of Suicide whilst Temporary Insane.

Mr. Johnson commenced to make another statement, when the Coroner remarked that, as he had already told him they were not there to inquire into the truth of the charge, but simply to find out whether a charge against deceased was actually made.

Mr. Parkes then got up, and said he thought he should be allowed to have a few words.

The Coroner: I shall not let either of you make a statement.

Mr. Johnson said it was a case of blackmailing, and he should proceed with it against Parkes.

Mr. Parkes: There is no case of blackmailing. I acted according to the complaints of the girl.

The proceedings then ended.”

County Advertiser 6/8/1898

“John Peace, miner, of Olive Lane, Halesowen, was charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, on the 29th ult. Mr. Hayes, of Halesowen, prosecuted, and explained that on the night in question a man named Jones went into the house. He became disorderly, and after a little persuasion in the part of the landlord (Mr. *George Allen White*) he left. Defendant, who was then in the house, lost his temper, and commenced to use obscene language. The landlord requested him to leave, but he refused to do so. Mr. *White* did not want to press the case, but only wanted to keep his house in an orderly manner. Defendant was ordered to pay the costs.”

County Express 17/2/1900

“Alfred Fletcher, Halesowen Street, Blackheath, was charged with stealing a silk handkerchief, value 2s, the property of *George White*, on the 9th inst.

Jane Judd, servant at the ASHLEY HOTEL, said she saw prisoner take the handkerchief from the table and put it in his pocket.

George Allan White, the landlord, said he went in search of the prisoner but could not find him. He gave information to the police.

Prisoner, on the same day, went back to the house and said, ‘He had brought the handkerchief back, and he begged pardon for taking it, as he thought it was only a bit of rag.’ He told prisoner the matter was in the hands of the police. It was worth 2s.

Joseph Streetly said prisoner had asked him to buy the handkerchief off him, but he refused. Police-constable Hunt arrested prisoner at the hotel with the handkerchief in his possession. When charged prisoner said ‘Two shillings; it isn’t worth 2d.’

Prisoner was sent for trial.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 7/4/1900

“Worcestershire Quarter Sessions. Alfred Fletcher (49), engineer, pleaded guilty to stealing a silk handkerchief, value 2s, the property of *George Allen White*, at Hill, on February 9.

The Chairman, in sentencing him to nine months’ hard labour, said that prisoner was convicted as far back as 1887.”

1901 Census

Long Lane – ASHLEY HOTEL

[1] *George A. White* (62), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] Lavinia White (63), wife, born Tipton;

[3] Percival A. C. Bagnall (12), grand-son, born Langley;

[4] May L. Burton (17), assistant barmaid, born Hunnington, Worcestershire;

[5] Hannah Onions (17), domestic servant, born Rowley:

County Express 26/5/1900

“Frederick Parkes, Halesowen Street, Blackheath, was charged with refusing to quit the ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, when requested, on the 7th inst.

The landlord and his daughter gave evidence, and said the defendant was drunk. He refused to leave when requested, and had to be ejected by the police.

Fined 10s and costs.”

County Express 25/10/1902

“*George Allen White*, landlord of the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 29th ult. Mr. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. Waldron defended. PCs James and Emms gave evidence to the effect that when they visited the premises on the night in question they found a man named Anthony Hollins drunk, with a pint of ale before him on the table. When the attention of the defendant’s daughter was called to Hollins, she said, ‘I told him to go out a few minutes ago.’ He asked to be allowed to have his drink, but his request was not complied with, and his money was returned. When he left the house he was very disorderly. In reply to Mr. Waldron, PC Emms said the defendant’s lease expired on the day of the alleged offence, and to his knowledge the house had for several years been well conducted. Mr. Waldron, for the defence, said the defendant and his representatives had no knowledge that the man was drunk, and PC James described the man as having a ‘slovenly appearance.’ Defendant had been engaged in the trade eighteen years, during which period no complaint had made against him. As a matter of fact, defendant had frequently invited the police to inspect the house. Several witnesses were called. They stated that Hollins appeared to be sober. The magistrates decided to convict, and fined the defendant £3 15s.”

County Express 22/11/1902

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy-Coroner for North Worcestershire) held an inquest on Wednesday, at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Black-

heath, with respect to the death of Hannah Green (50), a woman who, until lately, resided in Tibbett's Gardens, Cradley Heath. The deceased had recently been an inmate of the Dudley Union Workhouse. On Saturday she visited Rowley and Blackheath railway station for the purpose of catching a train to Dudley, but missed it. A porter advised her to go to Old Hill to catch a tram there, and she left the station. On the following morning her lifeless body was found on the railway near to the tunnel. The head was terribly crushed and the legs broken. As to how she got on the railway was a mystery. Inspector Freeman, who represented the Great Western Railway Company, stated he unable to ascertain which engine knocked deceased down. The police stated they had ascertained that deceased had lived apart from her husband for twenty years. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

County Advertiser 31/1/1903

"Mr. Thornton, representative of the North Worcestershire Brewery Co., applied for the transfer of the license of the ASTLEY [sic] HOTEL, Long Lane, Blackheath, from *George Allen White* to *John Beetlestone*. He produced an agreement which, he stated, provided a week's notice given by either of the parties.

Mr. Reay (presiding magistrate) considered that this was insufficient, and mentioned that the Bench would accept nothing less than a month's notice.

Mr. Thornton said the company experienced considerable difficulty bringing their agreements into line with the ideas of the different justices, but they were perfectly willing to alter them at the magistrates' suggestion. The agreement was then altered, and the Bench granted the transfer.

Mr. Reay remarked that it would save the time of the Court if the parties concerned would forward the agreements to the magistrates' clerk before the application was made."

George Allen White – see also BROWN LION, Oldbury and CRYSTAL PALACE, Oldbury.

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

"On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report.....

During the past year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows.....

George A. White, ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, permitting drunkenness, fined 20s and costs, 48s 6d.....

He had given notice of his intention to oppose the renewal of the following licenses upon these grounds.....

John Beetlestone, ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, (1) that on the 21st of October, 1902 *George Allan White*, who was then the licensee of the house, was convicted and fined £1 and costs for permitting drunkenness upon the premises; (2) that there was no necessity for a license for the premises, the requirements of the district being otherwise amply provided for.....

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the 'black list'.....

Mr. Thompson represented *John Beetlestone*, of the ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, Halesowen, and the license was renewed.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population....."

County Advertiser 31/10/1903

"The Recent Education Case. In consequence of Mr. Samuel Henry Bate, agent, of Green's Lane, Cakemore, refusing to pay the fine and costs imposed upon him by the magistrates at a recent Police Court, at Halesowen, a distraint had been levied upon his goods. The amount being a small one, only a fender and overmantle were seized, and these were conveyed to the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, where they were sold on Friday last by Mr. Hackett. The articles realised £1 2s 6d, and were bought in. There was a large attendance at the sale, and afterwards speeches were made condemning the actions of the magistrates in fining Mr. Bate, who claims that under the recent Education Act his child is entitled to free education, and he therefore declined to pay a fee of 1d per month demanded by the Blackheath National Schools to which the child was sent. A further distress will be necessary, as Mr. Bate declined to pay the fine which was inflicted upon him on the 20th ult."

County Advertiser 2/4/1904

"An application was made for the temporary transfer of the license of the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, from *James Richards* to *John Wakeman*. The application was granted, it being stated that the applicant's character was satisfactory."

Birmingham Mail 19/4/1904

"At Hales Owen Police Court to-day, a special licensing session was held, when several licenses in the division were transferred. In connection with an application for the transfer of the license of the ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, Black heath, to *John Lyman*, Inspector Griffiths pointed out that he had recently paid several visits to the house, and found a large number of young people assembled there. He hoped the applicant would see that young people were not encouraged upon the premises. The Bench granted that application, and Mr. Reay (presiding magistrate) remarked that they trusted *Lyman* would carry out the wishes of the police."

County Advertiser 13/10/1906

"The Fishing Club. The annual dinner in connection with the above club was held on Wednesday night at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, when the prizes gained in the recent contest at Highley were distributed by M. F. R. Garrard, of Stourbridge, who

presided over the gathering. A good number sat down to an excellent repast provided by the host (Mr. J. Lyman).....”

County Advertiser 22/6/1907

“A serious accident occurred at Rowley Regis Station Colliery last night week, which resulted in the death of a miner named Samuel Rogers (58), of Tabernacle Street, Oldbury, and serious injury to another named William Fletcher (32), of Malt Mill Lane, Blackheath. The two men, in company with a number of others, were engaged in a roadway when a ‘bump’ occurred, followed by an extensive fall of rock. Rogers was struck by a mass of roof, and when assistance was obtained he was found to be dead. Fletcher had sustained rather severe injuries to his arms and legs. He was removed to West Bromwich District Hospital, where it was found necessary to amputate a part of one of his feet.

On Monday evening Mr. A. H Herbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath. Mr. S. H. Makepeace (government inspector of mines) was present, and Mr. W. J. Smith represented the owners of the colliery. Mr. T. Mansell represented the Miners Association.

Maria Rogers, widow, identified the body as that of her husband. Deceased had worked at the colliery for six years, but had never complained of any danger. He went to work on the morning of the 14th inst in his usual health.

Edward Williams, miner of Churchbridge, Oldbury, stated that he went down the pit together with Rogers on the date named. The workings had been examined by Richard Pearson, the under manager, prior to their descent. Whilst deceased was engaged in loading the tubs they heard a ‘bump,’ which was followed by a heavy fall of rock. It blew all their candles out, and witness rushed away for his life. Immediately afterwards he returned and lit the candles. He then saw Fletcher, who was shouting for help. He was held down by a large piece of rock, which witness removed. Rogers could not be seen, but was subsequently found underneath the rock, dead, his head being crushed. The road was properly timbered. The place had been examined several times during the afternoon, and no fault could be detected. There was no fault behind the fall, which was caused entirely by the ‘bump.’ In reply to Mr. Makepeace, witness said the roadway was examined before they commenced to work. There was no sign of a slip. There had been several small bumps before, but the one which caused the fall was heard throughout the pit. The bump caused the supports to collapse.

John Felton, a miner, stated that when he heard the bump he went to the spot. Fletcher was being carried away. Witness found deceased, who was hemmed in between the junction cog and two trees. His head was partially covered with rock, and was badly crushed. He was quite dead.

Dr. W. L. Freer deposed to being called to the pit soon after the accident occurred. Rogers who had sustained a fractured skull, was dead.

The Deputy-coroner, in summing up, said every precaution had been taken to prevent the accident.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Advertiser 27/7/1907

“Ephraim Wood (45), chainmaker, of King Street, Cradley Heath, was charged with attempting to rob the till at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, Halesowen, kept by *John Lyman*, on the 17th inst. Prisoner went into the public-house and was served with drink. *Lyman* left the bar for another part of the house, and whilst there heard the till bell ring. He went back to the bar, and found prisoner in the act of getting over the counter. Prisoner was handed over to the custody of Police-sergeant Brown, and admitted the offence. He now pleaded he had been led to commit the offence through drink, but was sent to gaol for a month with hard labour.”

County Express 27/2/1909

“On Monday evening Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, concerning the death of Jesse Westwood (54), a fitter’s striker, formerly residing at Green Lane, Blackheath, who was killed on the Great Western Railway at Rowley Regis and Blackheath Station under mysterious circumstances yesterday week. Chief Inspector Chandler (Birmingham) represented the Railway Company.

Edward Westwood, brother of the deceased, stated that he had lived with him for some years. He last saw his brother alive on the Friday at 5.15am, when he left to go to work. Deceased was in good health, but his eyesight was very bad.

Joseph Mole, of Halesowen Street, Blackheath, stated that he worked at the same place as the deceased. On the night in question after work they went to a public house. He left deceased close to Snow Hill Station, Westwood stating that he intended to travel by the 9.20 train. Witness and other workmen travelled by the same train, but they did not see deceased on it. Deceased had been drinking, but was not drunk.

John Edwards, a guard, residing at Wolverhampton, stated that as the 10.15pm train was leaving Rowley Regis and Blackheath Station he felt a jolting movement of the guard’s van. When he reached Old Hill he gave information to the officials, so that the line could be searched. He did not think that they had run over a passenger.

Alfred Newman, foreman porter at Rowley Regis and Blackheath station, stated that he made a search of the line, and found the body lying underneath the bridge adjoining the platform. Witness knew the deceased, but he did not see him on the night in question. There were only about three passengers on the 10.30 train, and none of them noticed deceased.

PS Pegg stated that he removed the body to the ASHLEY HOTEL. He searched the body and half-a-crown and a return half of a workman’s ticket from Birmingham to Rowley Regis, which had been used that day.

Dr. Freer said deceased had sustained shocking injuries to his head and body, and from their appearance he had been run over.

The Deputy Coroner said there was no evidence to show how the deceased got under the train.

Chief Inspector Chandler said an examination of the rolling stock had been made, and no marks had been revealed.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 3/4/1909

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen Police Court, Percy Plant (25), tube screwer, and his wife, Harriet Plant (24), both of Beeches Road, Blackheath, were summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the ASHLEY HOTEL, Blackheath, on the 29th ult. The licensee, *John Lyman*, stated that whilst in the house the defendants behaved in a disorderly way to the other customers, and he had to ask them to leave. They declined to do so, and witness was occupied for twenty-five minutes in getting them out of the house.

Defendants were each fined 10s and costs.”

Indenture 28/10/1909

“.....And Also All the messuage part whereof was or is used as a dwelling-house and known as Ashley House and the other part is or was used as a public-house known as ASHLEY HOTEL This property is now all included in the ASHLEY HOTEL except one office.....”

1911 Census

73, Long Lane

- [1] *John Fletcher* (57), publican, born Oldbury;
- [2] Sarah Fletcher (62), wife, assisting in business, born Handsworth;
- [3] Mary Fletcher (19), daughter, assisting, born Oldbury;
- [4] Emma Low (29), widow, daughter, assisting, born Oldbury;
- [5] Elizabeth Low (7), daughter, school, born Oldbury:

John Fletcher – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/7/1911

“In the early hours of yesterday the bodies of David Willetts (12), and George Percival Willetts (7), the sons of parents residing at Darbey Street, Blackheath, were found in a disused marl hole, containing forty feet of water, at Hurst Green, Halesowen. The lads left home on Sunday to go to Sunday school at Blackheath, but instead of returning home they were seen to go in the direction of Hurst Green. As no tidings could be obtained of them on Monday, search was made for them, and the elder boy’s coat was found on an embankment near the marl hole. Ropes were obtained, with the result that between one and three o’clock the bodies of the lads were recovered by a man named Harry Pearce.

It is supposed that the younger boy fell into the water, and the elder tried to rescue him, and both were drowned. The bodies were removed to the ASHLEY HOTEL, near Blackheath, to await a Coroner’s inquest.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/6/1915

“The survivors of HMS *Triumph*, torpedoed in the Dardenelles, include Able Seaman H. Blakeway, son of Mr. *S. Blakeway*, ASHLEY HOTEL, Long Lane, Blackheath. *Blakeway* who has just returned to his home stated that he was in the water after the ship went down for twenty minutes; it seemed like twenty hours. He paid tribute to the work of the best swimming among the crew, who assisted to save those who could not swim and three of those who were injured by the firing of the torpedo.

Blakeway was present at the siege of Tsungstan [?] where, he says, he saw sights he will never forget.”

1939 Register

393, Long Lane

- [1] *Frederick Crampton*, date of birth 14/8/1894, hotel manager, married;
- [2] Gertrude Crampton, dob 3/5/1895, hotel help, married;
- [3] Ronald Crampton, dob 26/6/1926, at school, single;

Rob Sandall was married to Sonia.

It was refurbished and renamed WINDMILL’S END in 2013.

Halesowen News 18/12/2013

“A record total of almost £14,000 was raised in Blackheath for this year’s Poppy Appeal. Royal British Legion volunteers collected at Sainsbury’s 12 hours a day for a week, doubling the amount usually given by shoppers there. Legion branch secretary Mark Spilsbury said the total topped last year’s £13,100 by £800. Collectors dropped Merry Hill to concentrate on Sainsbury’s, which paid off, netting more than £5,200 said Mr Spilsbury. But collecting boxes in shops and businesses around the town were also fuller than normal.

Mr Spilsbury said, ‘Some raised double, which we found quite incredible. I can’t put the increase down to any particular reason, just people’s generosity, for which we are very grateful.’

Extreme Barbers collected £330 – the highest amount for a small business – which Mr Spilsbury described as ‘astounding’ as it was the first year the business had taken a collecting tin. ‘It usually takes a few years to build up, so to raise the most was fantastic,’ he said.

The former ASHLEY pub, the legion’s first headquarters in 1923, was the licensed premises to raise the most money for the appeal, in its new guise as the WINDMILLS END, with about £80. Brickhouse Primary School will receive the Arthur Hodgetts Trophy for raising the most per pupil.

Mr Spilsbury added, ‘The generosity of people locally has been tremendous and we would like to thank everyone who contributed by donating or volunteering, which has helped the annual total increase year on year.’”

[2019]

BELL

34, New Street, (Bedcote Street), CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Edwards [1859]
William Bunn [1860] – [1871]
Benjamin Homer [1880] – [1884]
Joseph Weswood [1884]

NOTES

BLUE BELL [1861]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was converted from a boot and shoe shop.

Worcestershire Chronicle 7/9/1859

“Mr. *Thomas Edwards*, of the BELL INN, Cradley, charged Thomas Jeynes with assaulting him on the 25th August last, by striking him and biting his thumb.

Upon cross-examination by Mr. Bray, *Edwards* said: Defendant was at my house from 11 o’clock in the morning drinking, and Peter Bannister was there a greater part of the time. It was said defendant could not drink two quarts of cider in ten minutes. I believe he did it; he was saucy – this was about seven o’clock at night, and I told him if he did not leave I would put him out of the house. He said I could not, and I took hold of his shoulder, and he caught me by the hair of the head and threw me down. I got up, fetched the handcuffs, and after a time, with the assistance of others, I put them on him, and then chained him to a tree, where he remained for two hours, until I saw Mr. Pearson, a magistrate, who told me to release him. I had struck him about the head with the handcuffs; he was afterwards put to bed at my house.

Hannah Crowley saw some part of the row.

Peter Bannister was examined, and in part corroborated complainant’s testimony. Cross-examined: It was about six or seven at night, we had been there from about 11 o’clock.

Mr. Bray addressed the bench for the defendant, and remarked that cider shops were a great curse to the country. The defendant was enticed there to spend his money, and when he could drink no more he was treated in the shameful way stated, cut by the handcuffs, and otherwise ill-used, and it was well for Mr. *Edwards* that he had not killed defendant, for if he had, he would have to hold up his hand in another court. Mr. *Edwards* was answerable to the defendant in an action for false imprisonment, and an assault and battery, which he, Mr. Bray, should most strongly advise Jeynes to bring. He called Hannah Cowley, who said: I saw defendant handcuffed by *Edwards*, and others; he was dragged ten or twelve yards; people called out, ‘You’ll kill him.’ *Edwards* said, ‘D— his heart, I’ll jolt his b— brains out. *Edwards* got a timber chain, and fastened Jeynes to a tree, and Mr. *Edwards* knelt on him.

The Bench said in the early part of the business complainant acted rightly, and the assault was proved. Defendant was convicted in 2s 6d penalty, and 13s 6d expenses, which he refused to pay, and was sent to prison for one month.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1860

“On Friday the Stourbridge annual licensing meeting was held in the Magistrates’ room at the Public Office.....

There were eleven applications for licenses, of which only three were granted Those which were refused were *William Bunn*, New Street, Cradley, beerhouse keeper.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/10/1860

“On Tuesday morning, an accident occurred at the Bear Moor Colliery, belonging to the New British Iron Company, whereby three men, Josiah Chivers, Henry Smith, and Joseph Siviter, were buried alive. It appears that the three men had gone down to a worked-out portion of the pit to eat their breakfast, and had sat down a few seconds, when about 100 tons of earth and rubbish

fell upon them from the roof of the pit, literally burying them alive. A lad had a miraculous escape. He was driving a horse close by the spot when the rubbish fell, the animal being buried, whilst the boy only received slight bruises. The most painful excitement prevailed in the locality during the day. Great difficulty was experienced in extricating the bodies, it being close to midnight before the last was recovered. On Friday, Mr. Edwin Hooper, coroner, held inquests upon the bodies of two men, namely Siviter and Chivers, the other being removed beyond his district. The inquest on Siviter was held at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Blackheath, and that on Chivers at the BELL INN, Cradley. It was stated that the pit was considered quite safe, and that the proprietors were known to be particularly careful that all necessary works for the safety of the men should be performed. The father of the deceased Siviter gave evidence that he was at work in the mine at the time of the accident, and that he considered it quite safe. The accident, it was stated, arose from a bump in the coal. The Coroner, after a lengthened inquiry, left it with the jury whether they thought an adjournment necessary, but they expressed themselves perfectly satisfied, and a verdict of Accidental Death was recorded.”

1861 Census

Bedcoat or New Street – BLUE BELL INN

- [1] *William Bunn* (46), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Hannah Bunn (42), wife, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] Emily Adams (20), daughter, born Kingswinford;
- [4] Joseph Adams (25), son-in-law, house carpenter, born Cradley;
- [5] Maria Bunn (18), daughter, born Rowley Regis;
- [6] William Henry Bunn (15), son, forgerman, ironworks, born Rowley Regis;
- [7] Emma Jane Bunn (13), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] Albert Bunn (11), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] Kiturah Bunn (5), daughter, scholar, born Cradley:

Worcester Journal 27/4/1861

“Beerhouse Offences. Samuel Lenyard, of Cradley, was charged by Supt. Freeman with having his house open for the sale of beer, on Sunday, the 21st inst. The case was proved by PS Booth. This being the first offence, the defendant was ordered to pay 1s and 7s costs.

John Stringer, and *William Bunn*, both of Cradley, were also fined 1s each and costs for similar offences.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 8/1/1862

“Alfred and Martha Priest (husband and wife) were charged with having feloniously received 19s 6d, the money of *William Bunn*, of Cradley, knowing the same to have been stolen. The prosecutor is a publican, at Cradley, and also keeps a provision shop. The male prisoner is a chainmaker at the same place. The public house was managed by *Bunn*'s wife, and the provision shop by his daughter, Mrs. Adams. Complainant had a daughter, aged 13, and she had been tutored by the defendant and his wife to convey away sums of money. This had been proceeding for ten months, during which Mrs. *Bunn* had been ill. Mrs. Priest had been in the habit of being in the house continually, and knew where the money was kept. She had induced the daughter to go to those places and take the money, and then give it her. Jane *Bunn*, the girl in question, proved having, from time to time, stolen money belonging to her father, and given it to one or other of the prisoners. The robbery had been committed in an ingenious manner. After consulting, the Bench said that there was no evidence against the woman of having received the particular sum specified in the charge, but Alfred Priest they should commit for trial. Mr. Swindell said they were of opinion that the wife was as bad, if not worse, in having corrupted this child in the first instance. Fortunately for her the summons only comprised one certain charge of taking 19s 6d, which she did not appear to have taken, but that she had received other sums they were quite satisfied. The woman then left the dock.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 5/3/1862

“Adjourned Worcestershire Epiphany Sessions.....

Alfred Priest, a chainmaker, living at Cradley, was charged with receiving 19s 6d, the property of *William Bunn*, knowing the same to have been stolen. *Bunn* keeps a public house at Cradley, and his daughter, a girl about 13 years of age, was the principal witness. She stated that she was on friendly terms with the prisoner and his wife, and that the prisoner on the 9th December asked her to go and fetch him some money from her father's house, telling her that it would not be missed. She went home, and opening a drawer up-stairs took a handful of silver which she gave to him. In cross-examination she said she had done the same thing many times before. It was proved that the amount taken was 19s 6d. Guilty. The prisoner received a good character. He was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour. Martha Priest, the wife of this prisoner, was charged with receiving a sovereign under like circumstances. In this case no evidence was offered, by the recommendation of the court, and she was acquitted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1863

“The Stourbridge annual general licensing meeting for the division was held yesterday.....

The following were the applications for licences, all of which were refused.....

William Bunn, New Street, Cradley, beerhouse keeper.”

William Bunn, beer retailer and shopkeeper, New Street. [1864]

Birmingham Daily Post 14/4/1864

“On Monday night, a labourer, named James Teague, met his death under the following shocking circumstances. He had been drinking all day at the BELL public house, Cradley, and left in the evening, and proceeded to the house of his brother. After having remained there for a short time, he went out, and returned with a pint of gin, which his wife and sister-in-law in vain endeavoured to take from him. He swallowed the liquor at a draught, and the women quitted the house. In about a quarter of an hour afterwards, a man named William Attwood entered, and discovered him lying on the floor. Mr. Hudson, surgeon, was instantly called in, but found that life was totally extinct. An inquest will be held on the body.”

County Advertiser 26/8/1865

“The annual licensing meeting for the Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division was held yesterday..... Applications were made for spirit licenses by the following.....
William Bunn, beerhouse keeper, New Street, Cradley Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1866

“The annual meeting for renewing old and granting new licenses, was held at the Public Office, on Friday The old licenses were all renewed and there were several applications for new ones.....
William Bunn, Cradley, refused.....”

County Advertiser 31/8/1867

“The annual licensing meeting of the petty sessional division of Stourbridge was held yesterday..... There were seven applications for spirit licenses *William Bunn*, Cradley Refused.”

Worcester Journal 5/9/1868

“Stourbridge annual licensing meeting was held on Friday, at the Public Office..... The following applications for licenses were made *William Bunn*, Cradley..... The Magistrates declined to grant any of the applications.”

1871 Census

BELL INN

- [1] *William Bunn* (54), widower, shingler and innkeeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Maria Bunn (24), daughter, born Cradley;
- [3] Albert Bunn (19), son, shingler:

1881 Census

34, New Street

- [1] *Benjamin Homer* (41), shingler, born Stourbridge;
- [2] Martha Homer (40), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Amy S. E. Homer (16), daughter, born Rowley;
- [4] Clara S. E. Homer (12), daughter, scholar, born Rowley;
- [5] Bertha A. Homer (9), daughter, scholar, born Rowley;
- [6] Fredrick J. Homer (6), son, scholar, born Rowley;
- [7] Emily M. Homer (4), daughter, scholar, born Rowley:

County Express 1/4/1882 - Advert

“Cradley. Valuable Freehold Public House and other Properties.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. William Oliver, the TALBOT, Cradley, on Tuesday the 18th day of April, 1882, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that excellent Old-Established Freehold Public-House, the BELL INN, situate in New Street, Cradley, in the occupation of Mr. *Benjamin Homer*, an annual tenant. The Premises comprise Tap Room, Smoke Rom, Bar, Kitchen, Cellars, Two Bed Rooms, large Club Room, Brewhouse, Stabling, Garden, and Appurtenances. Also all that Freehold Dwelling-House adjoining, in the occupation of Joseph Bradley.

The Lot stands in a first-class position for business purposes, has every convenience, and is well supplied with hard and soft water. It also has a right of road to the High Street.....”

County Advertiser 12/1/1884

“*Joseph Westwood*, landlord of the BELL INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness. PC Gillam's evidence was that he saw a drunken man named Cartwright leave defendant's house at five minutes to ten on the night of the 22nd December. The defendant and two other witnesses now swore that the man Cartwright was taken out of the house between seven and eight o'clock on the night in question, and that he did not return that night. The case was dismissed.”

County Express 2/2/1884

“*Joseph Westwood*, landlord of the BELL INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 23rd inst. Mr. Waldron defended.

A man named Joseph Raybould was charged with being drunk on the premises.

PC Chare said he went to *Westwood's* house to arrest Raybould, and found the latter drunk.

Other police officers were called to show that Raybould on the way to the station admitted being fresh, and that he was drunk when in the prison cell.

Mr. Waldron called a large number of witnesses to state that Raybould was not drunk.

Defendant stated that Raybould only had five pints of fourpenny in his house, and that he went home between the pints to have something to eat.

The Bench considered the case proved, and fined *Westwood* £10 and costs and endorsed his license. He had been previously convicted for permitting drunkenness.

Raybould, for being drunk on the premises, was fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 23/8/1884

“The annual licensing sessions for the Stourbridge division were held yesterday.....”

Twelve applications were now made by persons whose names appeared on the black list, for the renewal of their licenses.....

The license of *Joseph Westwood*, of the BELL beerhouse, Cradley, who was fined 10s and costs, and £10 and costs, for permitting drunkenness on two occasions, was refused.”

BELL

High Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Sarah Parkes [1855] – [1858]

Richard Williams [1861]

NOTES

County Advertiser 2/1/1858

“The following persons were charged, through the information of Mr. Miles Overend, Inspector of Weights and Measures, with having in their possession unjust measures.....

Sarah Parkes, the BELL, Halesowen, 4 quarts, and 3 pints. Fined 1s with costs.”

1861 Census

High Street – BELL INN

[1] *Richard Williams* (29), domestic gardener and victualler, born Hagley;

[2] *Elizabeth Williams* (32), wife, born Knowle, Warwickshire:

BENJAMINS

Birmingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Marshall [2000]

John Marshall and Chris Gormley [2006]

NOTES

The building was originally a Primitive Methodist Church.

It was named after Benjamin Hingley, who had laid the foundation stone. He was Mayor of Dudley.

Halesowen News 30/9/1999

“A Halesowen pub is hosting a music hall concert for St. John’s Church restoration 2000 appeal. The Stephen James Players will be at BENJAMINS, Birmingham Street, at 7.30pm on Thursday October 21. Tickets are £4.50.....”

Halesowen News 11/11/1999

“Halesowen will soon be home to a 30 bedroom hotel after councillors agreed plans for an accommodation extension to BENJAMINS night club and pub.....”

Halesowen News 16/11/2006

“Halesowen landlord *Chris Gormley* has left the OLDE QUEENS HEAD after establishing it as a regular live music venue. Chris is joining forces with *John Marshall* to run BENJAMINS where he will continue organising events. The OLD QUEENS HEAD, Birmingham Street, closed its doors on November 11 with a farewell gig by Slowburner. Chris said, ‘We are limited by the size and shape of the OLD QUEENS HEAD, but BENJAMINS is ideal, with a capacity of over 400 in the function room and 300 in the bar, and unhindered views of stages. There will be regular Thursday open mic nights and gigs by named acts. Bandy Koot will perform at BENJAMINS on Friday November 17, with the Micky Kemp band appearing on Saturday November 18.’”

It became a banqueting and conference centre. [2009]

Halesowen News 23/6/2016

“One of the world’s best Elvis tribute acts is playing his only Black Country gig of the year this weekend. The Halesowen Hound Dog Mark Summers has won a host of international competitions and even has the blessing of The King’s wife Priscilla Presley. The Elvis tribute has just signed a deal which will see him performing across Europe until next year so Friday night’s gig at BENJAMINS in Halesowen will be his only 2016 date in front of his local fans. Mark can perform any of Elvis’ incarnations from his time in the US Army to his flare-ridden show-stopping Las Vegas phase but on Friday he will be the Elvis of the late 1950s. He will be flanked by The Memphis Sons who will recreate the Rock n Roll performances which made Elvis change music forever. Mark said, ‘I love playing in Halesowen because it is so rare these days, the last time I did it was before Christmas when I raised over £2,000 for St Margaret’s of Hasbury church’.”

BIRD IN HAND

HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Fitter [1827]

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 26/5/1827

“On Tuesday last four men, named John Hollis, Joseph Phillips, Thomas Keyte and Joseph Stanley, were committed to Shrewsbury gaol, charged with committing a burglary at the BIRD IN HAND INN, at Hales Owen, kept by Mr. *Fitter*, on the 3rd inst, and stealing several hams and other property.”

Birmingham Journal 18/8/1827

“Shropshire Assizes. Death Recorded.....

Thomas Kidd, Joseph Stanley, John Hollins, and William Christie, for breaking into the dwelling-house of *George Fitter*, of Hales Owen, and stealing thereout seven hams and other property, with which they proceeded to Birmingham, where they were apprehended by police officers.”

BLACK HORSE

19, Banners Lane, (19, Overend), Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

New British Iron Co. Limited [1893]
John Rolinson and Son Ltd. [1898], [1906]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

Charles Arnett [] – **1870**);
Eliza Arnett (**1870** – [1871]
Samuel Billingham [] – **1878**);
Moses Hipkiss (**1878** – **1881**);
William Raybould (**1881** – []
Joseph Parsons [1884]
Harriet Boaler [1886]
John Beasley [1891] – [1894]
John Homer [1898] – **1906**);
Edward Stevens (**1906** – **1908**);
Mrs. Annie Stevens (**1908** – **1910**);
John Jones (**1910** – **1911**);
Joseph Jones (**1911** – **1915**);
William 'Bill' Palmer (**1915** – **1942**);
Amelia Palmer (**1942** – **1945**);
Stanley Allout (**1945** – **1947**);
Frank Ernest Perkins (**1947** – **1948**);
Martin Ridley Barnsley (**1948** – **1957**);
John Thomas Berry (**1957** – **1961**);
Edward Sidney 'Ted' Allen (**1961** – **1963**);
John Rollason (**1963** – **1971**);
Douglas Edward Garrison (**1971** – **1972**);
John Michael McWalter (**1972** – **1973**);
Allan Brown Henderson (**1973** – **1974**);
Ronald Tilley (**1974** – **1975**);
Philip Millard (**1975** – **1976**);
David Moss (**1976** – **1977**);
Peter Childs (**1977** – **1978**);
Colin Stuart Day (**1978** – **1979**);
David Lewis Jackson (**1979** – **1980**);
David Bore (**1980** – **1981**);
Patrick Joseph Roberts (**1981** – **1982**);
Andrew David Venton (**1982** – **1983**);
Brian Harold Holliday (**1983** – [1989]
Steve Edmunds (**2004** – [2006]

NOTES

19, Overend [1912], [1928]
19, Banners Lane [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

The third floor garret room is reputedly haunted by the ghost of a servant girl called Lucy.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/10/1870

“At the Public Office yesterday, the following transfers were allowed.....

Beerhouse BLACK HORSE, Cradley, to *Eliza Arnett*, widow of *Charles Arnett*, deceased.”

1871 Census

Over End

[1] *Eliza Arnett* (51) widow, victualler, born Cradley, Worcestershire;

[2] Sarah Arnett (15), daughter, born Cradley, Worcestershire;

[3] Henry Leedham (30), lodger, engine driver, born Bagworth,, Leicestershire:

County Express 31/8/1878

“Conservative Association. On Tuesday evening last a meeting of this association was held at the house of Mr. *Hipkiss*, the BLACK HORSE INN, Overend, Cradley. There was a good attendance. Mr. T. Williams presided.....”

1881 Census

Banners Lane

- [1] *William Raybould* (30), ironworker, pudler, born Rowley;
- [2] *Charlotte Raybould* (34), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Alfred W. Raybould* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Edith Raybould* (5), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

County Advertiser 1/12/1883 - Advert

“To Let, BLACK HORSE INN, Overend, Cradley. This Old-established Beer-licensed House, pleasantly situated, with good garden. Rent £15. Income low.

For further particulars, apply on the Premises.”

County Express 23/2/1884

“*Joseph Parsons*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Overend, Cradley, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk on his own licensed premises, on the 13th inst. Police-constables Chare and Gwillam went to serve a summons on defendant for another offence, and found him in the condition stated. Mr. Waldron defended.”

County Express 10/7/1886

“*Harriet Boaler*, landlady of the BLACK HORSE, Overend, Cradley, was charged by PC Webb with selling ale without a license. The case was withdrawn on the payment of costs, and a temporary authority granted to the defendant.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/7/1887 - Advert

“To Let, BLACK HORSE INN, Overend, Cradley; near Corngreaves extensive ironworks. Apply to the landlord.”

1891 Census

Banners Lane – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *John Beasley* (28), chainmaker, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] *Rhoda Beasley* (32) wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *Lizzie Beasley* (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Edith Beasley* (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] *Ellen Beasley* (5), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath:

County Advertiser 21/10/1893 - Advert

“In The High Court Of Justice, Chancery Division. In Re the New British Iron Co. Limited.

Notice of Sale of Various Freehold Lands and Buildings.

Mr. Thomas J. Barnett is instructed to Submit for Sale by Auction, at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Tuesday, October 31st, 1893, at Three for Four o’clock in the Afternoon, subject to Conditions of Sale, in Twenty Six Lots.....

Licensed Beerhouse, the BLACK HORSE INN, at Overend.....”

County Advertiser 8/12/1894

“*John Beasley*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE, Cradley, was charged with being drunk on his own premises, on the 24th ult. Mr. Waldron defended. The case was adjourned until today for the purpose of hearing the evidence of Dr. Thompson, of Cradley.”

County Advertiser 30/7/1898 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

I, *John Homer*, now residing at BLACK HORSE INN, Cradley, in the Township of Cradley, in the said County, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Court House, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 26th day of August, 1898, for a License to Sell by Retail, Intoxicating Liquors, to be Consumed either on or off the Premises, at a House situate at, and known as the BLACK HORSE INN, in the Township of Cradley, in the said County, and being within the said Division.

The Owners of the House in respect of which the License is required are John Rollinson and Son Limited, of Netherton.

Given under my hand this 29th day of July, 1898.

John Homer.”

County Advertiser 27/8/1898

“The annual licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Stourbridge, were held yesterday at the Police Court.....

John Homer, landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Overend, Cradley, applied for the sanction of the Bench to certain plans and

improvements in the premises on plans produced, and also applied for a full license. Mr. Herbert Collis said he appeared on behalf of the applicant and the house had been wrecked by mining operations. That being the case, the owners, Messrs. Rollinson and Son Limited, of Netherton, were desirous of having the premises repaired, for which they asked the sanction of the Bench. In regard to the application for the full license, he might say that it was within the knowledge of the Bench that Cradley had an increasing population. New streets were being made, and many houses were being put up. There were also a number of small works being erected in the township, and commercial travellers often came to these works soliciting their goods. There was no good accommodation for travellers in Cradley, where they could get a good mid-day meal, and as the Bench would see from the plans the accommodation of the house would be improved considerably, this fact admirably meeting the wants of travellers. Superintendent Pugh said he opposed the application. He did not like public-houses in a heap, and he thought there was quite a sufficient number in that district.

Mr. Collis said that competition was a good thing.

Superintendent Pugh said he understood that the owners of the public-house in question owned a fully-licensed house not fifty yards away.

Mr. Collis said the owners said it was not such a good house as this would be.

Superintendent Pugh said there were two fully-licensed houses within a short distance of this place, and the number of inhabitants was 450.

Police-sergeant Clarke was called, and said that within a radius of 80 yards there were a 100 people, and there were two fully-licensed houses within a short distance of the BLACK HORSE. No home had been built in the immediate neighbourhood within the past eighteen months.

Dr. Freer asked if there was any place where commercial travellers could get accommodation?

Police-sergeant Clarke said there were suitable rooms at the BULLS HEAD INN. I never saw a commercial traveller there though. (Laughter.) The Bench approved the plans, but refused the application for a license."

County Advertiser 9/3/1901

"Halesowen Rural Council. Sanitary Committee.....

The county analyst reported that no trace of arsenic was detected in any of the samples of beer taken from Annie Halward, HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury; Enoch Pearce, FORGE INN, Halesowen; *John Homer*, BLACK HORSE, Cradley; John Auden, RISING SUN, Cradley."

1901 Census

Banners Lane, Overend

- [1] *John Homer* (48), beerhouse manager, born Rowley;
- [2] Maria Homer (48), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Maud Homer (22), daughter, dressmaker, born Rowley;
- [4] Blanche Homer (14), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] Samuel Leonard (23), son-in-law, sinker in pit shaft, born Cradley;
- [6] Elizabeth Leonard (21), daughter, born Rowley;
- [7] Alice Leonard (5 months), grand-daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] Anabel Hingley (40), visitor, block chain maker, born Halesowen:

County Express 23/11/1901

"Mr. A. H. Hebbert, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the BLACK HORSE INN, Cradley, on Tuesday afternoon upon the infant child of Thomas Barnsley Nock, puddler, of Mill Street. The child was born on Wednesday, the 13th inst, and during the day he became very restless, and cried. The mid-wife, a Mrs. Gretton, wishing to give it castor oil, sent Mrs. Barnsley's little girl, aged 5 years, to fetch the bottle from the kitchen. The grandmother, Mrs. Emma Barnsley Nock, an old lady aged 70, said to be illiterate, was in the kitchen at the time, and gave the girl what she thought was the bottle of castor oil from the mantelpiece, but as a matter of fact, handed her a bottle containing 'oil of tar' which was so labeled, and also with the word 'poison,' which was on the mantelpiece together with the bottle of castor oil. The child took the bottle upstairs, and gave it to her mother, who gave it a dose of its contents to the infant. Instead of getting better, the child got worse, and on the mistake being discovered, Dr. de Denne was called in, and attended the infant until Saturday morning, when it succumbed to the effects of poison. Evidence was given bearing out these facts.

PS Clark said he took possession of the bottles, and found them to be of similar size and shape.

Dr. de Denne said there was no need to give the child castor oil so soon.

The Coroner in summing up, said it was clear the old lady should have taken more care. It was plainly a mistake, and, therefore, the jury should return a verdict of Accidental Death.

The jury returned this verdict, but the Foreman said they thought the coroner should censure the grandmother.

The coroner called the grandmother in, and said it was rather neglectful on her part, and told her to take more care in the future."

County Express 4/1/1902

"Sick and Draw Clubs..... BLACK HORSE (Overend, Cradley). This club sat down to a splendid repast provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Homer*, on Saturday. After the cloth was drawn, songs and solos were given by members. The chair was taken by Mr. Harbach. A pleasant evening was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem. A dividend of 12s 10d was declared."

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter’s Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

Annie Stevens married *John Jones* in the 4th quarter of 1909.

1911 Census

Banners Lane – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *John Jones* (27), chain maker, iron, born Cradley;
- [2] *Annie Jones* (33), wife, married 2 years, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *Edith Stevens* (6), step-daughter, born Old Hill;
- [4] *Beatrice Hill* (20), servant, born Quarry Bank;

County Express 8/7/1911

“At the Stourbridge Police Court, yesterday, *John Jones*, BLACK HORSE INN, Cradley, was summoned by his wife, *Annie Jones*, under the Married Women’s Act, for persistent cruelty and an order for maintenance was asked for. Mr. Waldron appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. G. Williams defended.

Mr. Waldron said his client was a widow in December, 1909, and held the license of the BLACK HORSE INN, Cradley. In that month she married the defendant and turned over the business to him. For a short time they lived happily, but a fortnight before Christmas last year defendant began to ill-use his wife, and the ill-treatment culminated in Mrs. *Jones* leaving her husband on the 1st of this month, when he disgracefully assaulted her. He might say that he had been in communication with Mr. Williams in the matter and the only point on which they did not agree was the amount of maintenance which should be paid.

Mrs. *Jones* then gave evidence that in addition to the profits from the public business her husband was a side welder at which he had told her he could earn 18s per day if he worked. She was living apart from him now and was afraid of him. She asked for 15s a week in maintenance.

Defendant, a powerful looking man, in reply to Mr. Williams, said he was a chain striker and sometimes only earned from 8s to 10s a week.

Mr. Amphlett: You don’t look as if you are living on 10s a week – (laughter). Further questioned, defendant said the most he could get was £2 per week.

The Bench made an order for defendant to contribute 15s per week, to pay the costs and solicitor’s fee and costs of four witnesses, who were present but were not called.”

Plans for alterations were approved by Stourbridge magistrates in 1911.

Cradley XLCR Band held its annual meeting and dinner here in January 1930.

London Gazette 1/8/1933

“*Palmer, William* (the *Younger*), trading as William Clare, Junior, The BLACK HORSE, Banners Lane, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, and carrying on business at Overend Wharf, Cradley Heath, in the county of Stafford, Coal Merchant.

Court - Stourbridge.

Date of Filing Petition - July 28, 1933.

Date of Receiving Order - July 28, 1933.

Whether Debtor’s or Creditor’s Petition - Debtor’s.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/10/1933

“*William Palmer, jun.*, living at the BLACK HORSE INN, Banners Lane, Cradley, and carrying on business at Overend Wharf, Cradley Heath, as a coal dealer under the style of William Clare, jun., attended at Stourbridge Registrar’s Court yesterday for his adjourned public examination in bankruptcy. The Registrar refused to close the examination.

The hearing had been adjourned to give *Palmer* an opportunity to prove his assertions that his two former partners received money for the firm which was not paid into the firm’s account.

He now produced books showing certain items which had not been accounted for, and he was subjected to a lengthy cross-examination by the Official Receiver regarding certain sums of money he received immediately before and after the receiving order was made. He stated that he had paid the money away, but to whom he could not say.

Some of the debtor’s answers were such that the Registrar reminded him of the possibility of criminal proceedings being taken against him unless he gave satisfactory answers.

Answering Mr. J. Higgs (for the former partners) he denied that it was he and not his partners who had misappropriated money

belonging to the firm.

Mr. Higgs intimated that the two former partners of the debtor emphatically denied the suggestions of the misappropriation made against them.

Palmer admitted that since the receiving order was made he had been on a holiday, but said the money which that cost was paid out of his savings.

Mr. Geoffrey King, on behalf of the debtor, asked for the examination to be closed, but the Registrar, in adjourning the case sine die, intimated that when *Palmer* gave a full account of his estate an application for closure could then be made.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/12/1934

“A fine of £5 6s, plus £4 14s special costs, was imposed at Stourbridge yesterday on *William Palmer*, licensee of the BLACK HORSE INN, Overend, Cradley, for having allowed unlawful gaming on his premises – a football sweepstake.

Superintendent Milsom said that in view of *Palmer*’s previous good record – 19 years – as a publican – he would ask the Chief Constable not to use the case as an argument against the renewal of the license.

Mr. Higgs (prosecuting) said that on Saturday, 24 November, the police visited the house with a search warrant, and found a book containing a record of weekly 6d sweepstakes in connection with football from the beginning of the season.

There were 59 names in the book for the matches being played on that day.

Mr. Higgs maintained that a sweepstake run by a publican was a handicap to other licensees, because it was an extra attraction.

Mr. E. J. Thompson, pleading for leniency, said many people regarded sweepstakes as a harmless form of gambling, and there were thousands who would not think of having a bet, but would think nothing of having 5s in a sweepstake.

He pointed out that part of the receipts were set aside for the hospital, in connection with which the BLACK HORSE had won the challenge shield for the past three years for the highest hospital contributions from licensed houses.”

1939 Register

19, Banners Lane – BLACK HORSE INN

[1] *William Palmer*, date of birth 16/01/1883, licensee, married;

[2] *Amelia (Palmer) Evans*, dob 18/3/1885, home duties (unpaid), married:

Birmingham Mail 24/3/1941 - Advert

“Commer 1936 N4 hydraulic tipper, offers.

Hillman Minx ’35 de luxe Sal. black good tyres and engine & appearance perfect £80.

BLACK HORSE, Overend, Cradley.”

Birmingham Mail 1/9/1941 - Advert

“Riley 9 ’34 2/4-seater Coupe just rebored repainted taxed stored 2 years. Preselector gears perf. order.

BLACK HORSE, Overend, Cradley.”

Sports Argus 9/12/1961

“A Club Is Born.

A few weeks ago a group of lads popped leaflets through letter boxes on Cradley Heath’s Stourdell Estate. And their mission ended with the birth of a new soccer club Stourdell United.....

Manager Osborne set about forming a team with the help of *Ted Allen*, the host of the BLACK HORSE INN, Overend, and Bert Totney, a former Two Gates player who is now the Stourdell trainer.....”

Edward Sidney Allen – see also WHITE HORSE.

Steve Edmunds was born c.1968 in Cradley.

He was married to Sarah. They split up in 2004.

It was renamed ADVENTURE. [2002]

Demolished [2012]

BLACK HORSE

3, Illey Lane, (Upper) Illey, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Sizzling Pubs [2020]

LICENSEES

John Church [1871] – **1881**;
Joseph Smith (**1881** – [1912]
Edward Smith []
Harry Hackett [1935] – [1939]
John England [1986] – [1990]
Jackie Hunt [2010] – [2020] manager

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

3, Illey Lane – Public House

- [1] *John Church* (58), carpenter, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Church* (49), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Samuel Church* (14), son, coal miner, born London;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Cook* (12), step-daughter, scholar, born Wednesbury:

Worcester Herald 20/12/1879

“Halesowen. Extension of Hours at Christmas.....

An extension of hours was also granted to *John Church*, beerhouse keeper, Illey, on the 26th, 27th, and 31st inst.”

1881 Census

Upper Illey

- [1] *John Church* (67), carpenter, beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Church* (57), wife, born Truro, Cornwall;
- [3] *Sarah Hodgetts* (20), general servant, born Northfield, Worcestershire:

Birmingham Mail 6/9/1881

“At the Hales Owen Police Court today, *John Church* (68), publican and carpenter, who also holds the office of Overseer for the Elly [sic] parish, was charged with attempting to commit suicide by cutting his throat on the 28th of July.

William Rudge, quarryman, said on the day in question he took defendant’s breakfast to his place of work, but finding that he had not been a search was commenced, which resulted in the defendant being found behind a hayrick with his throat cut.

Defendant expressed sorrow for what he had done, and said he was in great pain that morning, and did not know what he was doing.

The Bench cautioned defendant, and discharged him on payment of costs.”

County Advertiser 17/12/1881

“The following transfers were allowed.....

BLACK HORSE beerhouse, from *John Church* to *Joseph Smith*.....

All the transferees were asked by the Bench to have six days’ licenses only, but each one declined to accede to this request.”

Dudley and District News 12/1/1884

“*Joseph Smith*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Illey, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house on the 11th ult, and also for permitting his house to be the habitual resort of prostitutes.

PS Raybould stated that on the 11th ult, he found a man named Rudge drunk in the defendant’s tap room with a quart of ale before him. On the 26th ult the house was visited by PCs Edwards and Harris, who stated that they heard women using disgusting language for upwards of an hour, and afterwards saw two women of questionable character leave the house.

Mr. Waldron denied both charges and called several witnesses, who denied that there were drunken men in the house on the 11th ult, or prostitutes on the 26th ult. The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs on the first charge, and dismissed the second.

Benjamin Rudge, bricklayer, was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk on the premises in question.”

Dudley and District News 6/9/1884

“The annual Brewster Session were held on Tuesday.....

The Bench refused to renewed the license of *Joseph Smith*, of the BLACK HORSE, Illey, in consequence of having committed an offence.”

Dudley and District News 4/10/1884

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. Mr. Hooper (Stokes and Hooper), Dudley, applied, on behalf of Mr. *Joseph Smith*, for the renewal of the license of the BLACK HORSE INN, Illy, and the Bench granted the application.”

1891 Census

Illey Lane

- [1] *Joseph Smith* (49), general labourer, born Kings Norton;
- [2] Emma Smith (50), wife, born Day House Lane, Worcestershire;
- [3] Susannah Smith (20), daughter, born Rubery;
- [4] Harriet M. Smith (9), daughter, born Illey:

County Advertiser 26/5/1900

“*Joseph Smith*, BLACK HORSE HOTEL, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on his own licensed premises, on the 5th inst. Mr. Waldron defended.

Police-constable Sherwood stated that at 9.15pm on the date in question he visited the BLACK HORSE HOTEL, Halesowen, where he saw the defendant walking from a room into the back kitchen. He was drunk and staggering.

Police-constable Finch corroborated.

Mr. Waldron urged that it was always somewhat difficult to tell whether a man was drunk or not. Defendant had kept the house for over 19 years, and had not a stain on his character. On the date in question defendant had been unwell and had been lying down, and was just going from one room to the other when the officer came in. Defendant had had nothing at all to drink that day in the shape of intoxicating beverages.

Defendant, Harry Hackett, and Albert Bayliss were each called as witnesses, and each stated that defendant was not drunk. The Bench dismissed the case.”

1901 Census

Illey

- [1] *Joseph Smith* (58), publican, born Rubery;
- [2] Emma Smith (58), wife, born Romsley, Worcestershire;
- [3] Maud Smith (19), daughter, born Illey:

County Advertiser 6/8/1904

“Thomas Ashton (40), labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with breaking into and entering the Westminster Farm, Frankley, belonging to William Caldwell, on the 27th ult, and stealing £6 in money, and six silver spoons, of the value 30s.

Prosecutor stated that the farm premises were locked up safely on the night in question, but the following morning he discovered that they had been broken into, an entrance having been effected by forcing the sitting room window open. A sum of £6 had been extracted from a writing desk, while a small sum of money had been taken out of a missionary box. The silver spoons, which had been in the family for four generations, were also missing. Prisoner was formerly in his employ.

Evidence was given by *Joseph Smith*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Illey, to show that the prisoner was in the locality on the night in question, and it was stated that he usually returned to his lodgings at 9-30, but on the night in question he did not return until 10-45pm.

Inspector Brazier and Police-constable Owen, arrested the accused, but in reply to the charge, prisoner said, ‘I know about it’.

Inspector Brazier said a knife found in the prisoner’s possession corresponded with the marks in forcing open the window, and the footmarks also corresponded with prisoner’s boots.

Prisoner, who pleaded guilty, was committed to the Worcester Quarter Sessions.”

[At the Sessions on 17th October 1904, Thomas Ashton was sentenced to four months. He appears in the 1905 Habitual Offenders Register.]

Leominster News 4/8/1905

“On Tuesday, at Hales Owen Police Court, Mr. A. G. Hayes made an application for the license of the BLACK HORSE INN, Illey, to be transferred from *Joseph Smith* to George Grainger.

The applicant in reply to Mr. J. G. Reay (presiding magistrate) said he was 21 years of age, but had been engaged in the business all his life.

Mr. Reay: Did you start as a baby? (Laughter.) – Applicant: I started very young.

The applicant further stated that he assisted his father in managing a public-house.

Inspector Brazier mentioned that it was an important licensed house, and that it was necessary that an experienced person should be put in charge of it.

Mr. Hayes said the applicant was about to be married, and would be efficiently assisted in the business.

The magistrates, however, refused to grant the application, Mr. Reay remarking that they considered the applicant was too young to hold a license.”

1911 Census

Illey – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *Joseph Smith* (67), publican, born Rubery;
- [2] Emma Smith (69), wife, married 49 years, born Day House Bank, Worcestershire:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/12/1935

“An order to keep a dog under control and to pay costs of 11s 6d was made at Halesowen yesterday against James W. Harborne, aged 28, of Yew Tree bungalow, Rubery Lane, Birmingham. Miss Gladys M. Hackett, of the BLACK HORSE HOTEL, Illey,

found that a hen had been savaged by a dog, when she kept watch on the pen, she discovered the marauder to be a small mongrel dog.”

1939 Register

BLACK HORSE

[1] *Harry Hackett*, date of birth 23/4/1879, millwright, licensed, married;

[2] *Maud Hackett*, dob 22/4/1881, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Nelson Hackett*, dob 29/3/1904, millwright, ARP Halesowen, single;

[4] *Gladys Hackett*, dob 30/9/1905, unpaid domestic duties, single:

Evening Despatch 14/11/1939

“A Saturday night scene at the BLACK HORSE INN, Illey, was described at Halesowen Police Court to-day, when Henry Day, aged 48, a gypsy scrap dealer, living in a caravan at Illey, was sent to prison for one month for assaulting the landlord *Harry Hackett*, and for another month for doing £10 worth of damage, sentences to run consecutively. Day was also ordered to pay £5 towards the damage and 10s costs, in default of which there would be a further month’s imprisonment.

Day was alleged to have been dancing and singing, and to have become boisterous to the extent of ‘hooliganism.’

He kicked the landlord and struck him in the eye, and on going outside he smashed the bar window, a glass screen, and about 19 drinking glasses.

Day denied the assault and damage declaring that another man who had disappeared was responsible.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/11/1956

“Hunting. Allbrighton Woodland.

When the hounds met at the BLACK HORSE, Illey, Cooper’s Dingle was the first to draw and a fox was soon found. Hounds ran at a good pace over a nice line of country before he got to ground in the drain on Manor Farm.

Harris Wood and the Kettles were blank, but Twylands provided a brace. The chosen fox headed towards the viaduct and swung left to take a line through Vernon’s Dingle and Sawcroft and over the railway line to New Brook Farm.

Crossing the railway line on through Great Farley and he was seen heading to Elwood. Scent was now failing, however. Al-

though the hounds owned a line through Sawcroft, no more could be made of it. This was a capital hunt of nearly three hours and the hounds deserved better reward.”

[This hunt met here from the 1930s to the 1960s.]

Birmingham Daily Post 4/7/1966

“The villagers of Illey, two miles from Halesowen, are without any form of public transport to take them into the town to do their shopping. Halesowen Council is to ask the Midland Red Company whether there is any possibility to reinstate the service which used to run from the BLACK HORSE INN at Illey to Halesowen on Friday mornings.”

Sports Argus 27/1/1973

“Worcestershire Gun Club.

50 Bird Sporting Clay Shoot, commencing 10.30am, Sunday, 28th January. Cash Prizes. Last entries 2.30pm. Cartridges available.

Back of the BLACK HORSE Public House, Illey Lane, Halesowen.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 27/3/1988

“Seventy customers were evacuated from a Halesowen pub when a fierce blaze broke out. Customers left the BLACK HORSE in Illey Lane, Illey, last night after a man outside saw curtains in the pub’s living quarters were on fire.

Mrs. *Maureen England*, aged 40, wife of the pub manager Mr. *John England*, suffered shock and was today recovering at their house in Bourne Avenue, Halesowen.

Station Officer Peter Baker, of Halesowen fire brigade, said the fire started in the lounge of the upstairs living quarters at 9.30pm yesterday. He said it was believed the blaze was caused by either a faulty electric fire or an iron. ‘The private lounge was gutted and there was a lot of heat and smoke damage to other upstairs rooms, although the pub itself was not affected,’ said Mr. Baker.

Firemen spent three hours at the scene and were back at the pub today carrying out checks.

Mr. *England*, aged 42, today said, ‘When the alarm was raised the staff told customers to leave and they did so in an orderly fashion. Some downed their drinks before walking out.’”

Sandwell Evening Mail 3/3/1990

“Wizard, a jet black Welsh cob, tucked into a pint of bitter and a steak when he starred at the reopening of a Halesowen pub.

The BLACK HORSE at Illey Lane, Illey, reopened following a £100,000 refurbishment.

New furniture and carpets have been installed and the landlord Mr. *John England* said he was ‘absolutely delighted’ with the new look.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 4/12/1990 - Advert

“The Best Eating Out Value for Miles Around this Christmas.

The Big Steak Menu is famous throughout the Midlands for its marvellous value. But for the next few weeks we’re offering even better value with our Big Steak Christmas Special Menu with a choice of 3 starters, 3 main courses and 2 sweets for only

£8.25 (incl. VAT) for all 3 courses. Big Steak pubs are not restaurants – they’re pubs that serve top quality food at prices you can afford. But don’t worry if you just fancy a pint, you’ll find a choice of traditional hand-pulled ales and international quality lagers (including low-alcohol). But above all you’ll receive a really warm welcome at whichever Big Steak Pub you choose – call in and sample our Christmas hospitality.....

Ansells. More of Everything.....

BLACK HORSE, Illey Lane, Halesowen.”

Halesowen News 17/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has reopened with a new look after a refurbishment. The BLACK HORSE on Illey Lane is back open as a new Sizzling Pub and Grill after a ten-day revamp. It was officially opened by Sarah Bloom from local charity Animal House Rescue on Thursday (March 12). The pub and its staff are planning a host of fundraising events and activities in the upcoming months, aiming to raise money and awareness in support of Animal House Rescue, which takes in unwanted, abused and abandoned animals. Following a ‘significant investment’ two new jobs have been created alongside the existing staff team.

General manager, *Jackie Hunt*, said, ‘We’re so pleased at how brilliant the BLACK HORSE looks following the refurbishment, and we were thrilled to have Sarah Bloom from Animal House Charity here to cut the ceremonial ribbon for us. Animal House Charity are a passionate supporter of the Halesowen community and it was a privilege to have them join us to officially mark the opening of the new look BLACK HORSE. We’re now looking forward to continuing our fundraising efforts for Animal House Charity, an incredible organisation that is close to many of our hearts. Bringing the new look Sizzling Pub & Grill to Halesowen is really exciting for the whole team. The pub looks fantastic following its refurbishment. We can’t wait to welcome back our regulars and the people of Halesowen to see what the new look BLACK HORSE is all about.’

Sizzling Pubs operate over 200 pubs across the UK.

Every Monday to Friday between 3pm and 7pm kids eat for £1 at Sizzling Pubs.”

[2020]

BLACK HORSE

Manor Way (Manor Lane), (Manor Wharf), Lapal, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Heath * [1840]

Joseph Heath * [1849] – **1878**);

Joseph Kettle** (1878 – []

Joseph Cattell** [1880] – [1884]

Charles Luter Houchin [1888] – [1891]

George Thomas Broughton (1892 – []

Carl Henze [1901]

William Henry Dingley [1911]

James Suckling [1954]

Tim Wilson (1984 – [1988]

Rob and Sue Morris [2000]

Oliver Brooke [2011]

NOTES

Manor Lane [1849], [1873]

* possibly the same person.

Birmingham, Journal 12/12/1840

“Wolverhampton Independent Reformed Order of Odd Fellows.

On Monday, the 30th of November, the Grand Master of the above order, accompanied by several officers of the Birmingham district, proceeded to Host *Heath*’s, BLACK HORSE, near Halesowen, for the purpose of opening a lodge of the order. They were met by an excellent band at Quinton Gate, about a mile and a half from the BLACK HORSE, where the officers, and a number

of the brethren from various lodges in Birmingham who had gone over for the occasion, formed a procession to the house. The number of forty-eight say down to a sumptuous dinner provided by Host *Heath*, after which the members of the district wearing their regalia, accompanied by those who were present, together with the band, proceeded to Halesowen; there they were met by hundreds of inhabitants, and others, all anxious to know the principles by which the order was governed; and from the general satisfaction which was evinced, it is anticipated that, on the next lodge night, December the 14th, a great number will join.....”

Birmingham Journal 28/8/1847

“On Saturday last, an inquest was held at the BLACK HORSE INN, Lapal, before George Hinchliffe, Esq, Coroner, on the body of boy named Henry Lea, seven years of age. On the previous afternoon he was in a boat going through the Gorsty Tunnel, when a plunge was heard in the water, and it was found that the deceased had fallen overboard. Search was made for him, but it was three-quarters of an hour ere he was found, when of course he was quite dead. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Joseph Heath was also a coal merchant. [1849], [1864], [1865]

1851 Census

Manor Lane Wharf

- [1] *Joseph Heath* (37), coal dealer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ann Heath (37), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] John Heath (13), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Edwin Heath (11), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Thomas Heath (9), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] William Heath (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Ann Maria Heath (2), daughter, born Halesowen:

1861 Census

Manor Lane – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *Joseph Heath* (46), victualler and coal dealer, born Northfield;
- [2] Ann Heath (46), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] John Heath (23), son, victualler, born Lapal;
- [4] Thomas Heath (19), son, pupil teacher, born Lapal;
- [5] William Heath (17), son, pupil teacher, born Lapal;
- [6] Ann Maria Heath (12), daughter, scholar, born Lapal;
- [7] Joseph Heath (9), son, scholar, born Lapal;
- [8] Elizabeth Heath (7), daughter, scholar, born Lapal;
- [9] Henry Albm. Heath (2), son, born Lapal:

1871 Census

Lapal – BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *Joseph Heath* (55), widower, coal merchant, born Northfield;
- [2] Elizabeth Heath (18), daughter, house keeper, born Halesowen;
- [3] Henry Heath (14), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Emily Heath (7), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Eliza Walker (16), general servant, born Halesowen;
- [6] William Walker (54), servant, unmarried, labourer, born Shavers End:

Worcester Journal 24/2/1877

“Worcestershire Adjoined Epiphany Sessions.....

John Plant, 51, rivet maker, was charged with stealing two woollen shirts, the property of *Joseph Heath*, at Halesowen, on 16th January. Mr. Godson prosecuted.

Prosecutor keeps the BLACK HORSE INN, Manor Lane Wharf, and prisoner was at the house on the day on which the shirts were missed from the brewhouse. One had been pawned at a shop kept by a Mr. Dudley, Blackheath, by a woman (sent by a female with whom prisoner lived) on 18th Jan.

Prisoner’s defence was that he purchased the shirts twelve months’ previously.

He was found guilty, and sentenced to two months’ hard labour.”

** possibly the same person.

County Express 15/2/1879

“Joseph Bateman, labourer, of Lapal, was charged with unlawfully and maliciously wounding Benjamin Jones, labourer, on the 8th instant. The evidence showed that the two men were drinking together at the Manor Wharf public house, and whilst there they quarrelled. The result of this was that defendant seized a poker and struck complainant a violent blow upon the head with it. Medical assistance had to be obtained.

The Bench, after hearing further evidence, and the defence of the defendant, treated the case as one of common assault, and imposed a fine of 5s and costs with an alternative of fourteen days’ hard labour.”

County Advertiser 14/8/1880

“Charles Hackett, nailer, Spring Hill, Halesowen, was committed for falsely pretending to be a bona fide traveller, so as to obtain intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours.

On Sunday, the 1st of August, at 3.30 in the afternoon, defendant went to the BLACK HORSE INN, kept by Mr. *Joseph Cattell*, at Manor Lane, and called for some ale, telling the landlord in reply to his questions, that he was three miles from home. The ale was supplied to him, and afterwards Police-constable Barley, who happened to be in the house, and had heard the defendant call for some ale, recognised him as being a Halesowen man. The bench inflicted a fine of 10s and costs, or fourteen days’ imprisonment in default. Mr. Hayes prosecuted.”

1881 Census

Lapal

[1] *Joseph Cattell* (27), agent, born Hunnington, Worcestershire;

[2] Mary Jane Cattell (27), wife, born Catshill, Worcestershire;

[3] Alice Maud Cattell (2), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] Jane Danks (17), general servant, born Old Hill:

Dudley and District News 13/8/1881

“At the Police Court, on Tuesday, before Messrs. E. Gem and E. B. Phillips, *Joseph Cattell*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Manor Lane, was summoned for allowing his licensed premises to be open during prohibited hours on Sunday, the 17th July, and again on Sunday, the 24th of July. Mr. Shakespeare defended.

At noon on both of the dates named, police-officers visited the defendant’s house, and there found a number of men with ale before them. On the first occasion some of the men gave false names and addresses to the police. In cross-examination the officers admitted that the defendant spoke to the men, who did not deny that they told him on entering the house that they had walked a distance of over three miles, and they maintained that they had travelled that distance. Sergeant Raybould could not speak positively to the distance, except in the case of a man who lived at Gorsty Hill, which was about two miles from home; and PC Taylor did not know whether it was three miles to Peartree Street, Old Hill, where other of the men lived.

Mr. Shakespeare contended that if the men were even under three miles from home the defendant would not be liable if he had bona fide belief that they were over the distance, and took reasonable precautions to ascertain whether they were travellers.

Defendant was sworn, and stated that he had measured the distance, and found it to be three miles and a furlong.

Henry Pugh, John Battridge, James Tierney, and John Tierney, were then charged with being on the premises during prohibited hours, and giving false names to the police.

A fine of 2s 6d, costs in each case was inflicted.

Thirteen other men were fined 1s and costs for being on the premises during prohibited hours, on the 24th of July.

Defendants pleaded that they were over three miles from home.

Mr. Gem said the Bench did not believe they were the requisite distance; but if evidence could be brought to show they were, the decision could be appealed against.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 13/8/1881

“*Joseph Cattell*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Manor Lane, was charged with keeping his house open for the sale of intoxicants during prohibited hours, on Sunday, the 17th ult. He was also charged with a similar offence on the 24th ult. Mr. Shakespeare defended.

PC Raybould said on the 17th ult, at 12 noon, he found five men with cups containing ale before them in the tap room. He asked the defendant where they came from, when he replied they came from Old Hill. Some of the men gave him wrong names and addresses, saying they all lived at Old Hill.

PC Taylor said on the following Sunday he found fourteen men in the house.

Defendant pleaded that they all represented themselves to be bona-fide travellers, and they came from Old Hill.

Mr. Shakespeare in defence said there were two points in the case, the first was as to whether the men were more than three miles from home, and the second whether or not the defendant had taken proper precautions to ascertain if it was so. In the first place he contended that it was over three miles in some cases. From the defendant’s to Pear Tree Street, Old Hill, was three miles and one furlong, taking the main road. He rested his defence upon the point as to whether the Bench thought his client had taken sufficient precautions to ascertain whether or not the men were bona-fide travellers. The men told his client they had come from Old Hill and he thought it was quite three miles. Mr. Phillips said as the next licensing sessions would be held that day fortnight, he recommended the defendant, if he was anxious to preserve his good character, to take out a six-days’ license instead of a seven-days’ license, so that he would not be annoyed in that way on the Sunday.

The case was dismissed.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 7/4/1883

“Worcestershire Easter Quarter Sessions.....

Benjamin Smith (49), boatman, and William Neath (35), boatman were charged with stealing a gun, a waistcoat, and three tonnage tickets, the property of William Edkin, at Halesowen, on the 3rd March. Mr. Stallard prosecuted; the prisoners were undefended by counsel.

Prosecutor is a boatman, and on the night of the 3rd ult he left his boat and went to the BLACK HORSE INN, Halesowen, and while there the prisoners came in. He had left a gun, a waistcoat, and some tonnage tickets in the boat, and when he returned to

the boat at 10 o'clock he missed some of these articles, and missed the others the following day. Witnesses were called who spoke seeing the prisoner Smith offering the articles for sale. The gun was sold to a man named Chetwynd. The prisoners were found guilty. Smith had been previously convicted five times. He was now sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour, and three years' subsequent police supervision. Neath was sentenced to four calendar months' imprisonment with hard labour."

County Express 12/7/1884

"Forestry. The quarterly meeting of the Dudley and Cradley Heath District was held on Monday last at the BLACK HORSE INN, Lapal. Bro. B. Grove in the chair. There were some forty-five delegates present. The balance sheet showed a slight deficit on the quarter, but on the whole the numerical and financial positions were very good....."

Charles Luther Houchin = Charles Hutchins

1891 Census

Manor Wharf – Public House

- [1] *Charles Houchin* (27), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Nora Houchin (28), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] John Houchin (3), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] William Houchin (2), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] Lilian Houchin (4 months), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [6] Mary A. Johnson (19), general servant, born Blackheath;
- [7] Catherine Siviter (23), sister-in-law, school governess, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 5/12/1891

"Arthur Hunt, labourer, Romsley, was charged with carrying a gun without a license on the 12th of October. Mr. Birtwell prosecuted, and Mr. W. Waldron defended. Police-constable Bryan said that on the date named, about 9.15pm, he was on duty in Manor Lane, and saw the defendant in a drunken condition with a gun in his possession. Witness told him he ought not to have a gun when in such a state, especially if it was loaded. Defendant then said it was loaded in two barrels with No.8 cartridges. Witness advised him to have the gun unloaded, whereupon defendant became violent, and used threats, saying he should carry the gun for him or anyone else. Defendant's uncle, Henry Dutton, then came up, and after a good deal of trouble took the gun off him. The gun was afterwards taken away by Dutton.

Christopher Cutler corroborated. Cross-examined: He didn't see any struggle between the policeman and Hunt. Mr. Waldron said his defence was a complete denial of the charge. Cutler did not corroborate the policeman's story in anything that was material, and he had a respectable witness who would say the defendant had no gun at all.

Charles Hutchins, landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Manor Lane, deposed to Hunt and Dutton being at his house at a starling match, and to Dutton taking the gun away with him. Hunt had no gun with him when he went away soon afterwards.

Henry Dutton corroborated this statement, and said it was 9.15 when Hunt went away. He did not take a gun off his nephew, nor see the policeman at all.

Defendant was fined 20s and costs, and Mr. Waldron intimated that notice of appeal would be given."

County Express 12/6/1897

"On Monday afternoon, Mr. Hebert (deputy-coroner) held an inquest at the BLACK HORSE INN, Manor Lane, near Halesowen, concerning the death of Elsie Field, aged five, whose parents live at back of 37, Owen Street, Birmingham, who had been found drowned in the Birmingham Canal at Lapal. The deceased had recently been staying with some relatives at Lapal, and on Saturday evening she was missing, and her lifeless body was found in the canal at a dangerous spot.

The jury, in returning a verdict of Accidental Death, recommended the canal company to improve the fencing of the canal."

County Advertiser 31/3/1900

"On Monday night Mr. A. A. Hebert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the BLACK HORSE INN, Mann [sic] Lane, Halesowen, respecting the death of William George Baldwin (46), engine driver, in the employ of the Birmingham Canal Company, at Lapal Tunnel, who was found drowned in the canal near to his house on Friday last week.

William Baldwin, a son of the deceased, stated that he saw his father alive last about seven o'clock on the Thursday night previous, when he was leaving the engine to proceed to the BLACK HORSE INN.

A boatman named Joseph Shaw said he and Thomas Hardy were in charge of a boat at the tunnel, between six and seven o'clock on the Thursday night. Hardy, witness, and the deceased went to the BLACK HORSE INN together, and remained there until closing time (ten o'clock). Shaw further said he left Hardy and the deceased together outside the public house, and went and slept in the engine house.

Hardy stated he took the deceased over a bridge where the main road crosses the canal and there deceased fell down, and he left him under the hedge for some time. About half-an-hour afterwards he tried to get deceased to the engine house but could not, and ultimately left him there. That was the last he saw of deceased.

William Green, jun. proved to finding the body of the deceased in the canal near the engine house on Friday, 23rd inst.

A daughter of deceased went to the engine house on Friday morning and saw Shaw and Hardy there. She asked them if they had seen her father, but they replied they had not. Inquiries were then made, and information given to the police.

A rather remarkable circumstance transpired in the course of the evidence. It appeared that Hardy and the deceased had changed caps. Hardy was wearing deceased's cap, whilst Hardy's cap was found floating in the water on the Friday morning by a man

named Dingley.

Inspector Pitt stated that he was present when the body was recovered from the water. He searched it and found that deceased's watch had stopped at 10.21. It had not run down, and apparently the water had stopped it.

Dr. Arkwright, who had made the post mortem, said there were no marks of violence on the body, and he was of opinion that death was due to drowning. He was also of opinion that deceased was alive when he fell into the water.

The Jury returned an open verdict of Found Drowned."

1901 Census

Lapal – BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *Carl Henze* (47), innkeeper, born Germany;
- [2] *Nelly Henze* (40), wife, born London;
- [3] *Charles Henze* (18), son, press driver, born London;
- [4] *Nelly Henze* (14), daughter, born London;
- [5] *Harrold Henze* (7), son, born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Ethel Henze* (6), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Fred Henze* (4), son, born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Joseph Jones* (27), lodger, socket maker, born Blackheath;
- [9] *Mrs. Hunt* (40), visitor, tailoress:

1911 Census

Manor Lane – BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *William Henry Dingley* (34), publican, born Spring Hill, Halesowen;
- [2] *Selina Dingley* (27), wife, born Colley Gate;
- [3] *George Henry Dingley* (1), son, born Manor Lane, Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/3/1931

"When walking in Manor Lane, Halesowen, on the night of 7 February, an 11-year-old girl named *Maud Dingley*, BLACK HORSE INN, Manor Lane, had to step aside to avoid an approaching motor-car, and immediately disappeared into a manhole excavated in connection with a new sewerage system.

Yesterday, at Halesowen Police Court, Lawrence Robinson and Co. public works contractors, Priory Street, Dudley, were fined £2 and 15s costs for insufficiently fencing the spot. It was alleged that, apart from a lamp on the ledge, no protection was provided. The mouth of the manhole measured 7ft by 5ft, and its depth to the surface of the water and mud it contained was 5ft 6in. Fortunately the girl did not sustain injury.

Police-constable Davies told the Court that there was a length of about 156 yards where the excavations were in progress, and only six lamps were in use."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/4/1954

"On Easter Monday morning a man walking along the canal towpath near the BLACK HORSE INN at Lapal, near Halesowen, heard someone shout, 'Pull me out.' He saw a man and a woman struggling in the water.

With difficulty the passer-by rescued the couple, and Mr. *James Suckling* licensee of the BLACK HORSE told a reporter last night, 'The woman was in a pretty bad way. Another couple of minutes might have finished her off, but she was revived.'

The matter is now in the hands of the police."

Birmingham Daily Post 21/1/1955

"There is good news for boating enthusiasts. The canal between Mucklow Hill and Lapal, just over a mile long is to be reopened by the Town Council for rowing and canoeing in the summer.

Before the war this pleasant stretch of water was a popular rendezvous where one could hire a boat, row along to the BLACK HORSE by Manor Lane, and picnic. Over the years, however, the canal had become choked with vegetation. Several years ago the council acquired this section of the canal, but until now the scheme to make it navigable again had to give way to more important projects.

In its estimates for 1955-56 the Parks and Recreation Grounds Committee has included £400 for buying rowing boats and canoes. Tenders have been invited for dredging the canal. Maintenance of the canal will cost £1,050 a year."

Birmingham Daily Post 31/12/1955

"Mr. H. J. Suckling, of Church Street, West Hagley, former licensee of the BLACK HORSE, Halesowen, made an offer last night through the *Birmingham Post* to pay the £3 bill presented by the RAF to Mrs. Avril Topham, of Kendal Rise Road, Rednal, for the wreath placed at Christmas on the coffin of her husband, Flying Officer P. F. Topham, whose Sabre fighter crashed at Brindisi in September.

'It hurt me very, very much to hear that the RAF had been so heartless as to present its bill,' Mr. Suckling said, 'I would be pleased to send a cheque to clear it for her, in memory of my wife, who died six weeks ago. I am an old soldier, now 69. I joined the 9th Lancers in 1904. Personal relationships were much better in those days.'

Mrs. Topham said at her home last night that she would be very pleased to hear that someone else appreciated her distress at the way the Air Ministry had acted.

'It is very comforting to receive the offer, but although grateful for it I shall decline it for I would like to pay for my husband's

wreath as a tribute to him,' she said.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/1/1958

“.....yesterday's pillow fight between Halesowen and Stourbridge Round Tablers.

Twenty hardy warriors – ten from each Table – encouraged by a goodly following from both camps, jousted for the John Thorne Trophy, for which Midland Round Tables compete periodically by devising unusual forms of sport.

By the canal outside the BLACK HORSE INN, Manor Way, Halesowen, the competitors, in pairs, perched on a horizontal pole, belaboured each other with pillows. The rules barred biting, scratching, holding or any other unfair tactics.

Halesowen were defeated by seven matches to two, with one drawn. To the disappointment of the onlookers no-one fell into the icy waters of the canal.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/10/1967

“With anything from free helpings of beer, absorbing mashed potatoes to a ‘protest trip’ in a horse and cart, landlords tried to woo Midland motorists to the pubs yesterday on the first day of the breathalyser tests. But by closing time it looked as if the breathalyser had won. Though by 11.15pm Birmingham police had still not used a breathalyser, most publicans had admitted to a drop in trade.....

As the towels went over the pumps last night the landlords had this to say about Dry Monday.....

At the BLACK HORSE, Manor Lane, Halesowen, ‘Not very good. Monday is a quiet time but even quieter tonight.’”

Sandwell Evening Mail 2/6/1988

“Customers at a Halesowen pub raised £1,200 for the Telethon appeal – by carrying a battle-scarred 18-gallon cask of lager 10 miles. About 30 regulars from the BLACK HORSE in Manor Way carried the Fractured Skol on a stretcher from the Ansell's brewery offices in Wolverhampton to the pub. There they were welcomed by former British and European boxing champion Pat Coddell.

Some of the customers donned fancy dress for the event on Monday, and licensee Mr. *Tim Wilson* was dressed as a Viking, along with his 11-year-old son James.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 27/4/1990 - Advert

“BLACK HORSE, Manor Way, Halesowen. Re-opens tonight 6.00pm. Quality Beers, Quality Food.

The perfect place for a relaxing meal; An extensive range of freshly prepared meals ready for you to enjoy in the comfortable surroundings of this traditional pub; Tradition handpulled ales, international lagers and specially selected wines; And a warmth of welcome and standard of service that's sure to have you looking forward to your next visit.

Visit us soon – you won't be disappointed.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/6/1990

“Sick of Soccer? Dreading the World Cup? For the next month football will flood telly and radio with live matches, action replays and expert opinion. But you can escape it! Our World Cup Survival Guide offers dozens of ways to get kicks elsewhere – and save some cash as well.....

Pubs with no TV BLACK HORSE, Manor Way, Halesowen.”

Halesowen News 26/8/1999

“Fire engines and fast response vehicles will be the main attraction at a fundraising open day at a Halesowen pub.

The BLACK HORSE in Manor Way is hosting the event on Bank Holiday Monday from 1pm.

The event is in aid of When You Wish Upon A Star charity, which grants wishes to terminally ill children.

Licensees *Rob* and *Sue Morris* have already raised £600 through regular pub quizzes and they hope to raise more cash with raffles and a quiz evening from 9pm.”

Rob and *Sue Morris* – see also LITTLE CHOP HOUSE.

It closed in November 2018.

Express & Star 4/2/2020

“Plans to bring a Halesowen pub back into use have been dropped after scores of objections from local residents. Mr Singh Bhandal had applied to Dudley Council to refurbish and extend the BLACK HORSE on Manor Way and to reopen the pub and restaurant, which has been closed for more than a year. Plans also included a House of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) living space for six people on the lower ground floor of the building, which was previously the pub manager's accommodation. But the developer has withdrawn the application after more than 23 objections from residents of nearby roads including Cloister Drive, County Park Avenue, and Manor Abbey Road on the grounds of concerns over possible anti-social behaviour from HMO residents and congestion on Manor Way. Documents on Dudley Council's planning site confirm that the application has now been withdrawn.

The Lapal Canal Trust objected to the pub's use of the lower car park which is owned by Dudley Council saying it could derail the restoration of the No.2 canal, which joins onto the site. A letter from trust chairman Dr. Andrew Hardie stated, ‘Should the council decide to sell the land to the owners of the BLACK HORSE the opportunity to restore the Dudley No.2 canal at this critical location, in our opinion, would be lost forever.’

Dudley Council's Historic Environment Officer had also recommended the proposal be refused, stating, ‘The proposed extensions

in terms of their siting, design and scale would harm the significance of the host building and harm the significance and setting of the disused Dudley No.2 Canal (Lapal Section), an Archaeological Priority Area. Furthermore the proposals are considered to be detrimental to the character, quality and historic integrity of the Illey and Lapal Area of High Historic Landscape Value.”

Halesowen News 24/11/2020

“A team of surveyors has started a new website which aims to identify unused parcels of land and buildings ripe for development – and has shortlisted a selection of abandoned sites in Dudley. New website Land Hero, which is run by Hagley based firm Land Attic, aims to identify sites with the view to then tracing the owners and kick-starting developments The Halesowen sites identified include.....

BLACK HORSE Public House, Manor Way, Halesowen.”

BLACK SWAN

80, (32), High Street / Bridge Street, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Atkinsons Ltd. [1900], [1911]

J. A. and A. Thompson, maltsters, Oldbury [1933], [1939]

LICENSEES

Francis Simms [1840]

Nathaniel Ward [1845] – **1850**;

Miss Mary Hingley (**1850** – [1852])

Thomas Howell [1854] – [1855]

William Jones [1857] – **1865**;

James Perkins (**1865** – **1868**);

Joseph Steadman (**1868**);

Edward Oakes (**1868** – **1869**);

Richard Newnam (**1869**);

Samuel Jones (**1869** – **1874**);

David Brookes (**1874** – []

Samuel Jones [1876]

David Brookes [1880] – [1885]

William Henry Hickton [1887] – [1888]

Mrs. Maria Louisa Hickton [1891] – [1896]

Francis Griffiths [1897] – [1902]

William Henry Davis [1903]

John Auden [1904] – **1911**;

Herbert Joseph Harrison (**1911** – **1918**);

Harvey Hall (**1918** – **1919**);

Alfred Hinks (**1919** – **1920**);

Joseph Bennett (**1920** – **1922**);

Llewelyn Robinson (**1922** – **1923**);

Mrs. Alice Robinson (**1923** – **1930**);

Joseph David Robinson (**1930** – **1933**);

Henry Beskeen Treglown (**1933** – **1936**);

John Mather Forbes (**1936** – **1939**);

NOTES

32, High Street [1881]

80, High Street [1912]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/6/1845 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, at Cradley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Abiathar Bunch, on the 30th day of June, 1845, at the house of Mr. N. Ward, SWAN INN, Cradley, precisely at six o’clock in the evening, subject to such conditions as will then be produced.....”

Birmingham Journal 15/1/1848

“The Cradley and Five Ways Gas-Light and Coke Company.

A preliminary meeting was held on Tuesday, the 11th inst, at Mr. *N. Ward's*, the SWAN INN, Cradley, to take into consideration the most desirable steps to carry the above undertaking into effect. After a lengthy discussion between the respective parties present and Mr. Thomas Mees, the proprietor of the Gas Works, Brierley Hill, the meeting was adjourned until Tuesday, the 28th day of March, at four o'clock pm, on which day the prospectus of the company will be duly considered. Two gentlemen were appointed in the interim to wait upon the most influential parties in the neighbourhood for their support, who will ultimately drive the most benefit from the gradually increasing value of property which takes place wherever gas is introduced; and from the vast increase of population, together with the commanding site of the works, and the ready supply of fuel thereto, the shareholders need not fear entering into such a laudable speculation.”

Birmingham Journal 13/4/1850 - Advert

“Cradley Town.

To be Sold by Auction, on Monday Next, April 15th, on the Premises – the Household Furniture, Gray Horse, Spring Cart, Harness, and other Effects; together with the Choice Stock of Old Port and Sherry Wine; also. Twelve Boxes of Fine Cigars; being the property of Mr. *N. Ward*, of the BLACK SWAN COMMERCIAL INN, Cradley, who is retiring from business and leaving this part of the country.

The Auctioneer can with confidence recommend the Wines and respectfully solicits the attendance of his Friends to taste their quality prior to the sale.

John Webb, Auctioneer, High Street, Stourbridge.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 12/6/1850

“Being adjourned transfer day for victuallers' licenses, the following public houses changed hands.....

BLACK SWAN, Cradley, from *Nathaniel Ward* to *Mary Hingley*, daughter to Mr. Noah Hingley.”

1851 Census

Cradley – BLACK SWAN INN

[1] *Mary Hingley* (34), unmarried, innkeeper, born Rowley Regis;

[2] *Mary Hickman* (22), barmaid, born Cradley;

[3] *Harriet Albee* (27), general servant, born Lichfield:

Worcestershire Chronicle 12/7/1854

“On Monday week, the members of the Loyal Adelaide Lodge, held at Host *Howell's*, the BLACK SWAN, Cradley, to the number of 70, met early in the morning and proceeded, headed by a brass band, to church, where, after listening to an excellent sermon, the procession reformed and paraded the district. The members afterwards partook of a substantial repast at the BLACK SWAN, and spent a pleasant evening, under the presidency of Brothers Adams and Rock. The usual loyal and other toasts were drunk, and duly responded to, as also was ‘The health of the surgeon, Mr. Hudson.’ It was stated that during the ten years of the existence of this lodge there had been no funeral, and consequently funds were in a very satisfactory condition.”

Birmingham Journal 23/9/1854 - Advert

“To Parties In Want Of A Good Old Licensed Business-Doing Inn.

To be Sold by Private Treaty, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Immediate Possession of that first-rate House of Business, the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, near Stourbridge, having an Odd Fellows' Lodge of Sixty, and an old-established Sick Club of Forty Members attached to the House. Average Receipts, from £10 to £12 per week. Rent and Taxes under £23. Licenses under £10. Coming-in including Goodwill, under £200. The ill-health of the Proprietor's Wife is the sole cause of his leaving.

Apply on the Premises.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 30/6/1856 - Advert

“Eligible Investments. Desirable Copy Hold and Freehold Properties, Cradley near Stourbridge.

To be Sold by Auction, by Thomas Howell (by direction of the Executors of the late Mr. W. Cox), on Monday the 21st day of July next, at six o'clock in the evening.....

Lot 3. All those six Freehold Cottages, with Outbuildings, &c, at the back of the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, in the several occupations of Parks and others, producing a rental of £34 4s 8d per annum.....”

Brierley Hill Advertiser 8/8/1857

“Cradley Old Glee Society. On Wednesday evening last this society met a select party of their friends and admirers at the house of Mr. *William Jones*, BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley. After enjoying a most excellent repast, provided by the kind liberality of the worthy host, the harmony of the evening commenced, under the able presidency of Mr. Thomas Foley, and was carried on with great spirit until the small hours began to creep in.....”

1861 Census

Cradley – BLACK SWAN INN

[1] *William Jones* (64), licensed victualler, born Bennington, Shropshire;

- [2] Ann Jones (64), wife, born Royston Towns, Shropshire;
[3] Ann Chatham (18), visitor, born Soughton, Shropshire;
[4] Adelaide Chatham (6), visitor, born Soughton, Shropshire;
[5] Amelia Hobble (16), servant, born Kidderminster:

Worcestershire Chronicle 3/2/1864

“Richard Boncer, a chainmaker, was charged with refusing to leave the BLACK SWAN, public house, Cradley, when requested to do so. Ordered to pay a fine of 2s 6d and costs, or in default, fourteen days.”

Birmingham Journal 24/6/1865 - Advert

“BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley.

To be Let, with immediate possession, the above well-accustomed Inn. It is situated near to extensive Chain, Anchor, and other Works, and is now in full business, and has been carried on with great success for ten years by the present Proprietor, who is now retiring. Two large Clubs are attached to the House. Coming-in about £220, and can be further reduced. To a Person requiring a profitable and respectable House of Business the above presents a most favourable opportunity, and an energetic person would considerably extend the same.

Apply to Mr. Chandler, Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 19/8/1865 - Advert

“BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley. Household Furniture, 8-Day Clocks, Bed and Table Linen, &c.

Mr. Chandler will Sell by Auction, on Monday, August 21st, 1865, at Eleven o’clock, the Neat and Clean Household Furniture, consisting of Half-tester Iron and Fold-up Bedsteads, Two capital Feather Beds, Mahogany, Oak, and other Chests of Drawers; Toilet Glasses, Wash Stands, Dressing Tables, Arm, Cane, and Windsor Chairs; Tables, Mahogany Sofa, Bed and Table Linen, Eight-day Spring and American Clocks, Chimney Glass, in rosewood frame; Kitchen and Culinary Requisites, and Effects, at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley aforesaid, being surplus furniture not required by in-coming tenant.

Catalogues to be had at the place of Sale, and of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/12/1866 - Advert

“Sale This Day, at 6 o’clock.

By Mr. Detheridge, at the house of Mr. *Perkins*, the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley – of two Freehold Houses and extensive Chain Shopping, at Foxoak, Cradley Heath, in the occupation of Thomas Alfred Woodhall and Samuel Hackett, at the estimated annual value of £30.”

County Advertiser 26/10/1867 - Advert

“Old-Licensed Public-House.

To Let, in consequence of the present Proprietor retiring from Innkeeping, and may be entered upon immediately, that well-accustomed Inn, the BLACK SWAN, Cradley, near Stourbridge, in the vicinity of large Iron and Chain Works, and near to the Cradley Station on the Great Western Railway. Coming-in about £200.

Apply to Messrs. Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge, Auctioneers and Valuers, Stourbridge.”

Birmingham Journal 25/4/1868 - Advert

“To Let, with immediate possession, in consequence of the ill health of the present landlord, that Old-licensed and well-established Inn, the BLACK SWAN, Cradley, near Stourbridge. The House is in the vicinity of large Chain and Anchor Works, and Blast Furnaces, and other large Iron Works.

Apply to Messrs. Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge, Auctioneers and Valuers.”

Stourbridge Observer 11/7/1868 - Advert

“Clearing-Out Sale at the BLACK SWAN, Cradley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Detheridge, on Monday Next, July 13th, 1868, the whole of the Public House Fixtures, excellent Brewing Plant, Stock of Old and Fresh Ales and Spirits, and Effects, by order of Mr. *Stedman*, who is giving up the public business.

The House to be Let. For particulars apply to Mr. Detheridge, Auctioneer, Brierley Hill.”

County Express 11/7/1868 - Advert

“That Well-Known Old-Licensed Public House, the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley.

To be Let, with Immediate Possession, that Old-established House, situate in a leading thoroughfare, and surrounded by Extensive Chain and other Factories, where a quantity of ale is consumed. The valuation to suit the incoming tenant. The only reason for leaving is the ill-health of the proprietor.

For particulars apply to Mr. Detheridge, General Agent, Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 30/1/1869 - Advert

“To be Let, the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley. A capital business neighbourhood. Valuation to suit the in-coming tenant.

For further particulars apply to H. Detheridge, Auctioneer, Brierley Hill.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/2/1870

“Victoria Grounds, Woodside, Dudley. E. Hibble, of Primrose and C. Harris of Colley Gate run their 120 yards match, for £5 a side, on Monday, at two o’clock. Mr. *Jones* of the BLACK SWAN of Cradley is the stakeholder and referee.”

County Advertiser 24/12/1870 - Advert

“A Dancing Party will be held at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on Monday and Tuesday Next. To commence at Six o’clock. A Quadrille Band will be in attendance each evening. Conductor, Mr. A. Jones. Admission, 3d each.”

1871 Census

High Street – BLACK SWAN

- [1] *Samuel Jones* (26), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Fany Jones* (26), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Clara Jones* (5), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] *Floria Jones* (3), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] *William J. E. Jones* (1), son, born Cradley;
- [6] *Anne Harper* (14), general servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 24/6/1871

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, Benjamin Harrison and Elijah Harris, who did not appear, were each fined 5s and costs, or fourteen days, for being drunk and riotous, at the BLACK SWAN public house, Cradley, on Saturday night last. Police-constable Rowe proved the case.”

County Advertiser 5/8/1871 - Advert

“Take Notice.

A Grand Fete and Pic-Nic will be held in the beautiful Grounds of Homer Hill, August 7th, 1871, kindly lent by Mr. Samuel Leonard, for the Benefit of the Jessamine Lodge of Free Gardeners, held at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley. For particulars see future bills.”

Stourbridge Observer 11/8/1871

“Free Gardeners’ Picnic. The members of the Lodge in connection with the above Order, which is held at the SWAN INN, held a picnic on Monday last, in a field at Homer Hill, belonging to Mr. S. Leonard.

In the morning they formed a procession, which consisted of the large banner, which had been obtained from the head lodge, and several members in their picturesque costumes. Headed by the Cradley Heath Brass Band they paraded the neighbourhood, and then returned to the field.

A select company of Christy Minstrels had been provided, and they created immense fun. A large refreshment booth was also provided, and was well patronized, owing to the excessive heat. In the evening, Mr. H. Heaton sent up a large balloon, accompanied by a display of fireworks.”

Stourbridge Observer 14/10/1871

“Yesterday morning the deceased body of John Timmins (about 51), of Gornal Wood, near Dudley, was found in the Messrs. Jukes and Whitehouse’s Cradley New Colliery.

It appears that the deceased was an engineer, and went to the colliery on Thursday night, with the view of being ready to commence pumping water at four o’clock yesterday morning. Just before the time arrived, a workman went in search of him, and found him dead in the stack hole in a pool of blood. The body has been removed to the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, there to await an inquest. Deceased leaves a widow and family.”

Samuel Jones, beer retailer, Cradley. [1872]

He was married to Fanny.

County Advertiser 30/3/1872

“Stourbridge County Court.

Jones v Drewery. This was a new trial. The plaintiff keeps the BLACK SWAN, Cradley, and the defendant, who is a carpenter and publican, lives at Stourbridge. The action was brought to recover the value of ale supplied to defendant while at work at a new house at Cradley, near the BLACK SWAN. Mr. Homer appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Wall for the defendant. The plaintiff’s wife swore that the ale was supplied to the defendant, and was consumed off the premises, and in support of her statement Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Harper were called. Mr. Wall, for the defendant, contended that there was no debt due to the plaintiff, and that the defendant had ale in the house, for which he had paid the defendant. Two witnesses named Sturt and Morgan were called in support of this, but after being cross-examined by Mr. Homer, his Honour said he considered the weight of evidence was in favour of the plaintiff, and gave a verdict for the full amount claimed and costs.”

County Advertiser 18/5/1872 - Advert

“Cradley Wake. BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley.

On the 22nd and 23rd May, 1872, the Large Room at this Inn will be thrown open as usual for Dancing.

Mr. G. Williams’s String Band is retained for the occasion.

BLACK SWAN INN. *S. Jones*, Proprietor.”

Stourbridge Observer 13/7/1872

“*Price v Jones*. This was an action to recover the sum of £2 10s, money alleged to be due to plaintiff, on the death of her husband. Mr. Homfray appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Homer for the defendant. From the evidence it appears that Mrs. Price, the plaintiff, resides at Cradley, and the defendant keeps the BLACK SWAN at Cradley. A lodge called the Free Gardeners started at the defendant’s house, and the plaintiff’s husband was a member. The club had not been in existence more than three months when the plaintiff’s husband was killed. At that time he was not entitled to sick pay or funeral money.

The plaintiff made application for assistance, and the defendant told her she was not entitled to anything, but said he would see the district secretary, a Mr. Thomas Whitehouse, who said he would get the various lodges to subscribe for the widow. In the meantime Whitehouse suggested that defendant should advance the plaintiff two or three pounds. The defendant advanced £3, and £2 17s 6d was subscribed for the widow, and the sum of £2 10s was handed to the defendant by the district secretary, to reimburse himself, leaving a deficiency of 10s; and the defendant contended that he was not liable on the ground that there was still 10s due to him. His Honour [Judge Dinsdale] ruled that plaintiff was entitled to recover, inasmuch that the money was subscribed for Widow Price, according to Whitehouse’s evidence, and a verdict to that effect was recorded.

Mr. Homer said that he should bring an action against the plaintiff at the next Court for the £3 advanced.”

County Advertiser 23/11/1872 - Advert

“Cradley and Cradley Heath. Valuable Freehold Old Licensed Public-House, Dwelling-House and Premises.

To be Sold by Auction by Mr. Homer, on Tuesday, the 20th day of November, next, at the house of Mr. Israel Worton, the CROWN INN, Five Ways, Cradley Heath, at six o’clock in the Evening, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of Sale, and subject to conditions to be then read.

Lot 1. All that valuable Freehold Old Licensed Public-House and Premises, known as the BLACK SWAN INN, situate in the centre of Cradley, and now occupied by Mr. *Samuel Jones*.....”

County Advertiser 25/4/1874 - Advert

“To be Sold by Private Contract, all that House and Premises in the occupation of Mr. Z. Hill, situate at Cross Walk, Lye Waste, by order of the Mortgagee.

For particulars, apply to H. Saunders, 142 Mill Street, Kidderminster; or to Mr. *S. Jones*, BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley.”

County Express 6/6/1874

“At the Police Court yesterday, before Colonel Fletcher, C. P. Noel, and B. Littlewood, Esqs, James Priest was charged with being drunk and disorderly at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on the 2nd inst, and with refusing to quit the house when requested so to do. Police-constable Heath proved the offence and defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs or in default seven days.”

Worcester Journal 4/7/1874

“Worcestershire Midsummer Quarter Sessions.

Isaac Bloomer, 24, chainmaker, and Charles Bridgewater, 19, puddler, were indicted for unlawfully and maliciously inflicting bodily harm upon Thomas Hatton, on the 13th April, at the Lye. Mr. Clive prosecuted, and Mr. Jelf defended.

The prosecutor, a spademaker, living at Hay Green, stated that he was returning home from Halesowen, and when near Cradley he was assailed by the prisoners. Bloomer endeavoured to force him into the hedge, and immediately afterwards he received two severe blows on the head, and the latter rendered him insensible. When he recovered he was lying in the road; this was about half a mile from his residence. There were eight or ten wounds on his head, and he could not resume business for three weeks afterwards. He had never seen either of the prisoners before the occurrence.

Charles Southall, chainmaker, deposed that he was at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on the evening in question. The prisoners were at the public house, and he heard Bloomer remark, in answer to the other prisoner, ‘I should think we have given him enough.’

A fellow-workman with Bloomer stated that on the 14th April he came to him at work, and in the course of some conversation about some races that took place on the day on which the assault was committed, stated that he and Bridgewater had knocked a man down, and had left him for dead, and they were obliged to run away.

The Court rose at seven o’clock, and the further hearing of the case was adjourned until nine o’clock on Wednesday morning.”
[They were found guilty and sentenced to eighteen calendar months’ imprisonment with hard labour each.]

County Express 8/8/1874

“Henry Crampton and Selina Crampton were charged with assaulting Charles Southall, at the BLACK SWAN INN, at Cradley, on the 27th ult.

The assault was proved and Crampton was fined 5s and costs and his wife 2s 6d and costs.”

County Advertiser 18/8/1877

“In our last impression we gave a report of a meeting of chainmakers held at Reddill Hill, at which preliminary steps were taken for the abolition of the practice adopted by some masters in the trade, of forcing their employés to buy gledes from them at an exorbitant price. At that meeting a committee was formed to take the necessary steps in the matter. On last Tuesday evening another meeting was held at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, for the purpose of bringing the movement under the notice of the operatives there, and of adding as far as practicable to the strength of the committee by placing upon it men residing in the neigh-

bourhood of Cradley.....”

Worcestershire Chronicle 21/12/1878

“At the County Court, on Tuesday, before Mr. R. Kettle, John Beasley, a member of a friendly society held at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, sued the secretary, Ezra Bloomer, for £4 8s 6d, being eleven weeks’ sick pay. Mr. Addison appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Homer for the defendant. Payment of the claim was resisted on the ground that plaintiff had been engaged in a fight with another man, and that under the rules he was disentitled to sick pay on this account. It was proved, however, that plaintiff was attacked without any provocation on his part, and His Honour gave a verdict for the amount claimed.”

County Advertiser 1/5/1880 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant. One used to the Public House.
Apply, BLACK SWAN, Cradley.”

David Brookes = David Brooks

1881 Census

32, High Street

[1] *David Brooks* (65), licensed victualler, born Cradley;

[2] Elizabeth Brookes (65), wife, born Leominster;

[3] Mysiah Deeley (14), grand-daughter, domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 17/12/1881

“Ezra Bloomer, chainmaker, Cradley, was charged with not having paid over the sum of £26 15s to the treasurer of the Loyal Adelaide Lodge of the United Order of Oddfellows, held at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, and of which society defendant was formerly an officer. Mr. Stokes (Dudley) prosecuted, and Mr. Caldicott (Dudley) defended.

The Bench ordered defendant to refund the money; in default of doing so, to go to gaol for three months.”

County Express 3/1/1885 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Properties (with the Mines & Minerals Thereunder), at Lyde Green, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *David Brooks*, the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on Wednesday, the 21st day of January, 1885, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.....”

County Express 5/11/1887

“*William Henry Hickton*, landlord of the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, and Samuel Homer, Cradley, were charged with stealing cabbages, of the value of 1s 6d, the property of Ellen Lavender. After hearing the evidence the Bench said there was a doubt in the case, and dismissed the case.”

Dudley Mercury 1/12/1888 - Deaths

“On the 23rd ult, at the BLACK SWAN, Cradley, *William Henry Hicton*, late cab and car proprietor.”

County Express 8/12/1888 - Advert

“Important Unreserved Sale at the BLACK SWAN INN, High Street, Cradley. This Day (Saturday).

John Crumpton will Sell by Auction (under powers of a Bill of Sale), the Household Furniture and Effects; also several Drinking Tables, Smoke Room Furniture, Four-pull Beer Machine, Brewing Plant, &c.

Sale at Twelve o’clock.

Offices: 11, Old Square, Birmingham.”

1891 Census

High Street – BLACK SWAN INN

[1] *Maria L. Hickton* (31), widow, licensed victualler, born Dudley;

[2] Fanny L. Hickton (10), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath;

[3] Emily W. Hickton (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath:

County Express 22/8/1891

“The members of the Moss Rose lodge of Free Gardeners, BLACK SWAN INN, High Street, held a meeting on Monday, at which upwards of sixty members were present. Bro. Thomas Wooldridge was in the chair, and William Burson in the vice-chair. Dinner was provided by the landlady free of cost to the members attending the meeting. After dinner several of the members gave songs, and a pleasant evening was spent. A vote of thanks was given to the secretary for the manner in which he had discharged his duties during his term of office; also the landlady, Mrs. *Hickton*, for the dinner she had given to the members.”

County Advertiser 6/5/1893

“Samuel Jasper, sinker, Colley Gate, was fined 10s and costs, with the alternative of 14 days, for refusing to quit the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 22/2/1896 - Advert

“Wanted, a Strong Industrious Girl, as General, over 20; character indispensable.
Apply, Mrs. *Hickton*, BLACK SWAN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 20/2/1897 - Advert

“Highly Valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Public-House and Business Premises, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on Tuesday, the 2nd day of March, 1897, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

Lot 1. All that truly Valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Premises, the BLACK SWAN INN, High Street, Cradley, late in the occupation of Mrs. *Hickton*, deceased. The Property occupies a commanding position and has a frontage of 50 feet to the High Street, into a very busy and populous neighbourhood, and a large and successful trade has been carried on for many years. Two large Clubs are attached to the House, and immediate possession may be had. The premises are well arranged and contain Bar, Smoke Room, Kitchen, Tap Room, Passage, Four Bedrooms, spacious Club Room, and extensive Cellaring, with rolling way from yard. The Outbuildings comprise large Brewhouse, Piggeries, Stabling for four horses, lock-up Coach-house, and enclosed Yard.

Lot 2. All that Well-situated Freehold Business Premises, with excellent private dwelling accommodation, having a frontage of 45 feet to High Street, Cradley, aforesaid, comprising large Retail Shop, Store Room, Cellar, Kitchen, Sitting Room, Four Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, Stable, Large Garden, and Outbuildings, now in the occupation of Mr. William Corbett, painter, as yearly tenant.

For further particulars apply as to Lot 1 to Mr. Thomas Cooksey, Solicitor, Old Hill; and as to both Lots to Mr. Thomas Homer, Solicitor, Brierley Hill and Colley Gate; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 27/2/1897 - Notice

“*Maria Louisa Whitmore*, otherwise *Hickton*, Deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that all Persons having any Claims or Demands upon or against the Estate of *Maria Louisa Whitmore*, otherwise *Hickton*, late of the BLACK SWAN INN, High Street, Cradley, in the County of Worcester, Licensed Victualler, Deceased (who died on the 19th day of November, 1896, and whose Will, with a Codicil thereto, was proved in the Worcester Probate Registry of the High Court of Justice on the 30th day of January, 1897, by John Hickton and Frank Green, the Executors thereof), are hereby required to Send to either of us, the undersigned, Particulars in writing of their Debts or Claims, on or before the 8th day of March Next, as after that Day the said Executors will proceed to Distribute the Assets of the said Deceased among the Persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the Claims of which they shall then have had notice.

Dated this 12th day of February, 1897.

Thomas Cooksey, High Street, Old Hill, and Thomas Homer, High Street, Brierley Hill.

Solicitors for the said Executors.”

County Advertiser 29/5/1897 - Advert

“BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall will Sell by Auction, as above, on Thursday Next, June 3rd, 1897, the Genteel Household Furniture, comprising Iron Half-tester and Four-post Bedsteads, Chests of Drawers, Oak Chest, Feather Beds, Toilet Glasses, Toilet Tables and Ware, Chimney Glasses, in gilt frames; Clocks, Pictures, Beaufet, Easy, Cane-seated, and Windsor Chairs; Couch, in horse hair; Mahogany Dining, and other Tables, Fenders, Patent Wringing Machine, Cooking Utensils, Wheelbarrow, Sundry Timber, Lot of Old Iron; together with Valuable Brewing Plant, consisting of Steel Boilers, Vats, Wort Pump, Hop Press, lot of capital English Oak Casks, assorted sizes; Fermenting Vats, and other Effects, belonging to the Executors of the late Mrs. *Hickton*.

Sale at Eleven o’clock.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 14/8/1897 - Advert

“For Sale, by Private Treaty, Valuable Freehold Property; Two Large Shops, Two Private Dwelling Houses, with large back premises, situated at Nos.4, 4a, 5 and 5a, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath.

For further information, apply, *F. Griffiths*, BLACK SWAN, Cradley.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/3/1899

“At the Police Court, on Friday, before Messrs. C. P. Noel and R. L. Mathews, *Francis Griffiths*, BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person, was fined £4, including costs and solicitor’s fee.”

1901 Census

High Street – BLACK SWAN INN

[1] *Francis Griffiths* (59), publican, born Wall Heath;

[2] Emma Griffiths (59), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Rebecca Griffiths (20), daughter, school teacher, born Cradley;

[4] John Griffiths (18), son, striker, born Cradley;

[5] Edith Griffiths (16), daughter, born Cradley;

[6] Florence Bennett (8), grand-daughter, born Netherton:

County Express 20/7/1901

“BLACK SWAN Sick And Draw Club. On Saturday upwards of forty members sat down to a repast provided by the host, Mr. *Francis Griffiths*. Mr. J. Griffin was voted to the chair, and songs were rendered by: Messrs. F. Green, J. Crundall, and J. Parsons. A enjoyable evening ended by singing the National Anthem.”

County Express 3/5/1902

“John Beasley, Beecher Street, Cradley was fined 5s for refusing to quit the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on the 19th ult. when requested. Mrs. *Griffiths*, the landlady, stated the facts.”

County Express 6/9/1902

“There was a large attendance of Free Gardeners at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on Saturday night, when the members of Past Master’s Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners (Brierley Hill district) gave a complimentary dinner to the Grand Secretary of the Order (Bro. H. T. Finch), on the occasion of his leaving the district. A splendid repast was provided by the host, Bro. *F. Griffiths*.....”

County Advertiser 23/7/1904

“James Parkes, Long Lane, Blackheath, was summoned for not having control over his horse on the 14th inst. Police-constable James stated that defendant’s horse was outside the SWAN INN, at Cradley, for some time unattended. Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

Tipton Herald 9/1/1909

“A meeting arranged under the auspices of the North Worcestershire Unionist Association was held in the club room at the BLACK SWAN, Cradley, on Tuesday evening. Mr. Frank Connop, of Cradley Heath, was in the chair.....”

County Express 26/6/1909

“The quarterly meeting of the Stourbridge, Cradley, and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association was held at the BLACK SWAN INN, Cradley, on Thursday.....”

County Express 1/1/1910

“Dividend Clubs..... BLACK SWAN, Cradley.

The members met yesterday week for their annual meeting and distribution of contributions. The dividend was one of 19s 7d per member, the largest in the history of the club.”

1911 Census

High Street

- [1] *Herbert Joseph Harrison* (37), licensed victualler, manager, born Dudley;
- [2] *Marguerita Harrison* (30), wife, married 8 years, assistant in the business, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Winifred Harrison* (7), daughter, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] *John Bernard Harrison* (3), son, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] *Herbert Joseph Harrison* (1), son, born Dudley;
- [6] *Sarah Ann Fryer* (28), general servant, born Dudley;
- [7] *Mary E. Cunningham* (69), widow, mother-in-law, born Pensnett:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/4/1939

“Worcestershire County Licensing Committee.....

It was reported that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue had increased the committee’s award of £1,500 to £1,620 in respect of the closing of the BLACK SWAN, High Street, Cradley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/6/1939

“It was reported at yesterday’s meeting of Worcestershire County Licensing Committee that the Commissioners of Inland Revenue had awarded £1,620 compensation in respect of the closing of the BLACK SWAN, High Street, Cradley, compared with the award of £1,500 provisionally fixed by the committee.

The committee gave £1,595 to the owners, J. A. and A. Thompson Ltd, of Oldbury, and £25 to the licensee, *John Mather Forbes*.”

It closed on 10th July 1939.

BLUE BALL

18, Innage, (Inhedge), Blue Ball Lane, (Church Lane), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Joseph Beasley
William John Woodall
John Tandy
Thomas Booth, Corbyns Hall Brewery
Julia Hanson and Sons (acquired on 11th November 1942)

LICENSEES

John Beasley [1835] – [1849]
William Stokes [1850] – [1855]
John Beasley [1859] – [1860]
Joseph Beasley* [1860] – [1864]
Josiah Beasley* [1859] – [1865]
William Bennett [] – **1870**;
William Adams (**1870** – [1876])
Mary Ann Beach [1876]
William Dunn [1877] – [1879]
Joseph Cox [1880]
John Cox [1881] – [1882]
Mrs. Henrietta Cox [1884] – [1888]
Joseph Tandy [1891] – [1892]
Mrs. Phoebe Tandy [1896]
John William Woodhall [1896] – [1911]
John Tandy [1916] – [1921]
John Tandy (**1928** – **1937**);
Kate Gillian Tandy (**1937** – **1938**);
Gilbert Willetts (**1938** – **1956**);
Charles Willetts (**1956** – **1959**);
John Ellis Hughes (**1959** – **1960**);
Margaret Elizabeth Clarke (**1960** – [])

NOTES

18, Innage [1881]
Ball Lane [1884], [1892]
Church Lane [1912]

Worcestershire Chronicle 30/11/1842

“Joseph Beasley and James Cooper, were charged with assaulting Mr. J. Bloomer, the newly appointed Constable of Cradley. From Mr. Bloomer’s statement, it appeared he went to the BLUE BALL, Cradley, in discharge of his duty, and as he left the house Beasley struck him, and Cooper (whose real name, it seems, is Carpenter) kicked him as he was going down the steps, and knocked him into the gutter. Beasley denied striking him, but said that another person of the same name did; he also called a witness who spoke to the same fact. The Court considered there was a doubt about his identity, discharged Beasley and fined Carpenter 5s, which, with the costs, amounted to 15s 6d, a pretty considerable sum, and which will probably operate to prevent him applying his toe to a Constable in the future.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/7/1859

“W. Jones of Lye Waste will run J. Fisher of Birmingham one mile, for £10 or £20 a side, or Bowen of Darlaston, Craddock of Walsall, or Ben Badger of Wolverhampton, the like distance, for the same money. Money ready any time at Mr. *Beasley*’s, BLUE BALL, Cradley.”

* probably the same person

County Advertiser 8/10/1859

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. W. Hawkins, on Monday, the 17th day of October, 1859, at Six o’clock in the Evening, at the house of Mr. *Josiah Beasley*, the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley.
All that Freehold House, Brewhouse, Garden, and Premises, situate at Light Green, in the Township of Cradley, in the Parish of Halesowen.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/3/1861

“Yesterday afternoon an important and numerous attended meeting of horse-nail makers was held at the BLUE BALL INN, Cra-

dley. Mr. Edward Hackett occupied the chair, and Mr. Phipson the vice-chair. Between 300 and 400 were present. The Chairman explained that the object of the meeting was to ascertain how the various positions of the district stood, and at the same time to tell their fellow workmen a little cheering news. They had been struggling for thirteen weeks, some of them for eighteen weeks, and some for the lengthened period of thirty-seven weeks. During that period the struggle had been a very hard one; but he hoped the time was near when they would be able to say, 'I have fought a good fight, and achieved a victory.' They knew very well that it was much against the will of the masters that they should have an advance of 6d; but still he did not understand why there should be animosity existing between them, as he had been informed the 6d had been obtained in the market. And even if it were not so he hoped every man would remain on strike till the advance was obtained. (Cheers.).....”

1861 Census

Innage, on BLUE BALL Yard

- [1] *Josiah Beasley* (41), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] *Precila Beasley* (38), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Selina Beasley* (14), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Alfred Beasley* (13), son, born Cradley;
- [5] *Anne Beasley* (7), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] *Louisa Beasley* (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Mary Beasley* (1), daughter, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Post 6/3/1863

“*Eliza Simpson* was charged with having broken into the house of *Josiah Beasley*, and stolen therefrom a number of articles of wearing apparel. Prosecutor keeps a beerhouse at Cradley, and it was stated in evidence that on the night of the 18th ult, the stolen property was safe in the house when the family retired to rest as usual. The things were missed on the following morning, and the prisoner, who had been living near, left the neighbourhood. Information was given to the police, and on the 2nd instant she was apprehended at Dudley, and a shawl and piece of needlework, which were identified, were then in her possession. She was committed for trial at the Assizes.”

Worcester Journal 7/3/1863

“Worcestershire Lent Assizes.Pleaded Guilty.....

Eliza Simpson, 18, labourer, to breaking out of the dwelling house of *Josiah Beasley*, on the 19th ult, at the township of Cradley, and stealing various articles therefrom. Sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.”

Stourbridge Observer 18/6/1864

“*Joseph Beasley*, of the BLUE BALL, Cradley, was charged with having his house open at a quarter past one, on Sunday morning. PC Pitt gave evidence.

Beasley said he had just got home from Dudley, in company with a person who had half a mile further to go; he asked him to go in and he had part of a pint for which he did not pay. He and his father had kept the house 34 years, and he had never been before a magistrate before. Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Birmingham Journal 25/6/1864 - Advert

“Halesowen and Cradley, Worcestershire.

Valuable and Desirable Freehold and Copyhold Property, with the Mines and Mineral under the same.

By Messrs. Oates and Perrens, on Monday Next, the 27th June, at the house of Mr. Samuel Leonard, the sign of the MAYPOLE, Cradley, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as shall be fixed by the Vendor, and subject to conditions to be then produced.....

Lot 5. All that Freehold and well-known and well-accustomed Public House the BLUE BALL, in the centre of the town of Cradley, with Chainshops and Appurtenances thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. *J. Beaseley*.....”

Stourbridge Observer 8/10/1864 - Advert

“To be sold by auction by Sergeant Witton, on Monday, the 17th day of October, 1864, at the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, at 11 o'clock in the morning, belonging to Mr. *Beasley*, who is declining the business, the whole of the brewing utensils, fixtures, and part of the household furniture, comprising Four half-hogsheads, 16-bushel mashing tub, three iron furnaces, 4-pull beer machine, tables, screens, two beaufets, forms, two sets bedsteads, part of a pocket of hops, and numerous other effects.....”

Josiah Beasley was also a sword and bayonet forger. [1865]

Stourbridge Observer 24/9/1870 - Advert

“BLUE BALL INN, Cradley. To Publicans, Brokers, & Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Thomas Homer, on Monday Next, the 26th September, 1870, upon the above Premises, part of the Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, and Effects (belonging to Mr. *W. Bennett*, who is giving up the Business).

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.”

1871 Census

Innage – BLUE BALL

- [1] *William Adams* (51), licensed victualler, born Lye Waste;
- [2] Matilda Adams (48), wife, born Amblecote;
- [3] Agnes Adams (17), daughter, general servant, born Dudley;
- [4] Edmund Adams (13), son, scholar, born Dudley;
- [5] Emma Timmins (15), general servant, born Stourbridge:

Stourbridge Observer 19/10/1872

“Jesse Billingham was charged with assaulting *William Adams*, landlord of the BLUE BALL, Cradley, and further charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the house when requested, on the 14th inst. Complainant said on the above date defendant was in the bar, and struck him three times on the body. He was creating a disturbance about some change. Witness asked him to leave the house, and he refused to go. He was got out of the house, and came back and burst the door open.

The wife of complainant was called, and corroborated her husband. She also added that defendant struck her. John Walters also gave corroborative evidence.

The defendant said he had a pint of ale in the room and also had some in the upstairs room. He gave the girl upstairs a half sovereign, and she said it was either a sixpence or threepenny piece. Because he said that they wanted to put him out of the room. He told them he was willing to go.

The Bench said it would be more satisfactory if the girl he gave the money to was present. Defendant said he would sooner have the case tried out.

Charlotte Southall said she lived at Cradley. On the above date she went to the BLUE BALL. She asked the landlady what was the matter, and she told her the defendant had given her sixpence, and he wanted to swear that it was a half sovereign. Witness did not know any more about the case.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days. The second charge was dismissed.”

Stourbridge Observer 5/4/1873

“At the Petty Sessions held at Stourbridge, *William Adams*, landlord of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, was charged by Superintendent Freeman, with permitting drunkenness in his house, on the night of the 30th ult. Defendant pleaded guilty. PC Roe said he visited the house at half past one o’clock in the morning, in company with another officer. They got a ladder and got into the house the back way, and found the defendant quite drunk in the bar with another man named Weaver. Also found two men drunk in the cellar. Defendant offered him a sovereign to ignore it. Defendant afterwards came to his house and offered him a bottle of brandy; he refused the brandy. The Bench said it was a very serious offence, and fined defendant £5 and costs, and endorsed the license.

William Woodhouse, Edward Weaver, and Edward Walton were the three other men – fined 5s each and costs.”

County Advertiser 30/8/1873

“The Annual Licensing Sessions for Stourbridge district were held yesterday, at the Public Office.....

The Bench renewed all the existing licenses with the exception of those who had been before the Bench in the course of the year. These were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day. They were as follows.....

William Adams, BLUE BALL, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1873 - Advert

“To be Let, the Old-licensed House, BLUE BALL INN, Cradley. Incoming moderate. Possession may be had immediately.

Cause for leaving – other engagements.

Apply on the premises.”

County Express 22/5/1875 - Advert

“Important to Parties Wishing to Embark in the Public Business.

To Let, with Immediate Possession, that Old Established, and Well-frequented, Old Licensed House and Premises, the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley. Satisfactory reasons for leaving.

Apply at once, on the premises, or, to S. Insull, Auctioneer, Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 29/1/1876 - Advert

“To Let, that Old-licensed House, known as the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, now doing a good trade. Rent low.

Apply, Sarjent Witton, Auctioneer and Valuer, Stourbridge.”

County Advertiser 25/8/1877

“*William Dunn*, landlord of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house, on the 18th inst. Mr. Homer defended.

Police-constable Oakey found a man he considered quite drunk in the house, with a ginger-beer bottle before him. In defence, it was alleged that the man had only been in the house a few minutes when the officer found him, and that he only had a bottle of ginger-beer. The defendant sent him out as soon as his attention was called to him.

The Bench had a doubt, and dismissed the case.

The man who was found in the house, Neri Cox, was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Express 24/8/1878

“Annual Licensing Sessions.....

There were only three names upon the ‘black list’.....

William Dunn, landlord of the BLUE BALL, Cradley, who had been fined for keeping his house open during prohibited hours.....

The offenders were cautioned by the bench, and their licenses were renewed.”

County Express 5/10/1878

“At the Police Court yesterday morning, *William Dunn*, landlord of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, was summoned on a charge of permitting drunkenness in his house on Saturday last. The evidence showed that two men named respectively Brettell and Wyatt were at defendant’s house on the day named. Brettell remained in the house after Wyatt had left, but he subsequently found Wyatt lying in the road helplessly drunk. When in the act of raising him Police-constable Oakey came upon the scene. The officer was informed that Wyatt had got drunk in defendant’s house.

Brettell now gave evidence in support of the charge and the landlord was fined 10s and costs. The Bench endorsed his license as he had been previously convicted for an offence against the licensing laws.

William Wyatt, for being drunk on licensed premises was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Advertiser 12/4/1879

“Failure of a Publican. A petition has been filed at Stourbridge County Court on behalf of *William Dunn*, of the BLUE BALL, Cradley, whose liabilities amount to £214 12s 9d. Mr. Thos. Wall (Stourbridge) is the solicitor to the petition.”

London Gazette 15/4/1879

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *William Dunn*, of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, Innkeeper.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. Thomas Wall, Union-chambers, High-street, Stourbridge, on the 28th day of April, 1879, at three o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 10th day of April, 1879.

Thomas Wall, Union-chambers, High-street, Stourbridge, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

18, Innage

[1] *John Cox* (48), coal miner, born Tipton;

[2] *Henrietta Cox* (48), wife, domestic, born Rowley;

[3] *Sophia A. Cox* (19), daughter, dressmaker, born Quarry Bank;

[4] *Thomas Cox* (17), son, spade finisher, born Quarry Bank;

[5] *Caroline Cox* (14), daughter, housemaid, born Quarry Bank;

[6] *Charles H. Cox* (13), son, scholar, born Quarry Bank;

[7] *Owen Cox* (10), son, scholar, born Quarry Bank;

[8] *John Cox* (6), son, scholar, born Quarry Bank;

[9] *Henrietta Cox* (3), daughter, scholar, born Quarry Bank:

County Express 16/9/1882

“*John Cox*, of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness. Police-constables Chair and Clarke who visited the house on the night of the 11th inst found three men there, whose appearance showed that that they had been drinking freely. The officers pointed this out to the landlady, but on a subsequent visit they found the men still there, and now quite drunk. Defendant was fined 20s and costs.

Joseph Bloomer and Henry Bloomer, chainmakers, and Ed. Raybould, puddler, all of Cradley, who were the men found in the house, were each fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Express 2/2/1889 - Deaths

“On the 21st ult, *Henrietta*, relict of the late *John Cox*, BLUE BALL INN, Cradley; aged 56. Deeply regretted by her loving family.”

County Express 1/6/1889

“Licensed Victuallers’ Association. A meeting was held on Thursday last the FALCON INN, Lye.....

It was also resolved that a cheque of 30s, as according to the rule, be drawn in favour of the trustees of the late *Henrietta Cox*, of the BLUE BALL Cradley.”

County Advertiser 1/6/1889 - Notice

“*Henrietta Cox*, Deceased.

All Person having Claims against the Estate of *Henrietta Cox*, late of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, Publican, Deceased (who died on the 21st of January, 1889), are hereby Requested to Send in writing Particulars of their Claims, to Caleb Beasley, of Colley Lane, Colley Gate, Cradley, Cradley Heath, Staffordshire, on or before the 6th day of June next.

William Bloomer, Solicitor for the said Executor.”

County Express 14/9/1889 - Advert

“Freehold Public House, Dwelling Houses, and Business Premises.

Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, the 2nd day of October Next.

All that well-established Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Premises, the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, late in the occupation of Mrs. Cox, deceased.

Three Freehold Messuages adjoining, occupied by Raybould, Bills, and Yardley.

A Capital Freehold Retail Shop, in High Street, Quarry Bank, occupied by Mr. J. W. Cox.

Full particulars next week.

For further information apply to Wm. Bloomer, Esq, Solicitor, Cradley Heath and the Lye; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

Phoebe Cox was the daughter of *John* and *Henrietta Cox*.

She married *Joseph Tandy* in the 4th quarter of 1879.

1891 Census

The Innage

- [1] *Joseph Tandy* (39), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Phoebe Tandy* (31), wife, born Quarry Bank;
- [3] *Kate L. Tandy* (10), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Caroline F. Tandy* (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] *John Tandy* (5), son, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [6] *Henrietta C. Tandy* (2), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [7] *Caroline Cox* (24), sister-in-law, draper’s assistant, born Quarry Bank;
- [8] *Christie M. Grove* (17), general servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 10/6/1893 - Deaths

“On the 2nd inst, at the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, after a long and painful illness, *Joseph Tandy*; aged 40 years.”

Phoebe Tandy married *John William Woodall* in the 3rd quarter of 1895.

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/10/1896

“Albert Saunders (28), alias ‘Tipster,’ fitter, was indicted for obtaining 3s from Mrs. Agnes Brettle by false pretences at Cradley on August 15. Mr. Harrison prosecuted, and Mr. Cranstoun defended.

Mrs. Brettle, wife of the landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, said that prisoner went to her and told her that Mr. Watts, of the BRIDGE INN, had sent him to tell her to back two horses named Emsworth and United, and on this representation she gave him 3s. He said that Mr. Watts had backed the horses heavily and mentioned Mr. *Woodhall* of the BLUE BELL [sic] INN, who, he said, had laid 12s 6d. He said he was going to take the money to Mr. Cutter, of Cradley Heath. In cross-examination witness said that she was not aware that prisoner had given information to the police of the betting that went on in the public houses in Cradley. Mr. Watts was called, and denied that he backed the horses, or authorised prisoner to use his name. He did not know the prisoner, but he had heard of his rendering assistance to the police in betting prosecutions.

Mr. *Woodhall* said that prisoner asked him to back the horses on a similar representation, but he declined.

Mr. G. A. Glinn, landlord of the HOLLY BUSH INN, and Mrs. Lavina Saunders, VINE INN, Cradley, gave similar evidence.

Mr. Cranstoun raised the defence of mistaken identity. The jury, however, found prisoner guilty, and he admitted a previous conviction. A second count was not gone into, and prisoner was sentenced to four months’ hard labour.”

1901 Census

Innage

- [1] *John W. Woodhall* (33), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Phoebe Woodhall* (40), wife, born Quarry Bank;
- [3] *Kate L. Tandy* (20), step-daughter, mother’s help, born Darby End;
- [4] *Caroline F. Tandy* (18), step-daughter, dressmaker, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] *John Tandy* (15), step-son, pattern maker in wood, born Cradley Heath;
- [6] *Henrietta C. Tandy* (12), step-daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [7] *Annie M. Slater* (17), general servant, born Cradley:

1911 Census

Inhedge

- [1] *John William Woodhall* (43), widower, licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Kate Lilian Tandy* (30), step-daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *John Tandy* (25), step-son, engineer’s pattern maker, pulley blocks, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Henrietta Cox Tandy* (22), step-daughter, born Cradley Heath:

County Express 7/10/1911 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of my dear wife, *Phoebe Woodall*, of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, who passed away October 7th, 1905.

Lovingly remembered by her husband and children.”

County Express 28/11/1914

“On Tuesday Mr. E. Docker (coroner) conducted an inquest at the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, touching the death of Mary Harris, aged five years, daughter of James Harris, chain maker, 2, Blue Ball Lane, Cradley, who died on Saturday night from the effects of accidental burning.

Mary Harris, mother of the deceased, said that on Saturday morning, as she was cleaning she put the fire in the bed room, and the deceased, running in from the back, said, ‘I am cold’, then going upstairs to warm herself. A little later the witness heard a child outside screaming, and at once ran to the bed room. There was no one else with the deceased at the time. There was no guard to the fire in the bed room, but there was a guard downstairs. She had only put the fire upstairs while she was cleaning.

The Coroner: It was unfortunate there was not a fireguard there.

Witness: I have put the guard there twice before, and the children have not come in.

Anne Parsons, Anvil Yard, said she going towards Mrs. Harris’s house, and on hearing screams, she ran in the house. She caught hold of the child, who was burned, and told them to run for a doctor. She also sent for some linseed oil and dressed the burns.

When witness got in the house, the child had been brought downstairs. The flames were then out, but she found that the child had been badly burned. The mother told her that the deceased had gone upstairs to warm herself. Witness went upstairs, and found it was an open fire in a little grate. The doctor came as soon as possible. It was about 12.50 when witness got in the house, and the child lived until 7.20pm.

Dr. Belbin said he was called to the house about one o’clock, but was then away from home, and attended at 1.30. He found the child suffering from extensive burns, the skin over almost the entire body being destroyed. The child died from shock following burns.

The Coroner said it was unfortunate there was not a fireguard in the bed room.

The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of Death from Accidental Burns and expressed their deep sympathy with the parents.

The Foreman added that the jury also considered that the attention of the owner of the property should be called to its very unsatisfactory condition, as it required putting in a fit state for habitation.

The Coroner concurred with this expression of opinion.”

County Express 2/12/1916

“In celebration of the wedding of Mr. *J. Tandy*, over 60 customers of the BLUE BALL INN were entertained on Thursday week to supper. The health of the newly-wedded couple was honoured, and a social evening was spent.”

John Tandy was also a brewer.

Birmingham Mail 11/7/1917 - Advert

“Running-Out Boiler Wanted, steel or copper, from 250 to 300 gallons.

John Tandy, BLUE BALL, Cradley, Staffs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/3/1939

“Stourbridge Licensing Justices yesterday....

The OLD MOGUL INN, Cradley, the ROBIN HOOD, Cradley, the UNION INN, Lye, and the ROYAL OAK, Lye, were referred to the compensation authority, but the license of the BLUE BALL, Cradley, was renewed, Mr. T. T. Dineen having stated that the owner was prepared to make any alteration the justices required.

‘We could very well dispose of six public houses in Cradley,’ said PS Lambourne, who added that in most cases public houses were merely part-time occupations, the licensees going out to work.”

1939 Register

Blue Ball Lane – BLUE BALL INN

[1] *Gilbert Willetts*, date of birth 23/12/1888, chain smith, heavy work, married;

[2] Leah Willetts, dob 10/8/1888, domestic duties, married;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/3/1943 - Advert

“War Charities Act, 1940.

Notice Is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to the Halesowen Council for the registration under the above-mentioned Act of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, Services Fund, the objects of which are as follows. To make Gifts and provide Comforts to Members of HM Forces, being Customers or Relatives at the premises of the BLUE BALL INN, Cradley. Donations are also sent to local Hospitals and Hudsons Home, and the administrative centre of which is situate at BLUE BALL INN, Cradley, Staffs. Any objections to the proposed registration should be sent in writing to the above Council within 14 days from the date of this notice.

W. H. Jones, Hon. Sec.

Date 13 March, 1943.”

Gilbert Willetts was the brother of Harold, Charles and Wesley (of Willetts & Sons, Ladysmith Road, Cradley). He played football for Cradley Heath St. Peter’s.

It closed on 18th January 1964.

BOARD

CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Phoebe Darby [1829]

BRICKLAYERS ARMS

Islington, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Crow [1822]

Mary Grove [1829] – [1835]

James Grove [1846] – [1851]

William Williams [1854]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/12/1829 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. Mathews, at the LYTTTELTONS ARMS INN, in Hales Owen, on Wednesday the 6th day of January next, at the hour of three in the afternoon (unless previously disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given) – all that Messuage or Dwelling House, called or known by the name of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, situate at Islington, near Hales Owen aforesaid, with the Garden and Appurtenances thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mrs. *Grove*; and also those two Dwelling Houses, with Nailshops, Gardens and Appurtenances, situate at Islington aforesaid, adjoining to the last-named premises, now in the occupation of Henry Partridge and Mary Hadley.

The Public House is situate in a populous neighbourhood, where there is no other public house, and is well accustomed.

For further particulars or to treat for the same by private contract, apply to Messrs. Hayes and Hinchliffe, Solicitors, Hales Owen.”

London Gazette 5/3/1841

“At the Court-House, at Oldbury, in the County of Salop, on the 29th day of March 1841, at Ten o’Clock in the Forenoon precisely.

Joseph Taylor, formerly of Black-heath, near Rowley Regis, Staffordshire, and late of near the BRICKLAYERS ARMS INN, Hales Owen, Shropshire, Nailer.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/11/1848 - Advert

“BRICKLAYERS ARMS INN, Islington, Hales Owen, Worcestershire.

Valuable Freehold Property, late belonging to Mrs. *Mary Grove*.

To be Sold by private Contract, with immediate possession, the well-built, old-established Public House, with Licenses, Goodwill, and Fixtures.

Also the two substantial and well-built Cottages adjoining, with Nail Shops and Gardens.

For further particulars apply to Mr. *James Grove*, on the premises.”

1851 Census

Islington – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

[1] *James Grove* (46), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Anne Grove* (46), wife, born Halesowen;

- [3] James Grove (20), son, bricklayer, born Halesowen;
- [4] Mary Grove (18), daughter, dress maker, born Halesowen;
- [5] Anne Grove (16), daughter, house servant, born Halesowen;
- [6] Benjamin Grove (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Betsy Grove (7), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] Eliza Grove (5), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] John Grove (2), son, born Halesowen:

Worcester Journal 22/7/1854

“Worcestershire Summer Assizes.

Highway Robbery at Halesowen.

Joseph Rudge, 23, nailor, a ferocious looking fellow, was charged with having assaulted and robbed Philip Plant, of 3s 5d, near the above place on the 4th of June. Mr. Carrington prosecuted, and Mr. Byrne defended the prisoner.

The prosecutor, a simple young fellow, deposed that he had been drinking at the WHEAT SHEAF, at Halesowen, and was going home about eleven o'clock, when he passed the prisoner and another man near the Free School, and in Homes Lane they pushed him down against the bank. The other held him while the prisoner took the money out of his right-hand trowsers pocket. Witness then went home, and on the Tuesday following he went before the Magistrates. Was quite sure the prisoner was the man.

It appeared that the prisoner went by the cognomen of ‘Scratchem,’ and two others of the same neighbourhood indulged in the titles of ‘Paul’ and ‘Spot,’ and Mr. Byrne cross-examined to endeavour to show that the prisoner had told parties that the said Paul and Spot were the parties who robbed him, but that he had sworn to Scratchem and would stick to him; but prosecutor denied it, and his unsophisticated replies caused great laughter. He was sure it was Rudge and the other man who pushed him down.

PC Hemmings proved taking the prisoner into custody. He told him the charge, and the prisoner said he could prove where he was the same night. He was at Hall’s drinking from half-past six till half-past ten. He then went to *Williams’s*, BRICKLAYERS ARMS, and stayed there till twelve o’clock.

William Williams, landlord of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, deposed to the prisoner coming to his house between eight and nine, and left the house soon after the latter hour. The house was closed at eleven o’clock.

Mr. Byrne having addressed the Jury for the defence, called James Basterfield, of Islington, Halesowen, who said he was in the prisoner’s company until half-past eleven o’clock on the night in question.

Mr. Carrington then replied on behalf of the prosecution, and on remarking upon the attempt to prove an alibi, said it reminded him of the difference between the English method of proving an alibi and the Irish method, as stated by the late Counsellor Philips. In the former two witnesses were brought to prove that a person was in a certain place at such an hour. In the latter they brought one witness to prove that a man was in two places at the same time. (Great laughter.) It was an old saying that ‘fools and little children always told the truth,’ – (Renewed laughter) – and although his client was not a very bright man still he had told a plain and straightforward tale. The prisoner was such a remarkable looking man that there was no mistaking him.

His Lordship in summing up said the cross-examination of Mr. Byrne was certainly very cleverly done, but he must say with regard to the evidence of the prosecutor, he never recollected so strong a case of simplicity beating acuteness. (Great laughter.)

The Jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to four years’ penal servitude.”

BRIDGE

8, (6), Bridge Street, (New Road), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Walter Showell and Co. Ltd.

Frederick W. Cutler, ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley [1905]

City Brewery (Lichfield) Ltd. (acquired in 1908)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries

LICENSEES

Thomas Cemm [1846] – [1862]

Thomas Onslow [1864] – **1865**;

Elizabeth Onslow (**1865** – []

Henry Bowater [1865]

Mrs. Mary Frances Simmonds [] – **1869**;

William Tate (**1869** – **1873**);

George Bayliss (**1873** – [1874]

William Tate [1876]

George Bayliss [1879] – [1880]

Edward Forrest [] – **1881**);
William Fellows (**1881** – [1891]
Charles Clifton (**1891** – []
Harry Watts [1894] – [1896]
John Mansell [1901] – [1902]
Alfred Jasper Sidaway [1903] – **1905**);
Rowland Barnsley Edge (**1905** – **1908**);
James Jasper (**1908** – **1922**);
Gilbert Willetts (**1922** – **1931**);
Harold Willetts (**1931** – **1945**);
Joseph Preece (**1945** – **1955**);

NOTES

6, Bridge Street [1881]
8, Bridge Street

It was situated opposite to the entrance to Mill Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 13/6/1846 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Building Land.

To be Sold by Auction, without any reserve, by Mr. Abiathar Bunch, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Cemm*, the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, on Monday, the 22nd day of June, 1846, precisely at Six o’clock in the evening.....”

Birmingham Journal 28/8/1847

“New licenses were granted yesterday, to the following persons, for public and beer houses.....

Thomas Cemm, Cradley.”

Thomas Cemm was also a vice manufacturer. [1849], [1860]

Thomas Cemm was also a manufacturer of vices, cable shackles and general smith.

1851 Census

New Road – BRIDGE INN

[1] *Thomas Cemm* (48), master whitesmith and victualler, employing 4 men, born Dudley;

[2] Ann Cemm (54), wife, born Rowley Regis;

[3] Maria Cemm (16), daughter, waiter in house, born Cradley;

[4] Elizabeth Cemm (12), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[5] Eliza Cemm (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[6] Rhoda Cemm (6), daughter, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/5/1854 - Married

“At Rowley Regis, by the Rev. J. Peart, curate, Mr. Charles Harrison, grocer and corn dealer, Westbromwich, to Anne Maria, eldest daughter of Mr. *Thos. Cemm*, vice manufacturer, Cradley.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 30/6/1856 - Advert

“Eligible Investments. Desirable Copy Hold and Freehold Properties, Cradley near Stourbridge.

To be Sold by Auction, by Thomas Howell (by direction of the Executors of the late Mr. W. Cox), on Monday the 21st day of July next, at six o’clock in the evening.....

Lot 5. All that Freehold Cottage, with large Chain Shop, large plot of Garden Ground, Outbuildings, &c, situated at the back of the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, in the occupation of Thomas Southall, at a yearly rental of £5 12 8d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/4/1860

“An inquest took place at the NEW BRIDGE INN, Cradley, on Wednesday evening last, before Ralph Docker, Esq, coroner, on the body of Henry Cartwright, a cooper. From the witnesses examined by the Coroner, before the jury, the following facts were elicited. Deceased was a steady respectable man, and industrious in business. On Monday evening last, on returning from Birmingham, with his horse and cart laden with staves, in company with his son, a youth fourteen years of age, upon nearing home, within a distance of half a mile, he complained of fatigue, and endeavoured to mount up to the front of the cart without stopping the horse, in doing so he slipped, and in his fall touched the horse behind; the animal instantly started at a rapid pace, the deceased was thrown under near the wheel, which passed over his neck, and along the left side of his body; a stream of blood gushed immediately from his ears, nose and mouth, and deceased expired in a few minutes. Upon the evidence the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 5/9/1860

“Mr. *Thomas Cemm*, a publican, at Cradley, was summoned by Mr. James Mason, inspector of nuisances, for having a number of pigstyes near to and surrounded by dwelling-houses. It appears that ten or twelve pigs have been kept there by defendant. There were houses within twenty-seven feet of the sty, and there was a very large accumulation of manure on the spot. Mr. *Cemm*, for whom Mr. Burbury appeared, had been several times remonstrated with, but positively refused to remove or abate the nuisance, unless compelled by law. Being a person of some standing in the place, others took courage by his refusal, and it was deemed necessary to take the present steps towards abating a nuisance which was detrimental to health.....

Mr. Burbury contended the inspector had not the necessary authority for issuing a summons. This was overruled, and after some time the Bench ordered defendant to abate the nuisance within fourteen days and pay costs. This he refused to do.”

1861 Census

Bridge Street – BRIDGE INN

- [1] *Thomas Cemm* (56), innkeeper and vice maker, born Dudley;
- [2] Ann Cemm (64), wife, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] Eliza Cemm (18), daughter, waiter, born Cradley;
- [4] Rhoda Cemm (16), daughter, waiter, born Cradley;
- [5] Thomas Cemm Harrison (6), grand-son, born Rowley Regis:

Thomas Onslow = Thomas Hounslow

Thomas Onslow died in the 1st quarter of 1865.

Stourbridge Observer 4/11/1865 - Advert

“*Henry Bowater*, Millwright and Pattern Maker, BRIDGE INN, Cradley.

Patterns made for Bevil and Spur Gear, and all other descriptions of Machinery for Clay Mills, Mills and Forges, Steam Engines, &c.

Millwrighting taken by Contract or Day Work.”

County Advertiser 16/6/1866 - Advert

“BRIDGE INN, Cradley.

To be Let, with immediate possession, the above well-accustomed Old-licensed Inn, which is situate in an important position, and is now doing a good in and out-door business. Coming-in about £160. Rent very low. Cause of leaving, engagements at a distance.

Apply to Mr. Chandler, Publicans’ Valuer, &c, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 22/9/1866 - Advert

“BRIDGE INN, Cradley.

To be Let, with immediate possession, the above well-accustomed Old-licensed Inn, which is situate in an important position, surrounded by ironworks and manufactories, and is now doing a good in and out-door trade. To a person requiring a profitable and respectable house, the above presents a most favourable opportunity; and an energetic person would considerably extend the business. Coming-in about £120. Rent low. Cause for leaving, engagements at a distance.

Apply to Mr. Chandler, Publicans’ Valuer, &c, Cradley Heath.”

Stourbridge Observer 16/11/1867

“Fearful Colliery Explosion at Homer Hill, Cradley, and Loss of Life.

A shocking and most alarming accident occurred at the above pits on Monday morning last, and which has terminated fatally in several instances. At an early hour in the morning the news and most exaggerated reports spread in reference to the accident; some stating that forty, and others that sixty lives were lost, but we are happy to say that this is not true, although it has unfortunately terminated in the loss of life. The following are the facts, as we learned them, from a personal attendance.

The pits are situated at Homer Hill, Cradley, Worcestershire, are the property of Messrs. Swindell and Evers, and are worked by themselves. Mr. Foley (who appears to be a man of great experience), being their manager.

Mr. Foley went down the pit, which is 175 yards deep, about half past five o’clock, and went all through the workings before the men went down, to see that all was right. He stated that he found the workings all right, and did not find any presence of gas in the pit. Soon after six o’clock, therefore, the men descended the pit as usual. About forty men and boys were let down the pit to work, and had continued working for about an hour and a half, when a violent explosion occurred owing to a ‘shut’ or fall of debris. The consequence was that a quantity of gas was let loose which went throughout the passage of the mine, and, coming in contact with a naked candle, caused the explosion. Mr. Foley, the manager, was knocked down and rendered insensible for some time. A number of men were also injured by the choke damp, and others were burnt. We believe twenty one were the number injured. As soon as the shock was over, Davy lamps were lit, and the various passages examined. The whole of the men injured, with the exception of two, soon recovered sufficiently to enable them to walk to the mouth of the pit. The other two were carried. Such was the force of the explosion that the ‘cage was blown half way up the pit, and there lodged in some brickwork’. Mr. Foley communicated as soon as possible with his son, Thomas Foley, who acts on the surface as his deputy, and the men were got out of the pit as soon as possible, alive.

Mr. Mallins and Mr. Hodgson, surgeons, were in attendance as soon as possible, and every convenience was made for the poor fellows, in the way of oils, blankets, straw, conveyance &c, and they were all immediately taken to their respective homes. It was found that John Edwards, a married man, residing at Cradley was severely injured, and a boy named Guest. Jesse Thomas Heathcock (Hayes), and Francis Barrel (Stamber Mill), were the most seriously burnt, and a man named Jenkins was severely injured by the after damp.

We may here state that it was about 500 yards from the bottom of the shaft where the accident occurred, on the north side from the base of the shaft. The mine is a modern mine and a ten yard thick coal. The pits have been at work about two years, and are replete with the finest machinery we ever saw. No expense appears to have been spared to ensure the lives and the safety of the men, the ventilation being most perfect. Sulphur has not been discovered in the pit to any extent previously or since the accident, as the proprietors and the manager have since been down the pit. As soon as the accident became known (the explosion being heard some considerable distance), some two or three thousand persons congregated round the pit. Two of the horses down the pit were so badly injured that one died shortly after the accident, and the other had to be destroyed, as he was severely burnt. The proprietors have visited every one that was injured at the accident, and everything that was possible has been done to alleviate their sufferings, but notwithstanding this John Edwards died on Monday night from the injuries he received.

An inquest was opened at the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, and adjourned.

Jesse Thomas Heathcock (16), died at four o'clock on Tuesday, and Francis Barrel, of Stamber Mill, died about one o'clock on Wednesday morning.

Since the above was in type, the following is a list of those who have died, and of those who are seriously injured:

Eli Barnbrook, died on the 13th inst; William Attwood, Cradley, died on the 15th inst; William Westwood, Quarry Bank; and William Summers, Salt Wells.

The following are the names of those whose recovery is doubtful:

John Poulton, Quarry Bank; Solomon Guest, Quarry Bank; William Gordon, Lye; William Butler, Lye; and Daniel Hart, Lye.

The following are expected to recover:

John Jenkins, Quarry Bank; John Andrews, Quarry Bank; William Bembrook, Quarry Bank; George Griffiths, Lye; Edward Dovey, Lye; Mark Brooks, Quarry Bank; and Benjamin Guest, (Quarry Bank), Matthew Brooks, (Quarry Bank), and Isaac Adlington were injured by choke damp.

The adjourned inquest was resumed on Thursday last, at the BRIDGE INN, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, on the bodies of Heathcock, Barrell, Barnbrook, Edwards and Westwood, and was adjourned until the 5th of December.

Yesterday some portion of the pit was discovered to be on fire, and the men had to cease work and come out of the pit."

Stourbridge Observer 23/11/1867

"The Colliery Explosion at Homer Hill. We regret to state that another four men have died from the injuries they sustained in the above accident on Tuesday week last. The names of the men are Battleton, Hart, Griffiths and Guest, and their decease brings the number of deaths up to ten, which is a much greater mortality than was expected. Mr. Baker, the Mining Inspector, was at the colliery on Monday, and spent six hours down the pit. He also visited the colliery again on Wednesday, examining the parts where the explosion took place. The inquest was again formally opened by R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, at the house of Mr. *Leonard*, the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, and adjourned."

Stourbridge Observer 12/12/1868

"A sad and fatal accident happened at the Corngreaves Works of the New British Iron Company, on Friday afternoon, the 4th inst, whereby a man named Job Jones lost his life. Jones, who is by trade a carpenter, was in the act of unconnecting a weighing machine which was to go up to the company's Nine Locks' Works at Brierley Hill, and was assisted by a labourer named Pugh, who was holding the balance pole. The machine plate was on four packings, and, after raising them up, he got under to rectify some defect, when the packings gave way and the plate fell on him. He was extricated almost immediately, but the poor fellow died instantaneously, without uttering a word. Deceased has been in the company's service for many years, and was looked upon as a steady man and skillful mechanic.

An inquest was held on Monday last, at the BRIDGE INN, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, and after hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1871 Census

Bridge Street – BRIDGE INN

- [1] *William Tate* (40), innkeeper, born Cradley;
- [2] *Mary F. Tate* (39), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] *Mary Simon* (14), step-daughter, born Shropshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Simon* (13), step-daughter, born Shropshire;
- [5] *Ellen J. Simon* (8), step-daughter, born Shropshire;
- [6] *Ellen Harbach* (18), general servant, born Rowley:

William Tate – see also OLD CROWN.

County Express 8/8/1874

"At the Police Court, yesterday morning, before Col. Fletcher, the Hon. C. G. Lyttleton, and C. P. Noel, Esq, David Gaspar was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, on the 1st inst.

George Bayliss, the landlord, proved the offence. Defendant was drunk and disorderly, and refused to leave the house when asked

to do so. Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

County Express 1/9/1877

“George Mallen, Joseph Mallen, John Dunn, and Alfred Dunn, were charged with having on the 27th ult assaulted William Cox and Thomas Cox, at the BRIDGE INN, Cradley. Mr. Perry prosecuted.

The defendants Cox and George Mallen were also charged with disorderly behavior in the public house and with refusing to quit. After hearing the evidence the Bench dismissed the charge against the defendants Cox, but fined the other defendants 5s each and costs on each charge.”

County Advertiser 8/2/1879 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Properties at Cradley and Quarry Bank.

Mr. S. Leonard is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, on Tuesday, the 18th day of February, 1879, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions, the undermentioned properties.

Lot 1. All that well-established Freehold Old Licensed Public House, known as the BRIDGE INN, and Premises, situate at Cradley, in the occupation of Mr. *Geo. Bayliss*. The premises consist of large Liquor Vault, Smoke-room, Tap-room, Shop, Kitchen, Four Bed-rooms, Club-room, Three Cellars, Brewhouse, Stable, Yard, and other appurtenances thereto.

The above premises are situate in the best part of Cradley for doing a first-class business, and affords a good opportunity for any person wishing to enter into the trade.....”

County Advertiser 20/9/1879

“The following persons were summoned by Superintendent Wheeler for having in their possession deficient scales and weights, or unstamped weights and measures, and were fined in the sums following their names and costs.....

George Bayliss, publican, BRIDGE INN, Cradley, 1 quart, 1 pint, and 1 half-pint pewter measures unstamped, and 4 quart jugs and 10 pint cups deficient, 20s.”

1881 Census

6, Bridge Street

[1] *William Fellows* (36), publican, born Cradley;

[2] Hannah Fellows (32), wife, born Holly Hall;

[3] William E. Fellows (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

[4] Edith M. Fellows (6), daughter, born Smethwick;

[5] Jane Marsh (21), domestic servant, born Old Hill:

County Advertiser 4/6/1881

“*William Fellows*, landlord of the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting disorderly and riotous conduct on his licensed premises, on the 30th ult. Mr. T. Homer (Brierley Hill) defended.

Police-constable Okey gave evidence that at about a quarter past seven on the night in question he heard a noise in the defendant's house, and on going inside found two men quarrelling. One of them was stripped, and wanted to fight. The landlord came in and ordered the man out.

For the defence it was urged that the landlord had previously ordered him out, but he had refused to go. The Bench ordered defendant to pay costs.

Mr. Homer then made an application for the transfer of the license from *Edward Forrest*, the late occupant of the house, to *William Fellows*, the present occupier of the house.

The Bench adjourned the application for one month, to see how the house was conducted.”

County Advertiser 27/5/1882 - Advert

“Highly Valuable and Important Freehold Properties, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, at the House of Mr. Isaiah Hughes, the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, on Wednesday, June 14th, 1882, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that excellent and well known Freehold Old Licensed Public-House, the BRIDGE INN, situate in High Street, Cradley, in the occupation of Mr. *William Fellows*. These Premises occupy a most advantageous position in the principal thoroughfare, have every facility for carrying on a first-class business, and comprise large Spirit Vaults, Bar Parlour, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Kitchen, Front Shop (adapted for any retail business), Club Room, Four Bed Rooms, Three capital Cellars, Stabling, Brewhouse, and enclosed Yard. Gas and Water are laid on.

Lot 2. Three Freehold Messuages or Dwelling Houses, adjoining Lot 1, and fronting High Street, Cradley aforesaid, with Brew-houses, Yard and Appurtenances, occupied by Slater, Marsden, and Mallen, as weekly tenants.

Lot 3. Three desirable Freehold Well-built Houses, adjoining Lot 2, with Brewhouses, Yard and Appurtenances, respectively occupied by Wm. Morgan, John Oakley, and Thos. Meredith.....”

County Express 20/1/1883

“Josiah Nock and Thomas Nock were charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, on the 27th December. Mr. W. O. C. Addison defended.

Josiah was fined 5s and costs, and Thomas, who had been previously convicted, 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/7/1884 - Advert

“To Let the BRIDGE INN, Cradley.
For terms apply on the premises.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 30/6/1888

“Worcestershire General Sessions.

Hezekiah Bills was charged with grievous bodily harm to Thomas Attwood by hitting him on the head with an earthenware cup at the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, on the 4th June. Mr. J. Amphlett for the prosecution, and Mr. Cranston for the defence. They quarrelled in the public house and as a result there were blows, and Bills struck Attwood with a cup, smashed the cup and cut Attwood badly. The defence was that the prosecutor was the aggressor, was the stronger, and the prisoner struck him with the cup in self-defence. The jury found him guilty of an aggravated assault, and he was sentenced to one months' imprisonment with hard labour.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1889

“A special court was held at Stourbridge yesterday, when *William Fellows*, of the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, was charged – before Colonels Fletcher and Cochrane, and Mr. J. Turney – of having concealed twenty-five gallons of wort with the intention of defrauding the Excise authorities. Mr. G. H. Dennis, of Somerset House, appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Waldron to defend. Evidence having been given by Mr. A. J. King, supervisor, showing that the wort was found in a barrel in defendant's cellar, Mr. Waldron pleaded guilty on behalf of his client, and urged the Bench to mitigate the fine, as the fault was entirely due to defendant's brewer, who had been washing the casks, and then in using the same tub to run off the wort did not notice that he had left the end of the tube in the cask in question until he had run some wort into it, and he then forgot to mention it. Mr. Dennis said it was extremely difficult to detect such offences, and he therefore asked for that exemplary fine might be inflicted. Defendant was fined £20 in 1886 for a similar offence. The Bench fined defendant £40 and 9s the court costs.”

County Express 26/7/1890

“The Free Gardeners.

The members of the Moss Rose Lodge, No.1704 in the above order, held their annual meeting on Monday at the lodge house, BRIDGE INN, Cradley. Mr. W. Bentley was in the chair, and Mr. A. Shaw in the vice-chair. The Chairman said the lodge was in a good state, and was now able to take in new members at a lower rate of entrance fees. A dinner was provided for the members by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs, *W. Fellows*. Several of the members gave recitations and songs, and a pleasant evening was spent. The best thanks of the meeting were given to the Host and Hostess, and Secretary (Mr. B. Batham).”

Derby Daily Telegraph 30/8/1890

“Yesterday at Stourbridge, *William Fellows*, of the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, was convicted of two offences under the Excise laws – (1) in not collecting within 12 hours after they had commenced running a quantity of worts produced by him in brewing on May 30; and (2) in using a cellar licensed to store beer for the purpose of storing saccharine &c. Last year defendant was fined £40 for an offence against the Excise laws, and the Bench now fined him £50.”

1891 Census

Bridge Street – BRIDGE INN

[1] *William Fellows* (48), innkeeper, publican, born Cradley;

[2] Hannah Fellows (40), wife, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/7/1891

“At the Court-house, Stourbridge, yesterday – before Messrs. H. O. Firmstone and A. Freer – summonses were returnable against *William Fellows*, publican of the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, for two offences against the Revenue laws. Defendant did not appear. Police-sergeant Clarke, who proved the service of the summons, said there were two furniture vans at the defendant's house that morning, and the furniture was being removed.

Mr. Waldron, who prosecuted on behalf of the Inland Revenue authorities, said the first charge against defendant was that he, being a brewer, failed to make, on April 21, an entry of the collection of his worts within one hour of the time of such collection; and the second charge was that he did not, on May 6, enter in the brewing book the original gravities of the worts he had collected. Having quoted the Acts bearing on the cases, Mr. Waldron said he need hardly point out the necessity of strict compliance with those sections of the Brewers Act, because they were passed for the specific purpose of preventing fraud on the part of the brewer, and to assist the Inland Revenue officers in the performance of their duties. On April 21 defendant's premises were visited by the supervisor of the district, Mr. A. J. King, who was accompanied by the local officer, Mr. Oliver. They went there at 11.50am. Mr. King found that worts had been collected but no entry had been made by the defendant of the same. His attention was called to the fact of there being no entry, and he was asked to make one. He made an excuse that there might be some more worts drained from the hops, but there was not the slightest indication of there being any more drainings, and the explanation was absolutely untrue. Mr. King made a survey of the premises and remained till 12.45, no entry having been made up to the time of his leaving. He went again on April 25, and there was an entry in defendant's handwriting in the brewing book made at two o'clock on April 21, and the entry corresponded with what Mr. King found in his survey, showing that the statement about the further drainage of worts must have been made for some purpose. On May 6 Mr. Oliver went to defendant's premises, and found the gravities of worts in vessels 3, 4, and 5 were higher than those entered by defendant, notwithstanding fermentation had then commenced. He went again, and took some samples which were forwarded to Somerset House for analysis, and the result of this would be given.

The effect of what was done would be that the Inland Revenue would receive 3s 4d less than should have been paid. Defendant, he was instructed, was an educated man, and he knew perfectly well what the Brewing Acts were for, and upon three separate occasions before.

The Clerk: Better leave that till afterwards.

Mr. Waldron added that the penalties were £100, in each case. They did not ask for full penalties, but for substantial penalties, so that it might act as a deterrent to other traders.

Evidence was then called in support of the two charges.

Mr. A. J. King stated that defendant had been convicted before. In July, 1886, he was fined £20 for concealing wort; in August, 1889, he was fined £40 for concealing wort, and in August, 1890, he was fined in two cases £25 in each case.

The Bench said they should fine defendant £25 in each of the present cases, and distress in default of payment; and in event of distress not being sufficient three months' imprisonment in each case.

Mr. Waldron asked for prompt action to be taken in the matter."

County Express 1/8/1891

"At the Stourbridge Police Court yesterday, Mr. Tansfield applied for an interim authority for the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, on behalf of *Charles Clifton*, of Oldbury. Sergeant Clarke spoke to the applicant's character; and Superintendent Wheeler said he had no objection. Mr. Tansfield said he was told his client was an abstainer – a very unusual thing for a publican."

Sporting Life 22/11/1893

"Lea Brook Grounds, Wednesbury. W. Homer and E. Westwood, for £40.

Monday last was fixed for the match, and as pedestrian spins in the Black County are somewhat heavily betting ones, the parties belonging to each man, spared neither money or trouble in placing their men in the hands of experienced pedestrian generals. Homer taking his breathings under the care of the old Shelfield handicap pedestrian Alf. Bellfield, of Quarry Bank, and did his work from the BRIDGE INN, Cradley. This was the second match of any importance that Homer has taken part. In the last event he was, like the present one, successful when he met and beat E. Salter, of Old Hill, in a 440 yards match at these grounds for £20, on September 20 last. W. Homer, who is a magnificently built young fellow, stands 5ft 9½in, aged twenty-four years, and draws the beam in running trim at 11st. E. Westwood, who is unfortunately minus the left eye, is twenty years of age, stands 5ft 4in, and weighs in condition 9st 3lb; and his friends left no stone unturned to get their man fit for the job in hand. Consequently young Westwood was despatched to that well-known and once celebrated pedestrian, Beaumont Shaw (late of Huddersfield, now of the RED COW VAULTS, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton). Here under the foster care of master Shaw and the well-known Bilston pedestrian, Teddy Whittaker, winner of two big Shelfield handicaps, he finished his preparation.....

Prior to entering the straight for home Homer shot in front, and amidst shouting and excitement Homer began to leave Westwood in the rear, and increasing his lead, eventually won by about ten yards. Poor Westwood, who was thoroughly pumped out, ceased running the above distance from the worsted. Homer too, like his opponent, was thoroughly exhausted. Time 58½ sec....."

Sporting Life 17/3/1894

"W. Horner to Joe Pickerell. W. Horner of Cradley not being satisfied with his last defeat by Pickerill, will run Pickerill, of Tip-ton, 220 yards off a mark for £25 a-side. To run six weeks time. A deposit to the *Sporting Life* and fair articles to Horner, at *H. Watt's*, BRIDGE INN, Cradley, will ensure a match. The *Sporting Life* to be stakeholder and appoint referee and starter."

County Advertiser 28/7/1894

"A case of suicide of a very painful character occurred yesterday morning at the BRIDGE INN, Cradley. About five o'clock in the morning a man connected with the house had occasion to go to the back premises, and found a man hanging from a beam in a closet. Information was at once sent to the police, and Police-sergeant Clarke attended the place, and cut the body down; the man being quite dead. The rope by which he was hanging was made of rushes plaited together. The man's name is Enoch Homer, a horse nail maker, and resided at Spring Hill, Halesowen. He had tied his legs together before adjusting the rope to his neck and letting himself go, so that he must have acted with premeditation. About ten o'clock the previous evening he was seen by his son-in-law, James Forrest, to whom he made no complaint, and gave no hint of suicidal intentions. Deceased was in poor circumstances, and had lately gone about selling water cresses."

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/10/1896

"Albert Saunders (28), alias 'Tipster,' fitter, was indicted for obtaining 3s from Mrs. Agnes Brettle by false pretences at Cradley on August 15. Mr. Harrison prosecuted, and Mr. Cranstoun defended.

Mrs. Brettle, wife of the landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, said that prisoner went to her and told her that Mr. *Watts*, of the BRIDGE INN, had sent him to tell her to back two horses named Emsworth and United, and on this representation she gave him 3s. He said that Mr. *Watts* had backed the horses heavily and mentioned Mr. Woodhall of the BLUE BELL [sic] INN, who, he said, had laid 12s 6d. He said he was going to take the money to Mr. Cutter, of Cradley Heath. In cross-examination witness said that she was not aware that prisoner had given information to the police of the betting that went on in the public houses in Cradley. Mr. *Watts* was called, and denied that he backed the horses, or authorised prisoner to use his name. He did not know the prisoner, but he had heard of his rendering assistance to the police in betting prosecutions.

Mr. Woodhall said that prisoner asked him to back the horses on a similar representation, but he declined.

Mr. G. A. Glinn, landlord of the HOLLY BUSH INN, and Mrs. Lavina Saunders, VINE INN, Cradley, gave similar evidence.

Mr. Cranstoun raised the defence of mistaken identity. The jury, however, found prisoner guilty, and he admitted a previous conviction. A second count was not gone into, and prisoner was sentenced to four months' hard labour."

County Express 22/5/1897

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, on Tuesday, on Dolly Homer (3½ years), daughter of Joseph Homer, Mill Street. The evidence showed that deceased had died from the effects of scalds received on March 5th. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1901 Census

Bridge Street

- [1] *John Mansell* (31), manager of tavern, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Mary Mansell (28), wife, manageress of tavern, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Ethel Mansell (6), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] Ernest Mansell (5), son, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] Harold Mansell (4), son, born Old Hill;
- [6] Hannah King (22), general servant, birthplace NK:

County Express 16/8/1902

“BRIDGE INN Sick And Draw Club. A supper in connection with this club, originally fixed to take place on Coronation day in June, was held on Saturday last. The host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *John Mansell*) provided an excellent repast, to which ample justice was done by the goodly number which sat down. After the cloth was drawn Mr. W. Bryant was voted to the chair, and Mr. E. Edmonds to the vice-chair. The health of the King and Queen was enthusiastically received and drunk with musical honours. During the evening, which was spent convivially, Pte. H. Parkes, of the 2nd Worcesters, entertained the company with some interesting incidents which occurred while he was at the front. Mr. *J. Mansell* also sang.”

County Advertiser 22/6/1907

“BRIDGE INN Supper. On Monday evening *James Jasper*, landlord of the above inn gave a supper to a company of 37 customers. The excellent repast which was provided was heartily enjoyed. After dinner a vote of thanks was passed to the host and hostess for their hospitality, and to Mr. Bert Newman for the handsome donation he gave to the fund for providing the repast. The host responded and expressed his pleasure at meeting so many of the customers at the supper, and his hope that future meetings would be more frequent in future. Mr. Newman also replied. A musical programme was greatly enjoyed, songs being rendered by Messrs. W. Ashmore, J. Brown, T. Taylor, A. Griffiths, S. Dunn, W. Edmonds, W. Foulkes, and S. Attwood. Mr. Robinson accompanied.”

County Express 4/1/1908

“Sick and Draw Clubs.... BRIDGE INN (Cradley).

Thirty-six members assembled. The annual report showed a dividend of 16s 10d for each of the 47 members. Thanks were given to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *J. Jasper*) for their catering, the host responding. A musical entertainment was given, musical selections on the piano being given by Mr. Walters, and songs by Messrs. F. Green, W. Edmonds, S. Attwood, F. Stevens, A. Griffiths, A. Hussey, and T. Nock.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter’s Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

County Express 9/1/1909

“Dividend Clubs.... BRIDGE INN (Cradley).

Forty members assembled. The annual report showed a dividend of 19s for each of the 49 members. Thank were given to the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *J. Jasper*, for their catering. Selections on the piano were provided by Mr. Weston and songs by Messrs. F. Green, W. Edmonds, T. Nock, A. Hussy, S. Attwood, and L. Stevens.”

County Express 8/1/1910

“Dividend Clubs.... BRIDGE INN, Cradley.

Forty-seven members assembled. The report of the secretary, Mr. S. Attwood, showed a dividend of 17s 1d per for each of 52 members. Thanks were accorded to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *J. Jasper*) for their catering. Piano selections were given by Mr. G. Weston, and songs by Messrs. A. Billingham, F. Green, J. Attwood, B. Webb, W. Edmonds, E. Homer, and L. Stevens.”

1911 Census

Bridge Street

[1] *James Jasper* (43), licensed victualler, born Cradley;

[2] *Laura Jasper* (39), wife, married 18 years, assisting in the business, born Cradley;

[3] *Annie Jasper* (17), daughter, born Derby;

[4] *Joseph James Jasper* (15), son, student, born Derby:

County Express 1/7/1911

“The death took place under tragic circumstances at Lyde Green, Cradley, on Monday night of Miss Mary Ann Southall, of Lyde Green. The deceased young woman had attended the Lyde Green Mission in the evening, and was out walking with her young man when she succumbed. She was a chainmaker, and was one of the collectors for the Hammered Chainmakers’ branch of the National Federation of Women Workers.

An enquiry into the circumstances of her death was held on Thursday evening at the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, by Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner).

The deceased’s father, William Southall, of Lyde Green, was the first witness. He stated that his daughter was 32 years old. So far as he was aware she had not complained of being unwell. The last time he saw her alive was on Monday night at a quarter to ten, and she then appeared to be in good health. She then went out with her young man, and the next he heard was that she was dying in a neighbour’s house. He went to her and found her dead.

William Tromans, warehouseman, living at Newtown, Cradley Heath, said he went out on Monday night with Miss Southall at ten o’clock. They went through the Maypole fields and through Netherend. When near the Maypole they came across a ‘bit of a bother’ between some men, and the deceased was rather troubled as to whether they were going to fight or not. She then said she felt bad, and he got her some whiskey from the OLD MOGUL. They went back through the fields, and when they got into the main road she gripped his arm tightly and fell unconscious. He carried her to a house of a neighbour named Waldron.

Dr. G. H. Waugh, Cradley Heath, said he was called to see the deceased on Monday night about 12.30. He had since made a post mortem, and found the deceased well nourished and was a well built young woman. All the organs were healthy, with the exception of the heart. For a woman of her size the heart was remarkably small and thin. There was no valvular disease of the heart, but in his opinion she died from sudden heart failure. He was told she had had a heavy day. She did a day’s washing, then worked up a bar of iron, cut some clothes for some children, went to church, and then went for a walk.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

County Express 5/8/1911

“There was held recently, at the BRIDGE INN, a supper in connection with the late ROSE AND CROWN dividend club, which has a membership numbering 80. A good supper was provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Jasper*). Songs were rendered by Messrs. A. Billingham, A. Cook, and G. Auden, and gramophone recitals were provided by Mr. Robinson. Mr. A. Hodgetts was chairman, and the secretary is Mr. W. Homer.”

County Express 7/10/1911

“A meeting of the Stourbridge, Cradley and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association was held on Thursday week, at the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, the president (Mr. D. Proffit) presiding, and among others present being Messrs. John H. Perry, Wm. Bridgewater, L. T. Newey, W. T. Mobberley, F. J. Mathews, John Saunders, Geo. A. Ingley, *James Jasper*, J. Cadwallader (secretary). A letter was read from Mrs. Kelley, of the SPOTTED COW, Stourbridge acknowledging the vote of sympathy passed to her at the previous meeting of the Association. Discussion took place as to the negotiations which are pending between the Midland County Brewers’ Association and the local Society, and it was decided to invite the agent to the next meeting to explain matters fully to the committee.”

County Express 20/1/1912

“Dividend Clubs..... BRIDGE INN, Cradley.

Fifty members enjoyed the excellent catering of the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Jasper*). The annual report showed a dividend of 18s 4d for each of 70 members.”

Dudley Herald 21/11/1931

“In the past years it has been the custom to hold a harvest home at the BRIDGE INN, but in view of the poverty prevailing in the district it was felt that it would be unwise to pursue the policy this year. In order that some effort should be made on behalf of the local hospitals, however, it was decided to hold a leek show, and after much work and endeavour on the part of the secretary (Mr. J. Robinson) this was held on Saturday last and proved very successful. Although there was not a large display, the leeks which were contributed were all of a very fine quality. The leeks were arranged round the bar and smoke room by Mr. Robinson and Mr. *Willets* (the licensee) and the prizes were awarded as following: 1. Mr. Edge, of Old Hill; 2. Mrs. Moore, of Little Hill; 3. Mr. J. Smith, of Little Hill. The leeks were on display on Saturday and Sunday when they were viewed by a large number of visitors and on Sunday evening they were sold by auction by Mr. W. Biggs. Although bidding was not brisk at the commencement, competition soon became keen and some good prices realised. The secretary wishes to extend his thanks to all who sent leeks to the show and also to the donors of the prizes.”

Harold Willets was the brother of Charles, Gilbert and Wesley (of Willets & Sons, Cradley).

1939 Register

Bridge Street – BRIDGE INN

[1] *Harold Willetts*, date of birth 19/2/1893, chain smith, heavy work, married;

[2] Daisy Willetts, dob 20/6/1899, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Evening Despatch 11/8/1942

“Five Cradley men who remained in the BRIDGE INN, Cradley, after 10pm, to listen to the Empire News over the wireless were each fined £1 at Halesowen today for consuming beer during non-permitted hours. *Harold Willetts*, was fined £10, with £2 2s costs, for aiding and abetting.”

Evening Despatch 22/8/1944

“William Smith, aged 48, of 89, Lyde Green, Cradley, was at Halesowen today fined £5 for consuming beer after permitted hours, and *Harold Willetts*, aged 52, licensee of the BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Cradley, £25 for aiding and abetting.”

A full license was granted in 1948.

Black Country Bugle

‘When Steve Bloomer Played For England’

“Nor was he [Bloomer] forgotten in his native town, for his photograph, in England strip, hung over the bar in the BRIDGE until it was pulled down.....”

The license was surrendered on 1st February 1955.

Closed.

It was acquired by Cradley Chain and Castings Ltd. in the 1950s and used as an office.

Demolished

BRIDGE

Forge Lane, Hill, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Connop [1849] – [1854]

Mrs. S Connop [1859]

William Connop [1861] – **1870**;

Mrs. Maria Connop (**1870 – 1883**);

Miss Sarah Connop (**1883 – [1888]**)

Henry Russell [1891] – [1892]

NOTES

BRIDGE TAVERN [1873], [1881]

Birmingham Daily Post 15/6/1859 - Advert

“Hales Owen, Worcestershire

To Be Sold By Auction, by J. Whitehouse, To-Morrow (Wednesday), June 15th – all that neat and clean Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, and Effects, the property of the late Mrs. *S. Connop*, BRIDGE TAVERN, Forge Lane, Hales Owen (by order of the Executors), comprising fourteen Ale and other Casks, 14-bushel Mash Tub, Coolers, two large Boilers and Settings, patent Malt Crusher, 4-pull Ale Machine, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock am, with the usual conditions.

Catalogues to be had at the NEW INN, Hales Owen.

Auctioneer’s Office, TURKS HEAD, Wednesbury.”

1861 Census

Forge Lane, Hill

[1] *William Connop* (31), bricklayer, born Hill;

[2] *Maria Connop* (30), wife, nailer, born Rowley Regis;

[3] *Sarah Connop* (2), daughter, born Hill:

County Express 17/12/1870

“The following licenses were transferred.....

BRIDGE TAVERN, Hill, from the executors of *William Connop*, deceased, to *Maria Connop*.”

1871 Census

Forge Lane – BRIDGE INN

- [1] *Maria Connop* (41), widow, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Sarah Connop* (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [3] Fanny Connop (5), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Emma Connop (6 months), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] Sarah Dallow (65), mother, widow, born Halesowen:

1881 Census

Forge Lane – BRIDGE TAVERN

- [1] *Maria Connop* (48), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Furnace, Halesowen;
- [2] *Sarah Connop* (22), unmarried, daughter, barmaid, born Hill, Halesowen;
- [3] Fanny Connop (15), daughter, born Forge Lane, Hill, Halesowen:

West Bromwich Weekly News 15/10/1887

“John Piddock, engineer, of Halesowen, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the BRIDGE INN, on the 27th ult.

Sarah Connop, landlady stated that defendant went to her house drunk and refused to quit when asked.

PS Raybould stated that he was sent for by last witness and ejected defendant from the house.

Defendant denied being drunk, and said he left the premises the moment he was requested.

PC Powell gave corroborative evidence, and a fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

1891 Census

Forge Lane – BRIDGE INN

- [1] *Henry Russell* (36), carter and licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Annie Russell* (30), wife, born Old Hill;
- [3] Harry Russell (9), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Annie Russell (7), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Clara Simmons (15), general servant, born Halesowen:

Check RAILWAY.

BRITANNIA

Windmill Hill, Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Samuel Bennett, Cradley [1883]

LICENSEES

William Foulkes [1871] – **1873**);

Allan Beasley (**1873 – 1874**);

Richard Forrest (**1874 – 1883**);

Mrs. Elizabeth Adams (**1883**):

NOTES

William Foulkes = William Folkes

1871 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *William Folkes* (57), forgerman, victualler, born Oldswinford;

- [2] Fanny Folkes (50), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] Joseph Folkes (21), son, forgerman, born Kingswinford;
- [4] Frances Folkes (18), daughter, born Kingswinford;
- [5] Mary Ann Folkes (16), daughter, born Kingswinford;
- [6] Louisa Folkes (13), daughter, born Oldswinford;
- [7] William Folkes (10), son, schoolboy, born Cradley:

Allan Beasley was also a chain manufacturer. [1873]

County Advertiser 5/4/1873 - Advert

“Colley Gate, Cradley. Freehold Public House and Building Land.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Leonard, on Tuesday, April 15th, 1873, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, at Six o'clock in the Evening, the following Freehold Properties, which are amply indemnified against mining injuries by a covenant entered into by the late Miss Pargeter with the owner.

Lot 1. The BRITANNIA INN, situate at Colley Gate, Cradley, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Allan Beasley*. These premises are in thorough repair, and have a frontage of 11 yards and 2 feet to the Stourbridge and Halesowen Turnpike Road.

Lot 2. All that Plot of Garden Ground, situate at Colley Gate aforesaid, and adjoining lot 1, having a frontage of 12 yards and 2 feet to the said Turnpike-road, and containing 617 square yards, or thereabouts.

Lot 3. All that Plot of Garden Ground, adjoining lot 2, having a frontage of 12 yards to the said Turnpike-road, and containing 600 square yards, ar thereabouts.

A Plan of the Lots may be seen, and further particulars obtained on application to Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors, Brierley Hill, or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Express 17/1/1880

“*Richard Forrest*, BRITANNIA INN, Cradley, was charged with keeping open his licensed premises during prohibited hours, on the 11th inst.

Police-constable Okey said he was near the defendant's house at twenty-five minutes to eleven on the night of Sunday the 11th inst. He saw a woman named Hadley come out of the house, with a gallon bottle filled with ale under her shawl. After he had taken the woman back into the defendant's house she told the officer that *Forrest* had given her the ale for the work she had done.

Defendant said the woman had been working at his house, and he had given her the ale for the work she had done.

This statement was confirmed by the woman Hadley, who was called as a witness.

The Bench said the case had been very properly brought before them, but as the offence appeared to have been committed through ignorance they would let the defendant off.”

County Advertiser 26/6/1880

“*Richard Forrest*, publican, Cradley, for being drunk on the 22nd inst, was fined 5s and costs.”

1881 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *Richard Forrest* (34), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Ann Forrest (30), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Joseph J. Forrest (7), son, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] Herbert H. Forrest (5), son, born Cradley;
- [5] Mary J. Forrest (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] Sarah A. Forrest (1), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] Phoebe Payne (14), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 29/9/1883

“The adjourned licensing session for the petty sessional division of Stourbridge was held yesterday.....

All the license holders whose names appeared on the black list, numbering forty, applied for the renewal of their licenses. The whole of the licenses were granted with the exception of the following, which were refused.....

Richard Forrest, BRITANNIA INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 6/10/1883

“At the Stourbridge Police Court, yesterday, Mr. Holberton applied, on behalf of Mrs. *Elizabeth Adams*, for a temporary license until the expiration of the current licensing year, for the BRITANNIA INN, Two Gates. He stated that the renewal to *Richard Forrest* was refused at the adjourned licensing meeting yesterday week, and that he had since yielded up possession, and the applicant had become the tenant. She was a person of unblemished character, and the certificate by the inhabitants was numerously and influentially signed. The bench granted the application, stating that the future application would have to be made at the special sessions in December.”

County Advertiser 17/11/1883 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

I, *Elizabeth Adams*, now residing at Windmill Hill, Cradley, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, being the occupier of the House and Premises called the BRITANNIA, situate at Cradley aforesaid, and late in the occupation of *Richard Forrest*, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the Special Sessions, to be holden at the Public Office, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 7th day of December next ensuing, for the Grant to me of a License to Sell by Retail Beer, Cider, and Perry (lately held by the said *Richard Forrest*), to be consumed either on or off the Premises, in pursuance of the Act II Geo.IV and Will.IV c.64, and Acts amending the same, at a House situate at Windmill Hill, Cradley, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and being within the said Division.

The Owner of the House in respect of which the License is required is Samuel Bennett, of Cradley, in the County of Worcester. Given under my hand this 5th day of November, 1883.

Elizabeth Adams.”

County Express 8/12/1883

“Stourbridge Police Court. Yesterday.

Mr. Holberton applied on behalf of William Bennett, of the [NEW] TWO GATES INN, Cradley, for a new license for the BRITANNIA INN lately occupied by *Richard Forrest*, the renewal of whose license was refused at the last licensing session. Mr. Perry opposed the application. The Bench decided not to grant the license.”

BRITISH ARMS

20, (5), Furlong Lane, Colley Gate, (Overend), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Gerald Low Napier, Walsall
William Oliver and Sons Ltd.
Frederick Smith Ltd. (acquired in 1933)
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Abel Tate [1829] – [1870]
Samuel Tate [1871] – [1890]
John Littlewood [1903] ?
Thomas Rowley [1891] – **1905**;
Alice Rowley (**1905 – 1911**);
Frank Griffiths (**1911 – 1936**);
Mrs. Ellen Griffiths (**1936 – [1940]**)
Bishop [1966]

NOTES

1841 Census

Overend

- [1] *Abel Tate* (45), iron bundling;
- [2] *Phillis Tate* (45);
- [3] *Mary Ann Tate* (20);
- [4] *James Tate* (17), born Worcestershire;
- [5] *Mirah Tate* (14), born Worcestershire;
- [6] *William Tate* (12), born Worcestershire;
- [7] *Sarah Tate* (8), born Worcestershire;
- [8] *John Tate* (6), born Worcestershire;
- [9] *Joseph Tate* (3), born Worcestershire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 1/7/1846

“Worcestershire Quarter Sessions.

Friendly Societies. The following articles, duly certified by Mr. Tidd Pratt, were laid before the Court, allowed and confirmed, pursuant to the Statutes.....

The Cradley Club, held at the BRITISH ARMS, Cradley.”

1851 Census

Top Furlong Lane

- [1] *Abel Tate* (55), millman and publican, born Tipton;
- [2] Felis Tate (52), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Sarah Tate (17), daughter, barmaid, born Cradley;
- [4] William Tate (21), son, puddler, born Cradley;
- [5] James Tate (25), son, millman, born Cradley;
- [6] *Samuel Tate* (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] John Tate, (16), son, millman, born Cradley;
- [8] Hannah Barnsley (34), visitor, wife of — Barnsley, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The general annual meeting for granting and renewing victuallers’ license for the Stourbridge division was held on Wednesday last week.....

Out of the applications for old licenses only two were successful, viz.....

Henry Eveson, Lye, and *Abel Tate*, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 24/4/1858 - Advert

“To Seedsmen, Gardeners, Greengrocers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Chandler, on the spot, on Wednesday Next, April 28th, at Four o’clock in the Afternoon, about 250,000 (1¼ acres) remarkably strong Cabbage Plants (in six lots staked out) and growing in Bourne’s Field, apposite to Mr. *Abel Tate*’s, BRITISH ARMS INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, Worcestershire, by direction of Mr. John Bloomer, of Cradley Fields.

The whole of the Plants to be cleared from off the Land, on or before the 16th day of May, 1858.

Auction Offices, High Street, Cradley Heath.”

1861 Census

Furlong Lane

- [1] *Abel Tate* (66), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Phyllis Tate (61), wife, publican, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] *Samuel Tate* (14), son, puddler, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 10/10/1866 - Advert

“BRITISH ARMS INN, Furlough Lane, Colley Gate, Cradley.

Mr. Chandler will Sell by Auction, on Monday, November 12th, 1866, the useful Household Furniture, quantity of Men’s and Youth’s Hats and Caps, 40lbs best Black Lead, 60lbs Ginger, Coleman’s Mustard, Eight-day Spring Clock, capital 350-gallon English Oak and Hogshead Ale Casks, Spring Market Trap, and Effects, removed to the above Inn, for convenience.”

1871 Census

Furlong Lane

- [1] *Samuel Tate* (25), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Jane Tate (30), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] William Jenks (81), widower, lodger, gentleman, born Clent:

County Advertiser 3/6/1871 - Advert

“Pigs! Pigs! Pigs!

For Sale, at the BRITISH ARMS, Colley Gate, Cradley, Sow and Pigs (eight weeks old), and Sow, in pig.”

Stourbridge Observer 30/11/1872

“William Westwood and Eli Brettle were charged with refusing to quit the house of *Samuel Tate*, the BRITISH ARMS, on the 23rd, when requested.

The landlord, who was summoned, proved the case, and said that the men were sober, but they were using bad language.

In answer to Superintendent Freeman, witness admitted that the defendants broke his window.

Defendants pleaded guilty, and expressed their sorrow. Fined 1s each and costs.”

County Express 29/8/1874

“The annual licensing meeting for the division of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday.....

Reuben Harper, landlord of the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Furlong Lane, Cradley, applied through his wife, for a spirit license.

Mr. Holberton opposed on behalf of Mr. *Samuel Tait* of the BRITISH ARMS INN, and Mr. Emmanuel Roper, of the WHITE LION INN.

The application was refused.”

County Express 10/6/1876 - Advert

“Found, at Colley Gate, Cradley, Two Milking Cows.

Apply to *S. Tate*, BRITISH ARMS INN, Colley Gate.”

County Advertiser 20/9/1879

“The following persons were summoned by Superintendent Wheeler for having in their possession deficient scales and weights, or unstamped weights and measures, and were fined in the sums following their names and costs.....

Samuel Tate, publican, a pint cup deficient, a quarter pint measure, and three others unstamped, 10s.”

1881 Census

Furlong Lane

[1] *Samuel Tate* (31), licensed victualler, born Cradley;

[2] Jane Tate (31), wife, born Clent;

[3] Clara Bellinger (19), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

County Express 8/7/1882

“Forestry. The Quarterly Meeting of the Dudley and Cradley Heath District was held at the BRITISH ARMS, Colley Lane, on Monday last.....”

County Advertiser 4/10/1884 - Advert

“For Sale, a New Milch Cow.

Apply, *S. Tate*, BRITISH ARM INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 8/8/1885

“On Monday last Court The Star 6161 of the A.O.F. had dinner at the BRITISH ARMS INN, Colley Gate; Brother John Tate, PCR, was called to the chair. The secretary read the seventh annual report, which showed the court to be in a prosperous condition.”

County Express 14/7/1888

“On Monday the members of court The Star, No.6161, Ancient Order of Foresters, met at their Court House in Colley Gate, to celebrate their 13th anniversary, when 38 members sat down to an excellent dinner, provided by the host, Bro. *Samuel Tate*.....”

County Express 29/3/1890

“Stourbridge County Court.

Sophia Kendrick, wife of Daniel Kendrick, shingler, Colley Gate, claimed £50 damages from *Samuel Tate*, publican, BRITISH ARMS INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, for an assault. Mr. Waldron appeared for the plaintiff, an Mr. Homer defended. The case was tried by jury.

Mr. Waldron said this action was to recover damages for an assault committed by defendant, who was in a fair position in life so far as the world’s goods went. On the 5th of September, 1889, Mrs. Kendrick was at home, when defendant came into her yard. Mrs. Kendrick went out of the house, saw him, and asked him how he was. He said, ‘I have come to see that fowl that you have driven up here.’ *Tate* pointed to a fowl as being his property, whereupon Mrs. Kendrick told him it was not, as she had reared that one herself. Defendant then called her a — liar, and followed this with other bad language. Mrs. Kendrick requested him to go, but he would not, and said, ‘You’re a — bad un, like your old father.’ She again asked him to go, but he would not, so she put her hand on his shoulder and pushed him. Defendant then did what she called a brutal and cowardly act. He stepped back a yard or two, then ran at plaintiff and struck her a violent blow between the eyes and knocked her a few yards, causing her to fall upon the bricks. The result of the blow were two black eyes and a severe shock. She had not yet recovered from the effects. He thought they would unanimously agree it was an unprovoked assault, and call for extemporary damages. As to the defendant’s liability, he only need call attention to a letter sent by his solicitor, in which his client much regretted any injury he might have caused Mrs. Kendrick, and was willing to make reasonable compensation, pay the surgeon’s bill, and other charges.

Plaintiff was called and bore out her solicitor’s statement.

In cross-examination, she said she was not angry when defendant claimed the fowl. She pushed him on account of the bad language he was using. She did not scratch him, and saw no blood on his face.

Mrs. Davis corroborated.

Dr. Thompson said he saw Mrs. Kendrick, and found very extensive bruising on her forehead. The eyelids were very much swollen and she was suffering from general shock. She could not see for four days. It would require a good blow to cause the injuries. She was fairly well now.

His Honour: She is fair altogether. (Laughter.)

In cross-examination, witness said plaintiff was of a nervous temperament.

Mr. Homer, for the defence, pleaded provocation, and took objection to the bill of costs. The evidence of the plaintiff was that she had been suffering for three months, and he asked them to consider if such a blow as this would be likely to cause so long an illness. He left the case entirely with the jury, being satisfied they would do what was right.

This Honour, in summing up, said it was now for the jury to assess damages, but he informed them they were not to be assessed by way of penalty. There was no permanent injury in the case, and it was a case of how much the defendant should pay for the suffering he had caused the plaintiff by the blow. No doubt there had been some provocation, as plaintiff had pushed him, and he then gave her this violent blow. He asked them to be guided as men of the world, by what had really happened and take no notice of letters.

The jury gave a verdict for £15, with costs on the amount claimed.”

Mrs. *Tate* was drowned in a well on 31st July 1890.

County Advertiser 2/8/1890

“What appears to be a case of suicide occurred at Cradley on Thursday morning between seven and eight o’clock. Mrs. Jane *Tate*, wife of *Samuel Tate*, of the STAR [sic] INN, Colley Gate, left the house and shortly afterwards was discovered in a well at the back of the house. The well is 25 yards deep, and there is a depth of seven or eight yards of water. A woman named Mary Yoxall was looking out through her back window and saw deceased go to the well and unfasten the well gate. She asked deceased if she was going for some water as she (Yoxall) wanted some. Yoxall turned away for a minute or so, but hearing a splash ran to the well and saw deceased in the water. Deceased’s husband descended the well, and after much difficulty brought the deceased to the top. Life was then extinct, and Dr. Thompson having been sent for could only confirm this.”

County Advertiser 6/9/1890 - Advert

“TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, at an early date, the valuable Brewing Plants, Casks, and Effects, from the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Two Gates, the BRITISH ARMS, Colley Gate, and other Houses, removed as above for convenience of sale.

Full Particulars next week.”

County Advertiser 13/9/1890 - Advert

“TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed by Messrs. Oliver and Sons, to Sell by Auction as above on Monday Next, September 15th, 1890, the capital Brewing Plants, from the VINE INN, Two Gates, and the BRITISH ARMS INN, Colley Gate, comprising Fermenting Vats, Mash Tub, Collecting Tubs, Sieves, Tunpails, Gauls, Wrought and Cast Iron Boilers, English Oak 120gal. Hogshead and Half-hogshead Casks; Malt Crusher, Potato Masher, Reaping Machine by Samuelson, Barrel Roll, Chain and Wood Harrows, Dark Brown Horse, 17 hands; Whitechapel Dog Cart, and other Effects, removed from the above Inns for convenience of Sale. Sale at Eleven o’clock.”

1891 Census

Furlong Lane – BRITISH ARMS

[1] *Thomas Rowley* (28), smith, born Wollescote;

[2] *Alice Rowley* (25), wife, born Wollescote;

[3] *Martha Bannen* (15), servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 9/11/1895

“Thomas Crumpton, Cradley, was charged with obstructing the free passage of the highway by leaving a cart thereon a longer time than was necessary on the 1st inst. Mr. James defended.

Police-sergeant Clarke said about eight o’clock at night, on the 6th inst, he saw a pony and trap opposite the BRITISH ARMS INN, Cradley, and watched it for twenty minutes. During that time there was no one attending to it. He went away then and upon returning about 8-45 he saw it in the same position. Defendant afterwards came out of the public house and witness spoke to him about the trap standing so long.

Mr. James said he should call evidence to show defendant’s son was near the horse’s head the whole time, and if he did that he asked for a dismissal of the charge.

Albert Crumpton, son of defendant, bore out this statement.

Defendant was ordered to pay costs.”

County Advertiser 15/7/1899

“On Monday last the members of Court The Star, No.6161 of the Ancient Order of Foresters (Dudley and Cradley Heath District) met at the BRITISH ARMS to celebrate their twenty-fourth anniversary. An excellent repast was provided by Mr. and Mrs. *Rowley*. Bro. John Tate jun. occupied the chair, and Bro. George Henry Payne the vice-chair. The secretary’s report showed that the society was still progressing. Great regret was expressed when Bro. *Samuel Tate* tendered his resignation as treasurer on account of illness, he having served in that capacity since the foundation of the lodge. Bro. Albert Mole was appointed to the position of trustee, formerly occupied by Bro. Mole. Some excellent songs and recitations were given by Bros. J. Tate, Head, Crumpton, Worton, Moore, Rowley, Fowkes, and others, and the usual votes of thanks closed an enjoyable evening.”

1901 Census

Furlong Lane

[1] *Thomas Rowley* (38), blacksmith’s striker and publican, born Lye;

[2] *Alice Rowley* (35), wife, born Ludgebridge Brook, Worcestershire;

[3] *Martha Crampton* (20), domestic servant, born Ludgebridge Brook, Worcestershire:

County Advertiser 20/6/1903

“*John Littlewood*, landlord of the BRITISH ARMS INN, Cradley, on the evidence of Police-sergeant Clarke, was fined £5 and

costs for failing to notify to the police a case of swine fever on his premises on the 3rd inst.”

County Advertiser 9/9/1905

“An application was made for a burial last Bank Holiday and Mr. Powell (the sexton) said he could not bury on Bank Holidays. This was a case in which burial was urgent having regard to the public health, and arrangements had been made for the friends to come from long distances to the funeral, but when the relative went to order the grave, that was the reply he received, that it was against the rule The burial took place on the Bank Holiday after a visit to the office of Mr. Mobberley, the clerk The dead man in this case was *Thomas Rowley*, of the BRITISH ARMS, Furlong Lane. . . .”

County Express 19/9/1908

“On Monday a number of customers of Mrs. *Rowley*, of the BRITISH ARMS INN, Cradley, had an enjoyable outing to Rednal by brake. The party had lunch which had thoughtfully been provided by the hostess, on Ganner’s Green Common, and dinner was partaken of at the Barracks Hotel, Rednal, after which the party visited Messrs. Cadbury and Co.’s premises, and had an excursion to Bilberry Hills. Home was reached about eight o’clock. Mr. B. Barnsby had charge of the arrangements.”

County Express 6/3/1909

“A meeting of the Friendly Society’s Parade Committee was held at the BRITISH ARMS on Tuesday, when Mr. A. Griffiths presided over a good attendance, including Messrs. J. Bloomer (secretary), and R. Forrest (treasurer). Messrs. Griffiths, A. Mapp, R. Forrest, and J. Bloomer were appointed to act on the local relief committee which had been formed by the Parish Council. Arrangements were made for this year’s parade. It was decided to place collecting boxes in the street on the Saturday prior to the parade.”

County Express 1/10/1910

“A supper was held at the BRITISH ARMS, Furlough Hill, on Saturday evening, Mr. J. Hackett presiding over a good gathering. Songs were given by Messrs. Allen, C. Taylor, J. Hackett, A. Griffiths, H. Head, G. Harris, W. Knowles, and Miss A. Stevens, and duet, ‘Larboard Watch,’ by Messrs R. Forrest and A. Griffiths. The health of Mr. and Mrs. Yardley was proposed by the chairman. Mr. J. Raybould supported. A vote of thanks was accorded on the motion of Mr. C. Morgan, seconded by Mr. S. Griffiths. Miss A. Stevens replied on behalf of Mrs. Yardley.”

County Express 7/1/1911

“Yesterday week, Mr. *Frank Griffiths*, of the BRITISH ARMS, gave a house warming supper, when about 60 sat down. Songs were given by Messrs. J. Hackett, J. Drew, G. Cartwright, A. Hill, J. Lane, J. Davis, W. Homer, S. Clifton, C. Parker. The host and hostess were cordially thanked on the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. Dunn.”

County Express 21/1/1911

“A sad accident occurred on Tuesday, resulting in the death of the two year old child of Mr. and Mrs. S. Robinson, of Spring Street. In the morning Mrs. Robinson went to a neighbouring chainshop, and on going to the house at eleven o’clock the child whom she had left in bed was calling her. She had previously visited the child twice during the morning. On going upstairs she found the bed room full of smoke. The child’s night attire had been burned and the child itself had sustained severe burns on the legs and body. Dr. Belbin was called, but he found the case practically hopeless, and in the evening the child died from shock as the result of burns.

An inquest was held on Thursday, at the BRITISH ARMS, Furlong Lane, before Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner). Evidence was given by Mrs. Robinson on the lines indicated above. She also said a box of matches was at the side of the bed, and these the child had got and ignited. All the matches were burned.

Dr. Belbin gave medical evidence, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1911 Census

Furlong Lane – BRITISH ARMS

- [1] *Frank Griffiths* (34), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Helen Griffiths (32), wife, married 10 years, assisting in business, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] Frank Griffiths (8), son, born Cradley;
- [4] Marion Griffiths (6), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] Fred Griffiths (5), son, born Cradley;
- [6] John Griffiths (3), son, born Cradley;
- [7] Annie May Plant (18), sister-in-law, assisting in business, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/1/1933

“Nine licensed houses, the property of Messrs. William Oliver and Sons, of Cradley – a firm which has been established for nearly a century – were sold by auction at the TALBOT HOTEL, Stourbridge, yesterday.

The houses, which are situated within a three mile radius, including Dudley, Stourbridge, Amblecote, Brierley Hill, Cradley Heath, Lye, and Cradley, fetched £14,925.

The houses and amounts were BRITISH ARMS, Cradley, £1,800.

Frederick Smith Ltd, Birmingham, were the purchasers of the BRITISH ARMS.”

Frank Griffiths – see also LODGE FORGE

1939 Register

20, Furlong Lane

[1] *Ellen Griffiths*, date of birth 29/1/1878, licensee, innkeeper, widowed;

[2] John Griffiths, dob 3/7/1909, ledger clerk, single;

[3] Frank Griffiths, dob 11/10/1902, horizontal boring machine, single:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/1/1954

“A suggestion that a director of a Birmingham company drove while under the influence of drink, when not wearing either a shirt or tie, when he tried to turn his car to the left though there was no road there, was made at the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions yesterday.

Edwin T. Wadsell (50), of Westmead, Kingsland, near Leominster, denied the charges of driving while under the influence of drink and of driving dangerously at Cradley on October 9. The hearing was adjourned until today.

Mr. Max Holsdworth prosecuting said that Wadsell was seen drinking at the BRITISH ARMS, Cradley. Afterwards a car was driven at a ‘very considerable speed’ up Furlough Hill in which the public house was situated, failed to slacken speed at a ‘Slow’ sign and turned to the wrong side with screeching brakes and whining tyres. The car continued on the wrong side of the road for some way and finally collided with a lamp standard on the pavement with such force that the top fell into the road. The noise woke the residents who found Wadsell showing ‘the usual symptoms of drink.’ There were also some curious features, Mr. Holsdworth said. Apart from Wadsell driving without shirt or tie, though the road was straight with no turning to the left, the car’s left indicator as out. ‘Whether he was trying to turn left is for you to decide,’ he told the jury. When he found that the police had been called, Wadsell, heedless of his woman passenger, who was badly injured, abandoned the car and said he was going to walk to his flat in Birmingham. Later he was found by the police ‘staggering’ along the road and at the police station a doctor decided he was under the influence of drink.

Dr. H. H. Watts, formerly of Cradley, said that Wadsell suffered only minor abrasions. After his reflexes had been tested Wadsell had difficulty in replacing his shoe and in tying his shoelaces he was ‘hopeless.’

Cross-examined by Mr. Gilbert Griffiths, defending, Dr. Watts said that he was not aware that Wadsell suffered occasional ‘black-outs’ and that his blood pressure was abnormally high.”

[Wadsell was fined £50 and disqualified from driving for three years.]

Birmingham Daily Post 28/12/1966

“Mrs. Shirley *Bishop*, aged 31, wife of the licensee of the BRITISH ARMS, Furlong Lane, Cradley, was taken to the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge, on Christmas Eve when she fell off a table while putting up Christmas decorations. She suffered a back injury but later returned home.”

It closed on 21st June 1971.

Demolished

BRITISH ARMS

New Street, (Hagley Road), (Spring Hill), Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Edward Instone, butcher, Spring Hill, Halesowen [1885]

Anells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Baskerfield [1867]

Richard Roberts [] – **1871**);

Charles Withers (**1871 – 1881**);

Mrs. Eliza Withers (**1881 – [1896]**)

Charles Withers (**1907 – []**)

William Smith (1914 – [])

Alfred Thomas Wood [1929]

Frank Harding [1955]

W R ‘Bob’ Butler [1950s] – [1960]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/2/1867

“J. Withers of Halesowen, not being satisfied with his late defeat by Bill Parsons of Birmingham, will fight him again on the same terms as before, for £10 (open for £20) a side, by Parsons calling at the BRITISH ARMS, Spring Hill, on Monday, or any night next week, a match may be made. *Bells Life* to be stakeholder.”

County Advertiser 2/3/1867 - Advert

“Love Lane, Halesowen.

To be Let, with immediate possession, a respectable Residence, pleasantly situate as above, having a romantic view of the renowned Shenstones walks, Frankley, the Manor Abbey, and overlooking the town of Halesowen, with its fine old Church and picturesque Cemetery. Contains Hall, Parlour, Two large Bed Rooms, Kitchen, Back Kitchen, Cellar, Outhouses, &c, Hard and Soft water, a good Garden; also a good Shop, which opens into the Lane, suitable for any light trade, but of late had been used as a Ladies School, and might again be used for the same purpose.

Apply to Mr. *Richard Baskerfield*, BRITISH ARMS, New Street, Spring Hill, Halesowen.”

County Express 13/4/1867 - Advert

“Halesowen.

To be Let, and entered upon at once, the BRITISH ARMS INN, Spring Hill, a very complete and extensive Premises. Coming-in to suit Purchaser. Rent and Payments low. Present Proprietor leaving on account of engagements at a distance.

Apply at once on the Premises, or to W. Hinton, Auctioneer, Pensnett.”

London Gazette 31/12/1869

“*Richard Baskerfield*, of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Carpenter and Joiner, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge, on the 29th day of, December, 1869, is hereby required to surrender himself to John Harvard, Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors, to be held before the said Registrar, on the 17th day of January next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely, at the said Court. John Harvard is the Official Assignee, and Thomas Homer, of Brierley-hill, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

London Gazette 20/2/1870

“*Richard Baskerfield*, of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Carpenter and Joiner, adjudicated bankrupt on the 29th day of December, 1869. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge, on the 16th day of February, 1870.”

1871 Census

Hagley Road

[1] *Charles Withers* (58), overlooker of timber yard and licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Phoebe Withers* (55), wife, born Romsley;

[3] *David Withers* (33), son, carrier, born Hasbury;

[4] *Hannah Withers* (24), daughter, born Hasbury;

[5] *Benjamin Withers* (17), son, born Hasbury:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/9/1871

“*Charles Withers*, landlord of the BRITISH ARMS, Spring Hill, was fined 1s and costs for permitting drunkenness.”

Charles Withers died in 1881.

Eliza Withers = *Eliza Whithers*

1881 Census

New Street – BRITISH ARMS

[1] *Eliza Withers* (48), widow, publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Bertha Withers* (16), daughter, nail maker, born Halesowen;

[3] *Annie Withers* (14), daughter, apprentice dressmaker, born Halesowen;

[4] *Harriet Withers* (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[5] *Elizabeth Withers* (10), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[6] *Charles Withers* (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;

[7] *Alice Withers* (6), daughter, born Halesowen;

[8] *Elizabeth Randle* (59), sister-in-law, widow, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 18/6/1881

“The transfer of a beerhouse license, BRITISH ARMS INN, Spring Hill, from the executors of *Charles Withers* to his widow *Elizabeth Withers* was allowed.”

Dudley and District News 12/1/1884

“*Eliza Withers*, of the BRITISH ARMS INN, Spring Hill, was charged with permitting drunkenness in her house, on the 27th ult. PCs Hinde and Hardwick proved to finding man named Edward Lowe very drunk in the house on the day in question. The Bench fined defendant 2s 6d and costs.

Edward Lowe, an old offender, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk on licensed premises, and the Bench informed him that if he came before them again on a similar charge he would be committed to prison without the option of a fine.”

County Express 4/4/1885

“Edward Instone, butcher, Spring Hill, was charged with forcibly entering the licensed premises of *Eliza Withers*, of the BRITISH OAK [sic], Spring Hill. Mr. Waldron defended.

It was stated by Mr. Waldron that the complainant was a tenant of a public house belonging to his client and client’s wife, who were the owners in fee. His client gave complainant what he believed was perfectly good and legal notice to quit the house, but Mrs. *Withers* had invoked the aid of the criminal law by summoning defendant under the 21st James I, cap 15. Mr. Waldron argued that the complainant was invoking criminal law to obtain redress for something for which the remedy was a civil one, and the complainant, if she had a remedy, must bring a County Court action.

In reply to Mr. Waldron, Mr. Bassano said the Bench were there to administer, not to review the law, and as the statute appeared to be obsolete they declined to hear the summons.”

Mrs. *Eliza Withers*, beer retailer, New Street, Spring Hill. [1888], [1896]

1891 Census

New Street – ROYAL OAK [sic]

[1] *Eliza Withers* (58), widow, publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Charles Withers* (18), son, brewer, born Halesowen;

[3] Alice Withers (16), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 24/6/1899

“On Saturday Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the BRITISH ARMS INN, New Street, Halesowen, respecting the death of Mary Ellen Cox, aged two and a half years, daughter of John Cox, of Hill Street, Hasbury, who died at her home on Friday night from the effects of shocking injuries sustained on the 14th inst. From the evidence it appeared that about 8.30pm on the last named date, some bacon was being fried over the fire in a pan, and at the same time the deceased was sitting in a chair by the hearth. The pan was accidentally upset, and the boiling liquor ran down the baby’s chest and back, causing shocking injuries. Dr. T. B. Young was called in immediately. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1901 Census

New Street

[1] *Eliza Withers* (68), widow, publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Charles Withers* (28), son, born Halesowen;

[3] Alice Withers (26), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Express 29/1/1910 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of our dear mother, *Eliza Withers*, of the BRITISH ARMS, Halesowen, who died January 27th, 1907; aged 74.

Softly at night the stars are gleaming

Upon a quiet grave.

Where there sleeping without dreaming

One we love but could not save.”

1911 Census

New Street

[1] *Charles Withers* (38), publican, born Hasbury;

[2] Alice Withers (36), sister, unmarried, assisting in business, born Hasbury;

[3] Richard Finney Sutch (44), boarder, coal miner (hewer), born Rowley;

[4] Elizabeth Sutch (41), sister, assisting in business, born Halesowen;

[5] Charles Harry Clifford Sutch (18), nephew, fitter in tube works, born Hasbury:

Hasbury FC changed here. [c.1913]

Hartlepool Northern Daily Mail 6/2/1929

“A police constable who obtained a situation on the premises as a pianist gave evidence yesterday against *Alfred Thomas Wood*, licensee of the BRITISH ARMS INN, a beerhouse at Halesowen, Worcestershire, who was ordered to pay a fine and costs amounting to £30 17s on four charges of selling whisky and wine and storing liquor without a license.

When the police searched the premises a number of bottles of all kinds of liquor were discovered at the back of the stairs door.

For the defence it was urged that the sale of whisky to the constable was induced by the constable, who led the landlord’s wife to

believe that his wife was ill and needed the whisky. The Bench, however, complimented the constable on the way in which he had conducted the case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/4/1955

“The Socialist Mayor of Halesowen, Councillor G. A. Southall, who is seeking re-election as a representative of the Hasbury Ward on the Halesowen Town Council at the municipal elections, will have a Conservative opponent Mr. *Frank Harding*, licensee of the BRITISH ARMS, New Street, Halesowen.

An old soldier with 18 years’ service – he became a regimental sergeant-major in the Royal Engineers – Mr. *Harding* has lived in the district since 1946. He is secretary of the Halesowen Town Domino League.

Coun. Southall, now nearing the end of his term as Halesowen’s second Socialist Mayor, has been a member of the council since 1945. He also serves on the Worcestershire County Council. He is president of the Borough Carnival Committee, of which Mr. *Harding* is general secretary.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/5/1955

“The election address of Halesowen’s Socialist Mayor, Councillor G. A. Southall, who is opposed by the Conservatives in the Hasbury ward, includes a photograph of himself in his civic robes.

Coun. Southall, who had already accused the Conservatives of ‘dragging the Mayor into politics,’ commented yesterday, ‘I am putting up as Mayor deliberately so that the electors can see what it means when the Mayor is forced into the political arena with little time to do anything about it.’

Coun. P. W. Scott, chairman of the Oldbury and Halesowen Divisional Conservative and Unionist Association commented last night that when Coun. Southall began his term of office, he gave an undertaking that he would abstain from political activity. ‘By having on his leaflet a photograph showing him in the Mayor’s robes, Coun. Southall has got his office inextricably mixed up with politics,’ Coun. Scott said, ‘and I hope future mayors will do their utmost to erase this unfortunate mistake.’

Coun. Southall’s Conservative opponent in the Hasbury ward is Mr. *F. H. Harding* of the BRITISH ARMS INN.”

Bob Butler was married to Beatrice.

He worked at W. Whitehouse and Sons, Stourbridge Road.

See also LOYAL LODGE.

A team from here won the local dominoes league in 1959/60.

Closed

Demolished

BROADSTONE

Tanhouse Lane / Two Gates Lane, Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Les Piggott [1984]

Tom Sidaway []

NOTES

It opened on 9th June 1970.

A dominoes team from here won the Banks’s / Embassy knock out tournament in 2003.

[2009]

Closed [2010]

It was converted into a shop. [2011]

Halesowen News 9/3/2011

“New life is being breathed into a derelict Cradley pub which had become an eyesore and a haven for vandals. The former BROADSTONE pub, in Two Gates, has been given a £120,000 makeover to transform it into a Costcutter community store. The franchised convenience outlet has been taken on by local businessman Javed Iqbal with the total cost of the development in the region of £350,000. Costcutter area manager Paul Woodall said, ‘Pubs were part of the community and, as they are dying off, that focal point is disappearing. It is hoped this Costcutter will become a focal point – a community hub.’

A feature of the store, which is set to open on Friday, will be its Making a Difference scheme, whereby suppliers of certain product ranges give donations to a virtual bank account – proceeds of which are used to support local community groups, clubs and schools.

Mr. Woodall – who is also a Dudley councillor for Kingswinford and Wallheath – said Mr. Iqbal planned to transform the exterior of the former pub, with a garden area and hanging baskets. The opening will be marked by a ceremony with guests including Hayley Green and Cradley South councillor Ken Turner.”

BULLS HEAD

96, Overend Road, Colley Gate, (Overend), CRADLEY

OWNERS

John Rolinson and Son Ltd. (acquired 1898) [1909]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Adams* [1850]
Jabez Adams* [1851] – [1882]
J Hingley [1864] ?
James Hingley [1878] ?
William Edwin Adams [1884] – [1892]
Mrs. Sarah Adams [1896]
Alfred Kite (1897 – [])
Edward Hawkeswood [1898] – 1909);
Richard Frank Tate (1909);
Joseph Lowe (1909 – 1914);
William Henry Davies (1914 – 1915);
Mary Ann Homer (1915 – 1916);
John Percival (1916 – 1919);
John Cole (1919 – 1925);
George Robins (1925 – 1934);
Mrs. Zerniah Robins (1934 – 1938);
Jeremiah Robins (1938 – 1941);
Joseph Edward Garbett (1941 – 1961);
Edith Garbett (1961 – 1969);
Priscilla Worton (1969 – 1971);
Robert Isaacs (1971 – 1972);
Richard Kevin Hunter (1972 – 1973);
Allan Brown Henderson (1973 – 1974);
David Taylor (1974 – 1975);
Benjamin Evans (1975 – 1976);
Gary Glyn Druxfield (1976 – 1977);
Jonathan Monk (1977 – 1978);
Philip Colefield (1978 – 1979);
Kenneth Jones (1979 – 1980);
Herman Haus Reich (1980 – 1981);
Anthony John Wright (1981 – 1982);
Philip Wakeman (1982 – 1984);
Michael Turner (1984 – [])

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 7/3/1840

“The Orange Societies. The members of these societies have changed the name of their associations, and they are now called ‘Protestant Confederate Societies.’ Under this designation, considerable exertions are being made to increase their numbers; and the system has undergone some revisions to meet the legal objections which existed against the old societies. Among the alterations, it is said that a solemn declaration to maintain the principles of the body, is substituted for the oath which was formerly administered. Two delegates from Birmingham are now in London, conferring with Irish orange members of Parliament, on the best means of extending these societies to districts in England, where they do not already exist. On Tuesday last, sixty delegates from Worcester, Birmingham, Kidderminster, Bewdley, and other places, dined together at the BULLS HEAD INN, Cradley, Mr. Wm. Heeley, of Birmingham in the chair; Mr. Buffery, vice-chairman. The principal speech was by Mr. Bloxham, surgeon, of Halesowen, on responding to the toast of ‘Protestant Ascendancy in Church and State.’ ‘Colonel Vernon,’ and the celebrated orange toasts ‘The Battle of the Diamond,’ ‘Lord Roden, and no surrender,’ were given with due honours; after which the pope and O’Connell were soundly abused, and the company separated in high glee at their champagne visions of future ascendancy in church and state.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 4/10/1841 - Advert

“BULLS HEAD AND BRITANNIA ARMS INN, Cradley. Important Opportunity.

I. Allen has received instruction to Sell by Public Auction, on the premises, on Tuesday the 19th day of October inst, at six o’clock in the evening (unless sooner disposed of by private treaty) in consequence of the indisposition of the Proprietor who is about to retire from the business – the valuable Goodwill, Licenses, and Possession of the above good-accustomed Public House and Grocer’s Shop, occupied by the present tenant for many years.

The Premises are very convenient and low-rented, situated close to one of the largest iron furnaces in the neighbourhood of Cradley, and surrounded by numerous other works in this populous district.

There are several extensive Clubs attend the House.

This is an opportunity not often to be met with for any one wishing a good Country Public House of good business.

The Stock, Fixtures, Furniture, and Effects to be taken at a fair valuation.

For other particulars apply to the Proprietor on the Premises, or at the offices of the Auctioneer, Smithfield, and 76, New Street, Birmingham.

N.B. I. Allen has an extensive List of Public Houses, Buildings, and other Properties on Sale in and near Birmingham.”

*possibly the same person

Jabez Adams = Jabes Adams

1851 Census

Overend

- [1] *Jabez Adams* (36), rivet maker and publican, born Rowley;
- [2] Nancy Adams (31), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Adela Adams (11), daughter, born Rowley;
- [4] N ____ Adams (9), daughter, born Rowley;
- [5] John Adams (7), son, born Rowley;
- [6] Thomas Adams (5), son, born Cradley;
- [7] Phoebe Adams (2), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] Philip Adams (6 months), son:

Worcestershire Chronicle 7/6/1854

“Supt. Burton brought up a strong muster of delinquents whose scales, weights, or measures were not in accordance with law or justice.....

Jabez Adams, Cradley, one half-gallon, one quart, and three pints, fined 5s.”

1861 Census

Overend – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *Jabez Adams* (46), victualler, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] Nancy Adams (41), wife, born Rowley Regis;
- [3] Zillah Adams (19), daughter, house maid, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] John Adams (17), son, rivet maker, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] Thomas Adams (15), son, rivet maker, born Cradley;
- [6] Phoebe E. Adams (12), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] Philip H. Adams (10), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] *William E. Adams* (8), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] Myra Adams (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [10] James A. Adams (5), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [11] Flora Adams (2), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [12] William Dunn (36), boarder, puddler, born Rowley Regis:

Stourbridge Observer 21/5/1864

“On Thursday the members of the club held at Mr. *J. Hingley*’s BULLS HEAD, Cradley, had their feast. They marched round the neighbourhood accompanied by the Cradley Forge Band, and then returned to dinner.”

County Advertiser 10/2/1866 - Correspondence

“Cradley Ragged School Entertainment.

To the Editor of the *Advertiser*.

Sir, On Tuesday evening I went to the above entertainment and got there about twenty-five minutes past seven o’clock. The doors were then closed, and many were waiting to enter. A young man came at the same time, whom I should have taken for a postman if it had been anywhere else, with his leather strap and bag. He rapped at the door, and someone within opened it. He walked in, and I went close behind him. There I saw seated ten or twelve persons, and, to my surprise, he said to me, ‘Go back, you shan’t come in; it’s too soon.’ I replied, ‘How is that; what brings all these people here? If I am to go back let us have fair play, turn them out likewise.’ He said, ‘What is it to do with you who is seated here?’ I said, ‘Very well, I shan’t go out unless the others are turned out also.’ He said, ‘I came here to receive the money;’ and I said, ‘And I came here to pay,’ and he received my threepence with a grunt.

Now, Sir, I will leave it to your numerous readers to judge whether that is consistent treatment to a respectable man, much more one who is so many years his senior.

Sir, yours respectfully, *Jabez Adams*.

BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley. February 8th, 1866.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/9/1866 - Deaths

“On the 22nd ultimo, aged 20 years, Thomas, second son of Mr. *Jabez Adams*, of Over End, Cradley; deeply lamented by his family and friends.”

1871 Census

Over End

- [1] *Jabez Adams* (56), innkeeper, born Rowley;
- [2] Nancy Adams (51), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] John Adams (27), son, iron worker, born Rowley;
- [4] Phebe Emily Adams (22), daughter, born Rowley;
- [5] *William Edwin Adams* (18), son, iron work labourer, born Rowley;
- [6] Myra Adams (17), daughter, born Rowley;
- [7] James Adams (15), son, iron work labourer, born Rowley;
- [8] Flora Adams (12), daughter, scholar, born Rowley;
- [9] Martha Fiddian (3), grand-daughter, born Rowley;

County Advertiser 6/5/1871

“The Government Licensing Bill. Adjourned Meeting.

On Thursday evening, the adjourned meeting, to consider what steps should be taken to oppose Mr. Bruce’s bill now before Parliament, was held in Mr. Hingley’s Assembly Room. The chair was occupied by Mr. *Jabez Adams*, BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, who referred to the former meeting, and the decision to which they had arrived. He then called Mr. Oliver, who, after a few introductory remarks, said that to draw up a petition now, in his view, was unnecessary, but that the best means which they could adopt was to write to each of the members who represented them, stating the decisions of their meetings, and earnestly entreating them to oppose entirely the second reading of the obnoxious and oppressive bill. This was approved by the meeting, and was carried unanimously. After the transaction of other business the meeting terminated.”

County Express 19/1/1878

“Cradley Conservative Association. A well-attended meeting of this flourishing association was held at Mr. *James Hingley*’s BULLS HEAD, High Street, on Tuesday evening last. Deputations from Stourbridge Constitutional Association and Cradley Heath Conservative Association attended.....”

1881 Census

Overend

- [1] *Jabez Adams* (66), licensed victualler, born Rowley;
- [2] Nancy Adams (61), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Flora Adams (22), daughter, born Cradley;

County Advertiser 22/4/1882 - Advert

“Highly Valuable Freehold Properties, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder, at Overend Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, on Tuesday, May 9th, 1882, at Six for Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that well-known Freehold Old-Licensed Public-House and Premises, the BULLS HEAD INN, situate at Overend aforesaid, now in the occupation of *Jabez Adams*. The house contains Tap Room, Bar, Kitchen, Parlour, Smoke Room, Malt

Room, Large Club Room, Three Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, and capital Cellaring. The Out-buildings &c comprise Piggeries, Stable, Walled-in Garden, Yard (with gateway entrance), and the usual Appurtenances. The Premises are advantageously situated, and well-arranged, have a plentiful supply of hard and soft Water, and being contiguous to the extensive Works and Collieries of the New British Iron Company, will always command an excellent trade, and afford a very favourable opportunity for an energetic person desirous of embarking in the business. The Vendor is willing to allow a proper proportion of the purchase money to remain, if necessary, and early possession may be had. This Lot contains a mineral area of 652 square yards or thereabouts. Lot 2. Four Valuable Freehold Messuages or Dwelling-Houses, with Workshops, Gardens, Party Pump and Appurtenances, adjoining Lot 1, respectively occupied by Hugh Jones, William Redfern, Joseph Raybould, and Edward Moreton, producing at a low rental, £26 per annum, and containing with half-roads an area of 1,100 square yards or thereabouts. For further information and to inspect Plan, apply to John Wright, Esq, Solicitor; or the Auctioneer, both of Cradley Heath.”

William Edwin Adams was also a shopkeeper. [1884], [1888]

1891 Census

Overend – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *William Ed. Adams* (37), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Sarah Adams* (35), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Alice Adams* (13), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Walter Ed. Adams* (8), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] *Ernest Adams* (4), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] *Beatrice Adams* (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *William Albert Adams* (1), son, born Cradley;
- [8] *Mary Caroline Willits* (14), domestic servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 24/2/1894 - Advert

“Sale of Growing Timber, upon the Coleman Hill Estate, near to Cradley and Halesowen.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, on Tuesday, the 6th day of March, 1894, at Four o’clock in the Afternoon, in one Lot (unless previously disposed of by Private Treaty).

About 100 Oak, Ash, Elm, Wych Elm, Polar, and Sycamore Trees, now growing upon the above Estate.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 3/3/1894 - Deaths

“In loving memory of *William Edwin*, the beloved husband of *Sarah Adams*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, who died February 18th, 1894, in his 41st year.

He is gone, but not forgotten,

Never will his memory fade;

Sweetest thoughts shall ever linger,

Round the spot where he is laid.”

Sarah Adams was also a shopkeeper. [1896]

County Advertiser 20/2/1897

“Mr. T. Cooksey, on behalf of *Alfred Kite*, applied for the license of the BULLS HEAD INN to be transferred to him. Ultimately the Bench granted the application.”

County Advertiser 5/2/1898 - Advert

“Important Sale of Freehold Fully-Licensed Public-House, Provision Shop and Building Land at Cradley, Staffs.

Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Tuesday, the 16th day of February, 1898, at Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that Highly-valuable and Well-accustomed Freehold Old-Licensed Public House, with the Provision Shop attached, known as the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, for upwards of fifty years carried on by the late Proprietor and his Family. The Premises occupy a commanding position, having a frontage of 72ft to the Main Road at Overend aforesaid, and comprises elaborately-fitted Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, each with Bay Windows; Kitchen, with patent cooking range; Parlour, Sitting Room, Provision Shop, large Club Room, Three Bed Rooms, Two spacious Cellars, with rolling way; Enclosed Yard, with cartway entrance; Garden, Brewhouse, Stabling for Three Horses, and Three Piggeries. The Premises are very compact and well arranged, and are in a capital state of repair. The Mines and Minerals will be Sold with the surface, and early possession may be had.....”

Dudley Herald 19/2/1898

“Mr. T. Pateshall, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley Heath, offered for sale by auction the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, and, after spirited bidding, it was knocked down to Messrs. D. Rollason [sic] and Co. brewers, Netherton, for £2,450. The property was sold by the same auctioneer ten years ago for £500.”

County Advertiser 9/4/1898 - Advert

“BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction as above, on Monday, April 18th, 1898, the whole of the Modern and Genteel Household Furniture, comprising Crown-back, Cane-seated, and Horsehair-seated Chairs; Easy Chairs, Walnut Overmantel, capital Mahogany Couches and Sofas, in horsehair; Bamboo Table, Painted Cupboards and Beaufet, Brass-mounted Fireguard, Swiss-carved Clocks, Dinner and Tea Ware, Brussels Carpets, Pier Glasses, Lady's Work Table, Half-tester and French Bedstead, Feather Beds, Wool and Straw Mattresses, Blankets, Sheets, Skin Hearth Rug, Toilet Tables, Glasses and Ware, Mahogany and Polished Chests of Drawers, Night Chair, Side-board, Fire-proof Safe, Avery's Patent Weighing Machine, Scales and Weights, Counter, Shelving.
Useful Pony and Harness; also the Valuable Brewing Plant, consisting of English Oak Casks, Fermenting and Cooling Vats, Refrigerator, 85-gallon and 130-gallon Boilers and Settings, Mash Tub, Sieves, &c. &c.
Sale at Eleven a.m.
Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath."

County Advertiser 16/7/1898 - Advert

"The BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley.

E. Hawkeswood begs to inform the Public generally that he has taken to the above Inn and hopes to secure a share of their patronage.

Accommodation For All Parties.

Rolinson's Celebrated Ales.

Wines & Spirits of the Best and Purest Quality.

Cigars, Etc.

Families Supplied."

1901 Census

Overend – BULLS HEAD

[1] *Edward Hawkeswood* (61), licensed victualler and grocer, born Cradley;

[2] *Mary A. Hawkeswood* (20), daughter, born Stourbridge;

[3] *Albert E. Hawkeswood* (18), son, solicitor's clerk, born Stourbridge;

[4] *Granville Hawkeswood* (16), son, draper's apprentice, born Bromsgrove;

[5] *Nancy S. Hawkeswood* (14), daughter, born Bromsgrove;

[6] *Ethel E. Hawkeswood* (12), daughter, born Bromsgrove;

[7] *Sarah Hawkeswood* (51), wife, born Sandon, Staffordshire:

County Express 11/10/1902

"James Woodall, aged 70, a block chainmaker, who was residing with his nephew, Ernest Woodall, at Overend, met with his death on Tuesday evening through falling downstairs. The old man had been out during the evening, and when he returned he went upstairs, taking a lighted lamp with him. His nephew, who had previously retired, heard a fall, and on proceeding to the foot of the stairs found his uncle had fallen down. With the assistance of a neighbour named Edward Woodhouse, he got him to bed, but he died almost immediately. PS Clark, who was close to the spot, was summoned, and found that the deceased's neck had been broken. Dr. Belbin was also summoned, but he could render no assistance.

An inquest was held on Thursday morning by Mr. A. H. Hebbert, deputy-coroner, at the BULLS HEAD INN. In addition to the facts mentioned above, it was stated that the deceased had recently complained of pains in the head, and had also suffered a bad leg. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned, and the jury also commented upon the awkwardness of the stairs which the deceased fell down."

County Express 12/6/1909

"On Wednesday evening there were offered for sale by auction, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, under the instructions from the trustees of the late Mr. R. Whitley, five dwelling houses in Butcher's Lane, Overend, producing at weekly rentals of £40 19s per annum. The houses were sold to Mr. Wm. Jones, Overend, for £515. Mr. E. O. Nightingale was the auctioneer, and Mr. George Green, the solicitor concerned."

Tipton Herald 10/7/1909

"A meeting of the Dudley and District Licensed Victuallers' Association was held on Thursday evening at the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, the house of Mr. *Joseph Lowe*....."

Tipton Herald 25/9/1909

"Mr. *Joseph Lowe*, of the BULLS HEAD, Netherend, and late of the ANCHOR HOTEL, Cradley Heath, entertained his customers to dinner, the occasion being the house warming. After the meal a capital musical programme had been arranged....."

County Express 15/1/1910

"A verdict of Accidental Death was returned on Monday at an inquest held at the BULLS HEAD, Cradley, touching the death of Edwin Harbach, aged 80, of Overend. Deceased fell downstairs on Thursday week sustaining injuries, from which he succumbed."

County Express 18/3/1911

“Yesterday week a dinner was held at the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, as a farewell to Mr. G. Gasser, who has been working for Messrs. J. Fellows and Sons on a chain making machine, and who has since left for Switzerland. Mr. S. Harris subsequently presided, and songs were rendered by Messrs. H. Vernon, S. Tromans, Billingham, I. Bennett, and P. Lowe, who also accompanied, and others. Mr. Gasser was the recipient of a large number of presents.”

County Express 18/3/1911

“On Tuesday night, shortly before nine o’clock, Mrs. Lucy Woodhouse, of Banner Street, Cradley Street, Cradley, was missed from her home. Her married daughter, Mrs. Lois Heath, who lives quite near, went in search of her, and on going into the yard was horrified to discover that she was in the dolly-tub, head downwards. The unfortunate woman was pulled out, and Dr. Waugh was summoned, but found all attempts to restore animation hopeless. There was only about eighteen inches of water in the tub. The inquest was held last night, at the BULLS HEAD, Overend, by Mr. Hebbert (deputy coroner). Mrs. Heath stated her mother had intended, as was her custom, to go to the back part of the premises to see whether there was a light in another daughter’s house, when she was missed. Witness went out and found her mother head first in a washing tub containing a small quantity of rain water. The tub was not in its customary place, her brother having moved it. Deceased would not be aware that the tub was moved because she was not out before that night. Witness thought her mother fell into the tub accidentally. When witness pulled her mother out she was alive and carried indoors, but died almost immediately. Dr. Waugh, who stated that he had attended deceased since July, gave as his opinion she died from shock caused by emersion. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1911 Census

Overend – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *Joseph Lowe* (50), publican, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Mary Lowe* (51), wife, married 25 years, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *Percy Lowe* (22), son, chainmaker, born Brockmoor;
- [4] *Leonard Lowe* (17), son, fitter, engineer, born Cradley;
- [5] *Mrs. Lamb* (48), widow, servant, born Kingswinford:

The Scotsman 21/6/1913

“Receiving Orders. *J. Lowe*, the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, county of Worcester, innkeeper and baker.”

London Gazette 24/6/1913

“First Meeting and Examination.

Lowe, Joseph, Residing and carrying on business at the BULLS HEAD INN, Overend, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, Innkeeper and baker. July 2, 1913.”

County Express 10/2/1917

“The annual licensing sessions at Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division, were held yesterday, Mr. R. L. Mathews presiding..... Since the last sessions *John Percival*, BULLS HEAD INN, Cradley, for selling drink to a child under the age of 14 years in an uncorked and unsealed vessel, was ordered to pay the costs 4s.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/4/1920

“At Worcestershire Quarter Sessions yesterday *John Cole* of the BULLS HEAD INN, Cradley, appealed against a conviction for permitting drunkenness upon his premises. During the hearing Mr. Milward (for appellant) asked a witness what a workingman would drink without getting drunk.

Witness replied that it varies, adding, ‘I generally have seven or eight pints every night.’

Judge Amphlett: It depends on how much a man can carry.

The appeal was allowed.”

1939 Register

Overend Road – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *Zerniah Robins*, widow, date of birth 29/3/1871, licensed victualler;
- [2] *Theresa Palmer*, widow, dob 26/8/1898, unpaid domestic duties:

[1994]

BULLS HEAD

18, (114), Hagley Street, (High Street) / Stourbridge Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Arthur Hodgetts [1892]
Messrs. Carr & Co. [1897]
Peter Walker & Co. Ltd. [1903]
Frederick Smith Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Hall [1822]
Edward Tranter [1827]
John Smith [1845] – **1883**;
Mrs. Sarah Miles (**1883** – [1888]
John Price [1891] manager
Alfred Micklewright [1892] – **1903**;
F J Waring* (**1903** – []
John Frank Wareing* [1911] – [1912]
Thomas Clews (**1912** – [1921]
Tomkiss [1930s]
Foster [1939]
Samuel Millsum** [1939]
Milson** [1940]

NOTES

High Street [1822], [1845]
Hagley Street [1827], [1835]
Hagley Road [1849]
18, Hagley Street [1911], [1912], [1916]

BULLS HEAD HOTEL [1908], [1911], [1939]

It was situated at the Laurel Lane approach to Hagley Street - now the middle of the road.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/3/1824 - Advert

“To be Let, and Possession had immediately, the BULLS HEAD INN, Hales Owen, Shropshire. The usual effects to be taken to at a fair valuation.

For further particulars apply on the premises.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 4/6/1827 - Advert

“Hales Owen, Salop.

To be Sold by Auction, by W. Round, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, on Wednesday the 20th day of June, 1827, at twelve o'clock at noon, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed at the time of sale, and subject to such conditions as shall then and there be produced: the following desirable Land, Houses, Securities, &c.....

Lot 10. All that well accustomed Public House, known by the sign of the BULLS HEAD, situate in Hagley Street in Hales Owen aforesaid, adjoining the last lot, with the Out-buildings, Garden, Appurtenances, containing (with the site of the buildings) 840 square yards or thereabouts, in the occupation of *Edward Tranter*.....”

John Smith was also a shoemaker. [1849]

1851 Census

Hagley Street

- [1] *John Smith* (48), victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Betty Smith* (47), wife, born Kinver;
- [3] *Nathan Smith* (19), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Philip Smith* (16), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Mary Smith* (12), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Anne Smith* (10), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Sarah Smith* (7), daughter, born Halesowen;

County Advertiser 2/1/1858

“The following persons were charged, through the information of Mr. Miles Overend, Inspector of Weights and Measures, with having in their possession unjust measures.....

John Smith, the BULL, Halesowen, 3 quarts. Fined 1s with costs.”

County Advertiser 5/6/1858

“The Members of the Modern Free Gardeners’ Lodge met at the house of Mr. *Smith*, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen on the 26th ult, and afterwards attended Divine Service at the church, accompanied by the Spinners End Band, who played among other favourite pieces the ‘Hallelujah Chorus,’ ‘Fixed in his Everlasting Seat,’ &c, in a style which reflected great credit upon them; after which they adjourned to the lodge house to do justice to the good things provided by the worthy host.”

County Advertiser 7/5/1859

“Fire At The Corngreaves Works. Between three and four o’clock on Sunday morning last, one of the mill engines at these extensive works, belonging to The British Iron Company, was discovered to be on fire. An alarm was instantly given, and the Halesowen fire-engine soon arrived on the spot, but the fire was fortunately got under without its assistance, and the damage done was competitively trifling. We regret to add, however, that it was resulted in a somewhat serious accident to one of the firemen who accompanied the engine, named David Smith, son of *John Smith*, at the BULLS HEAD. He unwisely attempted to jump on the engine when going at a rapid pace towards the Works, and missing his footing he fell beneath the engine, and the wheels passed over his leg, causing such injuries that it was feared amputation must ensue. He was conveyed home in a cart, and under the attentions of Mr. Phillips is going on as favourably as can be expected. The fire is supposed to have resulted from some act of carelessness on the part of the engine man, but nothing positive is known respecting it.”

Birmingham Journal 7/4/1860 - Advert

“To Cover This Season, 1860, that Celebrated Horse Magician (late the property of Lord Strathmore, in whose hands he was regularly hunted, carrying upwards of twelve stone, and proved himself one of the stoutest horses of his day), now the property of Mr. John Cook, Little Sutton, at Five Guineas for thorough-bred mares, and Two Guineas for half-bred mares, and Five Shillings the groom. The groom’s fee to be paid at the time of covering, and the remainder the last time round.....

Magician will attend the following places. Thursday.....

BULLS HEAD, Hales Owen, at night.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/2/1861

“The Horse-Nail Makers’ Strike.

The strike still continues; but the fact is doubtless attributable to the exertions of a few individuals who are at ‘the head of affairs,’ and whose interest it is to keep up the agitation, inasmuch as they get more for their services than they could earn at work – or at least they get as much. This is an indisputable fact, and the men, generally speaking, are aware of it, and anxious to resume work, and only continue on strike from absolute fear of being considered ‘dangerous,’ which epithet, when once applied, renders the property of the marked man insecure.....

On the same day, those on strike held a meeting at the BULLS HEAD, Hales Owen, at which from 260-300 attended from Dudley, Netherton, and the Lye. All went off peaceably.....”

1861 Census

Hagley Street – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *John Smith* (58), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Harriett Smith (45), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Philip Smith (25), son, shoemaker, born Halesowen;
- [4] Mary Smith (23), daughter, house servant, born Halesowen;
- [5] Ann Smith (20), daughter, house servant, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Sarah Smith* (18), daughter, house servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 16/9/1865 - Marriages

“On the 13th inst, at the Parish Church, Halesowen (by the Rev. J. Kidd), Mr. Thomas Brensford, to Ann, second daughter of Mr. *John Smith*, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen.”

Sarah Smith (24) married William Willsher *Miles* (27) on 18th February 1868 at Halesowen.

County Express 16/5/1868

“On Saturday night last some person or persons unknown entered the garden of Mr. *John Smith*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, and stole therefrom a quantity of cabbages, &c. No information at present had been received with regard to the whereabouts of the offenders. Mr. *Smith*’s garden lies very handy for such depredations.”

Stourbridge Observer 20/6/1868

“An inquest was held at the BULLS HEAD, on Friday night last, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, touching the death of a newly-born infant which was found dead on Thursday afternoon in a pool at the back of the house of Mr. George Moseley, butcher, in Hagley Street.

From the evidence it appeared that about one o’clock on the previous day Philip Smith discovered the body in the pool, which was at once got out, and afterwards examined by Mr. E. Phillips, surgeon, and it was found to be the body of a full grown female child. There was no evidence to show how the child got into the water, and the jury returned a verdict of Found Dead.”

“On Friday, the 9th instant, considerable excitement was manifested in this town, in consequence of a report that a young woman named Emma Grove, servant to George Moseley, butcher, of Hagley Street, had murdered her bastard child, of which she had been delivered. The ‘girl’ who does not bear the best of characters, was noticed to have been enceinte, and it appears that on Wednesday night Grove fell down the dairy step, and hurt her back. She complained of it to her mistress, and asked if she should go to bed. Mrs. Moseley consented, and she went to bed. In about three quarters of an hour after, Mrs. Moseley visited Grove, and asked her how she was, and Grove replied that she was worse. Mrs. Grove [sic] observed some symptoms in the girl’s bedroom, which excited her suspicions. On questioning Grove, she denied that she had been delivered of a child. Mrs. Moseley was not satisfied with the girl’s answers, but did not take any further steps in the matter till Thursday morning. She went into Grove’s bed room, and on looking about she thought a piece of carpet (which was hung before the grate) had the appearance of being disturbed, and on putting her hand under it, she found a newly born child. She did not remove the child, nor say any thing to arouse the girl’s suspicions till the same night, when she informed her of the discovery she had made. Grove knowing that further denial was now of no avail, admitted that it was her child, and that she put it in its hiding place. The next morning Mrs. Moseley arose early, and procured the assistance of Mr. Phillips, surgeon, who examined the girl, and then communicated with the police, and the girl was taken into custody.

The inquest was held on Saturday, at the BULLS HEAD, Hagley Street, before Mr. R. Docker, Coroner.

Mr. Erasmus Benjamin Phillips, surgeon, said that from the appearance of the child he should say it had been born within 48 hours. Witness had minutely examined the child externally, and found that there were no marks of violence outside the body except a very light abrasion of the skin of the back which was evidently done whilst he child was living, it having bled slightly. It was a full grown child, and fully developed.

The inquest was then adjourned until Tuesday last, for the purpose of Mr. Phillips making a post mortem examination.

When the inquest was again resumed, Mr. Docker said the jury would bear in mind that the inquiry was adjourned for the purpose of Mr. Phillips making a post mortem, and proceeded to read over the evidence given at the former enquiry; and then called Mr. Phillips, who said since the last enquiry he had opened the body of the child, which took place on Saturday night the 10th inst. The child was full grown, and 20 inches long. On opening the chest, the lungs were of a light reddish colour, the right lung projecting forward to the front of the heart, being on the pericardium, fully inflated. They were crepitant on pressure. The other lung was the same. I removed the heart and lungs, and placed them in a basin of water attached. The lungs floated, the heart being attached. He then separated the lungs, and they floated and were very buoyant, the lungs being distended so as to be seen by the naked eye. The chest was fully occupied by the lungs, and perfectly healthy and natural. The chest must have taken a great many respirations to have inflated the lungs. The pulmonary vessels connected with the heart and lungs were filled with blood, with a natural appearance. The heart contained a very small quantity of fluid in the right auricle. The heart was healthy. The stomach was healthy, containing a little mucus; also the abdominal parts were healthy. The venacava was divided, and about one ounce of blood in it. There were no marks of violence, except an abrasion on the back. The child was born alive, and lived some time after its birth, and death resulted from exposure to cold, and from want of proper attendance, and partly from loss of blood from the navel string. Mrs. Moseley was the next witness, and the Coroner said he thought they had better begin her evidence again, as she appeared to be under some misapprehension on the last occasion.

Mrs. Moseley then came into the room. She did not appear to be so excited as on the former occasion, and deposed that her servant fell down the step. She after went to bed, and witness visited her at ten o’clock. She still complained of being unwell. Witness had her suspicions aroused from what she saw, and accused her of having a child. Grove denied it stoutly. Witness then searched the whole room, but could not find anything. Next morning the girl got up as usual, and went about her work. She appeared unwell, and observed a difference in her appearance. Witness did not feel satisfied, and determined to make further search, and saw a piece of carpet by a chimney. She moved it, put her hand up the chimney, and felt the leg of a child. Witness then went, and accused Grove of being confined. She then said she had had a child. Did not inform my husband of it till we went to bed, which was after twelve o’clock. The girl had previously gone to bed about eleven o’clock, the child being still in the chimney. The next morning (Friday) went to Mr. Phillips, surgeon, to tell him of it. Had previously been in Grove’s room, at six o’clock in the morning. I asked her to pull the child out of the chimney. I said, ‘Now come, Emma, let us see what there is; for I won’t go out of the room till you have shown me.’ Grove was half an hour before she fetched the child out of the chimney. When she fetched it out the child was naked, and she laid it on the floor.

The Coroner here asked why she suspected Grove.

Witness began to cry, saying it was very hard for her to have to give her suspicions.

The Coroner: Yes, and it is very hard for me to ask you; but notwithstanding, you must tell the jury.

Witness then gave her reasons for suspecting the girl had been confined.

In answer to the Coroner, witness said she had searched the girl’s room. There was no child’s clothing of any description. Grove was an excellent servant.

Mr. Docker said he did not think it necessary to call any further evidence, unless the jury thought proper. They had heard the evidence of the surgeon, who said the child died from exposure. They had heard the child was born on Wednesday night, and how it came by its death. The Coroner then pointed out the law of murder, and concealment of birth. It was for the jury to say whether Grove had had a hand in the death of the child. It had been proved in evidence that there were no marks of violence on the body, except an abrasion on the back, and that the mark on the back was done while the child was living, but that was not sufficient to cause death. The Coroner also pointed to the jury that the law gave great latitude to women when in that state, and that according to the evidence given, the child died from exposure. It would be for the jury to consider whether that crime amounted to murder. After some further remarks the room was cleared, and the jury considered the case for about ten minutes, and gave as their verdict that the child died from exposure, combined with wilful neglect; and appended to their verdict that they considered Mrs. Moseley should be severely censured for not giving her evidence in a proper way, and reporting her suspicions.

The affair appears to have caused a good deal of excitement in the town. The girl will shortly be brought before the Magistrates, on a charge of concealment of birth.”

[She was committed to Worcester Assizes.]

County Express 18/12/1869

“Worcestershire Winter Assizes.

Emma Grove, aged 19, servant, was indicted for the concealment of the birth of her illegitimate male child, on the 7th of July last. She had been committed for the murder of the child, but the Grand Jury ignored this bill, and returned one of misdemeanour only. Mr. Streeten, who was for the defence, recommended the prisoner to plead guilty to the minor charge, and she was sentenced to five months’ hard labour, having been in gaol since July last.”

1871 Census

Hagley Road – BULLS HEAD

[1] Harriet Smith (55), married, licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] Philip Smith (35), step-son, brewer, born Halesowen;

[3] Charlotte Holloway (18), general servant, born Hasbury:

County Express 11/7/1874

“Benjamin Willetts, a young lad, was charged with stealing a cup and 2s 6d belonging to Mr. *John Smith* of the BULLS HEAD INN, on the 1st of July. Mr. Smith, of Oldbury, defended the prisoner.

Harriet *Smith* wife of the prosecutor said that between twelve and one o’clock on the day in question she caught the prisoner with the cup containing the money in his hands. She had been watching the lad for she had missed money before. The prisoner took the cup from the shelf and some money was marked. Mr. Smith read a certificate of merit from the boy’s Sunday School teacher. The Bench cautioned the prisoner and ordered him to receive 13 stripes with the birch rod and 24 hours imprisonment.”

County Advertiser 31/10/1874 - Advert

“Wanted, a large number of respectable Young Men, to join the Lodge of the Original Wolverhampton Loyal Order of Oddfellows, which is held at Mr. *John Smith*’s, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen. The Lodge, which numbers only 36 Members, has a fund of between £300 and £400, and is connected with the Wordsley District of the Order, which has a fund of about £1,700. The Sick Pay is 9s per week, and the Death Money £16.”

County Express 15/7/1876 - Advert

“Great Attraction Of The Season.

The Wolverhampton Loyal Order of Odd Fellows of Wordsley, Stourbridge, and Dudley, and other Districts, by the kind permission of Colonel Fletcher, JP, will hold their Grand Fete and Pic-Nic, on Monday, July 24, 1876 In the beautiful and classic Grounds at Lawnswood, Wordsley For the benefit of the Sick and Philanthropic Funds of the Order.....

Admission to the Fete, 6d; Children under Twelve Half-price. Children attending Schools will be admitted collectively at 1d each. Teachers to pay for the whole of their Scholars at the Entrance. Children of the Union admitted Free.

Tickets are now ready, and can be obtained at the following Lodge Houses.....

Mr. *Smith*’s, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 13/5/1876 - Advert

“Season, 1876.

A Superior Welsh and Arab Prize Trotting Cob Pony, ‘Young Quicksilver,’ about 13 hands; and a superior Cart Stallion, ‘Sir Roger,’ a beautiful Dark Bay, 17½ hands; both the property of Joseph Grove, Catshill, near Bromsgrove, at the COACH AND HORSES INN, Stourbridge, every Friday, from One till Four o’clock pm, thence to the BULLS HEAD, Halesowen, for the night.

Further particulars may be obtained of the Owner or the landlords of the above Inns.”

County Advertiser 11/5/1878

“George Round, Joseph Mole, and Phillip Willetts, chainmakers, were summoned by *John Smith*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, for drunken disorderly conduct, and refusing to quit his premises when ordered to do so, on the 23rd ult. They were further charged with assaulting James Rowbury on the same date.

It was proven by Ann *Smith*, daughter of prosecutor, that on the day named the defendants began to fight upon her father’s premises, and refused to leave.

James Rowbury, a hay and straw dealer, stated there was a general row in the house, and he was called in by the last witness to assist in quelling it. He remonstrated with the defendants, and no sooner had he done so than he was knocked down. They began to strike him with jugs, and threatened him in a most brutal manner.

Another witness named Henry Siviter, miner, spoke to the violent behaviour of the accused; Willetts, he said, struck him with a pint jug and knocked out several of his teeth.

Other corroborative evidence was given and the Bench then fined Round 40s and costs for refusing to quit, in default fourteen days. Joseph Mole was fined 40s and costs or six weeks’ hard labour; and Willetts, who had been convicted before, 50s and costs, with the alternative of two months’ hard labour.”

County Advertiser 14/9/1878

“Mr. Superintendent Kemp preferred a charge of selling beer ‘not of the nature and substance demanded by the purchaser,’ against *John Smith*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen.

The Superintendent stated that on the 19th ult he went to defendant’s house, and found there his wife and daughter. He asked for a pint of ale, and received it from Miss *Smith*, paying her 3d for it. He told her it was to be analysed by Dr. Swete, the county analyst, of Worcester, and divided it into three parts, one of which he left with her, retaining another himself, and sending the third to the analyst. Dr. Swete returned a certificate stating that the beer contained salt to the extent of 109 grains in a gallon. The quantity of the sample was not sufficient to enable him to determine its original quality.

Defendant pleaded that he intended nothing wrong in putting a lump of salt in the beer; he ‘did not believe’ in the practice. He had simply used a small quantity of salt when brewing in order to improve the quality of his liquor, as the malt was bad. He was ignorant that he was breaking the law.

The magistrates told him the law did not allow any salt to be used in such a manner. They were obliged to fine him, though as he had conducted his house many years respectably, they should look very leniently on the case. They would strongly advise him not to put salt into his beer at hap hazard when brewing again.

Defendant: It was very bad malt, sir.

Mr. Watson: Well you must get better malt then. You will be fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 2/10/1880 - Deaths

“On the 27th ult, Harriet, wife of *John Smith*, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, aged 64. Her end was peace.”

County Advertiser 23/10/1880

“John Coley, collier, Spring Hill, was charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of *John Smith*, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, on the 11th inst. Evidence was given to show that the defendant was at complainant’s house on the day named in the charge. The complainant requested him to leave the house in consequence of his disorderly behaviour, and defendant used foul language. Defendant had been previously convicted. The Bench fined him 10s and costs; or in default, fourteen days, reminding him that if he came again the penalty would be more severe.”

1881 Census

Hagley Street – BULLS HEAD INN

[1] *John Smith* (78), widower, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Sarah Miles* (35), married, daughter, housekeeper, born Halesowen;

[3] Sarah Ann Smith (18), grand-daughter, born Halesowen:

County Express 18/11/1882

“On Thursday afternoon, Mr. Ralph Docker (East Worcestershire Coroner) opened an inquiry at the BULLS HEAD INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, relative to the death of Charles Law, the infant son of David and Annie Law, nailers, Spring Hill.

The Coroner said he had decided to hold an inquest in the present case in consequence of representations being made to the police that deceased had died through not receiving proper nourishment.

The first witness called was Sarah Jane Willetts, who stated that she was the aunt of deceased, who was between four and five months old. The child had been ill from its birth, and had been dry-nursed. The father of the child lived apart from the mother, and only gave 2s 6d a week to maintain two children. The mother worked in a nail-shop at Hasbury, and during her absence from home the children were left in charge of a nurse ten years of age. The deceased had been well nourished, and had lately been fed on condensed milk and biscuits. On Saturday the child was ill, and as Mr. Phillips refused to give it medicine, Mr. Bloxham, assistant surgeon, was sent for. The child died on Monday.

Mary Ann Dubbis, the wife of Samuel Dubbis, said she resided in the house adjoining the one occupied by the mother of the deceased, and during the past three weeks the neighbours had not been able to sleep in consequence of the cries of the deceased. In her opinion the child had been neglected. Within the past three weeks she had taken the child out of its cot and given it food, and it had eaten ravenously.

The Coroner: Do you think he child had sufficient food? – Witness: I don’t think it had half enough. At one time the child was a well nourished baby, but now it is very small – in fact, it does not weigh many pounds.

Mr. D. W. Phillips, surgeon, deposed that the child was brought to his surgery with a parish ticket on the 11th ult. It was then suffering from ulcerations in the tongue and cheek. It was a well-nourished child, and presented the appearance of good health. It was again brought to the surgery on the 18th ult. He did not see it again until he was directed by the police to go and see it on Sunday last. It was then in a dying state. He had the child stripped and found it in a terribly emaciated state, and it then weighed about 4lb. There was no appearance of any disease. Considering the general appearance of the child he should say there was a prima-facie evidence of neglect. He should be able to tell, on making a post-mortem examination whether death had been caused through want of nourishment.

The inquiry was adjourned, and in the mean-time Mr. Phillips was instructed to make a post-mortem examination of the body.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 2/12/1882

“The adjourned inquest respecting the death of an infant named Edith Law, aged four months, daughter of Benjamin and Annie Law, of New Street, Hasbury, was resumed on Friday afternoon, before Mr. R. Docker, Coroner, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen.

Mr. D. Phillips, surgeon, said he made a post mortem examination on the 17th inst, in the presence of Mr. Ker and Mr. Hyrons, surgeons. The child was four months old, and measured 23½in in length, and weighed 4lb 6oz. The average weight of a newly-born

child was 7lb, and the average weight of a healthy child of deceased's age would be from 9lb to 12lb. Deceased was terribly emaciated and ill-nourished. There were several small skin wounds about the head, and the crown was denuded of hair, which, in his opinion was evidence of neglect. Describing the condition of the intestines, he said there was evidence of disease from want of food, and nothing could have passed through the intestines for a week, until just before death, when it appeared that a little food had been administered. In his opinion death resulted from exhaustion from inanition, and bloodlessness caused by want of sufficient food.

Mary Ann Pegg, a neighbour, gave evidence as to the mother neglecting the child.

Mr. Hyrons, surgeon, said he was called in to see deceased just before death. She was fearfully emaciated. After death he gave a certificate, in which he named the cause of death as hereditary syphilis and exhaustion, and having been present at the post mortem examination, he still adhered to that certificate. He said he had received a letter from Dr. Thompson, medical officer to the Kingswinford Workhouse, which corroborated his certificate. He had little doubt that the child's emaciation and sufferings were due for the most part to hereditary syphilis. At the same time the mother, whilst in the workhouse, had the name of behaving very different from what a mother ought to do, and she was considered unkind and cruel towards her children. He disagreed with the statement of Mr. Phillips, that no food had passed through deceased for a week.

Mr. Phillips, recalled, said it was absolutely impossible for a child of that or any age to die from hereditary disease without finding some organs of the body being seriously diseased. In every case of death from this disease there would be most marked internal appearances.

Mr. H. R. Ker, surgeon, said he agreed entirely with Mr. Phillips as to the post mortem appearances, and as to the cause of death. The Coroner summed up; and the Jury, after a brief consultation, returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased Died from Starvation arising from the neglect of its parents; and that Annie Law, the mother was guilty of Manslaughter. Prisoner was then committed to the next Worcestershire Assizes on the Coroner's warrant, and was afterwards removed in custody."

[At the Worcestershire Assizes on 24th January 1883, Annie Law was found not guilty of manslaughter.]

John Smith died in 1883.

County Express 29/1/1887 - Advert

"Highly Important Freehold Licensed Inn, Detached Residence, and other Messuages, situate Hagley Road, Halesowen, in the County of Worcester.

Mr. Joseph Hackett has received instructions to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, February 9th, 1887, at the NEW INN HOTEL, Halesowen, at 6 for 6.30 in the Evening, subject to conditions to be then produced, incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society, the following central Properties.

Lot 1. Very valuable and important Freehold Old-Licensed Inn, known as the BULLS HEAD, situate at Hagley Street, aforesaid, containing Three large Cellars, Passage, Tap Room, Bar, Smoke Room, spacious Club Room, 36ft by 13ft 2in; Four Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, Garden, enclosed Yard, Store Room, Coach-house, Stabling, extensive Piggeries, and other Appurtenances. Also Three Messuages or Dwelling Houses adjoining, the whole forming a very commanding corner Property, being situate on the main road leading from Hagley to Birmingham, now in the respective occupations of Mrs. *S. Miles*, Messrs. Bullingham, Rowberry and Timmins....."

Birmingham Daily Post 21/3/1891 - Advert

"Clear-Out Sale, at the BULLS HEAD, Hagley Road, Hales Owen.

(Owing to the Expiry of Tenant's Lease).

Messrs. Gray & Walker will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday Next, March 24 – the Household and Public-House Furniture, comprising Bedsteads and Bedding, Wash and Dressing Tables, Toilet Glasses and Ware, Chests of Drawers, Bed Linen, mahogany Dining Tables; excellent deal Table-tops and Tressels, 22in, deal Benches, painted and deal Tables, ash and Windsor Chairs; 4-pull Beer-engine, Glasses, pewter and earthen Measures, stamped Cups and Jugs; New Sykes Hydrometer and Saccharometer; complete Brewing Plant, hogshead and half-hogshead Casks; Sack Weighing-machine, numerous Out-door Effects; Worcester Hops, and Stock of Jameson's Whisky, French Brandy, and Spirits.

Sale at Half-past Ten prompt.

Catalogues of the Auctioneers, 8, Temple Row, Birmingham."

1891 Census

Hagley Street – BULLS HEAD INN

[1] *John Price* (38), manager of BULLS HEAD INN, born Halesowen;

[2] *Mary Ann Price* (36), wife, born Old Hill:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/8/1892

"Hales Owen licensing sessions.....

Mr. Pritchard made an application on behalf of Arthur Hodgetts for the sanction of the Bench to some extensions at his premises, the BULLS HEAD INN, Hagley Road, Hales Owen. He pointed out that the County Council had purchased the property adjoining applicant's house, which was being knocked down, and which included a portion of his client's house. He asked for the permission to re-build the part which was knocked down by the County Council. The application was postponed until the adjourned licensing sessions."

County Advertiser 1/10/1892

“Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Session.....

An application was made by Mr. Waldron for the sanction of the Bench to extensions and alterations of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, kept by Arthur Hodgetts. Mr. Waldron who produced plans said a portion of the road had been purchased by the County Council for the extension of the road, and his client proposed, with the approval of the Court, to set the house back further and to take away certain bow windows and put in flat ones.

The application was granted.”

County Advertiser 30/9/1893

“The annual adjourned licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held at the Court House on Tuesday.....

Alfred Micklewright, licensee of the BULLS HEAD INN, Hagley Street, Halesowen, applied through Mr. Thompson for the renewal of his license.

Inspector Raybould opened the application, stating that defendant had been convicted of drunkenness and disorderly conduct, and the house was not required.

In answer to Mr. Goodman (magistrates’ clerk) witness said the house had been properly conducted since the conviction, and the general character of the applicant was very good.

Mr. Thompson in a few remarks said the applicant had an excellent character.....

Mr. Howard said the Bench had taken into consideration what had been urged on behalf of the three applicants, and they had decided to grant the renewal of their licenses, but if there was any case against them of the same kind in future, they would be dealt with in a very different manner.”

County Advertiser 6/10/1894

“Thomas Shepherd, of Spring Hill, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of *Alfred Micklewright* on the 1st inst.

Police-constable Macnamara said on the previous evening he was called to the premises to eject the defendant, and found the defendant struggling with the landlord, who had the defendant on the floor and was kneeling upon him. Defendant was very drunk, very violent, and his language was of the most disgraceful kind.

Inspector Raybould said defendant was brought to the police station, drunk and violent. They had to take his boots off by sheer force. His language was disgusting, and he was mad drunk.

Alfred Micklewright said defendant came to his house on the previous evening drunk. Witness refused to supply him with beer, and defendant then kicked and struck witness and witness’s wife several times.

Defendant was sent to prison for fourteen days without the option of a fine for being drunk and disorderly, and for refusing to quit he was fined 10s and costs, or fourteen days.”

At Halesowen police court on 15th March 1895 *Alfred Micklewright* charged Police-constable Whitlock with assault; he himself was charged with assaulting the officer and with being drunk and disorderly. Whitlock was found guilty and fined 4s and costs, or one month. The cases of drunkenness and assault against *Micklewright* were dismissed.

County Advertiser 7/12/1895

“*Alfred Micklewright*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, was fined 2s 6d and costs for drunkenness.”

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent During the past year the following persons have been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows.....

17th March, 1896, *Alfred Micklewright*, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, drunk on his own licensed premises, fined 10s and costs.....

I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses on one or more of the following grounds.....

Alfred Micklewright, BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen – (1) that you are not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license, as you have been convicted of an offence against the licensing laws; (2) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, the requirements of the district being otherwise amply provided for.....

Mr. John Wright applied for the renewal of the license of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, to *Alfred Micklewright*. He pointed out that his client was prepared to give an undertaking not to commit himself in future, but notwithstanding this, the magistrates deferred their decision until the adjourned day, Mr. Lea Smith remarking that if applicant was again convicted the license would be taken away.”

County Advertiser 3/10/1896

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held on Tuesday.....

Alfred Micklewright, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, applied for the renewal of his license. Mr. John Wright appeared for the applicant, and said that he would undertake to conduct his house properly in future if the license was granted The Bench ultimately granted the licenses, and said the applicants must understand that the houses must be closed during prohibited hours on Sunday.”

County Express 9/1/1897

“*Alfred Micklewright*, publican, of the BULLS HEAD INN, was charged with assaulting Walter Hewitt. Mr. Smith prosecuted, and Mr. Ward defended.

Mr. Smith said that his client was in the employ of Messrs. Carr, of the Halesowen Brewery, Church Street, as a cashier. On the 31st of December defendant went to the offices and began to complain about some beer he had ordered. Complainant said he would go and see Mr. Carr about it, and went upstairs to do so. When he came downstairs he told defendant it would be all right, and they would send it to defendant’s. Defendant got excited, and called Mr. Hewitt names. He shook him by the shoulder, threatened to knock him off the chair, and struck him a blow from which he became unconscious. Defendant appeared to be under the influence of liquor.

Charles Hodgetts, also in the employ of Messrs. Carr, who was in the office when the assault took place, said the effect of the blow was to render Mr. Hewitt unconscious.

Dr. Young said Mr. Hewitt had contusions over the right eye brow and over the left ear, and they would probably be caused by an assault of the kind deposed to. Complainant seemed to be suffering from the shock.

Inspector Raybould also gave evidence.

Mr. Ward said his client pleaded guilty, and acknowledged the wrong he had done by taking the law into his own hands, but words passed that caused his client to forget himself and so strike the complainant.

The defendant was sentenced to two months’ hard labour.”

County Express 4/9/1897

“The annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Police Division were held on Tuesday.....

The Clerk read the following report of Superintendent Chare.

‘.....I beg to inform you that I have given notice to *Alfred Micklewright*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, of my intention to oppose the renewal of his license on one or more of the following grounds: (1) That you are not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license, having been convicted on several occasions of offences against the law; (2) That there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, the requirements of the district being otherwise amply provided for.....’

Mr. Waldron applied for the renewal of the license attached to the BULLS HEAD at Halesowen, pointing out that the police had lodged an objection to the effect that *Alfred Micklewright* was not a fit and proper person to conduct the business.

Inspector Raybould said there were convictions against *Micklewright* for sundry offences at Stourbridge, Oldbury and other places, including drunkenness on the highway and assaults. For one offence he was sentenced to two months’ hard labour.

Mr. Waldron said that all the circumstances were gone into last year.

Inspector Raybould replied that one or two convictions had come to light since the license was renewed twelve months ago.

Superintendent Chare: He has conducted the house well since the last conviction, and I am willing to leave the matter in the hands of the magistrates.

Mr. Waldron observed that the remarks of the superintendent were equivalent to a certificate of good character, meaning there was really no objection to the applicant. There was no allegation whatever as to *Micklewright*’s management of the house, and since the last conviction he had done his very best to keep out of trouble. Beyond those ‘outside’ convictions his client had done nothing to deprive him of the privilege of being a licensed victualler. There never had been any offence on the premises and *Micklewright* was seriously determined to improve his ways if the Bench would give him another chance. He hoped their worships would expend a little mercy with a great deal of justice.

Mr. Vachell, appearing for Messrs. Beal and Co, of Birmingham, said that Messrs. Carr and Co, the owners, were in a position to get rid of *Micklewright* at any moment if the magistrates thought proper, and put in another tenant, but they were quite willing to accept the present holder of the license with the consent of the Bench, and run the risk as to his management. The manner in which Mr. *Micklewright* had carried on the house was pre-eminently satisfactory, and though there were convictions against him in private life he had carried on the business with a strong hand. He had occupied the premises for five-and-a-half years without any complaint on the part of the police.

The Chairman said the magistrates would renew the license and give *Micklewright* another chance, but it must be understood it was the last chance he would have. They looked upon the character of a man in deciding whether he was a fit and proper person to hold a license, and Messrs. Carr and Co ran considerable risk if any other convictions were recorded against *Micklewright*.”

County Express 8/12/1900

“*Alfred Micklewright*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk upon his own licensed premises on November 20th. Mr. E. H. Grove defended.

Inspector Pitt and Police-sergeant Pass visited the house at 10.30pm, and in the kitchen found the defendant lying on the hearthrug asleep, without his boots or jacket. Mrs. *Micklewright* said he was not drunk, and the inspector replied that he had not said he was. Sergeant Pass awoke the defendant, who upon getting up, was seen to be in a very drunken condition. He would have fallen on the fire, but was prevented by Pass, who caught him. Inspector Pitt told him he should report him for being drunk on his licensed premises, and the defendant was very abusive.

Police-sergeant Pass stated that outside the house Mrs. *Micklewright* said her husband had been to Warwick that day, and had not time to get sober yet.

Police-constables Harley and Hunt also gave evidence.

Mr. Grove submitted that from the evidence given it appeared as if the police wanted to make a case, and he thought that no harm was being done, even supposing the defendant was drunk, and the police should have seen only that the defendant went to bed.

Mrs. *Micklewright* was conducting the business, and was quite capable of managing it. From the difference in evidence of the police it was a case which should be dismissed.

The defendant and Mrs. *Micklewright* gave evidence denying that he was drunk.

The case was dismissed, the Bench saying there was a doubt in the case.”

Coventry Evening Telegraph 30/3/1901

“John Alfred Yates, a tradesman, residing at Quarry Lane, Hasbury, was, at Halesowen, charged with feloniously and unlawfully taking away a child named Walter George Fox, aged twelve years and ten months, with intent to deprive the father, William Fox, of possession of the child, on November 27, and also with unlawfully and felonious taking away that lad by force on the 28th of November.

Mr. Clulow, for the prosecution, explained that the parties resided in the same locality and about six o’clock on the evening of the 27th of November defendant asked the boy to go with him to the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, for the purpose of minding his horse. The lad consented to do so, but instead of pulling up at the BULLS HEAD INN defendant drove into Birmingham, and stayed at the Hop Pole Inn, together with the lad. Defendant drove back the following morning, and when spoken to by Mr. Fox he said he should do what he liked with the lad. The same night defendant caught hold of the boy’s wrist and forcibly took him home. Mr. Fox and Police-constable Pennant called at the house, but defendant said the boy was with him, and he would sleep there that night. After considerable trouble they secured the lad.

Evidence was given in support of this statement by the lad, William and Priscilla Fox (parents), Inspector Pitt, Police-constable Pennant, and Charles King, landlord of the Hop Pole Inn.

Defendant, who reserved his defence, was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions. Bail was allowed.”

[At Worcestershire Quarter Sessions the Grand Jury discharged the bill against John Alfred Yates.]

1901 Census

Hagley Street

[1] *Alfred Micklewright* (34), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;

[2] Hannah Eliza Micklewright (34), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Fanny Micklewright (12), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] Leonora Kate Micklewright (11), daughter, born Halesowen;

[5] Alfred Henry L. Micklewright (7), son, born Halesowen;

[6] Randolph Micklewright (6), son, born Halesowen;

[7] Baron Micklewright (3), son, born Halesowen:

County Express 1/11/1902

“Stephen George Bayley, landlord of the KING EDWARD VII INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, was charged with selling intoxicating liquor to two drunken persons, and with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on October 1st. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Vernon defended.

PSs Pass and Price saw *Alfred Micklewright*, the licensee of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, and Edward Grainger, a fruiterer, of Hasbury, in a drunken condition, go into defendant’s house. They followed the men in with the intention of cautioning the landlord, but when they got into the house Grainger had half a glass of beer before him, while *Micklewright* had a soda water. The landlord was talking to the men. Pass drew his attention to their condition, and Bayley replied that he had only served *Micklewright* a soda. He was told that he should not have allowed them to remain on his premises, and after some trouble *Micklewright* and Grainger left the house. *Micklewright* was in such a condition, and behaved so badly, that he had to be locked up for his own safety.

Mr. Vernon, for the defence, urged that Bayley had committed an error of judgement in allowing the men to remain on his premises. He refused to serve them with intoxicating liquor but as *Micklewright* was under the influence of drink, he supplied him with a soda. The glass of beer before Grainger, Bayley had drawn for his own supper. His client had made a mistake, and was very sorry for it. He had kept the house for six years without conviction or complaint.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs in each case for selling, and was ordered to pay the costs in the case of permitting drunkenness. Solicitors’ fee was allowed. The fines and costs amounted to £5 1s 6d.

Edward Grainger for being drunk on licensed premises was fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 7/3/1903

“An application was made for the transfer of the license of the BULLS HEAD INN, Hagley Street, Halesowen, from *Alfred Micklewright* to *F. J. Waring*. It was explained that *Micklewright*, the outgoing tenant, who did not appear, had left the district. Inspector Hill said he had no objection to the transfer, as since the applicant had been in possession the house had been well conducted. The transfer was granted.”

* probably the same person

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Mr. S. Vernon, of Oldbury, applied on behalf of Peter Walker and Sons Ltd, for permission to make alterations at the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, and in doing so explained that the house was well-known to the Bench. It stood on the corner of Stourbridge Road and Hagley Road, and they proposed to make alterations to the footpath, as well as the house, which was in a somewhat dilapidated condition externally. They also proposed to give up a considerable portion of the licensing area in order to

make the place less dangerous. It would be better for police supervision, better from a sanitary point of view, and better from a public point of view.

Inspector Hill said he had no objections to the alterations, as it would be an improvement and better for police supervision. The Bench granted the application.”

County Advertiser 3/11/1906

“On Tuesday evening Mr. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the BULLS HEAD INN, Hagley Street, Halesowen, respecting the death of Albert Williams (24), grocer’s manager, formerly residing at Summer Hill, Halesowen, who died on the 26th ult from injuries sustained on the previous day.

Caleb Williams, the father of the deceased, stated that at 9.30 on the night of the 15th ult his son returned home having met with an accident, but he was unable to tell them anything about it. His son had regularly ridden a bicycle for the past eighteen months. There was nothing wrong with the machine, which was of a good make. Deceased was brought home by Percy Rudge, who said that a dog had run in front of his bicycle and thrown him off. Dr. Young was called in and attended deceased up till the time of his death, which occurred late on the 26th ult. From the time he was brought home deceased was unable to give any account of the accident.

William Lashford, of Mucklow’s Hill, Halesowen, said he was near the Hillside Farm on the night of the accident. He did not see the accident as it was dark, but he saw the bicycle and heard a fall. He did not see any dog. Witness went to assist deceased. He was lying on the ground at the time. Witness took his bicycle from him and put it against the bank. By this time deceased was on his hands and knees trying to get up. His face was covered with blood. In reply to witness deceased said he did not know how he had fallen, but he thought a dog had run across the road. There was a dog barking, but not as though it had been run down. Deceased said he did not think he was hurt very much, and could walk home. Subsequently Percy Rudge came down Mucklow’s Hill, and took him home.

Percy Rudge, of Somers Road, Halesowen, said that on the way home deceased did not seem to know how the accident occurred. His bicycle was buckled and witness had to straighten it. Witness had ridden to work several times. He had a ‘Bowden’ brake on the front wheel, which had stopped the machine dead after the accident. Witness just missed a dog himself near the Pottery, but he could not say if it was the same. Deceased became worse as they went towards his home and witness had to assist him.

Dr. Young said he was called to see deceased at 9.30 on the night of the 25th ult. He was in a semi-conscious condition and was bleeding from the left nostril and mouth. The left temple was bruised and swollen, and the left eye was closed from swelling. He ordered deceased to bed, and applied ice to the injured parts. Deceased was sufficiently conscious to understand what was said to him, but he was unable to account for the accident. Subsequently deceased became totally unconscious, and symptoms of compression of the brain set in. This pointed to a fracture at the base of the skull. The compression would be caused by haemorrhage of the brain.

The Deputy Coroner said there was no evidence to show how the accident occurred, and they could only accept the statement of the deceased that he thought a dog ran across the road under the wheel.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 4/7/1908 - Advert

“Preliminary. Hasbury, Halesowen.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Trustees under the will of the late Mr. Thomas Standen, to Sell By Auction, on Wednesday, July 22nd, 1908, at the BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, at 7.30, subject to Conditions then to be produced, the Valuable Freehold Residence late in the occupation of Mrs. Standen, together with Three Cottages adjoining; and an extensive Plot of Building Land.

Further particulars in due course.”

County Express 14/1/1911 - Advert

“Wednesday, January 25th, 1911, at 7 pm.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. William Price, to Sell By Auction, on Wednesday, January 25th, 1911, at the BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, at 7pm, subject to Conditions then to be produced, the Following Valuable Freehold Dwelling Houses.....”

County Express 1/4/1911 - Advert

“Hasbury, near Halesowen. To Investors and Others.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Representatives of the late Mr. Charles Moore, to Sell By Auction, on Monday, April 10th, 1911, at the BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, at 7.30pm, subject to Conditions then to be produced, the following Freehold Properties.....”

1911 Census

18, Hagley Street

[1] *John Frank Wareing* (57), widower, publican, born Moulton, Northamptonshire;

[2] *Kate Gasdoyne Wareing* (25), daughter, assisting in business, born Northampton;

[3] *Philis Ida Wareing* (16), daughter, assisting in business, born Northampton:

County Express 15/7/1911 - Advert

“Monday, July 24th, 1911, at 7.30pm. Halesowen and Hawne.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions to Sell By Auction, on Monday, July 24th, 1911, at the BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, at 7.30pm (subject to conditions then to be produced) the following Valuable Properties.....”

Thomas Clews = Thomas Clewes

Bromsgrove Messenger 5/12/1914

“Tom Creswell, of the TALBOT INN, Islington, was summoned for being drunk on his licensed premises. Mr. Sharpe prosecuted and Mr. Willison defended.

From the evidence of Police-constable Keyte it appeared that he saw Creswell near the BULLS HEAD INN on November 25th about seven o'clock. He noticed he was drunk, and two men were supporting him. He saw him go into the BULLS HEAD, but witness followed him in by another door, and cautioned the landlord not to serve him. In company with Police-sergeant Haden he visited defendant's house later on in the evening, and found defendant in the bar room sitting on a bench. He was then drunk, and used bad language. He threatened to report Keyte to Worcester.

Police-sergeant Haden corroborated Keyte as to the visit to defendant's house.

Thomas Clews, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, said he refused to serve Creswell before Keyte came in. He saw he was under the influence of drink.

Mr. Willison, for the defence, denied the charge, and said that his client had been to Hagley that day, and had only three brandies at the Lyttelton Arms, as he felt ill. He then called at the Spencers Arms, where he had half a glass of beer.

Defendant bore out Mr. Willison's statement, and said he was sober.

The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs.”

Birmingham, Daily Gazette 9/9/1927

“It was officially announced yesterday that the Great Western Railway Company will discontinue the passenger motor trains to and from Halesowen, in about a fortnight's time. In its place the company will run a motor bus service between Old Hill station and the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen.”

Evening Despatch 11/1/1939 - Advert

“Wanted for Monday next, keen Man for Sales Work; experience not so essential as a good character; salary and commission. Apply to the OLD BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, on Thursday next between 10am and 12 noon.”

Birmingham Mail 13/7/1939 - Advert

“Agencies, Travellers, etc.....

Trustworthy Man Required for Halesowen and Dudley districts.

Apply for further particulars to Mr. *Foster* at YE OLDE BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, tomorrow, Friday between 10am and 12 noon.”

** probably the same person

1939 Register

114, Hagley Street – BULLS HEAD

[1] *Samuel Millsum*, date of birth 31/8/1899, licensee (something written in brackets);

[2] *Marjorie Millsum*, dob 26/12/1908, housewife;

Evening Despatch 23/1/1940

“Described by Supt. George as ‘a man who was too lazy to work and who spent most of his time in public houses playing dominies,’ Horace Pell, aged 30, of 12, Foxhunt Road, Hasbury, pleaded guilty, at Halesowen today, to stealing half a shoulder of mutton from a butcher's shop window and to embezzling contributions paid to him as representative of a weekly mail order club. The meat was the property of Reginald William Hollies, and Pell told the police that he took it because he had neither money nor food for his family.

Margaret *Milson*, wife of the licensee of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, said she paid Pell 20 weekly instalments of 1s each but had received nothing in return. She subscribed to the fund because she said Pell said he was out of work.

Supt. George said other similar cases of embezzlement were admitted by Pell, who wished them all to be taken into consideration. The total amount known to be involved was £5 16s.

Pell's explanation was that he was out of work and, because of the illness of himself and child, he used the money for housekeeping.

As Pell, who has a wife and two young children, is now in work, the Chairman, Mr. E. W. Jackson, said the magistrates would give him another chance. He was fined £1 with 5s costs, and allowed three months in which to pay.”

Black Country Bugle

‘The Bulls Head, Halesowen’

“Mrs. Marjorie Tomkiss now living in Banbury the BULLS HEAD which my husband and I managed for three and a half years at the beginning of the last war. It has long since been demolished We went from there to the ANGEL at Dudley where we stayed about eight and a half years.”

It was the headquarters of the Halesowen Branch of the RAF Association.

[1968]

Closed
Demolished

BUSH

CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Forrest [1829]

CHAINMAKER

130, Colley Gate / Colley Lane / Burfield Road, (Park Road), (Park Lane), Colley Gate, (Overend), CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Oliver and Sons [1884]
Frank and William Oliver
Laura Ellen Roper, widow, WHITLEY HOTEL, Halesowen
George Henry Oliver
Charles Darby Ltd. [1935]
Darbys Brewery Ltd. (acquired in 1936)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1951)
Brian Osborne (acquired in 1991)
S. A. Brain and Co. Ltd. [1997], [1999]

LICENSEES

William Oliver Snr. **(1875 – 1886)**
Sarah Hancox [1891] manager
Frank and William Oliver Jnr. [] – **1892)**
Frank Oliver [1893] – **1916);**
George Henry Oliver **(1916 – 1921);**
Llewelyn Robinson **(1921 – 1922);**
Thomas Howard Frank Chambers **(1922 – 1925);**
John Harden Porter **(1925 – 1937);**
Thomas James Banks [1932]
Thomas Roper [1936]
Thomas Bills **(1937 – 1959)**
D J Davidson [1983]
Brian Osborne []
John Buttery [2002]

NOTES

Park Lane [1891]
Park Road
130, Colley Gate [1996], [1998]

TALBOT HOTEL [1896], [1909], [1933], [1935]

It was known locally as the "Big Lamp"

Commercial hotel. [1850]

Grade II listed.

It was built in 1875 at a cost of £740.

County Express 8/11/1879

"The Football and Cricket Club. On Tuesday evening last the annual dinner in connection with the above club took place at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley; about forty members and friends being present. Mr. Showell presided and Mr. S. Homfray occupied the vice chair. After dinner the usual loyal toasts were proposed from the chair and duly honoured, as also the healths of the president and vice-president. Mr. R. Smith responded. The Secretary, upon giving a brief resume of the past cricket season, reported that fifteen matches had been played, of which seven were won, five lost, and three drawn, mostly in favour of the club. They had scored 1,200 runs, being an average of eighty-four per innings, their opponents averaging seventy-one runs. In batting, the captain, Mr. Thomas Penn, takes the prize with an average of eighteen, Messrs. Stevens, Haynes, and the Rev. J. B. Sproule being next in the order named. The Chairman proposed, in a complimentary speech, the health of Mr. Penn, and made the presentation of a bat, amidst applause. Mr. Penn replied in appropriate terms, and the usual toasts followed, comprising 'The Chairman and vice-Chairman,' 'The Secretaries and Officers of the Club,' and also 'The Host' Mr. *Oliver*, to whom great credit is due for the admirable manner in which dinner was served up."

County Advertiser 20/12/1879

"*William Oliver*, landlord of the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, was charged with keeping open his premises during prohibited hours for the sale of intoxicating drinks on the 15th inst. Mr. Homer (Brierley Hill) defended.

Police-constable Okey said he saw a woman go into defendant's house with a jug in her hand at ten minutes past eleven o'clock pm. He met the woman as she came back from defendant's house. The housekeeper said she did supply the woman, but was not aware it was so late. He acquainted defendant with what had taken place, and he said he thought the clock was a little too fast. Defendant was then called and said he had been a licensed victualler for thirty years, and had never during that period had a charge against him. He always kept his time fast. When he saw the policeman in the house it was five minutes past eleven. The officer left the house, and shortly afterwards returned saying he should report him. The time was then ten minutes past eleven by the defendant's clock. After hearing further evidence the Bench said that although there was no corroboration for the prosecution, they believed that what the officer has stated was in the main correct, and he had done perfectly right in reporting the case to the Superintendent. Under the circumstances, however the case would be dismissed."

It had a brewery attached. [1880]

Worcestershire Chronicle 20/3/1880 - Advert

"East Worcestershire, Election 1880.

Central Committee for Securing the Return of Mr. G. Hastings and Mr. W. H. Gladstone.....
Oliver, William, Esq, TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley."

County Express 10/4/1880 - Advert

"Windmill Hill, Cradley. Desirable Freehold Properties.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Offer for Sale by Auction, at the House of Mr. *William Oliver*, the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Tuesday, the 4th day of May, 1880, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions....."

Black Country Bugle

Letter from A. Head, Cradley Heath

".....Opposite the pit [Homer Hill] gates, a large field of barley was sown each year by the *Oliver* family – brewers and maltsters of the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley. They owned four malthouses, situated in Park Road, Blue Ball Lane, Windmill Hill and Furlong Lane. This field now serves as a playing field for Colley Lane Schools."

William Oliver Snr. was also a maltster. [1880], [1884]

He was born in 1826, in Lye Waste.

In 1851 he was described as an engine fitter.

He died on 13th May 1886.

See also VINE.

1881 Census

18, Colley Lane

[1] *William Oliver* (55), married, maltster and publican, born Lye;

[2] *Sarah Hancox* (46), housekeeper, born Clows Top, Worcestershire;

[3] *Maria Newton* (16), general servant, born Cradley:

County Express 28/5/1881

“*William Oliver*, maltster and publican of Cradley, was charged with using 8lbs of sugar in a brewing, without entering the same in his book. The defendant admitted the use of 6lbs of sugar, and said it was the fault of a servant that no entry had been made. Mr. John said he should be satisfied with a penalty similar to the one inflicted in the last case. Defendant was fined £10.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/2/1882 - Advert

“Stolen or Strayed, on Monday morning from a field at Homer Hill, Cradley, four Heifers; two red ones, with dark streak along their backs; one red; and one light coloured, with dark spots.

Anyone returning them to *William Oliver*, TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, will be rewarded.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/8/1882

“Sporting Intelligence. Quoits.

TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate v BEEHIVE, Cradley Heath. This match was played at Colley Gate ground on Saturday last. Colley Gate won by 19 points.....”

[Colley Gate won 69-50.]

County Express 18/8/1883

“On Saturday an inquest was held before Mr. Docker (coroner), at the TALBOT INN, Colley Gate, respecting the death of *William Henry Mole* (44), publican and blacksmith who had committed suicide by hanging. The evidence showed that deceased had lately been strange in his manner, and on Thursday morning he was found dead in his workshop, and suspended from a beam with a rope. A verdict of Committed Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity was returned.”

County Express 25/10/1884

“Mr. R. Docker, coroner, held an inquest at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on the body of *James Buffery*, High Street, Cradley. Deceased was burned on the 15th inst so seriously that he died on Wednesday last. The jury returned a verdict that death resulted from Natural Causes, accelerated by injuries from burns.”

County Express 25/7/1885

“Swine Fever. Yesterday morning there was a fresh outbreak of this disease on the premises of Mr. Griffiths, CASTLE INN, Balls Lane. A similar outbreak was reported last Saturday by Mr. *Oliver* of the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 15/5/1886 - Deaths

“On the 13th inst, after a long and painful illness, *William Oliver*, TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley. Deeply lamented by a large circle of friends.”

County Express 9/10/1886

“*Bridget Lines* and *Harriet Potter*, of no fixed abode, were committed for trial for stealing two shillings by ringing the changes, the property of *William* and *Frank Oliver*, landlords of the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, and 1s from *Samuel Cook*, Old Bell End, Lye. Mr. *W. Waldron* defended.”

County Advertiser 23/10/1886

“Worcestershire Quarter Sessions.

Bridget Line and *Harriett Potter*, both on bail, were charged with stealing 2s belonging to *F. and W. Oliver*, on September 25th, at Cradley, by ‘ringing the changes.’ Mr. *J. Amphlett* prosecuted, and Mr. *Cranston* defended. Prisoners were found guilty, and sentenced to three months’ hard labour each.”

County Advertiser 12/3/1887 - Advert

“To Let, and may be entered upon immediately, Poplar Cottage, Windmill Hill, Cradley.

Apply, *William Oliver* and Sons, TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.”

Evening Star 25/7/1887

“On Saturday evening Mr. *Edwin Docker* (Deputy Coroner for East Worcestershire) held an inquest at the TALBOT HOTEL, Overend, respecting the death of *Benjamin Hodgetts* (44), blast furnaceman, who had died from the effects of injuries he received through the bursting of a tuyere at the *Corngreaves Ironworks*, under circumstances already reported. Mr. *Walker* represented the *New British Iron Company*.

It was shown that the tuyere exploded and injured three men – two of whom have died – through the molten metal coming in contact with the water. It was explained by one of the managers that every possible precaution had been taken against accidents, and that the tuyere was examined on two occasions on the morning of the accident.

The Deputy Coroner having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 10/3/1888 - Advert

“For Sale, a quantity of Scottish Magnum Seed Potatoes. Also a quantity of Best, of exceptionally good quality, only grown by us one season. Also Scottish Chevalier Seed Barley, direct from Scotland.
Apply, W. Oliver and Son, Maltsters, TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate.”

County Express 30/6/1888

“Stourbridge Licensed Victuallers. A meeting of the members of this society was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, under the presidency of Mr. J. Cadwallader.....

Mr. Chappell, the hon. secretary of the Licensed Victuallers' Town Hall Fund, presented his balance sheet and report, showing that £58 13s had been voluntarily subscribed by the members of the society, and had been paid to the credit of such fund, and read Mr. H. Watson Smith's gracious acknowledgement of the spontaneous and generous support of the society. Mr. S. Leonard, of the MAYPOLE, Cradley, and Mr. *Oliver*, of the TALBOT, Cradley, each expressed their approval of the course taken, and wished to augment the fund by a subscription of £1 each, making the total £60 13s.....”

County Express 1/9/1888 - Advert

“O. I. C. National United Order of Free Gardeners, Talbot Lodge, Colley Gate, Cradley.

A Grand Pic-Nic will be held on Monday, September 3rd, 1888, at Homer Hill Grounds.

The Committee beg to inform the inhabitants generally that they have, at great expense, engaged the following Grand Array of Talent, viz.

The Band of the First Worcestershire Rifle Volunteers, by kind permission of Captain Thompson and the Officers, will give Selections of Music during the afternoon and evening, under the superintendence of Sergeant E. Cornock, bandmaster, which will head the Procession.

England's Gymnastic Gems. Special engagement of the Talented and Famous Mdlle. Zazar, the Graceful and Astounding Lady Gymnast, in her Marvellous, Daring, and Mid-air Performances on the Flying Trapeze.

The Vollino Troupe, five in number, who will appear in their Grand Aerial Carnival.

Darby, the Champion Jumper of the World, will perform some of his most Marvellous Feats.

Mr. C. H. Roberts, the Inimitable Negro Comedian.

First Appearance in this District, and at great expense, of Mr. Walter James's Combination Company, including Woobe's Minstrels, five in number in their Musical Entertainment, Funny Faces, Jokes and Absurdities.

Miss Millie Gould, Seri-Comic and Dancer. Mr. Will Long, Champion Clog Dancer.

Mr. Walter James, Champion Extempore and Comic Vocalist.

Punch and Judy. Balloon Ascent.

Grand Display of Fireworks, by Professor Heaton.

Mr. John Reed will preside at the Piano.

Procession will start at Eleven o'clock.

Admittance to Grounds at One o'clock.

The object of the Fete is to establish a Benevolent Fund.

Admission, Sixpence. Children, Threepence.

Refreshments will be supplied by Messrs. *Oliver*, TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, where Tickets may be had.

Applications for Stalls, Roundabouts, &c, to be made to the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on or before September 1st, 1888.

The Largest Pig in the World may be seen at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate.”

County Advertiser 2/3/1889 - Advert

“To be Seen at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley, Largest Pig in the Midland Counties.”

Dudley Mercury 27/4/1889

“On Saturday morning Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on the body of the Rev. Joseph Hasselgrave Thompson, Vicar of Cradley, and who was found dead in his bed room on Thursday morning, last week. Mrs. Shuck, of Church Street, Cradley, said that for over eleven years she and her husband had lived at deceased's house. On the following Sunday he would have been seventy-eight years of age, and he was a bachelor. On Thursday morning witness went to deceased's bed room and saw Mr. Thompson in bed. He made a complaint to witness of being in a weak state. He attended to his duties as usual during the week, and preached on the previous Wednesday evening. Witness rapped at his bed room door several times about ten o'clock on Thursday morning, and as she could not obtain an answer, she sent for her husband and Mr. Jacquiss, the schoolmaster.

In answer to Dr. Fraser, of Wolverhampton, a great friend of the deceased, witness said deceased had been quite well, and had only complained of being weak. There had been a great many services held lately, and deceased had taken part in them. He preached on Wednesday evening.

John Shuck, husband of the last witness, stated that on Wednesday night Mr. Thompson said that he wished the weather would take up so that he could get out. He had been a little feeble during the past fortnight. Soon after ten o'clock on Thursday morning witness's wife sent for him and told him that Mr. Thompson had not answered her call. Witness told her to rap the door again, which she did, but received no reply. Witness then went into the room with Mr. Jacquiss, the schoolmaster. They found Mr. Thompson lying on the floor. He was nearly naked, and there was some blood on his nose and on the floor. They found that Mr. Thompson was dead, and at once sent for Dr. Thompson, who arrived in a few minutes.

Mr. Joseph Jacquiss, schoolmaster, corroborated this evidence.

Dr. W. H. Thompson, surgeon, stated that on Thursday morning he was sent for to deceased's house, and on arriving there found

that Mr. Thompson was dead. His body was lying at full length on the floor. Witness examined that body, but found no marks to account for death. There was a slight bruise on the forehead, caused probably by the fall. Witness knew deceased well, but had never attended him professionally. He attributed death to the failure of the heart's action through extreme weakness. The bleeding from the nose was post mortem. He considered that death had taken place nearly two hours before he saw the body.

The Jury at once returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.

A large number of parishioners were present at the funeral of the deceased, which took place at Cradley Church on Monday afternoon, the school children forming part of the gathering at the grave. The mourners were a brother and nephew of the deceased, and the following gentleman were also present on behalf of the Midland Geographical Society.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1890 - Advert

“Small Freehold Estate, with the Mines and Minerals, and Building Land, at Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instruction from the Trustees of the late Mr. Francis Lea, to Sell by Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Monday Next, the 14th day of April, at Six for Seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions.....”

1891 Census

Colley Lane – TALBOT HOTEL

[1] *Sarah Hancox* (58), manageress at hotel, born Clowstop, Worcestershire;

[2] William H. Oliver (12), son, born Cradley;

[3] Annie Head (20), general servant, born Cradley:

William and *Frank Oliver* were sons of *William Oliver* of the VINE and CHAINMAKER.

William Oliver married Sarah Horton in the 3rd quarter of 1891.

Worcestershire Chronicle 22/10/1892

“On Monday morning *William Oliver*, landlord of the TALBOT HOTEL, which is situated on the main road about midway between Halesowen and Stourbridge, was found dead in a stable at the rear of his premises. A revolver was lying near him, and it is supposed he shot himself, though the reason is yet to be assigned for the deed. Mr. *Oliver* was very well known in the neighbourhood of Halesowen and Stourbridge, and he had been at the TALBOT HOTEL for about 3 years. He was about 34 years of age.”

County Advertiser 22/10/1892

“Mr. *William Oliver*, maltster, of Cradley, committed suicide on Monday morning last. The sad and painful event which cast a gloom over the district, and came with a shock to many people, happened at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Monday morning last. It created quite a sensation, and immediately it became known, people wondered what could have induced Mr. *Oliver* to put an end to his life in the manner in which he did. Mr. *Oliver* resided at Windmill Hill, a little distance from the TALBOT HOTEL, of which he holds the licence. He was a large maltster, and about thirteen months ago married Mrs. Horton, widow of Mr. Joseph Horton, who kept the THREE CROWNS, Brierley Hill. The mother of deceased has been in an asylum for a considerable number of years, and is still an inmate of it, and it is known that deceased had been in a very depressed condition lately. It was evident that deceased meant to take away his life as he had written down in a note book which was afterwards found on him his determination to make away with himself on the Sunday, and said he had looked at the Locks' Lane canal many times. It was only a quarter of an hour after deceased had arrived at the hotel that he went into the coach-house where he was found about 11 o'clock in a pool of blood, with a gun, the property of his brother, beside him. The unfortunate man's head was shot right through. Dr. Thompson, who lives near, was summoned with all possible speed, but deceased was beyond all human aid, and must have died almost instantaneously. Blood was found on the end of the barrel of the gun showing that deceased had put it into his mouth and shot himself through the head. His arm was not long enough to reach the trigger, so he provided himself with a hook, and thus carried his purpose into effect.

On Tuesday Mr. E. Docker, coroner, held an inquest at the TALBOT HOTEL into the circumstances attending the death of deceased, who was 37 years of age.

Dr. Thompson said that the habits *Oliver* had given way to had brought on congestion of the liver, and he did not consider him at the time responsible for his actions.

Police-constable Collings produced a pocket book of the deceased with the following entry in his handwriting.

‘Dear Sarah my wife good bye. I am tired of my life. Also to my children and friends. I thought of doing this yesterday if you went out. I ought to have done it before I had. I looked at Locks' Lane canal many times. Good night, God bless you and all my children. *W. Oliver.*’

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide while Temporarily Insane.”

William Oliver (Jnr) – see also PARK LANE TAVERN.

County Advertiser 30/12/1893

“The directors of Whitley Colliery, near Halesowen, provided an excellent Christmas dinner of beef, mutton, &c, to those in their employ to the number of 318. The dinners were given at three centres, namely, at Mr. Edwin Marsden's the UNION INN, Lye; Mr. Thomas Cox's, ROUND OF BEEF, Colley Gate; Mr. *Frank Oliver*'s, TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate; and the whole of the arrangements were successfully carried out by Mr. H. H. Jackson, the manager. Mr. Thomas Pulley, on behalf of the men, writes to us kindly to express the thanks of the men for the directors' kindness.”

Worcester Journal 28/7/1894 - Advert

“Ox Cabbage Plants and Thousand-headed Kale for Sale, 2s per 1,000.
Apply, Messrs. W. Oliver and Sons, Maltsters, Cradley, Staffs.”

Frank Oliver was also a brewer, maltster and farmer. [1896]

County Advertiser 13/2/1897 - Advert

“Wanted, good General Servant, good character required.
Apply, TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Express 13/11/1897 - Advert

“Colley Gate, Cradley. House, convenient, detached, Seven-Roomed, large Garden, Stable, etc.
Apply, Mr. *Oliver*, TALBOT HOTEL, or Miss Laister, Ivy House, Quinton, Birmingham.”

County Advertiser 10/9/1898 - Advert

“Building Land for Sale, in Lots to suit purchaser, situate in Spring Lane, Colley Gate.
Apply, for price and particulars, to *F. Oliver*, TALBOT HOTEL.”

County Advertiser 13/1/1900

“Mr. Eli Gill, butcher, of Colley Gate, who belongs to Lord Dudley’s Regiment of Hussars, and who volunteered for active service, was lately the recipient of a handsome present from his friends in Cradley. The presentation took place at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, and the gift consisted of a pocket knife, tobacco pouch, with his name on, cigarettes, a pound of tobacco, and a purse containing £3 19s 3d. Hearty wishes for the welfare and a safe return were expressed by several friends, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Advertiser 13/10/1900

“An important sale of freehold property, being the estate of the late Mr. Isaiah Hughes, was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, on Tuesday and Wednesday. A very large company attended each evening, and enabled the auctioneer, Mr. King (of the firm of H. King and Son), to dispose of every lot offered at highly satisfactory figures. Mr. Pateshall was jointly concerned, and Messrs. Perry and Travis, of Stourbridge were the solicitors. The following are the details.....
ROUND OF BEEF at Windmill Hill, realised £3,200.
WHY NOT beerhouse at Two Gates, realised £950.
ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, realised £1,730.”

County Advertiser 30/3/1901

“The members of Cradley Parish Council met at dinner on Thursday evening last at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, and a capital repast was placed upon the table by the host, Mr. T. [sic] *Oliver*. Everything was well cooked, and the waiting was entirely satisfactory. After dinner Mr. G. Davis (chairman) presided.....”

1901 Census

Colley Lane

- [1] *Frank Oliver* (52), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Sarah Oliver (53), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Alice M. Oliver (22), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] Rupert Oliver (20), son, licensed victualler’s assistant, born Cradley;
- [5] William F. Oliver (18), son, articled mining engineer, born Cradley;
- [6] George H. Oliver (16), son, licensed victualler’s assistant, born Cradley;
- [9] Donald I. Oliver (8), son, born Cradley:

County Express 14/9/1901

“Colley Gate Cricket Club. The annual meeting of this club was held last night week at the TALBOT HOTEL. The proceedings commenced with a supper which was well served by Mr. *Oliver*, and which was thoroughly enjoyed.....”

County Advertiser 15/3/1902

“Football News. Owing to building operations about to be commenced on Cradley Heath’s St. Luke’s football ground immediately after the Fair, the club will remove to the football field owned by Mr. *Oliver*, TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley. The first match (a semi-final in the St. Luke’s Cup Competition) will take place on the new ground on Saturday next.”

County Express 21/6/1902

“A pair of tom-tits have selected a strange nesting place for their family in the centre lamp near the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate. Beneath the lamp bracket there in an iron bulb with small aperture – too small for pillaging finger to get through – and in this safe retreat the tom-tits have built their nest and hatched out a numerous little family. The feeding of the youngsters is exciting considerable interest among the frequenters of the spot.”

Tipton Herald 4/4/1903

“Colley Gate Cricket Club. A smoking concert took place on Thursday evening at the TALBOT HOTEL, in connection with the above club. Mr. J. Butler presided over a good attendance. A capital programme of music was submitted.....”

County Advertiser 11/7/1903

“The Cradley Club. Cradley has one of the most successful benefit clubs in the Black Country district, and at the 36th annual meeting on Monday, at the High Town Ragged School, it was shown that the members are not only numerous, but can, on occasion be very disorderly.....

An excellent dinner was catered for by Mr. *Frank Oliver*, of the TALBOT HOTEL, and 142 members partook of it.....”

County Advertiser 18/6/1904

“Stourbridge Horse Show. The fifth venture of this popular fixture was more than ever successful.....

Competitions: Jumping, radius 8 miles. First prize £3, second £2 10s, third £1.

1. Mr. Rupert *Oliver*'s Donovan, TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.....”

County Advertiser 29/4/1905 - Advert

“Worcestershire Ratepayers' Association.

A Public Meeting will be held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, Thursday Next, May 4th, 7.30 prompt.

All Burgesses Invited. Mr. Wright (Droitwich) will attend.”

County Advertiser 10/6/1905 - Advert

“Wanted, a good strong Girl, as General, for TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 30/9/1905

“The workers of the Colonial Works, Cradley, were entertained on Saturday evening at the TALBOT HOTEL, by their employer, Mr. C. Willetts, by way of celebrating the coming of age of his son, Mr. Harold Willetts, while the younger employés (to the number of 140) were entertained to tea at the Council School. The guests numbered over 100, and the fine repast which was provide by Mr. *Oliver*, the landlord of the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, was done ample justice to. Mr. Willetts presided at the after proceedings.....”

County Advertiser 6/7/1907

“Lye. Numerous complaints have been made of the danger to horses and vehicles from the stone setts with which the main road has been paved. On Saturday afternoon Mr. *Oliver*, of the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, was driving in a gig to a cricket match at Lye, and was accompanied by his brother. On turning the corner of Pedmore Road the horse slipped on the setts and fell with its head beneath it. Mr. *Oliver* and his brother were thrown out of the vehicle, but fell on the horse's back and escaped injury. The left shaft of the trap was broken, but the horse was not injured. While the paving may be a saving in the repair of roads, that it is not an unmixed blessing as is shown by such an occurrence as this.”

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies' parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter's Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher's Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, 'Onward Christian Soldiers,' a solo from 'Thus saeth the Lord,' splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, 'Rousseau's dream,' finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, 'O, clap your hands,' and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, 'What shall I do to inherit eternal life?' He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

AND

“Colley Gate C.C. held their annual dinner on Saturday evening at the TALBOT HOTEL, about thirty members assembling to an excellent dinner, provided by Mr. and Mrs. *Oliver*. Following the drawing of the cloth, Mr. H. Cooper presented the prizes to the successful players a follows:- Messrs. J. Hughes, G. Oliver, J. Hancox, L. Cox, N. Mole, J. Tranter, and F. Cutler. The secretary referred to the excellent prospects for the coming season. The club was in a prosperous condition, having a few pounds on the right side, and with perfect unity between the players and committee that club should have a good future before them. Apologies were received from the president, Mr. F. Hipkiss, and from Mr. E. C. Starling, who were absent through business engagements.

The evening passed enjoyably with songs, duets and recitations.”

County Express 2/1/1909

“The annual meeting and supper in connection with the sick and draw club held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, was held on Tuesday, when Mr. L. Etheridge presided over an attendance of 35. A dividend of 14s per member was declared, and during the evening Mr. E. Dunn contributed songs, Mr. H. Payne recitations, and Mr. L. Etheridge two cornet solos.”

County Express 6/3/1909

“Colley Gate Cricket Club. At the annual meeting at the TALBOT HOTEL on Thursday evening the Rev. R. Irwin presided over a large attendance. The report and balance sheet presented by the secretary, Mr. H. Harbach, showed a loss of £7 on the year’s working. Mr. T. Homer was elected president, and Mr. R. *Oliver* treasurer, Mr. Harbach secretary, and Mr. E. Bloomer financial secretary. The Rev. R. Irwin was elected captain of the first eleven, and Mr. B. Male vice-captain, whilst Messrs B. Male and H. Bowen were elected captain and vice-captain respectively of the second eleven. It was decided to join the Dudley and District Cricket League.”

County Express 18/9/1909 - Advert

“General (good) Wanted, 18 to 20; also young girl to assist, about 15.
Apply TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.”

County Express 2/10/1909

“Colley Gate Cricket Club.

The annual dinner of this club was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, On Wednesday, a party numbering some 50 enjoying the excellent catering of the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *F. Oliver*). Mr. Thos. Homer (president) occupied the chair.....”

County Express 5/2/1910 - Advert

“Two Girls (20 and 16) Wanted; £12; servants kept.
Apply TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.”

County Express 16/7/1910

“In aid of the Cradley Friendly Societies parade a bowling competition will commence at TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, on July 23rd.”

County Express 1/10/1910 - Advert

“General (good) Wanted, about 20; references necessary.
Apply TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

1911 Census

Colley Gate – TALBOT HOTEL

- [1] *Frank Oliver* (62), maltster and brewer, born Cradley;
- [2] Sarah Oliver (64), wife, married 34 years, assisting in business, born Cradley;
- [3] Alice Mary Oliver (32), daughter, assisting in business, born Cradley;
- [4] Rupert Oliver (30), son, assisting in business, born Cradley;
- [5] George Henry Oliver (27), son, assisting in business, born Cradley;
- [6] Donald Ivan Oliver (18), son, assisting in business, born Cradley;
- [7] Maud Smith (22), servant, born Langley:

County Express 8/4/1911

“Colley Gate C.C. The annual meeting of this club was held on Tuesday week at the TALBOT HOTEL, Mr. W. Hickman presiding. The financial hon. Secretary (Mr. E. Bloomer) presented the annual report and balance sheet, which showed a debit balance on the year of £2 15s 8½d. Mr. Rupert *Oliver* was again appointed hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. W. Mole was elected financial secretary in place of Mr. Bloomer, resigned, an Mr. W. Detheridge match secretary. Vote of thanks were accorded the presiding officers, and also to Mr. *Frank Oliver* for the free use of the ground.”

County Express 1/7/1911

“The above picture shows the ox that was roasted at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, yesterday, in celebration of the Coronation. Behind the ox stands Mr. B. Barnsley, chairman of the committee responsible for the arrangements.”

AND

“A Correction. Mr. E. Cornock, conductor of Halesowen Territorial Band writes: ‘Your report of the Coronation festivities at Cradley on June 23rd states that the Territorial Band played for dancing on the green at the TALBOT HOTEL from six o’clock. I can assure you that the Band was playing in the Council school yard till after nine o’clock, and did not go on the TALBOT HOTEL green at any time during the evening.’”

County Express 19/8/1911 - Advert

“Sale of Valuable Freehold Properties at Spring Street & Colley Gate, Cradley.

A. H. Sidaway is favoured with instruction to Sell By Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley, on Friday, August 25th, 1911, at 7 o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced....."

County Express 9/9/1911 - Advert

"For Sale, Pedigree Deerhound Bitch, two years old; registered; best blood obtainable; three guineas. Also Spaniel Dog Pups from well-known working parents; one guinea each. *Oliver*, TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley."

Evening Despatch 5/9/1914

"Mr. Rupert *Oliver*, of the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, met with a tragic death last evening. He was travelling by rail from Stourbridge to Cradley, and just before the train reached Lye station let down the carriage window to look out. His head came in contact with the side of the bridge which crosses the line at this spot, and was killed instantly."

Frank Oliver was also a farmer. [1916]
He died in 1916.

Birmingham Daily Post 3/11/1916 - Advert

"Overland; 5-seater, 20hp, 1916 model; original tyres, done about 1,200 miles. W. Oliver and Sons, Brewers, Cradley."

County Express 31/12/1921

"Dividend Clubs..... TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.
There was a very good balance sheet for the members of this club. The year having been remarkably free from sickness, so that a dividend of £1 4s 9d per member was returned. Treasurer, Mr. L. Robinson; secretary, Mr. J. Westbury. On Friday night the members sat down to a cold collation, and the after proceedings were made enjoyable by the singing of carols etc."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/1/1933

"Nine licensed houses, the property of Messrs. William Oliver and Sons, of Cradley – a firm which has been established for nearly a century – were sold by auction at the TALBOT HOTEL, Stourbridge, yesterday. The houses, which are situated within a three mile radius, including Dudley, Stourbridge, Amblecote, Brierley Hill, Cradley Heath, Lye, and Cradley, fetched £14,925. The houses and amounts were.....
The TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley was withdrawn after £4,000 had been bid."

Talbot Lodge (No.4728) of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/8/1936

"A creditable show of flowers and vegetables arranged by the British Legion, was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Saturday. There were about 100 entries and Mr. J. H. Roberts, late head gardener to Lord Cobham described the exhibits as of a very high standard. The dahlias and sweet peas were particularly fine and the vegetables generally good. The chief prizewinners were Messrs. C. Grove, P. Hunt, B. A Parsons and F. Brown."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/3/1937

"*George Henry Oliver*, retired brewer and former owner of the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley, was yesterday found dead with a bullet wound in his head in a shed at the bottom of his garden at Wychwood, Birmingham Road, Hagley. There was a rifle near by. The bullet had apparently passed through the roof of the mouth. A note was also found. *Oliver* disposed of his interests in the TALBOT HOTEL and adjoining brewery about a year ago and went into retirement at Hagley. He was the last of a line of *Olivers* who had owned the TALBOT HOTEL successively for a century or so, and he had held the license of the hotel for several years. He was well known and popular in the licensed trade in the Black Country. He leaves a wife and family."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/3/1937

"A tragedy of sleeplessness was revealed at a Stourbridge inquest, yesterday, when a letter was quoted stating, 'Sleep I must have or go mad.' This was the opening sentence of the farewell to his wife and family written by *George Henry Oliver*, aged 53, retired maltster and brewer, of Wychwood, Birmingham Road, Hagley, before he shot himself through the head with a rifle in a garage at the back of his house on Friday.

A verdict of Suicide while of Unsound Mind was recorded.

The widow stated that *Oliver* had been very low spirited of late and complained of sleeplessness. Apart from that, he had nothing whatever to worry him.

On Friday afternoon Mrs. *Oliver* went to Halesowen on business, and on her return about 4.15 with Mr. Arthur H. Farmer, of Attwood Road, Halesowen, she said, no one came to the door when she rang the bell. Thinking her husband was in the garden she asked Mr. Farmer to go and look for him. It was then that the body was found in a half-lying and a half-sitting position in the corner of the garage with a short-pattern rifle, which had been kept in the garage, by his side.

Farmer told the Coroner that when he saw the dead man earlier in the day he complained two or three times of violent pains in the head. 'Otherwise he seemed quite all right and showed me all over the house,' added the witness.

Dr. W. H. Jarvis said death was due to a bullet wound in the roof of the mouth, the indications being that the muzzle of the rifle had been placed in the mouth and the weapon then fired.

The farewell note, only the opening sentence of which was read by the Coroner (Mr. F. P. Evers), was found in the house.

Until about 18 months ago, when he went into retirement, Mr. *Oliver* had held the licence of the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley, for years. The hotel and adjoining brewery had been in his family for more than a century. The dead man was well-known in the licensed trade throughout the Black Country.”

Evening Despatch 6/1/1939

“‘I wanted to make a cup of tea and had no coal, so I took a lump from the TALBOT coal house,’ said William Tay, an elderly unemployed man, of Colley Gate, Cradley, summoned today for stealing a lump of coal, value 3d, from the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley. It was stated that Tay received 17s 6d unemployment pay 7s of which was paid out for rent. ‘Having regard to the period of the year, we are going to be lenient with you and bind you over for twelve months,’ said the chairman, H. E. Palfrey.”

1939 Register

Colley Gate – TALBOT HOTEL

[1] *Thomas Bills*, date of birth 6/2/1890, manager, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Minnie Bills, dob 7/1/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] Alice V. Evans, dob 6/12/1870, retired, single:

A bowling green was laid in 1945.

Birmingham Daily Post 15/5/1954 - Advert

“To close Estates and by direction of the Owners, Lye and Cradley. Wednesday, May 26.

T. Leslie Tibbetts has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at 6.30pm, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, the following Valuable Business Premises.

Lot 1. 62, and 64, Windmill, Cradley. An old-established Fruiterers Business with extensive Yard and Warehousing, and Living Accommodation. Vacant Possession.

Lot 2. Valuable Building Land with 24 yards to Talbot Street, Cradley. Total area 800 square yards. Vacant Possession.

Lot 3. 37, Windmill Hill, Cradley. The Valuable Double-fronted Business Premises with old-established Drapery Business and excellent Living Accommodation. Vacant Possession.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1955

“Illuminated Christmas Trees are to be placed at the Finger Post, Halesowen; the TALBOT, Cradley, and outside the public library in Long Lane, Hill and Cakemore, Halesowen Town Council decided last night.”

Thomas Bills died in 1959.

It had a bowling club. [1974]

A new bowling green was laid c.1974.

Birmingham Daily Post 15/2/1978 - Advert

“Today, Wednesday, 15th February. 45 Wesley Avenue, Lyde Green, Halesowen.

A Modern Freehold Villa. Needs some renovation redecorating. Vacant Possession.

Jack Bowen & Co. will Sell By Auction, at the TALBOT, Stourbridge Road, Colley Gate, Halesowen at 6.30pm.”

It was renamed CHAINMAKER [1997]

[2013]

Halesowen News 16/3/2015

“Peter Michael Walker, aged 36, of Severn Road, Colley Gate, was given a six months’ community order for entering the CHAINMAKERS public house with intent to steal on December 2, 2014. He was given an eight week curfew and for the duration must remain at his home address between 7pm and 7am. He must pay a victim surcharge of £60 and £85 court costs.”

Closed [2015]

It was converted into a children’s amusement centre. [2019]

CHURCH TAVERN

Netherend, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

County Express 26/9/1908

“At Dudley, yesterday week, Maria Harris, of Dudley Road, Rowley, was charged with stealing 2s. It was stated that the accused was in the CHURCH TAVERN, Netherend, on Wednesday, and was supplied with beer. It was alleged that later, whilst there was no one in the bar, she was seen leaning over the counter with her hand in the till, from which was missing a two-shilling piece. Defendant denied that she was leaning over the counter, or that she took the money. PS Brunton stated that when she was given in charge she said she had not taken the money, and asked to be searched, and nine-pence in coppers was found upon her. There was no two-shilling piece. The Bench said it was a case of suspicion, but the theft had not been proved, and it would be dismissed.”

CHURCH VIEW TAVERN

63, High Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Josh Wyer [2022]

LICENSEES

Isabel Hampton (2020 – []
Josh Wyer [2022]

NOTES

SWANKYS [2019]

Halesowen News 1/7/2020

“TALK OF THE TOWN will open at the former SWANKYS on the High Street opposite St John’s Church. Work is being carried out to get the bar ready in time for its opening on Saturday to coincide with the reopening of pubs across England since lockdown began in March. New landlady *Isabel Hampton* is breathing new life into the venue which has been empty since before Christmas – by installing a stage and sprucing up the premises. And she is looking for around five to seven bar and front of house staff. *Isabel*, who is opening the bar with a business partner, said, ‘I’m Halesowen born and bred. It will be a live music venue once Boris says that is allowed with local acts on stage. It’s going to be a traditional bar – I’m putting my own touches to it at the moment. I’m really keen on getting involved with the community in Halesowen and working with Halesowen BID. I would like community groups to use the upstairs room. I also want to pick up on the Wednesday coffee mornings I used to hold at PICKS.....”

TALK OF THE TOWN opened on 4th July 2020.

Halesowen News 3/8/2021

“TALK OF THE TOWN was issued with a letter from Dudley Council after complaints were made about noise coming from the bar, which is a live music venue. The High Street venue, which regularly hosts live bands and karaoke, has been told an investigation into the allegations of noise nuisance will be carried out over the next two months. Council officers could visit the bar, which opened last July, at any time of day or night to monitor noise.....

The pub received some supportive comments on social media. One said, ‘Entertainment, pubs and social settings hit the hardest during the pandemic for 18 months and people are complaining about noise? Surely, after a horrendous year people would be happy bars are reopen and making folk happy! No pleasing some.’”

Halesowen News 15/4/2022

“A 27-year-old Halesowen man has fulfilled his dream of opening his own pub. *Josh Wyer* has opened CHURCH VIEW TAVERN on High Street, Halesowen. The former Earls High pupil has put his own stamp on the former TALK OF THE TOWN unit,

opposite St John's Church. *Josh* worked as a barman for over a year when it was TALK OF THE TOWN and said it's great to now be back as the owner. He said, 'I've wanted a pub all my life. I've worked in lots of pubs and I have always loved it. So far it's been good, we've been doing a good trade with good clientele. We have not had any trouble at all. I'm loving it.'

Josh, who worked in care from the age of 18 to 24, lives in Halesowen with his mum and brothers. He has opened the pub with business partner Andy Cutler, aged 53. The pub is part of the Pub Watch scheme in Halesowen which means landlords and staff can support each other by sharing details such as drinkers who are banned. *Josh* has also worked closely with the Halesowen BID which has helped promote the new venue. There are DJs and karaoke and a disco every Saturday. CHURCH VIEW TAVERN is open every day from 10am till 11pm, apart from Fridays and Saturdays when it is open until 1am."

CLOCK

88, (60), Nimmings Road / Masters Lane, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Worcestershire Public House Trust Co. Ltd. [1904], [1912]
Anells Ltd.
Kelly Heath [2022]

LICENSEES

Jonathan Compson (1902 – [1912])
Reginald Cripps (1912);
Edward Coppin (1912)
William Cain (1912 – [])
Mrs. Miriam Cain (1914 – 1915);
James McIntosh (1915 – [1921])
William Henry Way Cook [1924]
Roland G Hill [1939]
Cook [1957]
Eric Richardson [1982]
Ken Waterhouse (1984 – [])
Richard Taylor [2007]

NOTES

It was originally called the COUNTY. [1908], [1912], [1924]

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/10/1903

"The Worcestershire Public House Trust Company Limited has been registered with a capital of £20,000, in 19,999 ordinary shares of £1 each, and 20 deferred shares of £1 each, to acquire freehold, leasehold, copyhold, or other property in the United Kingdom for the purpose of establishing hotels, restaurants, cafes, inns, public houses, and places of entertainment, to promote temperance by means of public house reform....."

County Advertiser 13/2/1904

"On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.... Mr. T. Cooksey next applied, on behalf of the Worcestershire Public House Trust Co. Ltd. for a license to be granted to *Jonathan Compson* to sell intoxicants 'on' or 'off' premises situated at Cakemore. He explained that Cakemore a few years ago was an agricultural district, but had rapidly developed of late years. In 1899 building operations commenced in the district, and since that time over 330 houses had been erected. In 1891 the population was a little over 1,050, which increased to 2,294 in 1901, whilst at the present time it was estimated to be 2,889. Mr. Cooksey was proceeding to call witnesses in support of his application, when the Chairman intervened, and stated that as a new bill would be shortly introduced into Parliament dealing with the licensing question, the Bench had decided to refuse the whole of the applications for that district. In reply to a question, the Chairman, however, stated that they could be renewed after the Government proposals had been made."

Birmingham Mail 7/2/1905

"Today, at the Sessions for the Halesowen Division, Mr. H. Howard presiding, Superintendent Hill stated that there was an average of one license for every 206 persons. During the year 124 persons had been proceeded against for drunkenness, 123 being

convicted, whilst in the previous year 127 persons was proceeded against and 123 convicted.

The magistrates decided to renew the whole of the licenses after which they proceeded to hear five applications for new licenses.....

Mr. T. Cooksey supported an application by *Jonathan Compson* for a full license at premises situated at the corner of Masters Lane and the Nimmings, Cakemore, the owners being the Worcestershire Public House Trust Co. Ltd. He explained that the premises were situated in a growing neighbourhood. The objects of the Trust were to promote temperance reform, and also to amend the management of the public-house in order that it should provide reasonable refreshments in the shape of non-intoxicants. The Trust had been formed by such gentlemen as the Earl of Dudley, Earl Beauchamp, Lord Compton, Lord Windsor, Sir H. F. Lambert, and Sir H. F. Vernon, and every effort would be made to promote temperance habits.

Compson, called in support of the application, said he was instructed by the directors to push non-intoxicants, for which he received commission. He would receive no commission on the sale of beer.

Mr. Maddocks (instructed by Mr. J. W. Clulow) opposed the application, and contended that a license was not necessary in the locality.

Applications for off-licenses in the same area were made by Mary Ann Simpkins, of the Nimmings; Josiah Downing, of Nimmings Road; George Field, junr, of Station Lane; and George Woodall, of Olive Lane.

The magistrates granted the license to the Trust for one year, on payment of £20. The whole of the other applications were refused.”

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday.....

Superintendent Hill, in his annual report to the justices, stated that He had received notices from *Jonathan Compson*, of the Nimmings, Cakemore, for a full license at premises at the corner of Masters Lane and the Nimmings, Cakemore, the owners of the property being the Worcestershire Public House Trust Company.....

Mr. T. Cooksey applied for a renewal of the full license at the Nimmings, Cakemore, to *Jonathan Compson*, manager, on behalf of the Worcestershire Public House Trust Co. He explained that the license was granted last year by the justices as an experiment, and during the year it had been well conducted. The fact that the license was held by the Trust Company was sufficient guarantee that the business would be carried on in the interests of the public. He asked the Bench to grant the renewal of the license for an extended period of years because the applications yearly were very expensive. The company would not be entitled to any compensation in the event of the license being taken away. He put in a return showing the sales of non-intoxicants during the twelve months, and also a petition numerously signed by residents in the locality in favour of the renewal of the license.

The Bench held a private deliberation, after which Mr. Howard announced that they had decided to renew the license for a period of seven years upon the condition that it remained the property of the Trust Company, who should pay a sum of £5 per annum for the license. In the event of the company giving up the license before this term was completed they must pay the sum of £35.

Mr. Cooksey accepted these terms, and said the company would be prepared to pay the £35 down.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/5/1906

“Public House Trusts in the Midlands.....

There are thirty-three Trust Companies in England and Wales, four in Scotland, and one in Ireland.....

The Worcestershire Public House Trust Company have two establishments, one at Kidderminster and one at Cakemore, near Halesowen.....

Reports from the various quarters where these licensed houses are situated show that there is an increasing demand for non-alcoholic liquors. At one place, for instance, an increase of over fifty per cent is reported in the sale of bovril, etc, and of soups in general, although tea and coffee had decreased in demand.

In many instances the houses are equipped with billiards, bowling greens, skittle alleys, or quoit pitches. Games both indoor and outdoor are encouraged, and in every case – it is reported from one county – these have resulted in decreased drinking per head and have not led to gambling of any kind.”

County Express 15/1/1910 - Letters

“To the Editor of the *County Express*.

Sir. It does me good to see the encouraging headway tariff reform is making on the people, and I am pleased to see in today's *Birmingham Post* that many glassmakers have decided to give it a trial. What is more convincing to us as glassmakers that a change is needed is to see the deplorable state into which our society is falling. Here we are today with a decrease in members of over 1,000, and out of the 965 left cannot find a best wine chair to fill up a vacancy.

In my opinion, as the finest producers of hand made glass of the present age, we are gradually dying out. The enormous amount of cheap foreign glass dumped here, and for everlastingly in front of our eyes in every shop, is gradually weaning us from appreciating the work of our fellow countrymen, that should be in every English home. Over £3,000,000 worth of foreign glass is sold in our markets. Let us go in for fair trading, and get our share of our own markets, and as Englishmen we shall be able to hold our own in all markets.

What has Mr. Coysh to recommend him for our member? At Amblecote, he admits he does not understand the trade, but insinuates employers do not know their business. At Wordsley, Mr. D. Clark tells us to remember free trade and the Saturday half-holidays. What of those who have many a half-week holiday, and a great number whole weeks and months of idleness?

I should think my Wordsley friends won't be led away by that rousing speech of Mr. A. Roberts at the same meeting. The firm he works for, you know, when trading at Wordsley as factors, were dealing very largely in foreign goods, and I very much question if his samples were overhauled, that the biggest per cent is still foreign, and amongst them would be found the identical tumbler he

quotes at 2s 6d, against the English one at 4s 6d.

I see my old friend, Jack Whitworth, is on the track of 'that mad tariff reformer,' W. Bradford at Dudley. Jack lad, you'll find a good many of them this election, myself included. We shall go mad with joy to think we are saving the traditions and talent of the English working man, and keeping him out of the free trade lunatic asylum.
Yours, etc, *J. Compson*. COUNTY INN, Blackheath. January 12th, 1910."

1911 Census

60, Nimmings Road – COUNTY INN

- [1] *Jonathan Compson* (54), manager hotel, born Wordsley;
- [2] *Louisa Emma Compson* (42), wife, married 19 years, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Bertie Clarence Compson* (18), son, tool maker, iron tube works, born Amblecote;
- [4] *Emma Adams* (31), widow, general servant, born Stourbridge:

County Express 27/1/1912

"To the Overseers of the Poor of Cakemore, in the Parish of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester; to the Superintendent of Police of the District or Division of Halesowen, in which the House hereinafter mentioned is situate; to the Clerk of the Licensing Justices for the said Division of Halesowen; and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Reginald Cripps* (Secretary of The Peoples Refreshment House Association Limited), now residing at 20, Pelham Crescent, South Kensington, in the County of London, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting for the Division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office at Halesowen, in the said County, on the sixth day of February, 1912, for the grant of a Justices' License under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, authorising me to apply for and hold an excise License to Sell by Retail at a house and premises now known as the COUNTY INN, and situate at Nimmings, Cakemore, in the Township of Cakemore and in the Parish of Halesowen aforesaid, any intoxicating liquor which may be sold under a Spirit Retailer's (or Publican's) License for consumption either on or off the premises, of which said premises the Worcestershire Public House Trust Company Limited are the owners, and the same are of the annual value by law required and are now in their occupation.

Given under my hand this nineteenth of January, One thousand nine hundred and twelve.

Reginald Cripps."

Bromsgrove Messenger 9/3/1912

"Halesowen Petty Sessions.....

The new license granted to Mr. *Reginald Cripps*, Secretary of the Peoples Refreshment House Association Limited, at the Annual Licensing Meeting, in respect of the COUNTY INN, Cakemore, and adjourned to settle the question of monopoly value, again came up before the Bench.

Mr. C. E. Fitzroy, from the Sales Department of HM Customs and Excise, contended that the monopoly value placed on the old license which was granted to the Worcestershire Public House Trusts Company for a period of seven years for £70 was insufficient. After hearing Mr. Cooksey for the applicant, the Bench granted the license for seven years, the monopoly value to be £15 per year."

Bromsgrove Messenger 9/11/1912

"Mr. Cooksey applied on behalf of *William Cain*, of the COUNTY INN, for permission for structural alterations to be carried out at the COUNTY INN, Cakemore, the owners desiring to re-open a door leading off the landing which had been closed. In reply to the Chairman, the applicant admitted that the door which he wished to be re-opened was situated close to a bagatelle room.

The Chairman said the Bench strongly objected to the opening of any door which communicated with a bagatelle and other rooms. The application would be deferred for a fortnight to enable the justices to inspect the premises.....

The following transfers were granted *William Cain*, COUNTY INN.

In connection with the transfer of the license of the COUNTY INN, Cakemore, the Chairman of the Bench called attention to the fact that the license has been transferred very frequently. The applicant, *William Cain*, said the license was transferred for the last time in July. The Chairman remarked that the Bench did not like to see licenses so frequently transferred."

Bromsgrove Messenger 30/11/1912

"*William Cain*, licensee of the COUNTY INN, Cakemore, made an application for the magistrates' sanction to carry out structural alterations.

The Chairman said the justices had examined the plan, and they found that it was proposed to open a door on the landing for the convenience of the landlord, which was situated close to a bagatelle room. The Bench could not approve of the door being open. The applicant pointed out that it was a door which had previously been opened, and would be a great convenience for himself. The Bench, however, declined to grant the application, the Chairman remarking that they considered it was a door which should remain closed."

James McIntosh = James Mackintosh

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/2/1937

"The hope that the British Legion would continue to be a live force even after all who had served in the late war had passed away was expressed by Mr. R. H. Morgan, MP for Stourbridge, at the annual dinner of the Hill and Cakemore branch of the British

Legion, held at the COUNTY INN, Hill and Cakemore, on Saturday. To this end, he said, all men at present serving in the Forces should join the British Legion when the time came for them to leave the Services.

Presentations were made to Mr. R. A. L. Baker, who is retiring from the secretaryship of the branch on taking up residence out of the district, and to Mr. F. Doody, in recognition of his services as chairman of the Poppy Day Committee.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/2/1939

“Information Bureau.....

COUNTY INN, Blackheath. There were approximately 22,000 machines in October, 1918.”

[Readers wrote in to have questions, which were not published, answered.]

1939 Register

88, Nimmings Road – COUNTY INN

[1] Roland G. Hill, date of birth 21/12/1901, licensee (inn);

[2] Elsie Ann Hill, dob 25/3/1900, unpaid domestic duties;

[3] Gertrude H. Grasley (Osborn), dob 11/7/1898, domestic and bar help:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/7/1957

“Mrs. Elsie *Cook* (aged 42), wife of the licensee of the COUNTY INN, Cakemore, was found unconscious in a gas-filled room at the inn on Saturday. Two police-men who tried artificial respiration continued their efforts to revive her in an ambulance which took her to Dudley Guest Hospital, but she died.”

It was renamed the NIMMINGS TAVERN.

It was renamed the CLOCK in 1982.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

Express & Star 6/8/2022

“A Halesowen pub has won a title for its eye-catching floral displays. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards. Owner Kelly Heath designs and plants up all the troughs, planters and hanging baskets herself. She celebrated the Commonwealth Games with red, white and blue and the Platinum Jubilee with purple and silver displays. The secretary of Halesowen in Bloom, Hilary Bills, who was one of the judges said, ‘The judges liked the idea that Kelly had done all of the work herself and had put a lot of thought into her plant and colour selections.’

The judges also awarded highly commended to the LOYAL LODGE, HAWNE TAVERN, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the SWAN and previous winner, EDWARD VII.

Eve O’Connor, chair of Halesowen in Bloom said, ‘Halesowen in Bloom wants to thank all the pubs in Halesowen who make that extra effort to make their pubs look so inviting with great floral displays.”

Halesowen News 20/9/2023

“Three Halesowen pubs have won awards for their eye-catching floral displays. The SWAN on Long Lane in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin’ Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road won the Best Kerb Appeal title and the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road was deemed to have the Best Hanging Baskets.....”

[2023]

COACH AND HORSES

CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Hingley [1857] – [1871]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

County Advertiser 14/11/1857

“The following persons were charged, through information laid by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, Mr. W. Freeman, Superintendent, of the police, Stourbridge with having in their possession deficient weights, scales, and measures.....
James Hingley, beerhouse-keeper, Cradley, 2 quarts, fined 1s with costs.”

County Advertiser 26/8/1865

“The annual licensing meeting for the Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division was held yesterday.....
Applications were made for spirit licenses by the following.....
James Hingley, beerhouse keeper, Cradley Refused.”

Stourbridge Observer 27/1/1866

“Mr. *James Hingley*, the COACH AND HORSES INN, with his liberality entertained some of his friends and neighbours. They partook with him of the ‘cup that cheers but not inebriates’ in the large spacious room recently erected by him. The tea was served in a manner which reflected great credit on both host and hostess. Every one enjoyed themselves and separated at an early hour.”

Stourbridge Observer 11/7/1868

“Ancient Order of Foresters. The Lily of the Valley Lodge, of the above order, held its annual meeting on Monday, July 6th, for the transacting of business. An excellent dinner was provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *James Hingley*. The hostess also provided a good supply of plum pudding.....”

Worcester Journal 5/9/1868

“Stourbridge annual licensing meeting was held on Friday, at the Public Office.....
The following applications for licenses were made *James Hingley*, Cradley.....
The Magistrates declined to grant any of the applications.”

Stourbridge Observer 5/6/1869

“*James Hingley*, of Cradley, was charged with keeping his house open after eleven o’clock on the night of the 31st ultimo. Police-constable Hutchings proved the case. As this was the first offence, he was only ordered to pay costs.”

Worcester Journal 4/9/1869

“Stourbridge Annual Licensing Meeting.....
There were ten applications for full licence, and only one was granted.....
James Hingley, Cradley, supported by Mr. Perry, refused.”

County Advertiser 9/7/1870

“On Monday last the members of Court Lilley of the Valley, AOF, met at Mr. *James Hingley*’s COACH AND HORSES INN, to partake of their annual feast. Upwards of a hundred sat down to an excellent repast. After the cloth was drawn, Mr. George Edwards was called to the chair, and Mr. Charles Jenks officiated as vice-chairman. The usual loyal and other toasts were honoured; songs, duets, and recitations were given at intervals, and a very harmonious evening was spent.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 31/8/1870

“The annual licensing meeting for Stourbridge division was held at the Public Office on Wednesday.....
There were seven new applications for old licenses.....
James Hingley, Cradley.....
The magistrates refused all the applications.”

1871 Census

High Street – WAGGON [sic] AND HORSES

- [1] *James Hingley* (41), butcher and innkeeper, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Sophiah Hingley (37), wife, born Hereford;
- [3] Sophiah Hingley (6), niece, scholar, born Rowley;
- [4] Prissilla Pearson (18), general servant, born Lye;
- [5] Edward Ginks (20), slaughterman (butcher’s), born Cradley:

County Advertiser 12/12/1874

“At the Police Court, yesterday, George Kurton, was charged with refusing to quit the COACH AND HORSES INN, Cradley, on the 30th ult. The case was proved, and the defendant, who had several times previously been convicted, was fined 5s and costs.”

COBHAM ARMS

Howley Grange Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Marstons plc

LICENSEES

Bert Ross [] – 1980)

Ray Smith (1988 – 2005);

Dean Paul Cadby (2005 – []

Scott McGeough and Hayley Bishop (2017 – [2018]

Rhian Bradley [2023] manager

NOTES

Sandwell Evening Mail 25/5/1988

“A pub darts team is to hold a marathon 24-hour session to raise more than £1,000 for Birmingham’s Childrens Hospital. The team from the COBHAM ARMS, Halesowen, is challenging all-comers to try and beat it. The darts session starts on Friday.”

Ray Smith was married to Rita.

Sandwell Evening Mail 8/6/1994 - Advert

“Get Out & Do It!

Ballooning; 4x4 off-road driving; powerboating; helicopter flying; formula Renault motor racing; microlighting.

10 Free Adventure Weekends To Be Won.

Banks’s. Est 1875. Unspoilt by Progress. British Pubs Week 12th – 19th June 1994.

Visit any one of the following outlets between 12th – 19th June to collect your free entry form. Only those aged 18 or over may apply.....

COBHAM ARMS, Halesowen.”

Dean Paul Cadby was sent to Wolverhampton Crown Court in February 2006 for exposing himself to a female customer, and intentionally touching her without her consent.

Dudley News 27/5/2014

“The rain did not dampen spirits at Halesowen pub as customers enjoyed a joint beer and music festival. Halesowen College bands, including Meff and The Jimmy Hendrix Experience, performed at the COBHAM ARMS, Howley Grange Road, on Saturday. Bar staff dressed in fancy dress and the pub served beer from around the country. Ian Prosser, whose son is the drummer for Meff, said, ‘It was a great day with some top live music by the bands which performed at the COBHAM ARMS.’”

Halesowen News 2/11/2017

“A pub refurbishment is set to create seven new jobs in Halesowen – doubling the current number of staff. The COBHAM ARMS in Lapal is about to undergo an eight-week, £98,000 transformation, with plans for the Marston’s-owned pub to be completed two weeks before Christmas on December 8. Both bars will be refurbished, with the rear bar being converted into a more family-friendly 80-seater restaurant and the front bar catering more for drinkers and community events. The kitchen will be upgraded and additional staff are being recruited to support a new pub classics food menu service. *Hayley Bishop* and *Scott McGeough*, who are local to the area, have only been running the Cobham for eight weeks but have 12 years of experience in running bars and restaurants in Birmingham, Moseley and Droitwich.

Scott said, ‘It has been fantastic to take on this lovely community pub – we’ve known it all our lives – and even better to oversee this fantastic new facelift. We want to keep it as a much-loved community pub but have plans to build the food side of the business by becoming famous for our Sunday roasts, as well as organising some great entertainment nights too.’

The pub will see some closures over the refurbishment period, with the front bar being closed from the last week in November and

the rear bar being closed from December 4, with plans to re-open everything a few days later.

Scott added, 'We are excited about the next few weeks. It won't be without its challenges, but we know our loyal customers will stay with us and we'll have a great month of festive food and drinks throughout December to celebrate the new and improved COBHAM ARMS.'

Tom Maddison, Marston's area manager, said, 'This is one of the biggest investments we have made this year and it will make a vast improvement to the COBHAM. We wish *Scott* and *Hayley* all the best.'

Halesowen News 27/3/2018

"The COBHAM ARMS, in Howley Grange Road, has seen turnover treble whilst also creating seven new local jobs following a transformational refurbishment. Run by *Scott McGeough*, the Marston's-owned pub had a £98,000 makeover three months ago and saw an immediate increase in sales due to its new family-friendly restaurant and pub classics food menu. Both bars have been refurbished, with the rear bar being converted into 80-seater restaurant and the front bar catering more for drinkers and community events. The kitchen was also upgraded to create the new food menu and additional staff were recruited to support the food service. *Scott* said, 'The investment in the pub has transformed it into a true community pub. Ready to serve locals as a place to meet, drink and eat – whether with friends or family. We are becoming famous for our Sunday roasts, as well as organising some great entertainment nights too.' He has been running the COBHAM since last August and has 12 years' experience in running bars and restaurants in Birmingham, Moseley, and more recently in Droitwich. Tom Maddison, Marston's area manager, added, 'This is one of the biggest investments we made last year and it has already had a very positive impact on the local community.'"

Halesowen News 18/6/2018

"Families who want to raise money while watching England take on Panama this Sunday (June 23) should head down to Halesowen pub the COBHAM ARMS. From 1pm, fundraisers will be hosting a family fun afternoon in aid of Dudley's Macmillan branch while the World Cup match is showing. Food including onion bargees and samosas will be on offer at the Howley Grange Road pub, while there will also be a cake sale and face painting for the youngsters. Entry into the pub will be free."

Express & Star 22/3/2021

"Pubs group Marston's has issued a list of pubs set to reopen in the Black Country on April 12th. In the Express & Star circulation area this takes in 93. Due to coronavirus restrictions they will only be able to accommodate customers in outdoor areas including beer gardens and seated areas. To accompany table service, Marston's has introduced an online ordering system called 'Marston's Tap'. The online platform is available across the majority of Marston's pubs for guests to use. Bookings are being accepted and guests can reserve a table via each pub's website. Wolverhampton-based Marston's has an estate of around 1,400 pubs across the UK and not all in England are able to reopen in April due to not having an outdoor space..... COBHAM ARMS, Quinton."

[2021]

COCK

Cornbow, (Great Cornbow Street), (Little Cornbow), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Halesowen Gas Company (acquired 1883)

Arthur Mynett (acquired 1889)

LICENSEES

Thomas Siviter [1840] – [1841]

Peter Parton [1845] – [1854]

George Lee [1855] – [1865]

Charles Webb [] – **1867**;

Alfred Hackett (**1867** – [1870])

George Lee [1870] – **1871**;

George Yardley (**1871** – [1876])

Arthur Mynett [1880] – [1892]

NOTES

Cornbow Street [1841]

Tanhouse Lane [1861]
Little Cornbow [1864]
Great Cornbow Street [1873]

It was a posting house.

Thomas Siviter = Thomas Sivetter

1841 Census

Cornbow Street

- [1] *Thomas Sivetter* (40), publican;
- [2] Mary Sivetter (40);
- [3] William Sivetter (15), born Shropshire;
- [4] Charles Sivetter (12), born Shropshire;
- [5] Eliza Sivetter (10), born Shropshire;
- [6] John Sivetter (8), born Shropshire;
- [7] Alfred Sivetter (3), born Shropshire;
- [8] Thomas Sivetter (1), born Shropshire;
- [9] Mary Turner (15), fs:

Thomas Siviter was also the manager of Halesowen Gasworks.

1851 Census

Great Cornbow

- [1] *Peter Parton* (62), joiner, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Elizabeth Parton (49), wife, born Curdworth, Warwickshire;
- [3] Hannah Toms (18), servant, born Rubury Hill, Warwickshire;
- [4] Joseph Mole (48), lodger, carter, born Essex;
- [5] George Wallice (30), lodger, labourer, birthplace unknown:

George Lee = George Lea

George Lee was also a maltster. [1860]

1861 Census

Tanhouse Lane – COCK INN

- [1] *George Lea* (44), victualler, born Frankley, Worcestershire;
- [2] Elizabeth Lea (58), wife;
- [3] Martha Lea (16), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Elizabeth Lea (17), sister, born Frankley, Worcestershire;
- [5] William Willcocks Ferries (26), boarder, inland revenue officer, born Exeter:

County Advertiser 7/7/1866

“An ‘interim authority’ was granted to *Charles Webb*, of the COCK INN, Halesowen, to keep open and sell, &c, until the next special sessions for the granting of alehouse transfers of license.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/8/1867 - Advert

“Bay Horse, 16-2, quiet in single or double harness. Price 30 guineas.
Apply to *Alfred Hackett*, COCK INN, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/8/1867 - Advert

“Light Dog Cart, for a horse 14 hands, nearly new.
Apply to *Alfred Hackett*, COCK INN, Halesowen.”

Stourbridge Observer 14/9/1867

“The COCK INN, Halesowen.

Mr. *Alfred Hackett* begs to return thanks to the Inhabitants of Halesowen and Neighbourhood, for the many favours conferred upon him while Postboy at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, and begs to inform them that he has taken to the above well-known Inn, where by keeping the best quality of Ales, &c, he hopes to merit a share of their patronage and support.

A. H. Cab and Car proprietor, has added to his Establishment Mourning Coaches and Hearses, which may be had on the shortest notice.

NB – Good Stabling.”

Stourbridge Observer 10/10/1868

“It has been decided by a committee meeting held at Mr. *Hackett*’s COCK INN, under the presidency of Mr. J. Wade, that Mr. Moseley should supply the bullock for the forthcoming fair, Monday, October 12th, and sell the same in the Bull Ring at 8d per pound. Mr. Hollies and Mr. Robinson sent in tenders for the same, but, after a rather noisy discussion, the majority was in favour of Mr. Moseley, who was awarded the order.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 8/9/1869 - Advert

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1861. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.

Alfred Hackett, of the COCK INN, Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler and Cab Proprietor, having been adjudged Bankrupt on the 17th of August, 1869, a Public Sitting for the said Bankrupt to pass his last examination, and make application for his discharge, will be held at the said Court, at Stourbridge, on the 22nd day of September, 1869, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said Bankrupt to surrender.

The Registrar of the Court is the Official Assignee, and Mr. Thomas Wall, of Stourbridge, is the Solicitor acting in the Bankruptcy. C. Evers, High Bailiff.”

Stourbridge Observer 12/11/1870

“An accident of a serious nature occurred on Monday last, to Mr. *George Lee*, landlord of the COCK INN. It appears that Mr. *Lee* was sitting in a room at the SHENSTONE INN, when from some cause or other he slipped off his seat, and fell on the floor. His leg was under his body, and his thigh was broken.

The unfortunate man was at once conveyed home, and Mr. Bloxham, surgeon, was sent for, and at once set the leg, and the sufferer is doing as well as can be expected.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/12/1870 - Advert

“Freehold Public-House, Malthouse, Nail Warehouse, Six Cottages, Gardens, &c, Halesowen, Worcestershire.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Thomas Howell, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, on Monday, the 19th December inst at Five o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read, and in the following or such other lots as may be determined upon at the time of Sale, the undermentioned valuable Freehold Property.

Lot 1. All that Old-established Public-House, with Brewhouse, Stabling, Out-buildings, and Premises, known as the COCK INN, Cornbow, Hales Owen, in the occupation of Mr. *George Lea*; the Nail Warehouse, at the rear of the same, in the occupation of Messrs. Perry and Brooks; and the Four Adjoining Cottages, with Nail Shops, Out-buildings, and large Gardens, in the several occupations of Messrs. Dunaker, Taylor, Coley, and Checketts; the whole representing a rental of £50 19s 8d per annum.

Lot 2. All that well-built and conveniently arranged Malt-House and Premises at the rear of the COCK INN, in the occupation of Mr. *Lea*, together with Two Adjoining Cottages and large well-fenced Gardens, occupied by Messrs. Ballard and Lawton; the whole representing a rental of £17 2s per annum.

For further particulars, apply to C. E. Mathews, Esq, Solicitor, 29, Waterloo Street; or to the Auctioneers, 34, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham and Smethwick.”

1871 Census

Cornbow – COCK INN

[1] *George Yardley* (38), omnibus proprietor, born Oldswinford;

[2] *Maria Yardley* (38), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Mary Yardley* (14), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] *George F. Yardley* (12), son, scholar, born Halesowen;

[5] *Annie Yardley* (10), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[6] *Christiana Yardley* (7), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[7] *Ernest W. Yardley* (3), son, born Halesowen:

George Yardley was also the proprietor of the omnibus to Birmingham. [1873]

County Advertiser 9/10/1875 - Advert

“Halesowen. The COCK INN. To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, on Tuesday Next, October 12th, 1875, by Mr. Homer (under a distraint for rent) the whole of the Household Furniture, Stock-In-Trade, and Effects, upon the Premises as above, comprising Wood and Iron Bedsteads, Mattresses, Beds and Ben Linen, Washing Stands, Dressing Tables, and Glasses, Chests of Drawers, Windsor Cane-seated, Easy, and Arm Chairs, Clothes Box, Oak Chest, Bureau Sofa, Mahogany centre, round, square, and Drinking Tables, Benches, ditto, with back Fenders and Fire-irons, American Clock, Steelyards, large butchers’ scales and weights, nearly new; Four pull beer machine, with Piping and Taps, Pewter Measures, Tun dishes, Jugs, Cups, Glasses, Five pairs of Carriage Lamps, Carriage and Cart Wheels, Poles, Shafts, Harness, Vice and Bench, together with the usual Kitchen Requisites, also a capital Chaff Machine.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

County Express 23/2/1878 - Advert

“Coleman Hill Club. Monday, Feb 25.

Paper Chase – Meet at the COCK, Halesowen, at 10.30am. Hares: E. G. Hunt and Alfred Homfray. (Open).”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/5/1878 - Advert

“Found, on Sunday, May 12, a dark-brown aged Horse, about 15 hands high; long tail, white hind feet. Owner may have the same by applying to the COCK INN, Halesowen, and paying expenses.”

1881 Census

Cornbow – COCK INN

[1] Emma Williams (59), wife of innkeeper, born Kempsey:

Evening Star 25/1/1882

“Mr. Ralph Docker (coroner for East Worcestershire) opened an inquest on Tuesday evening, at the COCK INN, Cornbow, Halesowen, relative to the death of Edward Albert Coles (19), agent in the gas fitting trade, who it was alleged had died from the effects of poison while confined in a police cell at Halesowen Police Station.

Mr. Superintendent Hardman appeared on behalf of the police, and Dr. Ker attended on behalf of the friends of the deceased. In reply to the Coroner, Police Sergeant Raybould stated that on Friday last the deceased was arrested for having obtained £5 in money by means of false pretences from Mr. George Moseley, butcher, and on the following day he was taken before Mr. F. D. L. Smith, and remanded in custody until Tuesday. At about seven o'clock on Saturday night he visited the prisoner in his cell, and found him reading a newspaper by the aid of a light from the stove. In answer to a question, he said he was ‘all right’. At about nine o'clock he again visited the police station and was informed by one of the officers on duty that the deceased was ill, and on proceeding to the deceased’s cell found him on the floor and in convulsions. Upon asking him what he had been doing he replied, ‘Nothing; it is the beer that has done it.’ Dr. Phillips and his assistant was speedily in attendance, and applied the stomach pump. In fact they did their best to save the deceased. Their efforts, however, were of no avail, as deceased expired shortly before eleven o'clock.

The Coroner: What were deceased’s symptoms?

Witness: He appeared to be suffering from poisoning.

Dr. Phillips said that acting on the instructions of the coroner he had made a post-mortem examination of the deceased. He had not analysed the stomach. The lungs and brain were congested, and deceased appeared to have died from poisoning.

The father of the deceased said he thought his son had died from a broken heart. The Coroner said he thought it would be advisable under the circumstances for Dr. Swets, the county analyst, to analyse the stomach.

In reply to the Coroner, Sergeant Raybould said that previous to being locked up the deceased was properly searched. After death he found concealed in the lining of the trousers a packet containing strychnine.

The enquiry was adjourned to enable Dr. Swets to analyse the stomach.”

[At the adjourned inquest the jury returned a verdict that deceased died from the effects of poison, but as to how it was administered there was no evidence to show.]

Tamworth Herald 17/7/1886

“On Thursday night Mr. Edwin Docker (Deputy Coroner for East Worcestershire) held an inquest at the COCK INN, Halesowen, touching the death of Edwin Jones (52), who, whilst engaged in harvesting at the ‘Good Rest’ Arm, Hunnington, near Halesowen, suddenly expired on Tuesday morning. The evidence of Dr. McLaughlan showed that death resulted from heart disease. The jury returned a verdict to this effect.”

County Advertiser 19/4/1890

“County Court. Halesowen Gas Company v *Mynett*

The plaintiffs in the case, which was heard before a jury, were the Halesowen Gas Company, and the defendant was *Arthur Mynett*, landlord of the COCK INN, Halesowen, and the plaintiff company sought to recover the sum of £11 5s for a quarter’s rent due on the 29th September, 1888. Mr. R. E. C. Kettle (instructed by Mr. Goodman) was for the plaintiffs; and Mr. W. Waldron for the defendant.

In opening the case Mr. Kettle said the defendant entered into possession of the house in 1875, and the Company became the purchasers in 1883, defendant being the tenant at a rental of £45, payable quarterly. From the time the plaintiff company became the landlords, a person named Millinchip had to collect the rent for which he gave receipts upon a printed form. Millinchip left the service of the company in November, 1888, and a person named Stanley was appointed to the office. Upon going into the books of the company it was found that there was no counterfoil entry of the quarter’s rent due at Michaelmas, 1888, and also that there was no entry in any of the books of the money having been received from the defendant. When defendant was applied to for the money he said he had paid it to Mr. Millinchip, but he had no receipt. *Mynnet*, in December, 1889, bought the property. The only question was whether the money was paid.

Evidence was called in support of plaintiff’s case.

Mr. C. E. Bloomer, chairman of the Gas Company, in cross-examination, said the company had applied to a guarantee society for the amount now claimed. He did not ask defendant to get a declaration from Millinchip that he had had the money, but Mynett showed him a document which he said he had obtained to show that he had paid the money.

Mr. Waldron contended that if the company had an agent to collect their rents they were bound by the payment to that agent, though whether receipts were given or not was immaterial, as this was only a matter of convenience. The point was whether the money was paid. There was no reliable evidence showing that the money was not paid, but on the contrary there was evidence showing that it was paid. Why did not the Company put themselves in communication with Millinchip with a view to ascertaining whether the money had been paid or not? He submitted that if the Guarantee Society had complied with the request of the Gas Company, defendant would not have been brought into court.

Defendant, on being called, swore that he paid Millinchip the rent for which he was now sued, but he had no receipt.

Mr. Kettle said he would not continue the case, but the company were compelled to bring the matter before the Court, to test whether the money had been paid or not.
A verdict for the defendant was given.”

1891 Census

Great Cornbow – COCK INN

[1] *Arthur Mynett* (39), licensed victualler, born Witley, Worcestershire;

[2] *Elizabeth Mynett* (36), wife, born Dudley:

COLLIERS ARMS

Two Gates, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Billingham [1867] – [1872]

Reuben Robins [] – **1873**;

William Evans (**1873** – [1874]

William Penn [1875] – **1878**);

Francis Travis [1875] – [1876] manager

Thomas Smith [1877] manager

Alfred William Turner (**1878** – [1881]

NOTES

WOOD COLLIERS ARMS [1868], [1873], [1874], [1877], [1878], [1890]

County Advertiser 31/8/1867

“The annual licensing meeting of the petty sessional division of Stourbridge was held yesterday.....

There were seven applications for spirit licenses *George Billingham*, Two Gates, Cradley Refused.”

County Advertiser 11/4/1868 - Advert

“To be Shot For, a Fat Pig, 18 Scores, on Easter Monday, April 13th, at Mr. *George Billingham*’s, the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Two Gates, Cradley.

Twenty-five Tickets, at 10s 6d each. The putter-up to spend £5.

Shooting to commence at Eleven o’clock in the Morning.”

County Advertiser 2/5/1868

“A Nice Son.

Yesterday, at the Police Court, before Mr. W.C. Firmstone and the Hon. C. G. Lyttleton, *George Billingham*, beerhouse keeper, Two Gates, Cradley, was summoned to show cause why he should not contribute to support his mother, who had become chargeable to the Union. James Barrett, relieving officer, proved that the woman had become chargeable to the common fund of the Union, and that she was seventy-three years of age. In cross-examination by Mr. Maltby, witness said the woman had told him that the defendant was her illegitimate son. For the defence, Mr. Maltby placed defendant in the witness box, and he swore that his mother had told him that he was born some time before she married his father. He also said that he had maintained her for fifteen years, but was unable now to do so. After a short consultation, the Bench said the case would be dismissed against defendant; at the same time they must say that his conduct was discreditable in the extreme, and he was morally if not legally responsible.”

Worcester Journal 5/9/1868

“Stourbridge annual licensing meeting was held on Friday, at the Public Office.....

The following applications for licenses were made *George Billingham*, Two Gates, Cradley.....

The Magistrates declined to grant any of the applications.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 31/8/1870

“The annual licensing meeting for Stourbridge division was held at the Public Office on Wednesday.....

There were seven new applications for old licenses.....

George Billingham, COLLIERS ARMS, Cradley.....

The magistrates refused all the applications.”

1871 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *George Billingham* (55), chain maker and publican, born Cradley;
- [2] *Susannah Billingham* (52), wife, born Lye;
- [3] *Rebecca Billingham* (16), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *George Billingham* (14), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] *Harry Billingham* (12), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] *Joseph Billingham* (11), son, scholar, born Cradley;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/8/1871

“Yesterday, the annual licensing session for Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division was held at the Public Office, Stourbridge the following applied for wine and spirit licenses and were refused.....
George Billingham, COLLIERS ARMS, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 27/1/1872

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, *George Billingham*, of the COLLIERS ARMS, Cradley, appeared in answer to a summons, which charged him with permitting drunkenness in his house on the 14th inst. From the evidence it seems that the police visited the defendant’s house on the date mentioned. They found several men drinking there, all of whom were in a state of intoxication. The defendant was fined 10s and costs.”

County Advertiser 29/6/1872

“*George Billingham*, of the COLLIERS ARMS, Two Gates, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on the 17th inst. Mr. Saunders appeared for the defendant. Police-constable Rowe said that on the day above mentioned he visited the house about five o’clock in the evening, and saw several persons drunk. Evidence was adduced to the effect that only one man, named Robinson was drunk, and he had had no beer there, and that Rowe was instructed to turn the man out. The case was dismissed.”

AND

Stourbridge Observer 19/6/1872

“*George Billingham*, landlord of the Two Gates, Cradley, was charged by Superintendent Freeman with permitting drunkenness in his house, on the 17th inst. Mr. Sanders, of Kidderminster, defended.

Police-constable Roe said that about five o’clock he visited defendant’s house. Found four men in the tap room drunk. One had his face blacked. Witness went into the back place, and saw two men drunk there. The others were not drunk. He called the attention of the landlady to the state the men were in, and she ordered them out of the house. He told her he should report the case to the Superintendent. She said, ‘For God’s sake, don’t.’ She offered witness 5s, and said if that would not do she would give him anything. Witness refused to take the money.

Cross-examined: I knew six men there. It was about five o’clock. Did not turn Robinson out; she did not ask me, she did not say he came in drunk, and that she would not fill him any ale.

George Partridge [WHY NOT INN] proved that he saw *Jeremiah Taylor* drunk. He came to his house, but he refused to fill him any ale, because he was drunk.

Police-constable Cooling also proved that he saw *Taylor* drunk, and creating a disturbance.

Mr. Sanders addressed the Bench for the defence, and contended that Roe had made a mistake as to the time. It was about three o’clock, and he should prove by four witnesses that no one was drunk.

John Knowles said he was present when the officer came in. It was between three and four o’clock. The landlady asked Roe to turn Robinson out. Roe ordered him out, and he went out.

Caleb Knowles, *Benjamin Harper*, and other witnesses were called for the defence, and the Bench remarked that the evidence was very conflicting, and should give the defendant the benefit of the doubt, and dismiss the summons; but considered that it was a very proper case to have been brought before them.”

Stourbridge Observer 21/9/1872

“*John Beasley* was charged with refusing to quit the COLLIERS ARMS INN, Cradley, on the 18th inst, when requested by the landlady. Mrs. *Billingham* said that the defendant came into her house and called for a quart of ale. Her daughter brought the ale, when the defendant used very bad language, and she took it back again. Defendant refused to leave, and continued to use bad language. *John Knowles* gave corroborative evidence, and said that he assisted to put defendant out, because the husband was away. Fined 5s and costs; in default 14 days.”

County Express 27/6/1874 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property with the Mines Thereunder, at the Two Gates, Cradley.

Mr. S. Leonard is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, on Tuesday the 30th day of June, 1874, at Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read and in one or more lots as may be declared at the time of sale:

All that valuable Freehold Public House, with Grocer’s Shop, and extensive premises adjoining, known as the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS INN, situate at the Two Gates aforesaid, containing Grocer’s Shop, Parlours, Tap Room, Kitchen, Cellars, Brewhouse with Malt Room over, stabling for five horses, Coachhouse, Loft, three large Piggeries, Wash Cistern, Pumps of Hard and Soft Water,

and large walled in Garden planted with choice Fruit Trees, the whole of which is in the occupation of — *Evans*. Also all those four well-built Dwelling Houses with the brewhouses, pumps of hard and soft water, and outbuildings adjoining the lately mentioned property, in the occupations W. D. Kirton, and others. The valuable mines of coal and fire-clay under the property, together with those under half the road adjoining are sold therewith, and adjoin mines and lands of Lord Lyttelton, James Holcroft, Esq, Messrs. Harper and Moores, and others. The whole of the property is in excellent state of repair, and in a most improving neighbourhood. For further particulars apply to Mr. A. Phillips Price, solicitor, Stourbridge, or the auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 1/8/1874

“On Wednesday, no little excitement was occasioned in Cradley and the neighbourhood by a report that a woman had cut the throat of her child, and subsequently committed suicide by cutting her own throat.

The inquest on the body of the child was opened yesterday morning, by Mr. R. Docker, coroner, at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Cradley. The following evidence was given.

Eliza Banner: I am a single woman and the daughter of the accused, Sarah Ann Liddell. I reside with my mother and grandmother. The husband of the accused deserted her about eleven years ago, and she has not since heard of him. The deceased child, Walter Liddell, was two and a half years old, and was illegitimate. My mother (the accused) came to reside with her mother about Whitsuntide last. On Wednesday morning I left the house, but was sent for at three o'clock in the afternoon. When I left home in the morning there was nobody in the house but my mother and the deceased child. My grandmother had previously left home to go to work. On returning home I found a crowd around the house. The child's throat had been cut, and it was dead, but my mother had gone away.

Phoebe Banner deposed: I am the wife of Edwin Banner, and Sarah Ann Liddell is my sister-in-law. I saw the deceased child on the 28th, the day previous to it his death. The mother had brought the child to my house, and after remaining there about three hours left. I did not then perceive anything strange in her manner. She was very kind to the child, and in her usual spirits. The accused has had two legitimate children by her husband. About half-past two o'clock on Wednesday I went to Mrs. Banner's house, but I did not find her at home. Both the doors were locked, but I went to the back and found the key in a place it is usually kept when they leave the house. I entered the house, but did not find any one in. I found the deceased child's hat and jacket on the table, and his shoes under the table. I went to the bottom of the stairs, and called out three times, but I did not get any answer. I then went upstairs, and found the body of the child on the floor, covered with blood. It was lying on the left side, and its head only was on the bed. I made an alarm, and fetched my mother-in-law, Mrs. Banner, home. I then went upstairs again, and found a case knife and a pen-knife lying near to the child. I had seen the knives before, and knew they belonged to the house. The room I found the body in was the one in which the mother and child slept. I sent for Police-constable Heath, and he saw the body, and afterwards went in search of the mother. Heath captured her, and brought her back.

The Coroner: Have you ever heard the mother say anything which led you to suppose that she had any ill-feeling toward the child? — No, sir. She was always very kind to the child.

By a Juryman: I found a piece of clothes line fastened to the railing of the stairs. It was two yards in length.

The Coroner: Was the rope broken? — Yes, sir; and the other part of it was put over the top of the railings.

What length was that part which was thrown over? I can't tell, sir. She told me when she left my house that she was going to the Bromsgrove Union on the following morning, and she should take the child with her.

A Juryman: Had she been told to leave? — I can't tell, she did not tell me anything about it.

Examination continued: The accused was engaged to be married to a man named Thomas Williams.

The Coroner: Had they been asked in church? — Yes, sir; they were asked in church last Sunday week for the last time, and he fetched her to his house on Saturday night last. She stayed there till Sunday, and remained all night. The accused returned to her mother's house the next night, but she was not married to Williams.

The Coroner: Why was that? — There was another woman who resided at Williams's house, and she ordered the accused to leave. She refused to go, but afterwards she thought she would leave. The woman, who was at Williams's house, set some boys on to stone her, and she was driven away by Williams and this woman, whose name is Sarah Ann Fletcher.

A Juryman: Did not Williams beat her himself on Sunday? — I have not heard so.

The Coroner: Did she say anything about Williams refusing to marry her on account of the child? — She did not say why Williams drove her away. I don't know whether she slept with him on Saturday night.

The Coroner: According to the statement you make I don't see that the woman took it much to heart. Is that so? — Yes, sir. She seemed to take it very much to heart.

Did she tell you she had been beaten by the woman? — Yes, sir.

The Coroner: Did you see any marks? — No, sir.

Did she say Williams had beaten her? — No, sir.

Examination resumed: The accused had been in the Union previous to going to reside at her mother's, and she formed the engagement with Williams after returning from the Union.

Mr. Hugh Richard Ker deposed: I am a surgeon practicing at Cradley Heath. I saw the body of the deceased about half-past four o'clock on Wednesday last, and it was a well nourished child. I found a wound about three inches long on the upper part of the windpipe, and below the jaws. The wound was deeper on the right side than on the left. The external branch of the carotid artery on the right was cut through. I examined the body very carefully, but I did not discover any other marks of violence. Before examining the child I examined the mother at the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, where she was in custody. She had two cuts in her throat, one of which was superficial and on the left side of the windpipe. The other wound was deeper, and went through into the cavity of the throat. I could not discover any other marks about the neck at all.

The Coroner said he should not proceed any further with the case, but would adjourn it as he understood there were other witness-

es to call. Dr. Ker would make a post mortem examination of the body, and the enquiry would be adjourned until Monday next. Yesterday the accused was brought before Colonels Fletcher and Barrows, on a charge of murdering Walter Liddell, her child. The evidence of Police-constable Heath was to the effect that from information he received he went in search of the prisoner, and apprehended her near to Lutley. She was walking slowly along the road, and her neck was bleeding. She was brought in custody to the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Cradley, and thence removed to Stourbridge. The Bench remanded the prisoner till Tuesday.” [At the Winter Assizes Sarah Ann Liddell was convicted of wilful murder and sentenced to death, a recommendation to mercy being made by the jury. The sentence was afterwards commuted to fifteen years penal servitude.]

County Advertiser 5/12/1874 - Advert

“To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Park Side, Cradley.

Mr. R. G. Rowley will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, December 16th, 1874, a quantity of Household Furniture, Brewing Furnaces, Well-seasoned Ale Casks, Mash Tubs, Coolers, Brewing Utensils, Six Pockets of Prime Hops, Lot of Store Pigs, and other Effects.

Auctioneer’s Offices, 11, Coventry Street, Stourbridge.”

County Express 3/7/1875

“At the Stourbridge Police Court yesterday, before Colonel Fletcher, Messrs. F. Evers, and H. O. Firmstone, *William Penn* was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house, the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Cradley Heath [sic]. Mr. Perry defended. Police-constable Tarrant stated that on the 24th ult, he visited the defendant’s house and found two men drunk. He called the attention of the landlady to the fact and then left. He visited the house again two hours after and found the men still there. He then called the attention of the landlord to the fact and turned the men out.

Police-constable Harrison gave corroborative evidence.

For the defence, Sarah Travis said she was there when the policemen visited the house. They did not mention anything about anyone being drunk. The men were named Taylor and Wyatt. They went out before the policemen left.

Francis Travis said he was manager for Mr. *Penn* at Cradley Heath. When the officers came to his house he asked them to point out any men who were drunk, and they were unable to do so.

David Jeavons, who was also present also stated that there was no one in the house drunk when the officers visited the house.

The two men, Wyatt and Taylor were then charged with being drunk on licensed premises on the 24th ult. The men denied that they were drunk. The whole of the cases were dismissed, but the Bench remarked that they had been very properly brought before them, as there was considerable doubt attached to them.”

County Advertiser 26/2/1876 - Advert

“A Lot of choice early plants to be Sold, at the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Two Gates, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 4/11/1876

“At the Police Court yesterday, *William Penn*, proprietor of the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Two Gates, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on the 31st ult. Mr. Perry defended. Police-constables Rowe and Hancox stated that they found three men in the house, who were very drunk. Their named were John Besly, Benjamin Besly, and Jeremiah Taylor.

The defence was that the men were not drunk; and witnesses were now called in support.

It appeared that the house was kept by a man named *Travis* for the defendant, who lived at a beerhouse at Cradley.

The Bench said that would be dealt with at the next licensing sessions. They fined defendant 10s and costs, and endorsed his license.

The three men found in the house were afterwards charged with being drunk on licensed premises, and were each fined 1s and costs.”

County Advertiser 27/1/1877

“James Wyatt, for refusing to quit, and being disorderly on the premises of the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Cradley. Fined 5s and costs.”

County Express 29/9/1877

“Adjourned Brewster Sessions.

Mr. Waldron applied on behalf of *William Penn*, for a renewal of the license of the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS INN, Cradley.

Mr. Waldron said that at the General Annual Licensing Sessions the Bench in their wise discretion thought proper to suspend his client’s license, he having been fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness, but unfortunately at the time the offence was committed, Mr. *Penn* was suffering from a broken ankle, and consequently the house was not under his direct supervision. He now had to apply for temporary permit to Francis Travis, who was the residential occupier, and at the same time that the license might be renewed.

In reply to an observation from the Bench he said the point had been raised as to whether licensed persons were compelled to reside on the premises, but it had been definitely decided that the holder of a beer license must reside, or in the words of the Act of Parliament ‘occupy’ the premises for which the license was granted. At the time the license was granted to *Penn*, he, in common with other licensed victuallers and beer sellers, thought that if he placed in the house a responsible manager, he would be complying with the Act of Parliament.

The Bench after consulting said they had decided to hear Travis’s application upon the merits.

Mr. Superintendent Freeman said he should object to the transfer of the license to Travis. Under his supervision the house had been badly conducted, and he had been fined. He would, however, not object to the license being renewed to *Penn* if he would occupy the house.

The Bench at this stage refused the permit to Travis.

Mr. Waldron then tendered Thomas Smith, who he said was a respectable man, as manager, and applied that the license might be temporarily transferred to him.

The Bench having received satisfactory evidence granted the application.

1881 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *Alfred Turner* (37), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] *Theresa Turner* (40), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Lily Turner* (11), daughter, scholar, born Quarry Bank;
- [4] *Elizabeth Taylor* (28), servant, born Cradley;
- [5] *Rachel Bennnett* (12), servant, born Oldbury:

County Advertiser 6/9/1890 - Advert

“TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, at an early date, the valuable Brewing Plant, Casks, and Effects, from the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Two Gates, the BRITISH ARMS, Colley Gate, and other Houses, removed for convenience of sale.

Full particulars next week.”

CRAFTY PINT

8, Wassell Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Andy and Sherry Davies

LICENSEES

Jakob Embrey [2023] manager

NOTES

It opened on 25th August, 2016. It was Halesowen’s first micro-pub.

It was originally a pet shop.

It was later extended into an adjoining shop, and subsequently into the shop on the other side.

Express & Star 13/9/2018

“The new Good Beer Guide from the Campaign for Real Ale features 95 new pubs and 17 fresh breweries across the West Midlands.....

New entries for the Stourbridge and Halesowen branch are the OLD BANK in Coventry Street, Stourbridge and micropub the CRAFTY PINT in Wassell Road, Halesowen with the SWAN, Long Lane, Halesowen re-entering.....”

[2023]

CROSS

Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Morgan [1861]

NOTES

It stood next door to the Methodist Chapel.

1861 Census

CROSS INN

- [1] *Henry Morgan* (43), painter, glazer and publican, born Droitwich, Worcestershire;
- [2] Elizabeth Morgan (31), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Thomas H. Morgan (2), son, born Dudley;
- [4] Jane Hughes (68), boarder, born Collwall, Herefordshire;
- [5] Renah A. Lane (21), domestic servant, born Kidderminster:

CROSS GUNS

73, (43), Birmingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Beach Snr. [1864] – 1872);
Joseph Beach Jr. (1872 – 1881);
Thomas Howe (1881 – []
Henry ‘Harry’ Field [1883] – 1903);
Charles Southwell (1903 – []
Henry George Granger [1911] – 1914):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Beach = Joseph Beech

Joseph Beach, beer retailer, Birmingham Street. [1864], [1865], [1870], [1872]

County Advertiser 30/10/1869

“On Wednesday morning, an accident of a dreadful nature occurred to a bricklayer, named James Slater, at the furnaces of Mr. D. Rose, near Old Hill. It appears that the furnaces are being raised, and that the bricklayers were at work at the top of a lift belonging to the furnaces. The deceased had only laid a few bricks, when he turned to a fellow workman, and asked, ‘You’ve got eighteen inches there?’ The words had barely left his lips, when he fell from where he was standing, head downwards. The next instant his head came in contact with an iron crane, about forty feet from where he fell, and about twenty feet from the ground. His skull was literally smashed, and death must have been instantaneous. About ten feet from where the poor fellow fell there is a kind of stage, close upon three feet wide; but he did not seem to have touched this in his descent. Dr. Morrow was quickly in attendance, but of course the poor fellow was beyond all human aid. The deceased, who is twenty-nine years of age, leaves a wife and two children. His remains were conveyed to his home, at Halesowen, shortly after the accident. The inquest was held yesterday, at the CROSS GUNS, Halesowen. After hearing the evidence, the Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Stourbridge Observer 18/6/1870

“James Hackett, of Brook Road, was charged with feloniously stealing, on the 31st ult, one tame cock fowl, the property of *Joseph Beach*, publican, Birmingham Street.

From the evidence of complainant, it appeared that he heard the defendant had got his cock fowl. He went to him and asked him for it, when defendant said he wanted some recompense, as his (defendant’s) cock, had been nearly killed by the complainant’s, and he wanted 2s 6d as recompense. Witness told him that he would rather he should kill the fowl and eat it, than give him 2s 6d. The fowl produced is worth 5s.

Defendant admitted that he had the fowl penned up, and that it belonged to the complainant.

Defendant consented to give up the fowl and pay costs, 14s 6d.”

AND

County Advertiser 18/6/1870

“James Hackett was charged with stealing a game cock, the property of *Joseph Beech*, publican of Birmingham Street. It appeared that defendant lives near complainant, and that both parties are poultry fanciers. A cock belonging to complainant walked onto defendant’s premises, and then ‘walked into’ another cock there to such an extent its life was despaired of. Defendant caught complainant’s cock, and refused to give it up till he had received compensation for the damage done to his own bird. By the advice of the Bench defendant paid the costs (14s), and delivered the cock to complainant.”

County Advertiser 2/7/1870

“*Joseph Beech*, publican, Halesowen, was charged with committing perjury in a case of fowl stealing heard in this Court a fortnight ago, in which James Hackett was the defendant. The case was adjourned for the production of certain evidence.”

County Express 8/10/1870

“An inquest was held on Monday, by R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, at Mr. *J. Beach*’s, CROSS GUNS INN, Halesowen, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Elizabeth Denniker, aged 8 years, and daughter of Mr. Joseph Denniker, of Birmingham Street. It appeared that its mother left it in the house alone on the previous Wednesday, whilst she went to fetch some medicine for another child who was ill in the house, and by some means its clothes caught fire, when it was soon enveloped in flames, and was burnt very much on different parts of her body. Mr. Bloxham was afterwards called, but very little could be done for the little sufferer. She died from the burns on the following day. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

Birmingham Street – CROSS GUNS

- [1] *Joseph Beach* (51), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Sarah Beach (51), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Joseph Beach* (19), son, gun barrel filer, born Halesowen;
- [4] Elizabeth Beach (13), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Caroline Shaw (21), general servant, born Rowley;

Stourbridge Observer 20/4/1872 - Married

“At Halesowen Church, on Tuesday (by the Ven. Archdeacon Hume), Ellen, fourth daughter of Thomas Withers Esq, to *Joseph*, second son of Mr. *Joseph Beach*, of the CROSS GUNS, all of Halesowen.”

Stourbridge Observer 6/9/1873

“George Williams and James Jones were charged with refusing to leave the CROSS GUNS, Birmingham Street, when requested, on the 18th ult. Mr. *Beach*, the landlord, said he saw the two defendants in the house, on the above date. When they came in they were rather drunk. He ordered them out and they refused to go. The Bench said complainant ought not to have admitted the defendants into the house when he saw them intoxicated. Defendants were fined 2s 6d each and costs; in default 14 days.”

County Advertiser 30/5/1874 - Advert

“CROSS GUNS INN, Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Leonard, on the Premises as above, on Monday, June 1st, 1874, a quantity of superior Household Furniture.....”

1881 Census

Birmingham Street – CROSS GUNS INN

- [1] *Joseph Beach* (29), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ellen Beach (32), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Ellen Sophia Beach (5), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Lilly Jemima Beach (3), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Jemima Beach (16), domestic servant, born Quarry Bank;

Thomas Howe = Thomas Hone

County Advertiser 17/12/1881

“The following transfers were allowed.....

CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, from *Joseph Beach* to *Thomas Hone*.....

All the transferees were asked by the Bench to have six days’ licenses only, but each one declined to accede to this request.”

Henry Field = Henry Fields

County Express 15/12/1883

“Henry Wakefield, labourer, Birmingham Street, was charged with being drunk on the premises of *Henry Field*, the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, on the 2nd inst.

Mr. *Field* said defendant came into the house the worse for drink and commenced to quarrel with a man named Westwood. Witness ordered him out, but he refused to go, and the police had to be sent for to eject him.

Defendant was fined 5s and costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment.

A charge against Joseph Westwood of assaulting Wakefield at the same time and place was withdrawn."

Worcestershire Chronicle 19/8/1885

"On Saturday afternoon a meeting of nailers' delegates was held t the CROSS GUNS INN, Halesowen, with reference to the recent attempts to obtain the operatives an advance in wages....."

County Express 3/10/1885

"George Webster, ironworker, was charged with refusing to quit the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, and also with assaulting *Henry Field*, the landlord. The defendant went into the house and created a disturbance, and upon being requested to leave he violently assaulted the landlord.

As the case was not pressed defendant was let off with a fine of 20s including costs."

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/4/1886

"The Nail Trade. A district meeting was held on Saturday, at the CROSS GUNS INN, Halesowen, at which Bromsgrove and the up-country were represented, to consider what course to take in reference to the 10 per cent reduction which the men complain that the masters have forced upon the operatives, and which they say 'makes 20 per cent off the starvation list of 1879.' After discussing the matter fully, the meeting was adjourned till Saturday, May 1, the masters in the meantime to be appealed to to see if they could come to terms to save the operatives plunging into a disastrous strike."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/12/1886

"David Adams and Mary Adams, of Tanhouse Lane, were charged with stealing a jug, valued at 4d, the property of *Henry Field*, publican, of Birmingham Street, Halesowen, on the 11th inst. It appeared that Mary Adams was seen to put a jug in her pocket. The case against David Adams was dismissed, and the other prisoner was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour."

County Express 10/9/1887

"The Wages Agitation of the Nail Trade.

On Saturday afternoon a meeting of nailers' delegates was held at the CROSS GUNS INN Halesowen, for the purpose of receiving and considering the report of the deputation appointed at the last meeting to wait upon the masters, requesting them to pay the operatives an advance of wages....."

Smethwick Telephone 12/11/1887

"On Tuesday a meeting of nailmakers' delegates held at the CROSS GUNS INN, Halesowen, agreed all operatives to return to work."

Birmingham Daily Post 24/10/1888

"*Henry Field*, landlord of the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, was charged with being drunk on his licensed premises on the 17th inst.

Police-constable Hancox said he went to the defendant's house on business about half-past six o'clock in the evening. He found defendant in the bar drunk and staggering about, and in consequence of defendant's condition the matter had to stand over until the next day.

Defendant contended that he was not drunk, but was put about respecting a contemplated voyage to America.

The Bench, considering there was a dolubt in the case, gave the defendant the benefit of it, and dismissed the summons."

1891 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Henry Field* (38), engineer and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Myra Field (40), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Elizabeth Field (16), daughter, dressmaker, born Halesowen;
- [4] Mary A. Field (14), daughter, tailor's apprentice, born Halesowen;
- [5] Rose Field (12), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [6] Sarah A. Field (10), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] George Field (9), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] Harry Field (6), son, born Halesowen;
- [9] Wallace Field (3), son, born Halesowen;
- [10] Sarah J. Field (5 months), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Express 1/8/1891

"Joseph Coley, an old man, of Church Street, Halesowen, was charged with fraudulently retaining a post letter, the property of Her Majesty's Postmaster General, on the 8th of April, and also with willfully detaining the same letter. Mr. Howlett (Birmingham) appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Postmaster General, and said that the letter which had been detained contained a money order for £4 7s 4d, and a cheque for £1 1s.

The Rev. Thomas Whitehouse, Amblecote, said on the 7th of April he forwarded a letter to Mr. John Coley, containing a money order for £4 7s 4d, and a cheque for £1 1s. The letter produced was the one witness sent. Witness obtained the money order at the Lye Post Office, and posted the letter himself. Witness, as far as he could remember, addressed the letter to 'Mr. Jon. Coley,' putting the letter 'n' above the line. Witness received a receipt for the amount on the 12th and signed 'Jos. Coley.' Witness received a communication from Mr. John Coley on the 13th inst, stating that he had not received the order, but that Joseph Coley had received the order and cashed it. Witness went to Halesowen and made enquiries. He was not able to find Joseph Coley, as he was away from home. A few days later defendant called upon him, and offered him £3 10s as part payment of what he had received. Witness refused it, and had then put the matter in the hands of the authorities.

Defendant: Do you think I should have sent you a receipt if I had not thought the money was mine?

Mr. Whitehouse: I cannot say.

Thomas Hodgetts, sub-postmaster, Halesowen, said he remembered the arrival of the letter the subject of this enquiry, on the morning of April 8th. Witness sorted the letters. The letter was addressed very indistinctly, but it appeared to be 'Mr. Josh. Coley.' There was a consultation between the office officials as to who was the proper recipient, and it was agreed to deliver it to the defendant, who resided in Church Street. There was no street mentioned on the envelope. By the same post witness received the advice note produced, with the name of 'John Coley' upon it. On the 11th of April defendant came to the Post Office and brought the money order, and requested witness to cash it. Witness asked the defendant how he became possessed of so much money, and defendant said it was his, and had been owing a long time. Witness referred to the advice note, and noticed the difference in the names, but did not make any enquiries respecting them. Defendant produced the envelope, and witness still believed that the letter was intended for him, and witness thereupon cashed the order. Witness did not see the defendant sign the receipt. Defendant also asked witness to cash a cheque, which he refused to do. On the 14th or 15th of April enquiries were made at the office about the letter, and subsequently defendant called and stated he had offered £3 10s to Mr. Whitehouse, which he had refused. On Monday defendant called and wished to pay a sovereign, which he said he had worked hard for.

By the defendant: He did not tell witness that he thought it was interest on some money his mother put in Lloyds' Bank before she died.

Charles Hackett, postman, said he delivered the letter to the defendant personally. Witness thought it was addressed 'Josh Coley,' but it was indistinct. There were several Joseph Coleys in Halesowen. Witness delivered it at Church Street. He asked defendant if he expected a letter, and defendant, on being told where it was posted at and how it was addressed, said he expected one from that place.

Cross-examined: Defendant didn't open the letter in witness's presence.

David Edward Jones, assistant superintendent at the Birmingham head Post Office, spoke to an interview with defendant. Witness asked him why he had detained the letter, and defendant said it was addressed to him. Witness told him that he must know by the contents that it was not intended for him, and defendant said he didn't know that it did not belong to him, as his mother had some money in the bank many years before. Defendant said he didn't know what he had done with the envelope, and added that he had cashed the cheque at the CROSS GUNS public-house. Witness asked defendant to accompany him to the CROSS GUNS, and defendant refused, and made a move towards the door. Witness said he could not go, as he had not done with him, and defendant replied, 'If you don't stand out of my way I'll knock you down.' Witness again told defendant he would get into serious trouble if he did not go, but again he refused, remarking they could not hang him.

Inspector Raybould having given evidence, Mr. John Coley, Halesowen, said he was a nailmaker. Witness did not receive the letter referred to, and interest from Mr. Whitehouse. Witness had since been paid the amount from the Post Office authorities. On the 13th he gave defendant a day's notice to refund the money, but it was not paid, and witness then wrote to Mr. Whitehouse, saying he had not received the money.

Henry Field, landlord of the CROSS GUNS INN, Halesowen, said the defendant handed him the cheque produced on a Sunday night in the beginning of April. Defendant didn't give any explanation as to how he came by it. Defendant said he would sooner have the money than the paper, and he cashed it for defendant.

Defendant was committed for trial at the Sessions. Bail was allowed."

[At the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions Joseph Coley was found not guilty.]

Dudley Herald 19/11/1898

"A married woman named Eliza Coe, of Plymouth, was charged before Messrs. J. G. Reay and W. Sames, on Tuesday last, with stealing a gold watch and chain, the property of Sarah Ann *Field*. Mr. Waldron defended.

Prosecutrix stated that she was the daughter of the landlord of CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street. On Sunday, November 6th, she left her watch and chain in the bedroom about 9pm. She went to bed at 12.30pm, the same night when she missed it. The next morning she asked the prisoner, who had been employed in the house, about the watch, but the prisoner said she had not seen it, and offered to go down to her home.

In reply to Mr. Waldron, witness said she had friends that evening and they went into the bedroom to change their clothes.

Henry Field, the father of the last witness, said he was ill in bed on the day in question. Prisoner came to his room with the baby and afterwards left. He heard her go into his daughter's room and afterwards downstairs.

Inspector Raybould deposed to arresting the prisoner, who denied all knowledge of the watch and chain.

The watch and chain had not yet been found. The defendant was discharged."

County Advertiser 27/5/1899

"James Jones, of Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, on the 29th ult. Inspector Pitt stated that he visited the premises at 10-48 on the night in question, when he saw defendant sitting in the kitchen. He was in a helpless state, and witness called the attention of the landlady

to him. She said she knew he was drunk, and immediately ordered him out. Defendant denied he was drunk, and called a witness named Samuel Adams, who gave evidence to this effect. The Bench fined defendant 2s 6d and costs.”

County Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing meeting of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held on Tuesday last.....

Mr. Superintendent Clare said he had given notice to Mr. *Harry Field* of the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, that he should oppose the renewal of his license as he found the premises were so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the Licensing laws, and further, that there was no necessity for the license, the district being amply provided for.....

Superintendent Clare mentioned the cases of *Harry Field* and Elizabeth Lea, each of whom had made alterations to their premises to his satisfaction. The cases were adjourned.”

County Advertiser 30/9/1899

“Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The Bench renewed the licenses of *Henry Field*, CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, and Elizabeth Lee, GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen in which case Superintendent Chare said the alterations to the premises had been carried out in a satisfactory manner.”

1901 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Henry Field* (49), widower, engineer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Rose Field (22), daughter, housekeeper, born Halesowen;
- [3] Sarah Ann Field (20), daughter, machinist, perambulator works, born Halesowen;
- [4] Harry Field (16), son, iron forgerman’s apprentice, born Halesowen;
- [5] Wallace Field (12), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] Sarah Jane Field (10), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] Sarah Ann Newell (40), visitor, widow, born Catshill, Bromsgrove:

County Advertiser 27/9/1902

“*Henry Field*, CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness upon his premises on the 14th inst; and further, with selling to a drunken person.

Mr. Walter Clulow prosecuted, and said that at 10.15pm on Sunday, the 14th inst, PC Kings was outside the defendant’s house, where a great row was going on. The officer made an effort to quell the disturbance, and was seriously assaulted by three men who were summoned in that Court the previous week for the offence. It appeared that Robert Jones, Thomas Jones, and a man named Hackett were drinking at the house for a considerable time, and Robert Jones was very drunk. He was supplied with liquors upon the premises, and the circumstances which took place outside made the case a very serious one indeed.

PC Kings, Thomas Jones, and William Edwards bore out these facts in evidence.

Inspector Hill said when he explained to the defendant the facts of the case, he replied, ‘I don’t know anything at all about it; I have been away from home, and have only just returned.’ He afterwards added that he left his son and daughter in charge. Robert Jones had pleaded guilty to being drunk the previous week in that court. Defendant had since apologised to witness for what had happened, and said that he could not deny that the man was drunk.

Defendant called William Portman and Rose *Field* as witnesses, both of whom said Jones was sober.

The Bench considered the case proved. Mr. Reay remarked that it was a great pity an offence had been committed, seeing that there had been nothing against the house since 1897. It was the defendant’s duty to leave proper persons in charge of his business whenever he decided to go away. For permitting drunkenness he would be fined 20s and 10s 6d costs, and for selling to a drunken person he would have to pay the costs 5s 6d. Solicitor’s fee was also allowed.”

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

“On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report.....

During the past year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows.....

Henry Field, CROSS GUNS INN, Halesowen, permitting drunkenness, fined 20s and costs, 5s 6d.....

He had given notice of his intention to oppose the renewal of the following licenses upon these grounds.....

Henry Field, CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, (1) that on the 23rd of September, 1902, he was fined £1 and costs for permitting drunkenness; (2) that there was no necessity for a license for the premises, the requirements of the district being otherwise amply provided for; (3) that he was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a licence.....

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the ‘black list’.....

Mr. S. Vernon appeared for *Henry Field*, of the CROSS GUNS INN, the renewal of whose license the police objected to.

Superintendent Sheriff said there was a long smoke room upon the premises which was very dark, and it was dangerous to enter it even in the day time. There were eight other full-licensed houses within a distance of 300 yards for the accommodation of 555 persons. In reply to Mr. Vernon, he said the house had been painted and renovated since his visit, and a promise had been made to do away with the smoke room. The license was granted.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of

whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population.....”

County Advertiser 21/2/1903

“*Henry Field*, landlord of the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, appeared to answer a charge of furiously driving a horse and trap on the 8th inst. Police-sergeant Pass stated that he saw defendant driving from the direction of Old Hill, at about 18 to 20 miles an hour. Police constable Emms gave corroborative evidence, and defendant was fined 5s and 6s 6d costs, or fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

Henry Granger = Henry Grainger

1911 Census

73, Birmingham Street

- [1] *Henry Granger* (50), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Mary Granger* (45), wife, married 16 years, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Henry Granger* (15), son, tube labourer, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Alice Granger* (14), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Lvynia Granger* (13), daughter, button factory, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Sydney Granger* (11), son, school, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Louie Granger* (10), daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [8] *George Granger* (6), son, school, born Halesowen:

County Express 19/8/1911

“At Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday, Samuel Tether (60), of Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises on the 5th inst. PC Berry said he saw defendant go into the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, in a drunken condition. The landlord refused to serve him and turned him out of the house. Defendant endeavoured to go in again, but witness persuaded him to go home. Defendant who admitted being drunk was fined 7s 6d and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1914

“The sessions for the Halesowen petty sessional division was held yesterday at the Police Court.....”

Superintendent A. Pass stated there were 73 licenses in existence, giving an average of one license to every 265 of the population, and one on-license to every 334 of the population. Since the Licensing Act of 1904 came into force eight licensed houses had been closed with compensation – five alehouses and three beerhouses During the year two license holders had been proceeded against, both being fined. He had served notices of objection to the renewal of both licenses. He had also served notices of objection to the renewal of the license of the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, and the FOX INN, Cornbow, on the ground of redundancy.....

The Bench deferred the renewal of the CROSS GUNS INN, Peckingham Street [sic], and the FOX INN, Great Cornbow, until the adjourned sessions.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1914

“At a meeting of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee yesterday.....

In the following cases the committee were of opinion that the licenses should be refused.....

CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen, publican’s license.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1914

“The Worcestershire Licensing Committee sat yesterday at the Shire Hall, Worcester – Mr. Willis Bund presiding – to assess the claims made for compensation in respect of nine houses, the licenses of which it had been decided to extinguish. The claims were as follows.....

CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen, £1,507.....

In the case of the CROSS GUNS, Hales Owen, the committee awarded £1,198.”

CROWN

12, Barrack Lane, (Park Road), (Park Row), (Slad Piece Lane), Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Oliver and Sons Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1935) [1993]

Richmond Hill Brewery [2023]

LICENSEES

E Westwood [] – **1870**;
John Millward (**1870** – []
Joseph Oliver [1871] – [1876]
Mrs. Eliza Oliver [1873] – **1925**);
Annie Oliver (**1925** – **1931**);
Joseph Turner (**1931** – **1936**);
Charles Mildoon (**1936** – **1939**);
Mrs. Daisy M Smith (**1939** – [1950s]
Graham Hickman [1994]
John Hill [2015] – [2023]

NOTES

ROSE AND CROWN [1871]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as the “Widows”

1871 Census

Park Row – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *Joseph Oliver* (38), blacksmith, born Cradley;
- [2] *Eliza Oliver* (29), wife, born Lye Waste;
- [3] *Maria Oliver* (16), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Mary Worton* (13), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 16/8/1873 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1872.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Eliza Oliver*, Beerhouse-keeper, now residing at Colley Gate, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Public Office, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 29th day of August next ensuing, for a Certificate to Sell by Retail, Sweet Wines, to be consumed on the Premises, at a House situate at Colley Gate, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and being within the said Division.

Given under my hand this 15th day of July, 1873.

Eliza Oliver.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1873

“The adjourned annual licensing session for the Stourbridge district was held on Tuesday at the Public Offices It will be remembered that at the annual licensing meeting held August 29th, the whole of the applications were adjourned on the ground that sufficient notice had not been given in the papers.....

Licenses to sell sweet wines were granted to.....

Elizabeth Oliver, beerhouse-keeper, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

1881 Census

20, Park Row

- [1] *Eliza Oliver* (39), widow, innkeeper, born Cradley;
- [2] *Maria Oliver* (26), no trade, born Cradley;
- [3] *Annie Oliver* (9), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Rosehannah Bradeley*, domestic servant, born Cradley:

1891 Census

Back of Park Row

- [1] *Eliza Oliver* (49), widow, licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Annie Oliver* (19), daughter, barmaid, born Cradley:

1901 Census

Park Row

[1] *Eliza Oliver* (57), widow, innkeeper, born Cradley;
[2] *Annie Oliver* (26), daughter, born Cradley:

1911 Census

Slad Piece Lane – CROWN INN

[1] *Eliza Oliver* (66), widow, innkeeper, born Cradley;
[2] *Annie Oliver* (35), daughter, assistant, born Cradley:

Mrs. *Eliza Oliver*, beer retailer, Park Road. [1912]

1939 Register

12, Barrack Lane

[1] *Daisy M. Smith*, date of birth 10/5/1894, licensed, widowed:

Daisy Smith was the widow of *Harry* – see CROWN, Bull Ring, and FAIRFIELD.

A full license was granted in 1948.

Halesowen News 26/8/1999

“Bargain hunters can go along to a car boot sale in Cradley on Bank Holiday Monday.

The event will take place at the OLD CROWN pub in Colley Gate from 11am.

Proceeds from the sale will go to the Smilers Club for the Handicapped, based in Halesowen. Each car taking part will be charged £5.”

[2005]

It was renamed WIDDERS. [2007]

Dudley Chronicle 6/9/2018

“A petition to spark a Parliamentary debate on a ground-breaking legal fight to get justice for a young knife victim has reached the 40,000 mark. The news came as more than 200 bikers took part in a fund-raising ride-out in memory of Ryan Passey from Stourbridge, who died following a stabbing at a nightclub in the town in August last year. The event raised £1,800 for his family’s fighting-fund and a raffle is expected to boost the total to more than £2,000. It was organised by *John Hill*, a close friend of Ryan’s father and licensee of the WIDDERS pub, in Barrack Lane, Halesowen, where the ride-out started from and ended. He said, ‘We’ve raised more than £30,000 over five years for different charities here at the pub but this is the most important cause so far.’ Ryan’s father Adrian Passey, who attended the ride-out with other family members, said, ‘I’ve been overwhelmed by the turn-out and the support we’ve been getting. This was an amazing day.’

In February, Kobe Murray was found not guilty of the murder and manslaughter of 24-year-old amateur footballer Ryan following a two-week trial at Birmingham Crown Court. He admitted stabbing Ryan but said it happened accidentally as he was pushing him away. He also said the knife belonged to a friend.

West Midlands Police is reviewing the case, with officers looking for new evidence. Stourbridge MP Margot James has written to the Government’s Attorney General over the case.

The victim’s family and friends are calling for a right to appeal jury verdicts. Their campaign, called Justice For Ryan, is seeking a change in the law to allow victims and their families to challenge a jury’s acquittal decision. If their petition reaches 100,000 signatures, their cause will be debated in Parliament. Family friend Jason Connon said 25,000 people had so far signed the online petition while another 15,000 names had been added to paper petitions at events including last Sunday’s ride-out.

Around £10,000 has been raised towards the fighting fund to cover legal costs. Mr. Connon said: ‘It’s going to be a long and difficult fight but we’re not going to give up.’

Also at the ride-out were Ryan’s mother Gill, her husband Phil Taylor, and Adrian’s partner Debbie.

The next fundraiser will be a memorial football match between Wolves All-Stars and a ‘Justice for Ryan’ team on September 30 at Stourbridge FC, preceded by a march highlighting the rise in knife crime.”

Halesowen News 3/4/2019

“The landlord of a Halesowen pub is appealing for help tracing a balaclava-clad robber who targeted the premises on April Fools Day. The lightning-fast raider broke in through the cellar at the WIDDERS pub in Barrack Lane and smashed open slot machines on Monday April 1 at 4.40am. But the joke was on the robber as the machines had recently been emptied.

Landlord *John Hill* is appealing for anyone who recognises the culprit to call police. He said, ‘He broke in through the cellar and came up under the bar – then tripped the alarms – got to the gambling machines and emptied them. He got a small amount of money, about £100, from the one, but luckily the other one was empty. He was in and out in 44 seconds. He knew what he was looking for – it was very calculated. I’m convinced it’s someone who knows me and the pub. The police sent scene of crime officers round, but unfortunately he was wearing gloves so didn’t leave any DNA – he was very quick and precise.’

John said the pub had to put in new reinforced locks so it can’t happen again. He said he believes the robber has ginger hair, is around five-foot-five, of small build and was wearing some kind of works jumper.”

Halesowen News 7/8/2023

“Motorbike riders braved the wet weather and turned out in force for the annual Ride for Justice in memory of Ryan Passey. The event, organised by *John Hill* of the WIDDERS pub in Cradley, raised more than ever for the continuing fight for justice for Ryan, aged 24, who was killed on a night out with friends in Stourbridge on August 6, 2017. More than 60 motorcyclists took part in this year’s ride out from the pub to the Quatt Café in Bridgnorth and back on Saturday August 5 – the day before the sixth anniversary of Ryan’s tragic death After the ride there was entertainment laid on at the WIDDERS pub – with a total of £3,081 raised for the Justice for Ryan campaign which was founded after the man accused of killing Ryan was cleared of both murder and manslaughter in what was dubbed a ‘perverse verdict’ in early 2018.....”

[2023]

CROWN

88, Lyde Green, (Light Green), (Lloyds Hill), CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Parkes
James Broughall, Essington, mining engineer [1887]
Atkinsons Ltd.
Peter Walker and Co. Ltd, Tipton
Frederick Smith Ltd. (acquired in 1920)
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1955)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd

LICENSEES

William Parkes [1854] – **1860**);
John Stringer (**1860** – [1861]
Thomas Davenport [1862] – **1864**);
Samuel Cook (**1864** – **1872**);
Mrs. Rosannah Cook (**1872** – []
Mrs. Elizabeth Cook [1872] – [1876]
John Willetts [1879] – [1881]
William Tooth [1884]
Raybould []
H Walker [] – **1885**);
John Joseph Jones (**1885** – []
John Turner [1887]
Peter Clarke [1888] – [1892]
George Glaze [1891]
William Griffiths [1894] – [1896]
William Henry Cook [1901] – **1905**);
Walter Sutton (**1905** – **1908**);
Alfred Kite (**1908**);
Adelaide Twigg (**1908** – **1913**);
Thomas Crompton (**1913** – **1914**);
Mrs. Mary Emily Buttery (**1914** – **1917**);
Joe Randolph Priest (**1917** – **1928**);
Joseph R Priest (**1928** – [1939]
Edward Hill [1955]
Alfred ‘Alf’ Swingler []

NOTES

ROSE AND CROWN [1864], [1899]

It was situated opposite to the VINE.

It was known locally as “The Blue Brick”. The front of the building was built using blue bricks.

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1859

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. On Friday the Magistrates were occupied for several hours at Stourbridge Public Office in renewing old and receiving applications for new licenses..... Applications for new licenses *William Parkes*, Light Green, Cradley, bricklayer Granted.”

County Advertiser 7/7/1860 - Advert

“Tea Party.

Mr. *William Parkes*, CROWN INN, Lights Green, Cradley, begs most respectfully to inform the Public that he intends to have his Annual Ball and Tea Party on Monday, the 9th of July, 1860.

Admission Ninepence Each.

N.B. The Old Netherton Brass Band, String Band, and Glee Party are engaged for the occasion.”

1861 Census

Light Green

[1] *John Stringer* (29), iron bundler, born Rowley;

[2] *Mary Stringer* (25), wife, born Rowley;

[3] *Samuel Stringer* (1), son, born Kingswinford;

[4] *Eliza Knight* (12), servant, born Kingswinford:

Worcester Journal 27/4/1861

“Beerhouse Offences. *Samuel Lenyard*, of Cradley, was charged by Supt. Freeman with having his house open for the sale of beer, on Sunday, the 21st inst. The case was proved by PS Booth. This being the first offence, the defendant was ordered to pay 1s and 7s costs.

John Stringer, and *William Bunn*, both of Cradley, were also fined 1s each and costs for similar offences.”

Birmingham Journal 18/5/1861 - Advert

“Re *William Parkes*, an Insolvent.

Desirable Freehold Property, Cradley, near Stourbridge.

To Be Sold By Auction, at the house of Mr. Henry Hipkiss, the LODGE FORGE, Cradley, on Monday, the 27th day of May inst, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced – all that desirable Freehold Old-licensed House, known by the sign of the CROWN INN, together with the Garden and Premises thereto belonging, situate at Light's Green, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, in the occupation of Mr. *Stringer*.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Charles W. Collis, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, both of Stourbridge.”

London Gazette 8/11/1861

“In the matter of the Petition of *William Parkes*, now of Cradley, in the township of Cradley, in the parish of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, in lodgings, a Journeyman Bricklayer, keeping the ROBIN HOOD, previously of Light Green, in Cradley, aforesaid, in the county aforesaid, keeping the CROWN INN, licensed victualler, and during part of the time in partnership with *Samuel Parkes*, and trading under the name or firm of Messrs. W. and S. Parkes, as Builders, an Insolvent Debtor.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Worcestershire, at Stourbridge, acting in the matter of this petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 26th day of November instant.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/9/1862

“At the Stourbridge Public Office yesterday.....

William Garratt was fined 1s and costs for being drunk, and refusing to quit the house of a publican named *Thomas Davenport*, at Cradley, on the 30th ult.”

Stourbridge Observer 6/5/1865

“At the Stourbridge Petty Sessions yesterday, before R. Littlewood, E. C. Swindell, W. C. Firmstone Esqs, and the Honourable C. G. Lytton, *William Crampton* was summoned by *Samuel Cook*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Light Green, for refusing to quit his house when requested, and damaging the latch of his door. Complainant said he wished to withdraw the charge, defendant agreeing to pay 12 shillings and 6 pence.”

1871 Census

Lyde Green – CROWN INN

[1] *Samuel Cook* (59), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Rosanna Cook* (49), wife, born Kingswinford;

[3] *Eli Cook* (17), son, miner, born Rowley;

[4] *Alphaeus Cook* (15), son, miner, born Rowley:

Stourbridge Observer 6/7/1872

“To be sold by auction, by Mr. Samuel Leonard, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, on Monday 22nd day of July 1872.....

Lot 1. All that valuable Freehold, Old Licensed Public House and Premises, known as the CROWN INN, situate at Light Green, Cradley, containing Tap Room, Club Room, Parlour, Brewhouse, two Bed Rooms, three Cellars, Stable with Malt Room over, with suitable Outbuildings, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Samuel Cook*.....”

Mrs. Elizabeth Cook = Mrs. Elizabeth Cooke

County Express 22/2/1879

“*John Willetts*, licensed victualler and chainmaker, Hay Green, Cradley, has filed a petition in Bankruptcy, with liabilities amounting to £350. Mr. Joseph Edge is the debtor’s solicitor.”

London Gazette 25/2/1879

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Willetts*, of Lloyd’s Green, in the parish of Cradley, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler and Chain Maker.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the office of Joseph Higgs, of 31, Bennetts-hill, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 12th day of March, 1879, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 22nd day of February, 1879.

Joseph Higgs, 31, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

County Express 22/3/1879 - Advert

“In Liquidation. Re *John Willetts*.

To be Disposed of (at once) the Licenses, Stock, Goodwill, and Fixtures of the well-known Old-Licensed Public House known as the CROWN INN, Lloyds Green, Cradley.

For particulars, apply to Mr. Mathew Smith, Queen’s Cross, Dudley; or to Mr. Thomas Plant, Steam Brewery, Netherton, Trustees to the said Debtor.”

County Advertiser 29/1/1881 - Advert

“Lyde Green, Cradley. Valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Premises and Other Property.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, on Wednesday, the 9th day of February, 1881, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.

Lot 1. All that excellent well-established Freehold Old-Licensed Public House, known as the CROWN INN, situate at Lyde Green, Cradley aforesaid, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Willetts*. The Premises comprise Tap Room, Smoke Room, Club Room, Two Bed Rooms, Extensive Cellaring, Brewhouse, Stable, Malt Room, Piggeries, Large Enclosed Yard with Gateway Entrance, and other Appurtenances.....”

1881 Census

Lyde Green – CROWN INN

[1] *John Willetts* (54), chainmaker and publican, born Cradley;

[2] Rose Willetts (59), wife, born Kingswinford:

County Express 19/1/1884 - Advert

“To Let, with immediate possession, an Old-Licensed Public-House, known as the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, Cradley, formerly occupied by Mr. *Raybould*.

For particulars, apply to Mr. John Wright, Solicitor, Cradley Heath and Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 6/8/1887 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

I, *John Turner*, now residing at the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Court House, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 26th day of August next ensuing, for a License to Sell by Retail on Sundays Intoxicating Liquors, to be consumed either on or off the Premises, at a House situate at, and being the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and being within the said Division.

The Owner of the House in respect of which the License is required is Mr. James Broughall, of Essington, near Wolverhampton, in the County of Stafford, Mining Engineer.

Given under my hand this 13th day of July, 1887.

John Turner.”

County Express 27/8/1887

“The annual licensing session for the petty sessional of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday.....

On the application of Mr. J. L. Holberton, a seven days’ license was granted to *John Turner*, CROWN INN, Lyde Green, who had

previously held a six days' license."

County Express 7/7/1888

"Wilful Child Murder at Cradley.

On Monday afternoon, Mr. E. Docker (coroner) held an adjourned inquest at the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, Cradley on the body of a male child, found in the Stour on the 24th inst.

Alice Hill (25), single, who is supposed to be the mother of the deceased, and has been arrested on suspicion of causing the death of the child, was present.

According to the evidence of witnesses called last week, two men, named Plant and Mallin, were walking at the side of the Stour on Sunday night, when a dog brought to the surface what was afterwards found to be the dead body of a child wrapped in a piece of patchwork. The two men stated that while they were walking at the side of the river the prisoner shouted to them and told them that they would be summoned for damaging the grass. The body, which was found within 150 yards of prisoner's house, was handed over to the police, and an officer who visited the house found on a bed a counterpane corresponding with the patchwork in which the body was wrapped. It was also found that a piece of the same size as that found in the river had been torn off the counterpane. It was known that the prisoner was enceinte a few weeks ago, and when questioned by some neighbours as to what she had done with her baby she said she had a miscarriage.

The Coroner now complimented Superintendent Wheeler on the energy and promptitude displayed in getting up the evidence. Police-sergeant Hardwick, of Stourbridge, stated that from information received on the 25th June he went to Lyde Green, Cradley, to the prisoner's house. Sergeant Pitt was with him, and he told the woman Alice Hill they had come to search the house. Prisoner said they 'were not going to search the house, without a warrant.' They, however, proceeded with the search and Pitt found a counterpane upstairs. It matched with the piece in which the child was wrapped. Witness said to the prisoner, 'Now, Alice, this is a serious matter for you; you know that a child has been found. I am going to take you into custody on suspicion.' She replied, 'I ain't going. It ain't mine.' Witness took her to Stourbridge, and at the police station charged the prisoner with murdering the male child, born about the 8th of June. Prisoner replied, 'I didn't do it. I did not put the child in the water. It wasn't much, I put it in the closet.' On the 26th ult witness again charged the prisoner with wilful murder by placing her infant in the river Stour, at Lyde Green, to which she replied, 'I am sure I never done it. I am sure I never done such a thing, if I went on my bended knee. I only went three months; it was only a miscarriage.' When the pieces of counterpane were being compared prisoner said that if her father had been present he would have thrown the officers out of the house. She added that the pieces of counterpane were clean, and there was nothing to prove anything. Prisoner's brother came in whilst the search was being made, and he told Sergeant Pitt that the counterpane was torn off about eighteen months before by putting his foot through.

The prisoner: I was not in the house when they came, and they didn't show me anything.

Mr. Wesley Hayes Thompson, surgeon (re-called), said he could not form any definite idea as to how long the body had been in the water, but he thought about a fortnight. It was not very much decomposed. It was quite possible that the child had died of suffocation.

Hannah Parsons, wife of John Parsons, New Street, Cradley, deposed that she had known the prisoner from childhood. She saw her on the 26th May, and noticed that she was enceinte. Witness, from her professional knowledge as a midwife, thought prisoner was within four or five weeks of her confinement. From her appearance she thought her child must have been fully matured.

Eliza Harper, married woman, Cradley, who had known the prisoner many years, and who saw her on the 19th of May, gave corroborative evidence.

Prisoner said she had only been enceinte three months, and did not expect her confinement until November.

Sylvia Shaw, wife of Alfred Shaw, Lyde Green, Cradley, stated that she lived next door to the prisoner, and she noticed her advanced condition. A week or two ago witness saw a change in prisoner's condition, and remarked that 'Alice looked very bad after it.' She remembered the body of the child being found on the 24th ult, and heard the shouting. Witness denied the prisoner's allegation that she shouted to the men to 'come out of the mowing grass,' and said it was Alice Hill herself who shouted.

Alice Hill: It was not me as shouted at all.

Witness (indignantly): Now, stop it. I don't know how you can sit there and tell such lies.

Maria Shaw, daughter to the last witness, gave corroborative evidence as to hearing the prisoner shout to the men in the mowing grass.

Alice Hill: It was not me as shouted; you tell a story sitting there.

Emma Barnsley Nock, widow, Lyde Green, said she had been in the habit of seeing the prisoner every day. She first noticed prisoner's enceinte condition about Christmas last. Witness saw her in that state on the 7th of June, but two days later when she saw her prisoner was in a very altered condition and looked very ill. Witness thought it must have been a full-grown child that had been born.

Police-sergeant Chare deposed that on the 12th ult, from something he had heard he had a closet and ashpit at the back of the prisoner's house cleaned out. There was no trace of a body nor anything like it.

Samuel Hill, puddler (re-called), brother of the prisoner, stated in reply to the Coroner, that he came into the house soon after the officers arrived to search it. Witness saw the patchwork counterpane (produced) on a chair. Sergeant Pitt asked where the piece was that had been torn off, and witness replied that it was upstairs on a box. Witness went up with the officer to find it, but it was not there. He told Pitt that he had seen the counterpane on the box within the last three or four months. He could not swear to the small piece produced (in which the body of the child had been found) as being that which had been torn off the counterpane and placed on the box in the bedroom. (The two pieces were placed together for the examination of the jury, and were found to correspond exactly.) Witness, however, persisted in his statement that he could not identify the smaller piece. The counterpane had been torn by his putting his foot through it more than twelve months ago.

This being the whole of the evidence, the Coroner, in summing up, said the jury had heard at great detail the evidence connected

with the horrible death of the unhappy child whose body was found in the river Stour. The principal question they had to decide was whether or not Alice Hill was responsible for the atrocious, wilful, and inhuman murder. The first point they had to consider was whether the woman was the mother of the unfortunate child in question. Upon that question there was no direct evidence, but there were her own admissions as to her condition which she made from time to time to different persons and, happily, as in most similar cases, there was a large amount of circumstantial evidence which would assist them in arriving at a just verdict. They must bear in mind the statements of the respective witnesses as to prisoner's condition and appearance, and the fact that she herself admitted having given birth to a child, though she said it was only an ordinary miscarriage and that the child was only one of three months. But she also said she placed the body in a closet, whereas a search made immediately afterwards failed to disclose anything of the nature indicated. On the other hand they had the evidence of the doctor that the child was fully developed, and that it was born alive. There was also the evidence as to the counterpane, and taking all things into consideration the jury must say whether they were convinced that the child found in the Stour was that of the prisoner, and that she wilfully murdered it. The Jury, after twenty minutes' consultation, returned a verdict 'That Alice Hill is the mother of the male child found in the river Stour on Sunday evening the 24th June, and that she is guilty of the wilful murder of the said child.'

The Coroner thereupon made out a warrant committing the prisoner Alice Hill for trial at Worcestershire Assizes. A large crowd collected round the house while the inquest was being held, and when prisoner was removed to Stourbridge in a cab she was received with groaning and hooting."

[Alice Hill, on the 21st November 1888, was found not guilty of wilful murder but pleaded guilty to concealment of birth; due to the time she had spent in custody, she was sentenced to four days' imprisonment.]

1891 Census

Lyde Green

- [1] *George Glaze* (30), licensed victualler and coal miner, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] *Ann Glaze* (34), wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *Edith M. Glaze* (5), daughter, scholar, born Quarry Bank;
- [4] *George W. F. Glaze* (3), son, scholar, born Quarry Bank;
- [5] *Thomas B. Glaze* (2), son, born Quarry Bank;
- [6] *Mary H. Glaze* (24), boarder, dress maker, born Quarry Bank:

County Advertiser 27/10/1894

"*William Griffiths*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, on the 14th inst. Mr. Waldron prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. James defended.

Police-constable Whittock gave evidence to seeing a man named Unwin drunk in the house, and Police-sergeant Clarke and Police-constable Allen that previously each of them had seen him drunk in the road.

Mr. James, for the defence, said he admitted Unwin was drunk, but directly he entered defendant's house defendant ordered him out, because he saw that he was drunk. Unwin refused to go, and defendant was then called away to serve another customer.

When he came back Unwin was still there, and he told him to go. Whitlock then came in, and defendant told him he had ordered the man out. Defendant did not supply Unwin, and did all he could to get him out.

Three witnesses were called in support of this statement.

Defendant was fined 40s and costs, in all £4 14s."

County Advertiser 24/8/1895

"The Stourbridge annual licensing sessions were held at the Police Court yesterday.....

Superintendent Pugh presented his annual report.....

Seven licensed victuallers and two beerhouse keepers were convicted, one withdrawn on payment of costs, and two dismissed.

Those convicted were licensed victuallers *William Griffiths*, CROWN INN, Cradley, 40s and 14s costs, for permitting drunkenness on their licensed premises.

Notice of objection has been served upon each of these persons that I object to the renewal of their licenses on the ground of the conviction, copies of which are now before the court.....

The following persons appeared in answer to notices of objections sent to them by Superintendent Pugh.....

William Griffiths, of the CROWN INN, Light Green, Cradley, who was fined 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness on the 26th October, 1894. Police-sergeant Clarke said the house had usually been well conducted, and the application was adjourned."

County Advertiser 28/9/1895

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the petty sessional division of Stourbridge were held yesterday.....

The licenses of *William Griffiths*, CROWN INN, Cradley were renewed, the Superintendent stating that the houses had been well conducted since convictions had been recorded against them."

County Advertiser 16/9/1899

"A smoking concert was held in connection with the Colley Gate White Rose FC on Saturday night last at the ROSE AND CROWN, Lyde Green, Cradley. There was a good company present when Mr. Wylde took the chair. The chairman's remarks were very encouraging to the players, and were received with enthusiasm. There was a splendid programme arranged, and it was well appreciated by the audience. It included an overture 'Zampa,' by Mr. Raybould; songs by Messrs. E. Dunn, W. Ashmore, J. Yates and Homer; also piccolo solos by Mr. H. Cox. After a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, and the accompanist, Mr. S. Raybould, a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close."

County Express 13/1/1900

“On Saturday about thirty-six customers sat down to supper at the CROWN INN, provided by the host and hostess. After the cloth was drawn Mr. J. Jenkins was voted to the chair, and songs were given by Messrs. E. Dunn, Evers, Gill, and Allchurch. Votes of thanks were given to the host, chairman, and pianist.”

County Express 27/1/1900

“John Johnson, of Bridge Street, Cradley, was charged with assaulting Samuel Timmins, debt collector, of Quarry Bank, at the CROWN INN, Cradley, on the 22nd inst. Mr. Hinds appeared for the complainant. Timmins stated he was a commission agent and debt collector, and in course of his duties was frequently called upon to assist Court bailiffs in their duties. He had occasion to go to the CROWN INN, Cradley, after 10pm, on the 22nd, and entering the smoke room, where the defendant was standing up, and defendant made a slighting remark, calling him a ‘bum.’ He consequently went and sat down the other side of the room, but defendant followed and sat down near him, and suddenly struck him on the face, giving him a black eye. Defendant denied that he struck complainant. He was sitting down when complainant came in. The room was full, and complainant hustled by him. He got up and remonstrated with him, but did not strike him. Witnesses were called on each side, and defendant, against whom there were previous convictions for assaults, was ultimately fined 10s and costs, or a month’s hard labour.”

1901 Census

Lyde Green

- [1] *William Cook* (36), clerk (iron works), born Crook, Co. Durham;
- [2] *Martha Cook* (32), wife, born Stambermill;
- [3] *Gertrude Cook* (12), daughter, born Stambermill;
- [4] *William Cook* (10), son, born Stambermill;
- [5] *Ethel Cook* (7), daughter, born Stambermill;
- [6] *Percy Cook* (3), son, born Cradley:

County Express 31/8/1901

“*William Henry Cook*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, Cradley, was charged with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person, and with permitting drunkenness, on the 17th inst.

Mr. Clulow, in opening the case, said on Saturday evening, August 17th, about 8.30pm, Police-sergeant Clarke was passing the defendant’s house, when, through the window, he saw in the tap-room two men named Henry and Samuel Crampton. Henry was sitting at a table in a very drunken condition, and Samuel was in the act of holding a cup of beer to Henry’s lips for him to drink. Both were intoxicated. No-one seemed to be in charge of the house, but on going into the kitchen the officer found Mrs. *Cook*, and asked her how it was she had those men in the house, and her reply was, ‘I have been very ill; I didn’t know they were in the house,’ and then, speaking to her little boy, about nine years of age, who had apparently been seeing to the customers, she said, ‘Willie, you should not have served them; you should have told me they were here.’ The sergeant asked where her husband had gone, and she told him he had gone out.

Police-sergeant Clarke gave evidence in support of this statement. Mrs. *Cook* had been ill, and the house was apparently in charge of the small boy aged about nine.

Daniel Profit, who appeared on subpoena, and Police-constable Webb were also called. The latter said one of the Cramptons was drunk at 5pm, and the former said he came to the house ‘in such a condition that he would not have supplied him.’

Mr. Waldron submitted that there was no evidence as to the sale of the liquor, and no carelessness on the part of the defendant, whom he called as the first witness.

Mr. *Cook* said he went out at 8pm to buy some boots for one of his children, leaving a woman named Annie Smith (who had been helping in the house during his wife’s illness) in charge.

Samuel Upperdine, chaff cutter and carter, of Netherend, said at 8pm on the Saturday he called at the CROWN, and had two glasses of beer. He left part of the second glass undrunk on the table in the tap-room. The two Cramptons passed him in the passage, and were sober.

Maria Addleton, Lyde Green, said she saw the Cramptons go into the house and come out again in about four minutes time. Both were sober.

Mark Dukes, of Cradley, colliery labourer, said the two Cramptons came in to the CROWN, and one had a hiccough. His brother told him to put his fingers in his ears, and then picked up the unfinished glass left by Upperdine, so that his brother might drink the beer to cure his hiccough. The sergeant saw them through the window, and came in.

John Brooks of Mill Street, Cradley, called for the defence, and cross-examined by Mr. Clulow, said the men were not sober and not drunk.

Re-examined by Mr. Waldron: They were sober.

Martha *Cook*, wife of defendant, Annie Smith, servant in charge of the CROWN INN at the time, and Letitia Crampton, wife of Henry Crampton, gave evidence for the defence.

Henry and Samuel Crampton were also called, and said no beer was served them in the house. Both men were sober.

The Bench dismissed the case, but said it was an exceedingly proper one to bring before them.”

County Express 21/12/1901

“At the quarterly meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, and Cradley Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Society, held on Thursday evening at the WAGON AND HORSES, Stourbridge.....

Mr. Cutler directed the meeting's attention to the new Act coming into force on January 1st, namely the Child Messenger Bill. Could they get some expression of opinion as to what was required of the publican under the Act? There seemed a diversity of opinion regarding what was meant by corking and sealing bottles. One party said sealing wax should be used and the cork driven home; the other side said a label and simple corking was sufficient. Had they not better instruct the secretary to inquire of Police-Supt. Pugh what was really required? However hardly the Act would bear upon them they were bound to conform with it – (hear, hear).

Mr. A. Walker said hitherto the society and the police had worked harmoniously together, and now they did not want any friction. The society must obey the act in the spirit, as well as the letter.

Mr. Canadine added, however objectionable it might be to publicans, and also to customers, it would have to be carried out to the satisfaction of the local authorities.

The Secretary remarked that he had already seen Superintendent Pugh on the matter, and that Mr. Pugh was at present communicating with the Chief Constable regarding it. He said the object of the Act was to prevent sipping by children. Supposing, however, a bottle was corked and sealed with a cork remaining half out, the child could easily remove the seal while it was wet and obtain his sip. Would they, then, have to drive the cork down the into the bottle level with the top of the neck? If that was done, or the cork cut away level with the top it would be impossible to obtain a drink except by using a corkscrew. Rather than this, however, he personally would have wished the Act to forbid innkeepers to supply children at all – (hear, hear).

Mr. H. Walker said that from the information received, he should advise the society to take no action at all in the matter.

Mr. Cutler, after a long discussion moved 'That the secretary be instructed by this meeting to ascertain what will satisfy the local authorities, and that every member of this society be informed of their views on the matter.'

Mr. Canadine seconded this, and it was unanimously carried.

Mr. Canadine pointed out that the Act simply required bottles to be corked and sealed, and that the cork need not be driven home hard at all. This was evident from the fact that glass and wood stoppers were perfectly permissible, and these could not possibly be driven in tightly.

The Chairman said, with regard to the sealing, the Act allowed 'any substance' to be used, so long as it would have to be broken before the liquor could be got at. Simple paper labels over the cork or glass stopper would, therefore, meet the case.

Mr. A. Walker referred to the Act as a piece of grandmotherly legislation. The public, he said, should be brought to realise how they were being dealt with. If a man could not send his child upon an errand till he was 14 years old, when could he? After 14 the boy wanted to go to work, and branch out on his own account. His opinion was all publicans should band together, and refuse to supply children at all. The parents would feel the pinch of the law, and some alteration would be made – (hear, hear).

Mr. Welch: How am I to do? I am in the habit of supplying for the parents half-pints of stout and beer.

Several members: You can't supply it, then.

Other Business.

Messrs. *William Cook*, of the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, and John Cook, of the ROYAL OAK, Lye, were voted into membership of the society.

The finances were reported to be in a very satisfactory condition."

William Henry Cook – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, Quarry Bank.

County Advertiser 9/2/1907

"*Walter Sutton*, licensee of the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 29th January. Mr. J. W. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. W. Waldron defended.

Mr. Clulow said that about 10.45am Police-constable Ashford saw Frederick Wallace being led out of the CROWN INN by Harry Gillam. The officer followed the two men, and found Wallace to be helplessly drunk. He was taken to the police station. Police-sergeant Nobes and Police-constable Ashford then went to house, and the landlady, in reply to them, said he was drunk, and that she did not supply him; and later in the day she reiterated this in the presence of the landlord to the sergeant and another officer. In order to get money to spend in the public house Wallace pawned his jacket and waistcoat.

Police-constable Ashford and Police-sergeant Nobes having given evidence in keeping with

Mr. Clulow's statement, Joseph Priest was called, and said he left Wallace at the CROWN INN, and at that time he was neither drunk nor sober. He was 'ale-and-pop.' (Laughter.)

Frank Pearson, Henry Gillam, and Frederick Wallace all gave evidence to the same effect.

Mr. Waldron, in addressing the Bench for the defendant, said he would call evidence to show that Wallace was drunk when he entered the house, and that the landlady refused to supply him with drink

Mrs. *Sutton* swore to this, and Mrs. Hingley, a charwoman, corroborated her statement.

The Bench decided to convict, and imposed a fine of £5 including cost, distress or one month.

Frederick Wallace was fined 5s and costs on the charge of being drunk in the house."

1911 Census

Lyde Green

[1] *Adelaide Twigg* (52), married, married 27 years, manageress CROWN INN, born 30, Cradley Road;

[2] John Ernest Twigg (26), son, striker, born 30, Cradley Road;

[3] Frank Archer Twigg (24), son, chainmaker, born 30, Cradley Road;

[4] Amelia Gill (62), sister, assisting in business, born Cradley Heath:

1939 Register

Lyde Green – CROWN INN

[1] *Joseph R. Priest*, date of birth 8/2/1886, fitter, millwright, heavy worker, married;

[2] *Evelyn Priest*, dob 25/3/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/3/1956

“*Edward Hill* (39), a foundry worker, of Chester Road, Cradley Heath, a former club steward and public-house licensee, was sent to prison for six months at Halesowen yesterday after pleading guilty to two charges of fraud and one of larceny. He asked for three other cases of fraud to be considered.

Mr. J. M. C. Higgs, prosecuting, said that while licensee of the CROWN INN, Lyde Green, Cradley, *Hill* used for his own purposes money collected for a death and dividend club, and for an old people’s Christmas treat, which had been entrusted to him. He added that *Hill* stole £32 13s 7d belonging to his employers, Frederick Smith Ltd.”

Alf Swingler married *Fanny Priest*.

Black Country Bugle 30/3/2002 - Letter

“The Blue Brick was a very popular haunt for Teddy Boys in the late 1950s and 60s demolished. The land was then bought by Arc Premix, a concrete company.....”

It closed on 6th July 1966.

Demolished

CROWN

Bull Ring, Cornbow, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

James Haynes

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Stokes [1822] – 1834)

William Stokes [1835] – [1856]

Miss Stokes [1860]

Miss Mary Ann Beach [1861] – [1876]

James Haynes [1876] – [1883]

Charles Cox [] – 1883);

Benjamin Connop (1883 – [1892]

William Butler [1896]

Mrs. Elizabeth Humphries [1898] – [1901]

Samuel Allen [1903]

Thomas Charles Binfield [1907] – [1910]

Edward Carpenter [1911] manager

Mrs. Mary Witcomb [1912] – [1916]

Frank Morris [1917]

George Ridgway [] – 1921);

William Henry Lashord (1921 – []

Philip Southall [1931] – 1932);

Harry Smith (1932 – 1938): manager

NOTES

CROWN HOTEL [1898], [1909], [1935]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 31/3/1834 - Died.

“On Friday, at the CROWN INN, Halesowen, in her 73rd year, Mrs. *Mary Stokes*, much respected by all her knew her.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/1/1835 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Houses, Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Henry Jacob, at the CROWN INN, Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, on Wednesday next, the 21st day of January, at the hour of four in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then and there be agreed upon at the time of sale.

Lot I. All those four Messuages or Dwelling Houses, together with Outbuildings, Nail Shops, and Gardens thereto belonging, situate in Cornbow Street, in the borough of Hales Owen aforesaid, one of which is occupied by Mr. William Grove as a Retail Beer House, and is eligibly situated for any retail trade, and the other three are in the several occupations of Thos. Etheridge, Joseph Sawyer, and John Rudge.

The Garden Ground behind these premises extends backwards 70 yards, and a great portion of it is eligible for building upon..... For further particulars and a view of the several lots, application may be made to Mr. *William Stokes*, of the CROWN INN, or to Messrs. Hayes and Son, Solicitors, all of Hales Owen aforesaid.”

1841 Census

Bullring

[1] *William Stokes* (50), cooper, born Worcestershire;

[2] *Mary Beach* (30):

William Stokes was also a cooper. [1849], [1854]

1851 Census

Bull Ring

[1] *William Stokes* (64), unmarried, cooper and victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Mary Ann Beach* (42), niece, servant, born Lichfield;

[3] *Ann Wardell* (21), servant, born Alvechurch:

County Advertiser 30/8/1856 - Advert

“Very Desirable Freehold Investments, Spring Hill, near Halesowen.

Thomas Howell is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the House of Mr. *William Stokes*, the CROWN INN, Hales Owen, on Monday, the 1st day of September, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.....”

1861 Census

Bull Ring – CROWN INN

[1] *Mary Ann Beach* (52), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Lichfield;

[2] *Mary Beach* (78), mother, widow, born Halesowen;

[3] *Alexander Stokes Amphlett* (16), nephew, pupil teacher, born Halesowen;

[4] *Phebe Cole* (26), general servant, born Yorkshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/5/1870

“The Common Nail Trade.

On Monday afternoon, a meeting of the members of the Hales Owen Nailers' Committee was held at the CROWN INN, Hales Owen. Mr. John Price, president of the Nailmakers' Amalgamated Association, occupied the chair. After a few remarks by the Chairman, the discussion of a letter, signed 'A Nailmaker', which had appeared in a local journal, respecting the price of spike nails, came on. The opinion of the committee was unanimous that the writer had been very indecree in making use of the expression he had. It was stated that the single handed spike makers generally were firm; and it was the 'fogger' who had supplied Messrs. Perry and Brooks with nails while their spike-makers were on strike, and the men had to go in with a reduction in consequence. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was unanimously resolved that a district delegates meeting should be held on Monday afternoon next, at the CROWN INN, Hales Owen, to take into consideration the present state of the nail trade.”

Stourbridge Observer 24/9/1870

“A nailmakers' meeting was held on Monday last at the CROWN INN, to take into consideration the present price given. Mr. John Price occupied the chair, and there was a good attendance. After a lengthy discussion it was unanimously carried 'That two men be appointed as a deputation to wait upon the masters to ask them to give the '64 list, on 20s in the pound per 1,000.' The deputation waited upon the masters on Tuesday, who will make known the result at the meeting to be held at the CROSS INN, Old Hill, on the 3rd October next.”

1871 Census

Bull Ring – CROWN

[1] *Mary Ann Beach* (62), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Lichfield;

[2] *Alexander S. Amphlett* (26), nephew, brewer, born Halesowen;

[3] *Eliza Etheridge* (19), general servant (domestic), born Halesowen;

[4] *Edwin Boucher* (24), visitor, draper's assistant, born Wolverley:

Birmingham Daily Post 6/3/1876 - Advert

“The CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Hales Owen.

A Capital Old-Fashioned Money-Getting Public-House is to be Disposed of. The House has been in the same family for upwards of 200 years. Several fortunes have been made, and the present Owner (Mrs. *Beach*) is desirous of retiring from business. The House and Premises are Freehold, roomy, and well adapted to the Trade; which, together with the Goodwill, Licenses, Furniture, and Effects (except Stock), are for Sale in one lot, presenting a most favourable opportunity of commencing in the Public Business.

For further particulars, and to treat, apply to S. Bloore and Son, Auctioneers, 1, Cannon Street, Birmingham.”

County Advertiser 26/8/1876 - Advert

“CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Leonard, at the above Inn, on Monday Next, August 28th, 1876, the whole of the Brewing Plant, Utensils, and Effects, comprising Two 120-gallon Casks, 100-gallon Cask, Eleven Half-hogsheads, Mash Tub, Two Gathering Tubs, Round Tubs, Sieve, 120-gallon Wrought-iron Boiler, with grate, complete; Cast-iron Ditto, Malt Crusher, Malt Mill, Cooler, Two Cross-leg Ale Tables, Two Painted Cupboards, Set of Four-post Bedsteads, and other Auricles, belonging to Mr. *James Haynes*, who has no further use for them.

Sale at Twelve o'clock at Noon.”

County Express 16/9/1876

“Halesowen Annual Licensing Sessions.

The magistrates approved alterations made to the premises of the following.

James Haynes, CROWN.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/10/1878 - Advert

“General Servant Wanted, will be required to Assist in the Bar occasionally.

Apply, CROWN, Bull Ring, Halesowen.”

County Express 12/3/1881

“Alfred Taylor, aged 39, navvy, Malvern, was charged with stealing a fowl, the property of *James Haynes*, landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN, Halesowen. The fowl was missed from the prosecutors' premises, and was traced to prisoner, who subsequently sold it for 1s 6d to a person named Beach. Prisoner was sent to prison for one month.”

1881 Census

Bull Ring – CROWN INN

[1] *James Haynes* (66), licensed victualler, born Shareshill, Staffordshire;

[2] Catherine Haynes (26), wife, born Derby;

[3] Martha Smith (19), general servant, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/4/1883 - Advert

“Valuable Newly-Built Freehold Public-House, and Three Capital Dwelling Houses, at Halesowen.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Gray & Walker, on Tuesday, the 8th day of May, 1883, at the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, at 5 o'clock in the evening precisely (by direction of the Executors of the late Mr. *James Haynes*, deceased) – that well-known Old-established Full-Licensed Inn and Liquor Vaults, called the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, late in the occupation of Mr. *Haynes*, and now for Sale in consequence of his death.

The House has a commanding frontage to a busy thoroughfare, has been recently rebuilt, and rearranged, without regard to cost, and has every convenience for carrying on an extensive business. The Premises include six Bed Chambers, large Assembly Room, two Smoke Rooms, spacious Bar and Vaults, private Office, Sitting Room, excellent domestic accommodation; Yard and roomy Ale and Spirit Cellarage.

The Purchaser will be entitled to the Goodwill and Possession, and will be required to take to the Trade Plant, Fixtures, and Stock at a valuation, which will be about £350.....”

Dudley Mercury 5/3/1887 - Advert

“Mr. Cotton's Present List of Sales Fixtures for March.

March 9. Property, the Fighting Cocks, Romsley, at the CROWN, Halesowen, at Six.”

1891 Census

Bull Ring

[1] *Benjamin Connop* (68), innkeeper, born Halesowen;

[2] Ellen Connop (61), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Kate Ball (26), general servant, born Atherstone, Warwickshire:

Benjamin Connop – see also LYTTLETON ARMS.

County Advertiser 8/1/1898

“*Elizabeth Humphries*, licensee of the CROWN INN, Halesowen, applied for an extension of one hour on Saturday, the 8th, from

eleven till twelve o'clock, on the occasion of a dinner.

Inspector Raybould said he opposed the application, because it would be Sunday morning when the house was closed.

The applicant: Well, grant me the half-hour.

Inspector Raybould: I oppose any extension at all.

The Bench declined to grant the application."

Dudley Herald 19/2/1898

"A middle-aged woman named Jane Crump, of no fixed abode, was charged with breaking plate glass windows at the CROWN HOTEL, Bull Ring, belonging to the North Worcestershire Brewery Company.

It was stated that in consequence of the prisoner being guilty of disorderly conduct in the hotel on Sunday night she was ejected, and when in the street she broke the plate-glass windows with a crutch, doing damage to the amount of £3 10s.

The magistrates ordered prisoner to pay a fine of 20s and costs, and also £3 10s damage, or in default two months' imprisonment."

County Advertiser 20/1/1900

"A hearty send-off was given on Saturday night, at the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, to Corporal J. Brettle and Private Thompson – two of the volunteers who have since left for South Africa – by their fellow workpeople and friends. A good repast was provided by the hostess, Mrs. *Humphries*. Mr. Owen Clift presided, and in the course of a short address, wished both men 'God speed' and a safe return. Mr. Hackett, being an old soldier, gave a few telling words of advice, which were much appreciated, and other speeches showed the patriotic feelings of the party. Mandolin solos by Mr. Careless, accompanied by Miss *Humphries* on the piano, was much applauded. Songs were rendered by Messrs. A. Guest, A. Chatwin, S. Davies and W. Hadley, and much enthusiasm was evinced when 'Soldiers of the Queen' was sung, Messrs. Brettle and Thompson being carried shoulder high round the room. The chairman presented both volunteers with tobacco pouches, pipes, and stationery. Corporal Brettle, on behalf of Private Thompson and himself, briefly returned thanks."

Birmingham Daily Post 8/3/1900

"On Tuesday night a smoking concert arranged in connection with the Hales Owen Conservative Club to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith took place at the CROWN INN, Hales Owen; the President (Mr. A. J. Grove) presiding over a large attendance. A number of toasts were honoured, and Councillor Baron Rose said when the British flag was hoisted over Pretoria he thought some memorial should be placed in Hales Owen. He could think of nothing better than the erection of a new Conservative Club, and he should have great pleasure when the flag was hoisted over Pretoria in subscribing £1,000 towards that object. (Applause.)"

1901 Census

Bull Ring

- [1] *Elizabeth Humphries* (50), widow, licensed victualler, born Cheltenham;
- [2] Ellen Humphries (27), daughter, barmaid, born Cheltenham;
- [3] Kate Humphries (26), daughter, waitress, confectioner, born Cheltenham;
- [4] William Humphries (25), son, printer's clerk, born Leeds;
- [5] Albert Humphries (23), son, tool maker, born Birmingham;
- [6] Thomas Humphries (18), son, maker's misc, born Birmingham;
- [7] Edith Humphries (16), daughter, assistant typist, born Langley Green;
- [8] Amy Humphries (13), daughter, at school, born Warley;
- [9] Frank Humphries (11), son, at school, born Warley:

County Express 8/6/1901

"The Eclipse Lodge, No.59, of Modern Masons, held their anniversary at their Lodge House, the CROWN HOTEL, last week. After dinner, the annual report showed a considerable increase of members. Mr. Wm. Southwell was elected chairman; Arthur Smith, vice-chairman; Ed. Harper, treasurer; and D. Jones, Amos Lowe, J. Farmer, trustees; and Charles Coley was re-elected secretary. A programme of music was afterwards gone through."

County Express 21/12/1901

"Sitting at the Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday, Messrs. J. G. Reay, and A. J. Grove were occupied some hours hearing cases under the Licensing Acts.....

The third case was one in which *Elizabeth Humphries*, landlady of the CROWN INN, Halesowen, was charged with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person, and also with permitting drunkenness on December 10th.

Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. W. H. Thompson defended.

In this instance Insp. Pitt and PC Owen visited the inn, and in the bar found two men, Edward Timmins and James Grosvenor, sitting on a form in front of the fire. Timmins had immediately behind him on a table a jug half full of beer, and he was evidently drunk. When questioned by the police, Mrs. *Humphries* said she had not supplied Timmins, she had supplied the other man (Grosvenor).

Mr. Thompson, for the defence, said the three points he had to raise were (1) the man Timmins was not drunk, (2) if he was drunk he did not show any signs of drunkenness, and therefore the landlady was not responsible, and (3) there was no evidence of sale having taken place.

Witnesses were called to substantiate these points.

Defendant was fined 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness, and in the case of selling to a drunken person was ordered to pay

costs; there was no conviction in this case.”

AND

“Edward Timmins, the man mentioned in the *Humphries* case, was also fined 10s and costs for being drunk on licensed premises.”

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

“On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report.....

He had served notices of objection to the following persons who were convicted for permitting drunkenness in 1901 and after the last Brewster Sessions.....

Samuel Allen, CROWN INN, Halesowen, fined 40s and costs.

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the ‘black list’.....

Mr. Thompson appeared for *Samuel Allen*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Halesowen, and as the house had been well conducted since the conviction the justices renewed the license.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population.....”

County Advertiser 23/2/1907

“Licensed Victuallers’ Association. On Thursday afternoon last week a well-attended meeting of members of this association was held at the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, under presidency of Mr. J. Waring. The secretary (Mr. G. Arm) announced that letters had been received from Messrs. Peter Walker and Sons, Mitchells and Butlers, Cheshires Brewery Co, the North Worcestershire Breweries Co, and Showells Brewery Co, intimating that their tenants would become members of the association. A letter was received from Mr. J. W. Wilson, MP, declining to become an honorary member of the association. Mr. W. R. Campion wrote accepting the invitation and wishing the association every success. Messrs. T. Hedges and W. Jackson were elected honorary members. An address upon trade matters was afterwards given by Mr. E. Lawrence Levy, the assistant secretary of the Midland District of the National Trade Defence Association.”

County Advertiser 24/8/1907

The annual parade and service promoted by the friendly societies in the Halesowen district took place on Sunday last in fine weather.....

A collection was made on behalf of the Birmingham Hospitals and the Halesowen Nurse Fund. Collections were also taken along the route. The dog of Mr. F. *Binfield*, of the CROWN HOTEL, carried two collecting boxes on his back and one in his mouth.”

County Express 30/5/1908

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen, Arthur Wither (49), described as a travelling showman, of no fixed abode, but a native of Halesowen, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on the 23rd inst.

PC Wanklyn stated the prisoner visited the CROWN INN whist under the influence of drink. Witness followed him in, and warned the landlord not to serve him. He was ejected from the premises, but became violent, and was locked up.

Prisoner stoutly denied that he was drunk.

Inspector Brazier informed the magistrates that the prisoner was the laziest man in town.

Mr. Reay said the prisoner had been a trouble to the community for 24 years, and had broken almost every law in the country.

Prisoner said he was as innocent as a new-born baby.

He was fined 20s and costs, or a month’s imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/6/1908

“Smethwick’s Great Gala Day the Whitsuntide gala on Wednesday last, surpassed in successful organisation any previous similar effort, and the day can be counted as a gigantic success.....

Another item worthy of mention was the collecting carriage (drawn by a pet dog, and belonging to Mr. *Tom Binfield*, CROWN HOTEL, Halesowen), which contained £1 16s 0½d.”

County Express 5/12/1908

“Fur And Feather Society. The annual meeting of the members of this society was held on Wednesday night, at the CROWN HOTEL, Bull Ring, Halesowen, Mr. D. W. Sluter presiding. The secretary (Mr. C. E. Fox) reported that the balance sheet had not been prepared, but there was a profit on last year’s working of the society. Mr. Fox tendered his resignation as secretary of the society. This was accepted, and Messrs. Chapman and Rudge were appointed as joint secretaries. It was decided to hold the annual show on January 2nd in the Drill Hall. The meeting was then adjourned until next Thursday.”

Dudley Chronicle 22/1/1910

“Charles Hodgkins, of Cross Street, Hasbury, was summoned for refusing to quit the premises of the CROWN HOTEL, Bull Ring, Halesowen, on the 8th inst.

Thomas C. Binfield, licensee, stated that defendant visited his house for the purpose of attending the Modern Masons’ Lodge. He was drunk, and as he refused to leave the premises witness had to have him ejected.

Defendant admitted the offence, and expressed his regret.

The Rev. G. F. Barr (magistrate): Is the Modern Masons' Lodge a temperance society? – Defendant: No, sir. He was fined 5s and costs.”

Thomas Charles Binfield – see also GLOBE.

1911 Census

Bull Ring – CROWN INN

- [1] *Edward Carpenter* (42), managing public house, British subject by parentage;
- [2] *Elizabeth Carpenter* (40), wife, married 17 years, assisting in the business, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Maud Mary Carpenter* (15), daughter, assisting in the business, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Emily Sarah Carpenter* (12), daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Lilley Hannah Carpenter* (9), daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Elizabeth Ethel Carpenter* (4), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Express 8/4/1911 - Advert

“Dining Table (mahogany), with eight lions' claws, for Sale; seat 20; could be made into two. *Carpenter*, CROWN INN, Halesowen.”

County Express 10/8/1912 - Advert

“Bar-General (good); references. CROWN INN, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1917

“At Hales Owen, yesterday, *Frank Morris*, CROWN INN, was summoned under the Liquor Control Order for supplying brandy for consumption off the premises during prohibited hours, and further for supplying brandy in a bottle not bearing a label showing the name and situation of the premises from which it was purchased.

Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined 40s in the first case and 10s in the second, together with 42s solicitor's fee. *John Withers*, 48, New Street, Hasbury, was fined 10s for ordering the brandy during prohibited hours.”

Winifred Lodge (No. 4689) of Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1935

“When the Halesowen Licensing Justices met yesterday.....

Police opposition to the renewal of the licence of the CROWN INN, the Bull Ring, Halesowen, failed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/3/1937

“Halesowen licensing justices at their adjourned sessions yesterday granted an application by the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Ltd. for a licence for an hotel to be erected in Fairfields Road, Hurst Green, Hill and Cakemore.

A similar application had twice previously been refused.

Yesterday's application was for the transfer of the licence of the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, to the new site, the applicant also offering to surrender the licence of the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Halesowen, and an off-license at Hurst Green. Mr. R. H. Norris, for the brewery company, said there was need for the licence by reason of the development of the district, but Mr. E. G. H. Beresford, on behalf of the proprietors of an existing hotel, situated 610 yards from the site of the proposed new premises, said that the development was not sufficient to justify another license and that the existing licensed premises were adequate for the requirements of the public.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/4/1937

“Worcester County Licensing Committee heard several applications at the annual meeting, at Worcester yesterday.....

Permission was given for the removal of the licence of the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, to premises to be erected in Fairfield Road, Hurst Green, Halesowen.”

Harry Smith was married to *Daisy*.

Harry Smith – see also FAIRFIELD.

Daisy Smith – see CROWN, Barrack Lane.

It closed on 6th September 1938.

The building was purchased by solicitor A. G. Rudge for use as his offices and renamed the Crown Chambers.

It was demolished in the 1960s.

DOG AND DUCK

High Street, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Attwood [1871]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

County Advertiser 7/7/1866

“*Richard Attwood*, of Cradley, beerhouse keeper, was summoned by the surveyors of the highway for an encroachment on the road, and for a nuisance by having erected an exposed urinal against the house. Mr. Holberton appeared for the surveyors. Defendant was ordered to remove the nuisance forthwith, and to pay all costs.”

1871 Census

High Street – DOG AND DUCK

- [1] *Richard Attwood* (53), chain maker, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Sarah Attwood (50), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] John Attwood (22), son, chain maker, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] Joseph Attwood (20), son, chain maker, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] Richard Attwood (17), son, scholar, born Cradley Heath;
- [6] Tamer Attwood (15), daughter, scholar, born Cradley Heath:

Closed

DOG AND DUCK

Peckingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Grove [1822]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 4/6/1827 - Advert

“Hales Owen, Salop.

To be Sold by Auction, by W. Round, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, on Wednesday the 20th day of June, 1827, at twelve o'clock at noon, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed at the time of sale, and subject to such conditions as shall then and there be produced: the following desirable Land, Houses, Securities, &c.....

Lot 15. A Messuage used as a Public House, and known by the sign of the DOG AND DUCK, situate in Peckingham Street, in Halesowen, aforesaid, with two small Tenements adjoining, and the Outbuildings and Appurtenances, now in the occupation of George Moseley and W. White.....”

DUKE WILLIAM

9, (7), Furlong Lane, (Colley Lane), Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Atkinsons Ltd.
William Oliver and Sons Ltd.
Benjamin Tromans

LICENSEES

Allen Beasley [1871]
Ellen Beasley [] – **1873**);
Reuben Harper (**1873** – [1888]
Mary Ann Harper [1891]
John Aston (**1897** – []
William Harry Oliver [1902] – **1909**);
William Chilton (**1909** – **1916**);
Benjamin 'Ben' Tromans* (**1916** – **1928**);
Howard Farmer (**1928**);
Simeon Robinson (**1928** – **1930**);
John Smith (**1930** – **1934**);
Benjamin 'Ben' Tromans* (**1934** – **1945**);
Albert Watkins (**1945** – **1951**);
Harold Homer (**1951** – **1959**);
Arthur Cutler (**1959** – [1966]

NOTES

1871 Census

Furlong Lane – DUKE WILLIAM

- [1] *Allen Beasley* (29), chain maker, born Cradley;
- [2] *Susannah Beasley* (22), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Emily B. Beasley* (8 months), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Martha Winwood* (17), general servant, born Rowley:

It had a beer and wine license.

County Advertiser 16/8/1873 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1872.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Reuben Harper*, now residing at Colley Gate, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, Beerhouse-keeper, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Public Office, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 29th day of August next ensuing, for a Certificate to Sell by Retail, Sweet Wines, to be consumed on the Premises, at a House situate at Colley Gate, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and being within the said Division.

Given under my hand this 16th day of July, 1873.

X The Mark of *Mary Ann Harper*. On behalf of *Reuben Harper*.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1873

“The adjourned annual licensing session for the Stourbridge district was held on Tuesday at the Public Offices It will be remembered that at the annual licensing meeting held August 29th, the whole of the applications were adjourned on the ground that sufficient notice had not been given in the papers.....

Licenses to sell sweet wines were granted to.....

Reuben Harper, beerseller, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Express 29/8/1874

“The annual licensing meeting for the division of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday.....

Reuben Harper, landlord of the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Furlong Lane, Cradley, applied through his wife, for a spirit license. Mr. Holberton opposed on behalf of Mr. Samuel Tait of the BRITISH ARMS INN, and Mr. Emmanuel Roper, of the WHITE LION INN.

The application was refused.”

1881 Census

7, Furlong Lane

[1] *Reuben Harper* (57), licensed victualler, born Cradley;

[2] *Mary Ann Harper* (46), wife, born Caledonia, Staffordshire:

Reuben Harper, beer and wine retailer, Furlong Lane. [1884], [1888]

County Advertiser 22/9/1888 - Advert

“Great Curiosity. To be seen alive at Mr. *Reuben Harper*’s, DUKE WILLIAM INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, a Pig With Five Legs.”

1891 Census

Furlong Lane – DUKE WILLIAM INN

[1] *Mary Ann Harper* (56), widow, beer seller, born Kingswinford;

[2] Stephen Willetts (16), grand-son, carpenter’s apprentice, born Cradley;

[3] *Mary Ann Willetts* (14), grand-daughter, British grandmother, born Cradley;

[4] Charles Willetts (16), grand-son, scholar, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 24/8/1895

“A largely-attended gathering of Cradley Liberals was held at the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Spring Lane, Cradley, on Saturday evening. A capital supper was put upon the tables by the host (Mr. *Harper*) and was much enjoyed by all present. The weather was very warm, and as the party was too large to be comfortably accommodated indoors, the meeting adjourned to a large green near by.....”

County Express 23/10/1897

“At the Stourbridge Petty Session, yesterday.....

Temporary authority was granted to *John Aston* for the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Colley Lane, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 23/7/1898 - Advert

“DUKE WILLIAM INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed by Messrs. Atkinson and Co. Limited, to Sell by Auction, as above, at an early date, a quantity of Brewing Plants, removed from various Inns, for convenience of Sale.

Particulars next week.”

Dudley Herald 15/10/1898

“A match at draughts between Quarry Bank and Colley Gate clubs took place at the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Cradley, on Wednesday evening. Five Quarry Bank men turned up, but only four of Colley Gate, and Charles Evans, who was to have met H. Hingley, was left without a partner. The result was: Quarry Bank, 3 games; Colley Gate 3; drawn 1.....”

County Advertiser 20/12/1902

“The annual meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley, and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Protection and Benevolent Society was held at the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Worcester Street, Stourbridge, on Thursday last.....

The following new members were received into the society *Harry Oliver*, DUKE WILLIAM INN, Furlong Lane, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 24/10/1903

“Air Gun Shooting A handsome cup will be shot for at Mr. *Harry Oliver*’s, the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Cradley, on Saturday, November 14th, at five o’clock; open to all comers. Entrance fee 1s. Five shots each; competitors can use their own guns. Entries must be sent in early, as the number is limited. The cup is now on view at the above house.”

County Advertiser 23/6/1906

“Bowling. HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend v DUKE WILLIAM, Colley Gate. At Netherend.

HORSE AND JOCKEY 10 – DUKE WILIAM 11.”

County Advertiser 3/8/1907

“Joseph Pearson, Colley Gate, Cradley, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Furlong Lane, Cradley, and failing to quit the same when requested. Fined 30s and costs.”

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies’ parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter’s Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver

Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher's Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn 'Onward Christian Soldiers,' a solo from 'Thus saeth the Lord' splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie 'Rousseau's dream' finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, 'O, clap your hands' and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, 'What shall I do to inherit eternal life?' He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d."

County Express 25/7/1908

"It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies' Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter's Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d."

County Express 24/10/1908

"On Saturday a supper was held in connection with the DUKE WILLIAM Bowling Club, when a goodly number enjoyed the excellent fare provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Harry Oliver*. After the cloth was drawn, the prizes were presented by Mr. Handel Butler as follows: 1st handicap prize, value £1 1s, Mr. G. Bridgwater; 2nd handicap, 1st prize 14s, Mr. Joseph Cox; 2nd, value 7s, Mr. Geo. Roper. A musical programme was contributed, and a vote of thanks to the host and hostess concluded a pleasant evening."

County Express 8/5/1909

"The members of the DUKE WILLIAM bowling club, Colley Gate, and also the customers of the house were entertained to a supper on Saturday by the host, Mr. *Harry Oliver*. About forty assembled, and after an excellent supper a most enjoyable evening was spent in harmony. The artists were Messrs. Milton Hart, Harry Cox, S. Cox, A. Taylor, W. Hancox, and C. Parker. Mr. Harry Cox was the accompanist."

Tipton Herald 21/8/1909

"Nearly forty of the customers of the DUKE WILLIAM, Colley Gate, were on Monday evening entertained to dinner by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Chilton*), the occasion being what is known as the house warming. After the meal Mr. Solomon Auden was elected to the chair....."

County Express 19/3/1910

"Club Supper. On Saturday a club supper was held in connection with the DUKE WILLIAM dividend club, when upwards of 30 enjoyed the excellent fare provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Chilton*). Following supper songs were rendered by Messrs. J. Cartwright, C. Parker, J. Cox, G. Evans, G. Bridgwater. On the motion of Mr. A. Griffiths, seconded by Mr. W. Hancox, thanks were accorded to the host and hostess."

County Express 2/7/1910

"Bowling. Owing to the inclement weather the match between HORSE AND JOCKEY (Netherend) and DUKE WILLIAM INN (Colley Gate) had to be postponed after a few ends had been bowled, honours being with the 'DUKE.' It is expected that the match will be re-played."

County Express 23/7/1910

"Dividend Clubs. Half-yearly Meetings DUKE WILLIAM (Colley Gate).

On Saturday, a good number of members assembled to this half-yearly supper. Subsequently Mr. James H. Bates presided, with Mr. Herbert Fowkes as vice-chairman, and an admirable musical programme was contributed by Messrs. G. Evans, J. Jasper, S. Cox, Tom Raybould, G. Bridgwater, and the Messrs. Bates. A duet by Messrs. Jasper and Fowkes was a feature of the evening. A successful time concluded with votes of thanks to the chairman and to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Chilton*) for their excellent catering."

County Express 6/8/1910

"On Monday the members of the DUKE WILLIAM Bowling Club, together with friends of the proprietor, Mr. *William Chilton*, enjoyed a delightful drive to Bromsgrove Lickey in brakes, provided by Mr. Sam Hill. A halt was made on Romsley Hills, where an excellent breakfast was served. Proceeding, the party made for the New Rose and Crown, which was reached at one o'clock,

where dinner was provided in a large room attached to the hotel. Dinner over, a pleasant time was spent in dancing, games of bowls, and a visit to the Bilberry Hills. The return journey via Bromsgrove commenced at 4.30, and a short stay was made near Belbroughton, where the party much enjoyed an al fresco meat tea. Home was reached at 8 o'clock, after which harmony was the order, the following contributing songs: Messrs. J. Cox, D. Beddard, Frank Hill, G. Bridgwater, J. Groves, Tom Raybould, F. McGill, and Host *Chilton*. Special praise is due to the host and hostess and the committee for their arrangements, which conduced so materially to a most successful day's outing."

County Express 14/1/1911

"Dividend Clubs DUKE WILLIAM, Colley Gate. On Saturday an excellent supper was served by the host (Mr. *W. Chilton*). The balance sheet submitted by the secretary (Mr. Joe Bate) showed that the dividend per member was 17s 9d. This was considered very satisfactory. At the smoking concert which followed Mr. J. Bate took the chair, with Mr. Jim Bate in the vice-chair. Songs were given by Messrs. Joe Cox, G. Cox, G. Evans, L. Newton, D. Beddard, E. Head, A. Pearson, and W. Griffiths, and duets by Messrs. Taylor and Griffiths, and Foulkes and Head. Thanks were accorded the host and hostess on the motion of Mr. C. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Hadley."

County Express 21/1/1911

"A bowling league has been formed at the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Colley Gate, to be known as the Colley Gate and District league. All clubs within a radius of four miles are entitled to join and secretaries of clubs are asked to attend a meeting to launch the league at the DUKE WILLIAM on February 1st."

County Express 1/4/1911

"On Saturday the wedding took place at the Congregational chapel, Netherton, of Mr. Charles Ernest Copestake and Miss Emily *Chilton*, the Rev. J. W. McEwan officiated. The bridesmaids were Miss. *F. Chilton* and Miss Smith. The bride was given away by her father, Mr. *William Chilton*, and Councillor J. F. Copestake acted as best man. A reception was afterwards held at the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Colley Gate, the home of the bride's father."

1911 Census

Furlong Lane

- [1] *William Chilton* (52), publican, born Tipton;
- [2] Mary Chilton (52), wife, married 31 years, born Chester;
- [3] Robert Chilton (27), son, farm inspector, born Tipton;
- [4] Florence Chilton (20), daughter, born Tipton;
- [5] Lily Chilton (17), daughter, shorthand typist, born Tipton;
- [6] William Chilton (13), son, school, born Dudley;
- [7] Mary Williams (34), niece, born Hanley, Staffordshire:

County Express 6/5/1911

"The DUKE WILLIAM Bowling Club, Cradley, held their first practice match on Saturday between teams championed by the captain (F. Hill) and vice-captain (C. Harper). Play proved interesting all through, good form being shown by a few fresh bowlers. In the result the vice captain's side proved victorious by the majority of 20. The officers of the club include the following: President, Mr. B. W. Homes; vice-president, Mr. J. Tandy; chairman, Mr. T. Raybould; treasurer, Mr. *W. Chilton*; secretary, Mr. S. Willetts; committee, Messrs. T. Raybould, G. Hollies, H. Foulkes, L. Newton, W. Head, J. Bate, Jim Bate, G. Kirton, Jim Jasper, G. Cartwright, and J. Grove. After the match an excellent supper was enjoyed, and before the cloth was drawn the health of the host (Mr. *Chilton*) was pledged from the handicap silver cup which he won last season. Subsequently Mr. Rooke gave an interesting chat, comparing present-day with old-time sport, and songs were rendered by Messrs. Bate, Jasper, Taylor, Foulkes, Newton, *Chilton*, etc."

County Express 18/11/1911

"Yesterday week a smoking concert was held at the DUKE WILLIAM, Colley Gate, under the auspices of the West Midland Bowling League, the occasion being the presentation of the championship cup kindly given by the president, Mr. Douglas Timins The Chairman acknowledged the kindness of Mr. Timins in accepting the presidency of the league and in presenting the challenge cup. Mr. Timins had now come to reside in the division, and they hoped to see more of him on their field of sport. Mr. Timins acknowledged the honour done to him by the league and its officers in inviting him to become their first president, and gave a humorous account of his own experience on the bowling green and in other matters of sport. His desire in becoming their president, and in presenting the trophy, was to encourage a healthy and manly pastime. In asking Mr. *Chilton* to accept the cup on behalf of the league he congratulated the officers on a most successful first season. He had learned with much pleasure that the prospects for the next season were very encouraging, as several additional clubs had applied for admission. Mr. *Chilton* returned thanks to Mr. Timins on behalf of the league. Mr. Robins, on stepping forward to receive the cup on behalf of the champions, the WHITE HORSE Bowling Club, Quarry Bank, was received with hearty applause, and Mr. Timins, on presenting the cup to him, congratulated him and his team on the success of their efforts. Mr. Robins suitably replied....."

William Chilton, beer retailer, 9, Furlong Lane. [1912], [1916]

* possibly the same person

Birmingham Daily Post 9/4/1917

“At a meeting of the Langley and District Bowling League held on Saturday night it was reported that two clubs, the QUEENS HEAD (Londonderry) and PLOUGH INN (West Smethwick), had retired from the League. The NEW INNS (Langley) and DUKE WILLIAM (Cradley) were elected to fill the vacancies. Mr. W. G. Holland was re-elected president and Mr. J. Haines secretary. It was decided to commence the competition on the 28th inst.”

Benjamin Tromans, beer retailer, 9, Furlong Lane. [1921]

County Express 13/8/1921

“The women customers of the DUKE WILLIAM INN had their annual outing by motor bus on Tuesday, when they went via Birmingham to Stratford-on-Avon, the lovely ride was appreciated to the full. On the banks of the Avon the dinner was enjoyed with sharpened appetites. The party next spent a long time boating, and then repaired to the Royal Restaurant for tea. After a stroll along the streets, the return journey was made via Bromsgrove. The admirable arrangements by Mrs. *B. Tromans* conducted to a thorough enjoyment of the trip.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 31/8/1922

“Declaring that they did not consider the evidence sufficiently strong to justify a conviction, the magistrates at Old Hill yesterday dismissed a summons against Hannah Williams, licensee of the BLUE BALL INN, Petford Street, for supplying intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours on 5 August.

Summonses against *Benjamin Tromans*, licensee of the DUKE WILLIAM, Colley Gate; Frederick Denning, licensee of the CROWN INN, Kingswinford; and Frederick Tromans, of Intended Street, Cradley, for consuming the drink were accordingly not proceeded with.

The police observing a light in the smoke room at 11.15pm and hearing voices and the clinking of glasses, entered the premises from the rear. They found the three men and the husband of the licensee sitting in the room, a number of glasses, which with one exception, were empty, being upon the table.

The defence was that the three men were friends of the husband, and all the drinking which took place occurred before 10 o'clock. The clinking of glasses was caused, it was said, by the barmaid who was engaged in washing them.”

Dudley Chronicle 30/4/1925

“The Money Club at the DUKE WILLIAM, Cradley, held a supper the other evening, prepared by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *B. Tromans*). A happy time was experienced, and the artistes who contributed to a first-class musical programme were Mr. Charlie Taylor, Mr. Folkes, Mr. D. Allen, and Mr. J. Allen (Old Hill), and Mr. Carman, of Birmingham, whose melodian selections were admirably given.”

1939 Register

9, Furlong Lane – DUKE WILLIAM INN

- [1] *Benjamin Tromans*, date of birth 21/10/1886, chainmaker, married;
- [2] *Elsie Tromans*, dob 30/9/1888, unpaid housewife, married;
- [3] Fred (Joseph Frederick) *Tromans*, dob 4/8/1908, plumber, single;
- [4] *Leslie Tromans*, dob 10/11/1910, making shells, single;
- [5] *Harold B. Tromans*, dob 1/8/1912, fuses for bombs, single;
- [6] *Elsie M(ae) (Edna May) (Tromans) (Westwood) Howe*, dob 30/5/1919, domestic worker, single;

Benjamin Tromans – see also GATE, and check ROBIN HOOD.

Evening Despatch 21/4/1943 - Advert

“War Charities Act, 1940.

Notice Is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to the Halesowen Borough Council for the registration under the above-mentioned Act of the DUKE WILLIAM Forces Fund, the objects of which are shortly as follows. To provide Gifts of Money to Customers and Customers' Relatives serving in HM Forces, and the administrative centre of which is situate at the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Furlong Lane, Colley Gate. Any objections to the proposed registration should be sent in writing to the above-named Council within 14 days from the date of this notice.

J. T. Morgan, Hon. Secretary.

Dated this 21st day of April, 1943.”

It had a bowling club which played in the Lye League. [1944]

A full license was granted on 13th December 1948.

[1960]

Closed

Demolished

FAIRFIELD

Fairfield Road / Hurst Green Road, Hurst Green, (Hill and Cakemore), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Harry Smith (1938 – 1939)

Albert E Prickett [] – 1940)

Charlie Chatfield [1940s]

Harold Biddle [1955]

Tony Holloway [1962] – 1965) manager

Henry Slack [1960s]

Charles Clifford ‘Cliff’ Southall [] – 1966);

Mrs. Lilian Southall (1966 – 1976);

David Morley (1976 – 2002); manager

Tony Davies (2002 – []

Sean Sanders [2010]

Mrs. Tracey O’Neill [2013]

Annette Williams [2023] manager

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/3/1937

“Halesowen licensing justices at their adjourned sessions yesterday granted an application by the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Ltd. for a licence for an hotel to be erected in Fairfields Road, Hurst Green, Hill and Cakemore.

A similar application had twice previously been refused.

Yesterday’s application was for the transfer of the licence of the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, to the new site, the applicant also offering to surrender the licence of the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Halesowen, and an off-license at Hurst Green. Mr. R. H. Norris, for the brewery company, said there was need for the licence by reason of the development of the district, but Mr. E. G. H. Beresford, on behalf of the proprietors of an existing hotel, situated 610 yards from the site of the proposed new premises, said that the development was not sufficient to justify another license and that the existing licensed premises were adequate for the requirements of the public.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/4/1937

“Worcester County Licensing Committee heard several applications at the annual meeting, at Worcester yesterday.....

Permission was given for the removal of the licence of the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, to premises to be erected in Fairfield Road, Hurst Green, Halesowen.”

It opened on 13th September 1938.

The Joseph Rushton Lodge of the RAOB was formed here.

Harry Smith died in 1939.

Harry Smith was married to Daisy.

Harry Smith – see also CROWN, Bull Ring.

Daisy Smith – see CROWN, Barrack Lane.

Birmingham Daily Post 30/1/1940 - Advert

“Gun Wanted, 12 bore hammerless, must be sound and in good condition; cheap.

Full particulars to *A. E. Prickett*, FAIRFIELD HOTEL, Hurst Green, Blackheath.”

Charlie Chatfield was married to Anne.

Tony Holloway was married to Jacqueline.

See also ODDFELLOWS, West Bromwich, NEW TALBOT, Smethwick, and ROUND OF BEEF, Cradley Heath.

It was a pop music venue in the 1960s.

Birmingham Daily Post 14/12/1966 - Deaths

“*Southall*. On December 9, *Charles Clifford*, of FAIRFIELD HOTEL, Hurst Green, Blackheath, beloved husband of *Lilian* (nee Seymour) and dear daddy of Glynn and Juanita, passed peacefully away in hospital, aged 46 years. Funeral service at Rowley Regis Crematorium tomorrow (Thursday), December 15, 1966, at 3pm. No flowers, by request, but donations to R.A.O.B. Benevolent Fund may be sent to Mr. V. Kinally, 13, Merrivale Road, Hurst Green, Blackheath.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/4/1968

“More than 500 Scouts and Guides from 15 organisations in the Halesowen area took part in a St. George’s Day parade at Blackheath yesterday.

Led by two Scout bands, the parade marched from the FAIRFIELD HOTEL to St. Paul’s Church, Blackheath, a distance of about a mile. There the vicar, the Rev. Peter Grant, conducted a service.”

David Morley was married to Penny.

It was renovated, a new bar and lounge were built, in 1983.

Sandwell Evening Mail 23/4/1988

“Halesowen licensee’s wife *Penny Morley* is the flavour of the month with her customers after landing a top prize in a pub cookery contest. Mrs. *Morley*, who runs the FAIRFIELD pub in Fairfield Road, Hurst Green, with her husband *Dave*, won £50 for finishing third in the competition run by the Meat and Livestock Commission and Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries. Penny’s recipe for pork and mushroom hotpot provided a tasty treat for the judges in the contest to promote British pork.

About 70 Wolverhampton and Dudley pubs took part in the competition, the finals of which were staged at the brewery’s training centre in Summerfield Road, Chapel Ash, Wolverhampton.

Mrs. *Morley*, who has been at the FAIRFIELD for 12 years, said she had tried out her hotpot on her customers and on-one had ever left any. ‘I think they like it,’ she said. ‘This competition was the first I had entered, so I am pretty pleased with myself. There were only six points separating the five finalists in the contest, so I think I did pretty well.’”

Sandwell Evening Mail 13/9/1988

“Regulars at a Halesowen pub put their drinking arms to good use when they helped to push a beer barrel several miles in aid of charity. The eight regulars from the FAIRFIELD pub in Hurst Green were joined by landlord, *David Morley*, on the three-mile heave to the COBHAM pub in Howley Grange Road, Halesowen. However, there was barely time for a swift pint before they had to shove the 36-gallon beer barrel, which was full of water, all the way back again.

The superfit regulars now hope to have raised several hundred pounds in aid of the Birmingham Childrens Hospital.

The event was being staged to mark the 50th anniversary of the FAIRFIELD pub.”

It was refurbished in 1992.

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/7/1992

“They’re the pubs that YOU think are the best in the Midlands – and now they’re all in the running for our prestigious Midland Town and Country Pub of the Year.....

The *Evening Mail* has teamed up for the contest with the Midland Counties Brewers’ and Licensed Retailers’ Association, to raise a toast to the very best of our region’s pubs. Now it is up to the judges, who face a huge task choosing the two winners from the enormous entry. They’ll be looking for service and standards of comfort demanded by today’s discerning pub-goer. And they will be awarding marks for another important ingredient of a successful pub – the part it plays as a hub of social life in the community.....

FAIRFIELD, Hurst Green, Halesowen.”

It was one of the last 20 finalists in the *Evening Mail* Midland Pub of the Year competition in 1992.

Sandwell Evening Mail 8/6/1994 - Advert

“Get Out & Do It!

Ballooning; 4x4 off-road driving; powerboating; helicopter flying; formula Renault motor racing; microlighting.

10 Free Adventure Weekends To Be Won.

Banks’s. Est 1875. Unspoilt by Progress. British Pubs Week 12th – 19th June 1994.

Visit any one of the following outlets between 12th – 19th June to collect your free entry form. Only those aged 18 or over may apply.....

FAIRFIELD INN, Halesowen.”

Tony Davies was born in Cardiff.

It was refurbished in 2010.

Halesowen News 10/4/2010

“The staff and patrons at a Halesowen pub are celebrating after the pub was redecorated for the first time in 18-years. Smokers could puff away in peace but didn’t have as many hours to drink in the pub the last time the FAIRFIELD INN was refurbished. But this month the Fairfield Road pub has re-opened following an extensive refurbishment.

Sean Sanders, manager of the Marston’s Inns and Taverns pub, said, ‘It’s great to have the pub open again. The place looks amazing, but the real improvement will be the dining experience.’ He added, ‘With the pub shut it seemed the perfect time to run training courses to make sure all my staff are able to offer a really high level of customer service. The pub was last updated 18 years ago, the refurbishment has brought it up to date with a clean and fresh feel to it.’”

Dudley News 10/9/2013

“A Halesowen pub is celebrating its 75th anniversary this weekend with a 1930s theme night.

The FAIRFIELD, Hurst Green, opened in 1938 but tragedy soon struck when landlord Colonel *Albert Prickett* died two weeks after serving his first pint. However, the pub went on to be a hub of the Hurst Green community and still is proving popular to this day.

Present landlady *Tracey O’Neill*, who is in her second spell in charge, has organised a 1930s theme night on Friday. She said, ‘We are dressing up the pub to look like when it opened and anyone who turns up in 1930s and 1940s clothes will get their first pint for a penny. We are also laying on an old fashioned buffet and there will be games and live entertainment with comedians and The Butcher Band who play old time songs.’ She added, ‘It will be a good old fashioned knees up with a sing-a-long as well. We are a real family pub with a great staff and regulars. Martin, one of our staff is the nephew of Penny and *Dave Morley* who were the licensees from 1976 to 2002, he is part of the place.’

The FAIRFIELD has several regulars who remember the pub in the early days who will be guests of honour on Friday. However, one regular who will not be there to mark the anniversary is Graham Barker who died on September 1.

Mrs *O’Neill* said, ‘We were all gutted when Graham died so close to the anniversary as he was a real character in the pub, an old fashioned gent who used to be called Grumpy Graham and The Captain’.

The FAIRFIELD was renowned in the 1960s as a music venue which attracted bands and music fans across the Midlands. Sports teams have always been an important part of the pub throughout the years with successful crib, dominos, darts and pool teams playing at the pub.’”

Halesowen News 28/1/2018

“Police have revealed an image of a drug addict who raided the flat above the FAIRFIELD pub in Halesowen. Scott Tandy carried out the crime the day after he was released from a prison sentence – leading him to be put back behind bars for six months. The 38-year-old stole the keys for a Nissan from above the pub, but he only drove the vehicle to the other side of Fairfield Road before falling asleep across the steering wheel. Tandy, who was high on heroin and diazepam, was found by the owner of the vehicle once she realised it had gone missing and after taking the ignition keys she quickly notified police.

‘Your drug taking has not only ruined your own life but that of your mother who has been pushed to the limit,’ recorder Abigail Nixon told Tandy at Wolverhampton Crown Court.

She stressed there could have been major problems for pedestrians and other road users if Tandy had made the decision to carry on further in the Nissan Juke. David Jaffa, defending, told the court that Tandy’s mother in the past had paid for him to go on a course to try and resolve his drug addiction. And he said she was still prepared to give him her full support to put his life back on the rails to ‘give him the chance of survival’.

Tandy, now living in Kingswood Road, Nuneaton, admitted burgling the FAIRFIELD pub and also failing to provide police officers with a specimen for analysis. The recorder, who further disqualified Tandy from driving for 18 months, ruled there was no alternative but to impose an immediate jail term because of his long list of previous convictions and the fact he had broken the law again the day after being released from custody.’”

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....’”

Halesowen News 1/8/2020

“A new Eat Out to Help Out postcode checker has been launched by the government that allows you to find out which business in Halesowen and the surrounding areas are taking part in the scheme.

Eat Out to Help Out officially begins on Monday, August 3. Customers will be able to get a 50 per cent discount on food or non-alcoholic drinks (up to a £10 discount per diner) at participating establishments. The scheme will run every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until Monday, August 31. Establishments will claim a reimbursement from the government for the discount

they've given. Participating establishments may include restaurants, cafés, bars or pubs, work and school canteens and food halls. Here are the establishments so far registered to take part in the scheme within five miles of Halesowen town centre.....
FAIRFIELD INN, Fairfield Road, Hurst Green."

Express & Star 30/12/2021

"The FAIRFIELD INN on Fairfield Road in Hurst Green, was rated 5 on November 23, the Food Standards Agency's website shows. The pub's website states it is 'a real family-friendly local pub offering plenty of entertainment and great-value food and drink.'

A hygiene rating of 0 means urgent improvement is required; 1 means 'major improvement is necessary.' A 2 star rating means 'some improvement is necessary' while 3 star means 'hygiene standards are generally satisfactory' and 4 star means 'hygiene standards are good.' A 5 star rating means hygiene standards are very good."

[2021]

FIGHTING COCKS

HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edmund Smith [1870] – [1872]

FISH

46, (16), High Street, (Bridge Street), CRADLEY

OWNERS

James Attwood
Thomas Beach Homer
George Gadd, Liverpool [1884]
Birmingham Brewery Co. [1899]
Burton Brewery Co. Ltd.
Thomas North, SALTBROOK INN, Lye
Flower and Sons Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Elizabeth Harrison [1829] – [1846]
Benjamin Harrison [1849] – [1850]
Elizabeth Harrison [] – **1851**);
Joseph Daw (**1851** – [1852]
Joseph Jones [] – **1854**);
Thomas Fox (**1854** – **1865**);
Benjamin Woodhall [1864]
William Hathaway (**1865** – **1869**);
James Attwood (**1869** – [1880]
Samuel Jones [] – **1881**);
Benjamin Woodhall (**1881** – **1884**)
Thomas Paddock [] – **1885**);
Charlotte Harris (**1885** – []
Alfred Peter Hadley [1888] – [1892]
Joseph Brettell [1896] – [1899]

Edward Morris [1900]
Hezekiah Walker [1901] – 1905);
Arthur Auden (1905 – 1910);
Thomas Auden (1910 – 1911);
Lawson Auden (1911 – 1912);
Thomas Crampton Jnr. (1912 – 1913);
William Partridge (1913 – 1920);
Thomas ‘Tommy’ North (1920 – 1926);
William Hall (1926 – 1935);
Victor Thewlis (1935 – []
Bill Leaver [1937]

NOTES

Bridge Street [1829], [1850], [1873]
High Street [1864], [1921]

1841 Census

Cradley

- [1] *Elizabeth Harrison* (50), widow, publican, born Worcestershire;
- [2] *Benjamin Harrison* (20), maltster, born Worcestershire;
- [3] *Caroline Harrison* (15), born Worcestershire;
- [4] *Ann Harrison* (15), born Worcestershire;
- [5] *Charles Southwark* (30), servant, labourer, born Worcestershire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/5/1842

“Insolvent Debtors.

Elizabeth Harrison, late of the township of Cradley, in the parish of Halesowen, Worcestershire, Victualler, previously of the same place, Brick Maker and Victualler.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/2/1847 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Lands, Mines, Warehouses, Anvil Shops, and Twenty-Five Tenements, with Shops, at Cradley, near Stourbridge and Halesowen, Worcestershire.

Mr. Davies Begs to Inform the Public that he has received instructions from the Trustees of the late Mr. Richard Edwards, of Cradley aforesaid, To Sell By Auction, at the FISH INN, Cradley, at 5 o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions to be then produced, and in the following or other such Lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.....”

1851 Census

Cradley – East side of village

- [1] *Elizabeth Harrison* (67), widow, licensed victualler, born Lutley, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Benjamin Harrison* (34), son, unmarried, agent at a colliery, born Cradley;
- [3] *Caroline Harrison* (27), daughter, unmarried, domestic duties, born Cradley;
- [4] *Robert Harrison* (3), grand-son, born Cradley:

Joseph Daw = Joseph Dare

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/6/1851

“A small pig was killed and stolen from a sty at Cradley, on the night of the 14th inst, the property of *Joseph Daw*, landlord of the FISH INN.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 1/3/1854 - Advert

“To Be Let, that old-established and well-frequented full Licensed House, the FISH INN, situate in the Town of Cradley, in the Parish of Halesowen, together with the Malthouse and Premises belonging thereto.

Apply to Mr. B. Wooldridge, Land and Mines Agent, Stourbridge.”

County Advertiser 14/11/1857

“The following persons were charged, through information laid by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, Mr. W. Freeman, Superintendent, of the police, Stourbridge with having in their possession deficient weights, scales, and measures.....

Thomas Fox, beerhouse-keeper, Cradley, 1 quart, 1 pint, 1 half-pint (all pewter), fined 1s with costs.”

Birmingham Journal 3/9/1859

“A general meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley, and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Protection and Benevolent Society, was held on Thursday evening at the FISH HOTEL, Cradley. Mr. H. A. Canadine (president) occupied the chair.....”

1861 Census

Cradley – East side of village – FISH INN

- [1] *Thomas Fox* (35), maltster and brewer and publican, born Dudley;
- [2] *Caroline Fox* (36), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *Charles John Fox* (6), son, born Cradley;
- [4] *Caroline Diana Jane Fox* (6 months), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] *Joseph Attwood* (19), servant, malt maker, born Kingswinford;
- [6] *Edward Willcox* (26), servant, carter, born Kinfare, Staffordshire;
- [7] *Mary Billingham* (17), house servant, born Kingswinford:

Thomas Fox was also a maltster. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Journal 25/6/1864 - Advert

“Halesowen and Cradley, Worcestershire.

Valuable and Desirable Freehold and Copyhold Property, with the Mines and Mineral under the same.

By Messrs. Oates and Perrens, on Monday Next, the 27th June, at the house of Mr. Samuel Leonard, the sign of the MAYPOLE, Cradley, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as shall be fixed by the Vendor, and subject to conditions to be then produced.....

Lot 6. Consists of all that Old-established Old-licensed Copyhold Public House, the FISH, fronting the main street, in the town of Cradley, with Five-Quarter Malthouse immediately adjoining, with large Garden, Stable, &c, now in the occupation of Mr.

Thomas Fox.....”

Stourbridge Observer 2/12/1865

“On Thursday week an inquest was held at the FISH INN, before Ralph Docker, Esq, Coroner, touching the death of a child named Ellen Priest, aged four months, daughter of Mr. Solomon Priest, who died on the morning of the 19th ult. The mother of the deceased deposed that on the night of the 18th ult she retired to rest with the deceased child. On the following morning she awoke at about six o'clock and gave the child some milk. She fell asleep again and did not wake till about half past seven o'clock, when she found her child in convulsions. The doctor was immediately sent for, but before he had time to arrive the child was dead. Deceased had had a cough for about a week. Mr. T. Moore, surgeon, deposed that he examined the body, but could not find any marks that would cause death. The jury returned a verdict that deceased died from a Visitation of God.”

1871 Census

High Street – FISH INN

- [1] *James Attwood* (25), butcher and innkeeper, born Cradley;
- [2] *Eliza Attwood* (24), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Eliza Bridgwater* (17), general servant, born Cradley:

James Attwood was also a butcher. [1873]

County Advertiser 15/6/1872 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong, active Youth, to live in the house, who will make himself generally useful.

Apply to *James Attwood*, FISH INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 2/1/1875 - Advert

“Wanted a General Servant Girl, with good character.

Apply to Mrs. *Attwood*, FISH INN, Cradley, near Brierley Hill.”

Worcester Journal 16/2/1878

“Cradley Conservative Association. A meeting was held on Tuesday evening ay Mr. *James Attwood*'s, FISH INN, High Street. There was a good number present.....”

County Express 21/9/1878 - Advert

“Preliminary Announcement.

Mr. S. Leonard is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, on the 15th day of October, 1878, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, Valuable Freehold Properties at Cradley, Cradley Heath, and Quarry Bank, subject to conditions.

The Old-Licensed Public-House, the FISH INN, Malthouse, Two Shops, House and Land adjoining, situate in High Street, Cradley; Nine Dwelling Houses at Cradley Forge; House, with Chain Shops, near the Railway Station, Cradley Heath; and Two Houses and Premises at Hammer Bank, Quarry Bank.

Particulars of the above will appear next week, and for further information apply to Messrs. Bernard and King, Solicitors, Stourbridge; Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors, Brierley Hill; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Express 5/10/1878 - Advert

“Valuable and Improving Freehold Properties at Cradley, Cradley Heath, Quarry Bank and Wall Heath.

Mr. S. Leonard is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, on the 15th day of October, 1878, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, Valuable Freehold Properties at Cradley, Cradley Heath, and Quarry Bank, subject to conditions, in the following or such other Lots as may be determined at the time of Sale, the undermentioned properties.

Lot 1. All that Well-established Freehold Old-Licensed Public-House, known as the FISH INN, and Premises, situate at High Street, Cradley, and occupied by Mr. *James Attwood*.

The Premises consist of Bar, Parlour, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Good Cellaring, Brewhouse, Stable, Malthouse, Piggeries, Large Yard, Garden, and other Appurtenances; also all the Valuable Freehold Retail Grocer's Shop adjoining, with Yard, Stable, and other Outbuildings, in the occupation of David Horton.

Lot 2. All that Freehold Provision Shop, adjoining Lot 1, with the Outbuildings, occupied by Mr. Henry Hughes; also that Capital Freehold Dwelling House and Premises adjoining, occupied by Charles Woodall.

These Properties, which have an additional entrance from Butchers Lane, are situated in the best part of High Street, Cradley, for business purposes, and from the commanding position and capabilities, offer to capitalists a very safe and desirable investment....."

County Advertiser 1/3/1879 - Advert

"Wanted, a respectable Servant Girl; one used to the Public Business referred.
Apply to Mrs. *Attwood*, FISH INN, Cradley."

County Express 24/5/1879

"Wm. Kirton, chainmaker, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and with refusing to quit the FISH INN, Cradley, on the 5th inst. The landlord proved the case. Defendant pleaded guilty. He was fined 5s and costs or fourteen days."

County Advertiser 20/3/1880 - Advert

"FISH INN, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, on the above premises, on Monday Next, March 22nd, 1880, the whole of the Brewing Plant, Public-House Fittings, Fixtures, and Effects, consisting of Vats and Piping, 12-bushel Mash Tub, 160-gallon Boiler with Brickwork, &c, 8-gallon ditto, Cooler, Gathering Tubs, 500, 300, and 200-gallon Casks, 12 Hogshead and Half-hogshead Casks, in excellent condition, 12 ditto, Cup Shelves, lot of Cups, Jugs and Glasses, Counter with pewter top, Ale and Spirit Measures, Four-pull Beer-Machine and Piping, excellent Cottage Pianoforte in rosewood case, Seating, Screens, and Partition, Deal Table, Cross legged Ale Tables, Gas Fittings, Two-knife Chaff Engine, lot of old iron, and other articles belonging to Mr. *James Attwood*, who is leaving the premises.

Sale at Eleven o'clock in the Morning."

County Express 5/2/1881

"Samuel Jasper, Cradley, sinker, and William Jasper, Cradley, striker, were each fined 10s including costs for being disorderly at the FISH INN, Cradley."

County Express 12/2/1881 - Advert

"Cradley Heath. Freehold Properties in Corngreaves Road and King Street.

Mr. T. Pateshall will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Jones*, FISH HOTEL, Cradley, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of February, 1881....."

1881 Census

16, High Street

- [1] *Samuel Jones* (37), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Fanny Jones* (37), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Clara Jones* (15), daughter, scholar, born Stourbridge;
- [4] *Florilla Jones* (13), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] *Frances Jones* (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] *William S. E. Jones* (10), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] *Harry Jones* (8), son, scholar, born Cradley:

County Express 14/5/1881 - Advert

"FISH HOTEL, Cradley.

To be Let on Valuation, with immediate possession, this well-known Old-established and Full-licensed Inn. In consequence of the serious illness of the landlady no Goodwill will be taken in order to effect a speedy sale. The Vaults are most handsomely fitted with everything necessary to carry on a most lucrative trade. Lease 14 years. Low rented.

To treat for this genuine concern, apply to Mr. Herbert Humphries, Auctioneer and Hotel Valuer, Brierly Hill."

County Express 21/5/1881 - Deaths

"On the 14th inst, aged 36 years, *Fanny*, the beloved wife of *S. Jones*, FISH HOTEL, Cradley; deeply regretted by a large circle of friends."

County Express 11/6/1881 - Advert

“Important Clearing Out Sale, FISH HOTEL, Cradley.

To Innkeepers, Parties Furnishing, Brokers, Music Hall Proprietors, and Others.

Mr. Herbert Humphries has received instructions from Mr. *S. Jones* (who is compelled to give up the house in consequence of the death of his wife) to Sell by Auction, on Monday, June 20th, at Eleven o’clock prompt.

The Valuable Lease, Licenses and Possession, together with the whole of the Fixtures, Furniture and Effects, consisting of most elaborate and expensive Liquor Vault Fittings, Copper Muller, Spirit Fountains, Magnificent Six-pull Beer Engine, Drainers, Mashups, White and Gold China, Spirit Barrels, Cut Decanters, Cups and Jugs, Cut and other Glass, Drinking Tables, Brass Guard, Engraved Glass Panelled Doors ‘FISH HOTEL’, Smoke Chairs, Mahogany Tables, Stage and Scenery, Two Sweet-toned Pianofortes, full compass, in Walnut and Rosewood Cases; Quantity of Seating, Gas Fittings, about Twenty Boxes of Foreign and English Cigars, Three Pockets of Prime Worcester and Sussex Hops, the appointments of Three Bed Chambers, Iron and Copper Furnaces, Trap, Ale Casks, and other effects.

To parties furnishing, and Innkeepers contemplating alteration, the above offers a rare opportunity, as the whole of the Fixtures and Public-house effects have been purchased within the last three years, regardless of expense, and are of the most modern style. The Valuable Lease of 14 years, with possession and Licenses, will be offered in one Lot at Two o’clock, and the purchaser will have the option of taking to the Fixtures at valuation. If no purchaser the whole will be cleared out as per catalogue without reserve.

Catalogues may be obtained from the FISH HOTEL, Cradley; CASTLE HOTEL, Dudley; Acorn Hotel, Birmingham; Lion Hotel, Kidderminster; and of the Auctioneer.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock prompt.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Standhills, Brierley Hill.”

Evening Express 27/8/1881

“A petition in liquidation was on Friday filed in the Dudley County Court on behalf of *Samuel Jones*, formerly of the FISH HOTEL, Cradley, Worcestershire, licensed victualler, but now a commission agent, in lodgings at King Street. The liabilities are estimated at £450; assets unknown. Mr. W. O. C. Addison is the debtor’s solicitor.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1881

“Liquidations by Arrangement.

Samuel Jones, formerly of the FISH HOTEL, Cradley, Worcestershire, licensed victualler, prior thereto of the REINDEER INN, King Street, Cradley Heath, in Rowley Regis, licensed victualler and furniture broker, now of King Street, Cradley Heath aforesaid, commission agent.”

Benjamin Woodhall = Benjamin Woodall

County Express 24/12/1881 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property at Cradley, with Mines and Minerals Thereunder.

Mr. Thomas Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Woodall*, the FISH HOTEL, Cradley, on Tuesday the 27th day of December, 1881, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.....”

County Advertiser 24/2/1883 - Advert

“Notice. If the Model Exhibition left at the house of Mr. *Ben. Woodall*, FISH HOTEL, Cradley, be not fetched away and all expenses paid within 14 days, the same will be Sold to defray expenses.”

County Express 7/7/1883

“William Golding, labourer, Cradley, was charged with being drunk at the FISH INN, Cradley, on the 30th ult. A fine of 5s and costs was imposed. Police-constable Chare proved the case.”

County Express 14/7/1883

“*Benjamin Woodhall*, landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 30th ult.

Police-constable Chare visited the premises at twenty minutes to eleven on the above date, and found a man named William Golding drunk on the premises. He called the landlord’s attention to the man, but the landlord allowed him to remain until eleven o’clock.

Mr. Collis, who defended, stated that the landlord did not notice the man was drunk.

Several witnesses stated that the man did not appear to be drunk.

The Bench said defendant at any rate admitted the sale of the beer. On account of the previous good character of the house the license would not be endorsed, and a fine of 10s and costs only would be imposed.”

County Advertiser 14/6/1884 - Advert

“To be Let, a Full-Licensed Public House, Liquor Vaults fitted up on the modern principle, splendid Concert Room, excellent Brewing Plant, known as the FISH INN, Cradley.

Apply to Thomas Homer, Five Ways, Cradley Heath.’

County Express 6/12/1884

“At the County Court on Saturday, before Sir Rupert Kettle and a jury, the case of *Woodhall v Gadd* was heard. The case was opened on the previous Monday but adjourned on the suggestion of the judge. The plaintiff, *Benjamin Woodhall*, lately tenant of the FISH HOTEL, Cradley, sued George Gadd, Liverpool, the owner of the above mentioned house, for £21 damages for an illegal distress by the defendant or his agent on the 2nd October last.

Mr. Waldron appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Perry for the defendant.

A counter claim was filed by the defendant for £11 3s 6d for damage done to the house by the plaintiff during his tenancy.

Mr. Waldron explained that on the 29th September last plaintiff had a sale of his furniture, as he was about to leave the house, and at the sale, Mr. John Wright, solicitor, Cradley, who was acting for the defendant, came in and produced two inhabited house duty papers for £1 17s 6d, asking the plaintiff if he was going to pay them. Plaintiff said he was not, as they had been allowed on his paying his rent. On the Thursday following, October 2nd, a man named Thomas Homer levied a distress on plaintiff for £1 17s 6d, which he said was for arrears of rent. The bailiffs took away a sewing machine, value seven guineas, and a sofa worth £1 5s. Five days afterwards they were sold, and the surplus realized, after paying the arrears of rent and expenses, amounting to 1s, was offered to the plaintiff, but refused by him. Mr. Waldron contended that there was no law entitling the landlord to distrain for inhabited house duty, and he asked the jury to say that the plaintiff was entitled to recover the whole amount he had sued for.

The plaintiff's wife was called, and bore out this statement. She swore that no rent was owing at the time the distress was made.

Cross-examined by Mr. Plumtre witness said her husband took possession of the house about October, 1881, at a rental of £30 per annum. The rent was paid quarterly to Mrs. Parrock, a daughter of the defendant. Witness paid the inhabited house duty to the tax collector, and took the receipts to Mrs. Parrock, who then allowed her the amounts.

On behalf of the defendant Mr. Plumtre said that when the plaintiff took the house the agreement was for a rental of £30 per annum without any deduction whatever, except the landlord's property tax. He should call Mrs. Parrock, who would say that up to April, 1883, the full rate had always been paid, and that until that time no claim had ever been made by the plaintiff or his wife for the amount of the inhabited house duty. It was claimed in April, 1883, for the first time, when Mrs. Parrock said she had no authority to allow the deduction to be made on the rent. Plaintiff's wife, however, would not pay more than £6 7s 6d, insisting on her right to claim the amount of the inhabited house duty. The only point in dispute was whether, in face of this agreement, the plaintiff was entitled to make this deduction; if not, the amount distrained for was legally due. He urged that the distress made was not excessive; or, if the jury were of opinion defendant was liable in that respect the damage would only be for a very small amount. The counter-claim for £11 3s 6d was for damage done by the plaintiff to the house during his tenancy.

John Bridgwater, grocer, Cradley, said he was managing defendant's property in 1881, and let the FISH HOTEL to the plaintiff. The rent was for £30 per annum, and nothing was said about any deduction except the property tax. He received the first three quarters' rent, and no deduction whatever was claimed. The house was in good condition when the plaintiff took possession, but when he left it was found that a great deal of plaster had been knocked off the kitchens, the doors injured and knockers torn off, &c.

After some consultation with his clients Mr. Plumtre said he should be willing for the jury to say what defendant ought to pay, on the basis of the counter-claim being withdrawn.

His Honour thought it was clear that the deduction had been made by the plaintiff as a matter of business, and he should order a verdict of £5 damages on account of the illegal distress; the value of the goods taken to be returned also.

Verdict for the plaintiff was therefore returned with costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/9/1887 - Advert

“Pianist and Vocalist. Lady wanted to live in.

Address, stating age, FISH INN, Cradley.”

County Express 17/3/1888

“Thomas Nichols, puddler, Cradley Heath, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises known as the FISH INN, Cradley, on the 5th inst., and was fined 5s and costs.”

1891 Census

High Street – FISH INN

- [1] *Alfred P. Hadley* (36), innkeeper, born Old Hill;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hadley* (34), wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *Charles C. Hadley* (13), son, schoolboy, born Old Hill;
- [4] *Mary A. Hadley* (11), daughter, scholar, born Old Hill;
- [5] *Alice Hadley* (8), daughter, scholar, born Old Hill;
- [6] *William A. Hadley* (3), son, born Old Hill;
- [7] *Mary A. Smith* (22), domestic servant, born Clent, Worcestershire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/10/1896

“*Albert Saunders* (28), alias ‘Tipster,’ fitter, was indicted for obtaining 3s from Mrs. *Agnes Brettle* by false pretences at Cradley on August 15. Mr. Harrison prosecuted, and Mr. Cranstoun defended.

Mrs. *Brettle*, wife of the landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, said that prisoner went to her and told her that Mr. *Watts*, of the BRIDGE INN, had sent him to tell her to back two horses named *Emsworth* and *United*, and on this representation she gave him 3s. He said that Mr. *Watts* had backed the horses heavily and mentioned Mr. *Woodhall* of the BLUE BELL [sic] INN, who, he said, had laid 12s 6d. He said he was going to take the money to Mr. *Cutter*, of Cradley Heath. In cross-examination witness said that she was not aware that prisoner had given information to the police of the betting that went on in the public houses in Cradley.

Mr. Watts was called, and denied that he backed the horses, or authorised prisoner to use his name. He did not know the prisoner, but he had heard of his rendering assistance to the police in betting prosecutions.

Mr. Woodhall said that prisoner asked him to back the horses on a similar representation, but he declined.

Mr. G. A. Glinn, landlord of the HOLLY BUSH INN, and Mrs. Lavina Saunders, VINE INN, Cradley, gave similar evidence.

Mr. Cranstoun raised the defence of mistaken identity. The jury, however, found prisoner guilty, and he admitted a previous conviction. A second count was not gone into, and prisoner was sentenced to four months' hard labour."

County Express 12/6/1897

"*Joseph Brettell*, landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, was charged with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person on his licensed premises. Mr. Foster (instructed by Mr. Wall for Mr. Clulow) prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

There was also a charge against Thomas Green, navvy, Cradley, of being drunk in the FISH INN, Cradley, and with refusing to quit. In a third case *Brettell* was also charged with permitting drunkenness on the same date and with selling ale to a drunken person. After hearing the evidence adduced, the Bench said in the first case against *Brettell* they had decided to convict, and fined him £1 and costs, including barrister's fee of £3 3s 6d. In the other two charges against *Brettell* the evidence was so conflicting that they dismissed them. They fined Thomas Green 10s and costs, 14s, or, in default, a month."

County Advertiser 5/3/1898

"The following persons were fined in the sums set out after their names for being drunk on the various licensed premises named John Shilton (police-constable Johnson), FISH INN, Cradley, 10s and costs...."

County Advertiser 6/5/1899

"*Joseph Brettell*, landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, was charged with selling ale to a drunken person, and also with permitting drunkenness on the 24th ult. Mr. J. W. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended. Mr. Peake (Fisher, Jesson, and Watkins, of Ashby de la Zouch) represented the owners, the Birmingham Brewery Company. The case of the prosecution was that a man named Benjamin Foulkes was seen in the house at ten minutes to eleven by Police-sergeant Clarke and Police-constable Webb in a drunken condition with some ale before him. Mr. Waldron called Dr. Darby, who deposed the man was not drunk, and the defendant, Mrs. *Brettell*, Hannah Taylor, Samuel Danks, Joseph Davis, David Darby, and William Plant corroborated. Viscount Cobham said the Bench regretted that the witnesses for the defence had given them no assistance in arriving at a decision; their evidence was very conflicting. The Bench founded their decision upon this narrow point, that they were not satisfied that the man Foulkes was in such a state of intoxication as to call the landlord's or landlady's attention to him. The evidence of the police was of more weight than those of the other side. They should give defendant the benefit of the doubt, and dismiss the case."

1901 Census

High Street – FISH INN

- [1] *Hezekiah Walker* (47), chain maker, born Cradley;
- [2] *Amelia Walker* (41), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Howard Walker* (20), son, putty block fitter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Laura Walker* (18), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] *Beatrice Walker* (15), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] *Daisy Walker* (12), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Freda Walker* (6), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] *Horace Walker* (8 months), son, born Cradley:

County Express 20/4/1901

"On Wednesday evening, Mr. and Mrs. *Walker*, of the FISH INN, invited a number of friends to a dinner and social evening to celebrate the coming of age of their oldest son, Mr. *Howard Walker*. Mr. J. Smith was voted to the chair, and the toast list included 'The King and the Royal Family,' 'Mr. *Howard Walker*,' and 'Host and Hostess.' An excellent entertainment was provided by Mr. J. Cookson, Mr. *H. Walker*, and Miss *D. Walker*. Mr. Stevens presided at the piano. Selections were also given by the Halesowen Volunteer Prize Band, of which the host was a former member."

H. Walker, FISH HOTEL, Cradley, was a committee member of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

County Express 1/2/1902

"*Joseph Grove*, Overend, Cradley, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the FISH INN, Cradley, on the 27th ult. Fined £1 and costs."

County Express 29/3/1902

"The Child Messenger Act was the chief topic of discourse at a largely attended meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Society held at Mr. *Hezekiah Walker*'s, the FISH INN, Cradley...."

County Express 1/11/1902

"A well-arranged and successful benefit smoking concert was held at the FISH HOTEL on Thursday week, kindly arranged by Mr. *H. Walker*, the landlord. There was a crowded attendance, many being unable to find accommodation in the room. The

programme was varied, consisting of well-played quartettes by Mr. Cornock's brass quartette; comic songs by Mr. King, who had several undeniable encores; violin solos of considerable merit from Mr. Williams; a nicely rendered song by Miss *Walker*; a ventriloquial entertainment by Mr. Cooksey, which caused much laughter; and glees by Mr. J. Dunn's glee union, which were one of the features of the programme. Mr. Hipkiss was chairman."

County Advertiser 2/5/1903

"A general meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley and District Licensed Victuallers' and Beer Retailers' Protection and Benevolent Society, was held on Thursday evening, at the FISH HOTEL, Cradley. Mr. H. A. Canadine (president) occupied the chair....."

County Advertiser 19/3/1904

"On Tuesday evening at the FISH HOTEL, High Street, Cradley, Moss Rose Lodge, of the Brierley Hill district, N.U.O.F.G. held a smoking concert for the benefit of Bro. H. J. Siviter, who has had the misfortune to lose his right hand by an accident at his employment. Mr. R. Rushton (secretary of the club) presided in the absence of Mr. S. Timmis. A good array of vocalists included Miss Daisy *Walker* (daughter of the host), who sang very attractively; Mr. J. Brooks, of Old Hill, (soprano soloist), Mr. W. Ashmore (tenor), Mr. W. Lloyd (baritone), Mr. R. Cole (bass), Mr. A. Pearson (humorist), and the Quarry Bank Glee Party. Instrumental music was well represented in Master Bridgwater and the Halesowen Volunteer Band quartette. Mr. R. Edge successfully accompanied; and the concert throughout was heartily enjoyed by a large audience, through whose kindness, and that of the artistes, Mr. Siviter will considerably benefit. Thanks were voted to the performers, and also to the chairman, on the motion of Mr. *H. Walker* before the proceedings closed."

County Advertiser 19/3/1904

"Parish Council Elections. Cradley.

Mr. E. H. Groves (returning officer) received the following nominations in connection with the Cradley Parish Council elections.....

Hezekiah Walker, licensed victualler, High Street.....

There are 29 candidates for 15 seats. Polling will take place on the 28th inst."

[*Hezekiah Walker* (Independent) had the 13th highest number of votes and was elected.]

Hezekiah Walker – see also VICTORIA.

County Express 12/2/1910

"At Stourbridge County Court, on Wednesday, before the Registrar (Mr. C. H. Collis) there were down for hearing two cases arising out of the advertisements on the curtain of the Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

Frank Ellis, of the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, was sued for £2 1s by Messrs. Kirwan and Co, advertisement contractors, in respect of an advertisement on the curtain.

Mr. Evans appeared for the plaintiffs, and called the defendant, who was shown the contract, and asked if that was his signature that was appended. To the surprise of Mr. Evans, he said it was not, and to this statement he stuck.

The Registrar pointed out to Mr. Evans that he could not contradict his own witness, and the only course for him to take was to prosecute him for perjury. He (the Registrar) had no option but to find for the defendant.

Arthur Auden, of the FISH INN, Cradley, was similarly sued, and was represented by Mr. P. H. Chappell. The defendant's contention was that the contract did not contain the whole of the terms. He stipulated that his should be the only advertisement of his trade on the curtain for High Street, Cradley. He did not get the right space, and there was another publican advertised in the same street.

Mr. Evans produced a letter from defendant stipulating there should be no other publicans advertised 'in the same town.'

William Plant was called for the defence, and stated that he was with Mr. *Auden* when he gave the order, and heard him say that the same kind of business would not have to be advertised in High Street, Cradley.

Mr. Evans pointed out that the contract distinctly provided that there should be no monopoly given.

Having consulted with the Judge, the Registrar found for the plaintiff."

County Express 5/11/1910

"The death occurred at the FISH INN, on Monday, of Mr. *Arthur Auden*, at the age of 39. Mr. *Auden* was well-known in Cradley, and much regret has been expressed at his decease. He was a member of the Parish Council for about six years, and his work on that body was much valued. Politically he was a strong Liberal. He leaves a widow and three children."

County Express 12/11/1910

"Funeral of Mr. *Arthur Auden*.

The remains of the late Mr. *Arthur Auden*, whose death was recorded in our last issue, were interred yesterday week in the Non-conformist burial ground, the service at the Hightown Ragged School and at the graveside being conducted by the Rev. S. Wright. In the Ragged School Mr. B. Jones was at the organ, and played 'I know that my Redeemer liveth.' The mourners were Masters Arthur and William Auden (sons), Messrs. Soloman, John, Harry, Fred, and Albert Auden (brothers), and Lawson, Wesley, and Fred Auden (nephews). There acted as bearers Messrs. Albert Dillard, Giles Dillard, J. Bloomer, T. Crampton, C. Newey, T. Robinson, Dillard (Quarry Bank), Dunn (Quarry Bank), J. Crockett, A. Hill, G. Hackett, and E. Bird. Wreaths were sent from 'Widow and family,' 'Mother and family,' 'Sol. and family,' 'John and family,' 'Albert Dillard and family,' 'T. Robinson and family,' Cradley Liberal Club, tradespeople of High Street, and Messrs. W. Plant and J. Morgan. Mr. Caleb Beasley was the undertaker."

Arthur Auden – see also OLD TWO GATES.

1911 Census

High Street – FISH INN

- [1] *Thomas Auden* (31), brewery journeyman, born Cradley;
- [2] *Mary Auden* (33), wife, married 2 years, born Cradley;
- [3] *Frank Hall* (15), son, pulley block fitter's apprentice, born Cradley;
- [4] *George Hall* (11), son, born Cradley;
- [5] *Nellie Auden* (1), daughter, born Cradley:

Tokens were issued from here bearing '*North*'.

Tommy North was fined £14 13s for running an illegal football sweep in December 1925.

Bill Leaver served in the Grenadier Guards. He survived Dunkirk.

It closed on 12th December 1938.

It was demolished circa 1959.

FORGE

5, Dudley Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Major George Cox

John Rolinson and Son Ltd. (leased from 1909)

Sue Whittall

S. A. Brain and Co. (acquired in 1996) [1999]

LICENSEES

Joab Hipkiss [1871]

William Edmonds [] – **1881**;

Samuel Blue (**1881** – [])

Enos James [1892]

Enoch Pearce [1895] – **1906**;

Thomas Williams (**1906** – [])

Frederick William Williamson (**1907** – [1911])

Bertha Mason [1939]

Ronnie Smith [1972]

Carol Watt [1987]

Louise Whittall [1994]

Yvonne Jacqui Hunt [2000] – [2003]

Joan Rudge [2007] – [2009]

NOTES

1871 Census

Dudley Road – Public House

[1] *Joab Hipkiss* (27), forgerman and publican, born Brierley Hill;

[2] *Ann E. Hipkiss* (27), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Sarah A. Hipkiss* (2), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] *Elizabeth Hipkiss* (1), daughter, born Halesowen;

[5] *Elizabeth Hipkiss* (13), niece, scholar, born Halesowen:

Joab Hipkiss – see also STAR AND GARTER

1881 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *William Edmonds* (26), iron worker and publican, born Cradley;
- [2] *Esther Edmonds* (25), wife, born Old Hill;
- [3] *Albert E. Edmonds* (1), son, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 17/12/1881

“The following transfers were allowed.....

A beerhouse license in Dudley Road, Halesowen, from *William Edmonds* to *Samuel Blue*.....

All the transferees were asked by the Bench to have six days' licenses only, but each one declined to accede to this request.”

County Advertiser 27/8/1892

“The annual licensing session for the Halesowen Division was held at the Police Court on Tuesday.....

Superintendent Speke reported.....

He wished to give notice that he had served notices of objections upon *Enos James*, FORGE INN, Dudley Street, Halesowen, for structural defects, and also that the license was not required Inspector Raybould withdrew the objection against *Enos James*, and the license was renewed.”

County Advertiser 19/1/1895

“At a special session held at the Public Office, on Thursday afternoon – before Mr. Walter Somers – *Albert Colley* (17), labourer, and *Josiah Coley* (15), labourer, brothers, both of Dudley Road, were charged with stealing 38 pounds of coal, the property of *Enoch Pearce*, of the FORGE TAVERN, Dudley Road. Police-constable Tennant was on the watch, and caught prisoners in the act.

Prisoners were remanded until Tuesday next.”

County Express 4/9/1897

“The annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Police Division were held on Tuesday.....

The Clerk read the following report of Superintendent Chare.

‘.....In the year ending 24th August, 1897, the following licensed persons have been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as under.

Enoch Pearce, FORGE INN, Halesowen, open during prohibited hours, withdrawn on payment of costs, 48s 6d.....’

The three landlords who, as mentioned in the report, had been proceeded against during the year, appeared before the Court to ask for the renewal of their licenses.....

After consulting in private for some time, the Chairman said that the magistrates had decided to renew the license in the case of *Pearce* but it must clearly be understood if anything of that sort occurred again, the offences would be looked upon with greater gravity. They were determined to have the public houses in that division conducted properly, and licensed victuallers who contravened the law would do so at their own peril. The houses of the two persons named would be specially looked after by the police, and if a recurrence of the same conduct took place, it was probable the licenses would not be renewed.”

County Advertiser 9/3/1901

“Halesowen Rural Council. Sanitary Committee.....

The county analyst reported that no trace of arsenic was detected in any of the samples of beer taken from *Annie Halward*, HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury; *Enoch Pearce*, FORGE INN, Halesowen; *John Homer*, BLACK HORSE, Cradley; *John Auden*, RISING SUN, Cradley.”

1901 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Enoch Pearce* (34), mining engineer, born Old Hill;
- [2] *Dora Ellen Pearce* (33), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *May Pearce* (5), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Harvey Pearce* (2), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Samson H. Cole* (20), boarder, general labourer at cycle works, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Mable W. Parsons* (19), niece, domestic servant, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Mail 2/5/1905

“At Hales Owen Police Court today, *Enoch Pearce*, landlord of the FORGE INN, Dudley Road, Hales Owen, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, on the 25th ult.

Police-constable Haden said that on the night in question he was standing close to the defendant's house, when the defendant came up to him in a drunken condition and put his arms round his neck.

Defendant denied being drunk, and alleged that the officer had summoned him because he saw him (the officer) courting a girl whilst on duty, and walking together arm-in-arm. (Laughter.) He spoke to the officer about it in a joking manner, when he became very much annoyed and threatened to lock him up.

Miss *Kate Mundon*, the young lady referred to by defendant, was called as a witness for the prosecution. She indignantly denied having her arm round the officer, and said she knew better than to do such a thing when he was on duty.

Eventually the magistrates fined defendant 19s 6d, including costs.”

1911 Census

5, Dudley Road

- [1] *Frederick William Williamson* (37), licensed victualler, born Norwich;
- [2] Susan Williamson (26), wife, married 1 year, born Halesowen;
- [3] Ann Capper (58), mother-in-law, widow, born Fenney Compton, Warwickshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1915

“At the licensing sessions at Hales Owen, yesterday, Superintendent A. Pass reported an increase of 11 persons convicted for drunkenness during the past year, six of whom were non-residents of the vagrant type.....

The renewal of the FORGE INN, Dudley Road, and STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, objected to on the ground of previous convictions, and the PLOUGH AND HARROW, Rumbow, on the ground of redundancy, were deferred until the adjourned sessions.”

Dudley Chronicle 6/11/1915

“Ernest Basterfield, of 3, Highfield Lane, Halesowen, was fined 5s at the Police Court on Tuesday for leaving his horse and vehicle outside the FORGE INN, Dudley Road, Halesowen, for 20 minutes. PS Jennings proved the case.”

1939 Register

5, Dudley Road – FORGE INN

- [1] *Bertha Mason*, date of birth 28/5/1883, widow, licensed victualler;
- [2] Edna M. Mason, dob 30/6/1905, single, solicitor’s clerk;
- [3] Eileen (Mason) (Grainger) Lee, dob 17/2/1916, book keeper, music stores;
- [4] Thomas F. Danks, dob 5/10/1891, labourer, steel tube:

Ronnie Smith was a lightweight boxer from Willenhall.

Express & Star 4/2/1984

“Fire today damaged a Halesowen pub which has only recently undergone a £38,000 facelift. Partners Mike Palmer and Peter Roach, who ploughed their savings in the FORGE both men used to work for M&B They bought the pub and reopened it after modernisation two months ago.....”

Closed

It reopened as the SHOVELLERS ARMS [1994]

It was renamed the BOILERMAKER. [1997], [2002]

Yvonne Jacqui Hunt – see also LAMP, Dudley

It was renamed the FORGE in 2003.

It closed in 2009.

It was converted into offices. [2012]

FOX

42, Little Cornbow, (Cornbow Street), (Great Cornbow), (Cornbow), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Penn Brewery Co. Ltd.

Home Brewery, Quarry Bank (leased from 11th February 1908) [1915]

J. Cooper and Co. Ltd.

Atkinsons Ltd.

Twist’s Brewery Ltd. [1941]

LICENSEES

William Grove [1834] – [1851]

George Tunstall [] – 1852)
Mary Tunstall [1854]
Joseph Willetts [1855] – 1891);
Mrs. Jeavons (1891 – []
Francis Jeavons [1892] – [1896]
Enoch Baugh [1897] – [1898]
William Whiteway Alexander [1901]
Samuel E Cowell [1902]
Thomas Cresswell [] – 1904);
Ernest Orlando Williams (1904 – []
James Foley [1911] – [1912]
Samuel Jones [1916] – [1921]
T D Davis [1929]
Amy Davies [] – 1931);
Joseph William Cooper (1931 – []
Thomas Philpotts [1939]
Florence Lowe [1978]

NOTES

FOX AND HOUNDS [1842], [1846]
FOX AND DUCK [1873]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/1/1835 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Houses, Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Henry Jacob, at the CROWN INN, Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, on Wednesday next, the 21st day of January, at the hour of four in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then and there be agreed upon at the time of sale.

Lot I. All those four Messuages or Dwelling Houses, together with Outbuildings, Nail Shops, and Gardens thereto belonging, situate in Cornbow Street, in the borough of Hales Owen aforesaid, one of which is occupied by Mr. *William Grove* as a Retail Beer House, and is eligibly situated for any retail trade, and the other three are in the several occupations of Thos. Etheridge, Joseph Sawyer, and John Rudge.

The Garden Ground behind these premises extends backwards 70 yards, and a great portion of it is eligible for building upon.....”

1841 Census

Cornbow Street

- [1] *William Grove* (35), publican, born Worcestershire;
- [2] Frances Grove (35), born Worcestershire;
- [3] Ellen Grove (15), born Worcestershire;
- [4] Charles Grove (14), born Worcestershire;
- [5] Benjamin Grove (12), born Worcestershire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/2/1851

“Pedestrianism. Matches to Come. Feb17.

B. *Grove* and E. Ellis (both of Halesowen) seven score yards, £10 a side, on the Pershore Road, near Birmingham. Off, the latter forfeiting.....

Grove and Ellis. The latter having forfeited in this contemplated race, the £4 we hold shall be sent to Benjamin *Grove*, FOX INN, Halesowen, on Tuesday.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 16/2/1851

“*Grove* of Halesowen will run Daniel Whitehouse of Princes End, J. Walker of Tividale, W. Astor of Tipton, or W. Wood of Great Bridge, from 100 to 120 yards, for £5 or £10 a side; or take two yards from W. Jackson of Dudley Port for £5 a side. The money is ready at the FOX INN, Halesowen.”

1851 Census

Great Cornbow

- [1] *William Grove* (46), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Fanny Grove (45), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Charles Grove (22), son, nailor, born Halesowen;
- [4] Benjamin Grove (21), son, cordwainer, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Journal 21/8/1852 - Advert

“FOX TAVERN, Cornbow, Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Private Treaty, by Thomas Howell, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above House, centrally situated in Hales Owen, on the main turnpike road to Bromsgrove, doing a good trade in Spirits, Ale, &c. Continued ill health is the sole cause of the present Proprietor leaving.

Rent, £17. Payments, under £2. Coming-in, under £60.

To an industrious couple the Auctioneer recommends this as a desirable opportunity of entering a good Old Licensed House for a little money.

Immediate possession may be had.

For particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, Hagley Street, Hales Owen.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/9/1852 - Died

“On the 4th inst, after a lingering illness, aged 53, *George Tunstall*, of the FOX INN, Hales Owen.”

1861 Census

Great Cornbow – FOX INN

[1] *Joseph Willetts* (35), publican and horse breaker, born Halesowen;

[2] Matilda Willetts (27), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Sarah Willetts (5), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] John Moss (50), boarder, horse breaker, born Northfield:

1871 Census

Cornbow Street – FOX

[1] *Joseph Willetts* (46), innkeeper, born Halesowen;

[2] Matilda Willetts (47), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Sarah A. Willetts (15), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Express 25/4/1874 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Dwelling House, Stables, Large Gardens, and Premises, situate in Blackberry Lane, and a very Desirable and Valuable Piece of Land, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder in Newfield Lane, leading out of Furnace Lane, both at Halesowen, in the County of Worcester.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction, by direction of the Representatives of the late Mr. Willetts, on Tuesday, the 12th day of May, 1874, at Six o'clock in the Evening, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Willetts*, the FOX INN, Cornbow, Halesowen, subject to conditions then to be produced, and in such Lots as may be determined upon at the time of Sale.....”

County Express 31/10/1874

“*Joseph Willetts*, landlord of the FOX INN, Cornbow Street, was charged with having his house open after 11 o'clock on the night of the 17th inst.

Police-constable Drew proved the case. At fifteen minutes past eleven of the night in question he saw four or five men coming out of the defendant's house. He found three men in the house.

Superintendent Kemp said the house was well-conducted. The Bench imposed a fine of 2s 6d and costs.”

Stourbridge Observer 14/11/1874

“Edward Cooper, John Tomkins, and Robert Cole, were charged with being on licensed premises at the FOX INN, Cornbow Street, on the 17th ult, during prohibited hours. Police-constable Drew stated that he visited the FOX INN, Cornbow Street, at 16 minutes past eleven o'clock, on the night in question, and found the defendants there. Superintendent Kemp said defendants were very respectable persons, and the house was generally well conducted. The Bench dismissed the case.”

County Express 2/10/1875

“The adjourned licensing session was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.

The following persons, who had been convicted during the year, were called before the Bench and cautioned.....

Joseph Willetts, FOX, Halesowen.”

Wellington Advertiser 19/7/1879

“On Friday week Mr. Docker (coroner) held an inquest at the FOX INN, Halesowen, touching the death of Amma Hopkins (35), wife of a signal man at Snape's Green, Wolverhampton. On Friday week deceased gave herself into custody at the police station, and was brought up the following Monday for being drunk and incapable. The magistrate (Mr. Phillips) discharged her with a reprimand. At six o'clock the same evening she was found struggling in the canal at Manor Wharf, and on being got out of the water was again taken to the police station, where she was subsequently remanded on a charge of attempting to commit suicide. Her determination to end her life, however, it turns out, was not shaken; on Superintendent Kemp going into her cell at eight o'clock on Wednesday morning he found she had hanged herself with a cambric handkerchief. The cell had been visited about two o'clock the same morning, when the woman was sound asleep. The verdict returned was that deceased committed Suicide while in an Unsound State of Mind. The body was interred in Halesowen Cemetery in the afternoon.”

County Advertiser 1/1/1881

“An accident occurred on Wednesday, at midday, which was fortunately unattended with fatal results. Owing to the recent storms

the brickwork of the chimney of a house opposite the FOX INN, Cornbow Street, became loose. A sudden gust of wind brought a portion of the chimney to the ground, some falling on Mr. Small, manager to Mr. Booth, ironmonger, Halesowen, who was passing at the time, and sent him reeling across the street in a half-conscious state. Prompt assistance being readily at hand he was taken to the FOX INN, and on being examined it was found Mr. Small had only sustained a few slight bruises and cuts, and a severe shock to the system.”

1881 Census

Great Cornbow – FOX INN

[1] *Joseph Willetts* (55), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] Matilda Willetts (55), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Eliza Harris (23), domestic servant, born Halesowen:

County Express 3/10/1885

“*Joseph Willetts*, landlord of the FOX INN, Halesowen, was summoned for keeping his house open during prohibited hours on the 5th inst. Mr. Hemingway, Bewdley, appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Shakespeare defended.

Police-sergeant Raybould stated that about a quarter to 12 o'clock on the night of the 4th inst he was on duty in Cornbow Street, near the defendant's house, when he heard voices inside. He distinctly heard the voices of William Arthur Hayes and Thomas Green. He went away and got two other constables to go back with him to the house. They arrived there about half an hour after midnight, and found the defendants still in the defendant's house talking. He left one officer at the front door and took another with him and walked through the back door. In the smoke room he saw defendant sitting down, and with him were Messrs. Arthur Hayes, Thomas Green, and Thomas Clarke. He saw two glasses on the table, containing what appeared to him to be whisky, and also a jug. On another table, at which Hayes was sitting, there was a glass containing porter. He asked defendant how he accounted for having his premises open at that time of night. He replied that he was very sorry, and asked witness to look over it. Witness told defendant that he had carried on the practice for some time, and he could not look over it, but said he should report it to the superintendent.

Police-constable Hardwick corroborated the last witness.

Re-examined by Mr. Hemingway, Sergeant Raybould said the same gentleman had been kept at defendant's house after closing time on previous occasions, but generally defendant conducted his house properly.

For the defence Mr. Shakespeare pointed out that the defendant had kept the house for thirty-five years, and during that time had only been convicted once – about eleven years ago. Clarke and Green entered the house about half-past ten o'clock, and Mr. *Willetts* was requested to fetch Mr. Hayes, as his friends wished to make some arrangements about shooting the next day. Mr. Hayes got there about six or seven minutes before eleven o'clock, and everything that the parties had to drink was paid for before the closing time.

Mr. Arthur Hayes was called, and stated that he was on his way home when he was met by *Willetts*, who told him that Messrs. Green and Clarke wished to see him at his house. He went with the defendant, and got there about ten minutes to eleven. They were all perfectly sober. It was not true that the defendant asked Police-sergeant Raybould to look over it.

James Nock Clarke and Thomas Green also gave evidence. The latter denied that he was drunk, as was stated by Police-sergeant Raybould.

Defendant was fined 20s and costs.

James Nock Clarke, gentleman, of St. George's Square, Worcester; Arthur George Hayes, solicitor, Halesowen, and clerk to the Halesowen and Old Hill justices; and Thomas Green, of the Manor Abbey Farm, were summoned for being upon the premises. Police-sergeant Raybould stated that Green admitted that he had had a little too much to drink, and said witness might have a sovereign if he would look over it. Witness refused to accept a bribe.

Police-constables Hardwick and Tulley and Superintendent Hardman having given evidence in support of the charge, defendants were fined 20s and costs each.”

Joseph Willetts was also a horse breaker. [1888]

Dudley Mercury 18/2/1888 - Advert

“Desirable Properties at Romsley, near Halesowen.

Mr. E. H. Boilstone has received instructions from the Representatives of the late Mr. E. Willetts to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Willetts*, the FOX INN, Halesowen, on Tuesday, the 6th day of March, 1888, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions to be then read incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/5/1889 - Advert

“Handsome and Well-bred mare, 13.2, thoroughly sound; quiet to ride and drive; good action; passes trams. Harness and Whiteheath Dog-cart; equal as new.

Apply to *Joseph Willetts*, FOX INN, Halesowen.”

1891 Census

Cornbow Street

[1] *Joseph Willetts* (65), innkeeper, born Halesowen;

[2] Matilda Willetts (67), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Mary Evans (21), servant, born Old Hill:

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *Francis Jeavons*, FOX INN, Cornbow, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for.....

Inspector Raybould said owing to the structural alterations having been carried out he wished to withdraw the objections to the renewal of the licenses of *Francis Jeavons*.

All those licenses were accordingly renewed, and the Chairman of the Bench, Mr. Lea Smith, said he hoped all license holders in the division would keep their houses closed during prohibited hours on Sundays.”

County Express 12/6/1897

“*Enoch Baugh*, landlord of the FOX INN, Cornbow, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 1st inst, and further with selling ale to a drunken person on the same date. Mr. A. Smith appeared for the police.

Defendant pleaded guilty to a technical offence.

Inspector Raybould saw a man named Hall drunk in Peckingham Street, and instructed a man to watch him. He visited the house later, and saw Hall with drink in front of him. He called the landlady’s attention to the man, and she asked him to go home as he seemed ‘boozed.’

Police-constable Harley said he saw the man named Hall drunk on the premises of the FOX, and reported to Inspector Raybould. Defendant said the man Hall came into the house quite unawares to his wife, and both stood at the bar. The money for a pint of ale was upon the counter, but who put it there he could not say. He was away from home at the time. She did not perceive that anything was the matter with Hall, but on the inspector pointing out the man to her, his wife did perceive that he seemed a little ‘boozy,’ and thereupon ordered him off. The officer walked into the house directly the man had drunk out of the ale, but he said nothing whatever to his wife about the man’s condition. He had never been complained against before, and they only had been in that parish four months. It was a technical offence, and he submitted that the case would be met by payment of costs. He hoped the Bench would not record a conviction against him.

Defendant was ordered to pay the costs and solicitor’s fee, amounting in all to 30s.”

County Express 4/9/1897

“The annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Police Division were held on Tuesday.....

The Clerk read the following report of Superintendent Chare.

‘.....In the year ending 24th August, 1897, the following licensed persons have been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as under.

Enoch Baugh, FOX INN, Halesowen, permitting drunkenness, to pay 30s costs.....’

The three landlords who, as mentioned in the report, had been proceeded against during the year, appeared before the Court to ask for the renewal of their licenses.....

After consulting in private for some time, the Chairman said that the magistrates had decided to renew the license in the case of *Baugh* but it must clearly be understood if anything of that sort occurred again, the offences would be looked upon with greater gravity. They were determined to have the public houses in that division conducted properly, and licensed victuallers who contravened the law would do so at their own peril. The houses of the two persons named would be specially looked after by the police, and if a recurrence of the same conduct took place, it was probable the licenses would not be renewed.”

County Advertiser 24/12/1898

“Mr. John Wright, solicitor, was charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours in the 1st inst.

The defendant did not answer to his name, and Superintendent Clare said he had received a telegram from Mr. Waldron, who was instructed to defend, asking for an adjournment. The summons, however, had been served seven days, and Mr. Wright, therefore, had had plenty of time to get his defence ready. He must ask, under these circumstances, for the case to go on. He might say he had telegraphed Mr. Waldron that he should oppose an adjournment.

The bench decided to hear the case in Mr. Wright’s absence.

Inspector Raybould said that about 11.35pm, on the 1st inst, he was on duty in Little Cornbow, with Police-constable Hunt, and noticed a light in the tap room window of the FOX INN, kept by Mr. *Enoch Baugh*. Witness listened under the bar window, and Hunt told him he could hear voices, and recognised one of them as Mr. John Wright’s. Witness thereupon sent Hunt round to the back, while witness went to the side bar door, and tried it. He opened it and walked through the bar into the passage, where he met the landlord. Witness walked past him into the tap room, where he saw Mr. John Wright and a man he did not know. The landlord told him the stranger was his brother-in-law, and witness then asked him how he accounted for Mr. Wright being there. The landlord replied, ‘Mr. Wright has been there ever since ten o’clock as a guest. He has not paid for anything.’ On a table was a pint jug and a glass, which was empty, but which had apparently contained beer, and also plates on which was some bread and cheese. Mr. Wright seemed very indignant, and said he did not like the manner in which he had been treated by the police. Witness replied, ‘You don’t want to be treated differently to other persons.’ It was about 11.40 when he got into the tap room.

Police-constable Hunt corroborated, and said that he remained in the neighbourhood of the house for a considerable time, and

about twelve o'clock saw Mr. Wright leave the premises.
This was the case, and defendant was fined 20s and costs."

1901 Census

Great Cornbow – FOX INN

- [1] *William Whiteway Alexander* (48), public house manager, born Andover, Hampshire;
- [2] *Mary Ann Alexander* (48), wife, born Weedon, Northamptonshire;
- [3] *Alberta Alexander* (23), daughter, born Balsall Heath, Worcestershire;
- [4] *William Wolfe Alexander* (21), son, clerk at Gentlemen's Club, born Balsall Heath, Worcestershire;
- [5] *Edith Rose Alexander* (17), daughter, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [6] *Sydney Whiteway Alexander* (15), son, printer, compositor's apprentice, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [7] *Lilly Lucy Alexander* (14), daughter, born Aston, Warwickshire:

County Express 24/5/1902

"John Hardwick, of Little Cornbow, visited the FOX INN, Halesowen, on the 10th inst, but his conduct was so bad the the landlord, *Samuel E. Cowell*, ordered him out. As he refused, he was ejected, but not content with one ejection, he returned to the house, and had to be put out again. For refusing to quit he was fined 1s and costs."

AND

"Charles Walker, of Northfield, for being drunk on the licensed premises of the FOX INN, Halesowen, on the 6th inst, was fined 1s and costs. PS Price proved the case."

Sports Argus 13/6/1903

"Shooting Match at the FOX HOTEL, Halesowen.

FOX v GOLDEN CROSS. The match was ten men on each side. The FOX made a total of 160, with four shots each. The match was drawn due to unpleasantness with the GOLDEN CROSS, owing to the FOX shooters using two guns."

County Advertiser 13/2/1904

"On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.....

The transfers of public-house licenses were next taken....

Mr. S. Vernon applied for the transfer of the license of the FOX INN, Halesowen, to *Thomas Cresswell*, formerly of Tamworth. He explained that the applicant, who was formerly a butcher, had been convicted on three occasions for being drunk in charge, but these offences occurred seven years ago, and during the last five years that he had resided at Tamworth he bore an excellent character. Superintendent Sherriff did not oppose the application and it was granted."

County Advertiser 17/12/1904

"Permission was granted to *Orlando Williams*, landlord of the FOX INN, Cornbow, Halesowen, to make alterations at his premises in order to provide more living accommodation."

County Express 12/2/1910

"On Tuesday morning the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen petty sessional division were held at the Police Court.....

Supt. Hill intimated that he proposed to object to the renewal of the license of the TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, the RED LION, Birmingham Street, and the FOX INN, Cornbow. On his application these licenses were deferred for consideration at the adjourned sessions in order that the police could serve notices stating the grounds of objection. The whole of the other licenses were renewed."

1911 Census

42, Little Cornbow

- [1] *James Foley* (58), manager of the FOX INN, born Old Hill;
- [2] *Eliza Foley* (57), wife, married 38 years, assists in business, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Cissie Wardle* (13), grand-daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Alfred Wardle* (11), grand-son, school, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1914

"The sessions for the Halesowen petty sessional division was held yesterday at the Police Court.....

Superintendent A. Pass stated there were 73 licenses in existence, giving an average of one license to every 265 of the population, and one on-license to every 334 of the population. Since the Licensing Act of 1904 came into force eight licensed houses had been closed with compensation – five alehouses and three beerhouses During the year two license holders had been proceeded against, both being fined. He had served notices of objection to the renewal of both licenses. He had also served notices of objection to the renewal of the license of the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, and the FOX INN, Cornbow, on the ground of redundancy.....

The Bench deferred the renewal of the CROSS GUNS INN, Peckingham [sic] Street, and the FOX INN, Great Cornbow, until the adjourned sessions."

County Express 23/10/1915

“Pte. E. Greenwood, of Halesowen, who has been awarded the DCM for conspicuous bravery on the field of battle, was on Thursday entertained to dinner at the FOX INN, Great Cornbow, Halesowen, where on behalf of the shooting club of that inn a gift of a wristwatch was made to him. On the same occasion there was presented to the hero a purse of gold, from the Home Brewing Company, Quarry Bank. Making this latter presentation, Mr. W. Clews, managing director of the company, recalled that they offered to give any soldier in Quarry Bank who won the VC a sum of £50; and one who won the DCM £10. The award to Pte. Greenwood had been brought to their notice, and though he was not a Quarry Bank man, the firm had decided to make him a present of a purse of gold. He had pleasure in presenting it to Pte. Greenwood, as an expression of their appreciation of his gallant conduct (applause).”

Evening Despatch 4/4/1916

“*Samuel Jones*, of the FOX INN, Halesowen, was fined £2 at Halesowen today for using the ‘long pull,’ and for selling beer otherwise than by measure.”

Sports Argus 14/9/1929

“Birmingham Alliance.

Clubs in this section should note that Tenter Street OB have joined. Their secretary is *T. D. Davis*, FOX INN, Halesowen.”

[This is a football league.]

1939 Register

Great Cornbow – FOX INN

[1] Reginald Philpotts, date of birth 25/2/1924, single, coal clerk;

[2] *Thomas Philpotts*, dob 28/4/1878, married, publican – licensed victualler;

[3] Ada Philpotts, dob 25/9/1893, married, unpaid domestic duties:

Walsall Observer 12/4/1941 - Advert

“Malt for Strength & Energy. Hops for The Appetite. Yeast for The Blood.

Twists The Best Beer for You.

You can Drink and Enjoy Twists Ale at any the of the following Licensed Houses.....

FOX INN, Halesowen.....

And All The Best Clubs.

Proprietary Whiskies, Foreign Wines and Spirits, High-Class British Sherries and Ports.

Head Office & Brewery, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

Birmingham Mail 11/5/1978 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1964. Notice of Principal Meeting. West Midlands Metropolitan County.

Notice is Hereby Given that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1910, by the Compensation Authority for the above area, will be held at the Council Chambers, Council House, Smethwick, Warley, on the 7th day of July, 1978, at 3pm.

And notice is hereby also given that the Compensation Authority will at the meeting be prepared to hear, with reference to the renewal of the licenses of the several premises specified in the subjoined list, all those persons to whom, under the Licensing Act, 1964, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard; that is to say, the persons interested in any licensed premises in question and, unless it appears to the Compensation Authority unnecessary, any other persons appearing to them to be interested in the question of the renewal of the license of those premises (including the justices of the licensing district).

List of Licensed Premises.....

FOX INN, Halesowen. Intoxicating liquor of all descriptions. Licensee, *Florence Lowe*.”

It became offices. [2004]

FOX HUNT

Hagley Road West, (Pleck Row), Hayley Green, (Illey Green), (Lutley), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Messrs. Ruffords and Wragge

Thomas Plant and Co.

Bulls Head Company

Bass, Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired 1967)

Harvester [1996], [2023]

LICENSEES

William Wragg [1845]
Thomas Higgs [1849] – [1854]
Samuel Durham [1861] – [1881]
Peter Knowles [1884] – **1885**;
William Ketland (**1885** – []
Isaac Bedwood [1888]
Job Edwards [1891]
Charles Fox* [1900] – [1912]
Charles Luter Fox* [1916] – [1921]
Harry Chambers [1939]
W Boddington [1945]
Richard Davies [1962] – [1967] manager
Samantha Clare Inman [2007]
Matthew Turner [2010] – [2011] manager

NOTES

FOX [1852], [1870], [1872]

[1834]

The original pub was situated in Pleck Row, which became residential cottages when the pub was replaced, pre 1900. The row was demolished in the 1960s.

The Halesowen Story (1955)

“There has been a FOXHUNT INN at Hayley Green for centuries, but the present YE OLDE FOX HUNT is a miscellany of fretwork, half-timber, doorways and diamond paned bay windows, built by a Victorian builder going in for ‘period’ and the quasi Tudor side wall is the work of an unemployed carpenter during the between-wars depression.”

1851 Census

Hayley Green

- [1] *Thomas Higgs* (34), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phoebe Higgs* (35), wife, born Pedmore;
- [3] *John Higgs* (7), son, born Hayley Green;
- [4] *Mary Ann Higgs* (5), daughter, born Hayley Green;
- [5] *Emma Higgs* (1), daughter, born Hayley Green:

Birmingham Journal 20/11/1852 - Advert

“Worcestershire. Desirable Copyhold Property, at Hayley Green, in the Parish of Hales Owen, and Freehold Property, at Dudley Wood, in the Parish of Dudley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Davies & Son, (by order of the Assignees of Messrs. Ruffords and Wragge, Bankrupts) on Monday, the 13th day of December, 1852, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, at Five o’clock in the afternoon – the undermentioned Public Houses, Land, and Tenements, subject to such conditions as will be then produced, and in the following or such other Lots as may be agreed upon at the time of Sale.

At Hayley Green, Hales Owen.

Lot 1. All that Inn, the FOX, with large Garden and extensive Frontage to the Turnpike Road leading from Hales Owen to Hagley, in the occupation of *Thomas Higgs*, containing 1,596 Square Yards.....”

1861 Census

Hayley Green

- [1] *Samuel Durham* (44), victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phoebe Durham* (42), wife, born Halesowen:

1871 Census

Hayley Green – FOX HUNT

- [1] *Samuel Durham* (54), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phoebe Durham* (52), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Robert H. Edney* (12), grand-son, scholar, born Birmingham:

1881 Census

Haley Green

[1] *Samuel Durham* (64), innkeeper, born Lutley;

[2] *Phebe Durham* (62), wife, born Lutley:

Dudley and District News 20/9/1884

“James Holloway (24) and William Taylor (30), miners, Short Cross, were charged with stealing 2s 5d from the person of Foley Homer, and also with assaulting him.

On Monday night the prisoners visited the FOX HUNT INN, Lutley, where, it was stated, several persons gambled for drink. A serious disturbance followed, and the prisoners and the complainant were ejected. When in the street it was alleged that the prisoners assaulted complainant, and afterwards took 2s 6d out of his pocket.

The Bench treated the case as one of common assault, and fined each of the prisoners 20s and costs, or in default one month’s imprisonment.”

County Express 11/10/1884

“*Peter Knowles*, landlord of the FOX HUNT public-house, Lutley, was charged with permitting gambling on his licensed premises on the 15th ult. Mr. Waldron defended.

The present case arose out of some evidence given in another case at the Halesowen police recently, when it was stated some card playing had taken place at the defendant’s house. Witnesses were now called who stated that gambling went on to the knowledge of the defendant on the occasion referred to – the 15th ult.

For the defence Mr. Waldron showed that the defendant was not at home at the time, and urged that he ought not to be held responsible in consequence.

The Bench took a lenient view of the case, and fined defendant 20s and costs. Charges against William Law and Foley Homer for refusing to quit the above named house were dismissed.”

County Express 2/5/1885

“*Sydney Smith*, a gipsy of Bartley Green, was charged with refusing to quit the FOX HUNT public house, Halesowen, and also with doing wilful damage on the 20th inst. Defendant did not appear.

The landlady of the house said the defendant went there between seven and eight at night and wanted to pick a quarrel. He was asked to leave, but would not go out. He afterwards smashed the door open, broke several panes of glass, and struck the landlady. Defendant was fined 10s and costs on each of the charges, and ordered to pay 5s damage.”

County Express 22/8/1885

“Annual Licensing Meeting at Stourbridge.

The black list contained the names of the following offenders.

Peter Knowles, beerhouse keeper, Lutley Renewed.”

1891 Census

Hayley Green

[1] *Job F. Edwards* (29), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] *Alice N. Edwards* (28), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Job F. Edwards* (2), son, born Lutley;

[4] *Harry S. Edwards* (10 months), son, born Lutley:

County Express 11/4/1891

“Henry Willetts, labourer, Hasbury, and Frederick Lea, labourer, Hagley Green, were charged with inflicting bodily injury to Charles Griffiths; and Willetts was further charged with assaulting John Langford, farmer, Hagley Green, on the 30th ult. Mr. John Wright appeared to prosecute, and Mr. T. Cooksey defended. The prosecutor Griffiths was stated to be too ill to attend. On the 30th ult, Griffiths went into the FOX HUNT INN, Lutley, to order a glass of ale, when Willetts, it is alleged, created a disturbance, and both prisoners knocked Griffiths down, and kicked him, causing some of his ribs to be fractured. It was alleged also that Willetts struck Mr. Langford on the head with a hedge stake.

A remand for fortnight was granted, bail being granted.”

Worcester Journal 11/4/1896

“Worcestershire Quarter Sessions.

James Hill, labourer, surrendered his bail on an indictment for unlawfully wounding, at Hayley Green, on January 19. Mr. Marchant prosecuted, and Mr. Cranstoun defended.

The prosecutor, Thos. Hingley, a stonebreaker, who was very deaf, had on Sunday Jan 19 gone to the FOXHUNT INN, at Hayley Green, where he met the prisoner. A quarrel arose over a quart jug of beer which prosecutor upset. Prisoner seized the jug and struck prosecutor twice, the jug being broken into pieces. Hingley was cut on the side of the head. A number of witnesses were called who described in corroborative detail the scuffle that took place on the occasion.

Witnesses for the defence alleged that the jug was struck against the edge of the window and was smashed, and prosecutor’s injuries were caused by his falling on the fragments. It was said that Hingley was ‘a curious man’ and ‘went like a lunatic’ after having drink. Mr. Cranstoun submitted that there was no case of malicious wounding, and the charge became reduced to one of common assault. Counsel urged that the prisoner was a peaceable man, the circumstances were provocative, and prosecutor’s wounds were slight.

Prisoner was acquitted.”

* possibly the same person

County Express 25/8/1900

“Stourbridge Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. Superintendent Pugh reported.....

The first case taken under this list was that of the FOX HUNT, Lutley, kept by *Charles Fox*, who was represented by Mr. Daly, instructed by Mr. Waldron. The objections were that the house was not needed for the requirements of the neighbourhood, and also that it was the resort of persons not bona fide travellers on Sundays, at times when the premises should have been closed.

Superintendent Pugh said the house was situated at Hayley Green, in the parish of Lutley, which contained altogether only 170 inhabitants. He visited it one Sunday in June, and found ten persons at least, drinking and smoking very comfortably. That was at a time when the house should have been closed to all but bona fide travellers. He cautioned the landlady, and told her he should object to the license. He was pleased to say that since that time the landlord had discontinued the practice very considerably, and there had been no cause for complaint. It was not far from the Halesowen division, where all the houses were closed on Sundays, and working men flocked to this house from Halesowen and that district to get drink. Situated as it was so far away, too, it was very difficult of supervision, and unless they gave a promise not to encourage this Sunday drinking, he would have to object to the license. If they would make a promise to discontinue the practice he would be satisfied, and would not object to the renewal of the license.

Mr. Daly said the superintendent had made a very fair offer, which his client would be willing to accept. He had held the license for 48 years, and it was a very old licensed house. In fact, no-one knew when the license was made first, it went so far back.

Mr. Freer suggested that the landlord should consider the advisability of only having a six days' license.

Mr. Daly promised to bring this before his client's consideration.

Mr. *Fox* then gave the promise desired by the superintendent, and the Bench renewed the license.....”

1901 Census

Hayley Green – FOX INN

[1] *Charles Fox* (49), licensed victualler, born Stourport;

[2] Emma E. Fox (42), wife, born Kidderminster;

[3] Nellie Fox (15), daughter, born Kidderminster:

1911 Census

Hayley Green – FOX HUNT INN

[1] *Charles Fox* (59), licensed victualler, born Stourport;

[2] Emma Elizabeth Fox (52), wife, married 30 years, born Kidderminster;

[3] Nellie Fox (25), daughter, born Kidderminster:

Sports Argus 17/8/1935

“Established in 1895, The Kidderminster and District Football League has grown to embrace clubs from a wide area last year the League was divided into two divisions. This season it has been decided to form three divisions with the object of avoiding a large number of matches at the end of the season. New teams are Victoria, Highley, Welfare Reserves, Stourport Swifts Reserves, Brinton III, and an application has also been received from the FOX HUNT, a Hayley Green club.”

Birmingham Mail 18/4/1939 - Advert

“Barmen (2) Wanted, for week-ends; used to bar work.

Apply, *Chambers*, FOX HUNT, Hayley Green, Halesowen.”

1939 Register

Hagley Road, Hayley Green – FOX HUNT

[1] *Harry Chambers*, date of birth 2/7/1890, married, licensee;

[2] May Chambers, dob 10/1/1892, married, unpaid domestic duties;

[3] Margaret J. (Chambers) Lowe, dob 29/4/1920, barmaid;

[4] Gordon H. Chambers, dob 10/3/1922, aero – assembler:

Birmingham Mail 6/5/1940

“At Halesowen today John Rose (aged 19), of Whitehall Drive, Halesowen; Edward John Leedham (aged 17), of Downing Street, Halesowen; and Horace Leonard Barrett (aged 18), of Wassell Road Hasbury, were charged with a 15-year-old boy with breaking into and entering the offices of the Railway Accessories, of Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, on April 21, and stealing money and stamps to the total value of £68 The four prisoners were committed for trial at the next Worcestershire Quarter Sessions, bail being allowed.

They were also charged in company with Charles Jones (aged 18), of Birmingham Street, Halesowen; William Hunt (aged 17), of King Street, Halesowen; Percy William Mills (aged 18), of Whitehall Drive, Halesowen; Donald Rudge (aged 17), of Downing Street, Halesowen; Sylvester Loveridge (aged 19), of Summer Hill, Halesowen; and four other youths under 16 years of age, with breaking into and entering a store at the rear of the FOX HUNT INN, Hayley Green, Halesowen, on Easter Monday, and stealing

16 bottles of beer and stout, valued at 10s 3d. Police-sergeant Thomas stated that all the prisoners made statements to the effect that while returning from a visit to Clent Hills three of the prisoners broke into the store and brought out the bottles of beer and stout, which were drunk by the rest of the gang.

All 13 defendants were committed for trial at the Quarter Session on this charge.”

Birmingham Mail 2/9/1940 - Advert

“Grampian Public Address Outfit complete with 2 loud speakers microphone on stand gramophone fitment almost new what offers would consider exchange.

FOX HUNT, Hayley Green, Halesowen. Phone Hal.1225.”

Birmingham Mail 10/9/1940 - Advert

“Wanted Bar-General live in safety zone good home & wages or one willing to learn.

FOX HUNT, Hayley Green, near Halesowen.”

Birmingham Mail 11/12/1945 - Advert

“Bar-General or Bar-Potman live in or out.

Mr. *W. Boddington*, FOX HUNT, Hayley Green, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/7/1967

“Bass, Mitchells and Butlers, the major brewery group with big Midland interests has bought the Bulls Head Company, which owned public houses in the Birmingham area. The four are the Bulls Head, Camp Hill; the Queen Anne, Hyde Road; the FOX HUNT, Hayles Green, Halesowen; and the Thurlston, Rednal. Bass, Mitchells and Butlers, which owns over 4,100 public houses, had been active in the takeover field. It recently beat Watney Mann in a battle for the North Western group, Bents Brewery.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/8/1967

“Mr. *Richard Davies*, manager of the FOX HUNT INN at Hayley Green, Halesowen, was found hanging in a summer house outside the inn yesterday. Last Tuesday, he and his family returned from a three-weeks holiday in Canada where they had visited relatives.

Mr. *Davies*, who was 52, had managed the FOX HUNT for six years. It was a free house until taken over recently by Bass, Mitchells & Butlers Ltd.

Next Monday, Mr. *Davies* was to have taken over a social club in the Birmingham area. He leaves a widow and two daughters.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1967

“Mr. *Richard Davies*, aged 52, manager of the FOX HUNT INN, Hayley Green, Halesowen, who hanged himself in the summer house outside the inn last Friday, was ‘a born worrier.’ This was stated yesterday by his widow, Mrs. Lily Florence *Davies*, at a Halesowen inquest. ‘He worried over the least little things – things that did not matter,’ she said.

Mr. B. G. Evers, Coroner for North Worcestershire, recorded a verdict that Mr. *Davies* took his life in a state of depression.

Mrs. *Davies* said that eight months ago her husband went to see his doctor who told him he had a liver complaint. The doctor told him to cut down on his drinking and he cut it out altogether.

Prof. J. M. Webster, the pathologist, said there was not the slightest evidence whatever of chronic alcoholism. Mr. *Davies* had been a perfectly healthy man.

Mr. Paul Young, of Penn, Wolverhampton, the area manager for Bass, Mitchells and Butlers Ltd, which recently took over the public house, said that Mr. *Davies* telephoned him after returning from a holiday in Canada last week and said that he did not want to stay with the company because he found the book work too much.

He had got another job and he asked to be released as soon as possible.

Mr. Young said, ‘I agreed to him going. I found him cordial and a nice man.’ He did not want him to go.”

FOX HUNT sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

Demolished in 1989.

Rebuilt

Sandwell Evening Mail 19/3/1993

“Bon Appetit Pub Grub.....

FOX HUNT, Hagley Road, Hayley Green, Birmingham.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 21/7/1994

“Residents have won their fight to block an application for an entertainment licence at a busy Halesowen pub.

Bass Taverns was seeking a seven-day licence for the FOXHUNT in Hagley Road, Hayley Green, which was rebuilt four years ago and now caters primarily for young people.

Following protests from residents about late-night noise, vandalism, public order offences and parking problems, the application was withdrawn at a meeting of Dudley’s licensing sub-committee.

Halesowen police backed residents in their fight to stop the application.

Halesowen councillor Ken Johnson, a member of the committee, claimed that the application was withdrawn because of ‘public

outrage' over the proposal. 'The pub is already a great nuisance to residents living nearby and people fear that if it gets a seven-day licence problems could get considerably worse,' he said. 'We did not have to make a decision when the application was withdrawn, but I have no doubt we shall have to in the future.'

A Bass Taverns spokesman said, 'All we wanted to do was run a karaoke night at the pub but because of the strength of feeling locally, we felt it best to withdraw the application as a neighbourly gesture. I don't think we shall be making a fresh application in the foreseeable future.'

Birmingham Mail 20/9/1996 - Advert

"Harvester Barbecues The Midlands.

With several new Harvesters also opening in this area, there's now sure to be one near you. Pay a visit and you'll see why Harvester has become so popular.

Every restaurant has a menu with a wide choice from the exotic to the more familiar. Dishes to share, recipes you won't find anywhere else and honest to goodness, unbeatable value. There's a Char-Grill barbecue where you can see your food seared over flames to seal in the juices and add a unique, smoky flavour. A Salad Cart where you can help yourself to whatever you like from a wide variety of salad ingredients and delicious dressings.

Feature laden decor, themed in the manner of an old country farmhouse. Friendly, helpful service and a traditional pub serving tasty bar snacks.

As a special introduction, why not use the attached voucher, for a free bottle of wine, when you visit one of the following Harvesters for an evening or midday meal for two.....

FOX HUNT, Hagley Road, Halesowen.

Subject to availability, this offer is valid any time except Saturday evenings after 6pm and Bank Holidays until 4th November 1996."

Halesowen News 3/8/2021

"A Halesowen pub/restaurant is trying to trace four people after a bill of £121 was left unpaid. The FOXHUNT Harvester on Hagley Road put out an appeal to track down the diners after a bill of £121.36 was unpaid on Thursday (July 29), leaving the business out of pocket. It has been shared more than 500 times, but so far the diners have not been traced. The restaurant has reported the incident to police and is appealing for anyone who recognises the people on the CCTV images to contact them. A spokesman said, 'My staff are already working hard enough and things like this hurt the whole team.'

The appeal states, 'To these lovely people who came and ate at the FOXHUNT Halesowen on Thursday evening, we would appreciate it if you popped back as quickly as you ran off without paying your bill. Total £121.36. It may have been an oversight and you had an emergency to attend to which would appear was so urgent that you drove off with one passenger's legs hanging out of the passenger door.'"

Express & Star 19/1/2023

"A Halesowen pub and restaurant has been handed a two-out-of-five food hygiene rating. FOXHUNT HARVESTER Public House, in Hagley Road, Hayley Green, was given the score after an assessment on December 14, the Food Standards Agency's website shows. According to the national food hygiene ratings website, improvements are necessary in relation to the cleanliness and condition of facilities and building to enable good food hygiene. This includes having an appropriate layout, ventilation, hand washing facilities and pest control....."

[2023]

FULL MOON

Hurst Green Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Bass, Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Voyager Pubs [2002]

Enterprise Inns [2015], [2016]

LICENSEES

Reg Jones [1984]

Mandeep and Randeep Bains [2013]

Mandeep Bains [2016]

NOTES

[1969]

Birmingham Daily Post 24/11/1979 - Advert

“FULL MOON, Hurst Green Road, Hurst Green, Halesowen: entertainment Fri, Sat, Sun.
Tel. 422 4124.”

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We've a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

FULL MOON, Hurst Green Road, Halesowen.”

Halesowen News 30/7/2013

“The FULL MOON pub and restaurant in Halesowen has undergone a £40,000 facelift, creating three jobs. The family-run business, owned by husband and wife team, Mandeep and Randeep Bains, is in Hurst Green Shopping Centre.

Mr. Bains said, ‘Many of our customers have suggested that we give the pub a facelift. We really value our customers’ feedback and we felt it was about time we gave the pub a fresh new look and expand it to become a restaurant too.’

The business now has nine staff and has introduced a delivery service and launched a catering service for events including weddings and birthday parties. Mr. and Mrs. Bains also run a convenience store, Simply Fresh Boldmere.”

Halesowen News 9/6/2016

“Owners of a Halesowen pub are threatening a U-turn on an earlier decision not to allow a car wash on the car park of the FULL MOON. A year ago Enterprise Inns scuppered plans by landlord *Mandeep Bains* to turn part of the car park over to a car wash business. The company ruled such a business was a ‘breach of his tenancy agreement on the pub and, therefore, not permitted’. For car wash operator Qamil Aliaj, whose application had been refused twice by Dudley Council in the face of massive opposition from nearby residents, before winning on appeal, it looked like the end of the road. But with management changes at Enterprise Inns, the prospect of the car wash now being allowed at the Hurst Green Road pub and Indian restaurant is more likely. Halesowen North councillor Karen Shakespeare was alerted to the possibility when she spotted an application submitted to the council last month for changes to the planning conditions relating to screens and drainage. She then discovered the staff changes at the pub company and has been told that Mr *Bains*’ car wash bid is now being considered by its legal department.

Cllr. Shakespeare said, ‘I am absolutely furious that a big company like this has not documented what was a major concern for residents and is now considering changing its policy.’ She added that as well as making direct representations to Enterprise Inns, she would also object to the changes to the planning conditions.

The Highways Department has asked for more detailed plans before commenting on the proposed changes and states parking in the middle of the site would ‘create pedestrian/vehicle conflict.’

A spokesman for Enterprise Inns said, ‘We have recently agreed a new tenancy agreement for the FULL MOON which includes the potential for alternative business use for some of the car park. The terms and conditions of the agreement state that any alternative business use will be subject to the necessary planning permission being granted and must not impact on the operation of the pub as a licensed premises. We are aware of the publican’s proposal for the car park and can confirm that subject to the relevant terms and conditions of our agreement being met, they will not constitute breach of the tenancy that is now in place.’”

Halesowen News 10/8/2016

“A landlord has blasted travellers claiming they intimidated regulars and made a mess in the toilets at his Halesowen pub.

Mandeep Bains, who runs the FULL MOON, said he felt ‘vulnerable’ when travellers supped at his bar after setting up illegal camps in the area recently.

He said, ‘They came in most nights and could get quite aggressive to other customers. I would have to talk to them to try calm them down. It put me in a vulnerable position and my regulars were quite scared. It affected our business.’

Mr. *Bains* said toilet rolls were thrown about and the wash basins left filthy.

Mr. *Bains* appealed to Dudley Council to ensure parks and playing fields were secure to prevent future invasions of travellers.

Meanwhile, he said he had no current plans to allow a hand car wash to operate on the FULL MOON’s car park, despite winning permission from Enterprise Inns. The company, which owns the Hurst Green Road pub, had done a u-turn on banning such additional businesses by issuing a new tenancy agreement. Plans for a hand car wash were twice refused by Dudley Council in the wake of petitions signed by more than 150 opponents and 53 letters of objection, claiming it would create unacceptable noise and disturbance, but approved on appeal from the Government’s Planning Inspectorate. It was only after the planning wrangle that Enterprise Inns’ policy not to allow such businesses on its premises emerged.

Mr. *Bains* said, ‘It was about 50-50 people for and against the plan and those I spoke to who live opposite were ok about it. I’m not sure what to do yet, but I have no plans at the moment.’

Halesowen North councillor Karen Shakespeare implored Mr. *Bains* to consider the strength of feeling of objectors and not to press ahead with the hand car wash in the future.”

Halesowen News 22/3/2022

“The FULL MOON BAR & GRILL on Hurst Green Road is being advertised to potential buyers for £400k. It is being sold through agent Fleurets Limited. Sales notes state the ‘substantial freehold property’ is being ‘operated as desi-style bar and grill.’ They state that the pub has a beer garden, patios and excellent parking, with 37 spaces. They go on to say the large 0.51 acre plot could be suitable for development or alternative uses.”

[2022]

GATE

110, (2), Colley Gate / Mapletree Lane, (Park Road), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Albert Mole
Frederick Oliver, Heath, Stourbridge
Herbert Dunn (acquired in 1904)
Julia Hanson and Son Ltd. (acquired on 27th July 1905)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Avebury Taverns [1998], [2001]

LICENSEES

Daniel Mole [1829] – [1835]
Daniel Mole Jnr. [1841] – [1846]
Mrs. Frances Mole [1849] – [1851]
Lucy Matilda Mole [1858] – **1871**;
Fanny Mole (**1871** – [1873]
Mole [1876]
Miss Jane Mole [1881] – **1885**;
Albert Mole (**1885** – [1896]
William Harry Oliver [1901]
Ezra Crampton [1903] – **1905**;
Herbert Dunn (**1905** – **1906**);
Philip Henry Crampton (**1906** – **1909**);
Benjamin Tromans (**1909** – **1916**);
George Henry Stafford (**1916** – **1921**);
Mrs. Ellen Roper (**1921** – **1923**);
Joseph Richard Barnes (**1923** – **1928**);
Samuel Buttery (**1928** – **1937**);
William Richard Buttery (**1937** – **1945**);
George Hodgetts Harris (**1945** – **1971**);
George John Embrey (**1971** – **1974**);
Terence Michael Taylor (**1974** – **1981**);
Richard Hunter (**1981**);
Derek Hill (**1981** – **1982**);
David James Davies (**1982** – **1983**);
Norman Price (**1983** – **1984**);
Elizabeth Mason (**1984**);
Franklin Thomas Worton (**1984** – **1992**);
William Keith Davies (**1992** – **1993**);
Christopher Edward Patrick Thomas Michael Thomas (**1993**);
Jeanette M Bashford (**1993** – []
Margaret Parks (**2000** – [2001]

NOTES

It was formerly the COLLEY GATE INN.

HORSE SHOE INN [1846], [1883]

HORSE [1835]

It had a beerhouse license.

Daniel Mole was also a blacksmith. [1829]

1841 Census

Colley Gate

[1] *Daniel Mole* (30), blacksmith, born Worcestershire;

[2] *Frances Mole* (25), wife;

[3] *Mary Ann Mole* (7), born Worcestershire;

[4] *Lucy Mole* (5), born Worcestershire;

[5] *Henry Mole* (2), born Worcestershire;

[6] *Mary Williams* (15), fs;

[7] *Francis Bird* (15), ms, born Worcestershire;

[8] *Matthew Stringer* (10), born Worcestershire:

Daniel Mole Jnr. was the son of *Daniel*.

Daniel Mole was also a blacksmith. [1845]

Frances Mole was also a blacksmith. [1849]

1851 Census

Colley Gate – COLLEY GATE INN

[1] *Frances Mole* (39), widow, blacksmith employing 2 men and victualler, born Kingswinford;

[2] *Mary Ann Mole* (17), daughter, domestic duties, born Cradley;

[3] *Lucy Matilda Mole* (15), daughter, domestic servant, born Cradley;

[4] *William Henry Mole* (11), son, assistant to blacksmith, born Cradley;

[5] *Sarah Jane Mole* (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[6] *James Mole* (6), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[7] *Daniel Dennis Mole* (3), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[8] *Noah Smith* (22), journeyman blacksmith, born Bromsgrove:

County Advertiser 16/10/1858

“The following persons were fined for having deficient measures in their possession.....

Lucy Mole, licensed victualler, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

1861 Census

Furlong Lane

[1] *Fanny Mole* (48), widow, born Cradley;

[2] *Mary Ann Mole* (29), daughter, born Kingswinford;

[3] *Lucy Matilda Mole* (25), daughter, publican, dressmaker, born Cradley;

[4] *William Henry Mole* (21), son, blacksmith, born Cradley;

[5] *Jane Mole* (19), daughter, born Cradley;

[6] *James Mole* (15), son, blacksmith, born Cradley;

[7] *Daniel Dennis Mole* (13), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[8] *Alfred Dennis Mole* (8), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[9] *Albert Mole* (4), son, born Cradley:

Miss *Lucy Mole*, beer retailer, Colley Gate. [1864], [1865], [1870]

1871 Census

Colley Gate – GATE INN

[1] *Fanny Mole* (67), innkeeper, born Cradley;

[2] *Henry Mole* (30), son, blacksmith, born Cradley;

[3] *Jane Mole* (26), daughter, born Cradley;

[4] *James Mole* (24), son, blacksmith, born Cradley;

[5] *Alfred Mole* (18), son, scholar, born Cradley:

Mrs. *Fanny Mole*, beer retailer, Colley Gate. [1872]

Henry Mole = Henry Mould

1881 Census

2, Colley Gate

- [1] Henry Mole (39), shoeing smith, born Cradley;
- [2] *Jane Mole* (29), sister, licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [3] Annie G. Mole (9), niece, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Ann M. Taylor (15), domestic servant, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Post 10/8/1883

“Yesterday morning, William Henry Mole (44), blacksmith, was found dead in his workshop, his body being suspended by a rope attached to his neck and to the roof. The man had been seen early in the morning in a depressed condition, supposed to be due to an over-indulgence in strong drink.”

AND

Dudley and District News 11/8/1883

“On Thursday evening Henry Mould, landlord of the HORSE SHOES INN, Colley Gate, near Halesowen, was found to have committed suicide by hanging himself in a blacksmith’s shop. It is stated that deceased had been drinking heavily for some time.”

County Express 18/8/1883

“On Saturday an inquest was held before Mr. Docker (coroner), at the TALBOT INN, Colley Gate, respecting the death of William Henry Mole (44), publican and blacksmith, who had committed suicide by hanging. The evidence showed that deceased had lately been strange in his manner, and on Thursday morning he was found dead in his workshop, and suspended from a beam with a rope. A verdict of Committed Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity was returned.”

Albert Mole was also a blacksmith. [1888], [1896]

1891 Census

110, Colley Gate – COLLEY GATE INN

- [1] *Albert Mole* (35), innkeeper and blacksmith, born Cradley;
- [2] Eliza Mole (35), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Florence Emily Maria Mole (11), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Harry H. Mole (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] Alice Beatrice Mole (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Lawrence Bason Mole (5), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] Ida Lillian Mole (3), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] Daniel Mole (2), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] James Pearce (26), servant, blacksmith’s assistant, born Halesowen;
- [10] Ellen Slater (18), general servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 6/10/1900 - Advert

“Albert Mole, COLLEY GATE INN, Cradley, General Shoeing Smith, begs to inform his customers that he has Removed his Business to the Corner of Colley Lane, near the TALBOT INN, to more extensive Premises, and begs for a continuance of their favours.”

AND

County Express 20/10/1900 - Advert

“Established 1763. Notice Of Removal.

Albert Mole & Son, Shoeing And General Smiths, beg respectfully to call the attention of their numerous customers that they have Removed their Old Established Business from the COLLEY GATE INN to more commodious and convenient Premises Opposite the TALBOT HOTEL, and hope, by strict and prompt attention, to continue to share the same patronage they have hitherto held. Note the address:– Albert Mole & Son, Shoeing and General Smiths, Opposite TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

1901 Census

Colley Gate

- [1] *William H. Oliver* (22), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Catherine Oliver (23), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Fanny Harper (20), general servant, born Kidderminster:

County Express 27/7/1901

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester; and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

William Harry Oliver, now residing in the Township of Cradley, in the said County, do Hereby Give Notice, that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Court House, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid County, on the 25th Day of August, 1901, for a License authorising me to apply for and hold an Excise License to Sell by Retail Intoxicating Liquors, to be consumed either on or off the Premises, at a House known by the sign of the COLLEY GATE, situate in the Township of Cradley, in the said County, and being within the said Division.

The Owners of the House in respect of which the License is required are Julia Hanson and Son Ltd., of 4, Tower Street, Dudley.
Given under my hand this 20th day of July, 1901.
William Oliver.”

County Advertiser 24/8/1901

“The annual Licensing Sessions of the Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division were held yesterday.....

Mr. J. Lawrence (instructed by Mr. A. W. Barradale, Dudley) applied for permission from the Bench to extend the premises known as the COLLEY GATE INN, Cradley, occupied by *William Harry Oliver*. Mr. Lawrence pointed out that the premises in question were in an old dilapidated state, and needed rebuilding. It was an old-established inn, which had a license which dated back about sixty years. In rebuilding the premises they proposed increasing the area a little, but were not going beyond the area licensed when the present house was erected. The present house was structurally unfit for its present purpose, and the only proper way was to rebuild it. The house had been well conducted, and the superintendent and Police-sergeant Clarke approved of the plans, as also did the District Council and the surveyor. The Bench granted the order and renewed the license.”

AND

County Express 24/8/1901

“Stourbridge Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. Lawrence (instructed by Mr. A. W. Baradale) applied on behalf of *Harry Oliver*, COLLEY GATE INN, Cradley, for sanction for rebuilding the premises which were described as old and cramped. The improvements had the sanction of the police, Mr. Pugh stating the alterations would be a great improvement. The Bench intimated they would renew the license when the house was rebuilt.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/1/1905

“At Stourbridge Police Court yesterday George Stokes, 18, blacksmith’s labourer, of Cradley, was charged with stealing £2 18s the property of Albert [sic] *Dunn*, landlord of the COLLEY GATE INN, Cradley. Prisoner, it appears, lodged with complainant, who had a box containing a sum of money, and complainant on December 27 missed £2 11s, from the box, and three days afterwards missed 7s. Information was given to the police, and Police-sergeant Noake arrested the prisoner on January 3, when he had taken the money and squandered it. Prisoner pleaded guilty, and was committed for one month with hard labour.”

County Express 5/12/1908

“Allen Beasley, Two Gates, Cradley, was fined 40s and costs, or in default a month’s hard labour, for refusing to quit the GATE INN, Colley Gate, on November 21st. Mr. Hickman appeared for the complainant (*Philip Henry Crampton*) and Mr W. S. Moberley defended.”

Tipton Herald 6/11/1909

“About 70 customers at the GATE INN, Cradley, were on Saturday evening entertained to dinner by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Ben Tromans*. A capital meal was served, after which Mr. Arthur Raybould was voted to the chair, and Mr. Fred Houghton to the vice chair. Songs were contributed by Mr. Homer, Mr. Fred Houghton, and others, Mr. J. Hill accompanying. On the proposal of the vice-chairman, seconded by Mr. Cornelius Robinson, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the host and hostess for the excellent meal they had served. The host briefly replied. Thanks were also accorded to the chairman, vice-chairman, and the artistes.”

1911 Census

Colley Gate – COLLEY GATE INN

- [1] *Benjamin Tromans* (24), chainmaker, born Cradley;
- [2] *Elsie Tromans* (22), wife, married 3 years, born Cradley;
- [3] *Frederick Tromans* (2), son, born Cradley;
- [4] *Leslie Tromans* (4 months), son, born Cradley:

George Stafford married *Esther Hodgetts*.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/9/1937 - Personal

“Mrs. *Buttery*, of the GATE INN, Cradley, and Family wish to Thank all relative and friends for kind sympathy in their sad bereavement; also for beautiful floral tributes.”

1939 Register

110, Colley Gate – GATE INN

- [1] *William Buttery*, date of birth 29/5/1903, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Phoebe J. Buttery*, dob 29/10/1903, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Elizabeth Buttery*, dob 18/7/1872, unpaid domestic duties, widowed:

Evening Despatch 6/3/1943 - Notice

“War Charities Act, 1940.

Notice Is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to the Halesowen Borough Council for the registration under the above-mentioned Act of the Gate Inn Forces Fund, Colley Gate, Cradley, Staffs, the objects of which are shortly as follows.

To provide Comforts for Customers of the GATE INN serving in HM Forces, and the administrative centre of which is situated at the GATE INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, Staffs. Any objection to the proposed registration should be sent in writing to the above-named Council within 14 days of this notice.

A. Head, Hon. Sec.

Dated 6th March 1943.”

It had a bowling green until 1998.

Black Country Bugle November 2000

“.....*Margaret Parks*, licensee of the GATE INN, has high hopes of restoring her bowling green to its former glory. She told me, ‘When I took over the pub the bowling green was completely overgrown and in some places the grass had grown to a height of four feet. My customers who have been using the pub for many years were always bringing me photos of bowlers playing on the green and could point out various well known performers and refer to what they called the glory days. My younger customers are also keen on the restoration of the bowling green.’

George Reeves, Chairman of the local Lye League, said the green had been closed for about two years and had been in existence for about twenty-seven.....”

It closed in 2017.

Dudley Chronicle 17/8/2017

“A Pub could be knocked down to make way for homes.

Plans have been lodged with Dudley Council to put nine houses on the site of the GATE INN, based on Colley Gate, Cradley.”

Express & Star 20/12/2017

“The bulldozers were poised to flatten the GATE INN, which sits opposite Cradley Labour Club in Colley Gate, but it will now be converted into a house after Dudley Council planners said it was a ‘heritage asset’. Plans to build six houses on the bowling green next to the pub on the corner of Colley Gate and Temple Tree Lane, will still go ahead. Dudley Council case officer Jenny North said in a planning report on the site, ‘Following further discussion, the applicant agreed to retain (in the main) the public house and convert it into one dwelling. Upon consideration it was felt that it failed to provide clear and convincing justification for the loss of the heritage asset.’

Councillor Richard Body, who represents the Cradley and Wollescote Ward, praised the decision. He said, ‘Where the pub is positioned sadly there have been many shops there that have been closed for many years making the area look an eyesore. So having the pub stood in a state of disrepair as well just adds to it, so I am extremely pleased that houses will be built there - it will attract more people to the area.’ He continued, ‘Being classed as a Heritage Asset it is important that we take care and make it look nice. Overall I feel this has been the best outcome.’

Other traders on the street said the pub had shut for good around four months ago. They said the site had been shut a number of times in recent years as tenants moved out. Planners say that there would be the removal of a single storey rear extension to the building and its replacement with a single storey rear extension. Obscure glazing would be used to prevent overlooking from some existing windows towards the new development. There will be rear parking court accessed off Maple Tree Lane for the new development with provision for two parking spaces for each of the properties. An electrically controlled gate would also secure the area from anti-social behaviour. Plans were originally put forward for nine properties to be built on the site along with the demolition of the pub. It is believed there has been a pub on the site since the 1800s.”

GEORGE

16, High Street, (Church Street), (Stourbridge Road), Townsend, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Obadiah Pearson

Peter Walker & Co, Tipton (leased) [1905]

Cheshires Brewery Ltd. (leased) [1908]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

George Fitter [1822]

William Granger [1835]

John Cooper [1839] – [1854]

William Moseley [1855] – [1888]
Albert Price [1890]
Joseph Cooper [1890]
Mary Ann Le Bas [1890] – [1891]
John Jones [1893] – **1897**
Mrs. Jones (**1897** – [1900])
Ellen Jane Arnold [1901]
Joseph Cooper [1901] – **1903**;
H Deller [1901] – **1902**) manager?
Thomas Joseph White [1903] manager?
Mrs. Eliza Jane Thomas (**1903** – **1905**);
James Foster [] – **1904**); ?
Elizabeth Foster [] – **1904**); ?
Henry Johnson (**1904** – [] ?
Henry Johnson (**1905** – **1906**);
Joseph Martin (**1906**);
Robert Anson (**1906** – **1909**);
John Harper (**1909** – **1910**)
Herbert Eldred Lewis [1911] – [1928]
George A Golding [] – **1931**);
William Darby (**1931**);
William Bates (**1931** – []
John H Garratt [1939]
Frederick Ernest ‘Fred’ Carey [1963] – **1981**);
Paul Anthony Kendall (**1981** – **1982**);
Sewak Singh (**1982** – **1983**);
Joga Swarna Singh (**1983** – **1985**);
Neil John Mullard (**1985**);
Joga Swarna Singh (**1985**);
Anthony Francis Corrigan (**1985**);
Neil John Mullard (**1985**);
Anthony Graham Mundon (**1985** – **1987**);
Howard William Collins (**1987** – **1989**);
Graham George Scarrott (**1989** – **1990**);
Philip Norman Bache (**1990** – **1991**);
Michael Withers (**1991** – []
Gary Rix (**1999** – []
Nigel and Gail Salisbury (**2009** – []

NOTES

Church Street [1835], [1849], [1851], [1861], [1865], [1871], [1873], [1881], [1904]
16, Church Street [1911]
Stourbridge Road [1912]
16, High Street [1939]

GEORGE HOTEL [1882], [1904], [1905]

Grade II listed

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 1/8/1842 - Advert

“Valuable Freeholds at Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Jesse Wright, on Monday, the 15th day of August, 1842, at five o’clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. *John Cooper*, the GEORGE INN, Hales Owen – all that substantially-built Public House and Premises, known by the sign of the GEORGE INN, together with two other Freehold Houses and Premises adjoining, in such lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be produced.

The Public House, which has been established upwards of a century, is situate at the corner of Church Street, in Hales Owen, and contiguous to the turnpike road leading from Birmingham to Stourbridge, and the other two Houses adjoining are in the respective occupations of Joseph Whitehouse and the Proprietors of the District Birmingham Fire Office.

The respective tenants will show the premises; and further particulars may be known on application to Edward Robinson, Esq; at the offices of Mr. Shaw, Solicitor; or of the Auctioneer, all of Dudley, where plans of the property may be seen.”

Eddowes Journal 29/3/1843

“Shropshire Assizes.

John Wade, brass-burnisher, was indicted for uttering a counterfeit five-shilling piece, at Halesowen. Mr. Corbett conducted the case.

On the 18th of February the prisoner went into the GEORGE INN, Halesowen, and called for a glass of rum, and gave a five-shilling piece to pay for it. After he had gone the cheat was discovered, and a few days afterwards the landlord met the prisoner accidentally at the HOLLY BUSH, a public-house about four miles from Hales Owen, where he had been playing the same trick, and he was taken into custody. He was found guilty, and sentenced to four months' hard labour.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 12/3/1851 - Advert

“Farming Sock, &c. New Brood Farm, Frankley, near to Halesowen and Northfield.....

Catalogues of which may be had at the Dolphin Inn, Bromsgrove; Bell Inn, Northfield; GEORGE INN, Halesowen; or the Auctioneer, Stourbridge.”

1851 Census

Church Street

[1] *John Cooper* (40), widower, victualler, born Warley, Worcestershire;

[2] James Cooper (20), son, butcher, born Warley Worcestershire;

[3] Henry Cooper (19), son, iron slitter, born Warley, Worcestershire;

[4] John Cooper (17), son, glassmaker / pipe warmer, born Smethwick;

[5] Mary Mole (51), housekeeper, born Kingswinford:

Brierley Hill Advertiser 28/2/1857

“An adjourned inquest was held on Monday evening last, before R. Docker, Esq, and a respectable jury, at the house of Mr. *Moseley*, the GEORGE INN, Halesowen, on the body of a female child, six weeks old, named Amy Southall, who met with her death under very painful circumstances. We believe that it is the practice of one or two individuals, commonly called quack doctors, to visit this neighbourhood, where they offer herbs, medicines, &c, for sale at a very low price. About three weeks ago one of this class, named Cox, sold a cordial which he called ‘Child’s Comfort’ to the mother of the deceased. A day or two afterwards the poor child was taken ill, when she gave it a portion of the mixture. It became suddenly worse, and in a few hours life was extinct. Mr. Bloxham, surgeon, of Halesowen, made a post mortem examination of the body; he said that the child had died from the effects of a strong narcotic poison. The jury were of opinion that the mother did not administer the poison with a felonious intent, and returned a verdict accordingly.”

County Advertiser 23/10/1858 - Advert

“Economy in Brewing.

Thomas Mees, Boiler Maker, Bell Works, Brierley Hill, begs to call attention to the superiority of his Wrought-iron Brewing Boilers, over those of either copper or cast-iron; being one-third less the cost of copper, and more durable than either. Cast-iron boilers are made hot-blast, cinder iron, are very liable to burst from expansion and contraction, or from having cold water put into them when hot, and also by frosty weather. The wrought-iron boilers are made of the best charcoal iron, from 20 to 200 gallons each, or larger if required, are worked at 25 per cent less cost in fuel and labour; and if erected by an experienced mason will last for twenty years.

These Boilers may be seen in use at.....

GEORGE INN, Halesowen.....”

1861 Census

Church Street – GEORGE INN

[1] *William Moseley* (38), butcher, publican, born Halesowen;

[2] Charlotte Moseley (36), wife, born Stourbridge;

[3] Sarah Moseley (8), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[4] Mary Moseley (6), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[5] Mary Randle (45), visitor, born Redmere, Worcestershire;

[6] Mary Ann Titts (20), servant, born Bournheath, Worcestershire;

[7] John Bishop (17), servant, born Cradley, Worcestershire:

County Express 17/8/1867 - Advert

“Joseph Potter, Castrator, Romsley, near Halesowen.

Begs respectfully to inform the public generally that he has taken to the business carried on for so many years by the late Mr. Edward White, and hopes by strict and punctual attention to business to merit that support so liberally bestowed upon his predecessor. Orders may be left as under.....

Mr. *W. Moseley*'s, GEORGE INN, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 26/9/1868

“Halesowen Statue Fair. It has been resolved by a committee meeting, held at Mr. *W. Moseley*'s, GEORGE INN, ‘That at the forthcoming statue, which will be held on Monday, October 12th, a fat ox shall be roasted in the Bull Ring.’”

Stourbridge Observer 23/1/1869

“On Friday, the 15th instant, at the Public Office, before E. Moore, Esq, Benjamin Bloomer and Phoebe Pass, father and daughter, were brought up in custody charged with stealing, on the 12th inst, a quantity of wearing apparel and other articles, value £4 14s, the property of Sarah Ann Hill.

Sarah Ann Hill said she now lived with Mr. Hair, grocer and baker, Hagley Street, as domestic servant. The box and other articles now produced were her property. She packed it up on the morning of the 12th, at Stourbridge. She put in the box two cotton dresses, one winsey dress, one shawl, a skirt, two flannel petticoats, a chemise, two bedgowns, a quantity of cotton aprons, a muslin apron, a chest preserver, a pair of woollen stockings, a neckerchief, a gingham body, a small stuff bag, and a pair of drawers. She corded the box sagely, and gave it to one of Mr. Rufford’s carmen, and directed him to bring it to Halesowen, and leave it at the GEORGE INN, and she would call for it. When she went for the box, at half past six in the evening of the 12th, it was gone.

William Moseley deposed that he lived at the GEORGE INN. He saw the box now produced in the passage of his house on Tuesday, the 12th instant, and ascertained that it had been left there till called for. He saw the prisoner Bloomer opposite his house in the Stourbridge Road. This was about six o’clock that evening, and he had seen the box safe in his passage about ten minutes before. About half past six the first witness came to his house, and asked for her box. Witness and the rest of his family looked for it, but it was nowhere to be found. He then went to the crier and had the loss proclaimed, and also gave information to the police. The next morning, having heard that an empty box was lying in the allotment gardens near the Grammar School, he fetched it, and gave it to the first witness, who identified it as her property.

Police-constable Newberry said that from information he received, he went to the prisoner’s house at Cradley, in company with Police-constable Smith, and searched it. He found the cotton dresses, scarlet petticoat, night dress, and flannel petticoats in a box in the female prisoner’s room, and the winsey dress and shawl now produced, in a box in the male prisoner’s bedroom. He then charged the female prisoner with stealing the above articles, and she replied, ‘I found them.’ He then told her he should have to take her into custody, and she began to cry and make a noise. The male prisoner then came into the room and said, ‘It is no use getting the poor girl into trouble; I found them and gave them to her.’ The female prisoner then said, ‘Yes, it is the truth; my father gave them to me.’ He then charged the male prisoner with stealing the things. He said, ‘I did not steal them; I found them tied up in a shawl.’ He then took both prisoners into custody. On the way to Halesowen the male prisoner said, ‘The girl is quite innocent; I done the job and gave them to her. I found them.’ He made this statement several times.

Mr. Moore said there was not sufficient evidence against the female prisoner, and she was therefore discharged. The prisoner Bloomer said he was innocent. He picked the articles up out of the road tied up in a shawl.

Committed for trial at the adjourned Sessions.”

[At the Worcestershire Adjourned Epiphany Quarter Sessions Benjamin Bloomer (59), striker, pleaded guilty to stealing a box, containing a quantity of wearing apparel, and was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment with hard labour.]

William Moseley was also a butcher. [1870], [1873], [1880], [1884]

1871 Census

Church Street

- [1] *William Moseley* (47), butcher and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Charlotte Moseley (45), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] Sarah Moseley (18), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Mary Moseley (16), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] Charlotte Moseley (7), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [6] Mary Randle (56), sister-in-law, born Stourbridge;
- [7] William Hadley (21), general servant, born Halesowen:

Stourbridge Observer 23/3/1872

“A ball took place on Wednesday evening last at the GEORGE HOTEL, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, upwards of 70 attended. Dancing was kept up with great spirit until old Sol appeared. The usual vote of thanks were given to the host and hostess, for the very able way they had catered for the party, and all passed off well.”

County Advertiser 3/1/1874

“On Saturday afternoon last, the employes of Mr. Ephraim Ball, of the Broad Gates Works, were invited to partake of dinner and supper at the house of Mr. *W. Moseley*, the GEORGE INN, forty-two persons sat down to the repast which was thoroughly enjoyed. After the removal of the cloth the company were entertained by Gill and Homer’s String Band. The health of Mr. J. Ball having been drank, the party separated after having received a thorough evenings enjoyment.”

County Express 31/10/1874

“William Hackett, charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the GEORGE INN, Halesowen, on the night of the 14th inst, when requested to do so, was fined 2s 6d and costs. *William Moseley*, the landlord proved the case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/7/1878

“Yesterday afternoon an inquest was held at the GEORGE INN, Hales Owen, before Mr. R. Docker, upon the body of Daniel Finney (21), nailer, residing at Short Cross, who met with his death while bathing in a marl pit on Saturday afternoon. It appears that the deceased went with some companions to a marl pit in a field belonging to Messrs. Bing Brothers, brick manufacturers. Deceased had not been in the water long when he was seized with the cramp, and immediately sank. His companions vainly en-

deavoured to rescue him, but as the water was very deep they were unable to do so. It was stated at the inquest that the deceased could not swim. A verdict of Accidentally Drowned was returned.”

1881 Census

Church Street – GEORGE INN

- [1] *William Moseley* (57), widower, butcher and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Lottie Moseley (17), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [3] Mary Randle (66), visitor, born Stourbridge;
- [4] Sarah Parish (20), general servant, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] William Perry (24), general servant, born Halesowen:

Dudley and District News 18/2/1882

“A well-attended meeting of the horsenail forgers was held at the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, on Monday afternoon.....”

County Express 1/12/1883

“Samuel Kite, miner, Springfields, Halesowen, was charged with refusing to quit the GEORGE INN, Halesowen, on the night of the 6th inst. On Monday night the defendant was found gambling at the Hotel, and being requested to stop created a disturbance and assaulted the landlord. It was found necessary to obtain the assistance of the police to eject him. Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

London Gazette 3/3/1885 - Advert

“To be sold, pursuant to a Judgment of the High Court of Justice, made in an action re Warr, deceased, Bloomer v Vaughan, dated the 22nd of March, 1884, with the approbation of the Vice-Chancellor Sir James Bacon, by Mr. Edward Smart, the person appointed by the said Judge, at the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, on Tuesday, the 24th day of March, 1885, at five for six o’clock in the evening, in seven lots.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1886

“William Davies (34), who described himself as a fruiterer, of London, was charged with obtaining 2s from Frederick Heath, fruiterer, of Hales Owen, and 6d from John Bevington, also of Hales Owen, by falsely representing that he had obtained a situation, and would repay the money on a certain day. There were other charges against the prisoner of stealing an overcoat, the property of *William Moseley*, landlord of the GEORGE INN; an overcoat, the property of Joab Hipkiss, STAR AND GARTER INN, Hales Owen; and of stealing 2s 6d, the property of Thomas Knowles, nailmaker, of Hales Owen.

On the charge of obtaining money by false pretences and stealing a coat, the property of *William Moseley*, defendant was committed to the Sessions for trial, and in each of the other cases was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment.”

[At the Worcester Quarter Sessions William Davis pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two months’ hard labour.]

Dudley Mercury 7/1/1888 – Advert

“Freehold Property and Premises, Rumbow, Halesowen.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed by the Trustees of the late Mr. Francis Bradley, to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Wm. Moseley*, the GEORGE INN, Halesowen, on Tuesday, the 24th day of January, 1888, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.....”

Birmingham Mail 11/2/1891 - Advert

“General Servant (good) Wanted at once.

Apply, Mrs. *Le Bas*, GEORGE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

1891 Census

Church Street – GEORGE HOTEL

- [1] *Mary Le Bas* (37), widow, licensed victualler, born Alderton, Suffolk;
- [2] Gertrude Albino (20), barmaid, born Cheltenham:

Birmingham Daily Post 22/4/1891 - Advert

“Barmaid, to assist in light household duties; and must be musical. Experience not necessary.

Mrs. *Le Bas*, GEORGE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

County Advertiser 27/8/1892

“The annual licensing session for the Halesowen Division was held at the Police Court on Tuesday.....

Superintendent Speke reported.....

He wished to give notice that he had served notices of objections upon *Joseph Cooper*, on the ground that the license was not required, that *Cooper* did not reside on the premises, and the manager had control of another house, and was not a fit person

The renewal of the license of the GEORGE INN to *Cooper* was adjourned to the adjourned licensing sessions.”

County Advertiser 30/9/1893

“The annual adjourned licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held at the Court House on Tues-

day....

Mr. Thompson, of Dudley, applied for the renewal of the license of the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, to *John Jones*.

Inspector Raybould said he objected to the renewal on the ground that applicant had been convicted of being drunk and disorderly on the highway, and also that the house was not required.

Mr. Thompson said that was not in the notice.

In cross-examination witness said the applicant had conducted the house very well since his conviction. The applicant's character was very good. It was a large house and had very good stabling accommodation. There had been a number of dwelling houses built in the neighbourhood.

Mr. Thompson said that was the exception. At only two or three other houses in Halesowen was there any stable accommodation, and as the house was near the Drill Hall, in which there were entertainments during the winter, in which Masons Courts were held, the house would be very convenient for stabling purposes. It was in a very good position and was one of those houses which would be left if the Local Veto Bill passed, which excepted restaurants and hotels. The house had been in existence for 150 years, and was one of the best conducted houses in the town.

Mr. *Jones* was called and gave evidence in keeping with Mr. Thompson's statement, adding that he had paid £250 for a lease of the house for nine years at a yearly rental of £40....

Mr. Howard said the Bench had taken into consideration what had been urged on behalf of the three applicants, and they had decided to grant the renewal of their licenses, but if there was any case against them of the same kind in future, they would be dealt with in a very different manner."

Birmingham Daily Post 14/6/1894

"A meeting of the Oldbury and District Licensed Victuallers' Association was held yesterday at the GEORGE HOTEL, Hales Owen....."

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

"The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court....

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *John Jones*, GEORGE HOTEL, Church Street, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for....

In the cases of *John Jones* the objections of the police remained good, and these were postponed until the 20th inst, when the adjourned Sessions will be held."

County Advertiser 3/10/1896

"The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held on Tuesday....

Inspector Raybould said that in the cases of *John Jones* the structural alterations required had been carried out, and he, therefore, withdrew his objections to the renewal of the licenses.

The licenses were renewed to the applicants."

Montgomery County Times 28/8/1897

"The funeral of the late Mr. *John Jones*, landlord of the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, Worcestershire, formerly of the Bull Hotel, Welshpool, took place on Tuesday week, at the Parish Church, Halesowen, amid every expression of respect. Mr. *Jones*, who was about 50 years of age, had occasion on July 19th to eject from the house a drunken woman. Her husband, a travelling hawker, savagely assaulted Mr. *Jones* by throwing a jug in his face, inflicting very serious injuries. Mr. *Jones*'s assailant was arrested and the magistrates sentenced him to four months' imprisonment. At the time the assault was committed Mr. *Jones* was unwell, and he remarked that he had received a death blow. He afterwards became very ill, and died on Saturday, August 14th, the immediate cause of death being dropsy."

County Express 2/10/1897

"The transfer of the license of the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, was granted to Mrs. *Jones*, wife of the late holder of the license."

County Express 26/5/1900

".....at the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen A. H. Sidaway is favoured with instructions from Mrs. *Jones*, who is leaving the neighbourhood, to Sell by Auction, on Monday, May 28th, 1900, the whole of the Excellent Household Furniture and Effects....."

County Express 30/3/1901

"*Ellen Jane Arnold*, landlady of the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, was charged with selling a quantity of brandy not of the substance and quality demanded.

Police-sergeant Pass said on February 11th he directed a girl named Emms to purchase some brandy from the GEORGE HOTEL. He followed the girl in, and as the girl was being supplied, he asked Miss Siviter, who was serving her, to supply him with a pint of brandy out the same bottle, and that Miss Siviter need not trouble to serve the girl, as she was acting under his instructions.

Witness was supplied by Miss Siviter in Mrs. *Arnold's* presence, and he paid Mrs. *Arnold* 2s 4d for it. Witness told Mrs. *Arnold* he had bought the brandy for analysis, and divided it in the usual way, and subsequently conveyed one of the samples to the public analyst. He had since received the analyst's certificate, which stated the brandy was fifteen degrees under proof. Witness took other samples of liquor etc in the town that day, and all the others were of the correct standard. Defendant was fined 40s and costs."

H. Deller = H. Duller

County Express 26/10/1901

"Hockey Club. A smoking concert was held at the GEORGE HOTEL, on Wednesday evening last. Mr. G. B. Parkes presided over a good attendance. The programme arranged was successfully carried through, songs and recitations being rendered by the following gentlemen: Messrs. H. Hall, T. Williams, C. Taylor, W. Thomas, S. G. Bayley, R. E. Hodgkins, and S. Cross. Included in the programme were whistling solos by Mr. W. Roberts who was in fine form and was heartily applauded, and sleight of hand tricks by the proprietor of the hotel (Mr. *H. Deller*) who gave a very clever performance. The evening was most enjoyably spent and a vote of thanks to the chairman and artistes brought it to a close. Messrs. W. G. Williams, W. Thomas, and J. Squires did duty as pianists in an admirable manner. It is hoped to have another smoker in a month's time."

County Advertiser 29/11/1902 - Advert

"Short Notice Unreserved Sale. Tuesday Next, December 2nd.

The GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen.

Edward J. Rabone has received instructions from Mr. *Duller* (who has disposed of the lease and is leaving), to Sell by Auction, on the Premises as above, Household Furniture and Effects, including a Nearly-new, Fine-toned, Full-compass, Upright Iron Grand Pianoforte, in Walnut Case, by William Sames, Ltd (cost 28 guineas this year); Music Seat, Marble Timepiece, Walnut-framed Overmantels, Liqueur Stand, Cut Glass Decanters, Champagnes &c; Mahogany Centre Table, 50 Strong Windsor Chairs, Mahogany Easy Chair, Pictures, Rugs, Iron French Bedsteads, Spring Mattresses, Beds, Bolsters and Pillows, Blankets, Sheets, and Counterpanes; Dressing Chest of 4 Drawers, with Swing Mirrors; Washstand with tiled back, Cane-seated Chairs, Toiletware, and other Items.

Sale to Commence at Two o'clock prompt.

Auctioneer's Offices: 6, New Road, Bromsgrove."

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

"On Tuesday, Mr. *William Moseley*, one of the oldest inhabitants of Halesowen, and a retired publican, passed peacefully away at his residence in Stourbridge Road. The deceased gentleman was a well-known figure-head in the district, and was held in high esteem by all whom he came in contact with. He was over 80 years of age, and his death is regretted by many."

County Advertiser 4/7/1903

"*Thomas Joseph White*, of the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, made an application for an occasional license for the Cricket Ground, from 12 noon till 10pm on the 20th of July, on the occasion of the Football Club Sports. The application was granted."

County Advertiser 11/2/1905

"On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.....

Superintendent Hill's report was as follows the following licensed persons have been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and have been dealt with as follows.....

Henry Johnson, of the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, on the 4th of October, 1904, fined £1 and costs £2 11s 6d, for selling adulterated whisky.....

I believe the license holders have conducted their houses well during the year and endeavoured to comply with the Licensing Laws. Since the period covered by my report, one licensed person has been proceeded against, viz, *Henry Johnson*, of the GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, who was on the 10th of January, 1905, fined 40s and costs, £2 12s, for permitting drunkenness. He has been instructed to appear personally before the magistrates in respect of an offence under the Food and Drugs Act.

It was decided to renew the whole of the licenses, including those on the black list, a caution being administered in these cases."

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday.....

Superintendent Hill, in his annual report to the justices, stated that.....

The following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as stated.....

On the 6th January, 1905, *Henry Johnson*, GEORGE HOTEL, Halesowen, was convicted for permitting drunkenness, and fined 40s and costs."

County Advertiser 1/9/1906

"Mr. T. Cooksey, jun, applied to the magistrates for sanction to carry out extensive alterations at the GEORGE HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, kept by *Robert Anson*. The proposed alterations would improve the living accommodation of the house, and would also make the premises more convenient for police supervision. It was proposed to do away with the present passage, and to provide only one entrance to the house from Church Street. It was also intended to provide better smoke room accommodation, and also an out-door department. The accommodation for the landlord and his family would be greatly increased. Plans

were submitted to the Bench, and after examining these Mr. Reay said they considered it a very serious matter both for the house and the neighbourhood. They preferred that the application should be made at the annual general licensing sessions.”

Birmingham Mail 13/9/1906 - Advert

“Horses (two), Spring Cart; Harness to fit; Sell lot very cheap, together or separate.
GEORGE INN, Hales Owen.”

County Advertiser 15/9/1906

“A diminutive man named Charles Holloway (63), of no fixed abode, but a native of Halesowen, was charged with begging on the 8th inst. Police-constable Taylor arrested the prisoner, who was begging at the GEORGE HOTEL, Stourbridge Road. Prisoner made a long statement in the course of which he said that when he was last committed to Winson Green the chaplain advised him, owing to the way he had been treated by the Workhouse authorities, to take out a hawker’s license, for which the chaplain would pay. He came to Halesowen Police Station for a license, and the sergeant communicated with the president of the Discharged Prisoners’ Aid Society, who said that the chaplain should have given him the license there and then. He had been trying to go hop picking, but he was disqualified through having no family.

Mr. Reay said prisoner had been in Halesowen before.

Prisoner: I have, but I have not remained so long as this time.

He was sent to gaol for a month with hard labour.”

County Advertiser 2/3/1907

“On Tuesday, the adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the police court..... On the application of Mr. T. Cooksey permission was given to make alterations at the GEORGE HOTEL, Stourbridge Road.”

Birmingham Mail 21/2/1911

“At the Hales Owen Police Court today *Herbert Eldred Lewis* licensee of the GEORGE HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Hales Owen, and William Cheshire, secretary to Messrs. Cheshire’s Ltd, lodged an appeal against the conviction of *Lewis* at the police court a week ago for permitting drunkenness upon his licensed premises. Recognisances were entered into, *Lewis* in £40, and Cheshire in £80.”

1911 Census

16, Church Street – GEORGE HOTEL

[1] *Herbert Eldred Lewis* (37), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;

[2] Sarah Lewis (38), wife, married 11 years, assisting in business, born Halesowen;

[3] Charles Hanwell Lewis (10), son, school, born Halesowen;

[4] Eugenie Chatline Lewis (4), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Express 19/8/1911

“At Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday Thomas Simmonds (50), labourer, of Furnace Hill, Halesowen, was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the GEORGE HOTEL on the 8th inst. PC Berry said he saw defendant go into the public-house with a man who was sober. The landlord, however, refused to serve him. He was fined 5s and costs.”

1939 Register

16, High Street

[1] *John H. Garratt*, date of birth 21/10/1907, formerly jockey, progression labour, aero works, married;

[2] Florence M. Garratt, dob 19/9/1905, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Edna Shipman, dob 18/4/1866, unpaid domestic duties, widowed:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/4/1961

“The GEORGE INN, Church Street, Halesowen, and the lorry which its driver, Mr. James Reynolds, of Sandford Avenue, Blackheath, crashed into the inn to avoid hitting an oncoming car, after the lorry ran away on Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, yesterday. According to Mr. Reynolds the lorry was travelling at 60-70mph by the time it reached the foot of the hill. It passed the traffic lights at the Shenstone crossroads, went along Whitehall Road and past another set of traffic lights into New Road, and though it was then travelling up hill, it was still doing about 40mph when it reached the junction of Church Street. Mr. Reynolds, escaped with a shaking.

Mr. Douglas Williams, who saw the crash, said, ‘It was plucky of Mr. Reynolds to stay at the wheel when he could have jumped out.’”

Black Country Bugle 1973 - Pub Personalities

“It’s a far cry from the footlights of some of London’s most famous theatres to the tap-room of a 200-year-old Halesowen pub, but *Fred Carey*, a Londoner by birth, seems to have made the transition without losing out in any way.

Fred spent the war years in the Airborne and decided to enter show business when he was de-mobbed. In those postwar years, music-hall was still a very live entertainment medium and *Fred* quickly joined up with a crowd of talented performers known as Harry Lester’s Hayseeds. This was a kind of sophisticated Crazy Gang with *Fred* known as Cicero Carey often earning the plaudits of the critics with his fine voice and clowning.....

Sharing with *Fred* the task of keeping the GEORGE customers well supplied with Mitchells and Butlers, is his wife Val, another showbiz personality of postwar days. She was a dancer and trapeze artiste, and caught Fred's eye whilst performing at Harringay.....

The GEORGE is no chromium-plated, swank establishment but a real down to earth Black Country pub with a loyal and partisan clientele. A few curtains will be drawn when its venerable walls finally bite the dust, like most of the buildings which surround it. The present property is some two hundred years old but its foundation must date back much earlier. It stands on solid sandstone blocks, similar to those in the nearby Norman church and a trip into *Fred's* cellar is like viewing some dungeon from the Middle Ages, except for the modern pumping equipment.

So far *Fred* has not come across any ghosts but his teenage son reckons the old building does some peculiar moaning and groaning around the midnight hour.

The *Careys* came to Halesowen about 11 years ago to settle down to a licensed trade career. Though *Fred* still has traces of that southern accent, and supports Spurs, he reckons Black Country folk take a lot of beating. 'Genuine and homely,' he calls them, adding that they have a great sense of humour.

When we asked *Fred* if he missed the camaraderie and fame of his earlier years he just grinned. 'How could I with a set of comedians like this to put up with every night,' he laughed, waving in the general direction of his bar-room regulars. Val echoed the sentiment and there is no doubt that the friendly atmosphere of the old GEORGE will take a lot of replacing when the bulldozer finally gets to work. Meanwhile, there's plenty of life in the old GEORGE yet."

Black Country Bugle 1973 - Advert

"Your favourite brews from M&B – Brew XI, M&B Mild, Carling Lager – on sale at the GEORGE."

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Sports-Inn Quiz. [1978]

Halesowen News 11/11/1999

"A warm welcome awaits you at the GEORGE, in Halesowen. The GEORGE is back in business. After an 11 month closedown the famous listed pub on the corner of Stourbridge Road has been completely refurbished and is now under new management.

[2010]

Closed [2011], [2019]

Dudley News 31/3/2020

"A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town's In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, 'The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....'"

GLOBE

15, Peckingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mary Cooper (acquired September 1903)

LICENSEES

George Moseley [1835] – **1858**)

Mrs. Sarah Moseley (**1858** – [1860]

Francis Thomas [1861] – **1865**);

John Moseley (**1865** – **1869**);

Thomas Beach (**1869** – **1878**);

John Smith (**1878** – **1881**);

Mrs. Martha Smith (**1881** – **1883**)

Henry Russell [1884] – [1888]

William Lee [1891] – [1892]

Mrs. Elizabeth Lee [1899] – 1904);
Joseph Cooper (1904 – []
Elizabeth Wardle [1911] manager
Thomas Charles Binfield [1912] – [1918] manager
Joseph and Joseph William Cooper [1912] – [1921]

NOTES

George Moseley = George Mosely

1841 Census

Peckingham Street

- [1] *George Mosely* (40), publican, born Worcestershire;
- [2] *Sarah Mosely* (40), born Worcestershire;
- [3] George Mosely (15), born Worcestershire;
- [4] William Mosely (13), born Worcestershire;
- [5] *John Mosely* (10), born Worcestershire;
- [6] Charles Mosely (8), born Worcestershire;
- [7] Hannah Mosely (4), born Worcestershire;
- [8] Phebe Hill (15), fs, born Worcestershire:

George Moseley was also a butcher. [1845]

He was described as also a butcher and maltster. [1849], [1854]

He was described as also as a farmer, butcher and maltster. [1851]

1851 Census

Peckingham Street – GLOBE INN

- [1] *George Moseley* (56), victualler, born Hampton Lucy, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Sarah Moseley* (52), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] William Moseley (27), son, butcher, born Halesowen;
- [4] *John Moseley* (20), son, butcher, born Halesowen;
- [5] Charles Moseley (18), son, butcher, born Halesowen;
- [6] Hannah Moseley (15), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] Maria Cooksey (20), servant, born Rowley:

County Advertiser 1/1/1859

“Transfer. The GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, from *George Moseley*, to his widow *Sarah Moseley*.”

Mrs. Moseley was also a butcher and maltster. [1860]

Birmingham Daily Post 27/4/1860 - Notice

“Notice to Debtors and Creditors.

All Persons indebted to the late Mr. *George Moseley*, of Hales Owen, in the County of Worcester, Maltster, Victualler and Butcher, or the late Mrs. *Sarah Moseley*, his Widow, both deceased, are requested to pay the amount of their respective Debts forthwith, to Mr. George Moseley, of Hales Owen aforesaid, Butcher, or Mr. William Moseley, of the same place, Innkeeper, in order that the Estates of the said deceased may be administered, and all persons to whom the said *George Moseley*, deceased, or *Sarah Moseley* were indebted, are requested to forward their accounts to us, in order, if correct, the same may be discharged.

By order of the Executors, Hayes and Wright, Solicitors, Hales Owen. April 24th, 1860.”

1861 Census

Peckingham Street

- [1] *Francis Thomas* (41), builder, broker, born Dilwyn, Herefordshire;
- [2] Sarah Thomas (38), wife, born London;
- [3] John William Page (13), son-in-law, scholar, born London;
- [4] Henry Thomas Page (8), son-in-law, scholar, born London;
- [5] Francis Thomas (3), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Elizabeth Thomas (8), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Rachel Lydia Thomas (1), daughter, born Halesowen:

AND next record

Peckingham Street

- [1] *John Moseley* (30), maltster, born Halesowen;
- [2] Hannah Moseley (31), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] William Moseley (4), son, scholar, born Halesowen;

[4] David Moseley (1), son, born Halesowen:

Leamington Spa Courier 16/8/1862

“Warwick Summer Assizes.

Dawson v *Thomas*. Mr. Wells and Mr. Stephens (instructed by Mr. J. P. Phillips) appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. Field (instructed by Mr. Homer) for the defendant. Plaintiff, a wine and spirit merchant, carrying on business in Cherry Street, Birmingham; the defendant, a publican, keeping the GLOBE, at Hales Owen.

The action was brought to recover £21 18s 2d, balance of account for spirits sold and delivered.

Defendant admitted liability to the amount of £19 odd, but disputed the charge of £1 7s for packages.

In cross-examination by Mr. Field, plaintiff said defendant had sent him two jars before the writ was served. The defendant had spoken about over-charge.

His Lordship said it appeared to him that the packages were supplied to defendant to be returned when empty.

Mr. Field contended that the charge had been brought over £20 in order that the plaintiff might be served with a writ.

Defendant was called, and accounted for detaining a cask by explaining that as the gin got thick in it, he ordered another lot to mix with it.

His Lordship directed a verdict for the plaintiff. Damages £19 1s 3d.”

County Advertiser 1/4/1865 - Advert

“Halesowen. To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Edwards, on Monday, April 10th, 1865 (without reserve), by direction of Mr. *F. Thomas*, of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, who is giving up the public business and changing his residence, part of the Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Steam Engine, and Effects, comprising Mahogany Oval, Centre, and Round Loo Tables, on pillars; Mahogany and other Chairs, antique carved oak Cabinet, oak carved Linen and other Chests, antique Eight-day and Thirty-hour Clocks, Chinese, japanned and oak Cases; antique japanned Cabinet and Card Basket, capital Grey Talking Parrot and Cage, Three Rolls of Oil Cloth, Seven New Hearth Rugs, Table Covers, Forms, square Deal, round, and Pembroke Tables, Butlers’ Trays, enclosed Washstand, Three-tier What-Not, Oil Paintings and Prints, in gilt and other frames; excellent iron-bound Hogshead and Half-hogshead Casks, Mashing and other Tubs, Four-pull Beer Machine, in Mahogany Case; Measures, Glasses, Jugs and Cups, Chimney Glass, Plated Toast Rack, Castors and Frames, Price’s Patent Stove; a Three-horse power Vertical Steam Engine, with Boiler; Set of Iron Castings, for 9in Lathe, with back Gear; Carpenter’s Tool Chest, Three 1½in new Panel Doors, Twenty Cart Hobs, Scales and Weights, Two Guns, Blunderbuss, Drummond’s Patent Churn, Shower Bath, Kitchen, Chamber, and Culinary Utensils, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at Ten o’clock in the Morning.

Catalogues will be distributed, and may be had at the Place of Sale, and of the Auctioneer, at his Offices, No.30, Market Street, Stourbridge.”

Stourbridge Observer 18/1/1868

“At the Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before Messrs. E. Moore and E. Gem, Philip Chatwin, Benjamin Randle, George Wood, and Edward Parsons were charged by Superintendent Overend with being drunk and refusing to leave the GLOBE INN, on the morning of the 22nd ult, when requested to do so by the landlord. Chatwin, Randle and Wood pleaded guilty; and Parsons not guilty. The case was clearly proved against all the defendants by the evidence of Police-constable Rowberry and Mr. *Moseley*. Chatwin, Randle and Wood were each fined 1s and costs, and Parsons was fined 2s 6d and costs; in default 14 days’ hard labour.”

1871 Census

Peckingham Street – GLOBE

[1] *Thomas Beach* (26), licensed victualler and gun barrel maker (journeyman), born Halesowen;

[2] *Elizabeth Beach* (30), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *William Beach* (1), son, born Halesowen;

[4] *Annie Carter* (15), general servant, born Rowley:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/5/1878 - Advert

“Halesowen. GLOBE INN. Rent £20.

To Let, one of the best Licensed Houses. Must be entered immediately, proprietor having other engagements.

Contains bar, parlour, tap room, kitchen, club room; stabling, piggery. In-coming £130.

Apply on Premises.”

County Advertiser 21/6/1879

“*Jane Wilson*, housekeeper, *Rainbow*, and *Edward Pearce*, blacksmith, *Rainbow*, were charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *John Smith*, and with refusing to leave when ordered to do so.

Police-constable *Webb* gave evidence that on the 4th inst, in consequence of the defendants refusing to quit the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, he was sent for to eject them. He found them drunk. They left without his having to resort to force, but the man used bad language.

The man was fined 5s and costs, and the woman was fined 7s 6d and costs.”

County Advertiser 25/9/1880

“*Martha Smith*, wife of *John Smith*, landlord of the GLOBE INN, Halesowen, was charged with assaulting Susannah Knowles. There was also a cross-summons. Mr. Hayes appeared for *Smith*, and Mr. Shakespeare (Oldbury) for Knowles. The case in which Mrs. *Smith* was the complainant was taken first. Complainant said defendant struck her on the eye, and entwined her hand in complainant’s hair, beat her most unmercifully. Mr. Bloxham, surgeon, Halesowen, was called, and gave evidence as to the injury complainant had sustained. The other case was then taken. The complainant Knowles alleged *Smith* struck her before she (complainant) put her hand near defendant. Both cases were dismissed.”

John Smith died in 1881.
He was married to *Martha*.

1881 Census

Peckingham Street – GLOBE INN

- [1] *Martha Smith* (43), widow, licensed victualler, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [2] Hannah M. Pountney (18), general servant, born Plympton, Devon;
- [3] Eliza Prince (60), visitor, dress maker unemployed, born Dudley:

Dudley and District News 27/8/1881

“Halesowen. Annual Licensing Session.....

The license of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, was transferred from *John Smith* to his widow, *Martha Smith*.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 27/8/1881

“*Martha Smith*, of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with keeping her house open for the sale of intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours, on the 21st inst.

PS Raybould said on Sunday at 1 am he visited the defendant’s house and demanded admission, which after some time was granted, he went upstairs and found a man named William Hall in bed. He had seen Hall in the street at five minutes past eleven. Cross-examined by Mr. Stokes: I did not see him enter the house. I will state that he entered the house after eleven o’clock. The landlady did not tell him that Hall was ill.

PC Roper corroborated.

Mr. Stokes for the defence pleaded not guilty, alleging that the man Hall was taken ill – and being half a mile from home – asked permission to stop there for the night, and he did not have anything to drink.

Mr. Gem said the Bench were of opinion that the defendant was harbouring the man there, and imposed a fine of 20s and costs or 28 days.

William Hall, Islington, was then charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours.

PS Raybould proved the case and defendant was fined 10s and costs or 14 days.”

Dudley and District News 26/8/1882

“The annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen division was held on Tuesday, at the Public Office.....

The annual report was presented by Superintendent Hardman.....

Since the last meeting one licensed victualler had been convicted for an infringement of the Licensing Act, viz *Martha Smith*, of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, who, for keeping her house open during prohibited hours, was fined 20s.”

Dudley and District News 25/8/1883

“Annual Licensing Sessions.

The license of *Martha Smith*, of the GLOBE INN, Halesowen, was held over until the adjourned Licensing sessions.”

County Advertiser 22/9/1883

“Adjourned licensing day.....

The license of *Martha Smith*, landlady of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, was not renewed, Mr. Wright stating that his instructions were not to apply for a renewal of the license, Mrs. *Smith* intending to leave the house.”

County Advertiser 3/5/1884

“*Henry Russell*, landlord of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 15th inst. The evidence went to show that although a drunken man was on the premises for some time he did not supply him with beer. The defendant was discharged with a caution.”

1891 Census

Peckingham Street

- [1] *William Lee* (34), licensed victualler, born Oldswinford;
- [2] *Elisabeth Lee* (37), wife, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 12/9/1891

“Harry Parsons, of Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *William Lee*, landlord of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, and refusing to leave the same on the 26th ult. It appeared that defendant went into the house, and the landlord refused to supply him with ale, telling him to leave. Defendant said he would not go until the landlord

had sent for a policeman. Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs, or seven days.”

Elizabeth Lee = Elizabeth Lea

County Advertiser 2/9/1899

“The annual licensing meeting of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held on Tuesday last.....

Mr. Superintendent Clare said he had given notice to Mr. Harry Field of the CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, that he should oppose the renewal of his license as he found the premises were so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the Licensing laws, and further, that there was no necessity for the license, the district being amply provided for.....

Superintendent Clare mentioned the cases of Harry Field and *Elizabeth Lea*, each of whom had made alterations to their premises to his satisfaction. The cases were adjourned.”

County Advertiser 30/9/1899

“Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The Bench renewed the licenses of Henry Field, CROSS GUNS INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, and *Elizabeth Lee*, GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen in which case Superintendent Chare said the alterations to the premises had been carried out in a satisfactory manner.”

1901 Census

Peckingham Street

- [1] *Elizabeth Lea* (48), widow, innkeeper, born Cradley;
- [2] Flora Adams (25), daughter, single, born Netherton;
- [3] Lily Adams (20), daughter, single, born Lye:

County Advertiser 9/4/1904

“On Tuesday night a dinner for the purpose of winding up the season in connection with the GLOBE Shooting Club, was held at the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street. Mr. J. Brocknill (captain), occupied the chair and was supported by Messrs. J. Foley, W. Edmonds, &c. A capital programme of music was gone through and a pleasant evening was spent.”

County Advertiser 29/10/1904

“Mary Cooper, a married woman, of the Limes, applied for an ejectment order against *Elizabeth Lea*, landlady of the GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen. Mr. A. G. Hayes, who supported the application, pointed out that in September 1903 the applicant came into possession with the property, and she gave notice to the defendant to quit the premises on the 25th of March 1904. When this expired defendant stated that her tenancy expired the 29th of September last. A fresh notice was given to the defendant to quit on the 29th of September, but when this was served she simply disputed the validity of the notice. Mr. Joy (instructed by Messrs. Duffield, of Birmingham), who defended, contended that the notices were not sufficient, and asked the Bench not to make the ejectment order. After hearing the evidence the Bench decided to make the order.”

1911 Census

15, Peckingham Street

- [1] *Elizabeth Wardle* (34), widow, manager of the GLOBE INN, born Halesowen;
- [2] Mable Wood (18), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

County Express 19/8/1911 - Advert

“Pianist Wanted at once.

Apply the GLOBE INN, Halesowen.”

County Express 21/9/1912

“At Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday, Charles Stanton (28), of Summer Hill, Halesowen, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly and assaulting PC Lea on the 14th inst.

The constable stated that at 10.45pm he was on duty in the Bull Ring, when he saw defendant, with two brothers, drunk and creating a disturbance. A large crowd congregated, and witness requested defendant to go home. He refused twice, and witness then took him into custody. Defendant became violent, and struck witness two severe blows in the mouth, one splitting his lip and the other breaking a tooth. Witness lost his helmet and cape in the struggle.

Samuel Rose gave corroborative evidence. He said defendant was very drunk and violent.

Defendant said he could not remember striking the officer more than once.

Supt. Rudnick said Saturday night in the town was almost like a riot. As soon as the police had landed one prisoner in the cells another telephone message was received to the effect that another constable was being badly treated. It was as if the town was let loose.

The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs for the drunkenness, and for the assault on the constable he was sent to goal for a month without option.

Thomas Stanton (26), ex-soldier, Summer Hill, Halesowen, brother of the last defendant, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly and assaulting PC Cowell on the 14th inst. He was further summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the

GLOBE INN, Peckingham Street, and also for assaulting the manager, *Thomas Charles Binfield*.

PC Cowell said at 10pm he was with Supt. Rudnick, when he saw prisoner, who had been ejected from the GLOBE INN, and a complaint was made against him by the manager. Witness and the superintendent both cautioned prisoner. At 10.50 he again saw prisoner, who was quarrelling in High Street. Witness arrested him, as he refused to go home, and prisoner then became very violent and kicked him badly about the legs. Witness called upon a man named Thomas Craddock for assistance, and subsequently PS Hemming helped him.

Thomas Craddock said the man was in a drunken condition, and refused to go home. He kicked the officer badly when arrested. *Binfield* alleged that prisoner came into his public house in a drunken condition, and as soon as he saw him witness asked him to leave. Prisoner refused to do so and punched witness in the mouth, knocking him against the wall. He then walked out of the house.

John Pitchford gave corroborative evidence.

Prisoner alleged that the police ill-treated him when he was placed in the cells.

Supt. Rudnick said prisoner's allegations were entirely unfounded, as he was present at the time the men were placed in the cells.

Prisoner had been a regular nuisance to the district since he was discharged from the army.

The Bench fined prisoner 10s and costs in each of the cases of drunkenness, refusing to quit, and assaulting *Binfield*, amounting in all to £3, or six weeks' imprisonment. For the assault on the officer he was sent to goal for a month without option."

Birmingham Mail 2/5/1916 - Advert

"Barmaid Wanted at once; also General.

Apply by letter, or after six any evening. GLOBE, Halesowen."

Birmingham Mail 16/8/1917 - Advert

"Darraco, 10bhp, 2-seater, complete £75; or exchange for 1916 B.S.A. Combination.

Apply *Binfield*, GLOBE Halesowen."

Birmingham Mail 14/8/1918 - Advert

"Barmaid Wanted, good all-round Woman, one who can take full charge; girl kept.

Apply after 6pm, *Binfield*, GLOBE INN, Hales Owen."

Thomas Charles Binfield – see also CROWN, Bull Ring.

Closed

It became a shop.

GOLDEN CROSS

Peckingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Frederick William Fisher [1907]

LICENSEES

John Gray []

John Wakefield [1822]

Richard Russell [1829] – [1831]

Thomas Harris [1835]

Jukes [1843]

James Cooksey [1844]

Thomas Parish [1846]

Thomas White [1851] – [1858]

John White [1861] – [1865]

Reuben Parsons [1866]

Samuel Bate [] – **1867**;

Thomas Robbins (**1867**);

Joseph Nock (**1867 – 1871**)

William Robinson [1872] – **1877**;

John Henry Bowen (**1877**);

George Paskin (**1877 – [1880]**)

John White [1880] – **1881**;
Joseph Nock (**1881** – [1888]
John Thomas Mills [1892]
William Ware [1896]
James Nock [1898] – [1899]
George Thomas [1901]
William Payne [] – **1902**
John James Edwin Squires [] – **1903**;
George Henry Beasley (**1903** – [1906]
Frank Bolus (**1907**):

NOTES

CROSS [1831], [1865], [1867], [1873], [1877], [1879], [1880], [1881], [1888], [1892], [1896]

John Gray = John Grey

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/9/1829 - Advert

“Freehold Premises, Hasbury, near Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction, by J. Davies, on Monday the 21st day of September inst at four o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. *Richard Russell*, known by the sign of the GOLDEN CROSS, in Halesowen, in the county of Salop – all that desirable Freehold Messuage or Dwelling House and Shop, in excellent repair, with well fruited Garden and appurtenances situate at Hasbury, near Halesowen, adjoining the turnpike road leading from thence to Hagley, now in the occupation of Mr. William Twamley, who will on application shew the premises, of which possession may be had at Michaelmas next.

Further particulars may be known by applying to Messrs. Hayes and Hinchcliffe, Solicitors, Halesowen; or to Mr. Davies, Land Agent, High Street, Stourbridge.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/6/1831 - Died

“On the 6th instant, Mr. *John Gray*, aged 83, of Warstone Lane, Birmingham, and formerly landlord of the GOLDEN CROSS, Halesowen.”

AND

Worcester Journal 23/6/1831 - Died

“On the 6th inst, aged 83, Mr. *John Grey*, of Birmingham, and formerly landlord of the GOLDEN CROSS, Hales Owen.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/10/1831 - Advert

“Public House, Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, on the premises, by Payton and Son, Tomorrow (Tuesday) October 11, the Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Ale Casks, and Stock of Ale, belonging to *Richard Russell*, at the sign of the CROSS, Hales Owen, in the County of Salop. The Furniture comprises four-post and tent bedsteads, mattresses, sheets, blankets, chests of drawers, strong drinking-tables, chairs, screens, grates, &c, about 150 gallons of good ale, 200-gallon Casks, 9 Hogsheads, 16-strike mashing tub, two capital vats, working tubs, coolers, &c, the whole of which will be found to be prime and well seasoned.

The Licenses may be had and Possession given by taking to the fixtures at a fair valuation. For further particulars apply to the Auctioneers.

The sale to commence in the morning at ten o'clock.”

Worcester Herald 4/11/1843

“*Mary Jukes*, wife of the landlord of the GOLDEN CROSS, Hales Owen, Shropshire, eloped with Henry Copistoft, a chimney-sweep, last week, taking with her several articles, and £100 in money. The Helen is described as being 45 years of age, chin-scarred, grey-haired, and toothless in front!”

Directory 1846

“Coaches and Omnibuses.....

To Birmingham.....

Samuel Parish's Coach, from the CROSS, Peckingham Street, every morning (Sunday excepted) at nine.”

Birmingham Journal 27/11/1852 - Advert

“The GOLDEN CROSS, Hales Owen.

By John Roderick. To be Let, the above desirable Spirit Shop (the only one in the Town) and General Tavern, doing a large and very profitable Business. Coming in about £200.

Apply to John Roderick, New Street, Birmingham.”

Thomas White was also a farmer. [1854]

Brierley Hill Advertiser 3/4/1858

“Edward Hodgetts was charged with assaulting PC Row while in the execution of his duty on Monday last. Complainant stated that about nine o’clock on the evening of the above day he was called to the CROSS INN, Halesowen, to quell a disturbance, when he found the defendant fighting with another man. He requested him to desist, and leave the house, which he declined doing, and was consequently taken into custody by the complainant. During his transit to the station house he abused and struck Row, and also another officer named Brown. Defendant told the Bench that he was under the influence of liquor at the time, and was very sorry for what had taken place. In consideration of it being the first time that defendant had been brought before the Magistrates, and his employers having given him a good character in a note handed to the Bench, they only fined him 2s and costs.”

Birmingham Journal 8/5/1858 - Advert

“The OLD GOLDEN CROSS Wine And Spirit Vaults, Hales Owen.
To be Let, the Lease, Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of that very old-established House.
For particulars, apply as above.”

Birmingham Journal 29/5/1858 - Advert

“The GOLDEN CROSS Spirit Vaults, Hales Owen.
By Roderick and Son. To be Sold by Private Contract (by direction of Mr. *Thomas White*, who has resided in the above House eight years, and is now leaving in consequence of the other engagements) the valuable Lease (nine years unexpired), Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above well-known Old-established House of Business, situated in a principal thoroughfare, and in the best part of the town, and now doing a large, lucrative, ready-money in and out-door trade.
The Premises, which are convenient and commodious, are held at the low rental of £30, which is reduced by let-offs amounting to £29 10s 6d, to the nominal sum of 10s per annum.
For further particulars, apply on the Premises; or to the Auctioneers.”

1861 Census

Peckingham Street

- [1] *John White* (55), licensed victualler born Beeley [Beoley], Worcestershire;
- [2] *Mary Johnson White* (46), wife, born Beeley, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Ann Chambers* (16), daughter-in-law, born Redditch;
- [4] *Alice Chambers* (13), daughter-in-law, born Redditch;
- [5] *Lavinia Chambers* (9), daughter-in-law, scholar, born Redditch;
- [6] *Alfred Dutton* (23), lodger, musician, born Bromsgrove Lesky, Worcestershire;
- [7] *William Nack* (20), lodger, musician, born Tipton;
- [8] *James Nack* (23), lodger, musician, born Cradley;
- [9] *William Ballard* (40), lodger, brewer, born Rowley Regis;
- [10] *Ann Wright* (22), visitor, dressmaker, born Redditch;

County Advertiser 15/9/1866

“The annual licensing meeting of the magistrates was held on Tuesday.....
The following licenses were suspended till the adjourned licensing meeting on the 25th inst, to enable further inquiries to be made.....
Reuben Parsons, GOLDEN CROSS, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 29/9/1866

“Adjourned Annual Licensing Meeting.
At the Public Office, on Tuesday at the close of the usual business, the Magistrates proceeded to determine on the licenses which were suspended at the first meeting, and decided as follows. The licenses of OLD GOLDEN CROSS, kept by *Reuben Parsons*, at Halesowen, were refused.”

Thomas Robbins = Thomas Robins

County Express 16/2/1867

“At the Petty Sessions, held at the Public Office, on Tuesday, before Messrs. E. Moore and R. Gem, *Thomas Robbins*, of the CROSS INN, was summoned for permitting gambling in his house on the 8th instant. The evidence produced was not sufficient to justify a conviction, and the case was adjourned for fourteen days, for one of the persons engaged in the gambling to appear.....
An application was made for a transfer of the CROSS, from Mrs. *Susanna Watkins Bate* to *Thomas Robbins*, but, as appears above, *Robbins* was charged with permitting gambling, and the case being adjourned for the production of further evidence, the transfer of the license was withheld.”

Stourbridge Observer 2/3/1867

“At the Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before E. Moore, E. Gem, and S. Hanbury, Esqrs, *Thomas Robins*, landlord of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, was charged by Superintendent Overend with allowing gambling in his house, on the 8th of February. Mr. Burbury defended.

This case, it will be recollected, was adjourned for the attendance of an important witness.

Mrs. Robins repeated the evidence she had given on the last occasion.

Cross examined: I saw several games played, and saw the money paid after they were lost. My husband paid 2½d for what he lost. I complained to the landlord and his wife of the gambling. There was also card playing going on.

Benjamin Willetts, nailer, said: On the above date I was at the CROSS INN from seven to eight o'clock. I was there when my wife came in. I was playing at dominoes, but the game was not played out. It was agreed that the loser should pay for a pint of ale, but Williams the other player ran away. There were several games played, but don't recollect how many.

Mr. Burbury said that after that evidence he could not cross examine the witness, but he was there to ask the Bench to be as lenient as they could. His client had been in a foreign country where it was allowed, but now that he knew that it was not permitted here he (Mr. Burbury) had no doubt that he would do all that lay in his power to discontinue the practice. He was under the impression that if they only played for beer and not for money – he not being a gainer by the transaction as the men would have had the beer whether or not – that he was not liable. He was a new beginner in the business, having only recently returned from abroad. Mr. Burbury here put in some excellent characters – one showing how the defendant had been in the 24th Regiment of Foot for nearly ten years, and had bought himself off by paying the usual amount; another from the Mauritius police force. In consideration of these testimonials joined together with the fact that his client was ignorant of the law, he (Mr. Burbury) hoped the Bench would be as lenient as possible.

The Bench remarked that being ignorant of the law was no excuse, but under the circumstances they should inflict a fine of 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/4/1867 - Advert

“Sale Tomorrow (Thursday), the 18th instant.

OLD GOLDEN CROSS INN, Hales Owen.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. C. Wootton, as above Tomorrow (Thursday), commencing in the morning at Eleven o'clock, on the Premises of Mr. *Thomas Robbins* (under a Deed of Assignment) – all the capital Brewing Plant, Pubic-House Fixtures, Household Furniture, &c, comprising two large wrought-iron Boilers and Fittings, 20-strike Mash Tub, pair of large Vats, nineteen well-bound Barrels, 400 gallons of Ale, Pocket of 1866 Hops, capital four-pull Ale Machine, and nine-tap Liquor Fountain, painted Liquor Barrels, capital Malt Crusher, half-tester and other Bedsteads, prime goose-feather Beds, Bedding, Mattresses, Glasses, Wash-stands, Tables, Chairs, very superior Slate-bottom Bagatelle Board, Balls, Cues, and Marking Board; long metal-top Counter, Doors, Grates,, Mantlepieces, Partitions, Signs, Gas-fittings and Piping, Hop Press, and numerous other Effects. Also a nearly-new Gasometer, with Retort and Fittings complete, 8feet by 5 feet, for twenty lights, the property of Mr. R. Parsons. Catalogues may be had at the place of Sale, or of the Auctioneer, Paradise Street, West Bromwich.”

County Advertiser 20/4/1867 - Notice

“The Bankruptcy Act 1861.

Notice of Adjudication and First Meeting of Creditors.

Thomas Robbins, formerly of the Isle of France, Police Constable; then of the Lye, in the parish of Oldswinford, in the county of Worcester, out of business; and now of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged Bankrupt on the 17th day of April, 1867, is hereby required to surrender himself to John Harward Esq, a Registrar of the County Court of Worcestershire holden at Stourbridge, at the First Meeting of Creditors, to be held on the 6th day of May, 1867, at Ten o'clock in the Forenoon precisely, at the County Court Office, Stourbridge.

The Registrar of the Court is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. Hayes and Wright are the Solicitors acting in the Bankruptcy.

At the Meeting the Registrar will receive the proofs of the Debts of the Creditors, and the Creditors may choose an Assignee or Assignees of the Bankrupt's Estate and Effects.

All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the said Bankrupt must deliver them to the Registrar, and all debts due to the Bankrupt must be paid to the Registrar.

William Akroyd, High Bailiff.”

Thomas Robbins was married to Mary Ann.

County Advertiser 8/6/1867

“The license of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Halesowen, was on Tuesday, at the Police Court, transferred from the assignees of *Thomas Robbins*, bankrupt, to *Joseph Nock*, greengrocer, of this town.”

1871 Census

Peckingham Street – CROSS Public House – Unoccupied

County Advertiser 3/6/1871 - Adverts

“Halesowen. To be Let, from Midsummer, the OLD GOLDEN CROSS Wine and Spirit Vaults, containing Spirit Shop, Smoke Room, Parlour, large Room on the Ground Floor, Eight Bed Rooms, Cellars, Brewhouse, with Stabling, Piggeries, large Yard and Garden, and all other necessary Outbuildings. Also a very large Nail Warehouse at the back. Rent low, and in-coming will not exceed £20.

For further particulars apply to Thomas White, Grange Farm, Lutley, Stourbridge.

N.B. The above offers a good opportunity, and is the only Spirit Vaults in the town.”

AND

“Halesowen. Mr. T. Homer has received instructions from Mr. *J. Nock* (who is giving up the business), to Sell by Auction, on Monday, June 12th, 1871, upon the premises, Peckingham Street, the Stock-In-Trade and other Effects, consisting of Wines and Spirits, including some splendid Champagne (very old), Seven Hogsheads of Prime Cider, 240 Gallons of fine Home-brewed Fresh and Old Ales, Six Gallons of Capital Mushroom Ketchup, Thirty Sides of Home-cured Bacon, Twenty Prime Singed Hams, Fifteen Store Pigs, Sow-in-pig, Three Spring Traps, Gig, Five-pull Beer Machine, with under taps and 220 feet of Piping, complete; Cider Mills and Presses, Chaff-cutting Machine, by hand or horse power; Two-horse power Machine, Barometer, Clocks, Tables, Chairs, Benches, Casks, Jugs, Glasses, Pewter Measures, &c, &c, &c.
Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock a.m.
Catalogues may be obtained from the place of Sale, or from the Auctioneer, Five Ways, Cradley Heath, on application, or by post.”

William Robinson was also a butcher and cattle dealer. [1873]

County Express 17/4/1875

“*William Robinson*, landlord of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Halesowen, was charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours, on the 1st inst. Police-constable Chapman stated that on the morning in question, at twenty-five minutes past twelve o’clock, he found several persons in the above-named premises. There were five men and three women in the tap room. A glass was on the table full of liquor. A jug and glass were under the table. The ale was emptied out of a jug on to the floor. Police-constable Drew corroborated. Fined 10s and costs, the Bench intimating that if the house be again found open during prohibited hours they would suspend the license.”

County Express 2/10/1875

“The adjourned licensing session was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.
The following persons, who had been convicted during the year, were called before the Bench and cautioned.....
William Robinson, GOLDEN CROSS, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 29/9/1877

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....
Mr. Hayes applied for a transfer to *George Paskin* of the license of the CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, formerly held by *John Henry Bowen*. The license had been held by the applicant for some time under an interim authority, and there being no complaint or objection made, the transfer was allowed.”

County Express 25/10/1879

“*George Paskin*, landlord of the CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 13th inst.
Police-sergeant Raybould stated that he visited defendant’s house at ten minutes past ten o’clock on the night in question, and found a fight going on in the yard at the back at the house. In the parlour he found two youths drunk, and another man drunk in the tap-room. When the attention of the landlord was called to this, he replied, ‘They’re all right.’ At ten minutes to eleven o’clock he visited the house again in company with Police-constable Barley, and found one of the youths still in the parlour, drunk and asleep.
Mr. Superintendent Kemp said the house was not conducted very well.
The Bench fined defendant 20s and costs.”

County Advertiser 28/8/1880

“Halesowen Annual Brewster Sessions.....
Police Superintendent Kemp presented his annual report.....
Since the last annual meeting four licensed victuallers and one beerhouse keeper had been fined.....
George Paskin, alehouse, permitting drunkenness, fined 20s and costs. Cautioned and license renewed.”

County Express 25/9/1880

“Failure. A petition for liquidation has been filed at Stourbridge County Court by Mr. Roskell, on behalf of *George Paskin*, late of the CROSS INN, Halesowen, licensed victualler, now of Spring Hill, Halesowen, well sinker and pump maker. Liabilities, £270.”

London Gazette 26/11/1880

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.
In the matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement, or Composition of Creditors, instituted by *George Paskin*, of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, late of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, licensed victualler, but now of Spring Hill, Halesowen, aforesaid, well sinker and pump maker. Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the SWAN HOTEL, Hagley Road, Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, on the 9th day of December.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/12/1880

“At Bromsgrove Petty Sessions yesterday.....
George Read and *Edward Moore*, navvies, on remand, were charged with uttering a counterfeit half-crown at the STAR INN,

Hales Owen, on the 11th, and a counterfeit florin at the CROSS INN, Hales Owen, on the same day; and with uttering a counterfeit florin at the Cross Inn, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove, on the 13th; and Read was further charged with being in possession of forty-eight half-crowns and forty florins, all counterfeit, at Bromsgrove, on the 19th.

The charges were proved by a number of witnesses, and the prisoners were remanded to Worcester gaol for a week for the Mint authorities to be communicated with. They were also remanded upon a charge of stealing a coat, the property of *John White*, of the CROSS INN, Hales Owen, on the 11th inst.”

Worcester Journal 1/1/1881

“George Read and Edward Moore were committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions, on the charges heard last week, of uttering counterfeit coin at Halesowen and Bromsgrove; the charge of stealing a coat at Halesowen being withdrawn.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 8/1/1881

“Worcestershire Epiphany Quarter Sessions.

George Read (30) labourer, and Edward Moore (26), labourer, were indicted for uttering counterfeit coin, and having in their possession eighty-eight pieces of counterfeit coin. Mr. Graham Wells prosecuted. Read pleaded guilty. On December 11th, Read went to the STAR INN, Halesowen, and tendered a half-crown. The two prisoners were afterwards seen together. Late in the same day Moore went to the CROSS INN, Halesowen, called for ale, and offered a florin in payment. Moore went in again with Read about a quarter of an hour afterwards. On December 13th Read went to the Golden Cross Inn, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove, and offered a bad florin in payment for beer. Moore was with him. Mr. Howard, the landlord, went after the prisoners, and found them together near the Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove. PC Beardsmore went with Mr. Howard and apprehended Read. Moore got away, but was afterwards captured. In Read’s pocket the constable found 48 bad half-crowns, and 48 bad florins. Read told PC Beale that he gave 4s for 20s (full value) for the bad money. Moore told the court that he had been led away by Read. They were each sentenced to twelve months’ imprisonment with hard labour.”

1881 Census

Peckingham Street – OLD CROSS INN

[1] *Joseph Nock* (50), licensed victualler and farmer of 65 acres, employing 2 men, born Halesowen;

[2] Annie Nock (49), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Annie Nock (16), daughter, barmaid, born Halesowen;

[4] Sarah Nock (14), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[5] Agnes Bent (30), visitor, annuitant, born Halesowen;

[6] Thomas Davis (16), general inn servant, born Halesowen;

[7] Ellen McGuines (17), domestic servant, born Brierley Hill;

[8] Alfred Nock (12), grand-son, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 26/5/1883 - Correspondence

“To the Editor of the *Advertiser*.

Sir. My attention has been called to a paragraph in your paper of the 19th inst, concerning the case of drunkenness of a boy, heard at Halesowen Petty Sessions. The paragraph seems to infer that the boy was supplied with the drink which caused his state at a fete held in Gibbett Lane. Now, as I was the promoter and manager of that fete I must, in justice to myself, ask you to let me state the real facts of the case. I believe it is true that the boy was in the field in Gibbett Lane, with some friends, early in the afternoon, but was certainly not supplied there with any intoxicating drink, as I had given very strict instructions as to the persons who should be supplied with drink, and personally superintended the refreshment department. The boy was found in the state before alluded to at a public-house more than a mile away from the field, and some five or six hours after he had left the fete, so that it appears pretty conclusive it was not at the fete he obtained the drink. During the two days between six and seven thousand persons visited the fete, and the police who were on duty will bear me out in saying there was not on either day a single case of drunkenness or anything approaching to it, nor even of disorderly conduct, indeed I was personally complimented by the police for the very excellent manner in which the fete was carried out. I can only add that I should be extremely sorry to incur the odium of such vile cruelty towards a lad of his years, and sincerely hope the police will sift the matter to the bottom, and cause the guilty persons to be punished.

I am, sir, your obedient servant, *Joseph Nock*, CROSS INN, Halesowen, 23rd May, 1883.”

County Advertiser 24/5/1884 - Advert

“Halesowen. Grand Fete and Gala.

Pony Racing! Foot Racing! Balloon Ascent! Fireworks! Fireworks! Fireworks!

Whit-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, June 2nd, 3rd and 4th, at the Gibbett Meadow, Halesowen.

Mr. *Joseph Nock*, CROSS Concert Hall, begs to inform his friends and patrons that he will hold a grand Fete and Gala, on Whit-Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, when he hopes that, with the enormous attractions put before the public, he will receive a share of their Patronage. Pony Races for valuable prizes. 100 yards Foot Race for a silver cup. 200 yards Foot Race for a silver cup. ½ mile Foot Race for a Silver Cup. One mile Foot Race for a silver cup; open to all comers. Pig Chase, open to 10 children under 12 years of age. Winner takes the pig. Entrance Free. Climbing the Greasy Pole for a leg of mutton. Old English Sports. In fact one constant round of Amusements. 12 hours genuine fun. Grand Concert in which a host of talent will appear. Full Band for Dancing. Three Monster Balloons each day. Grand Display of Fireworks each day by the eminent Pyrotechnist, Mr. Eaton. Gate open to the public Free, at 10am. All sports free. Ales, Wines, Spirits of the best quality at Bar prices. Don’t forget. Come

everybody. There's nothing to pay."

Joseph Nock was also a fruiterer and butcher, Hagley Street. [1884], [1888]

County Advertiser 26/6/1886

"William Brettell, Samuel Collins, and Enoch Pardoe, of the Lye Waste, were charged with being drunk and disorderly on the licensed premises of *Joseph Nock*, the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, on the 11th inst. Police-constable Pulley went to the house and saw the three defendants there drunk. Pardoe had knocked Collins down, and Brettell was held back with great difficulty from fighting. They were ordered to leave the house, but refused, and at last the witness had to forcibly eject the defendants. Police-constable Meeks and Police-constable Raybould also gave evidence. Defendants were each fined 5s and costs."

Birmingham Daily Post 26/3/1891 - Advert

"Pianist, to Play for Pros, lady or gentleman. Good money to competent player. GOLDEN CROSS, Halesowen."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/4/1891 - Advert

"General Servant, used to Public-house. Must be clean and respectable. Apply, GOLDEN CROSS INN, Hales Owen."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/7/1894 - Advert

"Lady Pianist (young) Wanted, must be able to sing, and assist in house. Apply, GOLDEN CROSS, Hales Owen."

County Advertiser 22/8/1896

"Excise Prosecution. *James Nock*, of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, was summoned for keeping a dog without a license on the 23rd ult. Mr. Birtwell, supervisor, said he called on defendant on the day named, and saw three dogs on the premises. Defendant acknowledged that two of the dogs were his, and he only held one license. Mr. Hayes, who appeared on behalf of the defendant, submitted that defendant had done all he could. When the supervisor called defendant made no concealment that the dog was his, and got a license as soon as possible. He could call evidence to prove the defendant had bought the dog on Wednesday and took out the license on Thursday. Defendant had no intention of whatever of defrauding the Revenue. The case was ultimately adjourned for a fortnight to enable Mr. Hayes to bring evidence of the purchase of the dog."

County Advertiser 13/11/1897

"Yesterday at Kidderminster Borough Court, Charles Hingley, dealer, of Halesowen, was charged with aiding and abetting suspected persons coming from land where they had been in search of game, and being possessed of 45 live wild rabbits, on November 4th. Mr. Spencer Thursfield prosecuted, and Mr. H. G. Ivans defended. Three policemen and the landlord of the Land Oak Inn were called as witnesses for the prosecution. Hingley drove from Halesowen into Kidderminster, left several bags at the Land Oak Inn, and soon afterwards bargained with two men named Teague and Elton, convicted poachers, for the purchase of 22 couples of live rabbits, for which £2 10s was paid. In the afternoon, as defendant was leaving the town with a cart load of fruit, and was in the act of putting the rabbits in the cart when two policemen, who had been in ambush, appeared, and the bags and rabbits were taken to the Police Station. The defence was that the rabbits were bought openly for rabbit coursing, defendant, on behalf of his father, being commissioned by Mr. *Nock* of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Halesowen, to obtain them. Neither defendant nor his father knew the men the rabbits were obtained from were poachers. Mr. *Nock* said in evidence that he could do with fifty couples a week for coursing. The bench fined defendant 50s and costs, allowing solicitor's fee, and amounting to all £4 19s, with the alternative of one calendar month with hard labour."

County Advertiser 8/1/1898

"An occasional license was granted to *James Nock*, to sell intoxicating drinks on the 13th, on the occasion of the volunteer ball in the Drill Hall."

London Gazette 25/4/1899

"*Nock, James*, The GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street Date of Public Examination – May 10th, 1899."

County Express 31/8/1901

"Alfred Nock, labourer, Halesowen, and William Jones, Quarry Lane, Hasbury, were charged with committing a breach of the peace on August 12th. Police-constable Hunt said the two men came out of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, and commenced fighting. Mr. Grove, who defended Jones, suggested Nock was the aggressor. The Bench said it was not a serious case, and put the men on their good behaviour for three months, and ordered them to pay the costs."

County Express 7/12/1901

"Thomas Mundon, of Hill Street, Halesowen, was charged with refusing to quit the GOLDEN CROSS INN, on November 11th,

when requested.

The landlord, *George Thomas*, said in consequence of defendant's conduct and language he requested him to leave but defendant refused to go.

The Bench said landlords must be protected in the conduct of their business, and fined defendant 10s and costs."

County Express 23/8/1902

"William Attwood, cab proprietor, Exeter, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Birmingham Road, Halesowen, on the 16th; and with refusing to leave the GOLDEN CROSS INN when requested. PC Kings and Inspector Hill gave evidence. The latter stated that defendant came from Exeter on a holiday, and had too much to drink. Fined 5s and costs for the drunkenness, and 10s and costs for refusing to quit."

AND

"John Hutton, Little Cornbow, Halesowen, was fined 1s and costs for refusing to quit the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Halesowen when requested. *William Payne*, the landlord, proved the case."

County Express 20/9/1902

"Mr. A. H. Herbert (deputy-coroner for North Worcestershire) held an inquest on Monday morning, at the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Halesowen, with respect of the death of *William Payne* (38), a licensed victualler, residing in Peckingham Street, Halesowen, who had died from injuries received through being thrown out of a conveyance at The Quinton.

Mrs. *Ada Payne*, the widow of the deceased, stated her husband left home early on Friday morning to go to the Birmingham market, and in the evening she heard he had met with an accident at The Quinton. She saw him alive, but he was unable to speak, and died without regaining consciousness.

Joseph Williams, fishmonger, Peckingham Street, stated the deceased accompanied him to Birmingham market on Friday morning, and returned in a fish cart about four o'clock. The deceased sat on the fish box, and stopped at the Beech Tree Inn, where they both had quinine and whisky and also food. On arriving opposite the Convalescent Home in the Hagley Road the conveyance swerved over some rough stones which had been recently laid, which caused him to fall onto the stones and to sustain serious injuries to his head. With assistance he carried him into the house of Mr. Goode in Croft Street. He there found that the deceased was dangerously injured, and went in search of a medical man, and eventually procured the services of Dr. Freer. At the time the accident he was driving at the rate of six miles an hour. He considered it safe to sit on boxes. He did not use a seat because he was carrying empties.

By the Jury: He fell over the wheel.

By the Coroner: Was he sober? – Witness: He was perfectly sober. He was bleeding when I picked him up.

William Parish, Highfield Lane, said when returning from Birmingham market on Friday afternoon Mr. Williams and the deceased overtook him, and driving about seven miles an hour. Shortly afterwards the deceased fell off the fish truck. Both men were perfectly sober.

PC Houlton stated on Friday evening he saw the deceased lying on a sofa in a house in Croft Street in a dying condition, and he died about ten minutes after his arrival.

Dr. Freer stated he was called to see the deceased, but when he arrived he was dead. He found a scalp wound three inches long and extending to the bone. There was also a fracture of the base of the skull. Death was due to shock from a fractured skull. In reply to a jurymen, Dr. Freer said had medical aid been procured earlier the deceased's life could not possibly have been saved. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

The Coroner said the road was the most disgraceful thoroughfare in England, and he hoped Mr. Beard, who was present, would inform the Worcestershire County Council of the fact."

County Advertiser 7/3/1903

"The Bench granted the transfer of the license of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, from *John James Edwin Squires* to *H. G. Beasley*. *Squires*, the outgoing tenant, did not appear, and Mr. Garratt warned *Beasley* that unless he attended the next sessions the license might be refused."

Sports Argus 13/6/1903

"Shooting Match at the FOX HOTEL, Halesowen.

FOX v GOLDEN CROSS. The match was ten men on each side. The FOX made a total of 160, with four shots each. The match was drawn due to unpleasantness with the GOLDEN CROSS, owing to the FOX shooters using two guns."

County Advertiser 6/1/1906

"*George Henry Beasley*, landlord of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness upon his licensed premises, and also with supplying a drunken person on the 26th ult. Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted, and Mr. H. R. Goodman appeared to defend.

Mr. Sharpe explained that at eleven o'clock on the night in question Inspector Brazier and Police-constable Hillard were on duty close to defendant's premises, when they saw a man named Edward Hackett leaving them in a very drunken condition. The officers went into the house and spoke to the defendant, who said that Hackett had only just come in and had not been served. Inquiries were instituted by the police, and it was found that Hackett had been upon the premises for nearly half an hour, and that he had been served by the landlord with ale.

Evidence in support of this statement was given by Inspector Brazier, Police-constable Hillard, and a number of other witnesses. Mr. Goodman urged that the defendant took all reasonable steps to prevent drunkenness by getting the man off the premises as

quickly as possible.

A number of witnesses were called, but after hearing them the magistrates imposed a fine of £10 and costs, amounting in all to £12 9s 6d.

Edward Hackett, of Gaunt's Yard, Halesowen, was fined 10s for being drunk upon the premises."

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday.....

Superintendent Hill, in his annual report to the justices, stated that.....

The following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as stated.....

He had given notice to oppose the renewal of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Halesowen, upon the grounds that a previous tenant had been convicted for permitting drunkenness, and that the licensed premises had been ill-conducted.....

The objection to the renewal of the license of the GOLDEN CROSS INN was next gone into, and Superintendent Hill said he wished to withdraw the original objection and oppose the renewal on the grounds that the license was not required, that the number of licenses in the locality was excessive, and that in the public interests the renewal of the license was not desirable.

The tenant was not represented, and the Bench deferred the application until the adjourned sessions, but instructed the superintendent to serve fresh notices of objection."

County Advertiser 3/3/1906

"Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The magistrates renewed all the licenses objected to, but they wished to point out that as the number was small they did not care to take action this year. They, however, felt that there were much too many houses in the division, and they thought that the suggestion of Mr. Cave should be adopted, and that those connected with the trade should meet and arrange a scheme for surrender of some licenses, to prevent the magistrates taking extreme action."

County Advertiser 9/2/1907

"On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.....

The annual report of Superintendent T. W. Hill.....

He opposed the renewal of the licenses of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, last year on the grounds of convictions, but he did not propose to again oppose them this year, as they had been well conducted since, and the persons convicted had left the houses."

County Advertiser 2/3/1907

"On Tuesday, the adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the police court.....

Superintendent Hill objected to the renewal of the licenses of the LEOPARD INN, High Street, and the GOLDEN CROSS INN, Peckingham Street, upon the ground that the number in the neighbourhood was excessive. The structural conditions and general accommodation were very poor, and it was desirable in the public interests that the houses should be closed.

Mr. Howard said the houses would be reported to the compensation authority on the ground of redundancy."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/7/1907

"A meeting of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee was held at the Shire Hall, Worcester, yesterday.....

In the matter of the GOLDEN CROSS, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, owned by Frederick William Fisher, licensee *Frank Bollus*, and of the LEOPARD INN, High Street, Halesowen, Mr. Alfred Homfray appeared for the justices, and Mr. T. Goodman (Messrs. Cooksey and Co. Birmingham) for the parties interested. The objection to the licenses was on the grounds of redundancy and structural unsuitability. The owners admitted redundancy, and the committee refused both licenses."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/12/1907

"The annual report of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee to be presented to the quarter sessions next week states that at the date of the last report twelve cases had been referred to the Inland Revenue for their decision as to the amount of compensation payable. The total in the twelve cases amounted to £10,304, compared with £6,759 provisionally fixed by the committee.....

In the cases of the GOLDEN CROSS, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, and the LEOPARD, High Street, Halesowen, the parties claimed to have their cases heard in the first instance by the Inland Revenue Commissioners, thus escaping cross-examination of their witnesses; and no evidence being heard on behalf of the justices, the claims obviously obtained a great advantage."

Birmingham Gazette 26/2/1908

"Local Billiards. The First Round of the Victuallers' Tournament.

The first round of the Birmingham and District Licensed Victuallers' Handicap was continued at the Wagon and Horses, Edgbaston Street, Birmingham, yesterday. In the afternoon *F. Bolus* (GOLDEN CROSS, Halesowen, scratch) met O. R. McGregor (Shrewsbury Arms, Rugeley, rec. 50). The scratch lost the white ball in the early stages, but showed neat control of the red, and by losing hazards scored 30 and got on terms. Afterwards McGregor played consistently, and nearing a third hundred he made useful breaks of 27, 21, 23, 20, and 28, and won by exactly a century. *Bolus* did not make the best of his chances, and only contributed a further break of 23. Scores: McGregor, 400; *Bolus*, 300."

County Express 16/5/1908 - Advert

"Halesowen. To Brewers, Publicans, and Others.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from Mr. Fisher, to Sell By Auction on Monday, May 25th, 1908, the Whole of the Public-House Fixtures, Fittings, Utensils, Etc, at the GOLDEN CROSS and LEOPARD INNS, comprising Three Superior-made Counters and Three Ale Machines, by the best makers; Twenty-eight Well-made Seats with Back Rails; Bagatelle and other Tables, Smoker and other Chairs, Pianos, Shelves and Mirrors, Measures, about 10 doz. Champagne, Casks, Brass Taps, and many other Lots, as detailed in Catalogues, which can be obtained from the Auctioneer, Halesowen. The Auctioneer calls special attention to this Sale as most of the Fittings, Machinery, etc, were placed there regardless of cost, and are now being disposed of through the closing of the Houses as licensed premises. Sale will commence with Lot 1, at the GOLDEN CROSS, Peckingham Street, at 11am.”

Closed
Demolished

HALF MOON

Peckingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Charles Tomlins [1822]
Margaret Tomlins [1835]
Isaac Mallin [1845] – **1850**
Joseph Hinton [1846]
Mrs. Rebecca (Mallin) Siviter [1851] – [1860]
Thomas Siviter* [1861]
George Robinson [1864] – [1865]
William Hollies Jnr. [1865] – [1870]
Thomas Siviter* [] – **1871**;
Mrs. Elizabeth Brown (**1871** – []
Joseph Hipkiss [1873] – **1894**);
Benjamin Grove (**1894** – []

NOTES

Isaac Mallin = Isaac Malins

Birmingham Journal 20/4/1850 - Died

“On the 3rd inst, Mr. *Isaac Malins*, of the HALF MOON INN, Hales Owen, much respected by all who knew him.”

1851 Census

Peckingham Street – HALF MOON INN

- [1] *Rebecca Mallin* (48), widow, publican, born Rowley;
- [2] Elizabeth Mallin (25), daughter, born Rowley:

Rebekah Mallin married *Thomas Siviter* in the 2nd quarter of 1860.

* probably the same person.

1861 Census

Peckingham Street – HALF MOON

- [1] *Thomas Siviter* (60), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Rebecca Siviter (58), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Elizabeth Mallen (3), daughter, unmarried, born Rowley:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/12/1863

“G. Robinson of Halesowen will run any one of the same place six score yards level, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at the HALF MOON, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 9/1/1864

“Henry Withers was charged with being drunk at the HALF MOON public house early on the morning of the 31st ult. He did not appear. Police-sergeant Kennedy proved the case, and stated that Withers was a most violent and disorderly man. A warrant was issued for his apprehension.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/2/1865

“Dollar White will fight Peter Morris of Birmingham at catch weight, for £10 a side, left open for £20, in three weeks from signing articles; or he will fight Lamb of Coventry at 8st 2lb, for £10, left open for £20 a side; or any man in Wales, at 8st 2lb, for the same sums. By sending a deposit to *Bells Life*, and articles to Dollar White, at the HALF MOON INN, Halesowen, a match will be ensured.”

William Hollies = William Hollier = William Hollis

Stourbridge Observer 18/2/1865

“*William Hollier*, landlord of the HALF MOON, was charged by superintendent Overend with having allowed gambling in his house on the 26th of January. Mr. Holberton appeared for the defendant.

William Price said he went into the defendant's house on the above day, in search of his brother-in-law. He asked for a pint of ale; after he had drunk it, one of the company asked him to play for a pint of ale at cards. He consented. He next played for a quart. He saw them cheating him, and then he said I have done. He was not in the habit of carrying cards in his pocket. The landlord was present the whole of the time. He did not play with them. I had no drink before I went into *Hollier's*.

The defence was that Price had first introduced the cards.

The magistrates, in consideration of *Hollier* not being in the business long, fined him 10s and costs.”

AND

“On Tuesday last, at the Police Office, Charles Penn was charged by William Price with having stolen a silver watch, his property, on the 26th of January.

Price deposed that he was at the house of Mr. *Hollier's*, on the above day. The prisoner and his father were there. I left the house and went down the street, and three men met me and threw snow on me. I do not know who they were. They followed me up the town. I then called for assistance. The three men then left. I went up towards home. As I was going along the prisoner came running to me, and put his arms round my neck to pull me down. He did not pull me down. He next kicked me on the knee. I then cried murder. He then slipped the watch out of my pocket and ran away with it. I cried, ‘stop thief’, and ran after him. The prisoner ran down an opening. I afterwards went to Mr. *Hollier's* again; Penn came in soon afterwards, and I said that is the man who has robbed me. *Hollier* said he would take his oath Penn had not robbed me.

A man named Thomas Smart corroborated the plaintiff's evidence in respect to that part which had reference to the watch being taken from him.

Thomas Bastefield deposed: That he met the former witness, as he was going into Halesowen. When he was going up Peckingham Street, he saw the prisoner go into *Hollier's*; it was between nine and ten o'clock in the evening.

Police-constable Smith said he met the plaintiff in the street on the 27th. Plaintiff said to him, ‘I wish you had been with me last night.’ When asked why, he said he had had his watch stolen. He took out a warrant for the apprehension of the prisoner, but they could not get hold of him, as he had absconded.

For the defence, it was insinuated by Mr. Holberton that the plaintiff had during his drunken freak on the above evening, either lost his watch during the snow-balling, or had been throwing it about.

Benjamin Price, nailer, of Halesowen, said he saw the plaintiff on the evening of the 27th; he was quite drunk and resembled a lunatic in his appearance and manner.

James Hall also swore that Price was tipsy, and utterly incapable of remembering anything that took place.

Price also charged several with stealing his watch.

William Hollier also swore to the incapability of the plaintiff to remember anything done on the above night. He said that Price was quite drunk, and threatened to send for the police to search all who were in the kitchen. He did not accuse Penn of stealing the watch. He did not know where the watch was now, nor had he heard anything about it since the time it was stolen.

The magistrates thought the evidence for the prosecution was not strong enough to warrant them to convict; they therefore dismissed the case.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/5/1865

“Dollar White of Halesowen has left £2 in the hands of Mr. *Hollies* of the HALF MOON INN, Halesowen, to make a match to fight Jem Fox of Birmingham at 8st 2lb, for £20 a side. If this does not suit Fox any one else can be on at the same weight, for the like amount. To weigh the day before fighting.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/7/1865

“Worcestershire Sumer Assizes.

Elizabeth Hill, a middle-aged woman, was indicted for stealing the sum of 17s 6d from the person of Robert Howell, on the 7th inst. The prisoner and the prosecutor were in the HALF MOON public-house, at Halesowen, on the day named, and the latter spent a considerable sum of money. About two o'clock in the morning he accompanied the prisoner home, and alleged that when he had been in the house a few minutes he missed the purse, containing the sum stated. He charged the prisoner with stealing it, and she denied it, but returned him the empty purse. The prisoner alleged that the prosecutor lost part of the money, and part he gave to her for an immoral purpose, and she picked the purse up on the sofa on which the prisoner had been sleeping. The jury

acquitted her. Mr. Chance prosecuted.”

County Advertiser 15/9/1866

“The annual licensing meeting of the magistrates was held on Tuesday.....

The following licenses were suspended till the adjourned licensing meeting on the 25th inst, to enable further inquiries to be made.....

William Hollis, HALF MOON, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 29/9/1866

“Adjourned Annual Licensing Meeting.

At the Public Office, on Tuesday at the close of the usual business, the Magistrates proceeded to determine on the licenses which were suspended at the first meeting, and decided as follows. The licenses of HALF MOON, kept by *William Hollis*, Halesowen would be granted, promises being given for future good management.”

Birmingham Journal 9/2/1867 - Advert

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1861. In the Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District.

William Hollies, the Younger, of the HALF MOON INN, Hales Owen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler and Butcher, having been adjudged Bankrupt under a Petition for Adjudication in Bankruptcy, filed in the Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, on the 5th day of February, 1867, is required to surrender himself to a Registrar of the said Court, at the First Meeting of Creditors, to be held before the said Registrar, on the 20th day of February, 1867, at Twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the said Court at Birmingham, when and where Creditors may Prove their Debts and Choose a Creditors' Assignee of the Bankrupt's Estate. All Persons indebted to the Estate are to pay the same to Mr. George Kinnear, of Waterloo Rooms, Birmingham, Official Assignee, and give notice to the Solicitors acting in the Bankruptcy.

Hayes and Wright, Halesowen. Agents.

Reece and Harris, 104, New Street, Birmingham.”

Sporting Life 23/3/1867

“Benefit to Dollar White. This eminent pugilist, now matched with Frank Wilson (Mouse), for £30, takes a benefit at Mr. *Hollies's*, HALF MOON INN, Halesowen, on Monday next, when, as he will be supported by all the available talent of the Midlands, his patrons may rely on a brilliant display of the noble art. The grand wind-up between White and Dick Fellowes (now matched with Hicken, of Wolverhampton, for £100). Master of ceremonies, Dan Roberts, of Birmingham. Don't forget Monday next.”

Birmingham Journal 20/4/1867 - Advert

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1861.

The Court acting in the prosecution of a Petition for Adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, against *William Hollies*, the Younger, of the HALF MOON INN, Hales Owen, in the County of Worcester, Licensed Victualler and Butcher, did, on the 25th day of March, 1867, grant the said *William Hollies* the younger, an Order of Discharge, which will be delivered to the Bankrupt unless appealed against, and notice thereof given to the Court.

Hayes and Wright, Solicitors, Hales Owen; Agents, Reece and Harris.”

Stourbridge Observer 10/12/1870 - Advert

“To Let, with Immediate Possession, that well-known and frequented Public House, known by the Sign of the HALF MOON, Peckingham Street, Halesowen.

For particulars apply on the Premises.”

County Advertiser 21/1/1871 - Advert

“Halesowen. Sale at the HALF MOON INN, Peckingham Street.

Mr. Hinton has received instructions from Mr. *Thomas Siviter*, who has taken to an Inn in Birmingham, to Sell by Auction, on Monday, January 30th, 1871, the Excellent Brewing Plant, Stock-In-Trade, Furniture, &c, without reserve.

Sale at eleven o'clock.”

1871 Census

Peckingham Street – HALF MOON

[1] *Elizabeth Brown* (36), widow, licensed victualler, born Stourbridge;

[2] Sarah J. Brown (9), daughter, scholar, born America [America?] (British subject);

[3] Maria Jarvis (24), general servant, born Pensnett:

1881 Census

Peckingham Street

[1] *Joseph Hipkiss* (45), licensed victualler, born Cradley;

[2] Ann Hipkiss (47), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Moses Hipkiss (16), son, labourer at tube works, born Halesowen;

[4] Ellen Hipkiss (14), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[5] Alice Hipkiss (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

- [6] Thomas Sayers (47), lodger, journeyman shoemaker, born Sousa, Canada;
[7] Edward Pearce (30), lodger, labourer on railway, born Cleobury Mortimer;
[8] Edward James (23), lodger, journeyman butcher, born Podbury, Staffordshire:

1891 Census

Peckingham Street

- [1] *Joseph Hipkiss* (55), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
[2] Ann Hipkiss (57), wife, born Halesowen;
[3] Moses Hipkiss (26), son, iron gas tube maker, born Halesowen;
[4] Alice E. Hipkiss (22), daughter, born Halesowen;
[5] Warren Russell (47), lodger, public lecturer, born Bromley, Middlesex:

HARE AND HOUNDS

252, Hagley Road / St. Margarets Drive, Islington, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

John Rolinson and Son Ltd. [1910]
Davenports Brewery Ltd.
Scottish and Newcastle Pub Enterprises (under James H. Porter brand) [2001]
Star Pubs and Bars (operated by Bolton Inns) [2018]

LICENSEES

George Harrison [1835] – [1855]
Daniel Parsons [1858] – [1870]
Abraham Hill [1873]
Joseph Newey (1874 – []
Hill [1876]
Samuel Newey [] – 1876);
Henry Such (1876 – []
Edward John Atkins [] – 1878);
Thomas Allen (1878 – []
Arthur Maybury [1880] – [1881]
Joseph Maybury [1884]
Mrs. Annie (Maybury) Halward [1888] – 1889);
William Joel Halward (1889 – [1892]
Annie Halward [1901] – 1905);
Thomas Cresswell (1905 – [1907]
Henry Wise [1909]
William Whitehouse [1911]
Albert William Beale* [1912] – [1913]
Alfred William Beale* [] – 1914)
Herbert Thomas Cresswell [1914]
Harry Cresswell [1916] – [1921];
Charles White (1921 – []
Ernest F Leach [1939]
Norman Holt [1957]
Ron De Vere [2005] – [2006]
Ron De Vere (2007 – []
Dean Price [2018]

NOTES

OLD HARE AND HOUNDS [1874]

1841 Census

Hagley Road – HARE AND HOUNDS

- [1] *George Harrison* (50), publican, born Worcestershire;
[2] *Mary Harrison* (60), born Worcestershire;
[3] *James Potts* (25), born Worcestershire:

Brierley Hill Advertiser 5/6/1858

“*Daniel Parsons*, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS public house, in the township of Hasbury, was charged with having his house open for the sale of drink, before half past twelve on the afternoon of Sunday the 23rd ult.

PC Kennedy deposed that he was going up Hasbury about ten o’clock on the morning of the above named day, when he saw a person look through the window of defendant’s house and turn quickly away. Witness immediately said to PC Bevan, who was with him at the time, ‘That is the signal; go round to the back door.’

PC Bevan then deposed that he went round to the back door according to the directions given by the last witness, and met three men coming away from the house. He then went into the kitchen and saw some ale spilt on the table. It was very wet, and a woman was wiping it. Another man came out of the house just as witness arrived at the back door, and he said, ‘Come on lads; he’s coming.’ Witness knew three of the men to be neighbours, living close to the house; and he told the defendant he should summons him, to which he replied, ‘It is a bad job, but I cannot help it.’

Mr. Homfray appeared for the defendant, and cross examined this witness at some length, after which he submitted to the Bench that the evidence adduced was not sufficient to make out a charge of keeping the house open within the meaning of the Act of Parliament. The police officer was led to suspect that something wrong was going on in the house in consequence of the signal he observed, and he immediately sent another officer round to the back door. That officer went in as quick as any one could go, and yet he found nothing but ale spilt on the table. The law did not prevent a publican having people in his house; there must be something to prove that beer had been supplied before a conviction could take place.

Superintendent Overend stated that the house was generally badly conducted.

The Bench, however, thinking that sufficient evidence had not been brought forward to prove an offence on the above occasion dismissed the case; but cautioned the defendant for the future.”

1861 Census

Hagley Road – HARE AND HOUNDS

- [1] *Daniel Parsons* (55), nailer and victualler, born Hasbury;
[2] *Sarah Parsons* (55), wife, born Halesowen;
[3] *Sarah Withers* (30), daughter, married, nailer, born Halesowen;
[4] *Emma Parsons* (14), daughter, horn button wrapper, born Hasbury;
[5] *Ellen Parsons* (8), daughter, scholar, born Hasbury;
[6] *William Parsons* (19), son, spade maker, born Hasbury;
[7] *Edward Parsons* (16), son, nailer, born Hasbury;
[8] *John Parsons* (11), son, scholar, born Hasbury:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/9/1864

“The annual meeting for the granting and renewal of licenses for the Oldbury and Hales Owen district was held yesterday. All the applications for renewals of licenses were granted, the following being cautioned in consequence of complaints having been made by the police. *Daniel Parsons*, HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 12/11/1864

“*John White* of Halesowen will fight any man in the district at catch weight for £10 or £20 a side, or will back *Wm. Parsons* of Halesowen to fight *Young Dimmock* at 7st 10lb, or catch weight for £10 a side. By sending a deposit to Bells Life, and articles to *John White*, the HARE AND HOUNDS, Halesowen, a match can be insured.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/1/1865

“As *Mr. William Darbey*, farmer, Hasbury, was walking through a field on his farm, on Saturday morning, he saw a man lying on the ground. He went up to him, and found him apparently much exhausted. He caused proper attention to be paid to him, but he died in about an hour. An inquest was held on the body on Monday night, at the HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury, before *Mr. R. Docker*, Coroner. The body was unowned, and no trace whatever had been obtained of his friends. He is a short, dark, and seemingly working man, and was last seen on Thursday night, in Hales Owen, intoxicated. It is presumed that he wandered into the fields, and lay there until Saturday morning, and that he died from cold and exposure. The inquest was adjourned until Friday, and a post mortem examination ordered to be made.”

County Advertiser 22/3/1873

“*Abraham Hill*, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, was charged with permitting gaming in his house on the 3rd inst. *Mr. Homer* defended.

The evidence of Police-constable *Smith*, and parish constable *Moore* was to the effect that they went to the defendant’s house on the evening of the 3rd inst, and on looking through the kitchen window saw several persons in the house. They also heard the rattling of dice, and it appeared that gaming was being carried on.

Police-constable *Smith* in cross-examination said that he did not ask the landlord for the dice when he went into the house.

Mr. Homer, in defence, contended that even if the persons in the house were playing with dice it was no offence against his license.

Several witnesses were called for the defence, and each swore positively that no gaming of any kind was being carried on in the house the whole of the night. That the rattling of the dice was owing to defendant's child playing with them on the floor of the house.

The Bench said there was some doubt upon their minds, and they would give the defendant the benefit of the doubt and dismiss the case."

County Advertiser 20/12/1873 - Advert

"To Let, the HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury, Halesowen. Incoming moderate. Apply on the Premises."

Stourbridge Observer 7/11/1874 - Advert

"The OLD HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury.

Visitors from Birmingham or Harborne, en route through Halesowen to Hagley, Clent Hills, or Kidderminster, will find this Ancient Old House, The HARE AND HOUNDS, at Hasbury, Opened Again.

Visitors will find every accommodation. *Joseph Newey*, Proprietor.

NB. The Old House is known as the resting place in the Fox Hunting Season, for Refreshments &c."

County Advertiser 30/9/1876

"Adjourned Licensing Session.....

The license of the HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury, was temporarily transferred to *Henry Such* from *Samuel Newey*."

1881 Census

Hasbury – HARE AND HOUNDS

- [1] *Arthur Maybury* (44), publican, born Rotherham;
- [2] *Annie Maybury* (31), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *James Wood* (64), father-in-law, annuitant, born Stourbridge;
- [4] *Ellen Russel* (16), domestic servant, born Princes End:

Annie Maybury married *William Joel Halward* in the 1st quarter of 1889.

Birmingham Mail 18/3/1891

"Last evening an inquest was held at the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hales Owen, before Mr. Hebbert (deputy coroner), concerning the death of *Walter Hughes* (16), who died on the 14th inst, from the effects of injuries received in consequence of his head being crushed between the buffers of a locomotive and a truck on the branch of the railway at Corngreaves Works on the 13th inst. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1891 Census

Hagley Road – HARE AND HOUNDS

- [1] *William Joel Halward* (39), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Annie Halward* (41), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [4] *James Wood* (74), father-in-law, retired glass maker, born Stourbridge:

County Advertiser 9/3/1901

"Halesowen Rural Council. Sanitary Committee.....

The county analyst reported that no trace of arsenic was detected in any of the samples of beer taken from *Annie Halward*, HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury; *Enoch Pearce*, FORGE INN, Halesowen; *John Homer*, BLACK HORSE, Cradley; *John Auden*, RISING SUN, Cradley."

1901 Census

Hasbury

- [1] *Annie Halward* (49), widow, licensed victualler, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Caroline Halward* (77), widow, born Kidderminster:

County Advertiser 19/9/1903

"On Thursday morning, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen, touching the death of *Joseph Willetts* (60), colliery foreman, formerly residing at Hagley Road, Hasbury, who was drowned under sad circumstances in the Birmingham Canal, close to the Fly Colliery, Old Hill, belonging to Mr. Robert Fellows. Mr. H. R. Makepeace, Government Inspector of Mines, and Mr. Robert Fellows, the deceased man's late employer, were present at the inquiry.

Mr. Henry Raybould was appointed foreman of the jury.

William Willetts, son of deceased, identified the body as that of his father, who had been employed at the Fly Colliery for the last four years. Witness also worked at the Fly Colliery, and on Tuesday morning he saw his father at work. Shortly before eight o'clock someone informed witness that his father was in the canal. He proceeded to Lion Wharf, and saw his father lying on the bank of the canal. Several persons were trying to restore animation, but witness could see that he was dead. He asked that his

father's body should be removed to his late home, and his wish was complied with by the colliery officials. Replying to the Coroner witness said that he was not cautioned and told not to remove the body from Staffordshire into Worcestershire. The Deputy Coroner remarked that the body ought not to have been removed from Old Hill.

Witness, proceeding, said there was no reason for deceased to commit suicide. He was of a cheerful disposition right up till the time of his death. The father was summoned as a 'passive resistor' for not paying his rates. He should have attended the Halesowen Police Court on the morning of his death. That, however, had not upset him, and he did not appear to be depressed in consequence. Witness went to work with deceased on the Tuesday morning, and he then appeared to be in his usual spirits. On the previous night deceased said he felt 2 inches taller, and wished he could go to gaol for failing to pay his rates. Deceased was not subject to fits and was never seized with dizziness. Witness had worked upon the boats, and knew that it was quite possible for any person to slip into the water.

Thomas Layton, a nephew of the deceased man, said he was employed by Messrs. Garratt and Sons. On the morning in question he was loading a boat at the Lion Wharf when he saw deceased come to the wharf for the purpose of gauging a boat. Ten minutes later witness wished to speak to the deceased, but found that he was missing. He saw the deceased's note book and some papers floating about the water. He was standing in the water, and his feet in witness's opinion were at the bottom of the canal. His head was only a few inches below the water. Life was then extinct. Witness did not consider the summons deceased had received had upset him in the slightest. Mr. Fellows pointed out that from a conversation he had with deceased he found that the summons had not affected him in the least. He attached very little importance to it.

The Jury, after a short deliberation, decided to return a verdict of Found Drowned.

Mr. Fellows then appealed to the jury to return a verdict of Accidental Death for the sake of the children of the deceased man. One of the jurymen at this point remarked that he hoped this would be a warning to all those who refused to pay their rates. He had paid his rates for forty years, and he did not grumble to do so.

The Coroner said there was no evidence to show how deceased got into the water. Eventually the jury consented to alter their verdict to one of Accidental Death."

Tipton Herald 26/9/1903

"On Saturday afternoon the funeral took place of the late Mr. Joseph Willetts, of Hagley Road, Halesowen, one of the 'Passive Resisters,' who was drowned under sad circumstances at Old Hill on the 15th inst. A large crowd assembled at the churchyard to witness the funeral, and there were many manifestations of sorrow and regret. A service was first held at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Hasbury, of which the deceased was a prominent member. The service at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. W. G. Softley. In addition to the family mourners, a large number of representatives were present from the various organisations with which deceased was associated, whilst the workpeople at the Fly Colliery, Old Hill, where deceased was employed as a foreman, also followed the body to the grave. A large number of beautiful wreaths were placed upon the grave."

Bromsgrove Messenger 26/3/1904

"Alexander Haden, of Blackheath, was charged with breaking the windows of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, at Hasbury. Mrs. *Halward*, the landlady, said that on the afternoon of the 16th inst defendant, who was drunk, asked for a drink, and because she refused him he broke the front windows.

Police-constable Beswick said he was called to defendant, who was drunk, and he locked him up.

Defendant asked for another chance, adding that he would turn over a new leaf.

The Bench pointed out to him that he had had two months for a similar offence before, and fined him 10s and costs in each case, or a month in default."

Annie Halward = Annie Allwood

County Advertiser 28/4/1906

"John Partridge, of School Lane, Hasbury, was charged with using indecent language on the 31st of March.

Thomas Cresswell, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, stated that on the date named defendant came into the house in a partially naked condition. When requested to leave defendant did so, but when outside commenced to use very bad language. This was defendant's fifth appearance for similar offences, and a fine of 10s and costs was imposed."

County Advertiser 13/4/1907

"Joseph Price, sen, and Joseph Price, jun, of Hasbury; William Price, of Hayley Green, Halesowen; and John Whitehouse, of Hall End, West Bromwich, were charged with assaulting *Thomas Cresswell*, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, on the 22nd ult. Philip Price was charged with assaulting *Herbert Cresswell*, son of the landlord, whilst Joseph Price, jun, was summoned for refusing to quit licensed premises on the same date. *Thomas Cresswell*, landlord of the house, was charged with unlawfully wounding Joseph Price, sen. Mr. Norris Foster, instructed by Mr. T. Cooksey, appeared for *Cresswell*, and Mr. A. Hollowell, for the other parties.

Mr. Hollowell applied for an adjournment for a week, as his clients wished to engage Mr. Parfitt to defend them.

Mr. Norris Foster asked for costs, as his clients had been compelled to call witnesses from Birmingham and Kidderminster.

The Bench granted the adjournment, but made no order respecting costs. They issued a warrant for the arrest of the defendant Whitehouse."

County Advertiser 20/4/1907

"At Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday, several cases which aroused much interest amongst the inhabitants came up for hear-

ing before the magistrates – Sir G. B. Hingley, the Rev. G. F. Burr, and Messrs. T. W. Adshead, and R. T. Pearson. Joseph Price, jun, nail maker, of Spring Hill, Hasbury, William Price, manufacturer, of Hayley Green, Lutley, and John Whitehouse, agent, of Temple Street, West Bromwich, were all charged with assaulting *Thomas Cresswell*, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, on the 22nd ult. *Thomas Cresswell* was charged with unlawfully wounding Joseph Price, sen, on the same day, and there was another charge against Joseph Price, jun, of being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises. Philip Price, painter, of Spring Hill, Hasbury, was charged with assaulting *Herbert Cresswell*, and Mr. J. J. Parfitt (instructed by Mr. G. Green) defended the other parties.

At the outset Mr. Dorsett mentioned that he had held a consultation with Mr. Parfitt and with the consent of the Bench they proposed to withdraw the whole of the summonses. *Cresswell* kept a licensed house at Hasbury, and the other parties were also well known in the district. On the 22nd ult a disturbance arose in the public-house. There seemed to have been an angry altercation over the District Council election, which was taking place at Hasbury. People at such times took sides and became very heated. He had no desire to say anything against the defendants, but was perfectly willing on behalf of his client to let by-gones be by-gones, as the election was now over they thought it would be best for the parties to forgive each other and cry quits.

Mr. Parfitt said he was much obliged to his friend for the manner in which he had put the facts before the Bench. The matter, unfortunately, had arisen out of an unfortunate difference in opinion as to which way to vote at the District Council election. It was a rough and tumble affair, and he hoped the magistrates would allow the summonses to be withdrawn. In order to do so he would reduce the charge of unlawful wounding against *Cresswell* to one of common assault.

Inspector Brazier called the attention of the Bench to the fact that the assaults were committed upon licensed premises, and he was of opinion that the magistrates should hear all the cases. There was no doubt it was a most serious bother, and almost amounted to a riot on licensed premises. He did not think the cases should be settled out of court.

Mr. Parfitt said there was no desire to settle the cases out of court.

Inspector Brazier said it was practically a charge of keeping a disorderly house, and again urged that the cases should be proceeded with.

Mr. Parfitt said no doubt there was a certain amount of disorder at the time, but the disorder was not of a continuous nature. The police had done their duty, but as it was an election squabble he hoped the magistrates would consent to the cases being withdrawn.

Inspector Brazier said he had intimated to *Cresswell* that the facts would be brought before the licensing magistrates. He considered the cases should be gone into.

Mr. Dorsett said the police were at liberty to take what course they desired. Having regard to the fact that it was election time, he thought the cases might be withdrawn.

The magistrates retired for a private deliberation, and upon returning into Court again Sir G. B. Hingley said they had given careful consideration to the cases, and their decision at first was not entirely unanimous. The Bench felt that an impression existed in the minds of many people in that and other districts that the law almost stopped at election times. People thought they could do many things at election times which would not be dreamt of at other times. It was certainly a wrong state of affairs. These things would happen, and the counsel wished the cases to be withdrawn and all differences settled the Bench would not stand in the way. He hoped it would be a warning to all concerned, that there would not be a repetition of such a state of things.

Mr. Parfitt remarked that he could leave a message at Halesowen. The only occasion he interfered in an election he got the worst of it, and it was a lesson to him. (Laughter.) He would communicate that to his clients.

Costs amounting to £3 were ordered to be paid.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“On Tuesday evening, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury, concerning the death of Cornelius James Carter (25), wagoner, formerly residing at Lower Hasbury, who died on Monday from injuries sustained in a cycling accident on the previous day. It appeared from the evidence of George Randall, nailmaker, Bloomfield Street, and his wife, that on Sunday night deceased was cycling at Hayley Green when he was accidentally thrown off. Randall went to his assistance and found him in an unconscious condition. Carter was at once removed to his home, where he regained consciousness. He, however, complained of pains in his head, and expired on the following day before a doctor could be summoned.

Dr. Young attributed death to a fracture of the skull.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death. The witness Randall and his wife, were deaf and dumb, PC Berry acted as interpreter.”

County Express 20/2/1909

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen Police Court, Walter Tolley (26), miner, of Spring Hill, Hasbury, and a well-known boxer, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, kept by *Henry Wise*, and also for assaulting William Barton, of Hasbury, on the 6th inst.

It was alleged the defendant visited the public house, and in consequence of his disorderly conduct, the domestic servant declined to serve him. Defendant then picked up a table and threatened to smash the windows in. Several customers remonstrated with defendant, and he attacked Barton in a violent manner. He attempted to bite him on a couple of occasions, and ultimately struck him a violent blow in the mouth. He was requested to leave, but declined to go.

Mr. A. G. Hayes, who defended denied the offence.

Tolley gave evidence, and said he was attacked by several of the customers. In reply to Inspector Brazier witness said it was not true that he was a terror to the district.

Inspector Brazier said Tolley was a perfect terror to the district, and a blackguard of the lowest type. He was the man who caused all the disturbance at the Drill Hall on the occasion of the recent boxing contest, which was nothing more than a prize fight, and

had to be stopped by the police.

Mr. Hayes said he did not think those remarks were fair. It was a boxing contest, and the Bench were trying the case for assault. The Rev. G. F. Burr said the Bench knew all about that affair.

Mr. Pearson (presiding magistrate) said the Bench considered the cases proved, and defendant would be fined 10s and costs for the assault, and 5s and cost for the other offence. The total amount was £1 17s, or one month's imprisonment."

1911 Census

Hasbury – HARE AND HOUNDS

- [1] *William Whitehouse* (47), licensed victualler, born Blackheath;
- [2] Minnie Whitehouse (41), wife, married 5 years, born Stourbridge;
- [3] Adam Whitehouse (18), son, fitter, general engineering Co, born Oldbury;
- [4] Fred Whitehouse (16), son, student, born Oldbury;
- [5] Gladys Whitehouse (13), daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [6] Cissie Whitehouse (9), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] Ivan Whitehouse (3), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] William Whitehouse (4 months), son, born Halesowen;
- [9] Mary Hackett (18), general servant, birthplace not given:

County Express 20/5/1911 - Advert

"Pony, Trap, and Harness; in good condition; good worker; suit business man.
William Whitehouse, HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury, Halesowen."

Birmingham Mail 1/8/1911

"At Hales Owen Police Court today, Mr. *W. Whitehouse*, landlord of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, made an application on behalf of the holders of ten o'clock licenses in the division for an extension of one hour on the nights of 5th, 7th, and 8th insts. In reply to the Bench, Inspector Pass said there was no opposition from the police, as the houses were properly conducted at Bank Holidays. The extension brought the houses in the country area up to the same level as the others during the holidays. The Chairman (Mr. W. Somers) said the Bench would grant the application, but they hoped the privilege would not be abused."

William Whitehouse – see also FOX, Rowley Regis.

*probably the same person

Bromsgrove Messenger 27/9/1913

"*Albert William Beale*, of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, was summoned for permitting children in his bar. Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted.

Police-constable Strange said on the 1st inst, at 7.45pm, he visited defendant's premises, and found several children in the smoke room and tap room. There was drinking and smoking going on in both rooms. It was a wet night. There were two brakes outside. At 8.11 the same night he again visited, and found the children in both rooms. There were four children in the private room.

Police-sergeant Jennings corroborated as to the last visit.

Defendant said it was a wet night, and he could not get the children out.

Fined 20s and costs."

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1914

"The sessions for the Halesowen petty sessional division was held yesterday at the Police Court.....

Superintendent A. Pass stated there were 73 licenses in existence, giving an average of one license to every 265 of the population, and one on-license to every 334 of the population. Since the Licensing Act of 1904 came into force eight licensed houses had been closed with compensation – five alehouses and three beerhouses During the year two license holders had been proceeded against, both being fined. He had served notices of objection to the renewal of both licenses.....

The Bench decided to renew the licenses held by *Alfred William Beale* and Caleb Smith, who had been convicted under the Act, but as the contamination of children with licensed premises was concerned in both cases, they wished to caution them as to future conduct of the houses."

Birmingham Daily Post 23/12/1914

"A singular point was raised in connection with an application made at Hales Owen Police Court, yesterday, for the transfer of the license of the HARE AND HOUNDS INN, Hasbury, from *Alfred William Beale* to *Herbert Thomas Cresswell*.

In reply to Superintendent Pass applicant said he was single, and his mother would be the tenant of the house. The house had not been sublet to him, but there was nothing in the lease to prevent her from doing so.

Superintendent Pass pointed out that under the arrangement made between the parties, it was possible for the applicant to purchase a large quantity of goods, and if a distraint was put in the mother could claim the whole of the stock.

The Bench regarded the position as unsatisfactory, and refused the application.

The outgoing tenant said the decision would inflict a great hardship on him, as he had already left the premises.

The Chairman (Mr. A. H. Wiggin) said the Bench could not alter their decision, and an arrangement would have to be made between the parties. Subsequently Mr. Hinton, the owner of the house, appeared before the justices, and a temporary authority was

granted to him on condition that the lease of the tenancy was altered, or the house sublet.”

Harry Cresswell brewed his own beer.

1939 Register

Hasbury – HARE AND HOUNDS INN

[1] *Ernest F. Leach*, date of birth 15/6/1899, licensee;

[2] Alice L. Leach, dob 8/2/21898, married, unpaid domestic duties;

[3] Jean Gabrielle (Leach) Harrison, dob 24/11/1930, at school:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/1/1967

“Mr. *Norman Holt*, licensee of the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, has died at the age of 68. He spent all his working life in the hotel trade, beginning as a page boy at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham. After service in the First World War he became head waiter at the White Horse Hotel, Congreve Street, Birmingham. He has been a licensee since 1928 and was at the QUEENS HEAD for nine years. Earlier he had been at the HARE AND HOUNDS in Halesowen for eight years. He leaves a widow, one son and a daughter.”

HARE AND HOUNDS sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

Sandwell Evening Mail 8/8/1994 - Advert

“Moonlight Psychic Nights. August 8th-11th 7.30 till 11pm.....

Wednesday – HARE AND HOUNDS, Hagley Road, Halesowen.

Readings from £5.”

It reopened in July 2005 after a £280,000 refurbishment.

Ron De Vere was married to Linda.

Halesowen News 17/7/2018

“Building work has begun this week on a major £270,000 refurbishment of the HARE AND HOUNDS pub in Halesowen. Following a five week closure, the work will see the Hagley Road pub transformed into a family-friendly community local. The Hasbury pub will reopen in time for the bank holiday weekend at the end of August, with the refurbishment expecting to create about 10 new jobs. Funds are being spent on a complete overhaul of the HARE AND HOUNDS to create a brighter, more stylish and contemporary interior with colourful leather banquette seating, panelling, feature wallpaper and a feature fireplace. The redesign of the pub – which is owned by Star Pubs & Bars and operated by Bolton Inns – will also create seating for 91 people inside and 88 outside. The exterior is being updated with a new entrance lobby, as well as fresh signage and lighting, with the front of the pub also being landscaped to enhance ‘overall appearance’. A new commercial kitchen is being installed as part of the refurbishment, enabling the watering hole to serve traditional pub food, and the drinks range is being increased, with cask ales becoming a key feature of manager *Dean Price*’s establishment.

Ollie Pearce, Bolton Inns regional manager, said, ‘We recognised the potential of the HARE AND HOUNDS immediately. It’s in a great location overlooking Hagley Road and with investment we knew it would give locals what they’ve been crying out for – a great looking family-friendly community pub on their doorstep, offering all day coffee and the type of food, drinks and entertainment that previously they have had to travel for. The manager *Dean* is staying on, which is good news for everyone as he’s much loved in the community and an excellent manager. He and we are looking forward to opening the doors and welcoming the community – young, old and everything in between – to come and enjoy what we believe will become the best family-friendly pub in the area.’

The refurbishment is part of the £44 million Heineken UK – owner of Star Pubs & Bars – is investing in its pubs this year, bringing its total expenditure on its pubs to almost £140m during the past five years. Star Pubs & Bars’ regional operations director Caren Geering added, ‘We’re delighted that experienced local operator, Bolton Inns, has taken on the HARE AND HOUNDS as the team knows the area well and has made it a mission to find out exactly what residents want from their local. Food and coffee are increasingly important to a pub, so their introduction will broaden the HARE AND HOUNDS’ appeal and give people more reasons to visit. Investments like this allow pubs to evolve and stay relevant to customers, ensuring they continue to be sustainable at the heart of their communities for years to come.’”

Express & Star 5/8/2023

“A popular Black Country pub is set to undergo a massive revamp. The HARE & HOUNDS on Hagley Road in Halesowen is closing at the end of service on Sunday for a £120,000 revamp by Heineken-owned Star Pubs & Bars and local pub operator Craig Dedicoat of Stourbridge-based pub@group Ltd. Pub@group Ltd, which also runs the RAILWAY at Lye and the NEW INN in Stourbridge, has said the pub will reopen at the end of the month with up to 10 new jobs created. The HARE & HOUNDS, which has been open under temporary management since December, will be upgraded throughout, turning it into a family friendly, local community pub with the in-house street food operator, Hangry Moose. Following a £270,000 refurbishment in 2018, the latest investment will be spent on new and refurbished seating and a top-to-toe internal redecoration including new carpet, panelling and wallpaper. Outside, the pub is being given a facelift, redecorated in olive and wood effect panelling with new lighting and signage. New seating and umbrellas are being installed on the terrace with plans in time, subject to receiving the necessary con-

sents, to extend the terrace to create an outdoor drinking and dining area. A selection of street food-style chicken burgers, wings and dirty fries will be offered and a large range of real ales, premium lagers and ciders, as well as an array of gins. In addition to Sky Sports, plans for the HARE & HOUNDS include a pool table with free pool once a week, darts, a weekly pub quiz, regular weekend live entertainment and a DJ and Karaoke on a Sunday.....”

[2023]

HASBURY

218, Hagley Road, (218, Spring Hill), Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mrs. Hannah Withers
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
New River Retail [2015]

LICENSEES

Charles Withers [1861]
David Withers [1864] – [1888]
Miss Hannah Withers (1890 – 1895)
Benjamin Withers (1895 – [1901]
Joseph Withers [1912] – [1916]
Mrs. Annie Withers [1921] – [1940]
Kevin Kelly [1980]
Howard and Carole [1998]
Phil Kerry [2003]
Wayne Lyndon Kenny [2007] – [2009]
Sharon Elliot [2015]

NOTES

It was originally known as the BEEHIVE.

Black Country Bugle - Pub of the Month

“The house has always been a great pigeon flying pub. In the old days they flew the ‘fast uns’ or ‘milers’ and a lot of money was gambled on the sport. When the distance events superceded the earlier sport, the BEEHIVE was one of the best known pigeon pubs in the area The BEEHIVE stands almost on the site of the old Red Leasowes Farm. It was opened in the 1860s when traffic along the turnpike road created the demand for another tavern in addition to the HARE AND HOUNDS and the NELSON.....

Harry Hodgetts lived at Red Leasowes Farm. It was his son-in-law who was the first licensee and by all accounts was a very busy bee, quickly making a success of the venture. One old story tells how he ensured that carters stopped at the BEEHIVE by throwing buckets of water on to the turnpike slope, in front of the tavern, on frosty nights, so that horses pulling their loads up the gradient found it difficult to get a footing That bit of roadway was known colloquially as Nathan’s Sletcher The old tavern was demolished in 1960 and replaced by the present building.”

Charles Withers was born in 1812.

In the 1851 Census he was described as a sawyer of 34, Spring Hill.

He married Phoebe Southall.

He died on 20th May 1890 leaving £448.

1861 Census

Spring Hill – BEE HIVE

[1] *Charles Withers* (48), sawyer, victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Phoebe Withers* (48), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *David Withers* (24), son, horse carter, born Hasbury;

[4] *George Withers* (22), son, sawyer, born Hasbury;

- [5] Samuel Withers (19), son, sawyer, born Hasbury;
- [6] Amelia Withers (17), daughter, born Hasbury;
- [7] *Hannah Withers* (14), daughter, scholar, born Hasbury;
- [8] *Benjamin Withers* (6), son, scholar, born Hasbury:

David Withers, beer retailer, Spring Hill. [1864], [1870]
He was the son of *Charles* and *Phoebe*.
He died in 1889.

A full license was granted in September 1870.

County Advertiser 24/9/1870

“The Adjourned Licensing Day. At the annual licensing day, a fortnight ago, the application for a spirit license to the BEEHIVE beerhouse, Spring Hill, was adjourned until today. Mr. Hayes supported the application, which was granted.

1871 Census

Hagley Road

- [1] *Charles Withers* (58), overlooker of timber yard and licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phoebe Withers* (55), wife, born Romsley;
- [3] *David Withers* (33), son, carrier, born Hasbury;
- [4] *Hannah Withers* (24), daughter, born Hasbury;
- [5] *Benjamin Withers* (17), son, born Hasbury:

Stourbridge Observer 29/6/1872

“On Tuesday afternoon the adjourned inquest as to the death of *James Corfield*, previously reported in our columns, was held before *H. Docker Esq*, Coroner, at the BEEHIVE INN, Spring Hill. After hearing the evidence given, the jury expressed their opinion that more care should have been used with reference to the roof of the mine, in that part of it where the unfortunate youth was killed, and gave a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Advertiser 21/3/1874

“*Benjamin White* was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the BEE HIVE INN, Spring Hill, on the 3rd inst. Police-constable *Smith* proved the case, and defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs, or fourteen days.”

Benjamin Withers married *Mary Jane Dingley* in the 3rd quarter of 1875.

County Advertiser 25/9/1880 - Advert

“Farm. To Let, immediate possession, 13 Acres capital Meadow Land, with House and Farm Buildings, situate at the Wildmoor, near Bromsgrove, now in the occupation of *Mr. William Wilde*.
Apply, *Charles Withers*, BEEHIVE INN, Halesowen; or *Mrs. Hollies*, Hagley Road, Halesowen.”

1881 Census

Spring Hill – BEEHIVE

- [1] *David Withers* (44), unmarried, publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Charles Withers* (69), father, retired wood sawyer, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Phebe Withers* (68), mother, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Hannah Withers* (34), sister, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Charles Withers* (18), nephew, nail maker, born Halesowen;
- [6] *George Withers* (14), nephew, assistant in nail warehouse, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Joseph Withers* (5), nephew, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 20/2/1886

“*Jesse Tromans*, chainmaker, of Hasbury, was charged with unlawfully wounding *Benjamin Coley*, of the same place, on the 30th ult. Prosecutor said he and defendant were at the BEEHIVE INN, Hasbury, on the night in question, and about twenty minutes past ten a dispute arose about some beer. Witness was about to drink out of a cup, when the defendant told him that if he did he would strike him. While he was drinking defendant struck witness a hard blow with his fist or a cup, and the effect of the blow was that the cup containing the beer was broken, and witness’s face was badly cut. He had to be assisted home, and was in a dangerous state for some time in consequence of loss of blood.

Thomas Chapman, who was in the public-house at the time, said prosecutor drank defendant’s beer, and as he would not put it down when threatened, defendant hit the cup with his fist.

Dr. McLaughlin said he examined the prosecutor and found two incised wounds from ¾ inch to ½ inch long from the bridge of the nose to the right eye. There was also a severe contusion on the right eye, which was badly injured. This injury to the sight would probably be permanent.

Defendant was fined 10s, 11s costs, and the surgeon’s fee of 10s 6d, with the alternative of one month’s imprisonment.”

Dudley Mercury 21/9/1889

“An inquest was held on Tuesday, at the BEEHIVE INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, before Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner), on the body of *David Withers* (53), who was found dead in bed at the above-named inn, on Monday morning.

Hannah Withers, sister of the deceased, said her brother went to bed about 10.15 on Sunday night, and on the following morning at 5.30 she found him dead in bed.

Mr. T. B. Young, surgeon, said he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and was of opinion that death was caused by syncope, due to fatty degeneration of the heart.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Heart Disease.”

1891 Census

Hagley Road – BEE HIVE Public House

[1] *Hannah Withers* (43), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] Emma Walker (19), domestic servant, born Cleobury;

[3] Thomas Hall (52), brewer, born Halesowen;

[4] Hannah Hall (55), lodger, born Halesowen:

Hannah Withers was the daughter of *Charles* and *Phoebe*.

She died on 16th March 1895 leaving £731 to *Benjamin Withers*, licensed victualler, and *Thomas Hall*, manager.

County Avertiser 21/9/1895

“For some days past there has been some little excitement and curiosity in the neighbourhood of Hasbury in consequence of the alleged appearance of the ‘ghost’ of the late *Hannah Withers*, landlady of the BEEHIVE INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury. It appears that Miss *Withers* was possessed of considerable means, and died about three days after undergoing a painful operation some six months ago. Report says that she appeared very restless on her death-bed, and that she told one of her relatives that she would come again if they did not agree amongst themselves as to the settlement of her affairs. Since her death it is alleged that disputes have arisen among the family on money matters, and incredible though it may appear, many of the residents avow their belief that the apparition of Miss *Withers* has been seen of late in and about the house in which she was once mistress. The rumours originated some time ago when some persons imagined that they saw spectral looking objects at the windows of the house. It is said that some of the relatives of the dead woman share the curious belief. There is one thing which is absolutely beyond question, and that is that the affair has created an unprecedented sensation among many people living at Hasbury. Large numbers of people have visited the house out of curiosity. A photograph upon which, it is stated, is the likeness of the dead woman, has been eagerly sought after, and the photographer could have sold large quantities of prints if he had had them on hand. Persons who have closely examined the photo assert that there is some object upon it, but opinion is divided as to whether it is the representation of an apparition ghost or shadow, or merely one of those unaccountable freaks for which the camera is sometimes responsible – the latter by far the more probable. A near relative of the dead woman is said to be firmly convinced that it is the figure of the deceased which stands between the two long curtains in the window looking through into the street below. Others assert that the object is too indistinct to allow this construction. It is even stated that the aid of ministers has been called in to ‘lay the ghost.’ A large microscope has been brought into requisition, but up to the present the matter has not been settled. In the meantime the subject is the only topic of conversation in the district. Many families are so terrified that they retire to bed much earlier than usual since the scare has come about. The proprietor of the house, it is stated, intends to have another photograph taken in order, if possible, to satisfy himself and to set at rest the sensational rumours of the last few days.

The reference above to a photograph is explained by the fact that last week an itinerant photographer ‘took’ the front of the premises. The photo, was taken, and the rumour is, that upon it is a likeness of the dead woman with her head covered with a shroud. She is stated to be standing up near the window of the room in which she recently died.

Our correspondent, writing last night, says: The apparition is still one of the chief topics in the district, and the mystery surrounding the photograph has not yet been solved. In some quarters it is still firmly believed that the dim figure at the middle window of the building bears a likeness to the deceased woman; and there are people – and not all of the ignorant and superstitious classes – who speak of this vague outline on the photo with bated breath. A minister of religion expressed the opinion to our correspondent that the spirit of the dead woman had actually returned to her haunts while living, and that it could find no rest because there were squabbles over the property she had left. The police, with a view to end the delusion, have had a new photograph of the premises taken, and this it is alleged – though our correspondent has not seen it – also has in a centre window, the window of the room in which Miss *Withers* died, an object similar to that which has been the subject of so much speculation on the old photo. In the latter the apparition is standing between curtains; in the new picture the curtains are absent, but this has not made the object any more distinct. Level-headed people who have seen the first photograph have no doubt there is something at the window; but they say it requires a good deal of imagination to make it out to be the figure of a woman in the cerements of the coffin. Some of particularly vivid imagination declare that not only do they see the shroud, but that they can discern the likeness of the flowers that were laid in the coffin, and even the shape of the coffin itself. There are, of course, many very strange stories afloat, and it is quite extraordinary the hold which the thing has taken on the imagination of many in the neighbourhood. How it originated is not known, but for some reason or other the public of the neighbourhood seemed to attach something awesome to the death of Miss *Withers*. Shortly after her death there were people who said they had seen her at the lower windows of her late residence. This got about, and what with this and the general feeling, a soil was prepared for the rank growth of superstitious beliefs which have been brought under public notice this week.”

County Express 12/5/1900

“Mary *Withers*, landlady of the BEEHIVE INN, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the BEEHIVE on April 19th. Mr. Hayes defended, and pleaded guilty. Police-constable Tennant stated that the defendant was not only drunk, but she threatened to do violence to her husband, and the husband was so much afraid of her he asked him to stay and protect him.

Mr. A. G. Hayes said his client very much regretted that she should have had too much wine, which made her excited more than drunk. Defendant was fined 10s.”

County Express 7/7/1900

“*Benjamin Withers*, landlord of the BEEHIVE INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and also with selling liquor to a drunken person, on June 23rd. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

The case for the prosecution was that at 10.47pm, Inspector Pitt, Police-sergeant Pass, and Police-Constable Tennant visited the house, and saw William Bellamy and other men with cups of beer before them. Bellamy was said to be in a considerably advanced state of drunkenness, and Inspector Pitt called the landlord’s attention to the man. *Withers* said he did not know the man was there, and helped Bellamy to get up, and, as he walked out of the house, he staggered, and outside the house he stumbled against a woman.

Mr. Waldron for the defence, submitted that the police, so far as Bellamy was concerned, had made a mistake. At 11.25 the man was at Dr. Young’s surgery, 38 minutes from the time the police went into the house, and Dr. Young tested him, and was absolutely surprised that there should have been any allegation of being in a state of drunkenness. He had sore feet, and his walk was not so elastic as that of a younger man. The house had been in the *Withers*’ family ever since it was built, and there had never been any complaint or conviction.

Dr. Young said Bellamy went to his surgery at 11.25pm, on June 23rd, and he formed the opinion he was sober.

William Bellamy, *Annie Withers*, Joel Hall, and defendant gave evidence for the defence.

The Bench decided to convict, and fined defendant 40s and costs on the first charge, and ordered him to pay costs on the second charge. Solicitor’s fee of £1 1s was allowed.”

Dudley Herald 1/9/1900

“The annual Brewster Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the Public office.....

Superintendent Clare reported He has served notices of objection on the licenses held by.....

Benjamin Withers, the BEEHIVE, Hasbury on various grounds.”

County Express 1/9/1900

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions. The annual Licensing Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the new Police Court.....

Objection had been lodged with *Benjamin Withers*, for whom Mr. Foster also appeared and in each case Inspector Pitt said the houses had been better conducted since, and that there had been no cause for complaint.

The Bench said that in view of the serious increase in drunkenness they would take more time to consider the question of renewals, and they would be deferred to the adjourned licensing sessions.”

County Express 29/9/1900

“Adjourned Licensing Session.....

The adjourned cases were next taken, these being *Benjamin Withers*, BEEHIVE INN, Hasbury, represented by Mr. Foster, Wolverhampton The Bench renewed all the licenses, and said they expected the houses to be conducted in a better manner this year.”

1901 Census

Spring Hill

[1] *Benjamin Withers* (44), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] Mary *Withers* (43), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Amelia *Withers* (22), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] Beatrice *Withers* (8), daughter, born Halesowen;

[5] Charlotte Walker (23), domestic servant, born Cleobury Mortimer:

County Advertiser 25/5/1901

“Mary *Withers*, BEEHIVE INN, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on her own premises on the 9th inst. Mr. Hayes defended.

Police-constable Tennant proved the case.

Mr. Hayes pleaded guilty for the defendant, expressed regret, and asked for leniency.

Fined 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Mail 16/7/1901

“At Hales Owen Police Court today, Laura Willetts, of Hales Owen, was fined 20s for being drunk on the licensed premises of the BEEHIVE INN, Hasbury, on the 1st inst. Police-constable Tennant proved the offence.”

County Advertiser 20/7/1901

“Mary *Withers*, BEEHIVE INN, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on her husband’s premises on the 1st inst. Police-constable Hunt deposed to finding the defendant drunk and staggering about in the tap room at 10.15pm on the 1st inst. Mr. Hayes, on behalf of defendant, pleaded guilty to the charge. His client he said was not able to attend the Court on account of illness.

A fine of 20s and costs was imposed.”

AND

Smethwick Weekly News 20/7/1901

“Mary *Withers*, the wife of the landlord of the BEEHIVE INN, Hasbury, was summoned at the Police Court, on Tuesday, for being drunk on the licensed premises on the 1st inst.

PC Tennant said he visited the house and found the defendant very drunk, and the landlord said his wife had accompanied a Bible class to Habberley Valley and had got drunk there.

Mr. A. G. Hayes, for the defence, urged that the defendant resorted to excessive drinking owing to being overcome by heat.

Mr. Reay: But she was overcome by something else in the early part of the year. (Laughter.)

Mr. Hayes: That would be the wet.

Mr. Reay said that unless the defendant altered her tactics she would have to go into an inebriates’ home for two or three years. Defendant was fined 20s and costs, or in default one month’s imprisonment.”

County Advertiser 9/11/1901

“On Monday night Mr. Joseph Smart offered for sale at the STAR HOTEL, Halesowen, the freehold old-licensed public house known as the BEEHIVE, situate at Spring Hill, but it was withdrawn when bidding had reached £1,775.”

Joseph Withers was the second cousin of *Benjamin Withers*.

1911 Census

Spring Hill

- [1] *Joseph Withers* (29), licensed victualler, born Hasbury;
- [2] *Annie Withers* (29), wife, married 9 years, born Hasbury;
- [3] *Annie Withers* (8), daughter, school, born Hasbury;
- [4] *Joseph Withers* (2), son, born Hasbury;
- [5] *William Bissell* (46), uncle, widower, born Hasbury;

Bromsgrove Messenger 8/3/1913

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.

The licenses adjourned from the annual licensing meeting were all renewed, viz.....

Joseph Withers, BEEHIVE, Hasbury.....

Superintendent Rudnick said all the alterations had been carried out satisfactorily.”

Probate Notice

“*Joseph Withers* of the BEEHIVE INN, Hasbury, Halesowen, Worcestershire, died 7 June 1920. Probate London 18 December to *Annie Withers*, widow, and *John Withers*, labourer. Effects £2,167 13s 6d.”

Benjamin Withers died 10th July 1925, leaving £2,991 8s.

1939 Register

218, Spring Hill

- [1] *Annie Withers*, date of birth 14/1/1883, widow, licensed victualler;
- [2] *William Tetley*, dob 16/9/1896, widower, builder, heavy work;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/7/1940

“Damage of £150 and costs were awarded by Mr. Justice Asquith, at Birmingham Assizes yesterday, to Leonard Hodgkins, of The Rosary, Blackberry Lane, Halesowen, who successfully sued Mrs. *Annie Withers*, licensee of the BEEHIVE INN, Halesowen, alleging slander.

The plaintiff’s case was that, after he had contracted ‘barbers rash’ Mrs. *Withers* made a statement that he was suffering from a certain disease.

The defence was a complete denial, and in giving judgement, Mr. Justice Asquith commented, ‘It is always painful to have to choose between two flatly contradictory stories, but I am bound to accept the plaintiff’s evidence.’”

Annie Withers died on 6th May 1960 aged 78.

Birmingham Daily Post 4/1/1965

“A swan landed on the car park outside the BEEHIVE INN, Hagley Road, Hasbury, yesterday. Mr. Percy Archer, a newsagent, and local representative for the RSPCA, who took it to Ladypool at the Leasowes, a public park near Halesowen golf course, said, ‘The frost on the car park must have made the swan think it was a stretch of water. At the Ladypool we broke some of the ice so

that it could get some water.””

Birmingham Daily Post 14/12/1972

“Retirement for 65-year-old Mr. Frank Billingham of Leebank Road, Halesowen, ambulance driver and poet, means he can devote more time to his favourite hobby of delving into the history of the area. Mr. Billingham has written about 300 poems on local history, and has also built up a museum of relics and old photographs.

Last night, at the BEEHIVE INN, Hagley Road, Halesowen, his former colleagues presented him with an electric lawn mower. Mr. Billingham was at one time a fire engine driver and also the Mayor’s chauffeur.”

It was refurbished and reopened as the HASBURY INN in 1998.

Black Country Bugle 24/12/1998 - Advert

“The HASBURY INN (formerly the BEEHIVE), Hagley Road, Halesowen. Newly Refurbished.

Howard and Carole would like to wish all their customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Come and Enjoy a relaxing friendly atmosphere.

Large Function Room available with Dance Floor and Private Bar for Weddings, Parties etc. Catering can be provided.

Traditional Banks’s Ales, Marston Pedigree, plus guest beer. December Guest Beer – Merry Fettle, January Guest Beer – Dr.

Johnson’s Brew. Guest Beers rotated once a month.

Hot and Cold Food available in January.

Real effect fire. Pool Table. Darts.”

Halesowen News 22/3/2007

‘There’s something for everyone at The HASBURY INN and BEEHIVE BAR,’ promises landlord *Wayne Kenny* who is proud to run the thriving pub situated on the Hagley Road in Halesowen.

He added, ‘It’s really two venues in one – customers of all ages find it perfect – whether they want a quiet drink or a meal or whether they want to enjoy the lively BEEHIVE BAR where there’s a choice of free entertainment most evenings.’

Wayne and his staff pride themselves both on their hospitality and the choice of food from their extensive menu. Don’t forget to check out the Specials Board where there’s always plenty of delicious homemade meals (priced from £4.50).

The chef’s Steak & Ale or Chicken & Mushroom Pies, Faggots & Peas or Pasta Bolognese are among the selection available.

Sunday lunches are also much sought after so booking is advisable. The BEEHIVE BAR underwent a complete refurbishment before opening back in November. In addition to plasma TVs, sports fans will be pleased to note that live sports are shown on a large screen and a pool table and darts boards provide ample opportunity for friendly matches. Then of course there’s the free nightly entertainment: Monday: Both ladies darts teams take to the floor; Tuesday: It’s the turn of the men’s team; Wednesday: Open Acoustic night; Thursday: Dominoes; Friday: Karaoke; Saturday: Live Singer. Spring brings the promise of warmer days and lighter evenings, so what could be nicer than enjoying a relaxing drink with friends and family?

The HASBURY INN boasts a beer terrace as well as a beer garden and also an adventure play area for the children. Discover the HASBURY INN and BEEHIVE BAR for yourself and see what you’ve been missing.”

Planning permission to transfer into a supermarket was granted in August 2015.

Halesowen News 21/9/2015

“Regulars from a Halesowen pub are fighting back against plans to replace it with a supermarket by staging a charity event aimed at proving it would be a ‘travesty’ if it was lost. The HASBURY INN, in Hagley Road, will host the event on October 3, with proceeds going to a fund to help a local toddler struck down by a life-threatening brain disease. ‘Save the HASBURY INN’ is the title of the event, which will include family entertainment and food from 12 noon.

HASBURY INN owners New River Retail plan to close the pub and replace it with a Co-op supermarket.

Belle Vale Councillor Simon Phipps said, ‘Dudley councillors have approved the plans but the HASBURY INN has almost doubled its custom since February and we are hoping that if we can persuade New River Retail how successful it is they may decide it should continue as a pub. We are all determined to show everyone what a community asset this pub is and what a travesty it would be if we lose a pub with a huge heritage in Halesowen. Clearly events like this wouldn’t take place if it was a shop and not a pub.’

Those attending the charity event, which will include a bouncy castle and face painting, will be asked for a £2 donation on the door and there will be evening entertainment, starting at 7pm. ‘Save the HASBURY INN’ member Tracey Mountford, aged 54, of Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath, a regular at the pub for many years, will have her head shaved during the evening. Mrs. Mountford, who has created a ‘Save the HASBURY INN’ Facebook page, said, ‘*Sharon Elliot*, who runs the pub now, has been very successful at making the place work as a pub – but with all this talk about a Co-op, she is looking at it being closed despite all her efforts. We want people to rally and come along to this event to try to keep the pub open.’

Proceeds from the day will go to a charity for Skye, the two-year-old daughter of Harry Warren and his partner Mel Slater, of Drews Holloway South, Cradley, who fell seriously ill last November. The little girl has Anti-NMDA Receptor Encephalitis, which caused her to lose the ability to walk, talk and eat and has left her with learning difficulties. Skye’s Dream Fund has been set up to help provide for Skye’s needs.”

Halesowen News 1/10/2015

“A fancy dress fun day is being held at a Halesowen pub to help make dreams come true for terminally ill children. The event

at the HASBURY INN on Saturday November 7 will also include a sponsored fancy dress parade around the town in aid of the Make a Wish charity. Michelle Williams hopes the day will be a family affair and that people will get sponsored for taking part in the parade, with entrants charged a £1 registration fee. The walk will be at 4pm from the pub, where the fun will start at 3.30pm and continue into the evening with a host of entertainment, including performances from local rappers and singers, a disco, face painting and a display by Animal Man.”

It closed in 2016.

Express & Star 10/1/2018

“An eyesore former pub will be turned into a supermarket two years after closing – dashing hopes that it could be re-opened. Owners of the HASBURY INN have confirmed work will now start on converting the pub in Halesowen into a Co-op within weeks. Campaigners had hoped the pub on Hagley Road could be saved after it appeared plans to create a shop had stalled. Ward councillors have raised concerns about anti-social behaviour, vandalism and fly-tipping on the site, which has been left vacant since the pub, formerly known as the BEEHIVE, shut.

Councillor Simon Phipps said the move would be ‘bad for local businesses’ but was ‘happy’ something was being done. He said, ‘They said that they were looking to start building work in the next six to eight weeks. I am still not a fan of a shop being on that site. It is bad for local businesses and it is bad for local residents particularly with the noise with the deliveries that will be made. At least I am happy that something is going to be there.’

A petition opposing the scheme in August 2015 was signed by 674 people as part of a Save The HASBURY INN campaign. David Shipton, pub portfolio director for owners New River, said, ‘The closure of a pub would always be a last resort for us. We reviewed the historic trading performance of the HASBURY INN, and regrettably it was concluded that the pub is not financially viable and did not have a sustainable future. Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council has given planning permission for a new convenience store to be operated by the Co-op, to provide a new high-quality grocery offer for the community. Work will commence on delivering this new store in the spring of 2018.’

Tom Stainer, spokesman for Campaign for Real Ale, said, ‘Pubs are vital to local communities and economies. In many areas and villages they provide the last remaining public meeting space, with meeting halls and post offices already lost.’”

It was converted into a shop.

HAWNE TAVERN

76, Attwood Street, (Hawne Terrace), (Hawne Lane), Hawne, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Thomas Marriott [1890], [1895]

Frederick E. Cutler, Brook Street, Stourbridge (acquired on 8th March 1909 for £836) [1910]
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Marriott [] – **1877**;

Margaret Pearson (**1877** – []

George Turner [1890] – [1909]

George Roberts [1911]

John B Downing [1911] – [1921]

Harry Smith [1926]

Philip H Worton [1939]

Joseph Petford []

Raymond ‘Ray’ Weaver [2007] – [2013]

NOTES

It was originally an off-license owned by *Thomas Marriott*, provision dealer.

County Advertiser 6/9/1873

“The annual licensing meeting for the division of Halesowen was held at the Public Office, on Tuesday There were two applications for new licenses, one by Nathan Smith, the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, for a spirit license, and by *Thomas Marriott*, of Hawne, for a beer license. Both applications were refused, the Bench being of opinion there were already sufficient licensed

houses in the division, and an increase of the number was not desirable.”

County Advertiser 15/8/1874 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor, and the Superintendent of Police, of the Township of Haswne, in the County of Worcester, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Thomas Marriott*, Provision Dealer, and the holder of a License to Sell Beer by retail to be consumed off the premises, now residing at Hawne Lane, in the Parish of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, for the Division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office, at Halesowen, in the said County, on the 31st day of August, next ensuing, at the hour of Ten o’clock in the Forenoon of the same day, for a Six Days’ License to hold an Excise License to Sell Beer and Cider, by Retail, to be drunk and consumed in and upon the House and Premises thereunto belonging, situate at Hawne Lane, in the Parish of Halesowen aforesaid, in pursuance of the Act 11 Geo. IV and Wm.IV c64, and Acts amending the same, and which said premises are duly rated for the relief of the poor as by law is required, of which house and premises I am the owner, and the same are now in my occupation.

Given under my hand this 1st day of August, 1874.

Thomas Marriott.”

County Advertiser 5/9/1874

“The annual licensing meeting for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen was held at the Public Office, on Monday.....

The whole of the existing licenses were renewed, and the magistrate then proceeded to hear the applications for new licenses.....

Thomas Marriott, of Hawne, asked for a license to sell beer, to be consumed on the premises, the applicant already having an outdoor license.....

The room was cleared for the magistrates to consider the applications, and after a quarter of an hour’s deliberation, they announced that *Marriott*’s application would be refused.”

It had a 6-day license.

County Express 9/8/1890 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or Township of Hawne, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District or Division of Hawne, in the said County, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *George Turner*, Beerhouse Keeper, Grocer, and Baker, the holder of a Six Days’ Beer License, now residing at the HAWNE TAVERN, Hawne Lane, in the Parish or Township of Hawne, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting for the Division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office, at Halesowen, in the said County, on Tuesday, the 26th day of August next, for the Grant of a Seven Days’ License or Certificate, authorising me to apply for and hold an Excise License for the Sale, by Retail, at a house and premises known as the HAWNE TAVERN, and situate at Hawne Lane, in the Parish or Township of Hawne aforesaid, of Beer and Cider, to be consumed either on or off the premises, in pursuance of the Act II Geo.IV and Will.IV cap.64, and Acts amending the same, of which said premises one *Thomas Marriott* is the owner, and the same are of the annual value by law required, and are now in my own occupation.

Given under my hand this 31st day of July, 1890.

George Turner.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/10/1890

“Halesowen. The adjourned licensing sessions was held yesterday.....

Mr. A. Smith (Birmingham) made an application on behalf of *George Turner*, of the HAWNE TAVERN, for a seven days’ license, in place of the six days’ license. A memorial was presented in favour of the application. Mr. Waldron presented a memorial from the inhabitants of the parish protesting against the license. The application was refused.”

1891 Census

Hawne Lane

[1] *George Turner* (37), publican, born Ledbury, Herefordshire;

[2] Clara E. Turner (38), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Clara G. Turner (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[4] John O. Turner (8), son, scholar, born Birmingham;

[5] Richard E. Turner (5), son, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 16/3/1892

“Yesterday, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the HAWNE INN, Hales Owen, respecting the death of Charles Willetts, aged five years, son of Eli Willetts, of Hawne Road, who died suddenly on the 10th inst. It appeared that the boy was seized by sudden illness whilst on his way to school, and expired shortly afterwards. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

County Advertiser 27/8/1892

“The annual licensing session for the Halesowen Division was held at the Police Court on Tuesday.....

Superintendent Speke reported.....

There was an application by *George Turner*, of the HAWNE TAVERN, Hawne, for a seven days’ license, he being the holder of a

six days' license. Adjourned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/9/1892

“Hales Owen. Yesterday the adjourned licensing session were held.....

Mr. W. Waldron applied on behalf of *George Turner*, landlord of the HAWNE TAVERN, for a seven days' license instead of the six days' license, on the ground of growth of population. The Bench refused the application.”

County Advertiser 25/8/1894

“On Tuesday the annual licensing session for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held at the Police Court..... Superintendent Chare in his annual report stated.....

He had caused notices of objection to the renewal of the license to be served upon *George Turner*, beerhouse keeper in the township of Hawne, on the ground that he was not a fit and proper person to hold a license, and that he had not complied with the licensing justices' direction to discontinue the internal communication between his licensed premises and a grocer's shop, and that the license was not required.....

Mr. H. G. Tanner (Birmingham) applied on behalf of *George Turner*, beerhouse keeper, in the parish of Hawne, for the renewal of his license. Inspector Raybould repeated the objections made in Superintendent Chare's report. The applicant was also a betting man, and the house was frequented by betting men. He cautioned the applicant last year, and he promised him he would discontinue his betting. He had not done so, and he was in the habit of staking bets at the railway station, and on the highway.

Police-constable Price said he had frequently seen betting men at the house.

Cross-examined: He called men who made small bets betting men.

Mr. Tanner said it was unreasonable, he thought, for the applicant to forfeit his license in consequence of what had been said. In regard to the objection that applicant had not complied with the magistrates' order directing him to cut off the internal communication between the public-house and the grocer's shop, his client had done no trade at all in the shop since Christmas, and closed up the door.

Mr. Reay said the order was that the internal communication should be discontinued.

Mr. Tanner said it was done before the notice was served. It was quite possible that there might have been a misunderstanding between the Bench and his client, who understood that the grocery business being carried on in conjunction with the public-house business was objected to. As to the betting, his client should not be refused the license simply because he made small bets, and upon general statements. He had not made bets for some time, and denied that his house was frequented by betting men. The house had been required for many years in the opinion Bench.....

They said they should grant *Turner's* license again on the distinct understanding that no betting should be carried on, and that the communication with the shop should be built up.”

County Advertiser 28/9/1895

“The adjourned annual Licensing Sessions for the Halesowen Division were held on Tuesday.....

William Parsons, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, made an application for his license to be increased from six to seven days. The application was refused, as was a similar one on behalf of *George Turner*, landlord of the HAWNE TAVERN INN.”

George Turner, beer retailer, Hawne Terrace, Hawne. [1896]

County Express 24/11/1900

“*George Turner*, landlord of the HAWNE INN, Hawne, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises, and also with selling ale to a drunken person, on November 3rd. Mr. Clulow prosecuted and Mr. T. Cooksey defended.

The evidence was that on Saturday, the 3rd inst Inspector Pitt and Police-sergeant Pass visited the defendant's house, and in the kitchen, sitting in a reclining position was a man, Noah Major Waldron, in a condition of extreme drunkenness. The landlord was in the room at the time, standing opposite Waldron, whom he had to pass as he went in and out of the room. The inspector called the landlord's attention to Waldron's condition, and asked how it was he was there in such a condition, and *Turner*, for reply, took hold of Waldron, shook him, and told him to go up the road. He helped the man to his feet, and it was then apparent he was almost helplessly drunk. There was a pint cup of ale in front of him, which Waldron said was his, but this the landlord denied, and first said it was a youth's, who sat next to him. Upon the inspector saying that could not be, the landlord said it was the youth's father's, but the inspector pointed out that this man had got a pint of his own before him. He then said it was clear the ale was Waldron's, and nothing was said. *Turner* told Waldron not to act, but to go up the road, and as Waldron went out of the house the landlord repeated Waldron was acting drunkenness. The inspector told the landlord it was too real to be acting, and he should report him for having him on the premises.

Mr. Cooksey, for the defence, suggested that this being only a beer-house, it was impossible for Waldron to get drunk in the time he was in the house – one hour and fifty minutes – on beer, and the evidence he would bring before them would be that the man was not in the condition suggested. He also stated that, even assuming the man was drunk, there had been no such negligence on the part of the landlord in the conduct of the house as would bring it within the nature of an offence against the Act. The defendant had been in the house for eleven years, and all that time without a charge against him of breach of the licensing laws.

The defendant gave evidence, and denied Waldron was drunk and also denied a lot of evidence for the prosecution.

Several other witnesses were called for the defence. Defendant was fined on the first charge £5 and costs, including solicitor's fee, and on the second charge £1 and costs and solicitor's fee.

Waldron, the man mentioned in the case was charged with being drunk on licensed premises, and was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

1901 Census

Attwood Street

- [1] *George Turner* (47), publican, born Hereford;
- [2] Ellen Turner (48), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Gertrude Turner (21), daughter, grocer, born Birmingham;
- [4] John Turner (19), son, merchant's clerk, born Birmingham;
- [5] Ernest Turner (15), son, coal merchant's clerk, born Birmingham;
- [6] Sydney Turner (7), son, born Halesowen;
- [7] Sarah A. Turner (6), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Express 31/8/1901

"Halesowen Licensing Sessions.....

Objection had been made against the license of the HAWNE TAVERN, Halesowen, kept by *George Turner*, that there was no necessity for the license, and that there had been a conviction for permitting drunkenness, and that he was not a fit person to be entrusted with the license.

Inspector Pitt said the man had conducted the house well since.

The Bench warned *Turner*, and renewed the license."

County Advertiser 16/4/1904

"Samuel Grove, of Belle Vale, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the HAWNE TAVERN, kept by *George Turner*, on the 14th inst. The landlord stated that on the date named defendant came into his house in a drunken condition. He asked to be served with beer, but was refused. Witness ordered him to leave the premises, but this he declined to do. Defendant was fined 10s and costs, Mr. Wiggin remarking that it was a serious matter to jeopardise the license of a publican."

County Express 27/2/1909 - Advert

"Halesowen. Highly Important Sale of a Valuable Freehold Well-Known Beerhouse, Together with Eleven Excellent Dwelling Houses, and Building Land.

To Brewers, Maltsters, Capitalists, Investors, & Others.

Alfred Hill has been instructed by the Trustees of the late Thomas Marriott and Harriet Williams, to Sell By Auction, at the House of Mr. Fred Williams, the NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen, on Monday, the 8th day of March, 1909, at 7.30 in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced.

Lot 1. All that Well-Known, Highly Valuable Freehold Beerhouse, the HAWNE TAVERN, situate in Attwood Street, and now occupied by Mr. *George Turner* at the extremely low annual rental of £24. The business accommodation comprises Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Two capital Cellars, Bakehouse fitted with large Baking Oven, large Yard with Cartway Entrance to back, 2-stall Stables with loft over the same, Piggeries, &c. &c. The private accommodation consists of Sitting Room, large Kitchen, Scullery, Four Bed Rooms, Clothes Closets, Greenhouse, and the usual Outbuildings.

Special attention is called to this well-known Beerhouse, situate in a growing district without any opposition, being entirely free, always done a good business, can be well recommended to the Trade and others as a good sound investment.

Lot 2. All those Three Excellent Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, now in the occupations of Messrs. Whily, Grove, and Siviter, producing at low rentals £24 14s per annum. Each house contains Two Bed Rooms, Two Living Rooms, Pantry, Coalhouse, Brewhouse, Pigstye, and usual Outbuildings in large Yard. The above are divided by a Covered-in Entry.

The Auctioneer reserves the right of offering the above in two Lots or one.

Lot 3. All those Three Capital Freehold Dwelling Houses, situate and known as Spring Cottages, with a frontage thereof of 44 feet, and now in the respective occupations of Messrs. Timmins, Jones, and Brown, producing at low weekly rentals £32 10s per annum. Each house contains Two large Bed Rooms, Clothes Closet, Two Living Rooms, Pantry, Brewhouse, Coalhouse, w.c., and usual Outbuildings, and are divided by a Covered-in Entry....."

Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

"There was a large attendance at the NEW INNS, Halesowen, on Monday evening, when Mr. Alfred Hill offered for sale by public auction several lots of property. Messrs. T. Cooksey and Co were the solicitors.

Lot 1. A freehold beerhouse, HAWNE TAVERN, Hawne, Halesowen, with the usual accommodation and out-buildings, was bought by Mr. F. E. Cutler, of Cradley, for £836....."

[He also bought the three dwelling houses adjoining, for an additional £325.]

County Express 14/1/1911

"On Monday the annual dinner of the HAWNE TAVERN Dividend Club was held, some 25 members enjoying the excellent catering of the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *G. Roberts*). Afterwards Mr. *J. B. Downing* presided. The secretary (Mr. C. H. Head) reported a dividend of 10s and 6d for the first half and 8s for the second half-year, making a total of 18s 6d."

Birmingham Mail 24/1/1911

"Today, at Hales Owen Police Court, *George Roberts*, landlord of the HAWNE TAVERN, Short Cross, Hales Owen, was summoned for permitting drunkenness upon his licensed premises, and also for supplying a drunken person on the 7th inst.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe, who prosecuted, explained that Police-sergeant Hemming and Police-constable Weaver visited the defendant's

premises, and in the tap room found a man named George Webster in a drunken condition. The police called defendant's attention to the man's state, and he replied, 'I know he is drunk, but it is club night, and I have not served him.' When served with a summons by Inspector Pass defendant admitted the man was drunk.

Police-sergeant Hemming, who corroborated this statement, said in cross-examination by Mr. E. H. Grove that Webster did not attempt to stand on one leg. The man asked to be taken to a doctor.

Mr. Grover (for the defence) denied that the man was drunk, and submitted that the police had made a mistake.

Webster was called and admitted having had three pints of beer, but denied being drunk.

Mr. J. G. Reay (chairman): How many pints will it take to make you drunk? – Witness: I cannot say. (Laughter.)

Mr. Reay: But you have tried sometimes? – Witness: I have never tried to get drunk. I have always tried to enjoy myself. (Laughter.)

After a lengthy hearing, the Bench considered the case proved, but as they believed *Roberts* had committed the offence through ignorance, he was fined 10s and costs, amounting in all to £2 5s."

1911 Census

Hawne

- [1] *John B. Downing* (37), estate agent and licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Elizabeth Downing* (36), wife, married 16 years, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Ethel May Downing* (15), daughter, at home (assistant in licensed premises), born Halesowen;
- [4] *Frederick J. Downing* (14), son, screwing (tube works), born Halesowen;
- [5] *Stanley Downing* (12), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Lizzie M. Downing* (10), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Rex Ewart Downing* (3 months), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] *Sidney Downing* (6), son, born Halesowen:

John Downing, beer retailer, 76, Attwood Street. [1912], [1916], [1921]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/2/1922

"A general decrease in convictions for drunkenness were reported at Licensing Sessions held yesterday at Wolverhampton, Stafford, Leamington, Halesowen, and Tipton.

Superintendent Walters reported at Halesowen that 67 licensed houses in the division gave one license to every 352 persons..... An application for a seven days' license for the HAWNE TAVERN was refused."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/3/1926

"At Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions yesterday, an application by *Harry Smith* for a seven days beer-on licence in respect of HAWNE TAVERN was refused."

1939 Register

76, Attwood Street – HAWNE TAVERN

- [1] *Philip H. Worton*, date of birth 16/1/1897, Worcs. County Council road worker and licensee, married;
- [2] *Lily Worton*, dob ??/1903, unpaid domestic duty, married;
- [3] *Irene (Worton) Tether*, dob 2/1/1922, unpaid domestic duty, single;
- [4] *Denis Worton*, dob 10/4/1930, at school, single;
- [5] *Millicent (Tibbetts) (Tibbit) Porter*, dob 9/1/1910, incapacitated, single:

Birmingham Daily Post 13/8/1965

"Mr. Ernest Adams, of Hardwick Way, New Farm Estate, Lye, who suffered a permanent ankle injury at work in 1963, last night received a cheque for £1,400 in compensation. Mr. Adams, who is 56, has been able to resume work but on a different job.

The presentation was made by Mr. Wesley Perrins, district secretary of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, at the HAWNE TAVERN, Halesowen."

HAWNE TAVERN sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

It was Stourbridge & Halesowen branch of CAMRA's Pub of the Year 2005.

Dudley News 31/3/2020

"A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town's In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, 'The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....'"

[Express & Star 6/8/2022](#)

“A Halesowen pub has won a title for its eye-catching floral displays. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards.....

The judges also awarded highly commended to the LOYAL LODGE, HAWNE TAVERN, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the SWAN and previous winner, EDWARD VII.

Eve O’Connor, chair of Halesowen in Bloom said, ‘Halesowen in Bloom wants to thank all the pubs in Halesowen who make that extra effort to make their pubs look so inviting with great floral displays.’”

[2022]

HOLLY BUSH

50, (17), High Street (Bridge Street) / New Street, High Town, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Isaiah Hughes

Walter Showell and Co. Ltd. [1896], [1911]

Ind Coope and Allsopp (leased)

LICENSEES

Phoebe Darby [1833]

Hannah Darby [1835] – [1846]

Herbert Wooldridge [1849]

Woodbridge [1849]

Isaac Hughes [1852]

Thomas Wyatt [1851] – **1852**;

Isaiah Hughes (**1852** – [1888])

Samuel Hughes [1888]

Thomas Proffitt [1890] – [1896]

Albert Edward Meacham [] – **1896**;

George Abraham Slim (**1896** – [1901])

Eli Dunn [1903] – **1907**;

Francis Joseph Ellis (**1907** – **1913**);

Gilbert Dingley Frank (**1913** – **1915**);

Joseph Richard Barnes (**1915**);

Charles Cashmore (**1915** – **1921**);

Maurice Taylor (**1921** – **1923**);

Alfred Rowland Hitchen (**1923** – **1924**);

Frank Archibald Spicer (**1924**);

Thomas Harper (**1924**);

Thomas Hubbard (**1924** – **1925**);

Albert Edward Cotterill (**1925** – **1929**);

Joseph William Comley (**1929** – **1935**);

George Albert Hewson (**1935** – **1937**);

George Pugh (**1937** – **1938**);

James Lewis Dawes (**1938** – **1939**);

William Harry Hickman (**1939** – **1950**);

Thomas William Baker (**1950** – **1952**);

Henry William Edgar Hackett (**1952** – **1955**);

Benjamin Blair (**1955** – **1958**);

Betty Moore Bonham (**1958**);

Benjamin John ‘Jack’ Worrall (**1958** – **1964**);

NOTES

Bridge Street [1852]

50, High Street [1912]

Cradley FC had their headquarters here.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/9/1833 - Advert

“Desirable Freeholds in Cradley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, at the Public House of Mrs. *Phoebe Darby*, called the BUSH, in Cradley, on Wednesday the 18th day of September, 1833, at five o'clock in the afternoon.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/10/1835 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, at Oldnall, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. Mathews, on Monday the 19th day of October, 1835, at the house of *Hannah Darby*, the HOLLY BUSH INN, at Cradley, precisely at five o'clock in the afternoon.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/1/1838 - Advert

“Freehold Building Land at Cradley, in the County of Worcester.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, at the house of *Hannah Darby*, the BUSH INN, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, on Monday the 29th day of January inst, precisely at five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions to be then produced, two valuable pieces of Freehold Land, containing about three acres, situate in the township of Cradley, and bounded by the road leading from Dudley to Cradley, by the road leading from Cradley to the Thorns, and also by the river Stour, and most advantageously situated for the erection of Steam Mills and other mercantile purposes, or buildings for the purpose of Retail Trade. A valuable Mine of Surface Clay has been proved under the Land.....”

Birmingham Journal 12/5/1849 - Married

“On the 17th ult, at St. Martin's, in this town, Mr. Simeon *Woodbridge*, of the HOLLY BUSH, Cradley, to Miss Elizabeth Smesley, of the same place.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 6/11/1850

“Cradley Freehold Land Society. The members of this society met on Monday last, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, when they balloted for and took possession of two fields of valuable building land, in the centre of the township of Cradley. By means of this society 34 working men, by payments of 2s out of their weekly earnings, for the period of five years, will become possessed in their own right of a piece of freehold land (on which they may erect two or more houses), and at the same time will raise themselves to the honourable position of being 'freeholders;' entitling them to vote for a member for the county. The members of a land society at Quarry Bank met on the 4th ult, when they balloted for and took possession of 39 lots of valuable building land.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 22/1/1851 - Advert

“Very desirable Freehold Public-House and Valuable Plot of Building Land, at Cradley, near Stourbridge.

To Be Sold By Auction, by B. Wooldridge, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, in the Parish of Halesowen and County of Worcester, on Tuesday, the 4th day of February, 1851, at five o'clock in the afternoon, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

The well-known, old-established Freehold Public-House, the said HOLLY BUSH INN, most desirably situated in the centre of Cradley Town, and adjoining the new Street leading therefrom to or towards Rowley, Netherton, and Dudley, together with the Stables, Piggeries, Yard, and Appurtenances, in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Wyatt*.

Also a very valuable Plot of Building Land, being part of the Garden of the said Public-house, and forming a corner lot on the opposite side of the said new Street, as now staked out, having a frontage thereto of 25 yards, and a frontage of 10 yards to the road leading through Cradley Town, and containing 510 square yards, or thereabouts.

Note. The Neighbourhood is improving rapidly, and the Lots are second to no Property in the District for situation of Business purposes. They are within five minutes' walk of Corngreaves Works, and there is room on the Building Plot for three or four first-rate Shops.

For further information apply to Messrs. Grazebrook and Wragge, Solicitors, Stourbridge, or Mr. B. Wooldridge, Surveyor, &c, Stourbridge, at whose Offices, and at the place of Sale, a Plan of Lots may be inspected.”

1851 Census

East side of Village

[1] *Thomas Wyatt* (21), victualler, born Oldswinford;

[2] *Eliza Humphrey* (19), waiter &c, born Conifoot, Gloucestershire;

[3] *Aaron Priest* (22), servant, brewer &c, born Dudley;

[4] *Betsey Gaze* (17), visitor, servant at Dudley, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 19/10/1853

“*Isaiah Hughes*, landlord of the HOLLY BUSH, was fined 10s and costs for having his house open on Sunday the 25th September last, before half-past twelve.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/1/1854

“On Sunday morning last the body of a male infant was picked up in the Stour, and suspicion falling upon a young woman named

Esther Tandy, a nailer, she was immediately taken into custody. It seems that some time ago prisoner's appearance led to the belief that she was pregnant. All at once, about two months ago, her appearance was changed, and some other evidence transpired at the same time so suspicious that the attention of the police were directed thereto, and every inquiry made. She denied having been in the family-way. The officer then waited upon the medical man who had attended her; he, too, declared she had not been delivered of a child, but that a substance had formed internally, which had given rise to the symptoms. The medical man further advised the officer that he had better not trouble himself any more about the matter, as she was respectable and it might damage her character!

The affair then dropped until Sunday last, when a man named Isaac Fellows was walking with a dog by the banks of the Stour. His attention was attracted by the dog, which commenced barking, and he then discovered the body of the child suspended on a bush about fifty yards below the flood-gates, having evidently been under water for a considerable time, and been left there on the subsidence of the late flood. Witness at once gave information to the local constable, John Bissell, who conveyed the body to the HOLLY BUSH, and imprudently sent for Dr. Hazlewood, who, finding a great number of persons assembled there on the matter being known, ordered the body to be conveyed to his house in a basket.

Superintendent Burton immediately went over to take possession of the body until an inquest was held, but Mr. Hazlewood positively refused to give it up. Mr. Burton therefore went to the coroner, and having made him acquainted with the circumstance, the next day was fixed upon to hold an inquest, and an order immediately sent to Mr. Hazlewood to give up possession to Mr. Burton. Accordingly an inquest on this suspicious case was held on Monday, at the HOLLY BUSH, before R. Docker, Esq, when Fellows and the constable were examined, and the above particulars brought out. The coroner censured the latter for his officiousness in sending for a medical man and parting with the dead body – such a step ought to have been left to the order of the coroner. The prisoner, on being apprehended, denied having been delivered, or even being in the family-way. A letter was read from Dr. Wilson, who had been called in to examine the deceased when taken to the police-office, Stourbridge, in custody. He affirmed that she had evidently been delivered, and that not long ago. The inquest was then adjourned till Tuesday next; in the meantime Mr. Moore, of Halesowen (at the wish of the jury), and Mr. Hazlewood, are to examine the body of the infant, to ascertain whether it had been born alive. The prisoner will be brought up for examination before the magistrates today (Wednesday).”

Worcester Journal 4/2/1854

“The adjourned inquest on the body of the child found in the Stour was resumed on Monday. A verdict of Found Drowned was returned. The girl, Esther Tandy, who had been in custody on suspicion of concealing the birth of a child, was remanded from Wednesday next to Saturday last, and, no further evidence being offered for the prosecution, she was discharged.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 27/12/1854

“*Isaiah Hughes*, of the HOLLY BUSH, Cradley, appeared in answer to two summonses. The first was for having his house open on Sunday, the 17th inst, for the sale of beer. The principal witness was William Raybould, who swore to several men being in there drinking at that time. Sufficient evidence was, however, brought forward to prove that such was not the case, and the charge was dismissed. The above witness then charged *Hughes* with assaulting him in the house on the 20th inst. Strange to say, Raybould looked sound and well, while the defendant appeared with his head bound up, and on several witnesses being examined, an alteration in the position of the parties soon became apparent. It was proved that so far from *Hughes* assaulting Raybould, the former received a severe blow on the head from a poker, and his clothes were speedily saturated with blood, and further, that the poker was ultimately forced from the present complainant's hand. This case therefore was dismissed, and a summons at once issued against Raybould for the assault.”

County Advertiser 14/11/1857

“The following persons were charged, through information laid by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, Mr. W. Freeman, Superintendent, of the police, Stourbridge with having in their possession deficient weights, scales, and measures.....
Isaiah Hughes, publican, Cradley, 1 half-pint, 1 quarter, and 1 half-quarter, unstamped, ordered to pay costs.”

Birmingham Journal 27/2/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property and Mines, Lights Green, Cradley, Worcestershire.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Oates and Perrins, on Tuesday, the 9th day of March, 1858, at Six o'clock in the afternoon, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, near Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon by the vendor, and subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

1861 Census

east side of village – HOLLY BUSH INN

- [1] *Isaiah Hughes* (35), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Hannah Hughes (36), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Samuel Hughes* (12), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Harry Hughes (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] Edward Williams (19), general labourer, born Oxford:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/1/1863

“At the Public Office, on Wednesday, before Messrs. J. Amery and B. Littlewood, John Robinson, Elizabeth Robinson, Benjamin Hingley, and Rosanna Hingley, were charged with assaulting Police-constable Woodward, on the 3rd inst, at Cradley, whilst in the execution of his duty. Mr. Jones defended.

Complainant said that he was sent for by Mr. *Hughes*, landlord of the HOLLY BUSH, Cradley, to turn out John Robinson, who was quarrelsome. He had no sooner done so than the four defendants commenced an attack upon him, and beat him till the blood oozed out of his ears.

Mr. Jones was about to cross-examine the witness, when Mr. Freeman asked him if he had a certificate. Mr. Jones said a superintendent had no right to ask such a question; he was an attorney, and had a right to appear in this Court.

Mr. Freeman: Then if you defend these men it is at your own risk.

Mr. Jones was then asked by Mr. Amery if he had his certificate, when he replied in the negative.

Mr. Amery: Then you risk being fined £50, if you have no certificate.

Mr. Jones: I have a certificate; that is I instructed my agents in London to take it out, and I have no doubt they have done so.

Mr. Amery: Then you may go on with the defence.

After some further conversation, Mr. Littlewood and Mr. Smith, the clerk, advised him not to run the risk, which advice he acted upon.

The case was then gone into, and after several witnesses had been examined, Rosanna Hingley was discharged, and the others were fined 2s 6d each and costs."

Stourbridge Observer 24/2/1866

"On Monday afternoon an inquiry was held at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, before R. Docker, Esq, coroner, on the body of Adam Williams, who came by his death in a pugilistic encounter with a fellow workman, one Samuel Woodhouse, as reported in last Saturday's Observer.....

Septimus Bills, on being examined said: I live at High Town, Cradley. I am a chainmaker by trade. I know Adam Williams; he was 18 years of age. He lived at High Town. He was a chainmaker. I was with him on Friday the 16th inst, when he died. I was at the works with him up to the time he went out to fight. Samuel Woodhouse and Adam Williams worked together in the same shop. During the morning they were quarrelling from the time they began to work until dinner time. The quarrel was about various things, the work among the rest. After dinner time Mrs. Woodhouse brought her husband's dinner. He asked if she had brought him any beer. She said, 'No.' He said, 'Then take it back again', and she took it away. William hereupon said, 'If I was you I'd follow her and give her a good punch or two.' Woodhouse said, 'I'd sooner give you one or two.' Then Williams said, 'Do you think you can.' Woodhouse said, 'Yes.' Williams then got up, went out of the shop, and asked Woodhouse to follow him, which he did without uttering a word. They went into a bit of a field known as the brickfield, or the moor, behind the Baptist Refuge Chapel. In a few minutes I and four others followed. When we got to the field Woodhouse lay on his back, Williams standing by him. Williams said, 'I'll do my shirt off', and took it off. Woodhouse had his jacket off only. Woodhouse got up without help. As soon as Woodhouse was up, they went towards each other putting up their hands in fighting attitude. Woodhouse hit Williams on the right hand side, near the heart. (Our readers will not require to be told that the science of anatomy is not included in his curriculum of studies.) It was a slight blow; it did not knock him down. They then both struck together, Woodhouse hit Williams in the same place again, and Williams hit Woodhouse on the neck. Williams staggered and tumbled down at the second blow, and was not able to get up again. He was knocked insensible. I think he died immediately. His body was then removed opposite the ROSE AND CROWN; not inside as has been erroneously stated. It is the same body as the jury have viewed.

In cross examination: They first quarrelled about the chain; and that was a little after breakfast. The second quarrel was about Woodhouse not having been allowed more than twopence by his wife to spend on a Saturday night after working hard all week. The next quarrel was about his wife bringing his dinner, and he sending it back. He said that she had only brought him potatoes and lard. They did not shake hands before they started to fight. Williams was not kicked by Woodhouse, or struck by any one except Woodhouse.

Benjamin Attwood said: I live at High Town, and am chainmaker. I was at work in the same shop on Friday morning with deceased and Woodhouse. Williams began to quarrel about half past nine with Woodhouse about some chain. It is what is called 'chaffing'. This continued until dinner time. They worked about five yards apart. They went on with their work whilst they quarrelled. I was not in when Woodhouse's wife brought his dinner. I left the shop about ten minutes past one to fetch some iron. When I went in again Williams was sat down eating his dinner, and Woodhouse sat on his block about ten yards apart. Bills, the last witness, told me Woodhouse had sent his dinner back. I said, 'What for?' Bills said, 'Because his wife had brought no beer.' Williams said to Woodhouse, 'I'll give you some taters and lard if you've a mind to have that.' Woodhouse said, 'I don't want any of that.' Williams then said to Woodhouse, 'I'd go up home and give her a good punch or two.' Woodhouse said, 'I'd sooner give you one or two.' Williams said, 'Do you think you can?' Woodhouse said, 'Yes.' Williams said come on, then leaving the shop, and going down the yard. Woodhouse put on his coat and followed. No one went beside just them. While we were eating our dinner some boys began to hoot, 'There's a fight.' Then we all went to a field behind the Baptist Refuge Chapel. When we got there Woodhouse was on his back, and Williams standing by him about three or four yards apart. Woodhouse got up, and they sparred off again. Williams hit Woodhouse on the shoulder, Woodhouse then hit Williams two blows on the pit of the stomach. The blows did not knock him down; they were not heavy blows. He reeled for about a quarter of a minute and then fell. He was senseless, but breathed for five or six minutes. They were by themselves when we went out of the shop. I picked Williams up and rubbed him. We did not think they were going to fight when they left the shop as they went out laughing.

In cross examination: Williams did not sit on Bills's knee before the last round. I called 'Adam', and he opened his eyes but did not speak. When we got him opposite the office he moved his fingers. I did not leave him until we got him to his home. Not to my knowledge was there anything said about pig on-flying.

Dr. Moore: My name is Thomas Moore. I live at Cradley Heath, and am a surgeon. I saw the body of the deceased on Friday afternoon between three and four o'clock. I examined it externally and minutely. There was an abrasion a little to the left of the breast bone. The skin was not broken, only bruised. There was another on the right shoulder, another on the left side of the neck below the ear, and two or three on the face and forehead. There were no other marks of violence. I opened the body today. I

found the head healthy, scalp and scalpel and brain, as also the upper part of the spinal column. I examined the chest and found the lungs were healthy; the heart was much diseased and covered with fat; the muscular portions were in a state of fatty degeneration, so much so that they were easily torn. I should consider that an advanced state of disease. There was a rupture of the structure of the wall of the right cavity of the heart about an inch in length. There was some serous fluid and blood diffused in the bag of the heart. The heart was empty. I found the stomach healthy, and full of undigested food. The liver was excessively large, congested and diseased. On the right kidney there was an abscess containing half a teaspoonful of matter. The rupture of the heart was the cause of death. That would cause death from the shock, the abrasion on the bottom of the breast bone was nearly over the ruptured portion of the heart. There were no appearances of bruises under the surface in the region of the abrasion, which would lead me to the opinion that the blow was not a severe one. The rupture might be occasioned by a blow externally or by excitement, or by exertion, or by all three together. The heart was so diseased that a comparatively slight blow would cause the rupture. In cross examination: I think it is possible that the excitement consequent on fighting might cause death. I think the laceration of the heart might be caused by the fall. It is very improbable that had the deceased's organs been all healthy, a blow as slight would have caused death.

The Coroner explained the law bearing on the point, and left the jury to themselves consider their verdict. In going out of the room he caught a glimpse of Woodhouse who had been in the room during all the enquiry, and asked him if he had anything to say to the jury. In a state of great excitement and evident pain of mind, he said, 'It's all true', referring to the evidence given by the witnesses. After about ten minutes consultation, the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter, against Woodhouse, in which the coroner concurred.

Prisoner was then removed to the lock-up, through a large company of people of both sexes, and all ages, who had left their houses with an anxious desire to see Woodhouse. The general feeling seemed to be commiseration with the unfortunate survivor of Friday's pugilistic encounter.

On Tuesday the prisoner was brought up before B. Littlewood and R. L. Freer Esqs, on the charge of wilfully, maliciously, and feloniously killing Adam Williams. There was no additional evidence given except by Lucius Kendrick, who deposed he was an assistant to Dr. Moore, and assisted in making a post mortem examination of the deceased. On the body and neck there were some slight abrasions. The spine was injured and the head and brain tolerably healthy. On the chest was a small cut on the left side just before the heart as if done by the thumb nail. The liver was congested and unusually large, weighing four pounds and three quarters of an ounce. The heart was very much diseased and ruptured on the left side about an inch in extent. The heart was quite rotten; you could push the thumb nail through it and tear it in pieces. The right kidney was also diseased. The cause of death was rupture of the heart.

Prisoner was then asked if he had anything to say. He replied that he had nothing to say further than what the witnesses had said. He was then committed to take his trial at Worcester Assizes on the charge of Manslaughter. Bail was accepted in two sureties of £30 each and himself £60."

[At the Worcestershire Lent Assizes Samuel Woodhouse pleaded guilty to manslaughter and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.]

Stourbridge Observer 2/2/1867

"An inquest was held on Wednesday last, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, on the body of Reuben Cartwright, whose death was caused by a kettle of boiling water accidentally falling on him, the particulars of which appeared in our last week's impression.

Verdict – Accidental Death.

An inquest was also held at the same house, touching the death of Isaac Taylor, a little boy, whose death was caused from being burnt. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

Birmingham Journal 30/5/1868 - Advert

"Cradley, near Birmingham.

To Be Sold By Auction. Pursuant to a Decree of the High Court of Chancery, made in the case of Ansell v. Tibbetts, with the approbation of the Master of the Rolls, in one lot.

By Mr. James Knowles Roderick, the person appointed by the said Judge, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, in the county of Stafford, on Monday, the 15th day of June, 1858, at five o'clock in the afternoon – all those Three Messuages or Tenements and Premises, situate in High Street, Cradley....."

1871 Census

High Street – HOLLY BUSH

[1] *Isaiah Hughes* (45), innkeeper, born Cradley;

[2] *Anne Hughes* (48), wife, born Much Wenlock;

[3] *Ruth Hughes* (4), daughter, born Cradley:

County Express 6/9/1879

"On Monday evening last a fatal bathing accident took place at Cradley. Thomas Millington, aged 13, grand-son of Thomas Millington, High Town, Cradley, was bathing with several others in a pool on the borders of Staffordshire at Cradley, and whilst doing so was drowned. An inquest has since been held at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, and a verdict of Accidentally Drowned was returned."

County Express 10/1/1880 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Properties at Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Isaiah Hughes*, the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, on Tuesday, the 27th day of January, 1880, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.....”

County Express 21/8/1880 - Advert

“To be Let, a Licensed Public-House, known as the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, Cradley, with Large Chain Shops, Stabling, &c, Immediate possession.

Apply, *Isaiah Hughes*, HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley.”

County Express 21/8/1880

“An inquest was held at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, on the body of Richard Hartland, whose body was found at the bottom of some steps in Messrs. Bloomer’s chain warehouse a few days before. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned, as it was shown that the deceased had been suffering from a stroke. Some persons thought he had been killed by falling down the steps, but there were no bruises upon the body to confirm this supposition.”

County Express 18/12/1880

“On Tuesday, an inquest was held before Mr. R. Docker, coroner, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, touching the death of John Bodin, sinker, formerly residing at the New Dock, Dudley, who was killed on the 30th ult, at the Cradley Park Colliery, belonging to Messrs. Harper. Mr. Scott, assistant Government inspector of mines, was present. Mr. Perry, solicitor, Stourbridge, watched the case on behalf of the proprietors.

On the day named the deceased was at work at the bottom of the shaft, when a gland became detached from the machinery above, and falling down the shaft struck him in the head, killing him on the spot. The engineman, Thomas Morgan, volunteered to give evidence, and after being cautioned by the coroner, said he omitted to put the engine brake down secure, and whilst he went to trim a lamp the engine started, and pulling the bowk up the shaft, displaced the gland which fell upon deceased. As soon as he saw the engine move he ran to it, but was not in time to prevent the accident. In reply to the coroner, witness said he thought he had put the brake down securely. It was stated that the witness had always discharged his duties satisfactorily. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1881 Census

17, High Street

- [1] *Isaiah Hughes* (54), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Anne Hughes (56), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Ruth Hughes (13), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] Tamar Hughes (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] Olive Hughes (6), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] John Hughes (4), son, born Cradley;
- [7] Mary Hughes (2), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] Howard Hughes (1), son, born Cradley;
- [9] Edith Hughes (1 month), daughter, born Cradley;
- [10] Emma Harbach (232), domestic servant, born Cradley;
- [11] Elizabeth Forrest (14), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Express 21/4/1883

“Arthur Whittaker (20), collier, Quarry Bank, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly, and further with assaulting Police-constable Chare on the 14th inst. There was a cross-summons in which the constable was charged with assaulting Whittaker. Mr. W. Waldron appeared for Whittaker, and Mr. Perry for the police.

It was alleged against Whittaker that he was drunk and using bad language to a person when Police-constable Chare took hold of him. On Chare asking his name it was alleged that Whittaker refused to give it, and struck the officer, who took him into custody. For the other side it was stated that after learning what the officer was Whittaker gave his name several times, but that the constable insisted on taking him into custody, and nearly strangled him with a handkerchief which was round his neck in doing so.

A considerable number of witnesses were called, and after retiring to consider the case the Bench fined Whittaker 10s and costs for being drunk and disorderly, and 30s and costs for the assault on the police. The charge against the constable was dismissed. A charge was then gone into against *Isaiah Hughes*, landlord of the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, of obstructing, and provoking others to obstruct, Police-constable Chare in the execution of his duty on the 14th inst. Mr. T. Homer appeared for the defence. A number of witnesses were called in the case, and the evidence was very conflicting, but the Bench thought Mr. *Hughes* had acted rather indiscreetly in the matter, but as they did not think he had any intention of resisting the police they dismissed the charge. Nevertheless it was quite a proper case for the police to bring before the Bench.”

Isaiah Hughes was also a water miller and grocer. [1884]

County Advertiser 15/3/1884 - Advert

“Wanted immediately, an experienced Miller. Must understand the trade well.

Applications to be made to *Isaiah Hughes and Sons*, Millers, Grocers, &c, Cradley, near Brierley Hill.”

Samuel Hughes was also a maltster. [1888]

County Express 4/8/1888

“Joseph Harris, labourer, Cradley Heath, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *Isaiah Hughes*, the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley; and *Isaiah Hughes* was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. Mr. Clulow defended *Hughes*.

Police-constable Chare said that at 7.30 on the evening in question he visited the HOLLY BUSH INN. Upon going into the kitchen he found the defendant Joseph Harris lying on the floor, and two men were endeavouring to pick him up. Witness asked the landlord what was the meaning of it, and he replied, ‘I could see that he had had enough some time ago, and I stopped the tap on him.’ The man was got up, and found to be so helplessly drunk that he could not speak.

Police-constable Webb said he saw the defendant Joseph Harris being led up the street by two men. He was in a helpless state of drunkenness.

Several witnesses were called, and denied that Harris was served with any beer that night. The defendant Harris was also called, and said he did not have any beer in the house that night.

Isaiah Hughes, landlord, said he had been a licensed victualler for thirty-six years, and had never been convicted. He saw Harris pass into the kitchen, and witness said to him, ‘You had better go and get sober where you have got drunk.’ He did not supply Harris with any beer that night.

The Bench said they would be very sorry to convict a man who had held a license for thirty-six years, and they would give *Hughes* the benefit of the doubt and dismiss the summons. Harris was fined 5s.”

County Advertiser 13/4/1889 - Advert

“Wanted, good General Servant; not under 20.
Apply, Mrs. *Hughes*, HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 18/5/1889 - Advert

“Cradley Flour Mill.
To be Let or Sold by Private Treaty, the above Well-established Free Hold, Steam-Power Four Mill. For many years successfully carried on by Mr. *Isaiah Hughes*.
Apply, T. Pateshall, Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 20/7/1889 - Advert

“Cradley Town, Cradley. To Publicans and Others.
Messrs. Hawkins and Son have received instructions from the Brewers’ Investment Corporation Limited, to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday Next, July 24th, 1889, the whole of the valuable Brewing Plant, which was erected by the late proprietor, Mr. *Isaiah Hughes*, regardless of expense, comprising valuable Copper Furnaces and Fittings, from 300 to 500 gallons; Wrought-iron Furnaces, 32-Bushel Mashing Tubs and Receivers, Oval and Round Coolers, Wort Receivers, large quantity of Lead and Indiarubber Piping, with nozels and large brass taps; Half-hogsheads, Hogsheads, 500 and 900 Gallon Casks; valuable Cooling Vats, and other Connections necessary to a well-fitted up Brewing Plant.
Sale to commence at Twelve o’clock.
Auctioneer’s Offices, Brierley Hill, Great Bridge, and 26, Temple Street, Birmingham.”

Dudley Mercury 10/8/1889

“Septimus Bills, chainmaker, High Town, Cradley, was charged with being drunk on licensed premises, known as the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, on the 5th inst, and on the evidence of Police-constable Webb, was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Advertiser 22/11/1890 - Advert

“Highly Valuable and Improving Freehold Properties at Cradley and Cradley Heath.
Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction at the House of Mr. *Thomas Proffitt*, the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, on Wednesday, the 4th day of December, 1890, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.....”

1891 Census

High Street – HOLLY BUSH INN

- [1] *Thomas Proffitt* (52), engine fitter and publican, born Bilston;
- [2] Matilda Proffitt (60), wife, born Daisy Bank;
- [3] Anne Owen (18), servant, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] Daniel Proffitt (31), son, boarder, engine fitter, born Daisy Bank;
- [5] Susan Proffitt (25), boarder, born Brierley Hill;
- [6] Beatrice Proffitt (5), boarder, born Cradley;
- [7] Minerva Proffitt (3), boarder, born Cradley;
- [8] Florence M. Proffitt (2), boarder, born Cradley;
- [9] John H. Proffitt (3 weeks), boarder, born Cradley;
- [10] Henrietta Thomas (17), domestic servant, born Walsall:

County Express 28/11/1891

“Joseph Buffery was summoned for refusing to quit the HOLLY BUSH, Cradley. Defendant when asked to leave used abusive language and assaulted the landlord, Mr. *Proffitt*, and his son. Fined 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

County Advertiser 7/10/1893

“On Friday evening last week a supper was given at the VICTORIA INN to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Edward S. Walker, son of Mr. Edward T. Walker, of Lower High Street, to Miss Olive *Hughes*, daughter of Mr. *Isaiah Hughes*, of the Mill House. Mr. Benjamin Hingley presided, and Mr. David Priest was vice-chairman. Mr. Stephen Dunn proposed ‘Health, happiness, and long life to the newly-married couple,’ and the toast was drunk with all the honours. Other toasts were given and responded to, and music was supplied by Mr. and Mrs. H. Walker, Mr. E. Massey, Mr. W. J. Bate, and Master H. Walker, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent by all present.”

Isaiah Hughes died on 28th December 1895.

On October 9th and 10th, 1900 there was an auction of his estate, which was very extensive, and included the ROUND OF BEEF, Windmill Hill, Cradley; the ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley; the WHY NOT beerhouse, Two Gates, Cradley. The total realisation of the estate was £12,520.

County Advertiser 22/8/1896

“The annual Licensing Sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Stourbridge were held yesterday, at the Court House, Stourbridge.....

George Abraham Slim applied through Mr. Waldron for the renewal of the license of the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, to himself in place of the former tenant, *Albert Edward Meacham*, who had been convicted. Police-sergeant Clark said that the present tenant had given satisfaction since he had conducted the house. Mr. Waldron said the house belonged to Messrs. Showell Limited, who immediately found a suitable tenant when they knew that *Meacham* was not giving satisfaction to the police. The license was renewed.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/10/1896

“Albert Saunders (28), alias ‘Tipster,’ fitter, was indicted for obtaining 3s from Mrs. Agnes Brettle by false pretences at Cradley on August 15. Mr. Harrison prosecuted, and Mr. Cranstoun defended.

Mrs. Brettle, wife of the landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, said that prisoner went to her and told her that Mr. Watts, of the BRIDGE INN, had sent him to tell her to back two horses named Emsworth and United, and on this representation she gave him 3s. He said that Mr. Watts had backed the horses heavily and mentioned Mr. Woodhall of the BLUE BELL [sic] INN, who, he said, had laid 12s 6d. He said he was going to take the money to Mr. Cutter, of Cradley Heath. In cross-examination witness said that she was not aware that prisoner had given information to the police of the betting that went on in the public houses in Cradley. Mr. Watts was called, and denied that he backed the horses, or authorised prisoner to use his name. He did not know the prisoner, but he had heard of his rendering assistance to the police in betting prosecutions.

Mr. Woodhall said that prisoner asked him to back the horses on a similar representation, but he declined.

Mr. *G. A. Glinn* [sic], landlord of the HOLLY BUSH INN, and Mrs. Lavina Saunders, VINE INN, Cradley, gave similar evidence. Mr. Cranstoun raised the defence of mistaken identity. The jury, however, found prisoner guilty, and he admitted a previous conviction. A second count was not gone into, and prisoner was sentenced to four months’ hard labour.”

County Advertiser 4/11/1899

“Benjamin Tromans, High Town, Cradley, was charged with being disorderly on the licensed premises of the HOLLY BUSH INN, on the 28th ult, and there was a cross-summons for assault against the landlord. Mr. Waldron appeared for *George Slim*, the landlord, and Mr. F. M. Rollinson (from the office of Messrs. Wall and James) for Tromans. After hearing the evidence the charge against Mr. *Slim* was dismissed, and Tromans was fined 5s and costs, or seven days.”

London Gazette 14/12/1900 - Notice

“Re *Isaiah Hughes*, Deceased.

Notice is hereby-given, that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of *Isaiah Hughes*, late of Cradley, in the county of Worcester, formerly a Miller, but at the time of his decease of no occupation; deceased (who died on the 28th day of December, 1895, and whose will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of Her Majesty’s High Court of Justice on the 4th day of March, 1896, by Samuel Gill, of Two Gates, Cradley aforesaid, Innkeeper; and Frank Oliver, of Cradley aforesaid, Maltster, the executors therein named), are hereby requested to send the particulars, in writing, of their claims or demands to us, the undersigned, on or before the 7th day of January, 1901, after which date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased, or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 7th day of December, 1900.

Perry and Travis, 76, High-street, Stourbridge, the Solicitors for the said Executors.”

County Express 9/2/1901

“Hezekiah Hodgetts, of High Town, Cradley, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, on the 27th ult.

Police-constable Webb said he saw defendant enter the inn in an intoxicated state, and on following found he had gone to the club room to a dinner there. Witness called the landlord's attention to defendant, and defendant then left the house.

Alfred Hodgetts, a nephew said defendant was not drunk.

The case was adjourned for a fortnight for the landlord to be called."

1901 Census

High Street – HOLLY BUSH INN

[1] *George A. Slim* (36), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;

[2] *Louisa M. Slim* (36), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Bert A. Slim* (10), son, born Great Bridge;

[4] *Eva E. Slim* (2 months), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] *Ellen Davis* (18), domestic servant, born Handsworth:

County Express 6/4/1901

"A smoking concert in aid of the Colley Gate White Rose Football Club was held in the large room at the HOLLY BUSH on Monday evening. A programme of vocal and instrumental music was well received by the large audience, who testified their appreciation by repeated encores. Messrs. Cornock and Bridgwater (from Halesowen Volunteer Band) contributed patriotic selections, and Messrs. Dawson, Round, and others rendered some very interesting items. A nice little sum will result from the concert."

County Express 18/5/1901

"George Attwood, Cradley Road, Cradley Heath, was charged with being drunk in the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, on May 13th. Police-sergeant Clark gave evidence.

Defendant who denied the charge was fined 2s 6d and costs."

County Express 15/11/1902

"A smoking concert was held at the HOLLY BUSH INN, on Wednesday evening, in aid of the funds of the Red Rose FC. Mr. B. Hodgetts presided over a very large attendance, and the songs rendered by the following were greatly appreciated: Messrs. R. Cole, W. Ashmore, W. King, A. Fletcher, F. Evans, H. Round, L. Flavell, and J. Cookson (ventriloquist). Mr. W. S. Raybould was an efficient accompanist."

County Advertiser 26/1/1907

"An interesting point respecting the fitness of publicans was raised in connection with an application made by Mr. W. Waldron for sanction to the transfer of the JOLLY COLLIER INN, Cradley Heath, from Ezra Crampton to *Eli Dunn*.

Applicant, in reply to Superintendent Johnson, said he kept the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, for five years. He admitted that in May, 1904, a man was convicted for being drunk upon his premises. He instructed a solicitor to defend the man, and he swore in the Police Court that he was sober, but in spite of this the justices convicted him. He also admitted that in November last a woman named Kirton was convicted for drunkenness upon his premises. He attended the Court on this occasion, and swore the woman was sober. She was not drunk upon the tap room floor, but was found by the police lying on the public-house steps. Sergeant Clark, formerly of Cradley, had cautioned him twice in 1904, with reference to the disorder on his premises, but he denied that he had spoken to him about harbouring women and children in the house. He received some notice to leave from the brewery firm, but he did not know that this was due to his last conviction. They, however, put in another manager. He admitted that Sergeant Nobes, who succeeded Sergeant Clark, had spoken to him about permitting gambling on his premises. He did not know a disgraceful fight took place outside his house over a gambling dispute until Sergeant Nobes told him of it. In answer to Mr. Waldron *Dunn* said no charge had been made against him by the police during the time he held the license. On the last occasion he visited the Court the magistrates' clerk informed him that there was no charge against him.

Sergeant Nobes said he had known the applicant for two years, and during that period he had kept the house at Cradley in a very loose manner. People who were convicted for drunkenness and larceny resorted to it, and he had those persons on his premises whom other publicans declined to serve. He did not think applicant was fit to hold the license. Gambling had been allowed, and when spoken to about a disgraceful disturbance near his house caused by four or five men fighting, he promised to stop it.

Mr. Waldron, addressing the Bench, described it as a very bold attempt on the part of the police to take away a man's living and reputation by what were known as innuendoes. The Bench ought not to refuse the application on mere suspicion.

The Bench declined to grant the application.

On the application of Mr. Travis, the Bench granted a temporary authority to Joseph Richard Scott, and dispensed with the customary notice."

County Express 11/7/1908

"The 43rd annual meeting of the Lily of the Valley Lodge of the Ancient Order of Foresters, was held at the HOLLY BUSH INN, on Monday, when Mr. David Reynolds presided over a large attendance. The worth of the lodge was reported to be £2,500 9s 11½d, an increase of £28 15s 0½d on the previous year. Mr. John Sidaway, Colley Gate, was re-elected secretary....."

County Express 15/8/1908

"On Saturday evening, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, a free dinner was provided by Messrs. Showells Brewery Co. Ltd, for the customers of the house. Following the drawing of the cloth an enjoyable musical programme was contributed, Mr. D. Parsons presiding. Mr. W. Walker was the pianist, and songs were rendered by Messrs. J. Homer, W. Homer, J. Cole, R. Perry, J. Knight,

D. Parsons, T. Green, J. Parsons, and F. Ellis. At the close hearty votes of thanks were accorded to Messrs. Showells Brewery Company for their hospitality, and to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *F. J. Ellis*) for their excellent catering.”

Tipton Herald 9/1/1909

“A meeting of the Cradley Heath branch of the Hairdressers’ Association (National Federation), was held on the New Year’s Eve, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley. An excellent dinner was provided by Mr. and Mrs. *Francis Ellis*, and ample justice was done to it. Mr. C. Smith presided over the subsequent proceeding.....”

County Express 12/2/1910

“At Stourbridge County Court, on Wednesday, before the Registrar (Mr. C. H. Collis) there were down for hearing two cases arising out of the advertisements on the curtain of the Empire Theatre, Cradley Heath.

Frank Ellis, of the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, was sued for £2 1s by Messrs. Kirwan and Co., advertisement contractors, in respect of an advertisement on the curtain.

Mr. Evans appeared for the plaintiffs, and called the defendant, who was shown the contract, and asked if that was his signature that was appended. To the surprise of Mr. Evans, he said it was not, and to this statement he stuck.

The Registrar pointed out to Mr. Evans that he could not contradict his own witness, and the only course for him to take was to prosecute him for perjury. He (the Registrar) had no option but to find for the defendant.

Arthur Auden, of the FISH INN, Cradley, was similarly sued, and was represented by Mr. P. H. Chappell. The defendant’s contention was that the contract did not contain the whole of the terms. He stipulated that his should be the only advertisement of his trade on the curtain for High Street, Cradley. He did not get the right space, and there was another publican advertised in the same street.

Mr. Evans produced a letter from defendant stipulating there should be no other publicans advertised ‘in the same town.’

William Plant was called for the defence, and stated that he was with Mr. Auden when he gave the order, and heard him say that the same kind of business would not have to be advertised in High Street, Cradley.

Mr. Evans pointed out that the contract distinctly provided that there should be no monopoly given.

Having consulted with the Judge, the Registrar found for the plaintiff.”

County Express 25/2/1911

“On Thursday afternoon a party from Cradley, arranged by Mr. *F. Ellis*, the HOLLY BUSH, visited Messrs. Showell’s Brewery at Langley Green. Conducted by Mr. Ludlow (chief brewer), Messrs. Macdonald and Roberts, the party were shown over practically the whole of the enormous premises. The process of brewing in all its stages was explained, and much interest was shown in the large malshouses and various processes by which the barley was transformed into malt.”

1911 Census

High Street – HOLLY BUSH INN

[1] *Francis Joseph Ellis* (27), public house manager, born Lichfield;

[2] Alice Maud Mary Ellis (33), wife, married 4 years, assisting in business, born Oakengates, Shropshire;

[3] Frank Ellis (3), son, born Cradley;

[4] Annie Slater (27), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Express 11/11/1911

“Under the auspices of the Conservative and Unionist Association, a meeting was held at the HOLLY BUSH on Tuesday. Mr. Douglas Timmins (the prospective Unionist candidate) sent a message regretting that he had been suddenly called to London, and a similar apology was received from Mr. G. G. Poppleton. There was a large attendance, and Mr. J. H. Rooke presided, supported by Mr. Percy H. Bullas, and Mr. Jack Preston (Rural Labourers’ League).....”

Evening Despatch 20/7/1914

“The members of Court Lily of the Valley, of the Ancient Order of Foresters, celebrated the jubilee of the court on Saturday night, at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley, when upwards of a hundred members partook of dinner. Brother Isaiah Boxley presided over the after-proceedings. The toasts included ‘The District Order,’ and ‘Court Lily of the Valley.’ In response to the latter Brother Sidaway said they had only had three secretaries in the whole of the history of the society – the late Brother Woodall, himself, and the present secretary (Brother Bloomer). The Court was, he said, in a highly prosperous condition.”

Albert Edward Cotterill was married to Mary.

His children were Albert, Arthur and Mary.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/10/1934

“Stranded in the country by reason of his bicycle chain snapping, Albert F. M. *Comley*, of HOLLY BUSH INN, High Street, Cradley, exchanged it for one he found standing outside a public-house at Ismere.

At Stourbridge yesterday he was fined £2 for stealing the bicycle, which belonged to George Creed, gamekeeper to Lord Cobham. When traced the machine was found to have been disguised.”

1939 Register

50, High Street – HOLLY BUSH INN

[1] *William H. Hickman*, date of birth 13/3/1892, colliery hewer, (publican), heavy worker, married;

[2] *Maria Hickman*, dob 9/10/1889, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *William M. Hickman*, dob 12/9/1916, iron moulder, heavy work, single:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/4/1943

“War Charities Act, 1940.

Notice Is Hereby Given that it is proposed to apply to the Halesowen Borough Council for the registration under the above mentioned Act of the HOLLY BUSH Forces Fund, the objects of which are shortly as follows: to make periodical Gifts of Money to Customers and Relatives serving in HM Forces, and the administrative centre of which is situate at the HOLLY BUSH INN, High Street, Cradley. Any objections to the proposed registration should be sent in writing to the above-name Council within 14 days from the date of this notice.

W. Skitt, Hon. Sec. April 3, 1943.”

It had a large assembly room at the rear. [1940s]

It closed on 18th January 1964.

HOLLY BUSH

Red Hill, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Adams [1845]

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/6/1869

“At a Petty Sessions, held at Hales Owen, on the 18th ult, a summons was heard which had been taken out by William Rudge, the secretary of a friendly society, held at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Red Hill, against Geo. Hill, for suffering himself to be excluded from the society whilst there were sick members chargeable to it, without paying the sum of two guineas, as required by the rules the magistrates decided that the expenses, £4 10s, should be paid by both parties, viz, £2 5s each.”

[It was decided that it was not a case to be decided by justices.]

Stourbridge Observer 6/8/1870

“At the Oldbury Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, before Messrs. W. James and F. Adkins, William Rudge, the Secretary of the Halesowen HOLLY BUSH Society, held at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Red Hill, Halesowen, was summoned to answer a charge of having refused to pay to Joseph Westwood, one of the members of the society, the sum of £2 6s, sick pay alleged to be due to him according to the rules of the society.

Mr. Topham appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Shakespeare for the defendant.

Before the case was gone into, Mr. Shakespeare said the society admitted that the complainant was entitled to £1 8s, which they would pay over to him at once if he would allow the case to be settled in that way. The complainant, however, said he claimed the whole sum, and would prefer the case being tried.

From the opening remarks of Mr. Topham, it appeared that the society had been in existence about 40 years, and that during that period the complainant had been a member. At about Christmas he went on the sick list. Rule 3 provided that each sick member should receive 7s per week over and above what was allowed by the fund from the date he gave notice to the book-keeper, until after the expiration of six months, and at the end of that period, if he continued sick so long, after which it should be reduced to 4s per week during the next six months, and at the end of that period, if he continued sick, he should receive 3s per week as long as his sickness lasted. He gave due notice to the book-keeper, and for some time received his pay as he expected it. After being ill about eighteen weeks he went off the sick list, but as his sickness continued he found it necessary to fall back upon the funds of the society, after being off two days only, and received sick pay for twelve weeks longer. Six months was considered to consist of twenty-four weeks, and for the last six weeks 5s per week only was paid, whereas complainant contended that he was entitled to 7s, and hence the present proceedings were instituted.

Mr. Shakespeare, for the defence, stated that at one time the society was in a very flourishing condition, but lately the funds had been reduced, and the claims for relief increased. Accordingly, on the 25th of April, 1870, the members, finding that during the last two years the amount paid out exceeded by £100 the receipts, and that not so much as £50 was left in the society, held a consultation, and ultimately came to the conclusion that it would be better to make some fresh arrangements than to allow the club to

be broken up. Therefore, pursuant to rule 33, a committee meeting of twelve members was chosen to consider the matter, and ultimately a resolution was passed to the effect that 5s per week should be paid instead of 7s, as heretofore; that at the expiration of six months the pay should be reduced to 3s instead of 4s, as formerly, and to 2s instead of 3s. The contention on behalf of the society, therefore, was that the defendant was only entitled to £1 8s, being at the lower rate of payment.

Mr. Shakespeare asked for the production of the original rules.

Mr. Topham said the Registrar, at London, was in possession of them.

The case was, therefore, adjourned for six weeks, in order that they might be procured. Mr. Shakespeare consented to pay the complainant without prejudice the £1 8s, which he contended was all that he was entitled to. The facts, therefore, were admitted, the only disagreement being as to whether complainant was entitled to 7s or 5s.”

HORSE AND JOCKEY

Mogul Lane, (19, Netherend), Brettell Town, CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Hannah Williams [] – **1858**);

William Stringer (**1858** – [1861]

Edward Stevens []

William Stevens [1863] – [1896]

Henry Jabez Herrin [1901] – **1935**);

Reginald ‘Reg’ Johnson (**1935** – **1971**):

NOTES

It had a bowling green.

Worcester Chronicle 9/6/1858

“Stourbridge Public Office. The following licenses were transferred.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Cradley, from *Hannah Williams* to *William Stringer*, whom she has married.”

County Advertiser 16/10/1858

“The following persons were fined for having deficient measures in their possession.....

William Stringer, publican, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 23/10/1858 - Advert

“Economy in Brewing.

Thomas Mees, Boiler Maker, Bell Works, Brierley Hill, begs to call attention to the superiority of his Wrought-iron Brewing Boilers, over those of either copper or cast-iron; being one-third less the cost of copper, and more durable than either. Cast-iron boilers are made hot-blast, cinder iron, are very liable to burst from expansion and contraction, or from having cold water put into them when hot, and also by frosty weather. The wrought-iron boilers are made of the best charcoal iron, from 20 to 200 gallons each, or larger if required, are worked at 25 per cent less cost in fuel and labour; and if erected by an experienced mason will last for twenty years.

These Boilers may be seen in use at.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend.....”

1861 Census

Brettell Town

[1] *William Stringer* (50), innkeeper, born Netherend;

[2] *Hannah Stringer* (75), wife, born Wordsley;

[3] *John Hudson* (21), servant, carter, born Bromsgrove;

[4] *Alice Rofser* (21), servant, born Tipton:

Edward Stevens was the father of *William* (b.1836).

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1863

“The Stourbridge annual general licensing meeting for the division was held yesterday.....

The following were reprimanded for infractions of their licences.....

William Stevens, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend.”

AND

Worcester Journal 5/9/1863

“Stourbridge. At the licensing session, on Friday....

William Stevens, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend was reprimanded.”

William Stevens, beer retailer, Netherend. [1870]

1871 Census

HORSE AND JOCKEY

- [1] *William Stevens* (33), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Mary Stevens (30), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Richard Stevens (12), son, scholar, born Rowley;
- [4] Hannah Stevens (10), daughter, scholar, born Rowley;
- [5] Ann Stevens (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Sarah Stevens (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] William Stevens (4), son, born Cradley;
- [8] Edward Stevens (2), son, born Cradley:

Stourbridge Observer 13/5/1871

“Christopher Hill and Richard Steward were charged with stealing a whip, the property of *William Stevens*.

Complainant said he lived at Netherend. He kept the HORSE AND GROOM [sic], and dealt in hay and straw. The two prisoners came to his house on the above date for some hay. He missed the whip and asked them for it. They said they did not take it, but afterwards admitted having done so. The value of it was 2s 6d. The whip was found at the defendant’s masters’ house, up the chimney. Steward said he thought it was there, and witness found it there; but he did not wish to press the case against them, as they had acknowledged their fault, and were neighbours.

The prisoners received a good character of Mrs. Richards, and were discharged with a caution on paying the costs, 6s 6d each.”

1881 Census

HORSE AND JOCKEY

- [1] *William Stevens* (47), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Mary E. Stevens (43), wife, born Netherton;
- [3] Hannah Stevens (20), daughter, born Old Hill;
- [4] Sarah Stevens (15), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] Mary Stevens (10), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Esther E. Stevens (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] John Stevens (3), son, born Cradley;
- [8] Jesse Stevens (4 months), son, born Cradley:

1891 Census

Brettell Town

- [1] *William Stevens* (55), licensed victualler, born Brettell Town;
- [2] Mary A. Stevens (53), wife, born Netherton;
- [3] Mary Stevens (20), daughter, born Brettell Town;
- [4] Esther Stevens (17), daughter, born Brettell Town;
- [5] John Stevens (13), son, scholar, born Brettell Town;
- [6] Jep Stevens (10), son, scholar, born Brettell Town:

Worcester Journal 20/6/1896

“Worcestershire Midsummer Quarter Sessions.

James Morgan, alias Northall and Francis (46), clerk, was charged with being found at the hour of 5.15 on the night of May 3 in the possession of offensive weapons, to wit a steel chisel, a screwdriver, and a bradawl, with intent to break and enter the dwelling house of Daniel Batham, WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley. To this he pleaded guilty, and there was a further charge against him of burglariously entering the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Cradley, and of stealing three glass beer-bottles and a jam jar belonging to *William Stevens*. There was a number of other offences recorded against him, and the Court passed a sentence of three years’ penal servitude, which involved also the serving of an uncompleted term of imprisonment.”

William Stevens issued tokens from here.

He later took a farm in Cleobury Mortimer.

Henry J. Herrin married *Ann Stevens* (daughter of a farmer of Cleobury Mortimer).

1901 Census

Brettle Town

- [1] *Henry J. Herrin* (44), publican, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Annie Herrin* (38), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *Annie M. Herrin* (14), daughter, born Kingswinford;
- [4] *Esther Herrin* (8), daughter, born Kingswinford;
- [5] *William H. Herrin* (3 months), son, born Kingswinford;
- [6] *Jane Smith* (21), general servant, born Old Hill:

County Express 14/6/1902

“George Haycock, Vicarage Road, Lye, for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Netherend, Cradley, on the 4th inst, was fined 10s and costs.”

County Advertiser 6/5/1905

“Sporting Items. We understand that a bowling club has been started at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Netherend, and a good number of members have joined. The green is said to be one of the finest in the Midlands.”

County Advertiser 27/5/1905

“Bowling Notes..... Some splendid bowling was seen in the match between the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend, and the OLD ROYAL OAK, Lye. Ultimately the HORSE AND JOCKEY proved the winners, by 55 points, and their bowling was well up on the average.”

County Advertiser 6/7/1907

“On Monday evening, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Netherend, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest touching the death of Gwendoline Smith, aged one year and eight months, the daughter of John Ernest Smith, boiler repairer, of Brettell Town, Netherend, who was knocked down and killed by a cart yesterday week. From the evidence given it appeared that the child had left a field nearly opposite the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN at about half-past-twelve, and was walking in the road in the direction of her home, when she was knocked down by a cart laden with bricks, which was passing down the road.

Gertrude Smith, mother of the child, said she witnessed the accident. She was just in time to see the cart wheel pass over her, and was too late to prevent it. The wheel seemed to pass right over the child’s head.

Samuel Hill, of Brook Street, Quarry Bank, carter in the employ of Mr. A. T. Attwood, Lomey Town, Cradley Heath, said he was walking alongside the cart, and had just loosed the horse after passing another cart, when the horse swayed and he heard people screaming, and Mrs. Smith shouted, ‘My child!’ Looking back he saw the child lying in the road, about a yard from the embankment. He picked the child up, and handed her to Albert W. Woodhouse, who conveyed her home. The cart was going very steadily at the time, and when he passed the other cart he was on the kerb just in front of the inn.

Dr. Belbin said he was called to see the child. Her skull was fractured, and all the bones in her head were broken. The wheel must have passed right over her head, and death must have been instantaneous.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned, and the carter was exonerated from blame.”

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies’ parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter’s Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher’s Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, ‘Onward Christian Soldiers,’ a solo from ‘Thus saeth the Lord,’ splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, ‘Rousseau’s dream,’ finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, ‘O, clap your hands,’ and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

County Express 30/5/1908

“Bowling..... MARQUIS OF GRANBY, with the exception of W. Smith, won every game in their match against the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend. J. Smith again bowled finely, and so far heads the averages, having won every match so far.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“The members of the bowling club connected with the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Netherend, to the number of 30, had one of a series of suppers on Monday night. Mr. J. James presided, and was supported by Mr. J. Taylor, secretary of the club, and Mr. E. Kimberley, captain. After the meal Messrs. Tranter and Gothard played a match, which was won by the former by 11 to 2. Songs, etc, were afterwards contributed by Messrs. F. Whitehouse, A. Gothard, A. Jones, Lloyd and W. Capewell. At the conclusion, the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Herrin*) were thanked for their hospitality.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee: The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter’s Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

County Express 15/8/1908

“Bowling..... The HORSE AND JOCKEY (Netherend) did well to defeat a strong combination like the PEAR TREE so decisively. E. Bloomer proved the hero for his side. For the visitors, Bob Lawrence as usual won his game, but did not prevent Fred Hill from annexing the coppers.”

County Express 22/8/1908

“Bowling..... Another close game was that between ANVIL INN (Lye) and HORSE AND JOCKEY (Netherend). Andrew Brettell bowled excellently, and A. Gothard deserves praise for his fine performance. For the winners, C. Perry, F. Mobberley, and G. Glazzard were in good form, the latter doing well to defeat such a strong opponent as T. Burgess.”

County Express 15/5/1909

“Bowling..... Lye and Wollaston Liberal Club were the visitors when the HORSE AND JOCKEY (Netherend) opened their green for the season. A number of games were splendidly contested and thoroughly enjoyed by a large crowd. Among the visitors special mention should be made of Messrs. Cochrane, Cook, Spittle, Hadley, J. T. Pearson and T. Knowles.”

County Express 4/6/1910

“On Thursday evening, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an enquiry at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend, concerning the death of John Taylor, a chainmaker, living at Brettle Town, Netherend, who hanged himself during the night of Tuesday. John Taylor, sen, Maple Tree Lane, Cradley, identified the body as being that of his son, who was 39 years of age. He was a chainmaker, and worked on Monday and Tuesday. The last time witness saw him alive was Thursday week, and he seemed all right. He had heard his son complain of a headache.

Clara Brindley, Maughan Street, Quarry Bank, said she had known the deceased a good many years. On Tuesday night he sent for her and she went to his house at a quarter past nine. He seemed all right, but complained that his head was very bad. He seemed in pretty good spirits, and asked her to bring his dinner the next day.

Lawson Taylor, aged 10, said he lived alone with his father. On Tuesday night he went to bed at ten o’clock, and the next morning came down at half-past eight. He found his father hanging by the door in the kitchen from a hook in the ceiling. His father must have got the piece of cord (produced) from off the line.

John Sturford, Brettle Town, stated that he was called to Taylor’s house on Wednesday morning at 8.30 and found the deceased as described by the previous witness. He cut the body down, and found it was cold and stiff.

Dr. Belbin said he examined the body at 10.30 on the morning of the discovery. The man had been dead ten hours, and death was due to suffocation, caused by hanging.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide while Temporary Insane.”

County Express 9/7/1910

“Bowling. Friendlies. Fixtures for Today.....
HORSE AND JOCKEY (Netherend) v PEAR TREE (Amblecote).”

1911 Census

Brettell Town

[1] *Henry Jabez Herrin* (54), licensed victualler, born Lye;

[2] Annie Herrin (46), wife, married 24 years, assisting in business, born Cradley;

[3] Esther Herrin (18), daughter, assisting in business, born Lye;

[4] William Henry Herrin (10), son, school, born Cradley:

County Express 15/4/1911

“On Wednesday evening at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Netherend, there was a debate on current policies between Mr. J. H. Rooke (Conservative) and Mr. Williams, Halesowen (Liberal). Mr. J. James presided over a large attendance, a most enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Express 22/4/1911

“The HORSE AND JOCKEY Bowling Club commenced the season on Saturday with a match between the Captain’s and the Vice-Captain’s teams, the former winning by 20 points. The green was opened Mr. J. H. Rooke, who bowled the landlord (Mr. *H. J. Herrin*), the latter just winning in a close contest. Thanks were afterwards proposed to Mr. Rooke by Mr. A. Homer, of the Bowling Committee, seconded by Mr. F. White (secretary). The club have a splendid list of fixtures, and the green is one of the best in the district.”

Reg Johnson played football for Cradley Heath St. Lukes, Fulham (1926-29), and Swindon (1929-30).

He also played bowls.

He was married to Connie.

1939 Register

Mogul Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY

[1] *Reginald Johnson*, date of birth 15/4/1904, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Constance R. Johnson, dob 20/12/1907, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Henzie (Johnson) Smith, dob 31/3/1877, unpaid domestic duties, widowed;

A team from here won the Brierley Hill Bowling League in 1947.

It closed on 21st June 1971.

It was demolished in 1971, and Heale Close was built on the site.

HUNTING TREE

Alexandra Road / Wall Well, (Gibbet Lane), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

[Star Pubs & Bars](#) [2020], [2022]

LICENSEES

Harold Palmer [1962]

Bill Poyser [1983]

Dafydd Morgan (1984 – [1985])

Chris Melody (2019 – [])

[Mark Griffiths](#) [2020] – [2021]

[Sarah Tullet](#) (2022 – [])

NOTES

The building was originally the ancestral home of the Grove family (Huntingtree House).

It was designed by Albert Thomas Butler in 1911.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1946

“Halesowen Licensing Justices yesterday refused two applications in respect of new premises – one by Holts for the removal of the license of the TWO GATES at Cradley to Drews Holloway, at the junction of Stourbridge Road and a new road to be constructed; the other by Mitchells and Butlers in respect of premises proposed to be built at Huntingtree.”

In January 1954 notices were issued concerning licences of the NEW INN and HUNTINGTREE.

Mitchells & Butlers, the owners, applied for a licence to the HUNTINGTREE premises which were to be constructed by conversion. Mitchells & Butlers also applied for the removal of the licence of the NEW INN to that premises.

In both notices it is stated that Mitchells & Butlers hold a provisional grant for removal of the licence of the NEW INN to premises to be erected on land opposite, which will be abandoned if the present application is granted.

Final Order granted on 1st November 1955.

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1955

“The Sixty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Ordinary Stockholders of Mitchells & Butlers Limited will be held at the White Horse Hotel, Birmingham on Thursday, 29th December 1955. The following is an extract from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. Robert H. Butler.....

We are going forward with our new buildings programme, and have completed four fully licensed premises during the year..... HUNTINGTREE, Halesowen.....

These new licensed premises are of a small and intimate kind and are so designed that they can be extended if the needs of the community make this desirable.....”

The FA Cup was brought here by Villa player Leslie Smith in 1957.

Birmingham Daily Post 19/11/1962

“When A Lady Takes To Darts. Question of Chivalry.

Trouble has arisen in the ranks of the Halesowen and District Darts League because one of the competing teams, that of the HUNTING TREE public house at Hasbury includes a woman player in its team. Some opponents are claiming that this ‘puts them off.’ She is Mrs. Margaret Griffiths, aged 21, of Philip Road, Hasbury. The league management committee will meet tomorrow to consider whether she shall be allowed to continue.

Mr. *Harold Palmer*, manager of the HUNTING TREE, said last night, ‘Some of the players who oppose Mrs. Griffiths say they do not go all out. They claim that they are being put at a disadvantage; but there is nothing in the rules that forbids women to play.’ Mrs. Griffiths said, ‘It is nonsense to say that I put them off. I am scared three days before a match is played.’ Nevertheless, she has won her three league games so far. She has been playing darts for about 12 months. ‘I played for fun at first. They put me in the team; I didn’t ask,’ she added. Her husband, Mr. Ralph Griffiths, is in the same team. He thinks it is ‘just great’ having his wife as a team member.

The HUNTING TREE team is quite a family affair. Mrs. Griffiths’s brother, Mr. Ron Beatrup, is captain; another brother, Mr. Don Beatrup, and Mr. Arthur Lowe, an uncle of Mr. Griffiths, are also members.

On Wednesday the HUNTING TREE has an away fixture against the BEEHIVE, the present league leaders. Whether Mrs. Griffiths plays will depend on the outcome of tomorrow’s meeting.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/4/1967

“The social club at the HUNTINGTREE public house at Halesowen last night presented cheques for £50 each to the Mentally Handicapped Children’s Association, and the Halesowen Association for the Blind.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/8/1976

“Four Children Attacked by Dog.....

It was the second such attack in two days, on Monday, two Alsations savaged 10-year-old Stewart Blakeway of Lloyds Road, Halesowen, when he went into the garden of the HUNTING TREE public house in Alexandra Road, Halesowen, to retrieve a ball.”

[1999]

The name was changed to the BUTTON FACTORY. [2004]

The name was changed to the HUNTING TREE. [2012]

Express & Star 8/4/2013

“The campaign to reopen a former Sons of Rest building in Halesowen for the community has gathered pace after a business plan for the development was lodged with council bosses. Campaigners have formed a new company called Hasbury Community Association to put pressure on Dudley Council. Officials had proposed selling the building, near Alexandra Road and Wall Well, and put it on the market last year. But residents say they want a new community hub and pleaded for a future for the premises built on land donated to the town in 1947 by the then mayor Lionel Rose. The building was constructed in 1948 as one of five Sons of Rest sites in the Halesowen area to be used by war veterans. It was previously home to Huntingtree Seniors Leisure Centre but this was closed in 2011 by Dudley Council. Now campaigners are pushing to raise £5,000 with a series of fundraisers to enable them to kickstart a charity to manage the centre.

Councillor Donella Russell, who is heading up the scheme with campaigner Ian Cooper, said, ‘We are raising money to help with the fight to keep this building open and for the use of the community. The business plan has now gone in and the fundraising has started to provide the centre with the stability it initially requires.’

Campaigners say the only reason the site was closed was due to falling use because of rising rent prices for use by groups. The group claims to have found about 20 groups which would use the site in the future, but at a cheaper rate than they faced before the centre closed.

Dudley Council’s legal boss, Councillor Gaye Partridge, said the authority was looking at ‘a number of options for the future’ of the building including the community proposals.

Members of the public are invited to the next group meeting at the HUNTINGTREE pub, also in Alexandra Road, from 7pm tomorrow.

It is unclear at this stage how long it will take for council officials to assess the business plan but they are hoping for a resolution in the coming weeks.

Options previously looked at for the building included it being transformed as a new home for the Halesowen-based Earls Gym where Olympic gymnastics medallist Kristian Thomas is a member.”

Halesowen News 12/2/2019

“Four men are sought by police after a Halesowen pub was burgled. The HUNTINGTREE pub on Alexandra Road was broken into November 23 at 1.30am. The intruders stole alcohol and cash before smashing up a gambling machine and then running off.”

Halesowen News 25/2/2021

“A landlord is looking forward to the future and has taken over a second pub in Halesowen. *Mark Griffiths*, landlord of PICKS on High Street, has taken over the reins at the HUNTINGTREE Pub in Alexandra Road. The 50-year-old will run the watering hole, which is owned by Star Pubs, with his partner Melanie White, aged 47. He will open both pub’s outdoor spaces on April 12, after the PM announced on Monday on his road map out of lockdown that pubs and restaurants are set to open for outdoor, seated service on this date if cases continue to drop. Then on May 17 indoor hospitality is set to reopen.

Mark, who signed the deal on the HUNTINGTREE days before the November 2020 lockdown came into effect, said, ‘We’re looking forward to opening on April 12. The HUNTINGTREE has got a large beer garden, which was one of the factors in us taking it on. It will be brilliant. We have spent quite a bit of money on a facelift and we are hoping it will be a good time to take it on.’

Mark was forced to throw away £3.5k worth of beer during the last lockdown, but is staying upbeat despite the devastating impact of covid on the pub trade. He hopes with the vaccine being rolled out and the roadmap out of lockdown, this will be the light at the end of the tunnel.

The table waiting service will return at both pubs on April 12.”

Express & Star 28/10/2022

“Christmas has come early for the regulars of a Halesowen pub which is in line for a £410,000 upgrade. The HUNTING TREE on Alexandra Road, Halesowen, is to have a £410,000 major upgrade and a permanent landlady for the first time in seven years. The run-down pub, which has had a series of temporary managers, closed at the end of September and is now set to reopen at the end of November in time for the festive season. Heineken-owned Star Pubs & Bars’ interior and exterior overhaul of the HUNTING TREE is intended to create a community pub serving the Huntingtree and Hasbury residential areas. Funds are being spent on giving the HUNTING TREE a fresher, more modern feel. The pub will be zoned into a dedicated sports bar with five HDTVs, pool and darts and a separate lounge dining area. A new woodburner will feature in the centre of the pub. There will also be new upgraded toilets and a new commercial kitchen installed. Outside, the pub is being given a facelift with new signage and lighting. The beer garden will become a key attraction during warmer months with a Heineken mural and two covered seating pods, each with a table and benches seating six people. The pergola and smoking shelter are also being overhauled and new furniture installed.

The new landlady is Rubery-based *Sarah Tullet*. Brought up in Halesowen, her parents still live in the area as do many friends. She started work in the pub trade aged 18, going on to manage the Court Oak in Harborne just two years later. With a first child due, Sarah decided to retrain as a nurse. After 18 years working at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham and two more children later, *Sarah* couldn’t resist the pull of the hospitality industry. There followed a stint at The Trent Social Cub and then a return to community nursing to help out during the pandemic. Most recently *Sarah* spent 15 months managing the OLD CROWN in Halesowen before the opportunity to take on the HUNTING TREE arose. ‘I have always wanted to run my own pub so leapt at the chance to take on the HUNTING TREE. I didn’t know it, which says a lot considering the time I’ve spent in Halesowen, but that was a plus for me. I asked around and heard that it was missing someone to love it and so wasn’t used much by the community. So that’s what I intend on doing. Star Pubs & Bars are investing in the building, and I shall lavish all the attention that is needed to put the heart back into the pub. It’s not had a refurbishment for a long time, so it will be brilliant for locals and passing trade. As well as offering great food and drink, I want to turn the HUNTING TREE back into the hub of the community. I plan to establish pub darts and pool teams and to ask residents which local charities are dear to their hearts so that we can raise money for them. I have already met up with neighbours, the school and the scout hut to introduce myself and look forward to meeting more residents when we reopen. I am especially looking forward to people coming down for a festive drink on Christmas day. I am a very bubbly, outgoing person. I am also very approachable. If there’s a problem, I want to help. I want customers to have the best experience possible and to walk away happy. So if you fancy joining our darts or pool teams, just let me know when we open,’ said *Sarah*. Her other plans for the pub include hosting live music, karaoke and putting on bingo and quizzes every other week.

Star Pubs & Bars investment manager Lee Dishington said, ‘The HUNTING TREE is a large attractive building in a great location but has been underutilised in recent times. With our investment and *Sarah* at the helm, it will have all the ingredients needed to become the best community pub in the area for a great pint and food to match as well as being the go-to place for sports and entertainment. It is opening just in time for people to get together over the festive period.’”

HUSKY DOG

Hagley Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Malcolm Arthur Talboys [] – **1986**

NOTES

[1976]

It closed in 1986.

KIDDERMINSTER TAVERN

Hagley Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Smith [1835] – [1846]

NOTES

Directory 1835

“Vans. For Passengers and Goods.....

To Bewdley.

John Bennett, from the KIDDERMINSTER TAVERN, every Tuesday and Friday afternoon at one.

To Birmingham.

John Bennett, from the KIDDERMINSTER TAVERN, every Monday and Thursday afternoon at four.”

1841 Census

Hagley Street

[1] *John Smith* (35), publican, born Worcestershire;

[2] *Betty Smith* (35);

[3] *David Smith* (11), born Worcestershire;

[4] *Nathan Smith* (9), born Worcestershire;

[5] *Stephen Smith* (7), born Worcestershire;

[6] *Philip Smith* (5), born Worcestershire;

[7] *Mary Smith* (3), born Worcestershire;

[8] *Ann Smith* (3 months), born Worcestershire:

Birmingham Journal 20/6/1846

“On Monday morning, about half-past eight, as Perkins and Gardner’s omnibus was descending Spring Hill, near Hales Owen, one of the hind wheels broke down, the vehicle upset, and many of the passengers received severe contusions; among them Mr. James Dorrell, of the Wyre Farm, near Cleobury Mortimer, received a severe compound fracture of the left leg. He was immediately carried to the KIDDERMINSTER TAVERN, when Mr. Phillips, surgeon, promptly attended, reduced the fracture, and dressed his wounds, and, we are happy to say, Mr. Worrall is going on as favourably as can be expected under the circumstances. The omnibus conductor proceeded to Birmingham with all despatch, and brought back a coach to convey the passengers there, and all, with the exception of Mr. Worrall, were enabled to proceed on their journey. The accident may be attributed entirely to

overloading, and the action of the dry weather on the wheel.”

Check BULLS HEAD.

KING EDWARD VII

88, Stourbridge Road, (Tobacco Box Hill), (Short Cross), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.
Michael Withers (acquired in December 1984)

LICENSEES

John Williams [1861] – [1865]
Mrs. Elizabeth Williams [1866] – [1870]
William Williams [1871]
Maaziah Parsons [1871] – [1878]
John Williams [1880] – 1881;
Joseph Beach* (1881 – []
Joseph Beach Jr.* [1884] – 1900);
Stephen George Bayley (1900 – 1908);
Frank Johnson (1908 – 1914);
William Willetts (1914 – 1938);
Mrs. Jane Willetts (1938 – 1947);
Brian Samuel Hill (1947 – 1981);
John Henry Bemand (1981 – 1985);
Michael ‘Mike’ Withers (1985 – 1991);
Clifford F Turner (1991 – 1993);
Marsha Ellen Brazier (1993 – []
Ray and Barbara Woodin (2012 – []
Barbara Woodin [2022]

NOTES

It was originally the HEART IN HAND.

HEART AND HAND [1861], [1865], [1866], [1873], [1878], [1881]

1861 Census

Short Cross – HEART AND HAND

- [1] *John Williams* (49), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Eliza Williams* (47), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Sarah Williams* (16), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Elizabeth Williams* (12), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] *William Williams* (8), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] *John Williams* (5), son, born Halesowen:

Stourbridge Observer 14/7/1866

“At the HEART IN HAND, by Mrs. *Williams*, on Wednesday, an inquest was opened by Ralph Docker, Esq, coroner, on the body of Mr. Grove, gentleman.

John Jones: I live at Short Cross, and am a horse nail maker. I knew William Grove, deceased. He lived at Short Cross. He was living on his means. On Tuesday morning, the 26th of June, about 9 o’clock, I was passing his house and was called into Mr. Grove’s by Mr. Sasbury’s little girl. I went into the house, and saw deceased lying on the floor. The back door was opened, but the front door was shut. He was lying on his side on the back kitchen in front of fire place. The clothes he had on were on fire, and most of them burnt to cinder. He was struggling, and he hooted, ‘Oh, my poor mother.’ There was no one else in the house. He lives with his sister, but she was not in. I fetched some water, but as he did not want the water on him, I made an alarm, and got help. John Adams, a neighbour, was the first man who came; afterwards several came. We took the burning clothes from him,

and Mr. Hayes attended him, and afterwards, Mr. Moore, both surgeons at Halesowen. There was a little fire in the grate. I saw a mass of blood in front of the fire outside the fender, extending over several quarries [tiles]. His nose was bleeding. The round table under the window was overthrown.

Ann Perks: I am a widow, residing in Birmingham. I am sister to deceased. He was about 55 years of age. I came over, when I heard of the occurrence, and was with him a week previous to his death. He suffered much from fits said by Dr. Birt Davies to be epileptic fits. He would fall down and struggle violently when he was in them. The struggling would last about an hour. He died on Monday morning last about seven o'clock. My sister questioned him, and I was led to understand that he had a fit and had fallen on the fire. My sister had gone to Yilley [Illey?] to see another sister, who is an invalid.

Hannah Grove: I am not married. I am sister to the deceased, and lived with him. I left him about half past seven on the morning he was injured. He was well when I left. When I next saw him, about half past ten at night, he was in bed and seriously burnt. He told me he had had a fit, and that was all he could say about it.

Arthur Henry Hayes: I am assistant to Mr. Moore of this place. I saw deceased on Tuesday the 26th of June, a little before nine in the morning. He was on a chair, and I had him taken upstairs. He was severely burnt in many parts. He suffered very severely from the shock. His right arm was burnt to a cinder. The usual remedies were applied; but he never rallied at all. He died of shock on Monday morning last, about seven.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

1871 Census

Short Cross – HART IN HAND

[1] *Maaziah Parsons* (44), married, publican and grocer, born Halesowen;

[2] *Mary A. Parsons* (16), daughter, born Halesowen:

Maaziah Parsons was also a shopkeeper. [1873]

Birmingham Daily Post 5/6/1878 - Advert

"Found, black Retriever Dog; two brown feet. Owner can have by paying expenses.

HEART IN HAND, Hales Owen."

County Advertiser 6/7/1878

"John Withers and Alfred Withers, of Halesowen, were charged with assaulting Charles Holmes, jun, on the 10th ult. Mr. Hayes appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Homer (Brierley Hill) defended.

Prosecutor stated that on the 10th ult he was at the HEART AND HAND INN, Short Cross. Defendants were there, and had some 'words' with him concerning some pigeons, which one of the defendants had been previously convicted of stealing. A few minutes afterwards he was about to get over a wall into a cricket field which adjoined the house when defendants came up. The defendant Alfred Withers struck him and knocked him down, but he could not swear whether the other defendant struck him or not. Cross-examined: Was at the public-house drinking two hours. Treated several men there.

Edward Parkes said he was on the cricket field on the day in question and saw defendants and Holmes struggling together.

Mr. Phillips, surgeon, said he examined the prosecutor on the day after the assault took place, and found several cuts and bruises about him.

Mr. Homer then addressed the Bench, for the defence, and proceeded to call a man named Watson, who said he was at the public-house on Whit-Monday, and saw Holmes there. He was drunk and very quarrelsome, and was drinking the whole time witness was there. He (witness) did not see any row.

Amos Partridge said that Holmes got his coat off to fight him (witness), and was drunk and quarrelsome with everybody in the house.

Another witness was examined, and the magistrates considered it their duty to dismiss the case."

County Advertiser 7/12/1878

"On Tuesday evening Mr. R. Docker, coroner, held an inquest at the HEART IN HAND INN, on the body of a young man named Homer, of Cradley. On the 25th ult the deceased, who was about 18 years of age, was riding near Islington School, and was accidentally thrown from his horse by the animal shying. He received such injuries that he died on the morning of Sunday last. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

1881 Census

Stourbridge Road – HEART IN HAND

[1] *John Williams* (25), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Mary Williams* (24), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Frances Annie Williams* (3), daughter, born Halesowen:

Evening Express 5/4/1881

"*John Williams*, landlord of the HEART IN HAND, alehouse, Stourbridge Road, was summoned for permitting gaming on his licensed premises. Mr. Wright defended.

Evidence was given by a witness named Major Cartwright to the effect that on the 5th of March he visited the defendant's house and there saw several games of cards played for money and beer, the defendant being an onlooker.

For the defence witnesses were called to show that defendant, when he found out that gambling was going on, took away the

cards, and that any subsequent games were played with a pack supplied by one of the company. The Bench fined defendant 40s and costs.”

Joseph Beach = Joseph Beech

* probably the same person.

Birmingham Daily Post 14/12/1886

“Mr. R. Docker (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the HEART IN HAND INN, Short Cross, Hales Owen, last evening, relative to the death of Joseph Salisbury (83), of Hawne Lane, Short Cross, whose body was found in a well on the 9th inst. Harriet Salisbury said on the 9th inst her husband asked her to make his bed, which she did, and when she came downstairs deceased was missing. A search was made for him by Police-constable Stephens, who found him in a cistern in the brewhouse. Joseph Salisbury said deceased had been a great sufferer of neuralgia, and had been heard to say he could not bear the pain. Recently deceased had been very strange in his manner. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

1891 Census

Stourbridge Road – HEART IN HAND

- [1] *Joseph Beach* (39), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ellen Beach (42), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Ellen Sophia Beach (15), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Lillie Beach (13), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Thomas Stanley Beach (1), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] Alice Woodward (24), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 13/7/1895

“The annual meeting of Halesowen Football Club was held at the house of Mr. *J. Beach*, HEART IN HAND INN, Stourbridge Road, on Wednesday evening. Mr. A. C. Dickson (chairman of the committee) presided and addressed the meeting at some length. He congratulated the reserve players on being the champions and winners of the medals of the West Midlands League, which were well earned and hard won.....”

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court..... The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *Joseph Beech*, HEART IN HAND, Short Cross, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for..... Inspector Raybould said owing to the structural alterations having been carried out he wished to withdraw the objections to the renewal of the licenses of *Joseph Beech*. All those licenses were accordingly renewed, and the Chairman of the Bench, Mr. Lea Smith, said he hoped all license holders in the division would keep their houses closed during prohibited hours on Sundays.”

Joseph Beach – see also CROSS GUNS.

Stephen George Bayley = Stephen George Bailey

Dudley Herald 5/3/1898

“John Rutkins, of Halesowen, was charged with having refused to quit the HEART AND HAND INN, Stourbridge Road, on Feb. 18th. *Stephen George Bailey*, the landlord, said he declined to supply the defendant because of his drunkenness and ordered him to leave the premises. He declined to leave. Defendant: Where did I get the last ale? – Witness: How the deuce do I know. Defendant: At your house. – Witness: Liar. Defendant added that he lent the landlord a book some time back which he never returned, and the bother arose about it. Complainant: There is no word of truth in it. The Chairman: Publicans must be protected, and men ought to go when requested. You will be fined 10s and 9s 6d costs.”

County Express 28/4/1900

“Cricket Club. At a meeting of this club, on Wednesday evening, at the HEART IN HAND INN, Mr. W. Jackson was appointed captain, Mr. A. R. Walton vice-captain, and Mr. R. E. Hodgkin was appointed hon. secretary.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1900

“An inquest was held by Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner), yesterday, at the HEART IN HAND INN, Hales Owen, concerning the death of Edward Jones (65), ironworks labourer, of Stourbridge Road, Hales Owen, who was found drowned in the canal at Coombs Wood on Wednesday. Mr. E. H. Grove appeared on behalf of the relatives of the deceased. The evidence showed that the deceased had been in bad health for some months and that he was in the habit of drinking to excess. On Wednesday he started for his work at Coombs Wood Works, but at 5.45 the same morning his body was recovered from the canal by two youths named Joseph James and Ernest Wood. An Open verdict was returned.”

County Advertiser 8/9/1900

“On Tuesday Mr. E. Docker (coroner) held an inquest at the HEART IN HAND INN, Stourbridge Road, touching the death of George Crumpton (67), carter, formerly residing in Bloomfield Street, who was found dead in the road near Hawne Colliery the same morning. It appears that deceased, who is at present engaged in making Cherry Street, Hawne, was driving a trace horse. On Tuesday morning, at about 7.30, he was found by a man named Gilbert Harvey lying dead in the road. It was supposed that whilst riding the animal deceased had fallen off and expired. Dr. Young, who was called in, said that syncope was the cause of death, and the jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1901 Census

Stourbridge Road

- [1] *Stephen G. Bayley* (44), widower, licensed victualler, born Leicester;
- [2] Sarah A. A. Bayley (23), daughter, born South Australia;
- [3] Ethel Bayley (11), daughter, feeble minded, born Queensland, Australia;
- [4] George J. Bayley (9), son, born Aston;
- [5] Albert J. Bayley (6), son, born Aston;
- [6] Violet Smith (19), general servant, born Oxford:

Its name was changed to KING EDWARD VII on his coronation in 1901.
It had commemorative windows installed in 1901.

County Express 29/3/1902

“*Stephen George Bayley*, landlord of the KING EDWARD VII INN, Halesowen, was charged with selling to the prejudice of the buyer, rum which was not of the nature and substance demanded.

PS Pass explained that on February 3rd he went to the defendant’s house, and purchased two-pennyworth of rum. He was served by the defendant’s daughter out of a quart bottle. He then produced a bottle, and asked for a pint of rum. He was supplied, and paid 2s 6d for it. He then enquired if the defendant was in, and was told he was not. Witness explained he had purchased the rum for analysis, and divided it in the usual way. On February 22nd he received the analysts certificate, which showed the rum was adulterated to the extent of 6.42 degrees. The defendant said on the evening in question he was attending a meeting at the Conservative Club. Before going he asked his daughter to mix some rum and aniseed, and warm it. She did so, but made it too hot, so that he could not drink it. It was then put back into the quart bottle.

Inspector Pitt said defendant had explained that to him, and he believed it was correct.
Defendant was ordered to pay the costs.”

County Express 1/11/1902

“*Stephen George Bayley*, landlord of the KING EDWARD VII INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, was charged with selling intoxicating liquor to two drunken persons, and with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on October 1st. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Vernon defended.

PSs Pass and Price saw Alfred Micklewright, the licensee of the BULLS HEAD INN, Halesowen, and Edward Grainger, a fruiterer, of Hasbury, in a drunken condition, go into defendant’s house. They followed the men in with the intention of cautioning the landlord, but when they got into the house Grainger had half a glass of beer before him, while Micklewright had a soda water. The landlord was talking to the men. Pass drew his attention to their condition, and *Bayley* replied that he had only served Micklewright a soda. He was told that he should not have allowed them to remain on his premises, and after some trouble Micklewright and Grainger left the house. Micklewright was in such a condition, and behaved so badly, that he had to be locked up for his own safety.

Mr. Vernon, for the defence, urged that *Bayley* had committed an error of judgement in allowing the men to remain on his premises. He refused to serve them with intoxicating liquor but as Micklewright was under the influence of drink, he supplied him with a soda. The glass of beer before Grainger, *Bayley* had drawn for his own supper. His client had made a mistake, and was very sorry for it. He had kept the house for six years without conviction or complaint.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs in each case for selling, and was ordered to pay the costs in the case of permitting drunkenness. Solicitors’ fee was allowed. The fines and costs amounted to £5 1s 6d.

Edward Grainger for being drunk on licensed premises was fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

“On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report

During the past year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows

Stephen G. Bayley, KING EDWARD VII INN, Halesowen, supplying drink to two drunken persons, fined 10s and costs, 26s 6d, in each case.....

He had given notice of his intention to oppose the renewal of the following licenses upon these grounds.....

Stephen George Bayley, KING EDWARD VII INN, Halesowen, (1) that on the 28th of October, 1902, he was fined 10s and costs in each case for supplying two drunken persons; (2) that there is no necessity for the license, the requirements of the district being otherwise amply provided for; (3) that he is not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with the licence.....

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the 'black list'.....

Mr. Vernon appeared for *Stephen George Bayley*, landlord of the KING EDWARD VII INN, Halesowen, which was renewed.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population.....”

Tipton Herald 26/9/1903

“An inquest was held on Tuesday morning at the KING EDWARD VII INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, by Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) touching the death of George Ernest Harris, aged 15 months, whose parents reside in Bloomfield Street, Halesowen, and who died on the 19th inst from the effects of severe scalds sustained on the 8th inst.

It appeared from the evidence that on the 8th inst the mother placed a can of boiling water upon the table, but whilst her back was turned for a few minutes deceased upset the can, the contents of which fell upon him. Dr. Rockstrope was summoned and found deceased suffering from severe scalds about the body and legs. He made good progress towards recovery, and appeared to be almost convalescent, when he was taken ill again on the 17th inst, and died two days later.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned by the jury.”

Birmingham Mail 2/10/1906

“At Hales Owen Police Court today, Mr. E. H. Grove applied, on behalf of *Stephen George Bayley*, landlord of the EDWARD VII INN, Stourbridge Road, Hales Owen, for an occasional license to sell intoxicants at a football match between Hales Owen and Dudley on the 8th inst.

He explained that the public-house adjoined the football ground, and the experience of the applicant this season was that the accommodation in his house was totally insufficient for the demand made upon it. Consequently he asked for permission to sell on the ground for two and a half hours.

Inspector Brazier pointed out that a proper notice of application had not been given.

Mr. Grove asked the Bench to treat it as a special application.

Inspector Brazier said there was no strong objection to the application because on the previous Saturday there had been a large crowd at the match, and at the interval a rush was made to the public-house, but it was found impossible to supply them all with refreshments.

In reply to the magistrates, Mr. Grove said this was the first application of this character, but it was proposed to make them for every match throughout the season.

Mr. Reay (presiding magistrate) said the Bench would grant the application, but it must not be taken as a precedent. The police would be instructed to see how the thing was carried out, and also whether the privilege was abused.”

County Express 27/2/1909

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen, George Rose, collier, of Dudley Road, Halesowen, was summoned for being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the KING EDWARD VII INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, on the 15th inst. The landlord (*Stephen George Bayley*) said defendant came into the house in an intoxicated state. Witness requested him to leave, but he declined to do so. Witness then went for a policeman, and when he returned defendant had gone.

Rose, who pleaded guilty, was fined 15s and costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment.

Frank Johnson = Frank Jackson

County Express 22/1/1910 - Advert

“Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.

H. P. F Weaver has been favoured with instructions from the Trustees of the late Mrs. B. Turner, to Sell by Auction, at the KING EDWARD VII INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, on Tuesday, February 1st, 1910, at 7 o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be read. All those Three valuable Freehold Dwelling-House, with Corner Shop.....”

1939 Register

88, Stourbridge Road

[1] *Jane Willetts*, date of birth 4/12/1873, licensed victualler, widowed;

[2] Vero M. Partridge, dob 24/5/1901, journeyman baker, married;

[3] Elise Partridge, dob 30/3/1904, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Brian Hill was married to Winnie.

It closed in 1982.

It reopened in December 1985 after a £50,000 renovation.

Mike Withers was married to Sal.

Sandwell Evening Mail 1/12/1986

“Three Black Country couples are in line to pick up one of the licensing trade’s most prestigious awards.

Alan and Nancy Wakefield, who run the ROYAL OAK pub in Tipton, *Michael* and Sally *Withers*, who keep the KING EDWARD VII pub in Halesowen, and Terence and Carol Mellor, of the COURT HOUSE in Dudley, are all competing for the title Master Cellarman of 1986.

The competition, to find the best keepers of traditional draught Burton ale in the country, will finish tomorrow when the Guild of Master Cellarmen holds its annual luncheon at the Ind Coope Burton brewery Guildhall.”

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

Express & Star 6/8/2022

“A Halesowen pub has won a title for its eye-catching floral displays. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards.....

The judges also awarded highly commended to the LOYAL LODGE, HAWNE TAVERN, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the SWAN and previous winner, EDWARD VII.

Eve O’Connor, chair of Halesowen in Bloom said, ‘Halesowen in Bloom wants to thank all the pubs in Halesowen who make that extra effort to make their pubs look so inviting with great floral displays.”

Halesowen News 20/9/2023

“Three Halesowen pubs have won awards for their eye-catching floral displays. The SWAN on Long Lane in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin’ Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road won the Best Kerb Appeal title and the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road was deemed to have the Best Hanging Baskets.....”

[2023]

LEOPARD

High Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Edward Cheshire, Windmill Lane Brewery, Smethwick [1878]

Frederick William Fisher [1907]

LICENSEES

Catherine Day [1822] – [1826]

John Smith Jr. [1829]

Thomas Grove [1835] – [1865]

Mrs. Anne Grove [1870] – [1872]

Edwin Grove [1873] – **1876**);

Mrs. Ann Grove (**1876** – []

John Cutler [] – **1878**);

Miss Annie Elizabeth Tinsley (**1878** – **1882**);

William Shaw (**1882** – []

Frederick ‘Fred’ Neath [1887] – [1893]

William Neath [1896]

Albert Withers [1899]
Fletcher [1900]
Ellen Jane Arnold [1901]
Alfred Blud (1906 – []

NOTES

Catherine Day = Catherine Dee

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/3/1826 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Buildings and Building Land and Accommodation Land, in the Borough of Hales Owen, Salop. To be Sold by Auction, by J. E. & C. Robins, on Wednesday next, the 8th of March, at three o'clock in the afternoon, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, subject to such conditions as shall be then and there produced, in the following or such other lots as shall be mentioned at the time of sale.....

Lot IX. All that Messuage or Dwelling House, being the LEOPARD Public House, situate in and fronting to High Street, in the occupation of *Catherine Dee*, and also two Dwelling Houses, Shop, and other Buildings behind the same, occupied by Grove and Smith, together with the use of the pump and carriage road jointly with the proprietor of lot 8.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/2/1829 - Advert

“Hales Owen. Freehold Dwelling Houses, Retail Situations, and Public House. To be Sold by Auction, by E. and C. Robins, on Monday the 16th day of March next, at four o'clock in the afternoon, at the NEW INN, in Hales Owen, in suitable lots, subject to conditions then and there to be produced (unless in the mean time the whole be disposed of by private contract) several Houses and extensive Premises, situate in the centre of Hales Owen, now or late in the possession of Mr. Caruthers, Sarah Guest, *John Smith* (the LEOPARD Public House), Connop, Smith, sen. Allen, Butcher, Round, and others.

Particulars of the lots will be given next week.

Apply to Messrs. Tyndall and Rawlins, or to the Auctioneers, Birmingham.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/3/1829 - Advert

“Freehold Dwelling Houses, Retail Shops, and Public House, in the Borough of Hales Owen, Salop. To be Sold by Auction, by E. and C. Robins, on Monday the 16th day of March inst, at three o'clock in the afternoon, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, either in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon, and subject to conditions then and there to be produced.

Lot I. All that Messuage or Dwelling House, being the LEOPARD Public House, situate in and fronting the High Street, in the occupation of *John Smith*, the younger, with the brewhouse and cellars thereto belonging; together with the Dwelling House and Workshop behind the said Public House, late in the occupation of Samuel Connop.

Lot II. The Dwelling House, Workshop, and Brewhouse, in the possession of John Smith the elder, situate adjoining to lot I.

Lot III The large and roomy Family House in the occupation of Mr. Caruthers, Attorney, with the Yard, Garden, and Offices there-to belonging.....”

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Thomas Grove* (50), victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Ann Grove* (44), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Mary Grove* (31), daughter, servant, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Edwin Grove* (18), son, bricklayer, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Eliza Grove* (4), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 2/1/1858

“The following persons were charged, through the information of Mr. Miles Overend, Inspector of Weights and Measures, with having in their possession unjust measures.....

Thomas Grove, the LEOPARD, Halesowen, 3 quarts and 3 pints. Fined 1s with costs.”

1861 Census

High Street – LEOPARD INN

- [1] *Thomas Grove* (65), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Ann Grove* (54), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Mary Ann Grove* (41), daughter, assistant, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Eliza Grove* (13), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

1871 Census

High Street – LEOPARD

- [1] *Ann Grove* (63), widow, publican, born Halesowen;

- [2] Mary A. Grove (52), step-daughter, born Halesowen;
[3] Ann Webster (50), visitor, born Turvieston, Shropshire;
[4] Mary Aldershaw (11), domestic servant, born Cakemore:

County Express 30/9/1876 - Deaths

“On the 23rd inst, *Edwin Grove*, of the LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, aged 44 years; deeply regretted.”

County Advertiser 18/11/1876 - Advert

“Halesowen. To be Let, LEOPARD INN, High Street, close to the Church, a most desirable Old-licensed Inn. Owner lately deceased. Immediate possession. For particulars, apply on the Premises. Rent, £30 per annum. Good-will about £25.”

County Express 25/8/1877 - Advert

“LEOPARD INN, High Street, Halesowen. Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, &c. Mr. S. Leonard has received instructions from the Representatives of the late Mr. *Edward Grove*, to Sell by Auction, on the above Premises, on Monday, September 3rd, 1877, the whole of the Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, and Effects, comprising Coolers, Mash Tubs, Gathering Tubs, Hogshead, Half-hogshead, and other Casks, Jugs and Cups, Cross-leg and Deal tables, Mahogany and Oak 2-leaf Dining Tables, 8-day Clocks, in Mahogany and Oak Cases, Quantity of Cane-seated, Windsor, and Ash Chairs, Oak and Mahogany Corner Cupboards, Mahogany Horse-hair Sofa, Three Sets of Chest of Drawers, Mahogany Bureaus, Five Sets of Birch 4-post and Tent Bedsteads, Feather Beds, Mattresses, Paillasses, Bed Clothing, Large Chest, Washhand Stands, Dressing Tables, Pictures, Chimney Glasses, Cooking Utensils, and other Kitchen requisites; Four-wheel Carriage, Spring Trap, &c, &c, more fully described in Catalogues, which may be obtained from the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath and Halesowen. Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock in the Morning.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/3/1878 - Advert

“Hales Owen. The LEOPARD INN, High Street. Old-licensed, commanding position. Changed hands once in forty years. Apply, Edward Cheshire, Windmill Lane Brewery, Smethwick.”

1881 Census

High Street

- [1] *Annie E. Tinsley* (32), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Dudley;
[2] *Mary Tinsley* (59), mother, widow, born Stourbridge:

County Advertiser 4/2/1882 - Advert

“Halesowen. The LEOPARD INN, High Street. To be Disposed Of, under a Bill of Sale, the Lease, Licenses, and Possession of the above Full-Licensed House, together with the whole of the Household Furniture and Effects. In-coming low; part can remain. Apply on the Premises, or to Mr. William Short, Auctioneer, 20, New Mill Street, Dudley.”

Fred Neath = Fred Heath

Birmingham Mail 25/1/1887 - Advert

“Servant (general) Wanted, about 16; good character indispensable; fond of children. Mrs. *F. Neath*, LEOPARD INN, Hales Owen.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 28/5/1887

“*Fred Neath*, landlord of the LEOPARD INN, High Street, Halesowen, was charged with having his house open on the 11th inst during prohibited hours, and for permitting gaming on the same date.

PS Raybould stated that he listened under the window of defendant’s house and heard voices, and cards shuffled and played, it being 12.30 at night. He went in and found ale on the counter, and five persons in the house.

Mr. Shakespeare defended.

PCs Matthews and Powell corroborated.

Alfred Lewis, one of the persons in the house, stated that Mr. *Neath* met him and pressed him to spend an hour with him. They played at cards, but did not play for money or beer. Walter Blackmoor corroborated.

The landlord stated that he invited the persons to be present to spend an hour with him, as they were in the habit of visiting.

Defendant was further charged with permitting gaming on the 18th inst.

PC Matthews stated that he saw them playing nap, and money passed.

Defendant admitted that he was playing an halfpenny nap, but he did not think he was doing wrong.

Mr. Shakespeare said it was a friendly game, no beer about, and no possible harm could follow, and all the persons were living in the house.

The Bench thought the cases were proved, and defendant was fined 30s and costs.”

County Express 11/6/1887

“Alfred Lewis, tailor, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with being upon licensed premises of *Fred Neath*, of the

LEOPARD INN, High Street, on the 11th inst. Police-sergeant Raybould proved the case. Defendant pleaded that he was on the premises as an invited guest.

The Bench said they had heard the evidence in the case once before, and would fine defendant 2s 6d and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1888

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Frederick Neath*, landlord of the LEOPARD INN, Hales Owen, was charged with having persons upon his premises during prohibited hours on the 18th ult. Mr. Waldron defended. Police-sergeant Raybould stated that he heard voices and saw a light about 12.30pm in the bar at defendant’s house. The defence was that the persons on the premises were friends of the landlord. The case was dismissed.”

Birmingham Mail 8/1/1891 - Advert

Servant (General) Wanted, about 16, must have good character; country preferred.

Apply, LEOPARD INN, Hales Owen.”

1891 Census

High Street – LEOPARD INN

- [1] *Fred Neath* (32), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Hannah M. Neath (34), wife, born Nuneaton;
- [3] Ellen M. Neath (8), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Fred W. Neath (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Charlotte McQueen (15), cousin, born Umballa, India (British subject);
- [6] Edith Smith (15), domestic servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 12/8/1893

“*Frederick Neath*, landlord of the LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on his own premises on the 22nd ult. Police-constable Cox deposed to visiting the public-house at ten o’clock at night, and seeing defendant drunk in the bar. His father complained about his son’s behaviour.

Defendant was fined 5s and costs or seven days.”

County Advertiser 30/9/1899

“At a special Petty Sessions, held at Halesowen, on Thursday – before Mr. J. G. Reay – *Albert Withers* (37), licensed victualler, of the LEOPARD INN, Hales Owen, was charged with stealing four lots of harness, of the value £12, the property of Joseph Beach, Short Cross, and others, the alleged thefts extending over a period exceeding two years. It was stated that on Saturday night Beach saw a portion of his harness, which was stolen from his premises in January last, in the prisoner’s stable. Prosecutor gave information to the police, who seized the harness, and Inspector Pitt afterwards arrested the accused. Some of the harness was found upon other premises. He was remanded in custody until Monday next.”

County Advertiser 14/10/1899

“On Tuesday, at the Halesowen Police Court, before Messrs. J. G. Reay and C. H. Clewes, George Withers, labourer of Halesowen, was charged with stealing from a lockup stable on or about the 2nd of January last, a silver-plated bridle, saddle, and brechin, value £2, the property of Mr. Jos. Beach; and *Albert Withers*, landlord of the LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, was charged with feloniously receiving the same knowing them to have been stolen. Mr. Noble (instructed by Mr. Wright) defended *Albert Withers*. Mr. Jos. Beach said he lived at Short Cross and was a retired licensed victualler. On Sunday, the 1st of January, he saw his harness safe on the premises. That was about four o’clock in the afternoon. He did not lock the stable door, and the next morning about eight o’clock he discovered that the harness was missing. Witness sent down to Police-constable Chamberlain and reported the theft. Witness did not see the harness again until the 26th ult. Witness on that day went to the stable of Mr. *Withers* to look at a horse which the latter had bought, and saw him hanging up in the stable the saddle and brechin which belonged to him. Witness said to *Withers*, ‘The harness you have got is mine.’ Mr. *Withers* replied, ‘Oh no nothing of the kind. I am not aware it is such.’ Witness told him he had some harness stolen, and that he could swear to the harness produced being his among the other harness he (*Withers*) could find. He could swear to the harness produced being his property by some marks on the saddle. The initials ‘E.R.’ had been rubbed off from several places on the harness.

Cross-examined, £1 would be a reasonable price for the harness. He gave 30s for the harness, but would not sell it for £3. He had had the harness repaired since he had purchased it. It would be a difficult thing for a man to have a license without having a good character. Defendant had kept his license for several years. In reply to the Bench, complainant said the harness was exposed to view in the stable.

Herbert Cole, of Dudley Road, Halesowen, said that he found two bags containing harness in a disused pig-stye, on the premises of Mr. Pearce, who had adopted him. Witness went and informed Mr. Pearce about the matter, and they carried the bags into the yard. Upon opening them they found they contained a bridle, saddle, collar, and reins. The bridle and the breechband which was identified by Mr. Beach as his property was in one bag, and some harness produced in the other bag. Witness and Mr. Pearce then put the harness back in the bags, and put them in the malt house.

Dorah Ellen Pearce corroborated as to finding of the harness in sacks on their premises. She afterwards informed Inspector about the mater.

Inspector Pitt said that on Sunday, September 24th he received a bridle, breechband, and some harness from Mr. Pearce. On Sunday, October 1st, in consequence of a statement made to him by *Albert Withers* in the cells, the prisoner went to Hasbury and saw

the prisoner George Withers, and arrested him on a charge of stealing harness. Prisoner said, 'What harness?' Witness told him he had four charges against him, but if he would wait till he got to the station he would explain them to him. At the station witness charged him with stealing a bridle, saddle, and crupper, value £2, the property of Mr. Beach. Defendant said he was innocent, and no one could say they had seen him near the premises. Witness then told an officer to bring *Albert Withers* from the cells, and the prisoner immediately said he had not sold anybody any harness, and if they had said he had they told a lie. When the prisoner was confronted by *Albert Withers*, he said, 'What do you want to bring an innocent man into it for?' Witness then read a statement over, which had been made by *Albert Withers*, in which he said he and his wife were walking along the street when George Withers came down by the SHENSTONE HOTEL, and asked him if he would buy some harness from him. *Albert Withers* told him he did not want any. George Withers then said, 'Oh, go on, have it, it's a good set.' *Albert Withers* eventually gave him 10s for it, without seeing the harness. Two or three days after he brought the set home and a new collar. George Withers said, 'I have not sold them.' *Albert Withers* then said, 'You know it is the truth, I was a fool for having anything to do with you.'

Mr. Noble said this was a very serious matter indeed for *Albert Withers*, because he held a license, and therefore if there was any mistake made it should be rectified before he went for trial. He submitted that it was a most improbable thing in the first place that that he should receive stolen goods, because he was known in the neighbourhood as a man of good character. He made a statement, and he had to ask the Bench whether it was not a reasonable statement to make. Prisoner had a trap, and, as a publican, the harness would be useful to him.

Inspector Pitt said he had not finished giving evidence against *Albert Withers*. It was only the case of George Withers that he had given evidence in. The Inspector added that he arrested *Albert Withers* in consequence of the harness being found on Pearce's premises. On Wednesday witness arrested *Albert Withers* and charged him with stealing a bridle, bit, saddle, crupper, and brechin from Mr. Beach's stable. He said he had not stolen them. Witness then charged him with receiving same, knowing them to have been stolen. Defendant made no reply.

Cross-examined: George Withers had never been convicted for dishonesty. He had not seen prisoner out in a trap.

George Withers was also charged with stealing harness value £1 from a stable belonging to Carr and Co. in May 1897, and *Albert Withers* was charged with receiving same, knowing it to have been stolen.

James Mylett, drayman (Carr and Co.), said that on the 14th May, 1897, he locked up the stable, and hung the key on a nail just outside. The following morning he missed the harness, but the stable door was locked when he arrived. Witness next saw the harness in the police station about a week ago. Harness was worth £1.

Cross-examined: Witness could not tell what month it was the harness was stolen. It was two years ago.

Mr. Noble said he should take a point here which would prove fatal to the case. It was laid down by stone that a complaint should be made within six calendar months. He therefore submitted that the information in this case should be barred, and the charge could not go on.

The Bench, after considering the point, ruled against Mr. Noble; Mr. Reay remarking that he could raise the point at the Quarter Sessions, if the prisoners were committed.

Inspector Pitt said that on Sunday, October 1st, George Withers was in custody, and he charged him with stealing harness, value £1, from a stable belonging to Carr and Co. and afterwards read him a statement made by *Albert Withers*. He said he was innocent. *Albert Withers* said, 'You know you did it George, and I gave you 6s for it.' Witness afterwards charged *Albert Withers* with receiving harness knowing it to have been stolen, and the prisoner made no reply.

George Withers was further charged with stealing a new horse collar, value 10s, on the 13th January last, the property of William Grainger.

William Grainger, landlord of the RED LION INN, said he saw the collar safe in the wash-house. Next morning he missed the collar.

John Hay, harness maker, said that the collar produced was the one he made for complainant.

Inspector Pitt said he charged George Withers with stealing a collar, value 10s, from a wash-house at the RED LION INN, the property of William Grainger. Prisoner made no reply. Witness also charged *Albert Withers* with receiving it, knowing it to have been stolen. Prisoner made no reply.

George Withers was further charged with stealing a set of brass mounted harness, belonging to Messrs. G. F. and A. J. Grove, value £7, on the 14th inst, and George Tether, miner, Halesowen, was jointly charged with stealing it. *Albert Withers* was also charged with receiving the same, knowing it to have been stolen. Mr. E. H. Grove prosecuted, and Mr. Noble defended *Albert Withers*, and Mr. Sharpe appeared on behalf of Tether.

Mr. Grove said that the Bench would see from the cases before them that a series of systematic robberies had been carried on. The facts of the charge were that on September 14th, about 12.30, the harness was in an old store room belonging to Messrs. Grove. About half an hour later it was missed. The key to the store room was left in its usual place, and the door locked while the men went to dinner, but when they came back the door was open and the harness gone. The next that was seen of the harness was when the bags were produced at the FORGE INN. He would call his evidence, from which he thought, it would be pretty clear that the harness was stolen.

James Lea, employed by the prosecutors, stated that he hung the harness up in the store room about half past twelve, and afterwards missed it. He reported the loss to his masters and the next he saw of the harness was at the Police Station. The harness was worth £7, as it was new.

Joseph Hodgetts and Job Elcock gave evidence.

Inspector Pitt said that George Withers, when asked about the harness, said, 'No one could say they ever saw me near the premises.' Witness confronted *Albert Withers* with him, and read over a statement that the latter had made. This was as follows, 'George, you know you came to our house two months ago, it might be less, and you asked the missus to have a drink, and she refused. That was the night you had something good for me, just as you were going out. I said, 'Don't bring me anything near me. I don't want to have anything more to do with you.' George Withers made no reply to that. Witness arrested George Tether

on the 1st inst at Halesowen Police Station. Witness said that if he did not go quietly he should have to handcuff him. Prisoner said, 'All right. When a man is innocent he does not fear.' When charged at the Police Station witness cautioned him, and he said, 'I am innocent.' After witness had read *Albert Withers*' statement to him, prisoner said, 'I said nothing of the sort.' The statement was to the effect that about two months ago George Withers came to his house and asked him to have a glass of whiskey. As he was going out he said, 'I have something good for you.' 'I told him not to bring anything near him, as I did not want anything more to do with you. On the same night George Tether said to me, 'You have something in your stable worth couple.' I thought he meant the horse, and I said I gave £5 for it. He said, 'I don't mean the horse. You know what I mean.' I didn't know then that the harness was in the stable. The next morning I went, and in a hutch in the stable, where I had two ducks, I found the harness owned by Messrs. Grove in a bag. I took it out the bag, and hung it up in the stable. I had not paid anything for it, and I did not know who brought it. On Sunday, September 24th between one and two o'clock, I put the harness into two bags, and dragged them down the entry. I left one in an entry while I took the other and put in in Pearce's pigstye, and then went and fetched the other and put it there. I knew that Beach owned the harness. I knew I had done wrong. I wanted to get rid of it, and I was so put about that I did not know what I was doing.'

Mr. Noble then addressed the bench on the last three charges. He urged that there was no reason to think that *Albert Withers* did not believe that he had come by the harness honestly. He gave a reasonable explanation, and was entitled to be believed.

Mr. Sharpe, on behalf of Tether, pointed out that he had had an excellent character for 15 years, and the only evidence against him was the statement of William Withers, which was not made in his presence. He submitted that there was not sufficient evidence to commit Tether for trial.

The Bench, after some deliberation, discharged Tether, and committed the other prisoners to take their trial at the next Quarter Sessions.

County Advertiser 21/10/1899

"Worcestershire Quarter Sessions.

George Withers (24), miner, and *Albert Withers* (on bail) were charged with stealing a quantity of harness, value £7, the property of Joseph Beach, on January 2nd; and *Albert Withers* was charged with receiving stolen goods.

There were further charges against the prisoners of breaking into the stable of Charles Envoy Carr and stealing a quantity of harness on May 15th; in respect of harness, the property of William Grainger, on January 13th; and of breaking into the premises of Messrs. Grove, on September 14th. Mr. Marchant prosecuted and Mr. R. Kettle defended the prisoner *Albert*, and Mr. J. B. Mathews defended George.

Albert Withers is the holder of the license of the LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, and the harness was found on his premises. He stated he bought it from the other prisoner, but this was not corroborated, and, by direction of the Chairman, George Withers was discharged. The prisoner *Albert* was found guilty of receiving goods, and was sentenced to three months' hard labour."

County Express 21/7/1900

"On Monday, Mr. *Fletcher*, licensee of the LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, laid a wager that he would sing a song in a lion's den at the African Menagerie in the Hagley Road, Halesowen. The menagerie was visited by a vast number of persons, and hundreds were unable to gain admission. At half-past nine o'clock Mr. *Fletcher* accompanied by a keeper entered the den, in which was a full-grown lion. The animal, it is said, 'growled a low accompaniment,' but made no attempt to interfere. The song Mr. *Fletcher* sang was 'Alice, Where Art Thou?' Wherever 'Alice' was, she did not come forward and offer to enter the lion's den. It was a relief to many present when Mr. *Fletcher* safely emerged from the lion's den, although the dictum that 'Music hath charms to sooth the savage breast,' should have helped sustain them."

1901 Census

High Street (corner with Hagley Street) – LEOPARD INN

[1] *Ellen Jane Arnold* (75), widow, licensed victualler, born Worcester;

[2] Annie Sidaway (4), companion and assistant in public house, born Quarry Bank:

County Advertiser 18/3/1905

"On Thursday evening Mr. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, concerning the death of Eliza Hackett (68), a widow, formerly residing at Gaunt's Yard, Halesowen, who died under singular circumstances on Wednesday. It appeared from the evidence that on the night of the 6th December, the deceased woman was crossing Hagley Street, when she was knocked down by a horse and trap driven by Mr. Harrison, grocer, of Old Hill. The vehicle passed over her body, fracturing several of her ribs. She was attended by Dr. S. T. Phillips, but never wholly recovered from the effects of the accident. She was suddenly taken worse on Wednesday night, and died before medical assistance could be obtained. Dr. Phillips attributed death to heart failure, and considered the accident did not accelerate the woman's death. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday....

Mr. T. Cooksey represented the licensee of the LEOPARD INN, which was also objected to, and, in asking for its renewal, pointed out that it had been in existence for a hundred years, and there had never been within living recollection a conviction against it.

The premises, he contended, were specially adapted for police supervision.

Superintendent Hill said he opposed the license on the ground that it was not required, that the number of licensed houses in the locality was excessive, and that its renewal was not desirable. He also considered the house was not convenient for police super-

vision because it opened into a yard where houses were situated.

The Bench decided to adjourn the consideration of this matter also until February 27th, but directed Superintendent Hill to issue fresh notices of objection.”

County Advertiser 3/3/1906

“Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The magistrates renewed all the licenses objected to, but they wished to point out that as the number was small they did not care to take action this year. They, however, felt that there were much too many houses in the division, and they thought that the suggestion of Mr. Cave should be adopted, and that those connected with the trade should meet and arrange a scheme for surrender of some licenses, to prevent the magistrates taking extreme action.”

County Advertiser 14/7/1906 - Advert

“To Let, LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, small in-going.

Further particulars, apply, Fisher, Summer Hill, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 9/2/1907

“On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.....

The annual report of Superintendent T. W. Hill.....

The LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, had been transferred twice during the twelve months.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/7/1907

“A meeting of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee was held at the Shire Hall, Worcester, yesterday.....

In the matter of the GOLDEN CROSS, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, owned by Frederick William Fisher, licensee Frank Bollus, and of the LEOPARD INN, High Street, Halesowen, Mr. Alfred Homfray appeared for the justices, and Mr. T. Goodman (Messrs. Cooksey and Co. Birmingham) for the parties interested. The objection to the license was on the grounds of redundancy and structural unsuitability. The owners admitted redundancy, and the committee refused both licenses.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/12/1907

“The annual report of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee to be presented to the quarter sessions next week states that at the date of the last report twelve cases had been referred to the Inland Revenue for their decision as to the amount of compensation payable. The total in the twelve cases amounted to £10,304, compared with £6,759 provisionally fixed by the committee.....

In the cases of the GOLDEN CROSS, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, and the LEOPARD, High Street, Halesowen, the parties claimed to have their cases heard in the first instance by the Inland Revenue Commissioners, thus escaping cross-examination of their witnesses; and no evidence being heard on behalf of the justices, the claims obviously obtained a great advantage.”

County Express 16/5/1908 - Advert

“Halesowen. To Brewers, Publicans, and Others.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from Mr. Fisher, to Sell By Auction on Monday, May 25th, 1908, the Whole of the Public-House Fixtures, Fittings, Utensils, Etc, at the GOLDEN CROSS and LEOPARD INNS, comprising Three Superior-made Counters and Three Ale Machines, by the best makers; Twenty-eight Well-made Seats with Back Rails; Bagatelle and other Tables, Smoker and other Chairs, Pianos, Shelves and Mirrors, Measures, about 10 doz. Champagne, Casks, Brass Taps, and many other Lots, as detailed in Catalogues, which can be obtained from the Auctioneer, Halesowen.

The Auctioneer calls special attention to this Sale as most of the Fittings, Machinery, etc, were placed there regardless of cost, and are now being disposed of through the closing of the Houses as licensed premises.

Sale will commence with Lot 1, at the GOLDEN CROSS, Peckingham Street, at 11am.”

LITTLE CHOP HOUSE

74, Windmill Hill, (74, Colley Gate), (Short Cross), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Emanuel Roper

George Henry Stafford

Ansells Ltd. (acquired in 1967)

Little Pub Co. (acquired in 1985) [1993]

Ushers

LICENSEES

William Roper [1833] – [1846]
William Owen [1855]
William Roper [1860] – 1864);
Reuben Harper (1864 – 1873);
Emanuel Roper (1873 – [1874]
Reuben Roper [1876]
Emanuel Roper [1878] – [1881]
Albert Roper [1892]
George Albert Roper [1893] – 1917);
Ellen Roper (1917 – 1921);
Charles Head []
George Henry Stafford (1921 – 1953);
Esther Stafford (1953 – 1967);
Stanley Hingley (1967);
Joan Cleaver (1967 – 1968);
Alan Greenhalgh (1968 – 1969);
Eric George Maynard (1969 – [1970]
Peter Cooper []
John Whitlow []
Barry Atkinson [1994]
Mick Neenan [1999]
Samantha Theobald [2002]
Rob and Sue Morris [2004]
Philip Higgs [2009]

NOTES

It was formerly the WHITE LION

YE OLDE WHITE LION

It was known locally as “Stafford’s”.

It was licensed in the reign of William IV.

It was a stopping place for the Tantivy stagecoach from Stourbridge to Birmingham.

It had a bowling green.

In the early 19th century Colley Gate Methodists met in the club room.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 14/10/1833 - Advert

“Public House and Windmill, at Cradley, Worcestershire.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. Mathews, on Monday the 28th day of October, 1833, at the house of *William Roper*, the WHITE LION, at Cradley, in the County of Worcester, precisely at four o’clock in the afternoon, and subject to such conditions as will then be produced, the following lots of valuable Freehold Property.

Lot I. All that desirable Public House, situate at Cradley aforesaid, adjoining the Turnpike Road leading from Stourbridge through Hales Owen to Birmingham, and known by the sign of the WHITE LION, together with the Barn, Stable, Garden, and Croft of Land adjoining, extending from the said turnpike road to the road leading to Careless Green and Wollescote; and also all that Windmill, standing on the said croft of land, capable of working two pair of stones, and well situate for business.

Lot II. An eligible piece of Building Land, nearly adjoining the last lot, fronting the said turnpike road, and containing 300 square yards or thereabouts.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Vernon and Minshull, Solicitors, Bromsgrove, or to Mr. J. Mathews, Land Agent, Stourbridge.”

William Roper was also a farmer. [1841]

1861 Census

Windmill Hill

[1] *William Roper* (62), farmer, born Cradley;

[2] Ann Roper (63), wife, born Cradley;

[3] John Attwood (14), grandson, farmers boy, born Cradley;

[4] Caroline Attwood (7), granddaughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[5] Louisa Parkes (28), hose servant, born Dudley:

County Advertiser 21/5/1864 - Advert

“Windmill Hill, Colly Gate, Cradley.

Sale of Horses, Pigs, Spring Carts, Farming Implements, Dairy Utensils, Household Furniture, &c.

Sargeant Witton will Sell by Auction, on Monday, May 30th, 1864, at Eleven o'clock in the Morning, Two Young and Powerful Cart Horses, Gilt in Pig, Cut Sow, 22 Store Pigs, Waggons, Carts, Ploughs, Harrows, Two Winnowing Machines, Barley Roll, Ladders, Weighing Machine, Weights, Dog Carts, Sheep Rack, quantity of Hay, Straw, 5 Bags of Potatoes, Dairy Utensils, Two excellent Barrel Churns, Milk Cans, Butter Tub; and also part of the Household Furniture, Four-post and Tent Bedsteads, and Hangings; Clocks, Tables, Chests, Toilet Glasses, Barrels, and other Effects, the property of Mr. *William Roper*, of the WHITE LION INN, Windmill Hill, who is giving up the Farming and Public Business.

Auctioneer's Offices, High Street, Stourbridge, and Church Street, Halesowen.”

Stourbridge Observer 26/11/1864

“On Saturday the 19th instant, an inquest was held at the house of Mr. *Harper*, WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, on the body of a boy, named Matthew Wyer, who died from the injuries he received while playing in a chain shop, on Monday evening the 14th instant. Ralph Docker, Esq, District Coroner, presided.....

Benjamin Boxley was the first witness examined. He said: I knew the deceased. I was with him on Monday evening with some other boys. We were playing at blindman's-buff in my father's chain shop. The deceased climbed upon the bellows to get out of the way of the boy who was blindfolded. This boy having gone near the bellows the deceased sprang off and in doing so he jumped upon an instrument called an iron horse. He immediately called out complaining of his belly. I went to him, and with the aid of his brother lifted him off. He then went from us into the privy, from which he was fetched by his mother.

Sarah Wyer deposed: I am the mother of the deceased. On Monday evening last, I was sent for to go to my boy, whom they said had hurt himself. I went and led him into the house. It was about half past four. I immediately sent for the doctor. His assistant came in about an hour afterwards. He bathed it and said it would soon be well. The wound was between his thighs. The pain having increased, I went myself for the doctor. I was told they would soon attend to my case. No doctor came that evening. On the Tuesday, I sent one of my neighbours, but she was told when she went that she was not the mother of the boy. I sent again that day, but no one came. The boy kept still getting worse. On the Wednesday, my husband went twice for the doctor. Mr. Hodgson was at home when my husband called. They told him that Mr. Hodgson should come immediately. He did not come, but in the evening sent his brother, and while he was examining the wound the boy died.

The coroner said it was plainly proved that the death of the boy was accidental. But did the doctor Mr. Hodgson do his duty in staying away when so repeatedly sent for, and when he was the club doctor to both parents.

The jury thought it would be advisable to have the body opened by some other surgeon, in order to see if the wound was of such a nature that the boy could not have possibly lived if the doctor had come, or whether, if proper attention had been paid to him at once, he would have recovered, or at least have had his life prolonged.

The enquiry was accordingly adjourned, till Saturday the 26th, in order that the body may be examined and reported upon.”

Stourbridge Observer 3/12/1864

“On Saturday last, the inquest which was held on Saturday the 19th, at the house of Mr. *Harper*, and which was adjourned in order that a post mortem examination of the body might be made, was resumed. After a few preliminary remarks by the coroner, Dr. Campbell of Stourbridge was examined. He said, I am a surgeon, and reside at Stourbridge. I saw the body of the deceased. I made an external examination of the body. I found a wound between the legs; it was about one inch long and the edges were ragged. There were no other marks upon the body. Decomposition had already begun about the abdomen. I next opened the body. I found that the iron had penetrated about one inch and a half towards the bowels. From thence it had passed through the cavity of the abdomen and straight through the rectum. I found that the membrane covering the bowels and the bowels themselves, were greatly inflamed. They were glutinated together by an unhealthy lymph, which was caused by the inflammation, and which was the cause of death. The inflammation was certainly the cause of death. All the other organs were in a perfectly healthy state, and they were free from all disease. The wound was of such a kind as may be caused or inflicted by the piece of iron, called a horse. By far the majority of such cases would prove fatal. In this case I do not think there was much probability that the boy would recover. I should say that his recovery would be almost miraculous, or at least very improbable. The recovery in such cases depends on chiefly two things – the natural strength of the patient, and the medical treatment they receive. The way in which I should treat such a case would be to prescribe perfect rest, leeches to stop the inflammation, and I would also give opium to stop the action of the bowels. Such cases require constant medical attention. I should not have attended more than once a day.

By a juryman: I do not think it would have been wise to insert a probe into the wound, because if the iron had not penetrated into the rectum the probe might do so, and would thus prove serious. Again I think that the full extent of the wound could not be possibly found out with the probe, and also that the finger would be better if inserted than the probe to find out the full extent of the upper part of the wound. Such cases usually prove fatal in forty-eight hours. They might be modified by proper medical treatment. I should not think that more than two or three out of every hundred survive who have had similar injuries inflicted. I cannot remember any such case as the present that did not prove fatal.

The coroner in summing up said: It really does seem from the evidence we have heard, that the club doctor, Mr. Hodgson, did not do his duty with regard to the deceased boy, Matthew Wyer. There was a great amount of negligence on the part of Mr. Hodgson, for it seems that he was the paid doctor of Mrs. Wyer, or in other words he was paid by the club of which she was a member. Mr. Hodgson, or at least his assistant ought to have been here, either to have made some explanation, or to have denied the statements made by the witnesses. I think he is greatly to blame in not going himself, or in not sending a proper substitute. That the boy's

death was accelerated by this negligence there is no doubt. The gentlemen here may judge for themselves; if you are convinced that if the doctor had attended the deceased and paid proper attention to him he would have recovered then the only course open to you is to return a verdict of manslaughter against the doctor. But if, on the other hand, you are convinced that the doctor could not have possibly done him any good then you must return a verdict accordingly.

After a little consultation the jury found that the boy died accidentally; and also that in their opinion a great amount of negligence was manifested by Mr. Hodgson towards the deceased, for which he ought to be censured."

AND

"Inquest at Colley Gate. To the Editor of the Observer. Sir. Seeing my name in the Observer of the 26th instant, in connection with the serious and fatal accident at Colley Gate, I beg the favour of explaining my conduct and knowledge of the case. I was instructed to attend an accident at Mr. Samuel Wyer's, Colley Gate, on the 14th instant, and also to attend a woman in labour, at the Two Gates, whose case was said by the messenger to be a very serious one (and had it not been so they would not have sent).

I first went to the house of the since deceased, whose parents told me that their son had fallen on an iron horse in the chain shop, and that the projecting iron which was about an inch long had entered his posterior. I found the boy lying on the bed, and blood passing freely from the lower portion of his body. I bathed the part which seemed affected with water, so as to see the nature and situation of the injury. I found a punctured wound in the fleshy portion of his left thigh. I placed a cold water compress on the wound to prevent more haemorrhage; enjoined perfect rest, and knowing it useless to send any prescription to the surgery, there being no one at home, I ordered a dose of castor oil, and left the case to attend to the confinement.

At night when I returned home and also on the following morning, Dr. Hodgson asked me the nature of the accident. I informed him according to my knowledge of the case at the time, and its history. Since then I learn that the piece of iron which the parents first thought had entered the body (being about an inch long) was broken off and a portion of the upright piece which was of considerable length had entered. The history of the case given me by the parents not being true, caused me to form an incorrect diagnosis, for had the iron been but an inch long, and the external opening situated as it was, it would not have penetrated any vital part. I therefore expressed, not as was stated at the inquest, but a hope that the wound would soon get well.

With all due deference to the surgeon who may have made the post mortem examination, I unhesitatingly assert the absence of peritonitis (inflammation of membrane lining of the abdominal and pelvic cavity) at the time I attended the boy. Had any such inflammation set up, I undoubtedly would have detected it and have treated the case accordingly.

With regard to the repeated messages which are reported, I know nothing further than seeing the father of the boy, on Wednesday, and telling him that Mr. Hodgson would be there immediately. Not having an opportunity of stating my knowledge of the case at the inquest, must be my apology for now troubling you with my statement.

Yours respectfully, J. O'Dowd, Cradley Heath, November 28th, 1864."

County Advertiser 11/3/1865

"Worcester Assizes. Henry Jeston, 31, labourer, was charged with stealing a blue plush waistcoat, the property of *Reuben Harper*, at Halesowen, on the 28th ult. Mr. Griffiths prosecuted.

The prisoner sold the waistcoat to Mr. *Harper*, who keeps the WHITE LION INN, at Halesowen, and afterwards contrived to take possession of it a second time, and carried it off.

He alleged in defence that the sum he received (3s 6d) was a mere loan, and that had he not been 'toxicated' he would not have had anything to do with selling it.

Guilty; one month's imprisonment."

County Advertiser 26/8/1865

"The annual licensing meeting for the Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division was held yesterday.....

The following publicans were cautioned for irregularities in the conduct of their houses during the past year.....

Reuben Harper, WHITE LION, Cradley."

County Express 4/1/1868 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Business Premises and Dwelling House, at Colley Gate, Cradley, Stambermill, and Dudley Wood.

To be Sold by Auction by Mr. W. Hawkins, on Monday, the 20th day of January, 1868, at the house of Mr. Samuel Leonard, MAY POLE INN, Cradley, at six o'clock in the evening subject to Conditions to be then read, in the following or such other lots as may be determined upon at the time of Sale.

Lot. 1. All that Old Licensed Public-House, known as the WHITE LION INN, situate at Colley Gate, consisting of Tap Room, Parlour, Kitchen, Club Room, three Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, Stabling, Sheds, and Outbuildings, with large and productive Garden, the whole bring well supplied with water, containing with the site of the Buildings 800 square yards more or less, in the respective occupation of Mr. *Reuben Harper*....."

Stourbridge Observer 19/2/1870

"*Stevens v Harper*.

At the County Court, on Wednesday last, before F. Dinsdale, Esq, Judge, the above case was heard. The plaintiff lived at Colley Gate, and the bill was filed by plaintiff, who is a publican, against his father-in-law, to compel him to complete the sale of two houses which plaintiff had purchased for £70. Mr. Godson appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Motteram appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Homer and his gardener were called to prove the agreement, and the defendant and his son were called to prove that in addition to the £70 the plaintiff had agreed to provide the defendant, who is an old man, with a living for the rest of his life, and that at

the time the contract was entered into, the defendant was incapable of attending to business. Defendant's son, however, admitted in answer to a question by Mr. Godson, that although defendant was unable and did not know what he was doing when he sold the two houses to plaintiff, yet he was perfectly rational when he sold him the WHITE LION and two other houses two days before. The Judge, at this point, stopped the case, and gave a verdict in favour of plaintiff; but reserved the question of costs until next Court day."

1871 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *Reuben Harper* (47), victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Mary Ann Harper (34), wife, born Caladone [**Caledonia**], Staffordshire;
- [3] Jane Harper (14), daughter, born Caladone, Staffordshire:

A license to sell sweet wines was granted in October 1872.

County Advertiser 17/5/1873 - Advert

"WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Leonard, at the above Inn, on Monday Next, May 19th, 1873, part of the Household Furniture, Public House Fixtures, Gas Fittings, and numerous other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Reuben Harper*, who is leaving the premises. Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock in the Morning."

Reuben Harper moved from here to the DUKE WILLIAM, on 6th May 1873.

County Express 29/8/1874

"The annual licensing meeting for the division of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday....

Reuben Harper, landlord of the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Furlong Lane, Cradley, applied through his wife, for a spirit license. Mr. Holberton opposed on behalf of Mr. Samuel Tait of the BRITISH ARMS INN, and Mr. *Emmanuel Roper*, of the WHITE LION INN.

The application was refused."

County Advertiser 22/1/1876 - Advert

"To Be Seen Alive, at *E. Roper's*, WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, a fine large Pig, weighing upwards of 40 score. Will be killed on Monday, January 24th."

Worcester Journal 24/11/1877

"Cradley Conservative Association. A largely attended meeting of this association was held at the WHITE LION INN, on Tuesday evening last...."

Worcester Journal 11/5/1878

"Cradley Conservative Association. A large and influential meeting of this association was held at Mr. *Roper's*, WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, on Tuesday evening...."

County Advertiser 17/8/1878

"Quoits. Colley Gate v Cradley.

This match was played on Saturday between the Colley Gate WHITE LION and the Cradley Clowns, on the ground of the former...."

[WHITE LION won 84 to 46.]

County Express 16/11/1878

"At the WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, on the 4th inst, a supper was given by Mr. *Emanuel Roper*, in celebration of the marriage of Mr. James Chambers and Miss Ellen *Roper*. After supper the chair was taken by Mr. George W. Deeley. Toasts and songs were given by Messrs. S. Hughes, F. Chambers, J. Blower, J. Cartwright, C. Ironhat, A. Roper, and a large number of friends, and a very sociable evening was spent."

County Express 6/9/1879

"James Tomlinson was charged with having been drunk and disorderly at the OLD WHITE LION INN, on the 27th ult; and further with assaulting *Emanuel Roper*. The defendant was drunk in the complainant's house, and when he was told to leave he refused. The landlord pushed him out, and as he did so defendant kicked him.

The charge of assault was withdrawn on payment of costs by the defendant. On the first charge he was fined 5s and costs."

1881 Census

Windmill Hill (North eastern side)

- [1] *Emmanuel Roper* (48), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Betsy Roper* (50), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Albert Roper* (19), son, farm labourer, born Cradley:

County Express 17/10/1885

“On Thursday night Mr. Miller Corbett, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE LION INN, Cradley, on the body of Benjamin Samuel Burks (4), son of a bricklayer. On the 21st September, whilst the boy’s mother had gone upstairs to see to another child, deceased’s clothes caught fire, and he was so severely burnt that death resulted recently. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

Colley Gate – WHITE LION

- [1] *Elizabeth Roper* (64), widow, licensee, born Dudley;
- [2] *Caroline Roper* (18), grand-daughter, general servant, born Cradley;
- [3] *Florence Chambers* (11), grand-daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] *Sarah Warne* (16), general servant, born Cradley;

County Advertiser 30/1/1892 - Advert

“Colley Gate, Cradley. Important Agricultural Sale.

Mr. S. H. Sidaway has been favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. *Emanuel Roper* to Sell by Auction, at an early date, the whole of the valuable Live and Dead Farming Stock, including 5 Powerful Draught Horses, 5 Capital Milking Cows, about 40 Tons Swedes, 300 Bags Potatoes, 25 Tons Hay, 6 Tons Straw; a General Assortment of Modern Farming Implements, and a portion of the Household Furniture.

Further particulars will appear in future advertisements, and Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 26/3/1892 - Notice

“Re *Emanuel Roper*, Deceased.

Take Notice that all Persons having any Claims or Demands against the Estate of *Emanuel Roper*, late of the WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, Worcestershire are hereby requested to Send Particulars of such Claims to me the undersigned.

Dated this 25th day of March, 1892.

Caleb Roper, For Self and Co., Executors, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 3/6/1893 - Advert

“For Sale, Green Clover, £1 per Ton on the ground, 22s delivered to any reasonable distance.

Apply *G. A. Roper*, WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate.”

County Advertiser 1/6/1895 - Advert

“Wanted a General Servant, from 18 to 20; one used to the Public Business preferred.

Apply, Mrs. *G. A. Roper*, WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 22/2/1896 - Advert

“Wanted a Servant, from 18 to 20; used to public-house preferred.

Apply to Mrs. *G. A. Roper*, WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 9/7/1898 - Advert

“Wanted, a Man, to drive one horse. Good wages to a good man used to farm work.

Apply, *G. A. Roper*, LION INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 18/2/1899 - Advert

“Wanted, a Young Man, used to Horses and Farm Work, from 18 to 20 years of age. Wages, 18s a week.

Apply, *G. A. Roper*, LION INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Express 22/12/1900

“Before Mr. Registrar C. H. Collis.....

A case which caused some amusement was called on, in which Joseph Kirton, Two Gates, Cradley, sued *Albert Roper*, of the WHITE LION, Colley Gate, for £1, damages caused by the defendant’s cows visiting three perches of parsnips.

Kirton, in stating his case informed the Court that the cows spent Bank Holiday in enjoying themselves among his parsnips, and likewise on other days before and since that holiday. He calculated that each perch would produce about 2 cwt of parsnips, which Mr. W. S. Mobberley (who appeared for *Roper*) said worked out at 16 tons per acre. In answer to Mr. Mobberley, plaintiff said parsnips were worth 3s 6d per cwt. A question as to whether cows ate parsnips elicited from Kirton the remark that he didn’t know, ‘but the cows looked well after the feed they had off his parsnips,’ at which the Court had an uncontrollable fit of laughter. For the defence Mr. Mobberley submitted that the damages were excessive – out of all bounds – that the land was not of the dimension described by Kirton, the rent which he paid for the same being but 1d per week, or 4s 4d a year; and he argued it would be impossible for the plaintiff to grow the weight of parsnips stated.

The Registrar said he wished to know from an independent source the market value of the parsnips, and the weight obtainable from three perches of land. A man named Bennett happened to be in Court, and was asked to give evidence, but he said he had nothing to do with the case, and ‘did not want to get into any trouble.’ The Registrar remarked the Court had power to call anyone

who could throw light upon a case.

Bennett was then reluctantly sworn, and he said he put the value of parsnips at 2s 6d. Of course if one had to cultivate the ground, they would be worth more. But parsnips went up and down; he had sold parsnips at 5s per cwt and 2s, and had to give some to the pigs.

Mr. Mobberley interpolated that plaintiff in this case had not dug the ground. It was not possible to get anyone to say the weight of parsnips three perches of land would produce, but in summing up, the Registrar said the weight alleged by plaintiff appeared to be excessive. He gave a verdict for 10s, the defendant to have the parsnips now on the ground, if removed in 14 days."

1901 Census

Windmill Hill

[1] *George A. Roper* (40), publican and farmer, born Cradley;

[2] *Ellen Roper* (39), wife, born Cradley;

[3] *George A. Roper* (16), son, farmer's son, born Cradley;

[4] *Ethel Roper* (14), daughter, born Lye;

[5] *Thomas H. Roper* (12), son, born Cradley;

[6] *John Roper* (10), son, born Cradley;

[7] *Violetta Roper* (6), daughter, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 3/1/1903

"*Edwin Knowles*, Colley Gate, Cradley, was fined 10s and costs for being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the WHITE LION INN, when requested by *Mr. Albert Roper*, the landlord, on the 26th ult."c

County Advertiser 18/7/1903

"*Harry Vernon*, Cox, landlord of the ROUND OF BEEF, Cradley, was summoned for selling ale to a drunken person on the 8th inst. *Mr. J. Walter Clulow* prosecuted, and *Mr. Philip Baker*, Birmingham, defended.

Mr. Clulow stated that on the 8th inst *Police-constable Griffiths* was on duty at Colley Gate, and saw a man named *George Billingham* in a state of drunkenness. He was refused liquors at the WHITE LION INN. About a quarter of an hour later the officer visited defendant's house, where he saw *Billingham* seated at a table, with a glass of ale before him. Defendant came out of the back and said he did not know *Billingham* was in the house. *Miss Watkins*, the barmaid, replied, 'I filled him a glass of ale.' *Griffiths* told the defendant the man must leave, and defendant gave him his money back. *Mrs. Hawkeswood*, the landlady of another public-house at Overend, also refused to supply him. If the man was drunk, it was an offence to serve him even though the landlord did not know he was drunk, and even if his servants did not have an opportunity of knowing his state.

Police-constable Griffiths, *Mrs. Sarah Hawkeswood*, and *Mrs. Ellen Roper*, of the WHITE LION, gave evidence bearing out *Mr. Clulow's* statement.

Mr. Baker said the question was whether *Billingham* was drunk. *Billingham* was an old man, and walked with an unsteady gait. There was nothing to indicate to anyone acquainted with *Billingham* that he was drunk, and the barmaid believed him to be sober. He should call witnesses to this effect. Defendant had acted perfectly straightforward, and it would be a serious thing for him if he was convicted.

Defendant, *Alice Watkins*, *Caleb Knowles*, *Allan Beasley*, and *George Billingham* gave evidence in support of defendant.

The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs.

George Billingham, Overend, Cradley, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk on the premises."

County Advertiser 12/3/1904

"A movement has been recently set on foot for the building of a new place of worship for the Methodist New Connexion Society at Colley Gate, Cradley. The trustees have now succeeded in securing an excellent site for the proposed new building. This is at the top of Windmill Hill, where the WINDMILL INN at one time stood, and where it is said the old windmill stood before it. The society at Colley gate is now one of the most flourishing Non-conformist societies in the district. The work of the Connexion was commenced in a stable at the back of the WHITE LION INN. Subsequently it was removed to a malthouse belonging to *Mr. Thomas Lester*. About half-a-century ago an unpretentious chapel was built, and the work was so flourishing that this was enlarged in 1876, when the late *Mr. Noah Hingley* laid the stone. Then a schoolroom was built which in a comparatively short time underwent a similar process of expansion. Now both chapel and school are too straitened for the growing spiritual needs of the neighbourhood, and it is proposed to build a new chapel on the most modern principles at an early date, and to utilise the present building for Sunday school work. The site, which will have access both from Windmill Hill side and the Two Gates side, is one of the very finest in the parish, and the outward and visible manifestation of spiritual work there will be one 'set on a hill, which cannot be hid.'"

County Advertiser 8/10/1904 - Advert

"Wanted, a General, used to Public-house business; aged about 20.

Apply, *D. A. Roper*, WHITE LION, Colley Gate, Cradley."

County Express 30/7/1910 - Advert

"Corrugated Oval Shed for Sale, 30ft by 10ft wide.

Apply *G. A. Roper*, WHITE LION, Colley Gate, Cradley."

1911 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *George Albert Roper* (50), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Ellen Roper* (49), wife, married 27 years, assisting in the business, born Cradley;
- [3] *George Alfred Roper* (26), widower, farmer's son, working on farm, born Cradley;
- [4] *Ethel Roper* (24) – this entry is crossed out.
- [5] *Thomas Henry Roper* (22), farmer's son, working on farm, born Cradley;
- [6] *John Roper* (20), son, collier – this entry is crossed out.
- [7] *Violetta Roper* (16), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] *William Albert Roper* (1), boarder, born Cradley:

County Express 23/12/1911 - Advert

Good Old Turf for sale; also 25 Tons of King Edward eating Potatoes.
Apply, *G. A. Roper*, WHITE LION, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Express 12/2/1921 - Advert

“Preliminary.

By Order of the Beneficiaries under the will of the late Emanuel Roper. Colley Gate, Cradley, Worcestershire. Cliberry and Phipps will Sell by Auction at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, on Monday, February 25th, 1921, at 7pm in the evening, the Valuable Freehold Home-Brewing Fully Licensed Premises known as the WHITE LION INN, Colley Gate, and the spacious Yard and Extensive Outbuildings belonging thereto, together with the Valuable Goodwill and Possession. To those seeking a really genuine Licensed House, the present opportunity is exceptional. The premises stand prominently on the main Stourbridge-Halesowen Road, in a thickly populated district, and it has been in the occupation of the present owners for many years.”

County Express 19/2/1921 - Advert

“Cliberry and Phipps, F.A.I. have been favoured by the beneficiaries under the will of Emanuel Roper (Deceased) with instructions to sell by auction at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Monday 28th February, 1921 at 6 for 7 o'clock in the evening, and subject to the conditions which will then be produced.

Lot 1. All that excellent old established Freehold Fully Licensed Home-Brewing House known as YE OLDE WHITE LION as now in the occupation of Mrs. *Ellen Roper* and situate at Colley Gate, Cradley, Worcestershire, together with the Valuable Good Will and Possession of the business. The convenient authentication includes Three Bed Rooms, large Club Room (28ft 6in by 14ft 6in), capital Bar with bay window, good Smoke Room, large Tap Room with bay window, Living Room, Larder, Scullery with Furnace and Sink, Three Cellars (drained into main sewer), Brewhouse, with Malt Room over; also the very useful and extensive outbuildings, comprising: Three Stables with Lofts and Granary Stores over, Coachhouse, Chaff House, Two brick-built Piggeries, Two wooden ditto with capital Hayloft over, Two W.C.s and other usual Outoffices, together with the Bowling Green and exceptionally large Yard with double gateway entrance, Town Water and Gas are laid on and the Sanitary arrangements are in good order, the Property being thoroughly well-drained into the main sewers. The purchaser will be required to take the usual Trade Fixtures, Furniture Fittings, Utensils, Brewing Plant, Consumable Stock and Effects at a valuation to be made in the usual way. An inventory of same will be produced at the time of Sale, or, in the meantime, may be inspected at the Auctioneer's Offices. Vacant Possession will be given on completion.”

County Express 31/12/1921

“Dividend Clubs.....

WHITE LION, Cradley. The total contributions and fines from 55 members of this club amounted to £75 16s 3d. A sum of £4 10s was paid out to sick members the total expenses only being £5 17s 6d. A sum of £1 5s 3d was therefore available to each member. Messrs. A. Griffiths and S. H. Bowen audited the accounts; Mr. J. Cox is secretary, and Mr. G. Stafford treasurer. Next night tonight (Saturday).”

Charles Head was a councillor for Hasbury (1927 - 1936), and Alderman of Halesowen (1936 - 1941).

George Stafford married Esther Hodgetts.

He was also a carpenter, joiner, coffin maker and undertaker.

Dudley Chronicle 15/3/1923

“Cross Country.....

On Saturday afternoon an inter club race took place at Cradley between the Dudley branch of Tipton Harriers and the Wollaston branch of Birchfield Harriers. The event caused considerable local interest and there were numerous sightseers in the vicinity of the WHITE LION, Colley Gate, which was used as headquarters for the race.....

Tea was subsequently partaken of at the WHITE LION, the meal being admirably served by Mr. and Mrs. *George Stafford*.”

[The scores were Tipton Harriers 30, Birchfield Harriers 48.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/7/1933

“Although not on such an elaborate scale as in previous years, Saturday's street parade at Cradley which provided the chief attrac-

tion in the final hospital carnival celebrations arouse considerable interest.

What the parade lacked in quantity was made up by its quality, one of the best entries being 'A Doll's Washing Day,' for which *G. Stafford*, a local licensee, and *W. Dainty* were responsible. Mounted on a lorry was a house with a thatched roof and surrounded by a garden in which washing fluttered on a line. The interior of the house was provided with miniature furniture, and the chairs occupied by dolls, while young children sat on the 'lawn.'

The Carnival Queen, Miss Marjorie Bird, and her attendants were the cynosure of all eyes as their 'chariot' proceeded along various thoroughfares, as part of the parade.

The prize winners in the parade competition were as follows.....

Novelties. 1. *G. Stafford* and *W. Dainty*, WHITE LION INN, Cradley (A Doll's Washing Day); 2. *A. G. Tabbs*, Stourbridge Road, Kidderminster (Emergency Ambulance)....."

1939 Register

74, Windmill Hill

[1] *George H. Stafford*, date of birth 26/2/1884, innkeeper, married;

[2] *Esther Stafford*, dob 17/12/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *John P. Stafford*, dob 21/12/1918, plumber, single;

Its name was changed to LITTLE WHITE LION in December 1985.

Sandwell Evening Mail 22/7/1988

"If you fancy a crazy night out then head for Mad O'Rourke's. The genial Irishman with a zany sense of humour has turned drinking in the Black Country into an unforgettable experience. No flock wallpaper or fairy lights in his pubs – just beer, a light-house, a boat and a pie factory!

Wacky Colm O'Rourke has built up a massive cult following throughout the West Midlands among those no longer satisfied with just a quiet pint down at the local. Businessmen, Yuppies and pensioners pack his five public houses throughout the week. They come for the beer, the fun and the famous Desperate Dan Cow Pies! There are no juke boxes or video games, but lots of good music, food and old-fashioned entertainment.

Dublin-born Colm, aged 37, and his wife, Sheena, aged 36, took on pubs abandoned as no-hopers by the bigger breweries, stripped them down and gave them a new lease of life with bizarre themes. There's a six foot model bear waiting to greet you in the LITTLE WHITE LION in Colley Gate, Halesowen, and at the LITTLE DRY DOCK in Netherton, staff serve drinks from a 36ft long narrowboat brought down from Runcorn and installed as the bar. Over in Tipton, Mad O'Rourke's PIE FACTORY is an authentically-reproduced pie works complete with pigs' heads and sawdust on the floor. Colm's Little Pub Company includes two premises outside the Black Country.....

Headquarters for the Little Pub Company is an office in Windmill Hill, Colley Gate, near the WHITE LION. It is also the home of the Manic Hibernian Design Co, at the moment a workshop, but soon to be another busy enterprise. Colm is producing all kinds of ephemera, like tiles, animals' heads, paintings and signwriting found in old pubs but now unavailable."

Mick Neenan was married to *Wendy*.

Its name was changed to LITTLE CHOP HOUSE. [1997]

Halesowen News 23/9/1999

"The brave new owners of a Colley Gate pub have opened a room sealed for nearly a century and put the spirit of a ghost to rest. The ghost at the LITTLE CHOP HOUSE pub is meant to be of a young girl who died of scarlet fever in the room in 1903.

It has not been opened since then and was sealed behind *Mick* and *Wendy Neenan*'s bathroom.

Now due to the extensive refurbishment work at the pub, the room has been opened and is going to be used as a kitchen.

Before the revamp the couple experienced many spooky goings-on, including a constant wind, the doors upstairs not shutting properly, one of the beds dipping down as if someone is sitting on it and footsteps in the bar....."

Samantha Theobald was married to *Antony*.

Rob and *Sue Morris* – see also BLACK HORSE.

[2004]

Its name was changed to CHOP HOUSE. [2007]

Its name reverted to LITTLE CHOP HOUSE [2009]

Philip Higgs was married to *Mandy*.

A Staffordshire bull terrier event was held, on 23rd August 2009, which involved an exhibition and customers bringing along their own dogs.

[This also took place in 2010.]

[2019]

LODGE FORGE

45, New Street, (Butchers Lane), CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Woodall [1841] – [1851]
David Harper [1856] – [1858]
Henry Hipkiss [1860] – [1871]
Emma Hipkiss [] – **1873**;
William Evan Hipkiss (**1873** – [1888]
Mrs. Ann Rebecca Hipkiss [1892] – [1896]
Frank Hipkiss [1895]
John Henry Newbury [1900] – [1901]
Frank Griffiths [1903] – **1910**;

NOTES

It had a malthouse next door.

Benjamin Woodall = Benjamin Woodhall

1841 Census

Lodge Forge , Butchers Lane

- [1] *Benjamin Woodall* (40), iron manufacturer;
- [2] Ann Woodall (35), born Worcestershire;
- [3] Elizabeth Woodall (15), born Worcestershire;
- [4] Lucy Woodall (14);
- [5] George Woodall (10);
- [6] Ann Woodall (8);
- [7] Charles Woodall (6);
- [8] James Woodall (4), born Worcestershire;
- [9] Edward Woodall (1), born Worcestershire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 1/11/1843

“On Monday week, a new lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, M.U., was opened in the village of Cradley, by the officers of the Brierley Hill District. Between forty and fifty highly-respectable individuals were initiated into the mysteries of Odd Fellowship; and at the conclusion of which a procession was formed, preceded by an excellent band, perambulated the village, and at four o’clock the brothers and friends, amounting to nearly a 100, sat down to a most excellent meal at the LODGE FORGE INN, provided by Mr. *Benjamin Woodall*.....”

Benjamin Woodhall was also a manufacturer of iron vices, anvils, butts etc. [1845]

Worcestershire Chronicle 5/7/1848

“Wolverhampton Order of Odd Fellows. On Monday, the 5th inst, the lodge held at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Woodall*, LODGE FORGE INN, repaired to the Wesleyan Chapel, where a sermon was preached by the Rev. W. H. Bakewell. The members afterwards dined together. The catering and serving up of the dinner, &c, reflected great credit to the worthy host, and was done ample justice to by the members and friends.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 1/11/1848

“On Monday last the brethren of the Loyal Adelaide Lodge, M.U., celebrated their fifth anniversary at the LODGE FORGE INN, where an excellent and substantial dinner was served up by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Woodall*, in their usual good style. The chair was ably filled by Brother H. Adams, and the vice-chair by Brother Edwards. The members, numbering about sixty, having done ample justice to the good things set before them, the chairman proceeded to give the usual loyal, lodge, and

patriotic toasts. The evening was spent in a convivial manner, aided by several excellent songs.”

1851 Census

Lodge Forge , Butchers Lane

- [1] *Benjamin Woodall* (51), ironmaster, born Dudley;
- [2] *Ann Woodall* (48), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *George Woodall* (20), son, puddler, born Rowley;
- [4] *Ann Woodall* (18), daughter, at home, born Rowley;
- [5] *Charles Woodall* (15), son, carpenter’s apprentice, born Rowley;
- [6] *James Woodall* (13), son, chainmaker, born Cradley;
- [7] *Edward Woodall* (11), son, home, born Cradley;
- [8] *Benjamin Woodall* (9), son, home, born Cradley;
- [9] *Ellen Woodall* (3) daughter, home, born Cradley;
- [10] *Sarah Leeke* (4), grand-daughter, home, born Cradley:

Morning Chronicle 9/12/1856

“On Tuesday, a deplorable accident occurred at the Lodge Forge, about three miles from Stourbridge, in the parish of Cradley. Close by the forge, a haulier, named *David Harper*, keeps a beer-shop, called the LODGE FORGE INN. The river Stour runs at the rear of the house, and in fact separates the outhouse from it. The two parts of the premises are connected by a low bridge, which has a door in the floor to enable persons to draw water up from the river. On Tuesday, about one o’clock, *Harper*’s daughters, Elizabeth aged seven years, and Hannah aged nine years, went from the house to go over the Stour to the yard, leading another of his children, about a year and a half old. Charles Bridgwater, a man who was sitting in the kitchen, saw the youngest child struggling in the water below the bridge. He rushed out and extricated it, and not being able to see the others, gave an alarm. He carried the infant, which was half dead, to the fire, and was holding it there when Mrs. *Harper*, the mother, caught sight of it, and seeing that it was apparently dead, went into a fit, and for some days remained in a very precarious condition, her sufferings becoming still more intense on finding that the two others were actually drowned. It seems that the trap door had been left open, and all three children had fallen into the water together. *Worcester Herald*”

County Advertiser 20/6/1857

“During Monday night last a serious fire occurred at the stabling attached to the LODGE FORGE INN, which is kept by Mr. *David Harper*. It appears that about one o’clock one of Mr. *Harper*’s waggoners who was in a beastly state of intoxication, took a naked candle into the loft for the purpose of lighting him to put some hay into the horses’ cratch beneath. While doing so he fell down, and the candle ignited the hay and speedily filled the space with smoke. A few moments afterwards another waggoner had occasion to go to the stabling, and smelling something which resembled burnt hay went into the loft to ascertain the cause, and found the man lying asleep on the floor and the fire rapidly spreading. He pulled the man down the steps, and then instantly raised an alarm. A messenger was dispatched for the fire engine kept at Mr. Nock’s, Four Ways, but which from some cause, said to be that there were no men near able to work it, did not arrive. The flames were not extinguished till a large quantity of hay and oats, and the roof of the stable, had been destroyed. The damage is estimated at about £25.”

Brierley Hill Advertiser 27/2/1858

“*David Harper*, beerhouse keeper, of Cradley, was charged by PC Bentley with having his house open before one o’clock on Sunday, the 21st inst. As it was the first offence defendant was only fined 1s with costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1860

“On Friday, the annual licensing meeting was held at the Public Office..... There were eleven applications for new licenses, of which only the three following were granted..... *Henry Hipkiss*, Lodge Forge, Cradley, forgerman and beerhouse keeper.”

1861 Census

Butchers Lane – LODGE FORGE INN

- [1] *Henry Hipkiss* (45), nail iron manufacturer, born Cradley;
- [2] *Sarah Hipkiss* (44), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *William E. Hipkiss* (21), son, puddler, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] *Caleb Hipkiss* (16), son, stocktaker, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] *Charles Shard* (22), servant, carter, born Worcester;
- [6] *Ann Grove* (19), housemaid, born Rowley Regis:

Birmingham Journal 18/5/1861 - Advert

“Re William Parkes, an Insolvent.

Desirable Freehold Property, Cradley, near Stourbridge.

To Be Sold By Auction, at the house of Mr. *Henry Hipkiss*, the LODGE FORGE, Cradley, on Monday, the 27th day of May inst, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced – all that desirable Freehold Old-licensed House, known by the sign of the CROWN INN, together with the Garden and Premises thereto belonging, situate at Light’s Green, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, in the occupation of Mr. Stringer.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Charles W. Collis, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, both of Stourbridge.”

Worcester Journal 13/9/1862 - Marriages

“Sept 1, at Halesowen Church, by the Rev. E. A. Kempson, MA, vicar of Claverdon, *William E.*, eldest son of Mr. *Henry Hipkiss*, Lodge Forge, Cradley, to Ann, third daughter of Mr. William Grove, farmer, Halesowen.”

Henry Hipkiss was also an iron manufacturer. [1864], [1865]

County Advertiser 19/8/1865 - Adverts

“Notice. A Bay Mare, seven years old, fourteen hands high, has Strayed to the Lodge Forge. The owner may have her again by paying the expenses, on application to *Henry Hipkiss*, at the LODGE FORGE.”

AND

“Found, on Sunday evening, the 13th inst, a Bay Mare, about fourteen hands high, seven years old, with a white star on the forehead. The owner may have her again by paying all expenses.

Apply to Mr. *Henry Hipkiss*, LODGE FORGE, Cradley, near Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 30/12/1865

“On Tuesday evening last, Mr. *Henry Hipkiss*, of the LODGE FORGE INN, one of the Church-wardens, entertained the choir of the church to supper at his house. Mr. *Evan Hipkiss* occupied the chair; and a most enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Express 28/9/1867 - Correspondence

“To the Editor of the *County Express*.

Sir. On Thursday, the 19th instant, a horse belonging to Mr. *Henry Hipkiss*, LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley, was run into at the bottom of Quarry Bank, near the WAGGON AND HORSES, by the carelessness of Mr. Burley’s servant, Cradley Heath. The horse, which was very valuable, being worth £39, died in a few hours after the accident. It would be well if drivers would be more careful, and thus avoid accidents which occur so frequent, and are fatal to life and property.

I am, sir, yours truly, *Justicia*.”

County Express 16/1/1869

“On Monday evening last the annual feast was given by Mr. *Hipkiss*, LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley, to the Cradley Church Choir. After the cloth was drawn, Mr. Joseph Hipkiss was called to the chair, and Mr. Hipkiss to the vice chair. A selection of madrigals, glees, trios, duets, and songs were sung by the choir, the healths of the Queen, Bishops and Clergy, the Rev. Mr. Thompson, and Gregg, the Host and Hostess were drunk during the evening after which the choir sang ‘God save the Queen,’ and separated highly delighted with the evening’s entertainment.”

County Express 31/12/1870

“On Saturday evening last, the Cradley Church Choir met at the house of Mr. *Henry Hipkiss*, Lodge Forge, Cradley, to partake of their annual feast. About twenty sat down to good old English fare. After the cloth was drawn Mr. J. P. Harris, schoolmaster, of the national schools, was called to the chair, and Mr. *Evan Hipkiss* to the vice-chair. The usual loyal toasts were given, and the health of the worthy host and hostess coupled with their family was given, and responded to by Mr. *Evan Hipkiss*. A variety of anthems, choruses, and carols were sung by the choir. A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Harris for presiding during the evening, after which the company separated highly delighted with their evening’s entertainment.”

1871 Census

Lodge Forge

- [1] *Henry Hipkiss* (55), iron manufacturer, born Cradley;
- [2] Sarah Hipkiss (54), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Sariah Hipkiss (80), mother, widow, born Tarbeck, Worcestershire;
- [4] Sarah Oliver (18), niece, born Tividale;
- [5] Eliza Hipkiss (17), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 16/8/1873 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District of Stourbridge, in the County of Worcester, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *William Evan Hipkiss*, now residing at the LODGE FORGE, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and for six months last past having resided at the LODGE FORGE, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the next General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Public Office, in the Township of Stourbridge, in the said County, on the 29th day of August next ensuing, for the removal of a License now held by me to Sell Exciseable Liquors at the LODGE FORGE, to more commodious Premises situate at the corner of New Street, Cradley, my property, and now in my occupation, and which said House and Premises I intend to keep as an Inn, Alehouse, and Victualling House.

Given under my hand this 16th day of July, 1873.

William Evan Hipkiss.”

Stourbridge Observer 30/8/1873

“.....*William Evan Hipkiss*, LODGE FORGE, applied for the removal of a license from the present house occupied by his father, to another house near Applicant’s father lived in the old house who did not wish to leave it, and that the license be transferred to another.

Mr. S. Leonard proved that the house was worth £18 per year, and that the plan produced was correct. Postponed until the adjourned meeting.”

AND

County Advertiser 30/8/1873

“The Annual Licensing Sessions for Stourbridge district were held yesterday, at the Public Office.....

William G. Hipkiss, Cradley, made an application to have an old license transferred from one house to another. Mr. Perry appeared to support the application. The applicant’s father had kept a house, and was retiring from business. He was, however, intending to convert the house into a dwelling-house, and give up the business to his son, who had built the house to which the license was asked to be transferred. Mr. S. Leonard gave evidence that the house was worth £18 a year, and produced plans of it. The Bench thought the house very small for its purpose, and adjourned the application to the adjourned licensing day, intimating that they would in the meantime appoint a surveyor to estimate the value of the premises.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1873

“The adjourned annual licensing session for the Stourbridge district was held on Tuesday at the Public Offices.....

Mr. Perry made an application for a license to be removed from one house to another on behalf of Mr. *E. Hipkiss*, of the LODGE FORGE, Cradley. This application had been adjourned for the magistrates to satisfy themselves as to the value of the house. The rateable value was £15 6s 8d a year.

Mr. H. King, land agent, was called, and stated that he had inspected the premises by order of the deputy clerk, and he considered them worth £19 a year’s rent.

The application was granted.”

County Express 28/8/1875

“On Tuesday last, an excellent supper was provided at the house of Mr. *Evan Hipkiss*, LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley, the occasion being the coming of age of Mr. Frank Hipkiss, of Ragmill Forge, Overend. Ample justice was done to the good things provided by the host and hostess, and after the cloth had been removed, Mr. A. Evans was appointed chairman. The usual loyal toasts followed, the health of Mr. Frank Hipkiss being drunk with much enthusiasm. Several songs and recitations were well rendered by several of the company present. A vote of thanks to the host and hostess, and chairman, brought a very pleasant evening to a close.”

County Express 2/3/1878

“Cradley Conservative Association. A meeting of this association was held at the house of Mr. *Evan Hipkiss*, LODGE FORGE INN, on Tuesday evening last.....”

County Advertiser 24/5/1879

“The inquest on the young woman, Emily Bridgwater, the circumstances of whose death were recently reported in the *Advertiser*, was resumed on Monday, at the LODGE FORGE INN, by Mr. R. Docker. The certificate of Dr. Swete, Worcester county analyst, agreed with the evidence of the surgeon who made the post mortem examination, viz, that death was caused by some poisonous substance deceased had taken to procure an abortion. The jury though the girl was temporarily insane when she took the poison, and returned a verdict to that effect.”

London Gazette 16/1/1880

“Notice is hereby given, that the Partnership which has for some time past been carried on by *Henry Hipkiss* and *William Evan Hipkiss*, in the trade or business of Brick Manufacturers, at the Lodge Forge, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, under the style or firm of Henry Hipkiss and Son, was this day dissolved by mutual consent. The said *William Evan Hipkiss* will receive and pay all debts and moneys due and owing to and from the said partnership, and the said business will henceforth be carried out by the said *William Evan Hipkiss* alone.

As witness the hands of the parties this 8th day of January, 1880.

Henry Hipkiss.

William Evan Hipkiss.”

1881 Census

45, New Street

- [1] *William E. Hipkiss* (41), publican, born Rowley;
- [2] *A. R. Grove Hipkiss* (39), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Frank Hipkiss* (17), son, born Cradley;
- [4] *Laura Hipkiss* (13), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] *Caroline Hipkiss* (19), domestic servant, born Cradley;
- [6] *James Coley* (40), visitor, born Rowley:

County Express 30/7/1881 - Deaths

“On the 22nd inst, after a lingering illness, aged 66 years, Mr. *Henry Hipkiss*, of the LODGE FORGE, Cradley; much respected.”

William Evan Hipkiss was also a brickmaker and ironforger. [1884], [1888]

1891 Census

New Street – LODGE FORGE INN

- [1] *Ann R. N. G. Hipkiss* (49), widow, innkeeper, born Blackheath;
- [2] *Frank Hipkiss* (27), son, iron brick manufacturer, born Cradley;
- [3] *Laura Hipkiss* (23), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Lavinia Webston* (14), domestic servant, born Hasbury:

County Advertiser 30/11/1895

“*Frank Hipkiss*, landlord of the LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley, was charged on five summonses with feloniously receiving from five boys, the property of Messrs. G. Allan and others. Mr. Waldron said he was instructed to defend, but asked for an adjournment, as some correspondence, which needed careful perusal, had been put in his hands a short time before, and he had not had an opportunity of examining it. The cases were adjourned for a fortnight.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/12/1895

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Frank Hipkiss*, LODGE FORGE, Cradley, was charged with receiving a quantity of scrap iron, value 30s, the property of George Allan and others, knowing it to have been stolen. Mr. Shakespeare prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended. Mr. Shakespeare explained that prosecutors worked the furnaces at the New British Iron Company at Corngreaves, Cradley Heath. The charges, five different offences, arose out of some convictions which took place about a month ago, in which some boys were brought before the magistrates for stealing iron off a slag mound connected with prosecutors’ works. The iron was sold to defendant, who owned a foundry a short distance from the mound. Mr. Waldron contended that defendant did not receive the iron with a guilty knowledge. Although the practice of picking iron from the mound had been going on for a period of thirty years, the defendant was quite willing to undertake in the future to purchase any pickings from prosecutors’ mound. On this understanding the case was withdrawn, the defendant paying costs, £8 8s.”

County Advertiser 18/11/1899 - Advert

“Monday Next, November 20th.

LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley.

A. H. Sidaway is instructed to Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, November 20th, 1899.

Brewing Plant and Household Furniture, comprising Mash Tub, Two Vats, Collecting Tubs, 60-gallon and 18-gallon Casks, Tables and Trestles, Deal Forms, Chests of Drawers, Screen, Chairs, Night Chair, Tables, Odd Dinner Ware, and numerous other Effects. Sale will commence at 2.30 in the Afternoon.

Auctioneers Offices: High Street, Cradley Heath.”

County Express 10/11/1900

“*John Henry Newbury*, landlord of the LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises and also with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person on October 29th. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Mellor defended. Police-constables Allen and Dyson visited the house at a quarter to ten, and said they saw a man named Cox, leaning on a table, very drunk. Cox was so drunk that he had to be taken to the station and detained. Police-constable Dyson and Police-sergeant Clarke also gave evidence.

For the defence Mr. Mellor urged that defendant had been in the house only since August. On this night he had been upset by the sudden illness of his wife, and his supervision was not what it should have been. He suggested a light penalty would meet the case.

Defendant was fined £4 including costs and solicitor’s fee on the first charge only. No conviction in the second.”

AND

“*William Cox*, of Cradley was charged with being drunk, and further assaulting the police-constables Allen and Dyson, on the same date. He was fined 10s and costs on the first charge, and £1 including costs on the second.”

1901 Census

New Street – LODGE FORGE INN

- [1] *John H. Newbury* (24), licensed victualler, and terra cotta presser, born Dudley;
- [2] *Matilda Newbury* (24), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] *Hubert Newbury* (1), son, born Old Hill;
- [4] *Annie Rock* (17), general domestic servant, born Netherton:

County Advertiser 24/8/1901

“The annual Licensing Sessions of the Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division were held yesterday.....

Superintendent Pugh presented his annual report.....

During the year 5 licensed victuallers and 2 beer-house keepers were convicted.....

John Henry Newbury, LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley, permitting drunkenness, £4 including costs; also not having his name painted on his premises, 10s and costs license renewed after being warned as to how the house must be conducted.”

County Advertiser 5/1/1907

“Sick and Draw Clubs. The annual dinner of the club held at the LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley, was celebrated on Saturday, the 22nd ult, when a good number of members thoroughly enjoyed the excellent repast provided by Mr. and Mrs. *F. Griffiths*. After dinner Mr. Albert Head occupied the chair, and congratulated the members upon a successful year’s work, announcing a satisfactory dividend of 17s 7d per member. Songs by the members, together with the usual votes of thanks, concluded a very enjoyable evening. It was decided to restart the club last Monday.”

County Express 16/5/1908

“At the LODGE FORGE INN a complimentary dinner was recently given by the landlord (Mr. *Frank Griffiths*) in connection with the sick and draw club. After an enjoyable dinner a capital entertainment was provided. Songs were rendered by Messrs. H. Homer, J. Homer, J. Timmins, and others, and Mr. Ambrose James gave an excellent rendering of the recitation, ‘Kissing Cup’s Race’.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter’s Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

Black Country Bugle

‘Old Cradley Malshouses’ - Letter from J. Taylor, Cradley

“I think there were seven [malshouses] in all, one I can’t for certain recall to mind, it may have been at the bottom of New Street, Cradley next to the LODGE FORGE pub, kept by *Frank Griffiths*, who, after it was closed around 1910-1912 went to keep the BRITISH ARMS, Furlong Lane.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/12/1909

“Mr. J. Willis Bund presided on Saturday at a meeting of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee which was held to consider claims in respect of licences which have been refused.....

In the cases of LODGE FORGE, Cradley they heard representations as to who were entitled to claim compensation, and the cases were then adjourned to another meeting yet to be fixed.”

County Express 18/6/1910

“At Saturday’s meeting of Worcestershire Licensing Committee, Mr. J. W. Willis Bund presiding, several cases in which the enquiry into claims for compensation in respect of various houses was adjourned from last December now came on for consideration.....

In the case of the LODGE FORGE, Cradley, the committee were asked to approve of the sum of £900 as compensation. Mr. Elcock, who appeared for the claimant, brought evidence to show that the value as a public house was £1,200, and as a non-licensed house £150. The depreciation of fixtures represented the sum of £40. Award £900.

Mr. H. N. Collis appeared on behalf of the Brierley Hill Incorporated Building Society.....

In announcing the Committee’s approval, the Chairman said they had considerable difficulty with the cases, for the houses were stated to be worth a great deal more than the claims showed them to be. He read an authority on the question of reporting public houses, and said that these matters had to be investigated very carefully in order to see that the reductions made were really bona fides. The committee, however, thought they could approve of these cases.”

It was closed on the grounds of redundancy on 5th August 1910.

County Express 11/2/1911

“At the annual licensing session for the Stourbridge petty sessional division, held at Stourbridge yesterday The Clerk (Mr. Wickham King) read the report of Supt. Hinde.....

Since the last Brewster Sessions three houses, LODGE FORGE INN (Cradley), OLD VINE INN (Cradley), and ROCK TAVERN (Stourbridge) had been closed by compensation.”

County Express 9/12/1911 - Advert

“On Monday Next. Netherton and Cradley. Monday, December 11th, 1911.

Humphries, Slater & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, on the above date at 7.30 o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale to be then read.....

Lot 2. A Commodious Freehold Double-fronted Dwelling House and Premises, occupying a Corner position, fronting New Street

and Lodge Forge Road, Cradley, in the occupation of Richard Fowles, and until recently known as the LODGE FORGE INN. The Accommodation includes Two Sitting Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, Three Bed Rooms, large Club Room, Stable, with Loft over, Warehouse, Yard and Side Entrance.

This is an exceptionally roomy and well-built Property, situated in a good letting district, and is worthy of the attention of Investors. It is centrally situated, being close to several large Works, within a few minutes' walk of the Trams and Cradley Heath Station, and would be a suitable premises for a Haulier, Dealer, etc....."

County Express 16/12/1911

"A sale of property was held at the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley Heath, on Monday, a good company being present. Lot 1 comprised the premises formerly known as the OLD CROWN INN, Halesowen Road, Netherton; lot 2 the dwelling house known as the LODGE FORGE INN, Cradley. Both the properties were sold at prices satisfactory to the vendors. The solicitors were Messrs. Homfray, Holberton, and Mellor, Brierley Hill, and Messrs Whetstone and Frost, Leicester; auctioneer, Mr. R. Glanville Slater (of the firm Humphries, Slater, and Co. Brierley Hill)."

Black Country Bugle

'Bailey's Yard' - Letter from A. Head, Cradley Heath

"I remember him [Ernie Bailey] quite well, for during the depression of the thirties he lived in the clubroom of the delicensed LODGE FORGE INN at the bottom of New Street, Cradley.

His hobby was cycle racing, and he owned a very nice racing cycle at that time.

Underneath the clubroom where he lived with his wife and daughter, there was a large workshop where he used to sell all kinds of cycles....."

LOYAL LODGE (OF FREE GIVERS)

15, Furnace Hill, (Furnace), (Hawn), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

William Oliver and Sons Ltd.

Thomas Plant and Co. Ltd.

Ansells Ltd.

Holt, Plant and Deakin

Allied Domecq

Punch Taverns [2016]

LICENSEES

Reuben Parsons [1835]

Samuel Parsons [1846] – **1866**;

Reuben Parsons (**1866 – 1874**);

Reuben Bate (**1874 – []**)

Mrs. Harriet Bate [1874] – **1876**;

Thomas Williams (**1876 – 1879**);

Richard Cooper (**1879 – [1891]**)

William Butler []

Harriet Williams [1896]

Harry Letts [1900]

William Browning [1901] – **1904**;

Henry 'Harry' Hampton (**1904 – [1911]**)

Charles Croxton (**1911 – []**)

George Armitage []

Thomas Holloway [1912] – [1913]

William Powell [1916] – [1921]

George A. Hadley [1934]

Cyril O'Rourke [1939]

W R 'Bob' Butler [1960s]

John Whitlow (**1988 – [1993]**)

Bonser [2000]

Chad and Sarah Hudson [2016]

Chad Hudson [2018]

NOTES

Hawn [1865]

ROYAL LODGE OF FREEGIVERS [1835], [1846]
LOYAL LODGE OF FREE GIVERS [1849], [1873], [1896]
FREE GIVERS ARMS [1864], [1876]
FREE GIVERS [1865]
LOYAL LODGE [1912], [1993], [2000]

Grade II listed

Black Country Bugle (1983)

Pub Of The Month - The LOYAL LODGE OF FREE GIVERS

“....The movement [Freemasons] flourished, becoming a lodge of the Grand Institute of Masons. In 1736 a headquarters was built at the bottom of Furnace Hill and christened The Loyal Lodge of Freegivers The order flourished for more than a hundred years from its Furnace Hill headquarters but was disbanded in the early 1850s and the LOYAL LODGE then became a public house.”

1851 Census

Furnace – Public House

- [1] *Samuel Parsons* (49), unmarried, publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Anne Bate* (20), niece, housekeeper, born Hayseech;
- [3] *Samuel Bate* (26), nephew, forgerman, born Hill;
- [4] *Reuben Parsons* (38), brother, married, farm labourer, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Joseph Parsons* (14), nephew, errand boy, born Birkenhead:

1861 Census

Furnace

- [1] *Samuel Parsons* (58), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Hawn;
- [2] *Eliza Harris* (60), sister, housekeeper, born Hawn:

Samuel Parsons, beer retailer and grocer, Furnace. [1864]
Samuel Parsons, FREE GIVERS and grocer, Hawn. [1865]
Samuel Parsons, beer retailer, Furnace. [1865]
He died in 1866.

Worcester Journal 22/12/1866

“The following license was transferred.....

ROYAL [sic] LODGE, The Furnace, township of Hawn, from *Samuel Parsons* (deceased) to *Reuben Parsons*.”

1871 Census

Furnace Hill

- [1] *Ruben Parsons* (58), innkeeper, born Hawn;
- [2] *Eliza Harris* (70), sister, housekeeper, born Hawn:

County Advertiser 28/6/1873 - Advert

“LOYAL LODGE OF FREEGIVERS INN, The Furnace, near Halesowen. Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, and Effects, consisting of seven Hogshead, four Half-hogshead and other Casks, Old and Fresh Ale, Mash Tub, Gathering Tub, 100-gallon Copper Boiler, Oak Dresser, two Eight-day Clocks, in Oak cases, 30 hour ditto, Oak and Painted Cupboards, Lot of Ware, 3-pull Beer Machine and Piping, Mahogany Horsehair-seated Sofa, Mahogany Horsehair-seated Windsor and other Chairs, Mahogany two-leaf Table, three Oak ditto, Mahogany Chest of Drawers, Mahogany Bureau, two sets of four-post Bedsteads and Furniture, Feather Beds, Mattresses, Blankets, Sheets and other Articles, Which Will Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Leonard, at the above Inn, on Tuesday next, July 1st, 1873.

Sale to commence at eleven o'clock in the morning.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertise 2/8/1873 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Properties, with the Mines and Minerals Thereunder, situate at The Furnace, near Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, on Tuesday, the 2nd day of September, 1873, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced, the under-mentioned valuable Freehold Properties, with the whole of the Mines and Mineral thereunder, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.

Lot 1. All that Valuable, well-accustomed, Old-licensed Public House and Premises, known as the LOYAL LODGE OF FREE GIVERS INN, situate at The Furnace, near Halesowen, aforesaid, containing, Kitchen, Shop, Three Bedrooms, large Club Room with room over, Brewhouse, Pantry, Three Cellars, Stables, Garden, and other appurtenances thereto, now in the occupation of *Reuben Parsons*. Also that Dwelling House adjoining, in the occupation of Joseph Nock, the whole of which contain an area of 750 Square Yards or thereabouts.....”

County Express 8/8/1874

“William Whitley a young man was charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the ROYAL [sic] FREE GIVERS INN, at the Furnace, on the 24th ult. Mrs. *Bate*, the landlady, said the defendant was in her house about eight o'clock on the night of the day in question. He was rather fresh and wanted to fight someone. She attempted to put him out but he would not go. He was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

1881 Census

Furnace Hill

- [1] *Richard Cooper* (55), inn keeper, born Kings Norton;
- [2] *Hannah Cooper* (51), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] *Hannah Cooper* (19), daughter, born Rowley;
- [4] *Charlotte Cooper* (13), daughter, born Netherton;
- [5] *Martha A. Cooper* (10), daughter, born Netherton;
- [6] *Richard Cooper* (10), nephew, born Netherton:

Worcestershire Chronicle 16/2/1884

“Mr. Docker, Coroner, held an inquest on Tuesday at the ROYAL [sic] LODGE OF FREE GIVERS INN, Furnace Hill, on the body of *Thomas Gibbons*, abut 70 years of age, who was found dead in the river Stour. The deceased came from Birmingham to Halesowen on Friday, and on the same evening he visited a public-house, was not seen again until some boys found his body lying in shallow water on Saturday morning. Dr. Kerr stated that he was of opinion that death was not due to drowning, but either to heart disease or dropsy. The jury returned a verdict of Found Dead.”

1891 Census

Furnace Hill

- [1] *Richard Cooper* (65), licensed victualler, born Rubery;
- [2] *Hannah Cooper* (60), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] *Charlotte Cooper* (23), daughter, born Netherton;
- [4] *Martha A. Cooper* (20), daughter, born Netherton:

County Advertiser 5/1/1895

“An inquest was held on Wednesday afternoon at the LOYAL LODGE OF FREE GIVERS, Furnace Hill, before Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner), touching the death of *Alice Walker*, aged four years, daughter of *Edward Walker*, of Furnace Hill. Mrs. Walker, the deceased's mother, deposed that the child was taken ill on Saturday last, and she thought it was from a cold, for which she gave deceased medicine and kept her in the house all day. The child appeared in better health on Sunday, but in the afternoon grew worse, and her husband went for Dr. Beasley at Rowley, who was her club doctor, but did not inform him that there was any imminent danger. The doctor sent medicine, and promised to see the child on the following day. At two a.m. on Monday morning the child grew considerably worse, and Dr. Arkwright was immediately sent for, but when he arrived the child was dead. Dr. Arkwright gave evidence to the effect that the child died from croup. The Jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

County Advertiser 5/5/1900 - Advert

“Monday May 7th, 1900. LOYAL LODGE INN, Furnace Hill, Halesowen.

Mr. W. Hackett will Sell by Auction, on Monday, May 7th, 1900, upon the Premises as above, the whole of the Brewing plant, &c, comprising Two Brewing Boilers, Doors and Bars, Oval Mash Tub, Two nearly new Vats, nearly new Collecting Square, Hogsheads and Half-hogsheads, Casks (all clean and sweet), Banjo, Wort Spout, Mash Rule, Hydrometer, and Saccharometer, in Mahogany Case; and numerous other Effects.

On View Day of Sale.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock.

Auctioneer's Offices: Church Street, Oldbury.”

County Express 8/9/1900

“Another inquest was held by Mr. E. Docker on Tuesday at the LOYAL LODGE INN, Furnace Hill, touching the death of *Joseph Priest* (48), who died suddenly in that house on Saturday. From the evidence it appeared that deceased, who was employed by the landlord, Mr. *Letts*, rose early on Saturday and went about his work as usual. Between 10 and 11, however, he complained of feeling unwell, and the landlord and another man placed him in a chair, and gave him some brandy, and commenced to bathe his forehead and hands. He expired almost immediately afterwards. Dr. Arkwright made a post-mortem examination, and attributed death to heart disease. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

County Express 29/9/1900

“Thomas Thompson, of no fixed abode, was charged with stealing £3 12s, a pocket knife, and a quantity of cigars, the property of *Harry Letts*, of the LOYAL LODGE INN, Furnace Hill.

The complainant said the prisoner came to work for him on the 8th inst, and on the 17th witness sent him to put over £9 in the cash box upstairs. He also lent the prisoner his pocket knife. The next morning he missed £3 12s from the cash box, a quantity of cigars, and his pocket knife.

David Withers, a wagoner, said about 7.45 on the 18th, he and another man were going up Haden Hill, when prisoner asked for a lift. Prisoner treated them to a drink, and gave them two cigars each. He also showed them a quantity of money between £5 and £6, as nearly as witness could say. They took the prisoner to Old Hill Railway Station, as he said he was going to Smethwick, and witness did not see him again.

Police-sergeant Pass said he went in search of the prisoner, and received him into custody from the Stourbridge police. After having read the warrant to him, prisoner said, ‘I know where the money is; I have spent it.’ Prisoner said he took two sovereigns, three half-sovereigns, a shilling, and a shilling’s worth of coppers. At the top of the cash box was a lot of silver, and he took the gold from under it. He took about forty cigars. He also said, ‘*Letts* thought he had an honest chap, but he was mistaken.’ Prisoner was committed to the Quarter Sessions.”

AND

Worcestershire Chronicle 29/9/1900

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen, Thomas Thompson, a potman, was committed for trial on a charge of stealing £3 12s and a box of cigars, the property of *Harry Letts*, landlord of the LOYAL LODGE INN, The Hawne. It was alleged that the prisoner drugged the landlord, took the money and cigars, and afterwards spent the money in having a spree at Malvern. He returned to Kingswinford Workhouse in a destitute state, and was arrested.”

[At the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions Thomas Thompson pleaded guilty and was sentenced to 15 months’ hard labour.]

1901 Census

Furnace Hill

[1] *William Browning* (29), manager of public house, born Micheldever, Hampshire;

[2] Ann E. Browning (43), wife, manageress of public house, born Wednesbury;

[3] Charles P. Carter (16), son, cabinet maker, born Micheldever, Hampshire;

[4] Herbert Browning (2), son, born Old Hill;

[5] Samuel Bate (37), brother-in-law, foreman, tube works, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 7/12/1901

“On Tuesday morning an inquest was held at the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill, Halesowen, by Mr. E. Docker (coroner), respecting the death of Simeon Cox (60), gun barrel maker, formerly residing at Colley Gate, Cradley, who committed suicide by jumping down the Old Hawne Colliery, now used as a pumping station, on Saturday afternoon. Mr. F. T. Goodman appeared for the Mines Drainage Commissioners, and Mr. Jackson, the manager of the colliery was also present.

Louisa Cornock, of Colley Gate, stated that deceased was her brother. He had been unable to attend his employment owing to failing eyesight. During the past fortnight he had been very depressed and quiet. He had never threatened to commit suicide. He left home on Saturday morning last, stating that he was going for a short walk.

Robert Jones, and engine-winder at the colliery, stated that shortly before eleven o’clock on Saturday morning, deceased came to him, and commenced to talk to him. This was about twenty yards from the pit shaft and witness, who went to the pumping station, saw deceased go in the direction of the shaft. The pit was in daily use, and was securely fenced, in fact, it was doubly fenced by doors, and it would be impossible for anyone to fall down accidentally. To get down it would be necessary for anyone to climb over the fence. When talking to witness deceased asked him what depth the pit was.

Isaiah Montgomery, another employed at the Colliery, deposed to seeing deceased talking to Jones and afterwards he went in the direction of the shaft. Witness’s attention was called to another direction, when he turned round again he saw the coat tails of the deceased disappearing down the pit shaft. There was an oscillation of the ropes, and witness supposed that deceased had jumped down the shaft. He at once gave orders for the tank to be drawn up, and a portion of deceased’s overcoat was found in the filling barrel of the tank.

Harry Holden, a miner employed at the Witley Colliery, deposed to descending the shaft in company with two other men named George Bird and Edward Guest, and to discovering the dead body of the deceased at the bottom, in about 18ft of water. The depth of the pit was 260 yards. He brought the body of deceased to the pit mouth.

Police-sergeant Pass stated that he removed the body to the LOYAL LODGE INN. He searched it, but found nothing to throw any light upon the affair. He afterwards made inquiries at Cradley, and found that deceased had appeared rather strange in his manner for the last two or three weeks. He seemed to make a trouble over his failing eyesight. He visited the colliery and found the pit shaft was securely fenced, and it was absolutely impossible for anyone to fall down accidentally. He also found that some dirt had been rubbed off a door, which he supposed had been done by deceased climbing over the fence. The fence was 3ft 10in high. Deceased would be on trespass unless he had some business at the colliery.

Dr. Arkwright said he had examined the body, and found that deceased had sustained shocking injuries. His back was broken, both legs and one of his thighs fractured, whilst almost all his ribs broken, and there were a large number of cuts and bruises on his head. The injuries were such as to cause instantaneous death.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind.”

County Express 7/6/1902

“Joseph Bateman, of Tump Road, Blackheath, a powerfully built young man, was charged with being disorderly on the licensed premises of the LOYAL LODGE INN, Hawne, and refusing to quit when requested; with assaulting the landlord, *William Brown-ing*; and further with assaulting PC Kings on May 20th.

The landlord told the Bench that on the night in question the defendant went to his house, and after being served with drink began to use bad language. He was ordered to leave, but refused to go, and witness had eventually to eject him. As soon as defendant got outside he struck witness in the neck, and knocked him against a wall. Witness sent for the police, and as soon as PC Kings arrived the defendant threatened him, and followed this up by assaulting him.

PC Kings stated that when he arrived at the house he found Bateman punching the landlord. As soon as defendant saw witness he said to him, ‘You have got to have the same before you lock me up. As soon as I get out of this I will put a brick in the back of your neck and settle you.’ Defendant followed up this with assaulting witness, who had to get assistance to take him to the station. Defendant was fined 5s and costs, or seven days imprisonment for refusing to quit; 20s and costs or a month for assaulting the landlord; and 40s and costs or a month for assaulting the police. The fines and costs amounted to £4.”

County Advertiser 5/5/1906

“On Tuesday night Mr. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner), held an inquest at the LOYAL LODGE INN, Furnace Hill, Halesowen, respecting the death of Harold Stanley Hampton, aged three years, the son of *Henry Hampton*, landlord of the public-house, who died on the 30th ult, from the effects of shocking burns on the previous day. It appeared from the evidence that during the temporary absence of the father and mother the child wandered into the tap room of the house. Screams were heard, and the child was found enveloped in flames by the mother and two sisters, all of whom were burnt in extinguishing the flames. Deceased was severely burnt, and, though Dr. Young was called in, he expired the following night. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and expressed sympathy with the parents in their sad bereavement.”

County Express 31/10/1908

“On Monday Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the ROYAL [sic] LODGE INN, Furnace Hill, Halesowen, concerning the death of Henry Skett (48), pikeman, Haden Hill, Halesowen, who was killed at the New Hawne Colliery, Halesowen, belonging to Messrs. Shelah Garratt and Son, yesterday week. Mr. Felton, Government inspector of mines, was present, Mr. J. Whitmore Garratt watched the proceedings on behalf of the firm, Mr. T. H. Duffield for the insurance company, and Mr. G. T. S. Plant of the Miners’ Protection Society.

The Deputy Coroner explained that the Government inspector had visited the scene of the accident, and discovered a fault at the back of the stone which fell. It was not easily discernible, and they would not find it unless they were on the look out for it.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and Mr. Garratt, on behalf of the firm, expressed deep sympathy with the relatives in their sad bereavement.

On Wednesday the remains of the late Mr. Henry Skitt were interred at Rowley churchyard in the presence of a large assembly. Prior to the interment a service was held in the Tabernacle chapel which was conducted by the Rev. L. J. Harvey.....”

On 22nd June 1910 an inquest was held here on Joseph Sidaway, aged 16, who drowned whilst bathing in the canal, verdict Accidental Death. Philip Crump died trying to rescue him.

Birmingham Mail 28/3/1911

“At Hales Owen Police Court, today, *Henry Hampton*, licensee of the LOYAL LODGE INN, Furnace Hill, was summoned for keeping a dog without a license. It was stated the defendant was fined for keeping a dog without a license a week ago, and he was then informed that he must take out the license. Defendant neglected to do so until after Police-sergeant Hemming visited the premises. Defendant pleaded he was under the impression a day would not make much difference. The Bench fined defendant 25s and costs.”

1911 Census

Furnace Hill

[1] *Henry Hampton* (57), publican, born Cradley Heath;

[2] Elizabeth Hampton (49), wife, married 1 year, assisting in business, born Smethwick;

[3] Gladys Hampton (18), daughter, assisting in business, born Cradley Heath:

County Express 9/9/1911 - Advert

“Short Notice Of Sale.

LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill, Hawne, Halesowen.

Alfred Hill had been instructed by Mr. *Harry Hampton*, who is leaving, to Sell By Public Auction, on the Premises as above, on Monday Next, the 11th September, 1911, a large quantity of Household Furniture and Effects, among which is a capital Pianoforte, by Squires of London; Mahogany Bookcase, walnut Centre Table, Feather Beds, etc, etc.

Sale to commence at 2 o’clock sharp.

Auctioneers Office: Halesowen.”

Bromsgrove Messenger 8/3/1913

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.

The licenses adjourned from the annual licensing meeting were all renewed, viz.....

[Thomas Holloway, LOYAL LODGE, Hawne.....](#)

[Superintendent Rudnick said all the alterations had been carried out satisfactorily.”](#)

It was the finishing point of Sammy “Pigiron” Whitehouse’s famous walk, carrying a hundredweight of pig iron, over four miles, on 30th July 1921.

[Furnace Rangers football team, founded in 1932 \(name changed to Furnace Sports in 1936\), changed here.](#)

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/4/1934](#)

“After 20 years’ driving without complaint, Alfred C. Summerton, of 40, Sweetman Street, Wolverhampton, was summoned at Rowley Regis yesterday for driving a motor-lorry without due care and attention, and for having no driving license. He admitted having no license, but denied responsibility for a collision in connection with *George A. Hadley*, of the LOYAL LODGE INN, Furnace Hill, Halesowen, the other driver involved, was also summoned. Both men were fined £2 with £2 15s costs in each case. Summerton also being fined 10s in respect of the license.”

[1939 Register](#)

Furnace Hill – LOYAL LODGE

- [1] *Cyril O'Rourke*, date of birth 9/7/1902, postman, married;
- [2] Elizabeth (O'Rourke) Bowater, dob 2/2/1889, housewife, married;
- [3] George Hadley, dob 5/8/1912, viewer (forgings for cars and aeroplanes), single;
- [4] Frederick Hadley, dob 9/7/1916, mechanic (final assembler 'planes), single;
- [5] Gladys (Atkins) Hadley, dob 5/2/1914, machinist (driller aircraft), single:

[Birmingham Daily Post 6/3/1964](#)

“After an argument with his girlfriend, a 21-year-old Stourbridge man threw himself at a passing car, it was stated at Halesowen yesterday. Michael Frederick Worrall, a council refuse collector, of Westwood Avenue, Norton, admitted interrupting the free passage of the highway, contrary to the Highways Act, 1835. He was fined £5 with costs.

Chief Inspector C. J. Foxall said that at 10.30am on January 27, Mrs. Barbara Kimber, of Allison Road, Halesowen, noticed a group of people walking towards her as she drove along Whittingham Road, Halesowen. When she was quite close to them Worrall went into the centre of the road, waving his arms as though flagging Mrs. Kimber down. He then ran towards the car, sailed through the air, landed on top of the bonnet and fell off.

Mrs. Kimber was in a severe state of shock. ‘This incident really and truly upset this lady,’ the Chief Inspector said.

Worrall told police that while in the LOYAL LODGE public house, Furnace Hill, he and his girl friend started rowing. Later, he suddenly threw himself in front of the car. ‘I suppose I wanted to kill myself, I don’t know,’ Worrall said. ‘I realise it was a foolish thing to do.’

Worrall told the magistrates, ‘I just don’t know what made me do it. I had been under a lot of stress lately with the girl friend.’ He added, ‘Her parents would not let her get married. Since this happened they have signed the papers and we are getting married on the 14th of this month.’

Mr. J. G. Allen, presiding, told him, ‘You ought to take yourself in hand seriously.’”

Bob Butler was married to Beatrice.

See also BRITISH ARMS.

[On Friday 2nd November 1973 a presentation was made here to George Hodgetts, a founder member of Furnace Sports football club, of a gold watch, to mark his long and valued service to the club.](#)

It was refurbished at a cost of almost £200,000 and reopened as a Holt, Plant and Deakin pub on 22nd November 1988. It had been empty for some years prior to this.

[Sandwell Evening Mail 30/3/1990](#)

“A reward of £1,000 has been offered for information leading to the arrest of a teenager armed with a fist-full of darts who attacked a pub landlord. Licensee Mr. *John Whitlow* suffered a fractured jaw and puncture wounds to his face in the vicious attack in the bar of the LOYAL LODGE in Halesowen.

Dudley Police have offered a £500 reward for information leading to the arrest of the attacker and an anonymous source has put up a further £500.

Det. Insp. David Fullwood of Dudley CID said four youths were playing darts in the bar of the pub in Furnace Hill on February 24. Two of them left following a request from 40-year-old Mr. *Whitlow* who was concerned about their shouting. The other two remained and Mr. *Whitlow* went to telephone the police, but one of the youths punched Mr. *Whitlow* in the face causing a fractured jaw, broken nose, badly swollen eye, and puncture wounds to his face caused by the darts.

Police said the attacker was about 19 years old, 6ft tall with fair short hair cut very short at the sides of his head and longer on top. He was white, of slim build and was wearing jeans and denim top. Anyone with information regarding the attack should contact Crimestoppers.”

[Sandwell Evening Mail 4/12/1990 - Advert](#)

“The Best Eating Out Value for Miles Around this Christmas.

The Big Steak Menu is famous throughout the Midlands for its marvellous value. But for the next few weeks we’re offering even better value with our Big Steak Christmas Special Menu with a choice of 3 starters, 3 main courses and 2 sweets for only £8.25 (incl. VAT) for all 3 courses. Big Steak pubs are not restaurants – they’re pubs that serve top quality food at prices you can afford. But don’t worry if you just fancy a pint, you’ll find a choice of traditional hand-pulled ales and international quality lagers (including low-alcohol). But above all you’ll receive a really warm welcome at whichever Big Steak Pub you choose – call in and sample our Christmas hospitality.....

Ansells. More of Everything.....

LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill, Halesowen.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 1/11/1991 - Advert

“Early Evening Pint Savers. Holts Bitter 99p per pint. Holts Entire 105p per pint.

Special offer prices for the month of November only.

Available Mon-Sat evenings 5.30-8pm.

Only from these Holts pubs LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill, Halesowen.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 7/11/1991

“Fellow licensees sickened by an armed robber’s brutal beating of Tipton publican Howard Morris today offered a reward of £600 in the hunt for his attacker. The publicans at all Holt, Plant and Deakin’s managed pubs in the Black Country are each putting £20 to a collection. Raffles are expected to swell the proceeds which will provide a reward for anyone with information resulting in the man’s arrest and conviction.

Mr. Morris was left with a perforated ear drum and head wounds after Monday’s 4.30am bedroom attack at the FOUNTAIN pub in Owen Street. A masked attacker clubbed him half-senseless and forced him to open a safe, making off with more than £1,000 in takings.

Mr. *John Whitlow*, licensee of the LOYAL LODGE public house, Halesowen, who suggested the reward, said, ‘As fellow licensees we felt we should do something for Howard. We are all upset for Howard and disgusted and angry about the incident. It was a particularly cowardly attack upon a man at 4.30 in the morning. For the petty sum of £1,000 the man has got to be both desperate and sick.’ Mr. *Whitlow*, who was savagely beaten up at his own pub in February last year by a man since jailed, added, ‘We just want the man who perpetrated this attack upon Howard to be brought to justice as soon as possible.’

Detectives are continuing the hunt for the man, who is thought to be white, about 5ft 4in tall. He wore a black balaclava mask, black gloves, blue jeans and a patterned jumper. Anyone with information should phone Wednesbury CID.”

John Whitlow was married to Heather.

See also DUDLEY PORT, Tipton.

It was refurbished, and reopened in July 2000.

Halesowen News 4/3/2016

“An historic Halesowen pub has been saved with a £250,000 refurbishment creating 14 new jobs. The LOYAL LODGE has been transformed by pub operator Punch and publicans *Chad* and *Sarah Hudson*. The Furnace Hill pub was closed for six weeks during the refurbishment and the Mayor of Dudley Councillor Steve Waltho attended its official opening. A dining area has been created and a traditional pub-grub menu is now available including Directors Ale Pie and Directors Ale Sausages. The pub’s layout has been altered to include two new snug areas with open fires and booth seating, the beer garden upgraded and extended. Publican *Sarah Hudson* said, ‘We are a family run business and our aim is to provide a welcoming, friendly environment for our customers. We are excited about introducing food for the first time and have appointed an excellent chef who has a wealth of experience in getting new restaurants up and running. We have some great dishes on the menu that will offer a value for money dining experience.’ She added, ‘*Chad* and I are delighted with the transformation, and thanks to the support and investment we’ve received from Punch, we have a pub to be proud of. We’ve had a great response from customers old and new and are looking forward to building on the pub’s success going forward.’

A new entertainment programme has started including a designated darts area, quiz nights, poker nights, open mike sessions and live music entertainment.

Becki Hewson, new business development manager for Punch, said, ‘The work carried out at the LOYAL LODGE represents a significant investment for both ourselves and *Chad* and *Sarah* who have approached the refurbishment with boundless energy and enthusiasm. They are both very passionate about their business and I have no doubt that they will continue to listen to their customers’ needs and make further improvements and changes in the future. We wish them every success and look forward to continually supporting them as they do so.’”

Halesowen News 8/6/2018

“A Quartet of Halesowen students will hope to clean up as they host a fundraising car wash later this month. Students from The Earls High School are currently trying to raise money to fund their upcoming trip to Tanzania next February where they plan to work and teach in a local school in the village of Umonga. As part of their fundraising efforts, Grace Hewett, George Davis-Prinn, Clementine Reed and Zachary Chance will hold a car wash on the car park of the LOYAL LODGE, in Furnace Hill. *Chad Hudson*, owner of the LOYAL LODGE, has agreed to allow the students to use his car park for the event, while the publican has also donated prizes to a raffle which aims to raise even more money towards the Tanzania trip funds. The car wash will take place

between noon and 6pm on Saturday, June 23.”

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

Halesowen News 1/8/2020

“A new Eat Out to Help Out postcode checker has been launched by the government that allows you to find out which business in Halesowen and the surrounding areas are taking part in the scheme.

Eat Out to Help Out officially begins on Monday, August 3. Customers will be able to get a 50 per cent discount on food or non-alcoholic drinks (up to a £10 discount per diner) at participating establishments. The scheme will run every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until Monday, August 31. Establishments will claim a reimbursement from the government for the discount they’ve given. Participating establishments may include restaurants, cafés, bars or pubs, work and school canteens and food halls. Here are the establishments so far registered to take part in the scheme within five miles of Halesowen town centre.....
LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill.”

Express & Star 6/8/2022

“A Halesowen pub has won a title for its eye-catching floral displays. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards.....

The judges also awarded highly commended to the LOYAL LODGE, HAWNE TAVERN, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the SWAN and previous winner, EDWARD VII.

Eve O’Connor, chair of Halesowen in Bloom said, ‘Halesowen in Bloom wants to thank all the pubs in Halesowen who make that extra effort to make their pubs look so inviting with great floral displays.”

[2022]

LUTLEY OAK

327, Stourbridge Road / Lutley Mill Road, Belle Vale, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

Spirit Group [2009]

Flaming Grill [2011], [2014]

Greene King [2016], [2018]

LICENSEES

L Cartwright [1983]

Michael Summers [1996]

Steve Johnson (1998 – [1999]

Nicola Morgan (2000 – []

Gary Ferguson [2009]

Bryan J Wilson [2011] – [2018] general manager

NOTES

327, Stourbridge Road [1999]

It was formerly known as the BELLE VALE [1957], [1976], [1977], [1983]

Birmingham Daily Post 27/12/1957

“Mr. William Roberts Suter, aged 69, of Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, collapsed and died while waiting to be served in the outdoor department of the BELLE VALE HOTEL, Drews Holloway, Halesowen, on Christmas day.”

Black Country Bugle 7/1/2010 - Letter from Pearl Timmins

“.....Workers at BSR’s Wollaston factory and members of the darts team of the BELLE VALE pub, Cradley, donned fancy dress and went on their pub crawl in 1977, beginning at the BLUE BALL INN and calling at 11 pubs as they made their way down Quarry Bank High Street.
In all they raised £100 for the Sunfield Home, Clent.”

It was renamed ARIANS [1986], [1990]

Sandwell Evening Mail 18/10/1986

“Dates for Your Diary..... Sunday 10.45am Hash House Harriers meet at the ARIANS, Bell Vale, Halesowen.”

It was renamed LUTLEY MILL [1994]

Sandwell Evening Mail 21/7/1994

“Councillors agreed to give a two-month trial to a Halesowen pub seeking the renewal of an entertainment licence. Owners of the LUTLEY MILL pub, formerly ARIANS, in Stourbridge Road, applied for a seven-day licence, but the application was opposed by Fiona and Simon Darby, of Foxhollies Drive, who complained of late-night noise. Councillor Johnson said the committee had agreed a 12-7pm licence six days a week for children’s parties and a Sunday evening licence for music. ‘We decided to see how things go in the next couple of months and shall review the situation after then. The residents present at the meeting seemed happy with that arrangement,’ he said.”

Halesowen News 29/7/1999 - Advert

“LUTLEY MILL at Halesowen.
Monday Eves General Knowledge Quiz.
Wed / Fri / Sun Eves Biddley - Bo Karaoke.
Saturday Eves Family Fortunes Quiz.
Postroom – Beer Garden – Adventure Playground.
This Sunday – Karaoke Beach Party from 8pm. Shorts & Shades Essential!!
Friendly Welcome, Good Food, Great Prices.
Stourbridge Road, Halesowen. Tel. 0121 550 0147.”

[2004]

It was renamed LUTLEY OAK. [2007]

Halesowen News 1/3/2009

“A Halesowen pub boss headed for Europe’s beer drinking capital after scooping a top award. *Gary Ferguson*, who runs the LUTLEY OAK, was one of 10 pub managers to win a trip to Prague after winning a Spirit Star Award for dedication and innovative approach to the trade. The gong is open to all managers across the Spirit Group’s 900-strong managed pub estate. Spirit Group’s retail director, Richard Carter, said, ‘We are dedicated to our people and want to ensure their hard work, commitment and skills are celebrated and they know how much we appreciate what they do.’”

Halesowen News 8/4/2009

“A tribute band to The Jam will play at the LUTLEY OAK pub in Halesowen this weekend. The Jam DRC, who have built up a large following, will play at the pub on Stourbridge Road this Saturday, April 11. The band is made up of David King from Birmingham on vocals and guitar, Daz Batt, also from Birmingham, on bass and vocals and Halesowen man Rick Cox on drums. The gig starts at 9pm. Entrance is free but there will be a collection.”

Halesowen News 20/7/2011

“A revamped Halesowen pub is turning up the heat to celebrate its £300,000 flaming new look with an unsung hero performing the opening ceremony. British Heart Foundation fundraiser Wayne Price has been nominated to officially declare the LUTLEY OAK open on Saturday. The Flaming Grill pub on Stourbridge Road will be bringing its all year round barbecue-taste menu to life with a Wild West themed party from high noon with ‘Sheriff’ Wayne and his deputies in full fancy dress. Mr. Price joined the British Heart Foundation more than six months ago and has so far raised in excess of £1,000 for the charity. He was chosen from dozens of nominations for the post after the LUTLEY OAK said it ‘Wanted’ an unsung hero to officially declare the pub open and be treated to a VIP meal. LUTLEY OAK general manager *Bryan Wilson* said, ‘It was such a tough choice but we felt Wayne was a worthy sheriff. He does a great amount of fundraising for the British Heart Foundation and we felt that he and a few of the other volunteers deserved a flaming good treat. It should be a great day packed full of fun with saloon style activities for people of all ages. We hope the people of Halesowen will come and join in the action and also try our tasty new menu where we aim to create theatre on a plate by serving the majority of our dishes on a sizzling skillet to keep food hot and tasty.’”

Halesowen News 3/3/2013

“A Halesowen pub is on a mission to find mums who go the extra mile and is offering a pampering session and a family meal as a reward this Mother’s Day. The LUTLEY OAK, Stourbridge Road, part of the Flaming Grill chain, is encouraging fans of the Flaming Grill Facebook page to nominate a mum that is One in a Grillion. The pub’s lucky winner will claim a family meal at their local pub and one national winner will win a pampering session on top.

The pub’s general manager, *Bryan Wilson*, said, ‘All mums are special but we’re looking for those who go above and beyond for their children and really have a special story to tell. It could be your own mum, your wife or just a friend but what better way to thank a special mum for being so Flaming Grilliant?’”

Halesowen News 9/3/2014

“Food lovers are being given a chance to invent their own burger to go on sale at a popular Halesowen pub. The LUTLEY OAK, Stourbridge Road, wants burger buffs to create Flaming Grill’s first crowd-sourced burger which will be on sale by the Summer. The winner will scoop £500 and see their burger creation being on the menu of 93 pubs across the country as part of Flaming Grill’s Summer Burger Festival, running from June to July.

Bryan Wilson, general manager at the LUTLEY OAK said, ‘We’re famous for our fun flame-grilled food and we think it’s time for a new addition to join our fantastic burger range, which already includes some pretty impressive delights like the Pretzel Burger and our infamous 1kg Flaming Challenge Burger.’ He added, ‘We want to add some new twists to our burgers and what better way to do it than to ask our guests to design their perfect creation? I am very excited to see what our creative diners will come up with and what will make it on to the Burger Festival menu later this year.’”

Dudley News 29/5/2014

“World Cup loving patrons of a Halesowen pub are being given the chance to get their hands on free steaks if England win a game at the finals. The LUTLEY OAK wants customers to enter its football sweepstake on the Flaming Grill Facebook page to be in the chance of winning £50 vouchers and buy one, get one free coupons. *Bryan Wilson*, general manager at the LUTLEY OAK, said, ‘What better way to mark this summer’s football than with a sweepstake. Every time the England team win a game we will reward all competitors with a chance to win one of 100 BOGOF vouchers.’

Entrants will be relieved to know that the chance of free grub does not rest solely on Roy’s Boys but other teams can be picked in the sweepstake.

Mr. *Wilson* added, ‘Even if the England squad don’t get through to the final, there’s still hope for those competitors who have been allocated other countries to bring home the bacon and win some flaming great prizes.’”

Halesowen News 23/9/2016

“To mark the start of the new football season the LUTLEY OAK is searching for Halesowen’s most over-the-top goal celebrations. The Greene King pub is looking for locals whose celebrations watching on TV rival those of the footballers on the pitch. With £1,000 up for grabs for the best celebrations the LUTLEY OAK has joined forces with Jimmy Bullard, whose 2009 goal celebration mocking Hull City manager Phil Brown is consistently ranked amongst the top ten of all time. Offering his tips on the perfect pub goal celebration, Jimmy said, ‘It’s hard to beat the excitement you feel when your team scores. Apart from the stadium, there’s no better place to watch a game than down the pub, so we want to find the best Halesowen football fan celebrations. Whether you pull your shirt over your head like Ravenelli, do the Peter Crouch robot, or your own unique move, we want to see it.’

The competition is being launched through the LUTLEY OAK’s ‘Season Ticket’ discount card, which offers guests 10 per cent off selected drinks during live football.

Bryan Wilson, general manager at the LUTLEY OAK, said, ‘We know that nothing beats getting together with your mates to watch a match in the pub. The football season is well under way and we really want our guests to show their support for the beautiful game. We’ve seen some fantastic celebrations over the years from our guests, so know that Halesowen’s got talent.’”

Halesowen News 5/6/2018

“Pubs in Dudley borough are making the beautiful game taste that much better by offering customers a free pint whilst they watch the football this summer. From Thursday June 14, the CASTLE VIEW on Castlegate Way, Dudley, is giving away free pints of a limited edition beer – created with sporting legend and TV personality, Chris Kamara, to celebrate the summer of sport. The light ale is aptly named, Un-BEER-lievable and will also be available at the LUTLEY OAK in Halesowen, the CORN EXCHANGE in Brierley Hill and the CRABMILL in Oldswinford. A free pint will be available to anyone who watches the football at the pubs and downloads the free Greene King Season Ticket app. The app also gives football fans access to 10 per cent off drinks one hour before, during and one hour after sports matches.

Edel Crehan, general manager at the CASTLE VIEW, said, ‘With a packed summer of sport to enjoy, it’s the perfect time to gather your mates together for a night at the pub. This year though, we’re giving locals an extra reason to swap their sofa spectating for the unbeatable atmosphere of the pub – with a pint of beer they didn’t have to pay for.’

Bryan J Wilson, general manager at the LUTLEY OAK, added, ‘We’re looking forward to kicking off the celebrations here in Halesowen and taking the opportunity to enjoy a pint of beer brewed by a footballing legend. We know this summer of sport is going to be the best one yet – whatever the results.’”

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In

Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....’”

[2019]

LYTTLETON ARMS

91, (39), High Street / Hagley Street, (Hagley Road), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1904]

Punch Taverns [2005]

Heineken [2019] – [2021]

LICENSEES

Charles Grainger [1822]

Samuel Challiner [1835] – [1846]

Thomas Challiner [1846]

Joseph Whitehouse [1849] – [1851]

Benjamin Connop [1857] – [1883]

Harry Homer Powderhill [1884] – [1888]

Alfred Eli Hingley [1891] – [1892]

Thomas Frederick Wood [1893] – [1896]

Frank Bolus [1899] – [1901]

William Peacock [] – **1904**;

Alfred Morris (**1904 – 1906**);

Henry Day (**1906 – []**)

William James Pick (**1905 – 1942**)

Arthur Williams [] – **1966**;

Doris Muriel Williams (**1966 – []**)

Peter Fleming [c.1980]

Roger Harris (**1981 – [1984]**)

Jennifer Lyn Austin [2002] – [2017]

Isabel Hampton and Mark Griffiths (**2019 – []**)

Mark Griffiths [2021]

NOTES

Hagley Road [1849]

39, High Street [1911]

91, High Street

LYTTLETONS ARMS

LYTTLETON HOTEL [1849]

LYTTLETON ARMS HOTEL [1916]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was also the Excise Office. [1835], [1846]

It was an important stop for coaches from Birmingham to Kidderminster.

Directory 1822

“Carriers. From the LYTTELTON ARMS

Bewdley, Stourport, and Kidderminster, J. Harrold and Thomas Brown, every Tuesday and Friday.

Birmingham, J. Harrold and Thomas Brown, every Monday and Thursday; and Benjamin Cole, every Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

Birmingham and Stourbridge, John Wakefield, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; and John Wallford, every Tuesday and Saturday.

Birmingham and Bewdley, John Farmer, three times a week.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/2/1808 - Advert

“Timber.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Court, at the LYTTLETONS ARMS, Hales Owen, in the County of Salop, on Wednesday the 24th day of February inst, at Three o’Clock in the Afternoon (subject to such Conditions as will be then produced), the under-mentioned Timber Trees.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/1/1824 - Advert

“Freehold Dwelling House, &c, in Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction by Henry Jacob, at the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, Hales Owen in the county of Salop, on Monday the 2nd day of February, 1824, at three o’clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions of sale as will be then and there produced.....”

Birmingham Chronicle 28/4/1825 - Deaths

“On Thursday, at Dudley, aged 33, after two years’ painful illness, Sarah, wife of Mr. *C. Granger*, formerly of the LYTTLETONS ARMS INN, Hales Owen, and eldest daughter of the late Mr. Samuel Whall, of Newhall Street.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/4/1830 - Advert

“Valuable Tannery and Land, Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. Mathews, on Wednesday the 19th day of May next, at the LYTTELTON ARMS INN, Hales Owen, at four o’clock in the afternoon.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 13/1/1834 - Advert

“Hales Owen Annual Assembly will be held at the LYTTELTON ARMS INN, Hales Owen, on Friday, the 24th day of January instant.

George Hinchcliffe, Esq. Mr. William Hayes, Jun. Stewards

Gentlemen’s Tickets 7s. Ladies’ ditto, 5s to be had at the Bar of the Inn.

Dancing to commence at eight o’clock.”

Samuel Challinor = Samuel Challoner

Pigot Directory 1835

“.....a court for the recovery of debts under 40s is also held every three weeks at the LYTTLETON’S ARMS INN.”

Worcester Journal 13/10/1836 - Advert

“Eastern Division of the County of Worcester.

We, John Lewis Mortimer & Hunter Gordon, Barristers-at-Law, having been duly appointed to Revise the List of Voters in the Election of Knights of the Shire for the Eastern Division of the County of Worcester, Do Hereby Give Notice, that we shall make a Circuit of the said Eastern Division, and shall hold Courts for that purpose, at the several times and places underwritten.....

At the LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen, on Monday, the 31st day of October instant, at ten o’clock in the forenoon, for the Parishes of Halesowen, including Romsley, Hunnington, Hill, Lapal, Hawn, Hastbury, Oldbury, Warley Salop, Ridgacre, The Borough of Halesowen, Cakmore, Illey, Warley Wigorn, And all other places, if any, within the said parishes and places, respectively.....

And we hereby further give Notice, that the Overseers of the Poor for the several Parishes, Townships, and Places above-mentioned, will be required to deliver to us, at the opening of the first Court to be holden at each of the Towns above-mentioned, for the revision of the List of Voters above appointed, to be revised at such Court respectively, Copies of the Lists of the Persons objected to in their several Parishes, Townships, and Places. And if there be no Person objected to, then to attend at the opening of the said Courts, in order that the List of Voters for their respective Parishes, Townships, and Place, may be then revised.

John Lewis Mortimer, Hunter Gordon. Cheltenham, October 8th, 1836.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/4/1838 - Advert

“Lutley, Shilton, and Hales Owen.

Very valuable Leasehold Mills and Forge and Freehold Houses.

To be offered for Sale, by Mr. Davies, on Monday the 23rd of April inst, at five o’clock in the afternoon, at the LYTTELTON’S ARMS INN, in Hales Owen, subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot I. The Lease of all that very valuable Over-Shot Water Corn Mill, called Lutley Mill, and Bakehouse and Ovens attached, with the Gun Barrel Mill, and a commodious Residence adjoining, together with the Offices, Stables, Buildings, Steam Engine, Water Wheel, Troughs, and Machinery thereto belonging.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 4/6/1838 - Advert

"Hales Owen Parish Association for the Prosecution of Felons.

We, whose names are hereunder-mentioned, Members of the above Association, do hereby give Notice, that every effort will be made and all proper means used for the discovery and apprehension of persons who shall commit or be guilty of any Felony, Robbery, or Theft upon or against our respective persons or property, in the most speedy and effectual manner, and for their prosecution with the utmost rigour; and that we will give Rewards to persons discovering and apprehending offenders, or through whose information such offenders may be apprehended and convicted, on such their conviction taking place, as follows.

For every burglary, housebreaking, highway robbery, sheep-stealing, or horse-stealing the sum of £10 0s 0d.

For robbing any hen-roost, or stealing any ducks, geese, turkeys, or other fowl or fowls. £5 0s 0d.

For robbing any garden or nursery, stealing the crops of peas, beans, potatoes, turnips, clover, vetches, hay, or grass, spoiling or destroying game, killing domestic animals or pigeons, robbing fish-pools, stealing any implement of husbandry or tools, plough-irons, harrow-teeth, hooks and thimbles, staples, hasps, or locks, or milking the cows. £1 1s 0d.

For breaking or stealing the hedges, fences, stiles, gates, posts, or rails, or wilfully or maliciously opening the gates whereby the crops are injured by cattle trespassing thereon. £0 10s 6d.....

[List of Names].....

The Annual Meeting will be held at the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, in Hales Owen, on Wednesday next the 6th day of June.

Dinner on the table at three o'clock precisely.

Hales Owen, May 31, 1838."

1841 Census

High Street

[1] *Samuel Challiner* (50) inn keeper;

[2] Ann Challiner (25);

[3] Sarah Read (15);

[4] George Pearsman (30), chandler:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 13/3/1843 - Advert

"Tithe Commission. Notice.

Parish of Hales Owen, in the county of Salop.

The Tithe Commissioners for England and Wales hereby give Notice, that on the seventh day of April next they will proceed, either by themselves or by an Assistant Commissioner, to ascertain and award the total sum to be paid by way of Rent-charge instead of the Tithes of the townships of Hales Owen, Hasbury, Hawn, Hill, Hunnington, Illey, Lapal, and Ridgeacre, in the parish of Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, according to the provisions of the Act for the Commutation of Tithes in England and Wales; and that the first Meeting for this purpose will be holden at the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, in Hales Owen, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of the day above-mentioned, when all Persons interested are desired to attend.

Dated this seventh day of March, 1843.

By order of the Board, J. E. Hovenden, Secretary. Tithe Commission Office."

Worcestershire Chronicle 15/10/1845

"Worcestershire Michaelmas Sessions Friendly Societies.

The following articles duly certified by Mr. Tidd Pratt, were laid before the Court.....

Amended rules of the New Union Society, held at the house of Mr. *S. Challinor*, the LYTTLETONS ARMS INN, Halesowen."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/6/1846 - Advert

"Hales Owen Parish Association for the Prosecution of Felons.....

The Annual Meeting will be held at the house of Mr. *Samuel Challinor*, the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, in Hales Owen, on Friday next the 5th day of June.

Dinner on the table at three o'clock precisely."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/4/1847 - Advert

To Builders.

Persons willing to Tender for the Alteration of Premises at Hales Owen, now the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, and for the Erection of Warehouse and other Buildings to the same, may see the Drawings and Specification after Thursday next the 15th instant, at the Shop of Messrs. Bissell and Co., Provision-dealers. Hales Owen.

Tenders to be delivered on or before the 30th instant, to Mr. T. S. Bissell, Hasbury, Hales Owen, endorsed 'Tender for Alteration at the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, Hales Owen.'

No pledge is given that the lowest Tender will be accepted.

Any further information that may be required may be obtained by applying to the Architect, Mr. R. Robinson, Stourbridge.

April 10, 1847."

Joseph Whitehouse was also a builder. [1849]

J. Whitehouse issued tokens from here.

1851 Census

Hagley Road

- [1] *Joseph Whitehouse* (30), victualler, builder, born Northfield;
- [2] Sarah Whitehouse (30), wife, born Epton Warren, Worcestershire;
- [3] Emma Bonnar (19), visitor, born Bilston;
- [4] Mary Burton (18), general servant, born Kings Norton:

Brierley Hill Advertiser 6/6/1857

“*Benjamin Connop*, of the LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen, was charged with knowingly permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct in his house.

PC Faulkner deposed to finding several persons there, fighting and behaving in a riotous manner, between one and two o'clock on the morning of the 26th ult. In defence *Connop* urged that he was in bed at the time the disturbance commenced, but afterwards did all in his power to quell it. The Bench inflicted a fine of 20s and costs, but mitigated it to 10s, including costs.”

County Advertiser 6/11/1858

“John Carter charged Henry Greenhill, a labourer, with having assaulted him on the 20th ult. Complainant stated that he went to the LYTTLETON ARMS, in Halesowen, on the evening of the 20th ult, and there met defendant. Defendant came up to him and said, ‘Jack, you have behaved well to me. I respect you as a man. Did you ever see any harm with my wife?’ Complainant replied that he had not; defendant kissed him; and they sat drinking and talking very comfortably together for some time. After they left the house, however, the defendant appears suddenly to have changed his sentiments, for when near the BULLS HEAD he called the complainant a ‘nasty b——,’ and commenced an assault upon him. Complainant at length pulled a knife out of his pocket and threatened to use it if the defendant struck him again; the latter also threatening to cut the complainant’s heart out. The Bench severely commented upon the cowardice displayed in drawing a knife on an opponent, and inflicted a fine of 6d and costs.”

1861 Census

High Street – LYTTLETONS ARMS

- [1] *Benjamin Connop* (38), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ellen Connop (30), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Oliver Connop (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Arthur Connop (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Harry Connop (11 months), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] Emily Hughes (19), servant, born Bromsgrove:

Birmingham Journal 31/10/1863

“A series of festivities have taken place during the week in Hagley and the neighbourhood, to celebrate the coming of age of the eldest son of Lord Lyttelton.

On Wednesday the cottagers of Hagley, Churchill, Clent, Frankley, Romsley, and Hales Owen met at an early hour in the morning, and proceeded to the church, where divine service was performed. They afterwards marched back to the LYTTLETON ARMS, where, in two spacious marquees, preparations had been made for a dinner to 400 of them. A substantial dinner was provided, and full justice, as it is said, appeared to be done to it. Lord Lyttelton presided, and the Hon. C. G. Lyttelton, and the many distinguished guests staying at the hall were also present. In the evening 400 of the women of the parish had tea together at the LYTTLETON ARMS, and they, too, were not behindhand in their appreciation of Lord Lyttelton’s generosity.”

Stourbridge Observer 18/1/1868

“Benjamin Smith was then charged with stealing an umbrella (value 3s 6d), the property of William Clewes, of Frankley. It appeared that on the 4th inst, the prosecutor went into the LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen, to have a pint of ale, and placed the umbrella on a bench. Prisoner was in the house, and availed himself of the opportunity to take it. Information was given to the police, and the prisoner was apprehended by Police-constable Smith. The umbrella was found in the possession of Joseph Gill, of Birmingham Street, to whom the prisoner had sold it for fivepence. In answer to the charge, prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sentenced to one month’s hard labour.”

Stourbridge Observer 28/3/1868 - Advert

“Edward Green, Castrator, Mucklows Hill, Halesowen, Begg to return thanks to the Public for their kind patronage, and solicits a continuance of their favour.

Orders may be left at the LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen.”

Stourbridge Observer 7/11/1868

“Thomas Hall and William Parsons were charged by Superintendent Overend with being drunk, and refusing to leave the LYTTLETON ARMS public house, on the 19th ultimo, when requested to do so.

Benjamin Connop, landlord, said the two defendants came into his house after eleven o'clock, and called for a quart of ale. Hall challenged all in the house to fight, and because no one would fight, the two defendants began to fight themselves.

Pleaded guilty. Fined 2s 6d each and costs.”

Stourbridge Observer 11/9/1869

“On Tuesday last, Mr. and Mrs. *Connop*, the host and hostess of the LYTTLETON ARMS HOTEL, according to their usual custom, provided dinner for the licensed victuallers and friends attending the Annual Licensing Meeting, on which occasion they were joined by a number of tradesmen of the town, numbering 51, who sat down to the excellent repast provided, and to which ample justice was done. Some of the party then drove over to Clent, and spent a few hours there, returning for tea, after which a convivial evening was spent.”

Stourbridge Observer 7/5/1870

“The large money club held at Mr. *Connop*'s, the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, terminated on Monday last, on which occasion a supper took place, and upwards of forty members and friends sat down to an excellent spread provided by the host. The cloth being drawn, the chair was occupied by Mr. Wade.

The usual loyal toasts were proposed and duly honoured. Several other toasts were also given, which were interspersed with songs, and a convivial evening was spent.”

County Advertiser 7/5/1870

“At the Police Court, on Tuesday.....

Benjamin Connop, jun, landlord of the LYTTLETON ARMS, Hagley Street, was summoned on a charge of having his house open before the hour of half-past twelve on the 12th ult. Defendant pleaded guilty, and no evidence was taken. Mr. Superintendent Overend said the house had always hitherto been very well conducted. Fined 5s and costs.”

AND

County Express 7/5/1870

“*Benjamin Connop* jun, of the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, Halesowen, was charged with having his house open for the sale of liquors before half past twelve on Good Friday. He pleaded guilty but said he had forgotten it was Good Friday. He was fined 5s and costs, but was told he would be fined £5 next time.”

County Advertiser 21/5/1870

“A number of persons, whose names were not called over, were summoned by Mr. Superintendent Overend, for being in the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, Hagley Street, within prohibited hours. Mr. Hayes, who appeared for the defendants, said they regretted the circumstances, and would promise not to offend in a like manner again. A fine of 5s and costs was imposed in each case.”

Stourbridge Observer 13/8/1870

“William Robins jun, a respectable young man, was charged by *Benjamin Connop* jun, landlord of the LYTTLETON ARMS HOTEL, with using threatening language to him on the 21st ult, and applied for the defendant to be bound over to keep the peace. Mr. Hayes appeared for the complainant, and said he was very sorry to have to bring this case before the Court. It was a family affair, and he had done his best to settle the matter, but had failed.

Complainant was uncle to the defendant, but the matter had lately become very violent, often threatening Mr. *Connop*.

The Bench asked if the matter could not be settled, without going into the particulars of the case.

Defendant said, ‘No, he would rather the case was heard as his life was in danger, and the complainant’s sons were continually insulting him.’

Ellen *Connop*, wife of complainant, said she recollected the above date, and saw the defendant in the street. He had borrowed some money of her, and she asked him for it. He paid her 5s 6d. She sent him word that he still owed her 5s 6d, as the amount was 11s. Defendant came, and made use of very bad and abusive language, of such a character that she would not like to repeat it, saying ‘that he would do for him,’ meaning her husband. Defendant had often made use of threats, and she was afraid he would do her husband some serious injury, if he was not bound over.

William Haden was called to give corroborative evidence, and the complainant said that the defendant was continually threatening him, and he had no peace for him, and was afraid the defendant would do him some bodily injury.

Benjamin Connop jun, was then charged by William Robins jun, with using threatening language to him, and the latter prayed for sureties.

Complainant said at the time the dispute was going on about the money, defendant used threatening language to him, and that he had often done so at other times. The threats were made when defendant was in the house.

A witness was called, who said he heard Mr. *Connop* threatening Robins. Did not see him, but heard his voice.

Witnesses were called for the defence, to prove that *Connop* was not in the house at the time, but was at work some distance from his house.

Mr. Hayes said he could call twenty more if necessary.

The Bench said they had decided to dismiss the second summons, and for the threats used to *Connop* should bind Robins over in one surety of £10, and himself in £20, to keep the peace for six months.”

Stourbridge Observer 10/9/1870

“On Tuesday last, being the Annual Licensing Day, the usual dinner took place at Mrs. *Connop*'s, the LYTTLETON ARMS HOTEL. Upwards of 60 sat down to a sumptuous dinner provided by the host and hostess, and a convivial evening was spent.”

Stourbridge Observer 28/1/1871

“The annual dinner in connection with the Money Club held at Mrs. *Connop*'s, the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, Halesowen, took place on Monday evening. About 50 sat down to a sumptuous repast provided in the usual first class style by the worthy host and

hostess. The usual loyal toasts were given, interspersed with songs, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.”

1871 Census

High Street – LITTLETON’S ARMS

- [1] *Benjamin Connop* (48), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ellen Connop (40), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Arthur Connop (16), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] Harry Connop (10), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] Selina Shaw (18), general servant, born Rowley:

Stourbridge Observer 20/4/1872 - Advert

“The LYTTLETON ARMS Money Club Society, Halesowen.
The above club recommences on Monday next, the 22nd inst.
Any Person becoming a member will oblige.
B. Connop, Proprietor.”

County Advertiser 22/8/1874 - Advert

“East Worcestershire. Important and Valuable Residence, at Cornbow, Halesowen.
To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. R. J. Cooper, on Tuesday, the 8th day of September, 1874, at Mr. *Benjamin Connop*’s the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, Halesowen, at Six o’clock in the Evening punctually, subject to conditions to be then and there read.”

County Advertiser 21/8/1875

“*Benjamin Connop*, landlord of the LYTTLETON ARMS HOTEL, Halesowen, was charged with having, on the 12th ult, permitted drunkenness in his house. Mr. Shakespeare appeared for the defendant.
Police-sergeant Chapman said that at about twelve o’clock on the morning in question he was sent for to defendant’s house, and on proceeding there he found several men drinking and fighting. He, with the assistance of the landlord, ejected them, and he cautioned defendant not to supply any more drink. He visited the house afterwards on two occasions, and found some of the men there drinking.
Police-constable Drew gave corroborative evidence.
Mr. Shakespeare said, in defence, that there had been a pony race that day, and a great many people had come to the defendant’s house. The street was crammed, and he was unable to eject those who had entered his house.
Mr. Watson said that the Legislature had passed laws for the benefit of society, and they could not allow them to be violated. A large portion of the crime of the country could be traced to drunkenness. Although they could not think the defendant entirely free from blame, but yet he sent for the police. Only for that circumstance they should have considered it their duty to inflict a heavy fine. They should, however, in this instance inflict a fine of 10s and costs.”

County Express 27/7/1878

“Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows.
On Monday last the members of the flourishing lodge ‘Loyal Shenstone’ met at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Connop*, the LYTTLETON ARMS, to celebrate their anniversary. The room was tastefully ornamented, and every effort was put forth by the host and hostess, and their staff to ensure the comfort of the guests. The bill of fare was most a liberal one, and the style in which the table was served gave general satisfaction. Mr. Dunn, surgeon, Mr. Beckley, and Mr. Stockton were present. After the removal of the cloth a Bro. was called to the chair, and in succession followed the toasts of ‘The Queen and Royal family,’ ‘Mr. Dunn and family,’ ‘The officers of the Lodge,’ and ‘the host and hostess.’ The report of the secretary showed that the financial position of the lodge was very encouraging, and that a large increase in members was expected to take place. The rest of the evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner.”

Black Country Bugle (1974)

‘Hands Off Billy Pick’s’

“In the 1850s when Billy Pick’s was a maltster’s, a list of Halesowen town taverns there was obviously room for one more – and in the 1880s a license was issued for the premises, later to become famous as Billy Pick’s. The new pub (in the old malt-house) was christened the LYTTLETON ARMS, a slightly confusing title for the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS was located a mere fifty yards up the street.....”

1881 Census

High Street – LYTTLETON ARMS

- [1] *Benjamin Connop* (58), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ellen Connop (50), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Sarah Pardoe (17), general servant, born Netherton:

County Advertiser 25/8/1883

“*Benjamin Connop*, landlord of the LYTTLETON ARMS, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, on the 30th June, and he was further charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours on the same date.
Police-constable Hind saw the landlord lead Jeremiah Hunt, who was drunk, out of the house at ten minutes past eleven o’clock.

The man fell down and was helped up by the landlord. The man afterwards fell down in Peckingham Street, and inflicted a smart wound on his head. A lad was called to prove that the man went into defendant's house in a drunken state at half-past nine o'clock at night.

Mr. Shakespeare admitted the facts, but submitted there was no case. The prosecution had not shown that the man was supplied with anything to drink. On the contrary he (Mr. Shakespeare) was in a position to prove that the man was refused when he asked to be supplied with drink, and was asked several times to leave the house but would not go. The man was a complete nuisance and the landlord tried all he could to get rid of him, but was unable to do so before all the other customers had left, and then had to take the man out of the house himself.

The Bench dismissed the case without calling upon Mr. Shakespeare to produce his witnesses."

County Advertiser 29/11/1884

"Henry Butterfield, fruiterer, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *Harry Homer Powderhill*, LYTTLETON ARMS. Police-constable Hinde, and Police-sergeant Raybould proved the case, and defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs."

County Express 13/12/1884

"*Henry Hamer Powderhill*, landlord of the LYTTLETON ARMS, Hagley Road, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness, on the 18th ult. Mr. J. Wright defended.

Police-constable Hinde went to the house shortly after nine o'clock at night and found two men named Basterfield and Grove drunk. Basterfield went into the house in a drunken condition, and remained there twenty minutes.

Police-sergeant Raybould deposed to finding both men in the house. He could not say that the men were supplied with drink.

Mr. Wright contended there was no evidence against the defendant. It was true Basterfield was in the house, but he was not supplied with any beer. He held that the police had failed to prove that his client had violated the act.

A fine of 20s and costs was imposed."

County Advertiser 29/8/1885

"On Tuesday last the annual licensing meeting was held at the Public Office, Halesowen.....

The following licenses were held over till the adjourned licensing meeting.....

Harry H. Powderhill, LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen."

County Express 3/10/1885

"Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Session The publicans who had been convicted of offences against their licenses during the past year were called before the Bench and cautioned, after which their licenses were renewed."

Birmingham Daily Post 8/6/1889 - Advert

"Lady Pianist and Vocalist; to live in.

Apply at once to Mrs. *Powderhill*, LYTTLETON ARMS, Hales Owen."

1891 Census

High Street – LYTTLETON ARMS

[1] *Alfred E. Hingley* (41), innkeeper, born Rowley Regis;

[2] *Martha Hingley* (41), wife, born Kingswinford (?), Staffordshire;

[3] *Fred Hingley* (12), son, scholar, born Rock, Worcestershire;

[4] *Elsie Hingley* (9), daughter, scholar, born Rock, Worcestershire;

[5] *Elizabeth Cortman* (22), general servant, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Post 5/10/1893

"On Tuesday, at the Police Court, William Henry Parsons, fruiterer, of Halesowen, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting Police-constable Cox, on the 20th ult. He was also charged in conjunction with William Hackett with being disorderly on the licensed premises of the LYTTLETON ARMS, and refusing to quit. Hackett was further charged with being drunk and obstructing Police-constable Cox; while *Thomas Frederick Wood*, landlord of the LYTTLETON ARMS, was charged with permitting drunkenness.

In defence of *Wood*, Mr. Clulow said he did not deny the man was drunk, but submitted that the defendant tried his best to eject him.

Parsons was fined £3 12s 6d, including costs; *Wood* £3 16s; and Hackett £1 19s."

County Advertiser 25/8/1894

"On Tuesday the annual licensing session for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held at the Police Court.....

Superintendent Chare in his annual report stated.....

The following licensed persons had ben proceeded against and dealt with as follows.....

Thomas Frederick Wood, LYTTLETON ARMS, fined 40s and costs.....

The 'black list' was then taken.....

The first case was that of *Thomas Frederick Wood*, landlord of the LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen. Inspector Raybould said he had no objection to offer to the renewal of the license. The house had been conducted in a satisfactory manner since his convic-

tion in October. The license was renewed.”

County Advertiser 8/1/1898

“William Sherwood, of Hackett Street, Blackheath, was charged with stealing a half gallon cask of Scotch whiskey, the value of 8s 6d, belonging to Messrs. Henry Mitchell and Co., brewers, of Cape Hill, Birmingham, on the 24th ult.

Mr. J. W. Clulow appeared to prosecute, and explained that on the date in question a drayman named Cornelius Taylor was delivering the barrels from the dray at Blackheath. There he met prisoner, who rendered him assistance. Prisoner rode with him to Halesowen, and on the way he remarked that the bottle of whiskey would be a good Christmas box for some one. They called at the LYTTELTON ARMS for the purpose of having something to eat and drink, and whilst there prisoner left the house. As he did not return Taylor went out, and found that the bottle of whiskey had been stolen from the dray. Taylor gave information to Police-constable Hunt, who, in company with Police-constable Poultney, of the Stafford police, visited prisoner’s house, and there found him helplessly drunk. His daughter fetched up a bottle containing 3½ pints of whiskey, and prisoner asked the policemen to taste it, which they did. The officers went next morning, and arrested prisoner, who gave his reason for the whiskey being in his possession was because some girls broke the neck of the bottle, and he took it home. His clients of late had suffered considerably through this kind of theft.

Evidence was given by Cornelius Taylor and Police-constable Hunt, and prisoner was sent to gaol for twenty-one days with hard labour.”

Frank Bolus = Frank Bolens

County Advertiser 30/9/1899

“Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. Hayes applied on behalf of *Frank Bolens*, LYTTELTON ARMS, Halesowen, for the renewal of his license, and this was granted.”

AND

Bromsgrove Messenger 30/9/1899

“Mr. A. G. Hayes applied for the renewal of the license of the LYTTLETON ARMS. His client, *Frank Bolus*, had neglected to pay the fees, through an oversight, on the Licensing Day. The license was renewed.”

Sporting Life 13/1/1900

“Birmingham and District Licensed Victuallers’ Billiard League.

The following are the entries and starts for the third billiard tournament, open to the beer and wine trade, promoted by Messrs. Burroughes and Watts.....

F. Bolus, LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen, 60.”

Sporting Life 10/1/1901

“Mr. J. H. Ellis, the honorary secretary of the Birmingham Licensed Victuallers’ Billiard League, has favoured us with an advanced copy of the entries for this year’s competition. All the best known men in the Midlands have signified their intention of taking part in the tournament, which promises to furnish better sport than in any previous year.....

F. Bolus, LYTTELTON ARMS, Hales Owen.’

County Express 9/3/1901 - Advert

“Monday Next, March 11th, 1901, 7.30pm. Halesowen.

Large And Important Sale of Twelve Freehold Houses including Off-Beerhouse & Business Premises.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Representatives of the late Mr. Richard Tildesley to Sell By Auction (subject to conditions incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Laws Society), on Monday, March 11th, at the House of Mr. *Bolus*, The LYTTLETON ARMS, as above, at 7pm, the following attractive properties.....”

County Express 16/3/1901

“Joseph Smart conducted an important sale of property at the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, on Monday evening, acting upon instructions from the representative of the late Richard Tildesley. Lot 1, two freehold dwelling houses, with nail shops, etc, at Islington, producing £14 14s per annum, was sold to Mr. G. B. Parkes at £202 10s. Lot 2, five freehold dwelling houses, fronting Bromsgrove Street, and producing £53 13s, was also sold to Mr. G. B. Parkes for £756. Lot 3, an off-beerhouse and grocer’s shop, and a freehold dwelling house, both fronting Birmingham Road, producing £29 5s, was withdrawn at £800, but was sold privately afterwards to Mr. William Pearson. Lot 4, three freehold dwelling houses, fronting Church Street, and producing £22 2s, was sold to Mr. G. B. Parkes for £326. The result of the sale was considered most satisfactory. Messrs. Homfray, Goodman, and Mellor were the solicitors acting in the matter.”

1901 Census

High Street

[1] *Frank Bolus* (36), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Sarah Ellen Bolus (35), wife, born Frome, Somerset;

[3] Dorothy E. W. Bolus (3), daughter, born Frome, Somerset;

[4] Harriet E. Taylor (20), barmaid and domestic servant, born Burton on Trent;

[5] Amy Betsy Green (17), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Express 1/3/1902

“John Edwards and Frederick Carter of Stourbridge, and Arthur Wassell, of Brierley Hill, were charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours, and further, with falsely representing themselves to be bona fide travelers, and thereby obtaining intoxicating liquor on February 16th. Mr. J. W. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. W. S. Moberley defended. On the evening of the charge PC Bryan visited the LYTTLETON ARMS at 10.20pm, and found the three men there. They had represented to Mrs. Smith, who was in charge of the house, that they had come from Kidderminster, and as she believed them to be bone fide travelers, she supplied them with whiskey. Defendants were fined 10s and costs each in each case.”

County Advertiser 16/7/1904

“An application was made for the transfer of the LYTTLETON ARMS HOTEL, High Street, Halesowen, from *William Peacock* to *Alfred Morris*. A representative from Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers attended, and presented an agreement to the court under which the applicant was going into the house. After examining the document, Mr. Reay pointed out that the agreement only provided for twenty-eight days notice to be given whereas the custom of that Court was to fix three months. The representative of the Brewery Company urged that the agreement was in exactly the same form as those submitted and approved in Birmingham. Mr. Reay, however, replied that if they followed Birmingham’s action in certain cases, they might get themselves very much disliked. The notice was subsequently altered, and the application granted.”

County Advertiser 2/12/1905

“Small Heath Harriers.

Cradley Heath Branch..... today the branch are holding a slow run from Halesowen, starting at the LYTTLETON ARMS about 3.45.....”

1911 Census

39, High Street

- [1] *William Pick* (29), licensed victualler, born Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Alice Pick* (31), wife, married 5 years, born Dudley Port;
- [3] *Willie Pick* (2), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Alice Pick* (1), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Mary James* (49), assisting in business, born Dudley Port;
- [6] *Minnie James* (21), assisting in business, born Dudley Port:

County Express 21/10/1911

“The annual dinner in connection with the Halesowen Town Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade was held on Saturday night, at the LYTTLETON ARMS, High Street, Halesowen. About 50 members and representatives from neighbouring divisions sat down to an excellent repast served up by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *J. Pick*).....”

Birmingham Mail 22/2/1915

“Mrs. *Pick*, wife of the licensee of the LYTTLETON ARMS, High Street, Hales Owen, has received information of the death from wounds at Doerberitz, of her brother, Lance-corporal L. James, of the 1st Coldstream Guards. James was wounded early in the campaign, and after resting in base hospital went back to the front. He was wounded a second time on October 13th, being shot through the right eye, and was captured by the enemy. He died on November 30th, but official news has only just come to hand. James, who was employed at Summer Lane Power Station Birmingham, until the war broke out, served through the South African campaign.”

Lady Pugh Lodge (No.4023) of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

1939 Register

High Street – LYTTLETON ARMS

- [1] *William J. Pick*, date of birth 7/2/1880, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Alice Pick*, dob 28/3/1878, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Levi L. Pick*, dob 3/12/1913, motor mechanic, married;
- [4] *Dorothy S. (Pick) Bidmead*, dob 3/12/1913, manageress licensed premises:

William James Pick died on 10th September 1942, aged 61.

Arthur Williams was married to *Doris*.

Birmingham Daily Post 29/11/1966 - Deaths

“*Williams*. At General Hospital, Birmingham, on November 27, *Arthur William*, beloved husband of *Doris Muriel*, of the LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen, and late of the NEW INN, Halesowen, and youngest son of Elizabeth and Frederick. Cremation on Thursday at Lodge Hill, 3.40pm. No flowers, by request.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 1/3/1990

“Closed circuit cameras have been installed in a Halesowen town centre pub as part of a security crackdown. The cameras have been introduced at the LYTTLETON ARMS in the High Street. It has just reopened after a fortnight’s closure following a disturbance. Halesowen Police said four or five people were facing public disorder charges.”

[2004]

It was known locally as “Billy Pick’s”.

It was renamed PICK’S. [2007]

Express & Star 24/1/2017

“The boss at a pub where dead rats were found in a filthy cellar by hygiene inspectors has been served up a £2,000 court bill. Holes were found where rodents had gnawed through doors at PICKS in Halesowen town centre into the cellar where kegs of beer are stored, a court heard. Pub boss *Jennifer Austin* pleaded guilty to failing to comply with provision concerning food safety and hygiene at the High Street bar. She told the court that she trapped a nerve in her back when lifting a barrel, and that was why cleanliness levels had dropped.

Prosecutor Saima Ahmed Aziz told Wolverhampton Magistrates Court, ‘On February 24 last year a consumer safety team attended to carry out a routine health and safety inspection. They entered the cellar of the premises and found a number of contraventions. There were two dead rats and droppings on the floor. Photographs were taken. There were also holes in the doors where the rats got in.

Austin was ordered to get the cellar cleaned up and return visits were made on February 26 and 29, when the problems had been resolved.

Ms. Ahmed Aziz summarised a witness statement from health and safety inspectors, which said there was dirt on the walls and miscellaneous items strewn across the cellar. There were cobwebs as well as mould and flaking paint. There was also an accumulation of boxes with droppings found near them and there were two dead rats on the floor next to kegs of lager. There was also rat droppings in the vicinity, close to items being stored. The local authority offices were contacted.

The 64-year-old, from High Street, Halesowen, representing herself, said in her defence, ‘At the time the inspectors came I had trapped a nerve in my back from lifting a barrel. You know it’s all been cleaned up.’ She added, ‘There is lots of rubbish next door and that’s what has attracted the rats. I’m very sorry. The pub is not making a lot of money, we just about keep our heads above water. I’ve got all the work I was asked to do done.’

Magistrates fined her £535, and ordered her to pay £1367.37 in costs. She also had to pay a victim surcharge of £53, bringing the total sum to £1,955.37. She remains in charge of the pub, which is still open.”

Halesowen News 23/7/2019

“One of Halesowen’s oldest pubs – which had been boarded up – has undergone a makeover and is doing a thriving trade. PICKS on High Street had been empty for around 18-months after the previous landlady retired. Now new landlady and landlord *Isabel Hampton* and *Mark Griffiths* have breathed new life into the pub – splashing out more than £12k on a refurbishment. The business partners opened PICKS on July 5 after a six-week revamp – during which they completed a lot of the work themselves. They have a three-year lease on the pub with owner Heineken. *Isabel* said the makeover included a new bar and lounge, decorating of the interior, which had suffered from smoke damage from cigarettes, and repainting and improving the outside.

The 50-year-old said, ‘This is the first time I have run a pub, I have worked in a variety of pubs under management. The community in Halesowen have been very supportive. We’ve had lots of customers and it’s been great. I would like anyone who has any ideas about charity events they would like to hold here to pop into the pub. We are also hoping to have pub football and dominoes teams to really support the community and bring people together.’

Isabel and *Mark*, aged 48, are in the process of doing up the pub’s terrace which is hoped will open on the bank holiday Monday, August 26.

Halesowen BID manager Vicky Rogers said, ‘PICKS is one of the oldest pubs in Halesowen and situated smack bang in the middle of the town centre. After a long period of closure and boarded up windows the fresh looking new interior has a warm modern welcome to the people of Halesowen.’

The painting of the exterior is ongoing as *Isabel* and *Mark* are waiting for a permit for a cherry picker.

The pub opened around 1854 and was originally called the LYTTLETON ARMS, but was later renamed as a nod to former owner – *Billy Pick*.”

Halesowen News 13/1/2021

“An appeal to raise £1.7k to kick off a bid to install life-saving defibrillators across Halesowen North has been started. The SWAN pub on Long Lane has agreed to have a defib after being contacted by campaigner and fireman Stuart Henley, who has started the appeal. Defibrillators are put on the outside of buildings. To use the defib people must call 999 when they are given a code to open it and instructions on how to use it. The code changes each time it is used.

A defibrillator is on the wall of the pub PICKS on Halesowen High Street after fundraising.....”

Halesowen News 25/2/2021

“A landlord is looking forward to the future and has taken over a second pub in Halesowen. *Mark Griffiths*, landlord of PICKS on High Street, has taken over the reins at the HUNTINGTREE Pub in Alexandra Road. The 50-year-old will run the watering

hole, which is owned by Star Pubs, with his partner Melanie White, aged 47. He will open both pub's outdoor spaces on April 12, after the PM announced on Monday on his road map out of lockdown that pubs and restaurants are set to open for outdoor, seated service on this date if cases continue to drop. Then on May 17 indoor hospitality is set to reopen.....”

MALT SHOVEL

Park Row, (Park Side), (Stourbridge Road), Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Joseph Tibbetts

LICENSEES

Mrs. Elizabeth Tibbetts [1800]
Joseph Tibbetts [1841] – **1870**;
John Tibbetts [] – **1869** ?
William Tibbetts (**1870 – 1871**);
Mrs. Elizabeth Tibbetts (**1871** – [1881]
Jabez Brooks Coley [1883]
George Growcott [1884] – [1885]
Allan Beasley [1891]

NOTES

Park Row [1841]
Stourbridge Road [1851], [1871]
Park Side [1849], [1880]

SHOVEL [1860], [1870], [1872]

It had a beerhouse license.

1841 Census

Park Row

- [1] *Joseph Tibbetts* (25), provision dealer;
- [2] Sarah Tibbetts (25);
- [3] William Tibbetts (5), born Worcestershire;
- [4] John Tibbetts (2), born Worcestershire;
- [5] James Tibbetts (9 months), born Worcestershire;
- [6] Jane Forrester (10), fs, born Worcestershire:

Joseph Tibbetts was also a shopkeeper. [1849]

1851 Census

Stourbridge Road

- [1] *Joseph Tibbetts* (39), maltster and labourer, born Rowley;
- [2] Sarah Tibbetts (36), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] William Tibbetts (14), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] John Tibbetts (12), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] James Tibbetts (10), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Mary A. Tibbetts (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] Eliza Tibbetts (6), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] Ann Tibbetts (3), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] Sarah Tibbetts (1), daughter, born Cradley;
- [10] Sarah Tate (23), general servant, born Rowley:

Worcester Journal 2/9/1854

“Friday last being the day for granting victuallers’ licenses.....

There were seven fresh applications Joseph Tibbetts, Cradley.....

The Bench, taking into consideration the contemplated Act relative to public-houses, and which would probably be enacted previous to the next licensing meeting, granted a license to each of the above applicants.”

Joseph Tibbetts was also a maltster. [1855]

Joseph Tibbetts, SHOVEL INN and shopkeeper, Parkside [1860]

1861 Census

Turnpike Road – MALT SHOVEL INN

[1] *Joseph Tibbetts* (48), maltster, publican and grocer, born Rowley;

[2] Sarah Tibbetts (46), wife, born Rowley;

[3] William Tibbetts (24), son, maltster, born Cradley;

[4] John Tibbetts (22), son, general shopman, born Cradley;

[5] Mary A. Tibbetts (18), daughter born Cradley;

[6] Eliza Tibbetts (15), daughter, born Cradley;

[7] Sarah Tibbetts (11), daughter, scholar, born Cradley:

Joseph Tibbetts was described as a grocer and maltster. [1864], [1865]

Worcestershire Chronicle 6/7/1864 - Marriages

“June 27th, at Park Lane Chapel, Netherend, by the Rev. Wm. Cochrane, John, second son of Mr. *Joseph Tibbetts*, Colley Gate, Cradley, to Susannah, second daughter of Mr. John Fletcher, of the Lye, near Stourbridge.”

County Advertiser 19/6/1869 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, with good character.

Apply to Mrs. *John Tibbets*, MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1869

“Mr. *John Tibbets*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL, INN, Cradley, while walking with a friend in the Market Hall yesterday, complained of feeling poorly, and began to spit blood. He became rapidly worse, and a cab was procured for his removal to the Queens Hospital. The vomiting of blood increased, and the unfortunate man expired on the way to the Hospital. Death is supposed to have been caused by the breaking of blood vessels.”

Stourbridge Observer 27/11/1869

“An inquest was held at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, on Friday, the 19th instant, on the body of a youth aged nineteen years named Joseph Bunn. The injuries which caused the death of the deceased were inflicted on the 5th inst. Pistols were being discharged at a bonfire in the vicinity of his home, and he was proceeding up the garden to join his companions when one exploded just as he ran opposite to it. The contents were lodged in his leg, and he was carried home.

Dr. Bloxham, the parish doctor of Halesowen, was sent for. Dr. Malins also attended him. Lock-jaw ensued and the unfortunate boy got worse, and eventually succumbed to his injuries.

After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

William Tibbetts died in 1870.

1871 Census

Stourbridge Road

[1] *Elizabeth Tibbetts* (33), widow, licensed victualler and grocer, born Tronkporton, Shropshire;

[2] Sarah Tibbetts (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[3] Mary Tibbetts (5), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[4] Elizabeth Tibbetts (7 months), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] Mary Hamnett (65), widow, mother, born Drayton, Staffordshire;

[6] Elizabeth Godworth (21), general servant, born Quarry Bank:

Elizabeth Tibbetts was also a grocer. [1873], [1880]

County Express 10/11/1877

“Cradley Conservative Association. A meeting of this Association was held at the house of Mrs. *Tibbets*, MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, on Tuesday evening last.....”

1881 Census

[1] *Elizabeth Tibbetts* (44), widow, innkeeper and grocer;

[2] Sarah E. Tibbetts (17), daughter, milliner, born Cradley;

[3] Mary E. Tibbetts (15), daughter, born Cradley;

[4] Elizabeth Tibbetts (10), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] Ann Lycett (15), servant, born Stourbridge:

County Express 26/11/1881 - Marriages

“On the 12th inst, at the Registrar’s Office, Stourbridge, *Jabez Brooks*, son of *Samuel Coley*, provision merchant, Cradley Heath, to *Sarah Eliza*, eldest daughter of the late *Wm. Tibbets*, MALT SHOVEL INN, Cradley.”

County Express 15/4/1882 - Advert

“In Liquidation. Re *Elizabeth Tibbets*.

Unreserved Sale at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, on the above Premises, on Monday, April 24th, 1882, the whole of the Excellent Brewing Plant, Public House and Grocer’s Shop Fittings and Fixtures, Stock-in-Trade, the Household Furniture, and other Effects. Sale at Eleven o’clock in the Morning.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 22/4/1882 - Advert

“Withdrawal Of Sale.

The Sale of Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, and Effects, at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, advertised to take place on Monday next, the 24th inst, Is Withdrawn.

T. Pateshall, Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

Sporting Life 26/8/1882

“In reply to Sam Tate, of Colley Gate, Tom Deeley will accept twenty yards start in 200, from Walter James, of Bell Vale, for as much money as he or his friends can find, and will wager £5 or £10 that he beats him. A match can be made any night from eight till ten at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate. If this does not suit Billy Grove shall run him.”

County Express 24/2/1883 - Advert

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In The County Court of Worcestershire, Holden at Stourbridge.

In the matter of a Special Resolution for the Liquidation of the affairs of *Elizabeth Tibbets*, of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, in the County of Worcester.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that a General Meeting of the said Debtor will be held at the house of Mr. William Oliver, TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Saturday, the 3rd day of March next, at Half-past Three o’clock in the Afternoon, for the following purposes.

1. To audit the accounts of the Trustee. 2. To fix remuneration of the Trustee. 3. To resolve or otherwise as to the Debtor’s discharge. 4. To release the Trustee. 5. To declare a first and final dividend. 6. To close the Liquidation, and to do any other business necessary.

Dated this 14th day of February, 1883. Thomas Homer, Solicitor, Brierley Hill. For Trustee, John Chappell.”

County Express 10/4/1883

“*Jabez Coley*, MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, was charged with permitting gaming on his premises on the 26th ult. Mr. Waldron defended.

Police-constable Chare visited the premises in company with Police-constable Myles and hearing a noise inside they looked through the window and saw the landlord and two men named Cox plying with corks. They afterwards went in and told the landlord they would make out a report against him for permitting gambling.

The Bench fined defendant 20s and costs, telling him he must be careful or he would have his license endorsed, the spirit of the age being against that type of thing.”

County Express 16/6/1883

“*Jabez Coley*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 10th inst. Two young women were found on the premises on Sunday last drinking whisky and smoking cigars. Police-constable Chare proved the case, and defendant was fined 40s and costs.

Emma Parkes and Lucy Parkes, the two young women found on the premises, were afterwards charged with being drunk. The charge against the latter was dismissed, the former was fined 5s.”

County Express 25/8/1883

“The following petitions for liquidation have been filed in the Stourbridge County Court.....

Mr. Thomas Homer, solicitor, has filed a petition on behalf of *Jabez Brooks Coley*, MALT SHOVEL INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, publican and grocer, liabilities £300. M. J. E. Chappell is appointed receiver.”

County Advertiser 29/9/1883

“The adjourned licensing session for the petty sessional division of Stourbridge was held yesterday.....

All the license holders whose names appeared on the black list, numbering forty, applied for the renewal of their licenses. The whole of the licenses were granted with the exception of the following, which were refused.....

Jabez Coley, MALT SHOVEL INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 19/7/1884 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

I, *George Growcott*, now residing at Colley Gate, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, being the occupier of the House and Premises called the MALT SHOVEL INN, situate at Colley Gate, aforesaid, and late in the occupation of *Jabez Brooks Coley*, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the Special Sessions to be holden at the Court House, Hagley Street, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 1st day of August next ensuing, for the grant to me of a License to Sell by Retail, under the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, 1828, all Intoxicating Liquors lately held by the said *Jabez Brooks Coley*, to be consumed either on or off the Premises, at a house situate at Colley Gate, Cradley, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and being within the said Division.

The owners of the house in respect of which the License is required are Sarah Tibbetts, of Colley Gate, aforesaid, Widow, and Charles Henry Hardeman, of Newcastle-under-Lyme, in the County of Stafford, Gentleman.

Given under my hand this 11th day of July, 1884.

George Growcott.”

County Advertiser 8/8/1885 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

I, *George Growcott*, now residing at Parkside, Colley Gate, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Court House, Hagley Street, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 21st day of August, next ensuing, for License to hold any Excise License or Licenses, to Sell by Retail under the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, 1828, all Intoxicating Liquors to be consumed either on or off the Premises, at a House situate at Parkside, Colley Gate, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and being within the said Division.

The Owners of the House in respect of which the License is required are the Trustees of the will of the late *Joseph Tibbetts*.

Given under my hand, this 15th day of July, 1885.

George Growcott.”

County Express 22/8/1885

“Annual Licensing Meeting at Stourbridge.

Mr. Perry applied for a new license for the MALT SHOVEL INN, Cradley, on behalf of *George Growcott*. He said the house had been licensed for fifty years until 1883, when the license was forfeited in consequence of the misconduct of the person then occupying it. Mr. *Growcott* had kept the SAMPSON AND LION, Pensnett, for nineteen years without complaint, and came into possession of the MALT SHOVEL last year, when a license was applied for, but not granted, owing to an irregularity in the notice. Police Constable Croucher said there were seven licensed houses, five of which were old-licensed, within 300 yards of applicant’s house.

The Bench said they were quite satisfied with the testimonials presented by Mr. Perry on behalf of the applicant, but they considered an additional house was not required in the locality, and the license was therefore refused.”

George Growcott – see also SAMPSON AND LION, Pensnett, Brierley Hill.

1891 Census

Park Row

[1] *Allan Beasley* (49), chainmaker and publican, born Cradley;

[2] *Susannah Beasley* (43), wife, born Cradley;

[3] *Selena Beasley* (18), daughter, born Cradley;

[4] *Elizabeth Beasley* (16), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] *Caroline Beasley* (13), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[6] *Frank Beasley* (11), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[7] *Sarah Beasley* (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[8] *Ellen Beasley* (5), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[9] *Frederick Beasley* (2), son, born Cradley:

It closed in the 1890s.

It had a malthouse adjacent, which was demolished in the 1920s.

MALT SHOVEL

Church Street, (High Street) / Church Lane, (Dog Lane), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Hodgetts and Cooper, brewers, Halesowen

LICENSEES

Joseph Frost [1822]
William Willetts [1835]
Mrs. Ann Willetts [1841] – **1873**)
Edward Paskin [1873] – [1884]
Mrs. Elizabeth Parish [1888]
William Davies Speake [1891]
William Mulluck [1892] manager
Charles Rotheroe [1894] – [1895]
Walter Rose [1896] – [1901]
Samuel Hackett [1903] – **1904**);
Walter Clark (**1904** – []
Daniel Parsons (**1906** – []
Harry D Young (**1906** – []
James Winfield [1911] – [1912]
Stephen George Bayley (**1912** – [1916]
Mrs. Emily “Emmie” Askey [1921]
E J Blackford [1923]
Leonard Warner [1923]
Peter Troman [] – **1925**);
Stephen George Bayley (**1925** – []

NOTES

Dog Lane [1822]
Church Street [1865], [1873]
Church Lane [1896], [1912]

1841 Census

Church Street

- [1] *Ann Willetts* (50), innkeeper;
- [2] Sarah Willetts (25), born Worcestershire;
- [3] Ann Willetts (15), born Worcestershire;
- [4] Joseph Willetts (15), born Worcestershire;
- [5] Sarah Willetts (4), born Worcestershire:

Ann Willetts was also a maltster. [1845]

1851 Census

Church Street

- [1] *Anne Willetts* (60), widow, victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Sarah Willetts (14), grand-daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [3] Sophia Hodgetts (19), general servant, born Quinton;
- [4] Charles Walters (49), servant, ostler, born Bishops Castle, Shropshire;
- [5] Sarah Ann Walters (3), grand-daughter, born Darby Hand:

Ann Willetts was summoned for assault in April 1857. The case was dismissed.

1861 Census

Church Street – MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *Ann Willetts* (71), widow, victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Eliza Hill (26), servant, born Cradley;
- [3] Joseph Cole (5), visitor, born Cradley:

1871 Census

Church Street – MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *Ann Willetts* (80), widow, licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Sarah A. Cole (23), grand-daughter, companion, born Netherton;

[3] Harry Cole (10), grand-son, scholar, born Netherton:

County Advertiser 21/9/1872

“Benjamin Randle was charged with cutting and wounding William Tether on Friday, the 30th ult, at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Halesowen. Mr. Shakespeare appeared for the defence.

Complainant said he was in defendant’s company at the MALT SHOVEL INN on Friday, the 30th ult. There were several in the house drinking, and in the course of the evening Randle said he should like to have his revenge on one man in the house, and William Wall asked him who he would like to have his revenge upon. He answered William Tether. About eleven o’clock the company were leaving the house. Defendant went out first, and when complainant got into the road defendant rushed at him and stabbed him in the left thigh and arm. He (complainant) asked him what he was doing, and he said that was the way to settle him. Two men carried him home, and prisoner following saying, ‘Never mind fetching a doctor, I will pay all expenses.’ He had not had any quarrel with defendant at all. They were both sober at the time. Defendant and he had worked together for some time, and they had had quarrels before; but they had no quarrel on that night.

Simeon Tether said he was at the MALT SHOVEL on the night in question. He saw prisoner and complainant there. There was no quarrel in the house. He heard defendant say he should like to have his revenge on one man in the house. They all left the house together. He saw defendant run up to complainant, who cried out that he was stabbed. Complainant seemed to be in much pain.

George Slater said that he knew the prisoner. He saw him on the morning of the 30th, about six o’clock. Prisoner said to Tether, ‘You need to thank God you are alive now.’

Mr. Octavius William Hoffman, surgeon, Halesowen, said he was fetched about a quarter past eleven pm, to complainant’s house. He found him seated on a chair, and he ordered him upstairs, where he examined him. He found two incised wounds, one on the left thigh, and one on the left arm. The one on the arm was two inches long, and the one on the thigh about four inches long; he could not say how deep. They were of a dangerous character, and might have been made by the pocket knife produced.

Police-sergeant Kennedy said he apprehended Randle, and charged him with unlawfully cutting and wounding William Tether. Randle told him it would take forty police to take him to the lock-up till he had seen complainant. He then got very violent, and resisted very much. He searched defendant, and found the knife produced. Defendant said, ‘That is not the knife I did it with, you will not find any blood upon it.’ When locking prisoner up he said to witness, ‘£20 won’t settle this job, but £40 will.’

Prisoner was committed for trial at the March assizes.”

[At Worcester on 4th March 1873, Benjamin Randle was found guilty of unlawfully wounding and sentenced to three calendar months with hard labour.]

Stourbridge Observer 30/11/1872 - Died

“On the 25th ult, aged 60, Edward *Willets* of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Halesowen.”

Ann Willets died in 1873.

Birmingham Daily Post 13/6/1873

“Mr. S. Leonard has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Hales Owen, This Day (Friday), the 13th day of June, at 6 for 7 o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read.

All that valuable, Freehold, well-accustomed, Old-licensed Public House, known as the MALT SHOVEL INN, Hales Owen, aforesaid; containing Bar, Parlour, Tap Room, Club Room, three Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, three Cellars, Stable and other Appurtenances thereto.

Also all those Two Freehold Tenements or Dwelling Houses adjoining, in the occupation of Mrs. Adams and John Hodgetts. For further particulars apply to William Hayes, Esq, Solicitor, Hales Owen; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

Edward Paskin = Edward Parkin

County Express 2/10/1875

“The adjourned licensing session was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.

The following persons, who had been convicted during the year, were called before the Bench and cautioned.....

Edward Paskin, MALT SHOVEL, Halesowen.”

County Express 16/9/1876

“Halesowen Annual Licensing Sessions.....

The magistrates approved alterations made to the premises of the following.....

Mr. *Paskin*, MALT SHOVEL INN.”

County Express 27/1/1877 - Advert

“Desirable Long Leasehold Property at Hasbury and Halesowen.

Mr. W. Fiddian is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Halesowen, on Monday, February 5th, 1877, at Six o’clock in the Evening, and subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

County Advertiser 28/7/1877 - Advert

“Found, on Wednesday Evening last, in Stourbridge, large Black Retriever Dog.

Apply, MALT SHOVEL INN, Halesowen. If not claimed within three days, will be sold to defray expenses.”

County Express 29/9/1877 - Advert

“Freehold Property, at Spring Hill, Halesowen.

Mr. S. Leonard will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Paskin*, the MALT SHOVEL INN, Halesowen, on Tuesday, the 9th day of October, 1877, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.....”

County Advertiser 24/1/1880 - Advert

“MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. E. Smart, on Wednesday Next, January 28th, 1880, a quantity of Household Furniture and other Effects (removed to the above Inn for convenience of Sale.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1880 - Advert

“Hales Owen. Old Cross, noted old-licensed house centre of market; bar, parlour, smoke room, large room suitable for suppers, would take well. Splendid opportunity. Brewing plant. In-coming low.

Apply, MALT SHOVEL, Hales Owen.”

1881 Census

Church Street – MALT SHOVEL INN

[1] *Edward Paskin* (39), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Emma Paskin* (34), wife, born Kingswinford;

[3] *Harry Paskin* (14), son, scholar, born Lye;

[4] *George Paskin* (10), son, scholar, born Lye;

[5] *Florence Paskin* (1), daughter, born Halesowen;

[6] *Ann Pardoe* (16), general servant, born Lye:

County Advertiser 26/8/1882 - Advert

“Valuable Dwelling-Houses, Halesowen.

Mr. E. Smart will Sell by Auction, by order of the Mortgagees, on Monday, the 4th day of September, at Six for Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to the usual conditions, at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Hales Owen.....”

County Express 30/3/1889

“On Monday night an inquiry was held relative to the death of *John Wright* (34), nailer, of Church Street, at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Halesowen, by Mr. A. H. Hebbert, deputy coroner.

It appeared from the evidence given that for the past twelve months deceased had been ailing. On Saturday he became worse, and ruptured a blood vessel, and died before medical aid could be obtained.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/5/1889 - Advert

“Pianist. Wanted, a young lady, willing to make herself useful. Good home.

MALT SHOVEL HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

William Davies Speake = William Davies Speke

1891 Census

Church Street – MALT SHOVEL HOTEL

[1] *William D. Speake* (39), hotel keeper, born Kempt Town, Middlesex;

[2] *Kate N. Speake* (33), wife, born Cookstown, Ireland;

[3] *William J. H. Speake* (14), son, scholar, born Worcester;

[4] *Violet N. Speake* (6), daughter, born Eastbourne, Sussex;

[5] *Ellen Minett* (16), domestic servant, born Kidderminster:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/4/1891 - Advert

“Pianist. Young Lady Wanted.

Apply, MALT SHOVEL HOTEL, Church Street, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/12/1891

“Sir Rupert Kettle held a special sitting at Stourbridge County Court, yesterday, to finish the case of *Speke v Hodgetts and Cooper*, in which the plaintiff claimed damage for alleged fraudulent representation in regard to a public-house he took from defendants, at Hales Owen, in January last. The defendant counter-claimed £10 8s for rent, £17 13s 8d for goods, and £7 10s for loss of profits through mismanagement of the house. Mr. Parfitt (instructed by Messrs. Stokes and Hooper, Dudley) appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by Mr. Waldron, Brierley Hill) for the defendants, Arthur Hodgetts and Joseph Cooper, who are brewers and maltsters at Hale Owen.

Plaintiff, *William Davies Speke*, up to December last year kept a public-house at Stourport, and subsequently entered into negoti-

ations with defendants to take a house of theirs, known as the MALT SHOVEL, at Hales Owen. He took the house, but when in possession said the takings fell much below what had been represented to him. The takings in his best week were £8 5s 11d, and the lowest under £3, while he stated he was told they were £12 and upwards. The Hales Owen magistrates refused to transfer the license to him, and ultimately he left the house.

The defence was a denial that any statements were made to plaintiff as to the takings of the house.

Mr. Cooper said the plaintiff asked if he would guarantee the takings were £10 a week, and he said he would not guarantee anything.

The other defendant also denied there was any guarantee given to plaintiff as to takings of the house.

In the course of cross-examination Hodgetts said he never suggested to plaintiff as a way of eking out the takings he should keep a betting book. He knew betting took place at the house, and whilst it was going on plaintiff did more. They told him he must not do it.

After a prolonged hearing, his Honour gave a verdict in favour of plaintiff on the claim for £44 and costs; and in favour of defendants on the counter-claim for £23 8s and costs."

Birmingham Daily Post 23/3/1892

"At the Police Court, yesterday, *William Mulluck*, manager of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, was charged with selling beer without a license on the 9th inst; also with being drunk on the licensed premises of Joseph Cooper, on the 8th inst. He was further charged with unlawfully wounding Charles White on the 8th inst. Mr. Waldron defended.

Inspector Raybould said that on the day named he visited the licensed premises of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, about 10.50 at night, and found defendant was drunk. Witness asked defendant for his license, but he could not produce it.

The case of selling ale without a license was dismissed on payment of costs.

Police-constable Heatheridge proved the case of drunkenness.

The Bench did not think the evidence was strong, and dismissed the case.

The charge of wounding was also dismissed."

Charles Rotheroe = Charles Rotherham

County Advertiser 25/8/1894

"On Tuesday the annual licensing session for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held at the Police Court.....

Application for other licenses were then taken.....

Charles Rotherham, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL, applied for the renewal of his license. Inspector Raybould said he did not oppose the application, but he thought applicant was hardly capable of conducting a house. He had no control over the present house, and there were frequent disturbances there.

Mr. Grove said he appeared for the applicant, who desired him to offer an explanation in regard to the conduct of his house. He was instructed that the great objection was that music was continually going on in the house.

Mr. Reay said the objection was the applicant's own conduct.

Mr. Grove said his instructions were that the opposition was on account of the music that had been given in the house. His client, however, promised to do all that the police wished him to do, and carry on the house in a satisfactory manner.

Mr. Reay said it was important that the holder of a license should be a temperate man himself. As the Inspector did not object, they would grant the license, although the applicant must be careful in the future."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1894

"Yesterday, at the Police Court, *Charles Rotheroe*, of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Hales Owen, was fined £2 7s 6d, including costs, for furiously driving a horse on the 27th of August. Police-constable Harrison and another witness deposed that the horse was travelling at the rate of thirteen miles per hour in Birchfield Road, Oldbury. Mr. Grove, who defended, denied that the defendant was driving furiously."

Birmingham Daily Post 3/10/1894

"Joseph Tildesley, Halesowen, was fined 13s 6d, including costs, for having been drunk on the licensed premises of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Hales Owen, on the 27th of September."

AND

County Advertiser 6/10/1894

"Joseph Tildesley, of the OLD LYTTTELTON ARMS INN, High Street, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the MALT SHOVEL INN, on the 27th ult.

Police-constable Macnamara said he visited the MALT SHOVEL INN on the night of the 27th, at about 8.30, and again at about 10.30. On each occasion he saw the defendant there, and on the second visit defendant was drunk. Defendant was afterwards taken home.

Police-constable Leight corroborated.

Inspector Raybould said at about 10.50 on the evening in question he visited the MALT SHOVEL INN. On his way there he saw defendant being assisted home. He afterwards told the landlord what he had seen, and the landlord made no reply.

Defendant said he was playing the piano each time the officers went to the house. He was not drunk.

Fined 2s 6d and costs, or fourteen days."

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court..... The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *Walter Rose*, MALT SHOVEL HOTEL, Church Street, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for..... In the cases of *Walter Rose* the objections of the police remained good, and these were postponed until the 20th inst, when the adjourned Sessions will be held.”

County Advertiser 3/10/1896

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held on Tuesday..... Inspector Raybould said that in the cases of *Walter Rose* the structural alterations required had been carried out, and he, therefore, withdrew his objections to the renewal of the licenses. The licenses were renewed to the applicants.”

County Express 13/11/1897

“The Shenstone Rover Challenge Cup, radius seven miles, can be seen at the MALT SHOVEL, Church Street, Halesowen; for all non-association teams. Entrance fee 2s. All entries to be sent to the secretary, A. Jones, New Buildings, White Hall, Halesowen, and the draw to be on 24th November inst.”

County Express 27/11/1897

“The Halesowen Fire Brigade were entertained at supper on Thursday evening at the MALT SHOVEL, by Mr. and Mrs. *W. Rose*. Captain R. Rowney presided, and there were 13 other firemen present, and several friends. After the tables had been cleared songs etc were rendered. Captain Rowney, in a short speech, said he had been connected with the Halesowen Fire Brigade for nearly 30 years, and that night was the first time they had been entertained to dinner or supper, and he hoped that it would not be the last, but that their neighbours would rally round them. He then gave the toast of the ‘Halesowen Fire Brigade,’ and coupled with it the ‘Host and Hostess,’ to which the host responded.”

1901 Census

Church Street – MALT SHOVEL HOTEL

[1] *Walter Rose* (37), public house manager and brewer’s drayman, born Halesowen;

[2] Fanny Rose (45), wife, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 5/3/1904

“Richard Rudge, of Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk at the MALT SHOVEL INN on the night of the 20th ult. Inspector Griffin stated that on the night in question he visited the MALT SHOVEL INN, and found defendant in the passage in a very drunken condition, and staggering about. The landlord said the man had just come in through the back way. Defendant was fined 2s 6d, and costs 5s 6d.”

AND

“Charles Hadley, of High Street, Halesowen, was charged with stealing 28lbs of coal, belonging to *Samuel Hackett*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, on the 26th ult.

Police-constable Beswick stated that at 4.30 in the morning he saw defendant go into prosecutor’s yard and take the coal. Witness arrested him, and in reply said that his wife had been confined, and that he had no coal in the house.

Prosecutor said he did not wish to press the case. Defendant had had a great deal of trouble lately, and he had had engaged him to do occasional jobs of work.

The case was withdrawn, prosecutor paying the costs.”

County Advertiser 4/6/1904

“*Samuel Hackett*, landlord of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, Halesowen, was summoned for being drunk upon his licensed premises on the 24th ult. He was also charged with assaulting Thomas Bradley, of Hawne Lane, Halesowen, on the same date.

Bradley alleged that on the date named he was drinking at defendant’s house, and as he was going through the passage *Hackett* met him and gave him a violent blow in the face. Witness then went over to the Police Station and lodged a complaint, as a result of which Inspector Griffin and Police-sergeant Hanley paid a visit to the house and found defendant in a drunken condition.

Mr. S. Vernon, who defended, pleaded guilty to the charge of drunkenness, but denied the assault. He admitted that defendant had had some beer during the day. Defendant served in the South African campaign, and had only been in the house about twelve months. Whilst in South Africa defendant suffered from sunstroke and also from enteric fever. He was still subject to attacks as a result of his illness in South Africa, and on the day in question he had been put about a great deal. Defendant was now under notice to leave the premises, and under those circumstances he urged the magistrates to deal leniently with him. Several witnesses were called on both sides.

The Bench fined defendant 5s and costs in each case, amounting in all to £1 9s 6d.

Hackett preferred a charge against Bradley of being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises, but after hearing the

evidence the Bench dismissed the case.

Mr. Somers said defendant was in such a condition that no reliance could be placed upon his evidence.”

1911 Census

Church Lane

[1] *James Winfield* (62), police pensioner and licensed victualler, born Stafford;

[2] *Mary Ann Winfield* (58), wife, married 38 years, born Great Barr;

[3] *Mary Ann Elizabeth Salt* (29), daughter, married, born Tividale;

[4] *William Salt* (31), son-in-law, clerk, tube works, born Brierley Hill;

[5] *James William Herbert Salt* (6), grand-son, born Quinton;

[6] *Esther Salt* (4), grand-daughter, born Blackheath;

[7] *Lilian May Salt* (1), grand-daughter, born Halesowen;

[8] *Mary Ann Elizabeth Winfield* (7), grand-daughter, born Quinton:

Stephen George Bayley = Stephen George Bailey

Dudley Chronicle 20/7/1912

“Mr. *Stephen George Bailey* applied at Halesowen Police Court on Tuesday for permission to erect a wall to enclose the licensed premises of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Halesowen. The application was granted, Mr. *Bailey* stating that there would be no enlargement of the licensed premises.”

County Express 5/3/1921

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The adjourned licensing sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday at the Police Court, the chairman (Mr. J. G. Reay) presiding. There were also present Mrs. Hunter, Messrs. B. Marsland, G. Hadley, J. Parsons (Cakemore), E. Partridge, W. L. Brown and J. Parsons (Halesowen).

Mr. E. H. Grove applied for the renewal of the license of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, Halesowen, which had been deferred from the annual licensing sessions in consequence of a conviction against the licensee, *Emmie Askey*. He pointed out that Mrs. *Askey* had all her money at stake in the house, and how on earth she committed the offence, which was a most flagrant and open one, most people could not understand. He urged that the offence was committed under an old war time measure, which ought to be ruled out. He could assure the Bench that it had been a lesson to his client in the conduct of the house, and that in future she would be more careful in the manner in which the premises were kept.

The Chairman said the license would be renewed, because they realised that the offence was a lapse. Mrs. *Askey* must be more careful in the future.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/2/1922

“A general decrease in convictions for drunkenness were reported at Licensing Sessions held yesterday at Wolverhampton, Stafford, Leamington, Halesowen, and Tipton.

Superintendent Walters reported at Halesowen that 67 licensed houses in the division gave one license to every 352 persons.....

An application for the closing hours of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, to be extended from 2 to 3 o'clock in order to supply drink with meals, was dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/9/1923

“When an application was made at Halesowen Police Court yesterday for the transfer of the license of the MALT SHOVEL INN, Church Street, from *Leonard Warner* to *Peter Tromans*, the Chairman (Mr. J. G. Reay) called attention to the number of changes in the management recently, and said the Bench would not put up with them.

It appeared that brewery companies obtained tenants for the houses, then something happened, and they quietly turned round and got rid of the offending tenant.

The Bench were opposed to this type of thing and were going to stop it.

Mr. E. H. Grove explained that the changes in this case had been necessary by the disappearance of a previous tenant.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/6/1929

“The Worcestershire County Licensing Committee, at a meeting yesterday, decided to refer, subject to compensation, the following licenses.....

MALT SHOVEL, Church Street, Halesowen.”

Closed

It became a private residence.

Demolished

MAY POLE

5, Cradley Forge, Maypole Hill, CRADLEY

OWNERS

John Mason and Co. (Quarry Bank)
Home Brewery (Quarry Bank)
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1896)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

Samuel Leonard Snr. [1831] – [1845]
Samuel Leonard Jnr. [1849] – **1890**
Thomas Harper [1892]
James Henry Smith [1894]
John Mason [1897] – [1901]
Frances Elizabeth Mason []
John Hill [1903] – **1905**;
William Henry Shilton (**1905 – 1906**);
Aaron Unwin (**1906 – 1908**);
Joseph Richard Barnes (**1908 – 1910**);
Aaron Unwin (**1910 – 1911**);
Mrs. Mary Anderton Twist (**1911 – 1928**);
Mrs. Mary Ann Twist (**1928 – 1930**);
Hubert Gerald Hadlington (**1930 – 1940**);
Henry John ‘Harry’ Parkes (**1940 – [1942]**)
Herbert Cooper [1956]

NOTES

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 2/5/1831 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Building Land, near Cradley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, at the house of Mr. *Leonard*, the MAY POLE at Cradley, Tomorrow (Tuesday) May 3, at four o’clock in the afternoon, under the usual conditions.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 2/7/1832 - Advert

“Freehold Land at Quarry Bank.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, at the MAYPOLE INN, at Cradley, on Thursday next, June 5, at four o’clock in the afternoon, under the usual conditions.....”

This was a major venue for public auctions for several decades.

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/8/1835

“Staffordshire Adjourned Sessions.....

Daniel Lunn and Joseph Meeke were indicted for stealing 1 ton, 1 cwt, 2 qrs of cast iron, the property of John Brawn, at Rushall. Mr. Ferrard conducted the prosecution.

Richard Picken, the principal witness, a workman of Mr. Brawn’s, lime-master, at Daw End Works, Sheffield, observed early on the morning of the 20th of July last, that a quantity of old iron rails, pipes, &c had been removed from the premises in the night. It appeared, from the marks he noticed, that a cart and horse, and two men had been employed in conveying the iron away. The marks made by one pair of shoes were rather peculiar, and he traced those marks, and also those made by the cart and horse, for a long distance – namely, as far as Cradley Forge, thirteen miles from Daw End. He (Picken) was engaged in tracking the marks from about six o’clock in the morning until eleven. At Cradley Forge he found the iron, which had been brought there that morning by two men, and purchased by Mr. *Leonard*, the foreman of Cradley Iron Works. Mr. *Leonard* directed him to a public house near, the MAYPOLE, where the prisoners were. Witness examined the shoes of Meeke, and found that they corresponded with the marks which he had tracked to Cradley. They admitted that they had done it, and wished to make it up.

Mr. Merywether Turner, who appeared for the prisoner Lunn, cross-examined the witness, who admitted that Lunn, at first, denied having been concerned in the business; he also said that he examined Lunn’s shoes, but they were not the shoes that had made the marks he had observed. Lunn offered to lend Meeke £5 if he made it up.

Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, clerk to Mr. Avers, of Cradley Iron Works, proved that the two prisoners came, on the 20th of this month, between 10 and 11 o’clock in the morning. They brought a cart load of old iron. Witness paid Meeke for the iron. They had been five times before with iron to sell – he could speak positively to Meeke; and he was sure that Lunn had been twice or three times.

They came on the 20th of June, and said they could bring 20 tons of old iron. That brought on the 20th of June he supposed to be part of the 20 tons. As soon as they had left the yard, Picken and another man came. Picken saw the iron, and said it was his master's. Witness directed them to the MAYPOLE public house, where they had gone, and sent for a constable. Witness afterwards went to the MAYPOLE, which is his own house. Picken said he had tracked the men by their shoes.

Cross-examined. – Meeke received the money for the iron each time. Meeke's name was on the cart.

Jos. Harper, the constable produced part of the iron, which Picken identified.

Mr. C. Darwall produced a declaration made before the magistrates by Lunn in which he admitted having assisted Meeke in loading and carrying the iron.

A former conviction of felony being included in the charge against Lunn, Mr. Brutton, Governor of the County Prison, proved that he was the same Jos. Lunn who was convicted of felony at the Summer Assizes in 1827.

On the prisoners being asked what they had to say in their defence, Lunn observed that he was merely employed by Meeke to assist in conveying the iron. Meeke said that Lunn borrowed his horse and cart and he would not lend them without going with him. Jno. Ellis and two or three other persons gave Meeke a good character.

The Jury found both the prisoners guilty, but recommended Meeke to mercy on account of his former good character.

The Rev. J. Clare sentenced the prisoners each to be transported for 7 years."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/11/1837

"On Tuesday an inquest was held before Mr. Hughes, coroner, at the MAYPOLE public-house, Cradley Forge, Cradley, near Stourbridge, on the body of Humphrey Reynolds, who was found under the wheel of an iron forge, on the river Stour, on the previous Saturday morning. It appeared by the evidence that the deceased was seen in a state of intoxication a short time before the body was found. The surgeon gave his opinion that the deceased died from drowning, but the violence apparent on his body, occasioned by injuries from a wheel in the water, used for the iron works, was also sufficient to cause his death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/11/1838

"On Tuesday last, the Court Leet and Court Baron of the Right Hon. Lord Lyttleton was held at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, when Thomas Wood, Esq. was re-elected bailiff; T. Parks, constable; John Brettell, headborough, and Noah Beaske, victual taster."

Samuel Leonard, iron roller, married Nancy Williams Ingley on 30th December 1838.

1841 Census

Cradley Forge

[1] *Samuel Leonard* (60), publican;

[2] Betty Leonard (60);

[3] James Leonard (15), baler (?), born Worcestershire;

[4] John Coatman (20), brewer;

[5] Phoebe Beddoes (15), fs;

[6] Ann Jenks (15), fs, born Worcestershire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 2/7/1845 - Advert

"Wanted. A Blacksmith, who thoroughly understands his business in the general line, is a good Shoeing Smith, and has a knowledge of Farriery. To a steady industrious man liberal wages will be given, and a permanent situation secured.

Apply to Mr. *Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, near Stourbridge."

Worcestershire Chronicle 29/9/1847

"Odd Fellowship. On Monday last the Hand of Charity Lodge of the above Order, Stourbridge district, held their accustomed anniversary feast at the MAYPOLE INN, Cheadle. The officers and brothers proceeded through the Delph in a very orderly manner, headed by their worthy host, *Leonard*, in his carriage, and enlivened by a good band and splendid regalia, they marched through Brierley Hill, and on their return attended Quarry Bank Chapel. Divine service being over, they proceeded in a circuitous route through Netherend, to the Lodge House, where an ample and substantial dinner awaited them. More than 70 of the brethren, with some visiting friends, sat down. Mr. Stanton surgeon, of Brierley Hill, was unanimously called to the chair the vice-chair being ably sustained by Mr. Lilley, PG of the lodge, and a very pleasant evening was spent."

Birmingham Journal 16/12/1848 - Advert

"Eligible and Valuable Freehold Building land, at Quarry Bank, Kingswinford.

To be Sold by Auction, by Thomas Pitt Stokes, on Tuesday, the 26th day of December instant, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions which will be then produced....."

Worcestershire Chronicle 19/6/1850

"The Lye, Quarry Bank, Cradley, and Rowley Regis Land Society.

The committee of this society have just completed a purchase of six acres of land from Messrs. Pargeter and Darby, on terms alike honourable to these gentlemen and satisfactory to the members. The fields are situate between the Four Ways Church and New Town, in the parish of Rowley. There will be about 50 allotments, and as soon as they have been divided by the surveyors (Messrs. Oates and Perrens of Stourbridge), the ballot will take place, and each member be put in possession of land. The society meets at Mr. *Samuel Leonard*'s, the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge."

1851 Census

Cradley Forge

- [1] *Samuel Leonard* (32), victualler, born Rowley;
- [2] Nancy Leonard (31), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Edward Leonard (11), son, born Rowley;
- [4] Harriet Leonard (10), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] Hannah Leonard (8), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] Mary Ann Leonard (4), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] Samuel Leonard (2), son, born Cradley;
- [8] Betsey Leonard (1), daughter, born Cradley;
- [9] Mary A. Talbott (24), visitor, born Cradley;
- [10] Emma Middleton (17), house servant, born London:

Worcester Journal 27/10/1855 - Deaths

“October 5, at Cradley Forge, John Hingley, infant son of Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, of the MAYPOLE INN.”

Birmingham Journal 20/3/1858 - Advert

“Cradley Forge, near Brierley Hill, to Grocers and Provision Dealers.

To be Let with immediate possession, a newly erected Shop and Premises, suitable for a Grocer and Provision Dealer. The above presents an opportunity seldom to be met with, there being already and old-established Trade, of many years' standing, which will be given up to the new Tenant, on account of the party now keeping it retiring from business.

Apply to Mr. *S. Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, near Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 13/8/1859 - Advert

“To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, a House and Shop, situate near Cradley Forge, suitable for a Draper or Green-grocer.

Apply to Mr. *S. Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 3/9/1859 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley.

Samuel Insull begs to announce that he has been favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, on Monday, September 19th, 1859, a quantity of modern and useful Household Furniture, comprising a handsome-carved Rosewood Couch, Mahogany Couch, Easy Chair, Mahogany Horse Hair-seated Chairs, Mahogany Loo and other Tables, Pair of handsome Rosewood Card Tables, Brussels Carpets, Chimney and Toilet Glasses, handsome Mahogany Book Case, with Glass Folding Doors, and fitted up with Secretaire; Oak Book Case, with Secretaire; handsome Mahogany Chest, with Drawers; handsome Mahogany Four-post and Tent Bedsteads, with Horse Hair and Wool Mattresses; capital Feather Beds, Washing Stands and Dressing Tables, handsome Oak Chest-upon-Chest, Night Commode, Dressing Glasses, and the usual chamber appendages; Half-hogshead and other Casks, Brewing Utensils, and other articles, particulars of which will appear in catalogues, which may be had at the above Inn, or at the Auctioneer's Offices, High Street, Brierley Hill.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/2/1861 - Married

“On the 16th inst, at Netherend Chapel, (by the Rev. William Cochrine) Mr. James Sidaway, of the Bower, Quarry Bank, to Hannah, second daughter of Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge.”

1861 Census

Cradley Forge

- [1] *Samuel Leonard* (42), manager of work and victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Nancy Williams Leonard (41), wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] Edwin H. Leonard (23), son, forgerman, born Cradley;
- [4] Harriett Leonard (20), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] Mary Ann Leonard (14), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Samuel Leonard (12), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] James Leonard (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] Eliza Leonard (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] Timothy E. Leonard (3), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [10] Ann Ganden (24), servant, born Stourbridge:

Stourbridge Observer 21/5/1864

“On Tuesday, the members of the lodge which is held at Mr. *S. Leonard's*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, had their annual feast. Before dinner they marched round Cradley Heath, Cradley to Nethererton, there they had a sermon preached to them. After service they went back to their hosts, and did good service to the dinner, which had been provided for them. The Cradley Forge Band accompanied them round.”

Stourbridge Observer 30/7/1864

“Yesterday a trotting match took place on the Kidderminster road between the Churchill Gate and the Heath; the horses were the property, one of Mr. Henry Pearman, the other of Mr. *Leonard*, of the MAY POLE INN, Cradley; a fair start having taken place in the presence of some hundreds of spectators, Mr. Pearman took the lead closely followed by Mr. *Leonard*. Mr. Green acted as umpire. Mr. Pearson came in first but the decision of the judge was against him as his horse had broke into a gallop; the race was for £25.”

County Advertiser 17/6/1865

“Thomas Pardoe, horse-nailmaker, Careless Green, was yesterday charged with stealing a pint jug, the property of *Samuel Leonard*, of the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley. On the 12th inst the prisoner went into the prosecutor’s house, and called for a pint of porter, and having been supplied, went away with the jug. James Leonard, parish constable, apprehended the prisoner, and found the jug in his possession. The prisoner’s defence was that he had no intention of stealing the jug. Committed for seven days’ imprisonment.”

County Advertiser 1/12/1866 - Advert

“Wanted, a General Servant, with good character. Must understand plain cooking. Apply, personally, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, near Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 16/2/1867

“*Samuel Leonard*, of the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, was charged with obstructing the highway at Quarry Bank. Police-constable Hammond stated that a waggon belonging to the defendant had broken down on the road leading from Brierley Hill to Quarry Bank. The contents of the waggon were taken away at once, but the waggon was allowed to remain in the road for about twelve hours. Ordered to pay costs.”

Stourbridge Observer 14/9/1867

“A fatal accident occurred on Monday last, to a youth, named John Freeman (14). It appears that deceased was in charge of a wagon and horse, on the above date, which belonged to James Hingley, farmer of Netherend, and when at Colley Gate, the horse suddenly began to trot, throwing the deceased out of the wagon, and the wheels passed over him, killing him instantly. An inquest was held on Wednesday last at the MAYPOLE INN, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Stourbridge Observer 23/11/1867

“The Colliery Explosion At Homer Hill.

We regret to state that another four men have died from the injuries they sustained in the above explosion on Tuesday week last. The names of the men are Battleton, Hart, Griffiths, and Guest, and their decease brings the number of deaths up to ten, which is much greater mortality than was expected.

Mr. Baker, the Mining Inspector, was at the colliery on Monday, and spent six hours down the pit. He also visited the colliery again on Wednesday, examining the parts where the explosion took place.

The inquest was again formally opened by R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, at the house of Mr. *Leonard*, the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, and adjourned.”

Stourbridge Observer 7/12/1867

“The adjourned inquest was opened at Mr. *Leonard*’s, the MAY POLE INN, on Thursday last, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, touching the deaths of Jesse Thomas Heathcock (16), Francis Barrell (20), Elland Barnbrook (27), William Battleton (24), Daniel Hart (26), George Griffiths (24), William Gordon (24), of the Lye; John Edwards (28), and William Westwood (38), of Cradley. Mr. Baker (Her Majesty’s Mining Inspector) and Mr. J. Swindell jun. attended.

The Jury List was called over, and it was found that there were three not present.

Mr. Docker remarked that there was a sufficient number of jurors there, as it was proposed to adjourn the enquiry. There were several of the men in the pit at the time of the accident, that were severely injured, and who were unable to attend at this enquiry, and as it was important that they should attend, he thought the enquiry should be adjourned. He had been informed that one of the injured men believed it was his candle that caused the explosion, and would be able to give important evidence. It was a question for the jury to consider what day would suit them; and also as to when the injured men would be able to attend. Mr. Mallins, surgeon, here entered the room, and, in answer to the Coroner, said they would be able to attend in three weeks, but it would be better, he thought, to adjourn the enquiry for a month. It would give them an opportunity to get strong.

The enquiry was then adjourned until Wednesday, the 1st of January.”

Stourbridge Observer 7/12/1867

“The adjourned inquest on the body of William Bishop, who was killed at Messrs. Haines and Corbett’s Colliery, on Thursday last, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner.

Mr. Docker, on resuming the enquiry said: It will be recollected that this enquiry was adjourned for her Majesty’s Government Inspector to examine the pit. There was a rumour that the rules of the pit had not been properly observed, and the adjournment took place so that the Government Inspector might fully investigate the matter.

Thomas Booth said he lived at Brettell Lane, and was a collier. He knew William Bishop (deceased). Witness was at work at Messrs Haines and Corbett’s Colliery at the time deceased was killed, and was within a few yards of him. Deceased was coming

to help witness. Witness was at work getting some spiers out. A fall of white coal took place. The coal was projecting 2 feet 3 inches. Did not know who had done the 'holeing'. It had been done several days. Witness was at work getting coal out of the back. Had witness thought there was any danger, he would have pulled it down. If the coal had required spragging he would have done it. It would have been his duty to have spragged it. There was a copy of the rules in the hovel. Witness had not got a copy of the rules, but they were read over to him by the doggy. Witness knew the 28th Special Rule which states that the coal shall be spragged or spurned. The doggy tried the coal that fell that morning. It knocked safe, and he (witness) was not afraid to work under it.

Mr. Baker here said that he was very much surprised that none of the proprietors or managers were present, especially that Mr. Growcutt was not present, as he had a plan of the pit, and had promised to attend that day, at one o'clock.

The Coroner remarked that if he would not come, he must summons him and make him come.

William Griffiths, the doggy, was the next witness, who said he lived at Brierley Hill, and was in charge of the pit at the time of the accident. The last witness was wrong as to the 'holeing.' At this spot where the coal fell, there was a quantity of white coal 'holed', about 2 feet 3 inches wide, and 7 feet long.

William Weaver and the last witness did the 'holeing' the day previous to the occurrence. Booth made a mistake, he was there. The coal was not spragged as witness did not think it necessary, as he thought it safe. Witness had read the 28th rule. He did not comply with the rule, as he thought it quite safe. There was a supply of timber.

Mr. Docker: You are responsible for the men doing their duty according to the 28th rule, and you admit you have not complied with the 28th rule.

Witness: I set Booth and deceased to work that day. I heard the fall, and ran up, and was there first. Booth did not throw coal at the time.

Booth was here recalled, and said he was supplied with timber, and could have used it if he had required it.

Griffiths re-examined: I told Booth to use the timber if required. I did not read the rules to Booth, as I did not have my book in my pocket that morning; but I told him the rules as he could not read.

Mr. Haines, at this point, entered the room, and on Mr. Baker inquiring if Mr. Growcutt was coming, Mr. Haines said that he could not attend.

Mr. Docker: Then we must make him attend.

Mr. Haines said that he did not think it necessary to attend. He had not been summoned, or he could have been present.

Mr. Baker: He promised me to attend, and bring the plan with him.

Mr. Docker said the enquiry must be adjourned, as it was quite clear that there was some neglect in the observance of the Colliery rules.

The enquiry was then adjourned until January 1st, the jury being bound over to appear."

Stourbridge Observer 4/1/1868

"An adjourned inquest was held on Wednesday last, at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, touching the death of William Bishop, who was killed at Messrs. Haines and Corbett's colliery on the 19th December. Mr. Baker, Mining Inspector, was present, as was also Mr. Corbett, one of the proprietors of the colliery.

Richard Growcutt, ground bailiff at Messrs. Haines and Corbett's pit, attended and produced a plan of the workings in the pit, and pointed out the place where deceased was killed. He also gave a description of the pit, which he said was worked with great precaution.

The Coroner: Is it a part of the ground bailiff's duty to see that the men are acquainted with the rules?

Mr. Baker said perhaps he could enlighten them upon that role, which is the 28th rule, and says that every collier shall sprag or spurn the coal while 'holing' either in coal or ironstone mines; and also prop, where necessary, the roof.

William Brooks deposed: I am charter master at the pit in question. I live at Brettell Lane. I know my duty and give each man a copy of the rules when he is engaged. If I do not, the doggy does. Griffiths is my doggy, and he can read, but was well acquainted with the rules.

Mr. Growcutt: If the place had been spragged or spurned, the accident would not have occurred; and sprags ought to have been set.

Mr. Docker said he thought they had got to the facts. Part of the colliery rules had not been complied with. Then comes the question. It is quite clear that the man Booth thought this safe. He, according to evidence, appeared to well understand them (the rules), and if he had not thought this safe he would not have risked his life. He did not think it was necessary to sprag. If the jury thought there had been any neglect of the rules it would amount to manslaughter; but he thought the question had been fairly met, and it did not amount to manslaughter. However it was a question for the jury to decide. They had all the evidence before them they could have, and he would leave the question for them.

The room was cleared, and after a short consultation, Mr. W. F. Gower, the foreman, said: Mr. Docker, we find a verdict of Accidental Death, and consider that the colliery rules were disobeyed, and that there was gross negligence on the part of Griffiths (the doggy), and Booth and Weaver (colliers).

Mr. Baker, Inspector, said it was quite clear there was a violation of the rules, and it was his intention to carry the case further.

Mr. Docker remarked that after some difficulty the jury had made up their minds in this case. It is quite clear that the rules have been disobeyed according to the evidence of two witnesses, and according to the evidence of a third, he considered the pit quite safe. But he (the coroner) must say that that belief did not justify the latter, according to law, in throwing the lives of others away. If he did he was liable to be indicted for manslaughter.

Griffiths and Booth were then called in and severely reprimanded, the Coroner telling them that they had had a very narrow escape indeed, and he did not hesitate to say that Mr. Baker would do quite right to take them before the magistrates to try them for manslaughter.

Mr. Baker said he should certainly go into the case.”

Stourbridge Observer 4/1/1868

“The adjourned inquest was held on Wednesday last, at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, before Mr. R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, touching the deaths of John Westwood, William Edwards, Jesse Thomas Heathcock, Francis Barrel, William Battleton, David Hart, George Griffiths, and William Gordon, whose deaths were caused by an explosion at the Homer Hill Colliery.

Mr. James Swindell, senior, and Mr. Frank Evers were present at the enquiry. Messrs. Tetlow and Breakwell also attended as a deputation from the Native Mines' Association.

The first witness called was Isaiah Foley, who deposed: I live at Homer Hill House, Cradley, and am a mining surveyor at the Homer Hill Colliery. The name of the firm is Swindell, Evers, and Sons, and the proprietors are Messrs. James Evers Swindell, Charles Evers Swindell, and Frank Evers. I produce a plan of the north side workings, which is correct. I did not go into the workings that day.

Henry Foley deposed: I live at Homer Hill House. I was one of the charter masters. Isaiah Baker is the other. He is my partner. On the 11th November I was in the pit at the time of the explosion, which was about half past seven in the morning. It took place in the north workings by the gateway, about seventy yards from where the miners were working. I had been with them all the morning. The men were getting thick coal. Some were holing; others getting thick coal.

By Mr. Baker: The men were working in the 9 foot workings, except those in this band.

Witness continued: I was overtaken by a sudden rush of air, and blown down. I do not remember moving a step after I was blown down. When I came to myself I made my way to the gateway. I was unconscious for a time. I don't think anyone passed me. When I got up I was very giddy, like a drunken man. I was able to walk, and groped my way to the bottom of the shaft, which was about four hundred yards. I was carrying a candle at the time of being blown over. It was some time before I knew that there had been an explosion. A boy named Matthew Brooks was being got out of a cage. As soon as I got to the shaft I signaled for the cage to come down. They said the cage had got fast, and could not. I afterwards discovered that the cage had been blown up the shaft some seventy yards. I then told them to detach the drum barrel so as to get the men up the other shaft. All the men walked to the mouth of the pit except three. There were 31 in the north side and nine in the other, at work that morning. Twenty one were injured. The whole of the men made their way to the bottom of the shaft, and were got up as speedily as possible. I had them taken into the stable out of the air, and found that three were missing named Edwards, Guest, and Jenkins. The whole were got out by half past ten. Guest was the first got up. I asked him if there were any others down. He said, 'Yes, Jenkins and Guest are conscious, but unable to walk. Jenkins was burnt; but he was injured most from after-damp. The men then went into the works and found Edwards, who was unconscious. He had been blown against the sides.

(One of the jurymen here stated that Edwards was burnt very badly.)

Witness continued: I stopped in the pit until all the men were out, and the pit was clear. I went down the pit next morning about nine o'clock, with Mr. Swindell, junior. Two of the men had previously been down to look after the horses. I found one of the skips had been blown off the rails, and another skip had been unloaded. One horse had been blown over and killed. Some of the doors had been blown out, and others injured, and the ventilation in consequence cut of. The doors in the first crossing were injured. The doors in each of the cross rooms were more or less injured. I examined the place next morning, and found there had been a fall of 'shut', which took place at the back opening, which was ten yards wide by thirty two yards long. 'Shut' had fallen before the morning of the 11th, but an additional quantity had fallen on that morning. It was not followed by water. Did not get the coal from under the rubbish. Previous to the men beginning to work on the morning of the 11th, I sent Edward Foley, junior, to examine the works with a man named William Haden. I was at the top of the pit sending the men down. A few minutes past six I went down the pit to set the men on to work. Did not examine the pit. Everything appeared safe. There was no indication of gas. It is not usual to examine where 'shut' has fallen, as life would be endangered. I had not discovered gas previous to the explosion at the back opening. When I have found a little gas I have 'brushed' it out. The fall of shut took place around the fissure. The fall of shut would drive the gas into the workings. Gas accumulated from time to time, but not to any extent. The door was not strong enough to drive it out from the back opening. The current of air had been taken away in order to ventilate the workings for the men.

By Mr. Baker: The gas must find its way to the workman's candle. The doggy had the pricker to examine the workings, with which he could reach twenty five feet. All above he could not tell anything about. If gas existed that morning it would drive the gas all over the workings. I have adopted means to examine that space, which was at the risk of a man's life. It has not been the practice for me to go up into the 'shut' to examine the workings. I have not known the men working where gas was accumulated. Had there been the least indication of gas, I should have withdrawn the men. I was informed that morning that everything was safe. My object in going down the pit every morning is to see that the workings are safe. I had no idea there was any gas in the workings, at any time the men were at work.

By a Jurymen: There was no explosion six weeks previously to the 11th. A candle was put up by a pricker, and some small quantity of gas exploded, but it did not harm.

John Jenkins, one of the men who was buried and had to be carried in a chair, said he lived at Quarry Bank, and is a collier. Was at work at Homer Hill Colliery at the time of the accident. I was near the entrance of the back opening. I was removing timber. On the morning of the 11th last I was at work in the pit when I heard a bit of stuff come from the back opening, and it immediately fired my candle. I was at once knocked down, and became unconscious from the off set of the burnt sulphur. When I came to myself I groped my way to the bottom of the shaft, where I was picked up. I was badly burnt. It was the third week since I had commenced to work in that pit. It is the custom for someone to examine the pit every morning. I have never seen any indication of gas in the pit. There was plenty of air that morning. I heard two smacks that morning. My candle fired one, and directly afterwards heard another part was fired.

Witness, in answer to Mr. Baker said: Someone always went down first to examine the pit. The ventilation was always very good.

At this stage of the proceedings the Coroner said it would be impossible to complete the enquiry; and after a short consultation with the jury, the further investigation was adjourned until Tuesday next.”

Stourbridge Observer 11/1/1868

“The adjourned inquest on the bodies of a number of men who had been killed from the effects of the late colliery explosion was appointed to take place at eleven o’clock, on Tuesday last, at the MAY POLE INN. The jury assembled at the appointed time; but owing to some misunderstanding the Coroner did not arrive until after 12 o’clock.

Mr. Docker said that he had quite forgotten the time. He was under the impression it was appointed for 12 o’clock. He was very sorry to have kept the jury waiting, however. He was sorry to say that they could not go on with the enquiry as he had received a letter from Mr. Baker, the Government Inspector, stating that he could not possibly attend as he had sprained his ankle.

One of the jurymen here asked if they could not go on with the enquiry?

Mr. Docker said they could not go on in the absence of Mr. Baker. There was an Act of Parliament which compelled him to adjourn the enquiry if the Government Inspector was not present, that is if he (the Inspector) wished to be present. In this case he found it was the wish of Mr. Baker to be present at the enquiry, and he had no alternative but to adjourn it. He must say that the jury had had an enormous deal of trouble in the matter, but he did not see how they could have controlled it. It was a question for the jury to consider which would be the most convenient day for them to attend. He had no doubt Mr. Baker would be able to attend in a week’s time.

The enquiry was then adjourned till eleven o’clock on Tuesday next.”

Stourbridge Observer 18/1/1868

“The adjourned inquest touching the deaths of John Edwards, William Westwood, George Griffiths, William Jordan, Eland Barnbrook, James Thomas Heathcock, Francis Barrel, Daniel Hart, and William Battleton, was held on Tuesday last, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, at the MAYPOLE INN.

Mr. J. Baker, her Majesty’s Mining Inspector, was present, as were also Messrs. J. E. Swindell, senior, J. E. Swindell, junior, and Frank Evers (the proprietors of the colliery), Mr. Frank Foley (the surveyor), and Messrs. Breakwell and Tetlow (of the Miners’ National Association).

The inquest was appointed for eleven o’clock, but the Coroner did not arrive until after twelve; the Jury List having been called by the Police officer.

Mr. Docker said: Gentlemen, the inquest was adjourned after hearing the evidence of one of the men, and I will read over the evidence taken at that time if you think it necessary.

The jury did not think it necessary, and the first witness called was Edward Dovey, who deposed: I was at work in the colliery at the time of the explosion. I was down No.1 Pit, at work in the lower, or 9ft pit. I was loading. About half past seven I felt a rush of air, and saw the candles blowing. I thought something had happened, and threw myself down, and the fire came over me. I did not hear the explosion. I lay down about a minute, and afterwards walked to the mouth of the pit. I was burnt on the face and hands. I do not know where it fired. I had been at work in the opening, and continued to work there, until a month previous to the explosion. The coal was worked out. I have seen gas by the long pillar in the hole, and have helped to break it out. The gas was in the pot holes. There has been plenty of ventilation. I have never worked in pits where there was no gas in pot holes. If a ‘shut’ fell it would bring the gas down, and would fire. After the cog had been removed, and the work abandoned, I went in the hole to fetch timber out if it was wanted.

John Andres deposed: I live at Quarry Bank, and am a collier. I was at work in the pit at the time of the explosion, loading. I was the first in the pit after it had been tried by the lamp. The first thing I saw was the fire, which caught me before I got down. It was coming from the back opening. I got down, and the fire did not catch me again. On one occasion I have seen gas in the opening at the top. I had been at work three weeks in the opening previous to the explosion. Never saw gas there but once. Did not work in the back opening every day. There was a good bit of gas in the No.10 road. Isaiah Haddleton tried the gas on the 4th November, which would be a week before the accident. Haddleton said there was more gas than they could brush out, and the band did not work that day. Haddleton tried all the pits that morning, because Mr. Edward Foley was not there in time. Haddleton got up on the coal, and tried the pit with the lamp. I don’t know the reason the band did not work that day. Do not know whether Haddleton reported that there was gas. I knew it was dangerous, and if a ‘shut’ had fallen it would drive the gas down. I heard the shut fall before the fire. The flame reached me in about half a minute later. I don’t know whether anything was done to get rid of the gas.

By Mr. Baker: I have never seen it tried before. The lamp would be three or four yards from the top. I did not name it to any one. Never heard any one complain that there was gas. That was the only time I saw the pit tried. The pit was not tried with a lamp stick that morning. When the gas was brushed out it would go into the air.

Mr. Baker remarked that brushing out gas was a very dangerous practice.

In answer to the deputation present witness said: Pikemen were at work within 20 yards of the place where the gas was found.

By Mr. Baker: Edward Foley came down the pit the same morning about six o’clock. Do not know who set the men on to work. The men would continue to work until the day was finished. I left at dinner time. The men were working at holing. There was a good deal of shut down.

Edward Andrews deposed: I live at Quarry Bank, and am a collier. I was at work in the pit at the time of the accident, but was not injured. I was going to work at the time as a pikeman, in the five yard opening. I had been at work in the pit three weeks. I was at work on the 4th November. Was not down the pit when it was tried. I went down soon after six o’clock. Edward Foley set me on to work. I was to hole a piece of a pillar on the left hand side. I was at work on the lower side of the pillar with another man, and there were two others on the other side of the pillar. Did not know there was any gas there. Did not hear anything about it. Did not see Haddleton there that morning.

By Mr. Baker: Never heard of any gas being there. There was plenty of air there. On the 11th did not find any gas. I had no rea-

son to complain of ventilation. There was plenty of air where I was at work in the cross-roads.

By the Coroner: The air was cut off from the back opening. If it had not been cut off there, there would not have been an accumulation of sulphur.

By the deputation: I never heard any of the men complain after the doors had been removed. I left the pit because I found sulphur in it.

Isaac Haddleton deposed: I live at Cradley Heath, and am a collier. I was in the pit on the morning of 4th November, and tried it with the safety lamp. It would be about half past five. Edward Foley and John Andrews were with me a portion of the time. I tried the back opening in the shut hole. There was but little gas, and we brushed it out, and went up with the pricker which is four or five yards long.

By Mr. Baker: Andrews was with me when I examined the pit. There was gas behind the pillar, and on the 4th November, Edward Foley assisted to brush the gas out. The gas was about two feet thick, four or five yards long, and nine feet wide.

Edward Foley deposed: I live at Cradley, and am doggy at Homer Hill colliery. I remember the morning of the 4th November. I went down the pit at six o'clock with several others. I asked Haddleton if he had found any gas. He replied that he had in the back opening. I helped to brush it out. I could reach the boundary rib at the back opening with the pricker stem. There had been a fall of shut, which had been drawn out between the morning of the 4th and the 11th.

By Mr. Baker: There has been no gas since the morning of the 4th until the time of the fall, of shut on the 11th. Haddleton examined the pit during the whole of the week, so he said, which was authorised by Mr. Foley, the manager.

By the Coroner: I was in the second opening when the explosion took place. I went down the pit at half past five o'clock, and tried it with the pricker as far as I could reach the back opening. I did not reach the top. The first thing I heard was the report. After I felt a suction going through my ears, and saw the flame. I threw myself down, and the fire divided itself into Nos. 1 and 19, two roads. The pit is generally properly ventilated. There never was any suspicion of gas after the back opening had been abandoned, except on the morning of the 4th.

By Mr. Baker: I could not reach the top with the pricker. The roof was a coal top three or four feet thick. On the Saturday morning I told my uncle that the lamp-stick was broken. He said that he had not any and tried the pit with the pricker stale.

By the Coroner: On the morning of the 11th I heard something crack, and after the explosion a quantity of coal fell. If a quantity of shut fell, gas would follow.

By Mr. Baker: I did send four men to do some holing by the pillar, on the 4th. I went down in the first cage with William Haden and the horse driver. They went to the stables, and I went to examine the pit.

Josiah Chivers deposed: I live at Lomey Town and am a collier. I was not at work at the time of the explosion. I was last down the pit on the 9th. I have been in the back opening, and seen a little gas. I saw gas there the last time on 5th October, in a pot hole in the back opening. The gas was about two feet thick in the main pot hole, and from four to five yards square. I have not seen gas where men were at work. When I go round the work I have a safety lamp with me. I always try it for my own safety. I try it in other places besides where I work.

By Mr. Baker: I am not acquainted with the special rules. Have not been furnished with the rules. Have never had the rules read over to me. I have sometimes seen the rules by the hovel.

Mr. Docker read the rules over to witness, which prohibited any man from going about the pit except where he was at work. A man might blow up a pit. It was equally wrong for a man to engage a workman and allow him to work without first reading the rules.

The Coroner here remarked that witness had made himself liable to a penalty of £2; in default three months' imprisonment.

By the deputation: My brother-in-law, Haddleton, did not say to me that he was afraid an accident would occur. I never was afraid of an accident. I have made out a plan of the workings. Haddleton told me that in the middle opening there was a quantity of gas and it was not destroyed; and that he told Edward Foley, the manager, and he said they were to be careful.

Haddleton was then recalled, and said that he told Chivers that there was gas on the 4th November, and that it was brushed out.

By the deputation: Chivers said that he had expressed dissatisfaction at the management of some of the workings. He said so from information he received from Edward Worrall, Edward Downing and Andrew Sherwood. They said that Edward Foley went and tried the lamp after the accident where there was gas, and said it was safe for the men to work.

Mr. J. S. Baker, Government Inspector of Mines, was next examined. He read a report to the effect that he visited the Homer Hill Colliery on Wednesday, the 13th of November, the day after he received the intimation of the explosion. After travelling along the gate-road about 460 yards – 200 of which were beyond the circulation of air – he reached the back opening, where the fall of roof had occurred, which according to the evidence, took place on the morning of the explosion. The opening then contained a quantity of explosive gas evidently issuing from a fissured and very soft part of the coal seam, and from which the gas that brought about the explosion on the 11th of November was undoubtedly discharged. For nearly a week prior to the explosion the barometer was steady; but on the morning of the explosion it indicated a depression of about one fifth of an inch. This fall in pressure of the atmosphere would bring about an expansion of any confined air or gas then existing in the mine in addition to the ordinary emission of gas. The thermometer was also falling, and indicated a temperature about 10 degrees below the average of several days before the accident. (Such instruments should not only be employed, but frequently consulted.) He found nearly all the doors in the cross headings deranged or broken, and the ventilation destroyed; but little or no damage appeared to have been done to any other part of the workings or machinery, except that the cage and wire rope had been forced by the blast some seventy or eighty feet up the up-cast shaft. A subsequent examination enabled him to attribute this fortunate circumstance to the large dimensions of the back opening, in which there was immense space for the expansion of the ignited fire damp. Fortunately the workmen were sheltered from the fearful blast by one of the long pillars, otherwise no person would have been left alive to tell the tale. The force of the explosion drove a loaded skip, the horse, and the driver some distance along No. 1 road, killing the horse, and perilously injuring the driver that he died in a short time after. Another skip was forced off the rails in No. 2 gate-road 400 yards nearer the pit shaft. Judging from the state of the mine, he was of opinion that a large quantity of gas was ignited, and that had it not been for

the cavernous condition of the opening already alluded to, the workmen and the pit would have been shattered to stone [This was followed by evidence from Edward Andrews, Isaac Haddleton, amongst others.].....

The Coroner proceeded to sum up, and went through the evidence, which went to show that it was one of those accidents which sometimes occur, which there is no control over. The explosion appears to have taken place at the back opening, which has been described by several witnesses. You have no difficulty as to finding the same of the accident. Next comes the enquiry, was any one to blame? The Coroner here pointed out the law if there was any blame attached to any person, and remarked that the colliery rules were very stringent, and applied to both the master and the men. It would be a question for the jury to decide whether they thought they had not been complied with, and to what extent. After some other remarks, the room was cleared, and the jury left to deliberate, which lasted about half an hour.

On entering the room, the Coroner asked if they had agreed.

Mr. Gower, the foreman, rose and said: We find a verdict of Accidental Death, and we think that great blame is attached to Edward Foley, junior, for not having daily made a proper examination of the back opening, and also for having deputed his duty to a man so ignorant as Isaiah Haddleton.

Mr. J. E. Swindell, senior, rose and said he begged to thank the Coroner, Mr. Baker, and the jury for the very diligent enquiry they had made. They had spent a good deal of time over the enquiry, and he could only regret the circumstances that had rendered it necessary. It had been a source of great anxiety to himself and partners, and no one could regret the unfortunate occurrence more than himself.

Mr. Breakwell also thanked the Coroner, Inspector, and Jury, for being allowed to attend the enquiry on behalf of the Association; their only object being to see that everything was done for the safety of the men that could be done.

Mr. Baker also thanked the proprietors and the managers of the pit, for the courteous way in which he had been received on each occasion that he had examined the pit. Every facility had been afforded him to make the fullest investigation.

The Coroner made a few remarks thanking the Jury, the Government Inspector, and the Deputation of the Miners' Association, for the assistance they had given to the enquiry. With reference to the Miners' Union he said that properly conducted it was a great institution; and represented with so much propriety as it had been on that enquiry, it could not fail to have been a source of assistance. The Coroner also remarked that the way the colliery had been conducted, and the way the plant had been laid down, went to show that the proprietors were anxious to do all they could for the workmen."

County Advertiser 9/5/1868

"On Wednesday last an inquest was held at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, before R. Docker, Coroner, on the body of James Wood, a man who was injured on the 16th of March, by a fall of coal, at Homer Hill Colliery. He died on the 26th of April. The Jury found a verdict of Accidental Death."

Birmingham Journal 4/7/1868 - Advert

"Wanted, a respectable middle-aged Woman, as Cook and Working Housekeeper; also a Servant-of-all-Work. Apply at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge, near Brierley Hill."

County Express 10/8/1868

"The Ironworkers at Cradley.

The members of No.8 lodge, Cradley, we understand, have compiled a number of bye laws for the better government of the work. On the 27th ult the members sat down to a substantial supper at the club house, the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, of which 50 members took part....."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/7/1869

"On Tuesday last the property of the late Mr. James Griffiths, of Dudley Wood, was submitted to public competition at the MAY-POLE INN, Cradley, by Mr. Hawkins, auctioneer of this town. The attendance was the largest known at the MAYPOLE INN, and the spirited competition of the purchasers must have been pleasing to the trustees, and the result of the sale very satisfactory, as every lot was sold, and the whole of the lots realised the sum of £3,930."

County Express 9/7/1870

"On Thursday evening last about five and twenty of the most respectable inhabitants of Cradley and district met at the house of Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, for the purpose of presenting Mr. Alfred Taylor, Veterinary Surgeon, of Cradley Heath, with a gold albert chain and locket, as a small appreciation of his abilities and usefulness. An excellent supper was provided by the energetic host in a superior manner, and after the cloth was withdrawn, Mr. *Leonard* in an appropriate speech presented Mr. Taylor with the glittering token of their regard. Mr. Taylor in a most elaborate speech thanked the company for their kind appreciation of the few services he had been able to render, and assured them he should be very happy to assist them in every good word and work."

Stourbridge Observer 14/1/1871

"An inquest was held on the body of James Walter Palmer (16), at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, on Saturday evening last, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner.

From the evidence it appears that deceased was ordered to remain in the office at Cradley Station, where he was employed as a clerk, until eight o'clock; but after he had finished his work he went away, leaving a youth in charge of the office, and walked down the line with a view of posting some letters at Stourbridge. He had got about a few hundred yards when he was overtaken by a mineral train, and at the same time a passenger train was coming up on the opposite line. It was thought that he tried to get

out of the way of the passenger train, and went near the goods train with the intention of getting on it, when he was knocked down by the goods train. Soon afterwards a man named John Beecham, signalman, employed at the Corngreaves Box, found deceased, who was lying with his face on the ground. His neck, thigh, and both jaws were broken. The body was removed to the MAY-POLE INN, and Mr. Hodgson, surgeon, Cradley Heath, was sent for; but life was extinct. After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

Cradley Forge – MAY POLE INN

[1] *Samuel Leonard* (52), widower, forge manager and innkeeper, born Cradley Forge;

[2] Samuel Leonard (22), son, auctioneer and surveyor, born Cradley;

[3] James H. Leonard (19), assistant druggist, born Cradley;

[4] Eliza Leonard (17), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] Ellen Arnold (43), housekeeper, born Upton Snodsbury, Worcestershire;

[6] Mary Hallett (18), domestic servant, born Lanesfield;

[7] Fanny J. Dunn (17), domestic servant, born Quarry Bank:

Manchester Evening News 5/2/1872

“On Friday, at Stourbridge, William Kettle, head gamekeeper to Lord Lyttleton, was charged with unlawfully killing and carrying away a deer belonging to his lordship, and further with stealing a deer on the 19th ult.

David Williams, farmer, Hagley, said he was near the Gypsy’s Tent Inn on the 31st ult, when he saw the prisoner by the pump dressing a deer. Ann Dobbs, landlady of the Gypsy’s Tent, said the prisoner brought a fawn to her house about nine o’clock on the morning of the above day, and said it was to go to the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley. It was to be fetched away at twelve o’clock. Prisoner also brought a fawn to her house on the 19th of January. Witness said that during the last six years prisoner had brought five or six fawns to her house for different persons. In defence it was said the prisoner had taken the fawns as perquisites. The bench committed the prisoner for trial at the session, but agreed to bail.”

[This was reported nationally. At the Worcestershire Adjourned Sessions William Kettle pleaded not guilty to unlawfully killing and carrying away two fallow-deer; due to a lack of evidence he was discharged.]

County Advertiser 11/1/1873

“On Tuesday evening last, Mr. J. Wood Aston entertained the clerks and managers connected with his extensive manufacturing works to dinner, at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley. An excellent dinner was served up by the host, Mr. *S. Leonard*. After the cloth was drawn, the usual loyal toasts were proposed, and the health of Mr. Aston, who had so generously provided for the occasion, was proposed, and most heartily responded to. Other toasts with songs and recitations followed, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.”

Stourbridge Observer 28/6/1873

“Henry Boswell was charged with committing a breach of the peace at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Heath, on the night of the 22nd inst. P.C. Roe proved the case. Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was ordered to pay 11s 6d costs.”

County Advertiser 13/2/1875

“On Tuesday afternoon last the inquiry was resumed by Mr. Miller Corbet, deputy coroner, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, touching the deaths of Thomas Hope and John Troupe, who met with their deaths on the night of Thursday, the 28th ult, whilst engaged in Messrs. King and Co.’s Colliery, Netherend.

William Fletcher said: I am a miner and reside at Cradley. I am in the employ of Messrs. King and Co. and was on the 28th ult engaged at their colliery. About a quarter past eleven o’clock I discovered the bodies of the deceased in the top coal workings. They were lying on their bellies. I turned the deceased Hope over, and examined him, and found he was dead. I shouted to a fellow workman, named Hickman, and we carried Hope a distance of about 150 yards into the fresh air. I went in search of some other workmen, and directed them to where the body of Troupe lay.

In answer to the Coroner, Mr. King stated that fire-stink broke out on the previous Wednesday.

Witness (continuing): Before we discovered the bodies we came into contact with a lot of fire-stink, and that increased to where we found the bodies. When we took the deceased Hope out we were exhausted by the fire-stink.

By the Coroner: The deceased told me previously that they were going up to the ‘brake hill.’ It appeared that Troupe had come to help Hope to put the fire-stink down.

By a Juror: We were so exhausted we could not, on carrying Hope out, turn Troupe over to examine him.

Charles Hickman said: I reside at Bower Lane, Quarry Bank, and am a miner in the employ of Messrs. King and Co. I accompanied Fletcher in search of deceased. The fire-stink was very strong. In consequence of Fletcher shouting I went to assist him in removing Hope. We afterwards sent assistance, and Troupe was brought out. They were both dead when they were brought into the fresh air. The fire-stink was very bad where the deceased men were found.

Mr. Eddowes, assistant to Dr. Ker, said: I was called to Messrs. King and Co.’s Colliery, on the morning of the 29th ult. I examined the deceased. They were dead. I did not find any marks of violence upon them. In my opinion the men died from the inhalation of noxious gas.

Mr. William Beattie Scott said: I am sub-inspector of mines for the district. I examined a coal-pit belonging to Messrs. King and Co. on the 30th January. The position of the bodies was pointed out to me by Fletcher, and judging from the condition of the mine, the atmosphere of which was highly charged with fire-stink, no doubt the deceased men succumbed to it. I did not examine the

mine till a day or two after the accident, when the ventilating current would be cut off to prevent fire-stink spreading. The pit was in every other respect quite safe and in proper working order.

In answer to a juror witness said thick coal was much subject to fire-stink.

Mr. Joseph John King said: I am one of the proprietors of the colliery. Hope was manager of the colliery, and Troupe was under-manager at another colliery belonging to the firm. Hope told me about the fire-stink, and it was his duty to get the colliery in good working order. On the 27th ult Hope informed me of the fire-stink being in the top workings, and I believe he was down the pit the whole of the night taking measures to keep the fire down. The deceased man Troupe was engaged helping him.

The Deputy Coroner briefly summed up the evidence. It was indeed a very sad and melancholy occurrence, but he did not think they could come to any other conclusion than that the deceased met with their deaths whilst in the execution of their duty. From the evidence of the inspector he did not think any blame could be attached to anyone.

The Jury, after a brief consultation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Advertiser 20/3/1875 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant Girl, with good character.
Apply, MAY POLE INN, Cradley, near Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 17/7/1875 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady, sober man, as Brewer and Ostler, with good character.
Apply, MAY POLE INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 31/7/1875

“Henry Raybould was charged with having assaulted Police-constable Dunn, on the 24th inst, at Cradley. The officer stated that he went to the MAY POLE INN in plain clothes, and ordered the defendfant, who was creating a disturbance, to leave the house. Defendant then struck him several times on the face and knocked him down. Matthew Billingham stated that he was in the MAY POLE on the day in question, and he saw the policeman, who was drunk, and the defendant fight. They were afterwards ejected by Mr. *Leonard*, the landlord. The Bench adjourned the case for the production of further evidence.”

County Advertiser 11/9/1875 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady man, who can milk, and make himself generally useful.
Apply, MAY POLE INN, Cradley, Brierley Hill.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/10/1875 - Advert

“Lost or Strayed, on Friday night or Saturday morning last, from a Field near the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge, a brown Cart Horse, about 7 years old, with two white hind feet and white blaze down his face; a black Mare, aged, with a burn mark on the near stille.

Whoever may find the same, and give information to Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge, near Brierley Hill, shall be suitably rewarded for their trouble.”

County Express 11/3/1876 - Advert

“Wanted a Wagoner, and Cowman.
Apply, Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge.”

County Express 27/5/1876

“On Monday, Mr. Miller Corbet held an inquest at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, on the body of a child named Isaac Goodall, aged four years, who was killed by being run over by a wagon. Joseph Christopher, letter carrier, said on the 17th inst, at half past two pm in the neighbourhood of Quarry Bank, near Cradley Forge, a wagon loaded with iron drawn by four horses came out of the forge. It was driven by a wagoner, who was at one of the horse’s heads. All at once he heard voices shouting, and saw a child between the wheels, the hind one of which went over him. He picked the child up; it was then alive, and he gave it to some women, and went on with his letters.

Mr. Darby said he met the wagon, which was turning out of the way to allow his cart to pass and saw deceased fall between the wheels.

Mr. H. F. Hodgson, surgeon, deposed to the injuries, which were in the abdomen, and had caused death.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 10/6/1876

“The members of the Hand of Charity Friendly Society held their annual dinner at the house of Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, the MAY-POLE INN, Cradley, on Monday last. The secretary Mr. W. Potter presented the report and this showed that the society was in a very flourishing condition having the handsome sum of over £1,000 in hand. About 170 members sat down to an excellent dinner, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Advertiser 10/6/1876 - Advert

“Half-Bred Entire Horse, for the Season, 1876.

Glendower is a rich Chestnut, free from blemish, without white, except a mark on his forehead; he is 6 years old 16½ hands high, with great substance, sound in every respect, fine action, fine symmetry, and good tempered; he was bred by Mr. John Upton, of

Arley.

Glendower is by Bravado, half brother to Formoss, Paul Jones, and Brigantine; winner of the Guineas, Chester Cup, and great Two-year-old Race, at Newmarket, in 1868.

Glendower is the property of Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, and may be seen at his Stable, MAY POLE INN, Cradley, near Brierley Hill. Attends Bromsgrove on Tuesdays and Kidderminster on Thursdays.

Terms: By the Season, £1 1s; by the Foal, £2 2s; Groom's Fee, 2s 6d, to be paid at the time of Serving."

County Express 9/9/1876 - Advert

"For Sale, a Small Gas Works.

Apply to Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge."

Worcestershire Chronicle 18/11/1876

"In inquest was held at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, on Friday afternoon, before Mr. Corbet, deputy coroner, on the body of David Naylor, who was killed by a pistol shot on the previous Monday. The pistol was in the hands of Felix Southall, and evidence was given to show its discharge, with such fatal results, was accidental. The Jury returned a verdict that the deceased was accidentally shot, and Southall, who had been in custody since Tuesday, was released on a recognisance to appear at Stourbridge Petty Sessions next Friday."

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/11/1876

"At the Stourbridge Petty Sessions, on Friday, Felix Southall was charged with killing David Taylor, on November 6, by shooting him with a pistol. Evidence was given to show that the pistol was not wilfully fired, and it appeared that it could not be kept at half-cock or full-cock without being held, and it was evidently an unsafe weapon for boys to have. The Bench, believing the affair an accident, ordered Southall's discharge."

County Advertiser 17/3/1877 - Advert

"5s Reward.

Lost on the 8th inst, at Cradley Forge, a Horse Rug.

Anyone returning the same to Mr. *Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, shall receive the above reward."

London Gazette 14/12/1877

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Warwickshire, holden at Birmingham.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Samuel Leonard* and James Henry Leonard, of Nos.1 and 2, Digbeth and Nos.2 and 3, Saint Martin's-lane, all in Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, carrying on there the trade or business of Oil and Colour Merchants and Drysalts, in copartnership, under the style or firm of Samuel Leonard and Son, the said *Samuel Leonard* also residing and carrying on a separate trade alone as a Licensed Victualler, at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, near Brierley Hill, in the county of Worcester.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the separate creditors of the above-named *Samuel Leonard* has been summoned to be held at the Queen's Hotel, Stephenson-place, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 28th day of December, 1877, at half-past three o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 12th day of December, 1877.

Ryland, Martineau, and Carslake, 7, Cannon-street, Birmingham, Solicitors for the said Debtor."

[The total liabilities were £8,352 10s 3d, and the assets £4,253 4s.]

County Advertiser 20/9/1879

"The following persons were summoned by Superintendent Wheeler for having in their possession deficient scales and weights, or unstamped weights and measures, and were fined in the sums following their names and costs.....

Samuel Leonard, one quart, one pint, and a half-pint measure all unstamped, and six jugs and four pint cups all deficient, 20s."

County Express 15/11/1879 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Public-House, the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, and Improving Properties Adjoining, together with the Mines and Minerals thereunder.

Mr. S. Leonard is instructed by the Owner, to Sell by Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Stourbridge, on Friday, the 5th day of December Next, at Five o'clock in the Afternoon, subject to ordinary conditions.

Lot 1. All that well-acquainted Old-Licensed Inn, known as the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, together with the Licenses and Possession, Stabling, Yard, Garden, Small Gas Works, and other Premises thereto, now occupied by Mr. *Samuel Leonard*; also Two Freehold Dwelling Houses, with Gardens adjoining, occupied by John Amos and Isaiah Hill. This Lot has an area of 2,550 square yards or thereabouts.

Lot 2. All those Two Capital Freehold Messuages, with the Brewhouses, Gardens, and Outbuildings, adjoining Lot 1, now in the occupation of David Raybould and Charles Hill, and containing an area of 420 square yards.

Lot 3. All those Two Important Freehold Business Premises and the Dwelling House adjoining, situate at Cradley Forge aforesaid, fronting the road leading from Cradley to Quarry Bank, with the Brewhouses, Yard, and Outbuildings, occupied by Benjamin Grove, Laban Hill, and Henry Homer.

Lot 4. All those Two newly and substantially-erected Genteel Freehold Residences and Premises, situate and adjoining Lot 3, at Cradley Forge aforesaid, with the Brewhouses and other Appurtenances thereto, and now occupied by James Homer and Jabez

Brooks.

For further particulars, and to see plan, apply to Messrs. Bernard and King, Solicitors, Stourbridge; Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors, Brierley Hill; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 15/5/1880 - Advert

“Wanted, a Good Servant Girl, with good character.
Apply, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge.”

County Advertiser 31/7/1880 Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant Girl, from 20 to 25 years, with good character.
Apply, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, near Brierley Hill.”

County Express 28/8/1880 - Deaths

“On the 22nd inst, at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge, aged 32 years, Samuel Leonard, jun; much respected by a large circle of friends.”

1881 Census

Cradley Forge – MAY POLE INN

- [1] *Samuel Leonard* (62), widower, farmer and licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Timothy W. Leonard (23), son, farm labourer, born Cradley;
- [3] Leonora Sidaway (14), grand-daughter, barmaid, born Quarry Bank;
- [4] Annie Homer (22), general servant, born Cradley;
- [5] Louisa Homer (20), general servant, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/6/1881 - Deaths

“June 13, at the house of her father (*Samuel Leonard*, MAYPOLE INN, Cradley), aged 31, Betsy, wife of Charles Mason.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/5/1882 - Advert

“MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge, Cradley.

Mr. Herbert Humphries begs to announce instructions from Mr. *Samuel Leonard* to Let on Lease the above important and well-known Hostelry, which has not changed hands for the past sixty years. The important and lucrative trade transacted at the MAYPOLE is so well known as to need no comment. It is free for everything, and to a suitable person it is without question one of the best trade investments in the Midlands. Excellent reasons for disposal, and a thorough investigation is respectfully solicited. References are kindly permitted to Birmingham and other wholesale houses.
For particulars, apply to Herbert Humphries, Auctioneer and Hotel Valuer, Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 21/7/1883 - Advert

“For Sale, a Bay Gelding, 5 years old, 15.2, quiet and steady in harness.
Apply, *Samuel Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge.”

County Advertiser 21/7/1883 - Advert

“To Let, House and large Shopping, and other Out-Buildings, opposite the BRIDGE INN, Cradley.
Apply, *Samuel Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge.”

County Express 18/8/1883

“Mr. Ralph Docker held an inquest at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, on Thursday of the body of Alice Elizabeth Harris, aged one year and four months. The child was playing in the street on the previous day, and a cart coming up she got under the horse’s feet. The wheel of the cart passed over her neck, severing her head from her body. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

County Advertiser 1/9/1883 - Advert

“Wanted a Good General Servant; must be above 20, and understand plain cooking. Good character required.
Apply, MAY POLE INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 26/4/1884

“At the Police Court, yesterday, before Colonel Fletcher, J. B. Cochrane, W. J. Turney, and R. D. Thomas, *Samuel Leonard*, landlord of the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, was charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours, and he was further charged with assaulting Police-constable Chare.

The officer found several men there at 11.25, on the night of the 16th inst. The landlord, it was alleged, threatened the officer, gave him an invitation to come into the road and fight, and caught hold of his arm.

Mr. Waldron, who defended, called evidence to show that the men found on the premises were guests. A decanter of whiskey, it was stated, was put on the table, and the men helped themselves.

The Bench dismissed the case of keeping open during prohibited hours.

With regard to the other case, the Bench were sorry defendant lost his temper, but as the assault was not of a serious character, they only inflicted a fine of 5s and costs.”

Dudley Mercury 21/1/1888

“An adjourned inquest was held by Mr. E. Docker (coroner) at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, on Tuesday night, touching the death of Herbert Parkes (15), horse driver, who was killed on the 7th inst whilst following his employment at Messrs. Harper and Moore’s, Lower Delph Colliery, Cradley. The inquest had been adjourned for Mr. W. B. Scott, Government Inspector to attend. The evidence showed that deceased was found lying under a tub with his neck broken. In answer to Mr. Scott, Noah Turner, underground manager at the colliery, stated that he did not see the lad from ten in the morning till four in the afternoon, when he was brought up dead. He was aware the Act of Parliament required him to make an inspection of the workings during each shift. He did not make the inspection where deceased was working, because he was engaged in other parts of the colliery. He left a man in charge when he was away. He had often cautioned lads about riding tubs. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

County Express 30/6/1888

“Stourbridge Licensed Victuallers. A meeting of the members of this society was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, under the presidency of Mr. J. Cadwallader.....

Mr. Chappell, the hon. secretary of the Licensed Victuallers’ Town Hall Fund, presented his balance sheet and report, showing that £58 13s had been voluntarily subscribed by the members of the society, and had been paid to the credit of such fund, and read Mr. H. Watson Smith’s gracious acknowledgement of the spontaneous and generous support of the society. Mr. *S. Leonard*, of the MAYPOLE, Cradley, and Mr. Oliver, of the TALBOT, Cradley, each expressed their approval of the course taken, and wished to augment the fund by a subscription of £1 each, making the total £60 13s.....”

Blackcountryman (Summer 1971)

Letter from A. Head, Cradley Heath

“I have a newspaper cutting, undated, but probably published in the 1890s, which gives an account of the May Day festivities held at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley. The licensee at the time was *Samuel Lennard* and an interesting point to note is that he was also the manager of the Old Cradley Forge which stood opposite the MAYPOLE INN.

Mr. Lennard was never addressed as anything but ‘gaffer’, either at work or in the pub. On May Day he would have a pole erected in the forecourt of the inn and all the children who lived in the vicinity were invited to join in the May Day dance, the pole being adorned with pretty coloured ribbons. Afterwards the children were given a tot of beer and a piece of home-made cake. Forge workers would also join the dance the MAYPOLE INN was demolished in 1959.”

County Express 31/5/1890

“The members of the Hand of Charity Friendly Society held their annual meeting at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge, on Monday. An excellent dinner was provided for sixty.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/10/1890 - Deaths

“On the 6th inst, aged 71 years, *Samuel Leonard*, MAY POLE INN, Cradley.”

County Express 22/11/1890

“Court Leet at Cradley.

The view of Frankpledge, with the Court Baron of the Right Honourable Charles George, Viscount Cobham, Baron Cobham, Baron of Frankley, in the County of Worcester, for his manor aforesaid, was holden at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, on Wednesday. The jury were empanelled and duly sworn, Mr. George Hartshorn Anderson being elected foreman. The usual presentments were made.....

After the business was over the annual dinner was held, at which there was a good attendance The table was beautifully set out, and the quality of the viands and the catering were excellent. Dinner having been disposed of, harmony followed, and the usual loyal toasts were received with musical honours.....

During the evening the idea of erecting some memorial to the late Mr. *S. Leonard* was mooted, and a secretary, treasurer, and committee were formed to take definite steps in the matter, the general feeling being that something should be done for one who was such a true Englishman, and who had enjoyed the respect and esteem of all with whom he came in contact.”

County Express 10/1/1891 - Advert

“MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed by the Trustees of the late Mr. *S. Leonard*, to Sell by Auction, as above, on Wednesday, the 28th day of January inst, the whole of the Genteel Household Furniture, Plate, Pictures, Linen, and Effects.”

County Express 24/1/1891 - Advert

“MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge.

Mr. T. Pateshall is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, as above, on Wednesday and Thursday Next, January 28th and 29th, 1891, the whole of the Valuable Household Furniture, Plate and Effects, comprising Mahogany Telescope and other Dining Tables, Walnut Centre Table, Oil Paintings and Engravings, a splendid Collection of Silver and Electro-plate, Dinner, Tea, and Dessert Services, Rustic Chairs, Smoking Chairs, Horsehair-seated and Windsor Chairs, Smoking Chairs, Pier Glasses, in gilt frames; Mahogany Eight-day and other Clocks, excellent Cottage Pianoforte, in walnut case; Mahogany Horsehair-seated Sofa, Mahogany Bureau and Bookcase, Fire-proof Safe, the Appointments of Five Bedrooms, Antique-carved Oak Chests, Dairy and Cooking Utensils, Kitchen Requisites, lot of Hogshead and Half-hogshead Casks, Two Wood Sheds, Turnip Pulpers, Three Pock-

ets of Worcester and Sussex Hops, Patent Weighing Machine, Ten-horse and Six-horse-power Steam Engines, &c, &c.
Order Of Sale.

First Day, Wednesday: Furniture and Plate.

Second Day, Thursday: Contents of Kitchen and Outdoor Effects.

Sale at Eleven o'clock each Morning punctually.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath."

County Express 23/5/1891 - Advert

"To be Sold by Tender, about Twenty Acres of Excellent Grass Crops, with the Aftermath, to September 29th next, upon Lands at Cradley and Cradley Forge.

Tenders to be sent to the MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, Cradley."

County Advertiser 11/7/1891 - Advert

"Sale of Mowing Grass and Aftermath.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, on Monday, July 13th, 1891, the excellent Crops of Mowing Grass, with the Aftermath to March 25th next, now growing upon a portion of the Land late in the occupation of Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, deceased, and near to Cradley Forge.

Sale at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

Particulars may be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath."

On 19th August 1891 an auction was held here of freehold properties at Cradley Forge, Quarry Bank and Wall Heath owned by the late *Samuel Leonard*.

County Express 5/9/1891 - Notice

"*Samuel Leonard*, Deceased.

Notice is Hereby Given, that all Creditors and other Persons having any Claims or Demands against the Estate of *Samuel Leonard*, late of the MAY POLE INN, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, Manager of Ironworks, Deceased (who died on the 6th day of October, 1890, and whose Will was Proved in the Worcester District Registry of the Probate Division of her Majesty's High Court of Justice, on the 21st day of February, 1891, by Edwin Hingley Leonard, of Cradley aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, and Joseph Hill, of Prospect House, Lye, in the said County, Bucket Manufacturer, the Executors therein named), are hereby required to Send the Particulars, in writing of their Claims or Demands to us, the undersigned, Perry and Travis, on or before the 5th day of November, 1891, after which date the said Executors will proceed to Distribute the Assets of the said Deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the Claims and Demands of which they shall then have had notice, and they will not be liable for the Assets of the said Deceased, or any part thereof, so distributed, to any Person or Persons of whose Claims or Demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 21st day of August, 1891.

Perry and Travis, 76, High Street, Stourbridge, Solicitors for the Executors."

Birmingham Daily Post 9/1/1892

"At the Stourbridge Police Court, yesterday – before Colonel J. B. Cochrane and Mr. W. J. Turney – Robert William Potter, secretary to the Hand of Charity Friendly Society, held at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, was summoned for non-payment of £1 13s sick pay due to David Homer, a member of the society. There was a similar claim by William Grove. Mr. Waldron appeared for complainant, and Mr. Higgs defended.

Mr. Waldron, in opening the case, said that as the young members of the society found the old men coming on the funds increasing in number, they wished to smash up the society, and there had been instructions given to Mr. Higgs to take steps to wind up the society.

David Homer said he had been for nearly fifty years a member of the society, and had been on the books five years. He received his pay regularly up to October 9, when it was stopped. Out of the 3s a week he had received he had to pay 3d a week to keep himself on the books.

The Secretary said that complainant was summoned to a meeting called for important business, that business being to reduce members' pay, and a resolution was passed to wind up the society.

Mr. Waldron said that was illegal.

The Clerk said that to wind up the society one of the things requisite was the consent of all the members.

In reply to Mr. Waldron as to whether the society had not money out upon mortgage, the secretary said there was £525. For the last five years the young members had been leaving the society and had left the old men to themselves, and their payments had exceeded their income.

Mr. Higgs contended that proceedings had been improperly taken against the secretary, but the Bench decided in favour of the claimant, and ordered payment of the money and costs.

Mr. Higgs intimated there would be an appeal."

County Advertiser 26/8/1893 - Advert

"Found, Four Sheep on Wednesday, the 23rd.

Apply, MAYPOLE INN, Cradley."

County Advertiser 3/2/1894

“On Tuesday morning Mr. Hooper, coroner, held an inquest at the NEPTUNE INN, Powke Lane, Old Hill, upon the body of Elijah Poole (21), labourer, Churchbridge, Oldbury, who was drowned in the Birmingham Canal on Sunday evening, close by the NEPTUNE INN.

Bennett Lowe, labourer, Oldbury, said deceased was his step-son, and worked at Albright and Wilson’s. About 10.30 on Sunday last he went in company with a neighbour named Arthur Pearson to Old Hill on a visit to some relatives of Pearson. Deceased said they should be back by dinner time, but he did not come. Pearson came back about a quarter to twelve at night, at which time witness was in bed, and he heard his wife ask Pearson, ‘Have you bought Elijah back?’ Pearson replied, ‘No, he is drowned.’ Witness then got up and went to Pearson’s house. Pearson, who had different clothes on to what he had in the morning, told him that they had walked into the ‘cut,’ and he had got out the other side; that when he got out he shouted for Elijah, but could get no answer. The two men were on good terms with each other.

William Pearson said he asked deceased on Sunday morning to go with him to his mother’s at the Saltwells for a walk. Deceased refused at first, but afterwards consented. They called on their way at his sister’s, where they had some porter. After a quarter of an hour’s stay they proceeded to his mother’s where they had dinner and some ale mixed with ginger beer. They stayed about twenty minutes there, and afterwards went to the MAYPOLE INN at Cradley Forge. There they had five or six jugs of ale, two or three of which were had after half-past two o’clock – closing time. They paid for them between them, and the landlord paid for some. At closing time witness walked out of the house and walked in again. He told the landlord they had come the three miles and were travellers. They took away from the house a pint of rum.

In answer to Inspector Bishop witness said they were not much the worse for what they had had, but he did not think they were sober.

Witness, continuing his evidence, said they reached his sister’s house about four o’clock, and had tea. They mixed their tea with the rum which they had brought from the MAYPOLE.

The Coroner: How many partook of the tea? – Witness: About five or six.

Witness said they remained at his sister’s house till about a quarter to six, and then proceeded homewards. On the way home they called at the BRIDGE INN, where they were joined by a man named Henry Homer. Here they had about three quarts between them, and left about seven o’clock. They were then much the worse for beer, and Poole ‘showed it more than he did.’ They afterwards went into the QUEENS HEAD INN, kept by Mr. Joseph Foley, where they were refused liquor, for which they asked, and they were refused at another public house. They had in their possession a pair of pigeons, and as they were coming up Powke Lane, deceased was talking about putting up a pen for them. They walked straight into the canal instead of keeping to the road. Witness swam across to the far side and scrambled out. He then shouted ‘Elijah’ several times, but could not get any answer. He was dazed, and could not find Poole, who he thought might have got out.

The Coroner: Yes; you were dazed through drink.

Witness, continuing, said he lay down under a hedge, and subsequently was taken to a house, where he changed his clothes.

In reply to Inspector Bishop, witness said that after he got out of the water and lay down, afraid to get up in case he should roll into the canal.

The Coroner: Through having too much to drink? – Witness: Yes, and the cold. I did not know whether Poole was in or out of the canal.

A Juryman: You are in the habit of getting drunk? – Witness: Yes.

And you have been convicted by the magistrates many times? – Yes.

And fining you has not done you any good? – This job will, for I will never taste drink again.

Did you say to the deceased, ‘You can’t stand any more drink, I will drown you?’ – No, I did not. It was not the first time Poole had got drunk.

Police-constable O’Leary deposed that at 9.45, on Sunday night he heard that a man was in the canal at Jones’s Bridge, and with the assistance of Police-constable Wickstead and four other men he dragged the canal and found Poole’s body. Pearson, who was taken into a private house to have his clothes changed, was drunk. He saw him there, and he asked how Poole got into the water, and Pearson said, ‘We walked into the canal by accident, and Poole was too drunk to get out.’

The Coroner said there could be no reasonable doubt that the deceased died from drowning, and there were many serious matters connected with the affair. The two men undoubtedly went into various public houses, and had such a quantity of drink that both of them must have been in a beastly state of intoxication when they got into the canal. The question of any breach of the law having occurred would be inquired into by another court. The evidence showed that deceased got into the canal, and they had to consider whether he got there by accident.

The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and that the deceased was intoxicated when he got into the canal.

The Jury wished the Coroner to reprimand Pearson on his drunkenness, and on his being called into the room, Mr. Hooper said to him that the jury considered he was in a great measure responsible for his companion’s death. It was a very serious matter, as Pearson induced the deceased to go with him. It appeared to him that he (Pearson) was considerably addicted to drink, and if he was again brought before the justices, and he (the Coroner) knew of it, he would get the magistrates to inflict a heavy penalty on him. The only way he could mark his sense of such conduct as Pearson’s was by disallowing his expenses, and he should take that course. He hoped the occurrence would be a warning to him for the rest of his life.

Pearson said he would never touch drink again.”

County Advertiser 17/2/1894

“*James Henry Smith*, landlord of the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, was charged with selling intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours, on the 28th ult. Mr. Hinds prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

The case arose out of the unfortunate incident of a man named Elijah Poole, in company with a friend named William Pearson,

walking into the canal at Blackheath, on Sunday, the 28th ult. They walked from Oldbury, and called at the MAYPOLE. They were there at closing time; and on telling the landlord they came from Oldbury were allowed to remain. Mr. Waldron urged that the case should be dismissed, inasmuch as defendant used all reasonable precautions to find out that the men were travellers. The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs, but did not endorse the license.”

County Advertiser 25/8/1894

“The annual licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Stourbridge were held yesterday.....

Mr. Superintendent Pugh reported as follows.....

Notice of objection has been served on *James Henry Smith*, of the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, who was fined 10s and costs for selling drink during prohibited hours.....

Mr. Waldron appeared for *James Henry Smith*, MAYPOLE INN.

Police-sergeant Clarke proved a conviction against *Smith*, and said the house had not been conducted properly since the conviction. He had had occasion to caution *Smith*, and more drunkenness arose from the house than any other.

Mr. Waldron said that his client had had little experience of the conduct of a house before. The conviction was not a serious one, and general allegations against character should not influence the Bench in their decision. The police had not brought any charge of misconduct against *Smith*, and under these circumstances he asked for the licence to be renewed.

The Bench renewed the license, Lord Cobham remarking that he did not think allegations should be made unless they could be proved.”

County Advertiser 20/10/1894

“William Manning, Cradley, was charged with being drunk in the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Forge, on the 8th inst. Mr. Waldron defended. After hearing the evidence the Bench dismissed the case, witnesses being called who deposed that the man was sober.”

County Express 17/4/1897

“The weather was dull and damp for the illuminated procession on Monday night, at Stourbridge, and under the circumstances it was hardly to be expected that the procession would compare with those of former years. Nevertheless, the spectacle was an attractive one, and the streets on the line of the procession were lined with people, who waited amid the rain the arrival of the processionists.....

Prizes were allotted as follows.....

Decorated drays: 1st, STATION INN Judge and Jury Club; 2nd, GARIBALDI INN Club; 3rd, Mr. *Mason*, MAYPOLE INN, Cradley; 4th MARQUIS OF GRANBY; and special prizes were awarded to Mrs. Wood, MITRE INN, Lye; and to ‘Pride of the Heath.’”

County Advertiser 19/3/1898

“On Monday last the employés of Messrs. Guest and Co, Cradley Iron Works, held their annual dinner at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley. Upwards of 90 sat down to an excellent repast provided by Host *Mason*. Mr. George Deeley presided, and Mr. Laban Hill was vice-chairman. The toasts of ‘The Firm,’ ‘Mr. and Mrs. *J. Mason*,’ and other friends having been honoured, excellent songs were given by members of the company.”

Dudley Herald 11/6/1898

“A money club supper was held at the MAYPOLE INN, Quarry Bank, on Monday evening. A capital spread was provided by the host (Mr. *John Mason*), to which about 20 sat down. After the removal of the cloth Mr. Joseph Parrish was voted to the chair and Mr. Laban Hill to the vice-chair. The evening was then devoted to harmony, a splendid musical programme being provided. Several glees and part-songs were rendered by the Orpheus Glee Singers, including ‘When evening’s twilight,’ ‘Absence,’ ‘Town and trade,’ and ‘Crowned with clusters of the vine.’ The glees were given in good style, and the singers were Messrs. G. Evans (alto), A. Yardley (tenor), S. Yardley (baritone), T. Davies (bass). Votes of thanks to the chairman and host and hostess closed a very enjoyable evening.”

County Advertiser 29/12/1900

“On Thursday, at Hagley Parish Church, the marriage of Miss Hilda Reay, eldest daughter of Mr. J. G. Reay, JP, of Rockingham Hall, Hagley, to Mr. Algernon Simmonds, son of Mr. Algernon Haigh Simmonds, of Lee, Kent, was celebrated in the presence of a large congregation.....

Yesterday afternoon Mr. J. G. Reay entertained the staff and employés of Cradley Ironworks, together with a few friends, to dinner at the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, in honour of the occasion. The large dining room at the inn was too small to accommodate the party of 170 guests, and they were dined in two separate rooms, coming together afterwards for the toasts and speeches. The mottoes ‘Long life and happiness to the bride and bridegroom’ and ‘Success to Cradley Ironworks’ adorned the walls. The host, Mr. *John Mason*, put an excellent dinner on the table, and ample justice was done to it.....”

1901 Census

May Pole

[1] *John Mason* (47), brewer, born Quarry Bank;

[2] *Frances Mason* (44), wife, born Quarry Bank;

[3] Gertrude Mason (19), daughter, housemaid, born Quarry Bank;

[4] Hubert Mason (17), son, clerk (Brewer’s office), born Quarry Bank;

[5] Flora Mason (14), daughter, born Quarry Bank;

- [6] Ethel Mason (11), daughter, born Quarry Bank;
- [7] Doris Mason (10), daughter, born Quarry Bank;
- [8] Perrion R. Mason (7), son, born Cradley Heath;
- [9] Elizabeth Westwood (64), mother-in-law, widow, born Quarry Bank;
- [10] May Cartwright (25), servant, born Lye:

County Express 1/2/1902

“MAYPOLE INN. A smoking concert was given on Thursday evening. Mr. W. H. Cool presided over a good attendance and a capital programme was submitted by Messrs. J. Shaw, Morris, W. Hill, Williams, Payne, etc.”

County Advertiser 30/8/1902 - Advert

“Monday Next, September 1st, 1902. MAYPOLE INN, Cradley Heath, Staffs.

To Publicans, Brewers, Furniture Buyers, and Others.

Mr. W. Hackett has received instructions to Sell By Auction, upon the Premises as above, on Monday Next, September 1st, 1902, a quantity of Household Furniture, Surplus Brewing Plant, capital Spring Cart, Two Sets of New Silver-mounted Harness, Set of Cart Tackle, Twelve Couples of Fowl, and other Effects, comprising:

Wood and Iron Bedsteads, Straw and Hair Mattresses, Feather and Wool Beds, Walnut Duchesse Stands, Wash Stand and Dressing Tables, Mahogany Chests of Drawers; walnut Inlaid Sideboard, with Bevelled-edge Plate Glass, fitted with Drawers, and Cellar-ettes; Crown Back, Leather, Cane-seated, and Windsor Chairs, Gentleman’s Easy Chair, in Leather, Treadle Sewing Machine (by Singer), Long Case Eight-day Clock, Oblong and Leaf Tables, Folding Bagatelle Board and Balls, Gentleman’s Bicycle (nearly new), Excellent Fine-toned Pianoforte, in Walnut Case (by Hoffmann, London); 220 Gallon Copper Boiler, Doors, Bars, and Seating; 100 Gallon Cast-iron Boiler, Doors, Bars, and Seating; 16 Bushel Oval Mash Tub, large Wood Wort Cooler, Hop Press, in Iron Stand; Double Door Iron Safe, Six Stone Spirit Barrels, capital Spring Cart, Two-wheel Dog Trap, with Cushions; Two Sets of Silver-mounted Harness (new), Set of Cart tackle, Twelve Couples of young Fowl, and numerous other Effects.

The whole on view morning of Sale. Sale to commence at Two o’clock.

Auctioneer’s Offices: 13, Church Street, Oldbury, and Clent, near Stourbridge. Telephone No.63 Oldbury.”

County Advertiser 18/4/1903

“*John Hill*, landlord of the MAYPOLE INN, Cradley, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, on the 28th ult. Mr. J. Walter Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

It appeared from the evidence that Police-sergeant Clarke found a man named Billingham in the house drunk, and with liquor before him. He called the landlord’s attention to him, and when he went out staggering, the officer again called the landlord’s attention to the man. He replied, ‘All right, I shall be more careful in future.’

Mrs. Billingham, Ann Priest, and Eliza Priest all deposed that Billingham was drunk, Mrs. Billingham saying she had to conduct him home.

Mr. Waldron having addressed the Bench, called defendant, Mrs. *Hill*, William Dedlock, Samuel Leonard, Benjamin Williams, and James Westwood, all of whom deposed that Billingham was sober.

The Bench considered the case proved, and fined defendant £5 including costs.

Alexander Billingham was fined 5s and costs for being drunk in the house.”

Joseph Richard Barnes – see also FOX AND GOOSE, Brierley Hill.

County Express 18/7/1908

“The opening of the MAYPOLE bowling green took place on Saturday, before a good number of spectators, who thoroughly enjoyed the contest against the STATION INN. The latter evidently showed extra form this match.”

County Express 15/5/1909

“Bowling. An even game was played between the THREE HORSE SHOES and MAYPOLE INN. Although the latter won eight games, the score in their favour at the finish was only six points. E. Morris did good work for the losers.”

County Express 18/9/1909

“Cradley Air-Gun League.

With a view to the formation of an air-gun league for Cradley and district a meeting was held at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend on Tuesday. The following clubs were represented: OLD MOGUL, Netherend; SPREAD EAGLE, Dudley Road, Lye; ROSE AND CROWN, Lye Cross; MAYPOLE HOTEL, Cradley Forge; ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Quarry Bank; CHURCH TAV-ERN, Quarry Bank; and VINE INN, Quarry Bank. On the motion of Mr. George Davies, Quarry Bank, seconded by Mr. Frank Wylde, Netherend, it was decided that the radius for the league be 1½ miles from the club house.

It was proposed by Mr. George Davies, Quarry Bank, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, that the league be composed of 12 clubs, and no more.

On the proposition of Mr. Miller, VINE INN, seconded by Mr. Wylde, it was decided that the entrance fee be 7s 6d and guarantee 7s 6d or 15s in all. A further meeting was arranged to be held at the OLD MOGUL INN next Tuesday at 7.30.”

County Express 9/7/1910

“Bowling. Friendlies. Fixtures for Today.....

CASTLE INN (Old Hill) v MAYPOLE INN (Cradley).”

1911 Census

Cradley Forge

- [1] *Mary Anderton Twist* (30), widow, manageress public house, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] *Ethel Twist* (7), daughter, born Cradley;
- [3] *Stanley Twist* (2), son, born Cradley;
- [4] *Leah Richards* (16), general servant, born Birmingham:

County Express 8/1/1921

“Christopher Wragg and Joseph Wragg, Netherend, Cradley, were summoned for refusing to quit the MAYPOLE public house, Cradley, on December 18th.

Mr. F. P. Evers (Stourbridge) was for the complainant (*Mary A. Twist*, manageress of the MAYPOLE), and Mr. W. S. Mobberley (Lye) for the defendants.

It was alleged that defendants entered the house under the influence of drink, abused the manageress, created a disturbance, and refused to leave until pushed out by customers. Defendants who denied this were each fined £40s and £1 1s solicitor’s fee.”

1939 Register

Maypole Hill – MAYPOLE INN

- [1] *Hubert G. Hadlington*, date of birth 24/2/1901, general labourer brickyard, manager licensed house, married;
- [2] *Doris M. Hadlington*, dob 24/6/1901, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *James R. Hadlington*, dob 28/7/1921, driller, anti-aircraft shells, single:

The license was Provisionally Removed to a new site on the corner of Grove Lane and Bassnage Street, Halesowen, on 20th April 1955. [MAY POLE]

Tipton Herald 3/11/1956

“When police officers entered the MAYPOLE INN, Maypole Hill, Cradley at 10.24pm on September 21st, two people in the bar had two glasses nearly full of beer in front of them, it was alleged at Halesowen Magistrates’ Court on Tuesday, when the licensee and two customers were summoned.

John Henry Pritchard (37) of St. Mark’s Road, Lye, and *Iris Penn* (23), of Lyde Green, Cradley, pleaded guilty to consuming intoxicating liquors on licensed premises after closing time, and *Herbert Cooper* (56), of the MAYPOLE INN, Maypole Hill, Cradley, admitted aiding and abetting Pritchard and Penn.

Cooper was fined £6 and £1 1s costs, and the other two were each fined £3 and £1s 1s costs.”

MAY POLE

93, Bassnage Street / Foxhunt Road, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Marstons plc
New River Retail (acquired in 2013)

LICENSEES

William Arthur Greenwood (1957 – [1971])
Peter Groves [1994]
Diane O’Dowd [2001]
Brett S. Gould [2007] – [2009]
Michelle Vaughn (2013 – 2014)
Phil Coley and Paul Green (2014 – [])

NOTES

It opened in 1957.

Halesowen News 5/8/1999 - Advert

“The MAYPOLE, Halesowen.

Recently refurbished. Special Evening Friday 6th August.

Free Pool Table; Jugs of Beer; Holsten Pils buy 1 get 1 free; Cocktails; Juke Box; Waitress Service In Our New Snug, Weekend Nights Only; Budweiser Promotion, Lots of Prizes; Try Our New Products, Banks’s No.9 and Guinness; New Big Screen, First Leisure Match Sunday 8th August, The Premier Place for the Premier League.

93, Bassnage Road, Halesowen. Tel: 0121 550 2997.

Open: Mon-Sat 11am-11pm, Sunday 12 noon-10.30pm.”

Brett Gould was married to Marsha.

Dudley News 6/6/2014

“Battle lines have been drawn in the fight to stop last orders being served at a popular Halesowen pub. Staff and regulars at the MAYPOLE INN, Bassnage Road, are dismayed the pub has been sold to a company specialising in converting pubs into supermarkets. And after a building regulation application was submitted fears are rising the pub’s days are numbered.

Landlady *Michelle Vaughn*, who has been in charge for a year, said, ‘We are totally in the dark. We know Marston’s have sold the pub to a company in London called New River and have no idea what they want to do.’ New River Retail is a retail estate investment company with an expertise in converting pubs into shops. She added, ‘We would be gutted if the pub closed after all the hard work we have put in during the last year. This place is a real community pub, unlike so many chain pubs these days, and we know our regulars will not give up without a fight.’

Regulars at the pub are determined to challenge any bid to change the use of the premises to a supermarket. Retired firefighter Michael Seeley, aged 66, said, ‘This pub has been here for generations and is an important part of this community so it would be awful if it closed. The last thing we need around here is another supermarket, there are already too many shops and the traffic and disruption would be bad for residents.’ He added, ‘They tried to turn the SWAN on Long Lane into a supermarket and failed because of a community campaign so we will have to do the same with the MAYPOLE.’

A spokesman for New River Retail Ltd said, ‘The MAYPOLE INN is part of a portfolio of 202 public houses which New River only recently acquired from Marston’s. The properties in question have been leased back to Marston’s and are being managed and operated by Marston’s as public houses. This arrangement is in place for at least the next four years and in this respect, it is ‘business as usual.’ He added, ‘A review of all the properties is currently underway and there are no specific plans for any pub at this stage. It is New River’s current expectation that a large proportion of the pubs will continue to trade as they were purchased on that basis. As and when the position becomes clearer, we will be consulting with individual tenants.’”

Halesowen News 11/11/2014

“Big-hearted publicans will turn their Halesowen pub into a super heroes lair to raise money for Children in Need on Friday. The new management at the MAYPOLE pub, Phil Coley and Paul Green, are hosting a fancy dress evening with invitations for fictional stars such as Spiderman, Superman and Cat Woman. The evening at the Bassnage Road fun will start at 7pm with a buffet and the Children in Need television show will be broadcast on the big screens. Guests will be asked for a minimum £2 donation for the appeal. There will also be a charity car wash between noon and 3pm on the pub car park.”

Halesowen News 21/9/2015

“There were celebrations from campaigners trying to stop a popular Halesowen pub being demolished to make way for a new Co-op store after a controversial plan was thrown out by council planners tonight (Monday). Members of Dudley Council’s development control committee refused to give the go ahead to a plan by NewRiver Retail to bulldoze the MAYPOLE and replace it with a new convenience store. The scheme has been recommended for approval by planning officers and committee chairman Councillor Qadar Zada said he could not see ‘any planning grounds for refusal for this’.

But councillors spoke passionately against the plan and turned it down – saying it would be ‘dangerous’ to have cars coming in and out near a highly populated estate and they said another supermarket would affect the business of other local stores – notably Tesco Express on Hagley Road.

Councillor Colin Elcock described the MAYPOLE as ‘a great pub and a great community asset’ and he added, ‘This is a really well used pub. A lot of clubs and associations work from there.’

Councillor Paul Bradley said, ‘If it had been a pub that was burnt down or derelict for a few years I would have gone towards these proposals but it’s a viable business.’

Campaigners who had fought against the plan, gathering a petition with 384 signatures, were delighted to see the scheme refused. Mick Seeley secretary of the Friends’ of MAYPOLE group, said, ‘We were very nervous going into the meeting – it could have gone any way. We feel vindicated and overwhelmed.’

A spokesman for NewRiver Retail said the company would have to decide whether to take the matter to appeal and added, ‘The grounds given for refusal, we believe, will not be sustainable by the local authority at appeal. We have taken great steps to ensure this application was compliant with the council’s policy.’ Mr Seeley, however, added, ‘If it goes to appeal we will still be fighting – we’ll fight to the end.’

A similar plan, which would have seen a Co-op store built on the car park of the ASHWOOD INN at Wordsley, was also refused at the meeting. However, a plan to build a convenience store on the car park belonging to the CROWN at Netherton, Dudley, was given the go-ahead.”

It was listed as an asset of community value in 2016, to try and stave off the threat from developers (New River Retail).

Halesowen News 24/10/2018

“Angry Hayley Green residents claim their life has been made a misery by contractors working on a new Co-Op convenience store in Bassnage Road. Contractors have been working around the clock on some occasions and blocking the road with their lorries as they work on the former MAYPOLE pub site.

Furious resident Michelle Hawthorne said, ‘They’ve put us through hell over the past month, working seven days a week. This is a residential area but noise levels have been horrific at times and they’ve used spotlights that shine into people’s houses. I’ve spoken to the contractors, the Co-Op and New River, who are acting on behalf of the Co-Op, but just get fobbed off all the time. They started work at 6.10am the other morning and the noise was unbearable as they appeared to be flattening the ground. I went across to complain to the site manager who told me he’d got a delivery of tarmac arriving at 7am. Who on earth has tarmac delivered at 7am! All the residents are up in arms. We’ve had the police down as the contractors, Ellis Construction, have been blocking the road and driveways. They don’t seem to care at all. Many of the residents didn’t want the MAYPOLE to close. This has only added fuel as many of the residents now hate the Co-Op for what they’ve put us through and I for one, will never use the store. They’ve shown the residents no consideration or respect.’

Hayley Green and Cradley South councillor Andrea Goddard, who is also chair of Dudley Council’s Development Control Committee, said, ‘This development was never wanted in the first place and the law needs to be changed because it seems the local residents are the last ones to be considered in situations like this. There’s already an ASDA store close by and there’s another development taking place on the Hasbury Inn site. I’ve received numerous complaints over this development and I’ve been in contact with Environmental Services, but it seems there were no time restrictions in place for this construction. However, the contractors shot themselves in the foot by announcing there would be no weekend work. When I pressed the site manager on this, he claimed they had fallen behind with the work owing to bad weather. They were hoping to complete the development by early December, but that clearly hasn’t happened. What they did was to lead the residents into a false sense of security, when they should have spoken to them. Thankfully it’s nearly finished now as I can see the shelves and lighting have now been installed. At the moment we seem powerless to prevent these developments taking place. If we refuse them, they go to the Appeal Courts in Bristol and get overturned. It leaves local residents in a no-win situation. We need to lobby Parliament to get this changed.

A spokesman for New River said, ‘We’re grateful for the residents bringing these complaints to our attention and we will be speaking to the contractors over the issues raised’.

Demolished

A shop was built on the site.

MILL

HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Connop [1884]

NELSON

Hagley Road / Highfield Lane, (Love Lane), (Spring Hill), Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Arthur Hodgetts [1885]
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Bass Worthington
Punch Taverns

LICENSEES

William Knight [1841] – [1861]
William Bailey [] – **1876**;
Major George Cox (**1876 – 1878**);

Alfred Willetts (1878 – 1879);
William Grove (1879 – [1881])
Henry Field [1882] – [1884]
Joseph Beach Snr. [1884]
Samuel Albert Phillips [] – 1885);
William Atkiss (1885 – 1903);
Edwin Ernest Stanley (1903 – 1904);
John Lamb (1904 – [1921])
Phil Kerry (1994 – [1996])
Kevin Rix and Deborah Neville [2003]

NOTES

NELSONS ARMS [1841], [1858], [1861], [1884]
NELSON HOTEL [1851]
NELSON ARMS [1849], [1865], [1880]
NELSON INN [1881], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1996]
LORD NELSON [1911]

1841 Census

Spring Hill – NELSONS ARMS

- [1] *William Knight* (30), publican;
- [2] *Eliza Knight* (30);
- [3] *Ann Cook* (26), fs;
- [4] *William Gould* (28), brickmaker:

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/7/1849

“An inquest was held on Monday last upon the body of John Walters, aged about thirty years, at the house of *William Knight*, the NELSON ARMS INN, at Hasbury, in the parish of Halesowen, before George Hinchliffe, Esq, coroner.

Sarah, wife of *William Wagstaff*, nailor, deposed: About eleven o’clock on Saturday night last I was with the deceased and his wife in Halesowen market. He lived at Hasbury, near Halesowen. I lodge at his house, and returned home with him from market. He went to bed about twelve o’clock. Before he went to bed he had some beans and bacon for supper, and he drank about a pint of cider. About one o’clock next morning (Sunday) I heard the deceased groaning. I asked him what was the matter with him, and he said he was very bad. I then got into bed again, and, in about half an hour, he became worse, and his wife called my husband to fetch a surgeon to the deceased. When I first heard him groaning I went to the room door, between our two rooms. He appeared to be getting into bed. His wife told me afterwards he had then purged twice. I saw him again about five o’clock; he was then very ill, and was vomiting and purging very much, and he seemed in much pain, and was fainting and complained of cramp in his hands and feet and in his bowels and side. He kept getting worse, and died between five and six o’clock the same day, about eighteen hours after I heard him groaning. About two hours before he died he tried to get up in bed, as if in great pain, and we held him down to prevent him getting out of bed. He became easy about an hour before he died, when he went off very quietly. In the course of the day I saw the hands and feet of the deceased had been blue and yellow, and I saw them so about four o’clock in the afternoon.

Edward Moore, of Halesowen, surgeon, deposed: My assistant (Mr. F. G. Clarke) went to see the deceased about half-past three o’clock yesterday morning. He stayed with the deceased to ascertain what was the matter with him, and when he returned I saw him, and he said deceased was suffering from diarrhoea and premonitory symptoms of cholera. Some proper medicine was sent immediately to the deceased. About seven o’clock I was informed the deceased was no better, and I went to see him. He was then in a state of collapse, his hands and feet cold, and he had frequent purging and vomiting, and complained of cramp and pain in the bowels. I tried every means by hot applications and medicine to check the disease, but without effect. The deceased was seen by me and my assistant frequently in the course of the day. I am satisfied that the deceased died from Asiatic cholera.

Mary Godson, of Halesowen, corroborated the former evidence.

The coroner, in summing up, wished to impress upon the jury, and that they would make it known to their friends, the necessity, in every case of diarrhoea, to immediately apply to a medical man for assistance, and animadverted in a very able manner upon the negligence of the deceased in not applying for relief before. Verdict, Died from Asiatic Cholera.”

1851 Census

NELSON HOTEL

- [1] *William Knight* (40), licensed victualler, born Solihull;
- [2] *Eliza Knight* (40), wife, born Pedmore;
- [3] *John Jones* (39), boarder, blacksmith, born Stoderton, Shropshire;
- [4] *William Gold* (39), boarder, agricultural labourer, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Jane Price* (18), general servant, born Abberley, Worcestershire:

County Advertiser 24/4/1858

“During the last few months many of the members of the Lodge of Odd Fellows (Wolverhampton Order) held at Mr. *Knight's*, NELSONS ARMS, Spring Hill, Halesowen, suffered severely from typhus fever. The members of the lodge wishing to testify their gratitude to the medical officers for their unremitting and skillful attendance, those gentlemen were requested to attend the last quarterly meeting of the club, held on the 29th ult, when a unanimous vote of thanks was given to Edward Moore, Esq, the surgeon, and a beautifully chased silver lancet case, containing six lancets, presented to Mr. A. H. S. Hayes, the assistant surgeon, with a suitable inscription.”

1861 Census

Spring Hill – NELSONS ARMS

- [1] *William Knight* (49), publican, born Solihull;
- [2] Eliza Knight (49), wife, born Pedmore;
- [3] George Bond (5), visitor, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Sarah A. Tandy (20), servant of all work, born Brierley Hill:

County Advertiser 14/1/1865

“NELSON ARMS, Spring-Hill, Halesowen.

To Parties Furnishing, Publicans, Brokers, & Others.

S. Witton will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday next, January 18th, 1865, in consequence of the late occupier changing her residence, on the premises, as above, the whole of the excellent Household Furniture, Kitchen and Brewing Utensils, Mahogany and Oak Chests of Drawers, Mahogany and Windsor Chairs, Four-post and Tent Bedsteads, Feather and Millpuff Beds, Straw Mattresses, Carved Oak Chests, Mahogany Sofa, Two-leaf Mahogany and Oak Dining Tables, Buffet, Toilet Glass, large quantity of Glass, Counter, Cupboard and Shelves, Two Mashing Tubs, Two Iron Furnaces, Five Half-hogsheads, Four Coolers, Set Ninepins and Bowl, Spring Trap, &c, &c.

Catalogues may be had at the Place of Sale; WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Halesowen; or of the Auctioneer, Stourbridge.

S. Witton, Agent to the Phoenix Fire Office.

Sale to commence at Ten o'clock.”

William Bailey = William Bayley

William Bailey, veterinary surgeon, Spring Hill. [1876]

County Advertiser 22/9/1877

“Alfred Charlton, nailmaker, of Hasbury, *Major George Cox*, publican, Halesowen, and Henry Lester, no occupation, Oldswinford, were charged by Edward Stevens, farmer, of Clent, with trespass in search of game on part of the Walton Hill, at Clent. They pleaded in defence that a person named Tandy (who is not a tenant on the manor) gave them permission to shoot there. They were each fined 1s and costs, or seven days, the magistrates being of opinion that the mistake was a culpable one.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/3/1878 - Advert

“General Servant (good) Wanted, girl from 18 to 20.

Apply, NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/4/1878 - Advert

“Found, on Saturday last, at Timber Tree Pits, black Retriever Dog; tail cropped. If not owned in three days will be sold.

Apply, *Major George Cox*, NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/6/1878 - Advert

“Barmaid and Housekeeper. Wanted, a young lady.

Apply, the NELSON, Spring Hill, Hales Owen.”

County Advertiser 8/6/1878

“*Major George Cox*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, was summoned for keeping his house open for the sale of liquor at an illegal hour, on the 27th ult.

The evidence of Police-constable Parkes was to the effect that on the day named he went to the house kept by the defendant, at 11.15pm, and found the doors open, and the gas burning in the rooms. In the taproom he found seven men, who appeared to have been playing at cards, as when he entered they seemed trying to put them away out of sight. There were two jugs and a glass upon the table, in which was a small quantity of beer. While the witness was in the room the landlord came in and expressed regret at finding what had occurred; he said he had fallen asleep, and was not aware of the time.

Defendant pleaded guilty, and the Bench fined him 10s and costs, cautioning him to be more careful in future.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/6/1878 - Advert

“Halesowen. The NELSON, Spring Hill, to Let, immediately, the proprietor having other Engagements. Goodwill £150. Fixtures at fair valuation. Lease will be granted.

Apply as above.”

County Advertiser 27/9/1879

“*Alfred Willetts*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, was summoned for permitting gambling on his premises. Police-constable Parkes said he went to defendant’s house on the 13th inst at 10.25pm. There was a number of men in the tap-room, and he could hear some of them quarrelling about a ‘deal’. He looked through the door and saw on the table some coppers which he tried to seize, but only succeeded in getting one halfpenny. There were fifteen cards on the table and he also found 47 others under a bench. The men all ran out of the room when witness entered with the exception of two. It was urged for the defence that defendant did not know the men were playing for money, and whenever he went away from home he gave strict orders that the cards should not be produced. The Bench fined defendant 50s and costs.”

County Advertiser 28/8/1880

“Halesowen Annual Brewster Sessions
Police Superintendent Kemp presented his annual report
Since the last annual meeting four licensed victuallers and one beerhouse keeper had been fined
Alfred Willetts, alehouse, permitting gaming, fined 50s and costs.”

County Advertiser 4/12/1880

“George Cox and Edmund Lowe, labourers, Springfield, were charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of *William Grove*, Spring Hill. Defendants were each fined 10s and costs; in default of payment, twenty-eight days’ imprisonment.”

1881 Census

Spring Hill – NELSON INN

- [1] *William Grove* (37), publican and bricklayer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Eliza Grove (37), wife, born Thorns;
- [3] William A. Grove (19), son, bricklayer, born Hawne;
- [4] Walter J. Grove (15), son, bricklayer, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] Lucy E. Grove (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Ernest F. Grove (9), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Mary E. Grove (6), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] Harry Grove (3), son, born Hasbury;
- [9] William Turbeville (29), boarder, railway porter;
- [10] Jane Chatwin (22), servant, born Halesowen;
- [11] Anne Chatwin (5 months), visitor, born Hasbury;
- [12] Elizabeth Hadley (74), mother-in-law, born Delph;

County Advertiser 2/7/1881

“*William Grove*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, was charged with keeping his house open on Sunday, the 12th ult, for the sale of intoxicating liquors. At half-past eleven o’clock on the morning in question the house of defendant was visited by Police-sergeant Raybould, who found a man named James Cockin and a stranger in the tap room. The latter had a bottle of ginger beer before him, and Cockin had an empty pint jug. When the officer called the attention of the landlord to the matter he said the stranger had only called there for refreshment, and that Cockin had been there all night. Cockin told the officer he had come there to look after work. Defendant afterward told the officer that Cockin only had one pint. Defendant was fined 5s and costs. Cockin, for being on the premises, was fined 1s and costs.”

County Advertiser 16/7/1881

“*William Grove*, publican, Spring Hill, was summoned to show cause why his recognisances of £10, entered into by him on the 5th of last April, on behalf of one William Turbeville, a labourer, should not be forfeited. Mr. Homfray (Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Brierley Hill) appeared for *Grove*, and stated that Turbeville had been convicted of an assault since the recognisances had been entered into. Mr. Homfray went on to explain that *Grove* at present was in liquidation. It was a very hard case for *Grove*, and he (Mr. Homfray) now made application that defendant be let off on payment of expenses. The Bench ordered him to pay 5s and costs.”

London Gazette 19/7/1881

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869 In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation instituted by *William Groves*, of the NELSON INN Licensed Victualler and Master Bricklayer Notice is hereby given, that a First general meeting of the creditors of the above named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Messrs. Homfray and Bolberton, of 141, High Street, Brierley Hill on the 29th day of July 1881”

County Express 6/8/1881

“Local Failures. A meeting of the creditors of *William Grove*, NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, was held at the offices of Messrs Homfray and Holberton, Brierley Hill, last week, when it was resolved to liquidate the estate by arrangement, and Mr. Herbert Humphries was appointed trustee.”

County Advertiser 6/8/1881 - Advert

“In Liquidation. Re *William Grove*, NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen.

Mr. Herbert Humphries will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, the 16th inst, at 12.30 prompt, the whole of the Furniture and Effects, consisting of White and Gold Spirit Jars and Taps, Sets of Fine Buffalo Horns, Clocks, Oblong Drinking Table, with mahogany top; Sundry Glass, Pewter Ale and Spirit Measures, Windsor and other Chairs, Sofa, Beds, Iron French Bedsteads, Wash Stands, and numerous Effects, without reserve.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Brierley Hill.”

County Express 22/4/1882

“Samuel Williams (29), nailer, Spring Hill, was charged with stealing a rug, value 15s, the property of John Newey, grocer, Smethwick. He was further charged with stealing a woollen shawl, and a knife, the property of *Henry Field*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill.

On Easter Monday, Mr. Newey being in Halesowen, put his horse and trap up at the NELSON INN, and as he was about to return home afterwards he found that the rug which he had left in the trap had been taken away. Subsequently the prisoner offered it for sale for 3s to two or three people, and he was taken into custody. Whilst he was in custody, Mrs. *Field*, the wife of the landlord of the NELSON INN, saw a woman named Elizabeth Hackett wearing a shawl which she had missed since October last, and on enquiries being made it was found that Mrs. Hackett had bought the shawl, and a table knife, also stolen from Mrs. *Field*, off the prisoner for 1s 6d.

Prisoner owned to Police-sergeant Raybould that he picked the knife and shawl up, but he stated to the magistrates that a man named ‘Mat Cotton’ gave them to him to sell.

The Bench committed him for trial at the Sessions on both charges.”

[At the Worcestershire midsummer Sessions Samuel Williams was found guilty of stealing the shawl and knife and, having been previously convicted, was sentenced to twelve months’ hard labour and seven years’ police supervision.]

Birmingham Daily Post 19/10/1882 - Advert

“General Servant Wanted; one used to public business preferred.

Apply, Mrs. *Field*, NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen.”

County Advertiser 19/5/1883

“Joseph Lees (13), of Bartley Green, was charged with being drunk and incapable at Spring Hill, on Monday night.

Police-constable Hardwicke stated that on Monday night he saw the prisoner carried out of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, in an insensible state. He was taken to the police station, and did not recover consciousness until the next morning.

During Monday afternoon the prisoner went with some friends to some fetes which were being held in Gibbett Lane, and had intoxicating drinks. After which he went to the NELSON INN.

Police-sergeant Raybould said that for several hours he did not know whether the prisoner would live or die. With a good deal of attention and care he became conscious.

The Bench said the case was a very sad one. The prisoner would be fined 5s, including costs, or in default seven days’ imprisonment, and the police were directed to make inquiries as to the places where the prisoner was supplied with the drinks.”

County Express 2/6/1883

“*Henry Field*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 14th May.

Two police constables stated that they saw a boy brought out of the premises in a very drunken condition. The youth was before the court on the last occasion and was fined for being drunk.

Defendant denied that the boy had had the drink on his premises.

The Bench said they thought it very disreputable on the part of defendant to let so young a boy have the drink. It would be better for him on future occasions to turn such youths out. The present case was dismissed.”

Dudley and District News 25/8/1883

“Annual Licensing Sessions.

Superintendent Hardman presented the report Three licensed persons had been proceeded against: *Henry Field*, of the NELSON INN, for permitting drunkenness, who was discharged; and two beerhouse keepers, William Hingley, for keeping open during prohibited hours, and fined 5s and costs; and Harriet Yates, who was fined 20s and costs for a similar offence.”

AND

“*Henry Field*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, was summoned for allowing gambling to take place on his licensed premises, on the 29th ult. Mr. Shakespeare defended.

Alfred Rudge, a resident of Spring Hill, stated that on the day in question he, with four other men, were playing cards in the defendant’s tap-room for pints of ale. The defendant stood at the counter and could see it going on.

By Mr. Shakespeare: He did not hear anyone ask permission to allow them to play at cards. He did not hear the defendant say that if they played, it was to be on the strict understanding that neither money nor beer was played for.

Another witness named Frank Rudge stated that they were playing at ‘pitch’ for jugs of ale. In answer to Mr. Shakespeare he said that the landlord’s permission was asked for them to play at cards. The landlord said that they were not to play for money, but he did not tell them they were not to play for beer.

Mr. Shakespeare, for the defence, said there was no doubt whatever that the people were playing at cards. He need not tell them that card playing was allowed, providing they neither played for money or money's worth, and the question in this case was whether they were really playing for beer to the knowledge of the landlord. If his instructions were correct that the landlord permitted the people to play at cards, but on the strict understanding that they neither played for beer or money, he was not guilty of the charge. The witnesses were prejudiced against the defendant. With the discrepancies in the evidence for the prosecution, and with the positive evidence he should call before them, and taking into account that the defendant had kept the house for some years and never been fined, he hoped the Bench would say the case was not proved.

Geo. Cox, a horsenail maker, said he was playing at cards with the Rudges. The landlord told them they were not to play for money or beer. There was no money or beer played for.

The defendant was sworn, and stated that he told the men that they could play at cards providing they did not play for money or beer.

The Bench thought there was not sufficient evidence to convict, and dismissed the case."

Dudley and District News 1/3/1884

"At Halesowen Police Court, on Thursday, before Mr. F. D. L. Smith (Magistrate), *Henry Field* (29), landlord of the NELSON INN, Hagley Road, Benjamin Robinson (29), drayman, Henry Withers (37), foreman porter, Joseph Poynter (35), drayman, David Hall (26), porter, and Giles Bloomer (27), porter, all residing at Halesowen, were charged with stealing 53 bundles of the best Swedish charcoal iron, the property of the Great Western Railway Company. *Field* was further charged with feloniously receiving the iron.

PS Raybould stated that the whole of the prisoners excepting *Field* were in the employ of the Great Western Railway Company. Last week 800 bundles of Swedish iron were despatched from the Tyne Docks to Messrs. Guest and Co, nail manufacturers, Halesowen. Evidence would be given showing that on the arrival of the iron at the Halesowen railway station the prisoners entered into a conspiracy to steal the iron. Robinson went to *Field's* house, and arrangements were made for the purchase of the iron, and on Saturday morning Robinson took the iron in one of the company's wagons to *Field's* premises. Upon the remainder of the iron being sent to Messrs. Guest and Co's warehouse it was noticed that there were not 800 bundles as invoiced, and as there had been previous losses information was given to the police. Inquiries were instituted, which resulted in *Field's* place being visited, and 45 of the stolen bundles were found. *Field* was taken into custody by witness on Wednesday morning, and the other prisoners were arrested during Wednesday night.

Mr. Smith decided to remand the whole of the prisoners in custody until Tuesday, and refused to accept bail. It is stated that for some time large quantities of goods have been missing from the Halesowen goods station, and that the railway company have been called upon to pay some heavy claims."

County Express 8/3/1884

[Charges against Paynter, Hall and Bloomer were withdrawn; Rollinson was sentenced to three months' hard labour; *Field* and Withers each to six months' hard labour.]

"....Prisoners, who were very dejected, and wept during the trial, were then removed.

The case excited a great amount of interest in Halesowen, and the exterior of the Court was besieged with people, notwithstanding the inclement weather."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/5/1885

"*Samuel Phillipps*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 25th ult. It was stated that defendant had allowed a man named Cox to remain on his premises for over an hour whilst in an intoxicated condition.

Defendant was fined 20s and costs."

County Advertiser 25/7/1885

"*Samuel Albert Phillipps*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, and his wife, *Caroline Phillipps*, were charged with being drunk on their licensed premises on the 16th inst. Mr. Shakespeare defended.

Police-sergeant Raybould said that in consequence of complaints he received of a disgraceful disturbance at the defendant's house he visited the place in company with Police-constable Harris at 5.30pm on the day in question. He there found the male defendant drunk and in a stupefied state. In the passage leading from the front door to the back yard the floor was covered with broken glass and potatoes. In the back yard witness saw the female defendant in a worse state of drunkenness than her husband. She had a scar across her face. Witness never before saw a public house in such a state. Witness asked defendant how he accounted for the house being in such a state, to which he replied that he had been trying to keep his wife quiet. In cross-examination, witness said that the male defendant did not tell him that he had been to Birmingham and his wife had thrown the articles at him because he had not come home to dinner. He believed the woman had a violent temper, and he had heard disturbances in the house till three o'clock in the morning.

Police-constable Harris gave corroborative evidence.

Police-constable Hardwick said he went to the house at eight o'clock, and the two defendants were then under the influence of drink.

For the defence, Mr. Shakespeare denied that the defendants were drunk. Unfortunately Mr. *Phillipps* had a very violent wife, and up to the present they had not got on very well together. On the day in question they had a quarrel, but that quarrel did not arise from drunkenness. Mr. *Phillipps* had been to Birmingham, and had promised to be home to dinner, but he was detained, and did not arrive till five o'clock. He and his wife quarrelled, and when the officers went to the house the defendants were very much

excited. The male defendant did not think his wife was a proper woman to live in a public house, and had taken a private house for her to live away from the public house.

Arthur Hodgetts, brewer, and owner of Mr. *Phillips*' house, said he went to the house at eight o'clock and Mr. *Phillips* was not drunk.

Police-sergeant Raybould: Did you offer a bribe? – Witness: No, I didn't.

Did you say when you came to the station that you would rather pay than he should be summoned? – I said I would rather pay £2 than he should be summoned.

William Willetts, Joseph Cooper, John Farmer, Annie Shatton, and Sarah Hackett gave evidence to the effect that they saw the defendants between four and eight o'clock, and they were not drunk.

The Bench thought it was a proper case to bring before the Court, but the evidence for the defence was very strong, and they would give the defendant the benefit of the doubt.

The case was dismissed.”

County Advertiser 29/8/1885

“On Tuesday last the annual licensing meeting was held at the Public Office, Halesowen.....

The following licenses were held over till the adjourned licensing meeting.....

Samuel A. Phillips, NELSON, Hasbury.....

Notice of objection had been served on *Phillips*, but withdrawn on his agreeing to transfer the license to *William Atkins* [sic].”

County Advertiser 29/8/1885

“William Willetts, Spring Hill, rivet maker, was charged on a warrant with committing an aggravated assault upon his wife, Hannah Willetts. From the evidence of the woman it appeared that the prisoner had been in the habit of systematically assaulting her in a most brutal manner for the last eight years, she having on several occasions separated from him in consequence of his brutal conduct, but returned to him on his promising to reform. On Monday last she went to the NELSON INN to fetch the prisoner, when he assaulted and kicked her in a most savage manner.

The prisoner was sentenced to fourteen days' hard labour, without the option of a fine, and Mr. Gem said that if Mrs. Willetts would apply she would get a separation order.”

County Express 8/1/1887

“An inquest was held on Monday last, before Mr. Edwin Docker, deputy coroner, at the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, touching the death of a child named William Jones (3), son of John and Matilda Jones, who met with his death under very peculiar circumstances. It appeared from the evidence of the mother that the child had been in the habit of drinking from the spout of the kettle, and the mother had reprimanded him for doing so. On Friday last the mother left the house for the purpose of washing. She had not been absent long when, hearing screams, she ran back to the house. She met her father in the doorway who exclaimed, ‘It's all over with Willie.’ She sent for Dr. Ker, and poured sweet oil down the child's throat.

William Law, father of last witness, said he was in the house at the time, but did not see the child drink from the kettle, though from his (the child's) position he had no doubt that was what had occurred.

Dr. Ker said the child was suffering from severe scalds about the lips, but he was unable to make an examination of the throat, owing to the acute pain the child was in. He had no doubt death was the result of scalds in the throat and stomach.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned. The Coroner strongly recommended the mother to obtain a fireguard.”

William Atkiss = William Atkins

William Atkiss was also a corn dealer. [1888], [1896]

Birmingham Daily Post 6/11/1888

“Last night a well-attended meeting of spike-nail makers was held at the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen, under the presidency of Mr. W. Price, for the purpose of considering the wages question.....”

1891 Census

Spring Hill – NELSON INN Public House

[1] *William Atkiss* (51), publican, born Bilston;

[2] Ann Atkiss (51), wife, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 9/3/1892

“Yesterday a largely attended meeting of jumped spike-nail makers was held at the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen, for the purpose of considering whether they should strike.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/4/1892

“An inquest was held at the NELSON INN, Hales Owen, on Monday, before Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) touching the death, on the 14th instant, of Robert Edward Kendall, aged four years and three months, son of George Kendall, Hagley Road, Hales Owen.

George Kendall, father of deceased, an insurance agent, said that the child was brought home about a fortnight ago with something in his ear, which he alleged had been put there by one of his schoolfellows. He was taken to Dr. Young's surgery, where an

attempt was made to extract the substance, but without success. On the following morning witness took him to the Ear and Throat Hospital, Birmingham, where another unsuccessful attempt was made to extract the substance.

The Coroner: Did Dr. Wright Wilson tell you to do anything for the child?

Witness: Yes; he told me to call in a medical man if the child became delirious.

The Coroner: Did you do so, and when?

Witness: On the morning of the child's death.

The Coroner: And you allowed your child to remain in agony for a fortnight without calling in a medical man?

Witness: Yes.

Dr. Young said the deceased was brought to him on 31st March by his mother, who told him that he had a stone in his ear. He looked, and could see a foreign substance, but before he could make an attempt to extract it deceased slapped his ear two or three times with his open hand, thus causing the substance to go farther in. He placed him under chloroform and attempted to extract it, but without success. Deceased did not stand the chloroform well, and he deemed it advisable to restore him, and on account of being informed that it was a stone, he told the mother to bring the child to him again at nine the next morning, which was not done. During the day he called to see why the lad was not brought, and was told that he had been taken to the hospital, and that it could not be extracted there, but they were to take him again on the following Tuesday. He (Dr. Young) then considered the case out of his hands. He had made a post mortem examination, which showed that death was caused by inflammation of the membrane of the brain, caused by the bean.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and asked the coroner to censure the father for his neglect in not keeping deceased under medical care."

County Advertiser 30/9/1899 - Advert

"Warehouse to Let, adjoining the NELSON INN at Spring Hill, Halesowen.

Apply, *William Atkins*, NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen."

1901 Census

Spring Hill

[1] *William Atkiss* (61), licensed victualler, born Bilston;

[2] *Ann Atkiss* (60), wife, born Wolverhampton:

County Advertiser 10/10/1903

"*Edward Ernest Stanley*, landlord of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, was summoned for permitting drunkenness upon his licensed premises, and also for supplying a drunken person on the 26th ult. Mr. J. W. Clulow (instructed by the Chief Constable) appeared to prosecute, and Mr. S. Vernon, of Oldbury, defended.

Mr. Clulow explained that at 9.45 on the night in question Police-constable Beswick was on duty in the neighbourhood of defendant's house, when he saw a man named Charles Hall leaving the premises in a drunken condition. The man was so drunk that he fell down in the road, and had to be assisted up by two men. Beswick spoke to defendant, who admitted that the man had been served with some gin.

Evidence in support of this statement was given by Police-constable Beswick and Police-sergeant Pass.

Mr. Vernon, for the defence, pleaded guilty, and asked for leniency.

The Bench considered it a bad case, and fined defendant 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness, the other case being withdrawn on payment of costs. The total amount was £4 13s."

County Advertiser 13/2/1904

"On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.....

During the year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows.....

6th of October, 1903 *Edwin Ernest Stanley*, NELSON INN, Hasbury, permitting drunkenness, fined 40s and costs £2 7s 6d."

County Advertiser 4/6/1904

"Joseph Partridge, of Hagley Road, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk upon the licensed premises of the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, on May 24th.

Police-constable Kings deposed to visiting the house named on the night in question, and finding defendant there in a drunken condition. The landlord told him that Partridge had only just entered the premises, and he had been requested to leave.

Evidence was also given by the landlord, *Edwin Stanley*, to whom Inspector Griffin said no blame attached.

Defendant was fined 5s and costs, but Mr. Somers warned him that if he offended again the penalty would be much heavier."

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday.....

Mr. H. Jeffries supported an application for sanction to make alterations at the NELSON INN, Hasbury. He pointed out that it would make the sanitary arrangements better. The application was granted."

Birmingham Mail 28/4/1906 - Advert

"General Wanted, about 18, no washing.

Apply, Mrs. *Lamb*, NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen."

County Advertiser 1/6/1907

“A meeting in connection with the Licensed Victuallers’ Association was held on Wednesday afternoon at the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen Mr. Levy, in the course of his address, dealt with the questions of time limits for licenses, the establishment of Sunday closing, the competition of clubs, and the proposed abolition of the employment of barmaids in public houses A man needed the character of an archbishop in order to secure a license; he required the knowledge of a lawyer in order to keep it; and unless he had the fists of a pugilist he was bound to come in for some rough treatment. (Laughter.) Mr. Levy also condemned the proposal to abolish the employment of barmaids in public houses, contending that the very presence of a woman helped to make a man more respectful and careful. (Applause.)
A discussion followed, and a resolution was passed protesting against any further restrictions being placed upon the trade.”

County Advertiser 22/6/1907

“A well-attended meeting of rivet, nut, spike, and bolt makers in the Halesowen district was held on Monday night at the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, for the purpose of organisation. . . .”

1911 Census

Hagley Road

- [1] *John Lamb* (49), widower, publican, born Defford, Worcestershire;
- [2] Harriett Lamb (40), wife, married 17 years, this line crossed out.
- [3] Hilda Lamb (16), daughter, assisting in the business, born Birmingham;
- [4] Edith Lamb (16), daughter, draper’s assistant, born Birmingham;
- [5] Marion Lamb (12), daughter, school, born Birmingham;
- [6] William Lamb (10), son, school, born Birmingham;
- [7] Harriet Lea (47), domestic servant, born Frankley, Worcestershire:

Bromsgrove Messenger 23/11/1912

“*John Lamb*, landlord of the NELSON ARMS INN, Hasbury, was summoned for selling ale to a lad under 14 years of age. Mr. T. Cooksey, who defended, pleaded guilty.
Police-constable Keyte stated that on the 11th inst, at 11.10am, he saw a lad named Clifford Downing leaving the NELSON ARMS INN with a jug containing half a pint of ale. The lad said he was 13 years of age. Witness saw defendant, who said he thought the lad was 14, as he had left school.
Mr. Cooksey said he thought justice would be met by payment of costs. His client had been misled respecting the boy’s age. The Bench ordered defendant to pay costs.
Ann Downing, of Highfield Lane, was summoned for sending her son Clifford for the ale. The lad’s certificate of birth showed he was 13 last August.
Defendant pleaded guilty, and said she acted in ignorance and she was ill at the time.
Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

In October 1930 customers of the NELSON INN, Halesowen, donated 10s to the Norton Canes Mine Disaster Fund, which provided support for the widows and children of the 14 men who died.

Demolished

It was rebuilt in the 1930s.

Birmingham Mail 25/4/1939 - Advert

“Demolition. 100,000 Red Bricks, 3in Slates, Rafters, Joists, Floor Boards, Quarries for Sale.
Apply the NELSON INN, Highfield Lane, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/9/1954

“The English inn sign has long been the true guide to wayfarers, the delight of connoisseurs. . . .
Inn signs not only give wider scope but provide a far wider and often more appreciative public to the artist than the conventional art gallery, and we meet the work of well-known inn-sign artists everywhere in the Midlands. . . .
Mr. Ralph Ellis, RA, is responsible for the portrait on the NELSON at Halesowen. . . .”

Sports Argus 16/7/1955

“Another organisation who have made rapid progress after consolidating are Halesowen Town League. They have reached a total of 32 teams, divided evenly in two sections. . . .
Eventual winners were NELSON INN with Halesowen Labour Club runners-up. . . .
House Competition Trophy runners-up were NELSON INN.”
[Darts.]

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz competition. [1974/5], [1979]

Sports Argus 9/12/1978

“Sport-Inn Quiz. Sponsored by Mitchells & Butlers & Bass Worthington.

Here is the full list of entries for the *Sports Argus* Sport-Inn Quiz competition. The draw for the first round matches will take place on January 8 and will be published next week.....

NELSON, Hagley Road, Halesowen, West Midlands.”

Phil Kerry was married to Ellen (b. Wednesfield).

Halesowen News 3/6/1999 - Advert

“The NELSON. This Saturday & Sunday. Blackthorn Cider £1.30 pint. Diamond White £1.30 bottle.

Free measure of House Spirits with Every Pint Monday-Friday 3pm-7pm

Family Beer Garden Now Open

Hagley Road, Halesowen (next to Evans Halshaw Peugeot).....”

A fire damaged the roof on 10th June 2003.

It reopened on 13th June 2003.

[2009]

Closed [2010], [2012]

It was converted into housing. [2015]

Halesowen News 10/11/2022

“A former Halesowen pub’s beer garden is up for sale with offers invited over £230k. The land on Hagley Road is the beer garden of the former NELSON pub, on the corner of Highfield Lane. Plans are being drawn up for ‘multiple blocks of apartments’ on the site, but there is no planning permission in place. The pub building has already been converted into flats. The listing states that to the rear of the land there is a car park – which is also available to purchase or rent on a long lease – this must be negotiated separately. Sales notes state the 3,638 sq/ft beer garden site is a ‘fantastic opportunity to purchase this parcel of land situated close to Halesowen Town Centre.’ They go on, ‘The land was the beer garden to the former former NELSON public house which itself was converted to apartments in recent years. The land does not currently have planning permission associated with it however the vendor has instructed architects plans for a multiple block of apartments in order to assess the suitability/volume of any potential development (subject to planning). These plans are available at the Bloore King & Kavanagh Office in Halesowen’. The land is being sold by modern method of auction, with bids invited to start at £230k. It is being marketed by Bloore King & Kavanagh.”

NETHEREND TAVERN

Netherend, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. Eliza Williams [1849] – [1865]

F Anderson []

NOTES

Worcestershire Chronicle 19/6/1850

“Netherend Reading and Debating Society. This is a society which meets every Wednesday evening at Mrs. *Eliza Williams*’s, at Netherend, and its constitution appears to be worthy of imitation. Each member pays 2d, and non-members 1d, for the purchase of newspapers and periodicals, which are lent out when not wanted at the meeting, and when a week old are again sold for the highest price. The overplus of money is placed in the treasurer’s hands, and laid out from time to time in such a way as the members think fit. The funds having accumulated sufficiently, they decided on having a rural party to Clent Hills, and this took place on Monday week. The weather was beautiful, and the members and their friends, wives, sweethearts, and all, to the number of about 100, accompanied by the Netherend Brass Band, spent a truly pleasant day.”

1851 Census

Netherend

[1] *Eliza Williams* (36), widow, victualler, licensed brewer, born Cradley;

- [2] Walter Williams (14), son, roll turner, born Cradley;
- [3] Catherine Williams (10), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Benjamin Williams (7), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] James Williams (5), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Charles Williams (5 months), son, born Cradley;
- [7] Sarah Buffery (20), house servant, born Cradley;
- [8] Fanny Buffery (56), widow, general servant, born Cradley:

Brierley Hill Advertiser 23/5/1857 - Advert

“The Annual Tea Meeting will be held at Mrs. *Williams*’s NETHEREND TAVERN, on Whit Monday, June 1st 1857. Tea on the Table at Five o’clock. Tickets, One Shilling Each. A Quadrille Band will be in attendance.”

1861 Census

Netherend

- [1] *Eliza Williams* (46), widow, born Cradley;
- [2] Caroline Williams (20), daughter, born Cradley;
- [3] Benjamin Williams (18), son, millman, born Cradley;
- [4] James Williams (15), son, millman, born Cradley;
- [5] Charles Williams (10), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Samuel R. Williams (2), nephew, scholar, born Lye;
- [7] Lucy Deely (10), niece, scholar, born Kingswinford;
- [8] William Deely (68), father, widower, born Kingswinford;
- [9] Fanny Buttery (64), servant, born Lye:

County Advertiser 25/3/1865 - Advert

“NETHEREND TAVERN, Netherend. Clearing Out Sale.

Mr. Chandler will Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, March 27th, 1865, at Eleven o’clock, the Public House Fixtures, and Effects, including Two Large Iron Furnaces, Grates, Kitchen Screens, Drinking and other Tables, Counter, Five Long Forms, 16-strike Mash Tub, Two Hogshead, Three Half-hogshead, and Four Smaller Ale Casks, Sign, Garden Seat, Eight-day Spring Clock, &c, at the NETHEREND TAVERN, Netherend aforesaid, by direction of Mrs. *Williams*, who is leaving.”

F. Anderson issued tokens from here.

NEW INN

Colley Lane, CRADLEY

OWNERS

W Cox

LICENSEES

A Attwood [1856]

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 28/6/1856 - Advert

“Eligible Investments. Desirable Copyhold and Freehold Properties, Cradley, near Stourbridge.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Thomas Howell (by direction of the Executors of the late Mr. W. Cox), on Monday, the 21st day of July, 1856, at Six o’clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. Thomas Fellows, the MOGUL INN, Netherend, Cradley, in the following or such other Lots as may be agreed upon, and subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot 1. All that substantially erected Copyhold Property consisting of the Public House and Premises known as the NEW INN, situated in Colley Lane, Cradley, with Butcher’s Shop, Brewhouse, Dairy, Stabling, Barn Cow-house, Corn and Nail Warehouses, Slaughter-house, Garden, and Out-offices, in the occupation of Mr. *A. Attwood*; together with the Four Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with Brewhouse, three Nail Shops, and Gardens, in the several occupations of Partridge and others; the whole producing at low rents £37 14s per annum.....”

NEW INN

Hagley Road, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Hingley [1861] – [1881]

NOTES

1861 Census

Hagley Road – NEW INN

- [1] *William Hingley* (48), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Lucy Hingley (46), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Thomas Hingley (24), son, highway labourer, born Cradley;
- [4] William Hingley (14), son, agricultural labourer, born Hagley:

William Hingley, beer retailer, Hasbury. [1864], [1865], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

Hagley Road – NEW INN

- [1] *William Hingley* (56), agricultural labourer, beerhouse keeper, born Cradley;
- [2] Lucy Hingley (56), born Cradley;
- [3] Thomas Hingley (34), son, agricultural labourer, born Cradley;
- [4] William Hingley (24), son, agricultural labourer, born Hagley:

1881 Census

Lower Hasbury – NEW INN

- [1] *William Hingley* (67), highway labourer and publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Lucy Hingley (67), wife, annuitant, born Cradley;
- [3] Thomas Hingley (45), son, highway labourer, born Cradley:

NEW INN

14, Whitehall Road, (Birmingham Road), (Shenstone Street), The Shenstone, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Charles Birch
Giles Melley
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1951]

LICENSEES

Mrs. Betty Taylor [1806] – **1822**
Sarah Birch [1822]
John Gorle [1827]
Thomas Field [1828] – [1829]
Thomas Graves [1830] – [1831]
Poole [1832]
Henry Hodgson [1835]
Mrs. Sarah Bellison [1836]
George Granger (**1836 – 1854**);

Felix Briggs Granger (1854 – 1859);
William Higgins Merrick (1859 – [1860]
John Brearley [1861]
Walter C Birch [1863] – 1864);
Amos Goode (1864 – [1868]
Giles Melley [1873] – 1882);
William Raybould (1882 – [1883]
John Roberts [1882]
John Webb [1884]
Mrs. Agnes Greenway [1887] – [1892]
John Roberts [1896] – 1904);
Frederick ‘Fred’ Williams (1904 – [1939]
Arthur William Williams []

NOTES

NEW INNS [1911]

It was also the Excise Office. [1822]

Commercial and posting house. [1849]

It was situated directly opposite Cobham Road.

Black Country Bugle

‘Hundred Year Old Photograph Of Halesowen Pub’

“....In the early 19th century it [NEW INNS] was the regular stopping place for the ‘Nimrod’ and ‘Tantivy’ stagecoaches, which plied between Birmingham, Stourbridge and Kidderminster.

The licensee, in 1806, was *Betty Taylor* and Halesowen’s first Friendly Society (called the New Union Society) was established there in that year.

It was further mentioned in connection with another era in Halesowen’s history for the Hon. C. G. Lyttleton presided at a luncheon there, in celebration of the opening of the branch line between Halesowen and Old Hill in 1883.....”

Derby Mercury 17/2/1791

“Bankrupts. John Jeayes and Joseph Sandbach, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire. Maltsters and Tallow-Chandlers. To appear March 1, 2, and 29, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, Shropshire. Attornies, Messrs. Collett and Winburn, Chancery Lane, London.”

Derby Mercury 10/9/1807 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Handy, in three Lots, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen the Manor or reputed Manor of Broad Hidley, with upwards of 318 Acres of good Arable, Meadow, and Pasture Land, within a Ring Fence.....”

Worcester Journal 1/12/1808 - Married

“Mr. James *Taylor*, of the NEW INN, Hales Owen, to Miss Harriet Redfearn, of Fleet Street, Birmingham.”

Worcester Journal 12/2/1818 - Advert

“Desirable Estates, in and near the Town of Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Henry Jacob, at the house of Mrs. *Taylor*, the NEW INN, at Hales Owen, on Wednesday, the 25th day of February instant, at three o’clock in the afternoon.....”

[Auctions were held at the NEW INN for many years.]

Worcester Journal 25/7/1822 - Died

“On the 12th inst, in the 77th year of her age, Mrs. *Betty Taylor*, upwards of 54 years the much-respected landlady of the NEW INN, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Journal 3/9/1825 - Advert

“Capital Inn, Malthouse, and Premises, at Hales Owen, in the County of Salop.

To be Let, and entered upon at Michaelmas next, all that well-known Inn, called the NEW INN, at Hales Owen, late in the occupation of Mrs. *Betty Taylor*, deceased, together with the Stables, Outbuildings, Pleasure and Kitchen Gardens, a large new-erected Malthouse and Premises complete, together with a piece of excellent Meadow Land adjoining.

Further particulars may be known by applying to Messrs. Hayes and Hinchliffe, Solicitors, Hales Owen, or to Mr. Henry Jacob, Auctioneer, Newhall Street, Birmingham.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 5/9/1825 - Advert

“Sale at the BEAR INN, Smethwick, near Birmingham.

Comprising Ricks of Wheat, Barley, and Oats, eighty Tons of Hay, valuable Dairy of twelve Cows, quantity of Sheep, Pigs, and Poultry, six useful Waggon Horses and a Hackney, Waggons, Carts, Ploughs, Harrows, Gearing, &c, five Acres of growing Potatoes, the Licences, Good-will, and Possession of the BEAR INN, the whole of the excellent Household Furniture and Fixtures, capital Brewing Vessels, &c, &c.....

Catalogues will be ready a week prior to the sale, and may be had at *Betty Taylor's*, Hales Owen.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 21/11/1825 - Died

“On the 7th inst, Mr. John Hall, ostler, at the NEW INN, Halesowen. He lived upwards of forty years with the late Mrs. *Betty Taylor*; he was truly faithful in discharging the duties of his situation, and was much respected.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/4/1827 - Advert

“Lease, Licences, and Good-Will of the NEW INN, Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by William Round, Tomorrow (Tuesday) the 3rd of April, on the premises, at the hour of four in the afternoon (by order of the Assignees of *John Gorle*, a bankrupt), the Lease, Licences, and Good-will of all that well known and old established Inn, called the NEW INN, at Hales Owen aforesaid, kept for upwards of 50 years last past by the late Mrs. *Betty Taylor*, deceased, with extensive and convenient Stables, Outbuildings, and Gardens, and a large and capital Malthouse belonging thereto, lately built, and the whole of the premises are in complete repair.

There were 13 years unexpired in the lease on the 25th day of December last, and the parochial taxes and outgoings are very low.

This sale affords an eligible opportunity to persons in want of a good and desirable situation; the coming-in will be low, and the accustomed business of the house, with proper attention, may be rendered very lucrative.

Further particulars may be known on application to Messrs. Hayes and Hinchliffe, Solicitors, Hales Owen, or to the Auctioneer, in Dudley.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/4/1827 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, on the premises, by W. Round, on Monday the 16th of April inst, all the Household Furniture belonging to Mr. *John Gorle*, of the NEW INN, Hales Owen (a bankrupt), consisting of neat four-post and tent bedsteads and hangings, good feather beds, blankets, floor and bedside carpets, &c.

The sale to commence at ten o'clock in the morning.

Catalogues will be distributed in due time.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/10/1827 - Advert

“The Creditors who have proved their debts under a Commission of Bankrupt awarded and issued against *John Gorle*, of Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, Victualler, dealer and chapman, may receive a first and final dividend of Eleven Pence in the pound upon their respective debts on application to Messrs. Hayes and Hinchliffe, Hales Owen, Oct. 10, 1827.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/1/1828 - Advert

“NEW INN, Hales Owen.

Thomas Field respectfully informs the Community at large, and particularly Commercial Gentlemen, that he has taken the above Inn (late *Betty Taylor*) which has been at a very considerable expense altered, improved, and fitted up for their accommodation; and hopes, by attention to their comforts, to merit a share of their patronage and support.

N.B. Excellent Wines, good Stabling, Lock-up Coach-house, &c.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 21/1/1828 - Advert

“A Card and Dancing Assembly will be held at the NEW INN, in Hales Owen, on Wednesday, January 30.

Col. Smith, John Attwood, Esq, Stewards.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/4/1829 - Advert

“Freehold Dwelling Houses, at Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by H. Gimblett, at Mr. *Field's*, the NEW INN, Hales Owen, on Friday the 15th of May next.....”

Birmingham Journal 31/10/1829

“On Saturday last an inquest was held at the NEW INNS, Halesowen, before Mr. George Hinchliffe, on the body of Mr. James Bradley, one of the churchwardens, and a tanner and farmer of Halesowen, which was found yesterday week, in a mill-pool at the bottom of the hill on this side of Halesowen. Mr. Bradley had been missing only the day previous. Verdict, Found Drowned.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 26/4/1830

“NEW INN, Hales Owen. (Late *Betty Taylor*).

Thomas Graves respectfully informs the Public that he has entered upon the above Inn, and has fitted it up with every necessary convenience, with a view to contribute to the utmost of his power to the pleasure and comfort of his customers.

Parties travelling for pleasure or their health, will find the situation of the house and the comforts attending it, highly calculated to promote either object.

Commercial Travellers will meet with the best accommodation of every sort, namely, good beds, the best wines and spirits, good stabling, &c, and the best attention; in a word, *T. G.* assures all who may honour him with their patronage, that no exertion shall

be wanting on his part to merit it, and to render his house equally eligible for business and pleasure, as it unquestionably is to promote health.

Hales Owen, April 20, 1830.”

Thomas Graves (the younger) was also a maltster, dealer and chapman. [1831]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 8/8/1831 - Advert

“To Publicans, &c.

To be Sold by Auction, by J. Kempson (by direction of the Assignee of *Thomas Graves*, a bankrupt) on Wednesday next, the 10th of August, at five o'clock in the afternoon, on the premises – the Good-will, Lease, Licences, and Possession of that very desirable Tavern, called the NEW INN, at Hales Owen, formerly occupied by Mrs. *Betty Taylor*, deceased; consisting of entrance-hall, parlour, tap-room, bar, dining-room, cooking kitchen, with scullery adjoining, on the ground floor; a sitting-room, six chambers, and small ostler's room, on the second floor, with excellent cellars; a brewhouse, wash-house, coach-house, and stabling for twelve horses adjoins with a garden and arbour.

A Malthouse near the house, capable of wetting fourteen quarters, is held with the same.

The whole at the low rent of £70 per annum.

A purchaser will be expected to take the Stock and Fixtures at a fair valuation, and the Furniture of such rooms as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/8/1831 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by J. Kempson, on Wednesday and Thursday next, the 17th and 18th days of August, the Household Furniture and other Effects of *Thomas Graves* (a bankrupt), at the NEW INN, Hales Owen; consisting of mahogany, beech, and iron four-post and tent bedsteads and hangings, wool & hair mattresses, excellent well-seasoned feather beds, pier and swing glasses, chamber and mahogany chairs, dressing and wash-hand tables, two excellent sets of mahogany dining tables, dinner, tea, and dessert services, large stock of glass-ware, linen, plate, two store pigs, &c.

A Light Cart, a good Hackney Mare, and Harness, will be put up for sale on Wednesday, at twelve o'clock.

The sale to commence each day at ten o'clock.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, New Street, Birmingham.

N.B. Broad Street Brewery Shares on Sale.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1831 - Advert

“NEW INN, Halesowen.

To be Let, with immediate possession, that desirable and well situated Public House, known by the name or sign of the NEW INN, at Hales Owen, formerly occupied by Mrs. *Betty Taylor*. Adjoining the premises is an excellent Malthouse, which will be let with the same.

For further particulars and to treat for the same apply to J. C. Moore, Esq, Whitehall, Hales Owen, or to J. Kempson, Auctioneer, 33½, New Street, Birmingham.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/7/1832 - Advert

“Wanted a light active Man and his Wife, without children, to live in a Cottage; the man to take care of Hack Horses and a Gig, the wife to get up the Linen of a small family. None need offer whose characters will not bear the strictest enquiry.

Apply to Mr. *Pool*, NEW INNS, Hales Owen.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/7/1832 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction at the house of Mr. *Poole*, the NEW INN, in Hales Owen.

A Freehold and respectable Dwelling House, in the centre of Hales Owen, lately occupied by Mr. Carruthers, Attorney; also other Houses and property adjoining.....”

Directory 1835

“Coaches. All call at the NEW INN.

To Birmingham.

The Tantivy (from Stourbridge) every Monday, Thursday and Saturday morning at ten.

The Nimrod (from Kidderminster) every evening at seven.

To Kidderminster.

The Nimrod (from Birmingham) every morning at ten; goes through Stourbridge.

To Stourbridge.

The Tantivy (from Birmingham) every evening at seven; goes through Cradley and Rowley Regis.

Vans. For Passengers and Goods.....

To Birmingham.

Falkner, from the NEW INN, every Tuesday and Friday afternoon at four.

To Kidderminster.

Falkner, from the NEW INN, every Thursday and Saturday afternoon at two.”

Worcester Journal 23/7/1835 - Advert

“Mr. Lukyn, Matriculated by the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford.

Resident Dentist to the University, Cowley House, Oxford.

Mr. Lukyn adapts and wears Artificial Teeth of all substances – his new Composition Teeth, and Teeth by self-adhesion. His Anatomical Frames, invented and worn by him, soon reconcile the loss of nature. Painful and forbidding cases restored to ease and symmetry.....

Appointments Saturday, August 1st NEW INN, Hales Owen, 3.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 24/8/1835 - Advert

“Stourbridge Races.

The Proprietor of the NEW INN, Hales Owen (late *Betty Taylor*’s) begs to assure the Gentry and Public in general who may honour him with their company on the way to and from the Races, that they will find every accommodation, the eating and drinking the very acme of perfection, and upon the most moderate terms.”

London Gazette 9/2/1836

“William Rockett Poole, formerly of Hales Owen, Salop, Assistant to Mrs. *Sarah Bellison*, an Innkeeper, of the NEW INN, at Hales Owen aforesaid, then of High-Street, Dudley, Worcestershire, Innkeeper, Post-Master, and Stage-Coach Proprietor, and late lodging at Church-Street, Dudley aforesaid, following no trade or business.”

[William Rockett Poole was the proprietor of the ‘Echo’ coach which ran between Dudley and Birmingham.]

George Granger = George Grainger

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 25/7/1836 - Advert

“NEW INN, Hales Owen, Late *Betty Taylor*’s.

George Granger begs to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has taken the above House, which he is determined to conduct in the same respectable manner for which it was so celebrated in the time of the late Mrs. *Taylor*.

Wines and Spirits of the best quality.

Car, Gigs, Post and Saddle Horses.

G. G. respectfully announces that his House-Warming Dinner will take place on Tuesday the 2nd of August next, when the company of his Friends will be esteemed a favour.

Tickets, including Dinner and Dessert, 7s 6d each, to be had at the bar.

Hales Owen, July 20, 1836.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 15/10/1838 - Notice

“Tolls To Let.

Notice is hereby given, that the Tolls arising at the several Gates on the Turnpike Road leading from Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, to Blakedown Pool, in the parish of Hagley, in the county of Worcester, will be Let by Auction to the best bidder, for one year, commencing the first day of January next, at the NEW INN, in Hales Owen, on Wednesday the 24th day of October, 1838, between the hours of eleven and one, in the manner directed by the Act passed in the third year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Fourth, for regulating the Turnpike Roads; which tolls produced the last year the sum of £1725 above the expense of collecting the same, and will be put up at that sum. Whoever happens to be the best bidder must at the same time pay one month’s rent in advance, and give security, with two sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the Trustees, for payment of the remainder of the rent at which the said tolls may be let, by monthly payments in advance.

R. W. Gem and Son, Clerks to the Trustees of the said Turnpike Road.”

Birmingham, Sept. 22 1838.”

[The Trustees of this Turnpike Road held their regular meetings and their annual toll auction at the NEW INN for many years.]

Worcestershire Chronicle 13/5/1840

“On Saturday evening, about seven o’clock, Mr. George Wilkinson, tailor, Cradley, suddenly fell down as he was about to enter the NEW INN, Halesowen; on being taken up and carried into the house, it was found the vital spark had fled. The unfortunate man had walked from his home to Birmingham in the course of the day, and had reached the NEW INN on his return, where he was in the habit of calling for refreshment. An inquest was held on the body at the above Inn, on Monday, and a verdict of Died by the Visitation of God returned.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 3/3/1841

“Odd Fellowship. On Monday last, the members of the Loyal Shenstone Lodge, of the Manchester Order, (which was opened at the house of Mr. *George Granger*, NEW INN, Halesowen, in July last, and now contains upwards of 50 members) presented to Mr. Robert Blythe GM, of the Stourbridge district, and NG of that Lodge, a very handsome silver snuff box, value ten guineas, as a trifling acknowledgement for his valuable services in presiding over them since its formation. Mr. B. has to walk from Stourbridge to the Lodge, every Monday fortnight, a distance of 5 miles.....”

1841 Census

Whitehall

[1] *George Granger* (25), publican, born Worcestershire;

- [2] Lidia Baker (35), fs;
[3] *Felix Granger* (20), clerk, born Worcestershire;
[4] Ann Baker (15), fs:

Posting house – coaches to Birmingham and Kidderminster. [1845]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/12/1846 - Notice

“Turnpike Road from Birmingham to Blakedown Pool, Hagley.

Having received a Requisition, pursuant to the General Turnpike Act, to convene a Meeting of the Trustees of the Road leading from Blakedown Pool, in the parish of Hagley, in the county of Worcester, into the borough of Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, in order to consider and decide what steps should be taken in consequence of its being proposed that the Hales Owen Branch of the Stour Valley Railway should cross the Turnpike Road on a level at or near the NEW INN, Whitehall, Hales Owen, or otherwise to interfere with the present level of the Road – we do accordingly hereby give Notice that a Special Meeting of the said Trustees will be held at the NEW INN, in Hales Owen, on Tuesday the 29th day of December instant, at twelve o'clock at noon, in order to take the said matters into consideration, and to make such order therein as the said Trustees shall think necessary. R. W. Gem and Son, Clerks to the Trustees of the said Road.”

Birmingham Journal 29/5/1847

“On Saturday an inquest was held at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, before George Hinchliffe, Esq, on the body of Solomon Trowman, eleven years of age, son of William Trowman, gun-barrel welder, residing in Hales Owen. The boy, it appeared, had been missed on the forenoon of Thursday, and on search being made for him in the course of the evening, he was found drowned in a millpool, about two hundred yards from his parents' house. He is supposed to have been looking for birds' nests on the edge of the pool, the bank of which is very steep at the place he fell in. the Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/10/1848

“Worcestershire Sessions. Thomas Willetts, 37, miner, was charged with stealing seven shillings, the property of William Roberts, at Halesowen, on the 22nd August. The prosecutor and prisoner being casual fellow-travellers, turned in to sleep together at the NEW INN, Halesowen, and, overcome with drinks, lay down in the stable. Willetts here, with the consent of Roberts, put his hand in his pocket and took out a shilling, but without his consent also proceeded to cut off the end of his pocket with all its contents. This altogether shook off the effects of the drink, and Roberts gave him at once into custody. Some money was found on the prisoner, but not the end of the pocket. The prisoner said that the prosecutor was drunk and knew nothing of what was going on. He was found guilty and sentenced to three months' imprisonment. The prosecutor's expenses were disallowed.”

George Granger was also a maltster. [1849]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 26/2/1849

“A serious accident occurred on Monday last to Bennett's Stourbridge omnibus. The vehicle left Bull Street at the usual hour, but in descending Mucklow Hill, notwithstanding the wheel was locked, the horses were overpowered by the weight, and the wheel having given way, the omnibus was overturned. Mr. Percival, accountant, of Ann Street, was hurt severely, Mr. Saunders, a traveller for the firm of Rufford and Co, had his shoulder dislocated, and was otherwise much bruised; several other gentlemen sustained abrasions and contusions, and Mr. Simpson, the driver, who was thrown beneath the horses, had one foot and knee much injured. The sufferers received every attention at the NEW INN, at Hales Owen.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/5/1849 - Advert

“Hales Owen Parish Association For The Prosecution Of Felons.

The Annual Meeting of the Members of the above Association will be held at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, on Friday Next, the 1st day of June.

Dinner on the table at Three o'clock precisely.

Hayes and Son, Solicitors to the said Association.

Hales Owen, May 26, 1849.”

1851 Census

Whitehall – NEW INN

- [1] *George Granger* (38), innkeeper, victualler, born Halesowen;
[2] Letitia Granger (47), wife, born Oldswinford;
[3] Susannah Adams (20), housemaid, born Oldswinford;
[4] Anne Savage (16), cook, born Beoley, Worcestershire:

It was used as a magistrates' court. [1852]

Commercial and Posting house, and Inland Revenue Office. [1854]

Birmingham Journal 9/12/1854 - Advert

“NEW INN, Halesowen.

George Granger, having retired from the above Inn, begs very gratefully to thank the Gentry and Inhabitants of the neighbourhood (as also Commercial Gentlemen and others who have favoured him with their patronage) for the liberal support he has for so many years received at their hands, and now wishes to introduce to them, as his Successor, his Nephew, Mr. *F. B. Granger*, who will, he trusts, continue to receive their favours.

F. B. Granger, in entering upon the above Business, most respectfully solicits a continuance of the same kind patronage and support which has for a length of time been extended to his Uncle, Mr. *Geo. Granger*, and hopes by moderate charges and strict attention to their comforts and commands to merit the same.

N.B. The Annual Ball will be shortly announced.”

Commercial inn and posting house. [1855]

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/1/1855 - Advert

“NEW INN, Halesowen.

The Annual Ball will take place at the above Inn on Wednesday Next, January 24th.

Ladies’ Tickets, 6s; Gentlemen’s, 7s 6d.

Synyer’s Quadrille Band will be in attendance.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 13/6/1855

“A Public Dinner will take place at the NEW INN, Halesowen, on Thursday, the 21st day of June instant, to Celebrate the Majority of Ferdinando Dudley Lea Smith, Esq.

Edward Moore, Esq, Chairman.

Edward Gem, Esq, Vice-Chairman.

Tickets, 10s 6d each, to be had at the above Inn, including Dinner, Dessert, and a Bottle of Wine.

Dinner on the Table at Six o’clock precisely.

F. D. L. Smith, Esq, has accepted an invitation to the Dinner.”

[Ferdinando Dudley Lea Smith lived at the Grange, Halesowen, now the Somers Sports and Social Club.]

Worcestershire Chronicle 7/11/1855

“On Monday last, being the anniversary of the battle of Inkermann as well as the notable 5th of November, the town of Halesowen was all alive with loyal and patriotic zeal. The bells were in full exercise, bonfires and fireworks in the ascendant, while last but most important was a public gathering of the gentry of the neighbourhood, who assembled in strong muster at the NEW INN to commemorate the fall of Sebastopol, and the ever to be remembered battle of Inkermann. No sooner had Mr. *Granger*, the spirited proprietor of this well-known hostelry, notified his intention to hold a public dinner there, than his thorough capability of carrying out such a festivity ensured him the cordial support of his numerous friends. We were therefore in nowise surprised to see his commodious and comfortable room completely filled on the occasion.

The chair was taken by Jeston Homfray, Esq, supported on the right by the Ven. Archdeacon Hone, and on the left by Dr. Dixon, LL.D. The vice-chair was taken by George Thompson, Esq, having on his right E. Gem and E. Moore, Esqrs, and on the left D. Homfray and Noah Hingley, Esqrs. The character of previous dinners here having placed the landlord in the foremost rank as a distinguished and successful caterer, it would be sufficient to say that in this instance he fully maintained his well-earned reputation. The viands were varied enough to please every taste, the quality such as left the most fastidious epicure no room to propose an amendment, and the cookery of the good things was faultless. Turbot and game, fowl and flesh, were in profusion, and served up as hot as could be desired, with pastry and jellies in due proportion. The dessert was ample, and embraced all seasonable fruits. As to the wines they were, as might be expected, of first-rate quality. There was also a sufficient number of attentive waiters, who, under the supervision of the active and obliging landlord, promptly supplied all the wants of the numerous guests. Rarely indeed is a public dinner carried on in all its details so satisfactorily, or the enjoyment of the guests so manifestly complete, as on the present occasion. Grace having been said by the Ven. Archdeacon, the company proceeded to do full justice to the good things provided.....”

Brierley Hill Advertiser 5/1/1856

“We have great pleasure to state that a token of respect is about to be paid to a great, long resident in the town. The movement originated with some members of the Board of Guardians of the Stourbridge Union, who took the opportunity of the retirement of Edward Moore, Esq, JP, from the arduous duties so ably and conscientiously fulfilled by him as Medical Officer to the district, to testify not only their own feelings of esteem both for his public and private conduct, but to offer a substantial proof, to be handed down to his family, that his friends and fellow townsmen appreciate the uniform kindness, zeal and talent, he has ever displayed. With such intent, a public dinner will take place at the NEW INN, on Tuesday next, when a presentation of plate will be made, and we doubt not for the numerous applications for tickets, a very gratifying testimonial it will prove to this respected gentleman, who so well deserves it at the hands of those who have witnessed his unceasing exertions to promote the good of the parish of Halesowen during a period extending over thirty years.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 10/9/1856

“Halesowen Floral and Horticultural Exhibition.

This long wished for exhibition took place yesterday (Tuesday) and the usually quiet borough of Halesowen was all alive and gay on the occasion. It was the first exhibition of the kind here In addition to the other marquees, Mr. Adams, confectioner, of Stourbridge, had one, while mine host of the NEW INN, Mr. *Granger*, had another for the sale of creature comforts, which

combined two rare qualities on such occasions, ministering the best of eatables and drinkables at very moderate prices. After the grounds were closed, the committee and their friends sat down to dinner at the NEW INN, where they were catered for in Mr. *Granger's* usual faultless style.....”

County Advertiser 28/2/1857

“Petty Sessions, Tuesday, held at the NEW INN, before E. Moore and E. Gem, Esqs.....”

Worcestershire Chronicle 18/3/1857

“On Friday last, the NEW INN at Halesowen was the scene of a shocking case of self-destruction, Mr. Thomas Biden putting an end to his existence by cutting his throat. Deceased had been for some years clerk and cashier to J. Harward, Esq, solicitor, of Stourbridge. On Wednesday morning last he went to the office as usual, but left in a few minutes, and appears to have gone direct to Halesowen. He went to the NEW INN, and after drinking and talking with other guests, he retired to rest at a late hour. He did not come down till near mid-day on Thursday, and remained in the house that day, apparently enjoying himself, and on going to bed left word to be called early in the morning. The servant accordingly called him about half-past seven o'clock, and he answered her. Breakfast was prepared for him, but he did not come down. When the landlord (Mr. *Granger*) came home, after eleven o'clock, finding that the deceased had not made his appearance, he sent the servant up stairs to call him. She went, but receiving no reply, pushed the door. There seemed to be some obstacle to its opening, but at length, having opened it a short space, she was alarmed by seeing a naked foot, and immediately ran down again. A man servant was then sent up, who forced the door so far as to perceive that something frightful had occurred, and would not enter in alone. Mr. *Granger* and others then went up, and a horrible spectacle presented itself. The deceased was found behind the door, his back against the wall, and his legs lying along the floor, parallel with the door, which had prevented the maid opening it. He was undressed, and had cut his throat with such fearful desperation that the head was nearly severed from the body. The razor with which he had perpetrated the dreadful act was still in his hand, and was one belonging to the landlord, which he had borrowed on the previous night. The body was not cold, and Mr. Moore, surgeon, being sent for, considered that he had not been dead above two hours. The only reason that can be assigned for the rash deed was that lately deceased had become addicted to drink, so that Mr. Harward had considered it necessary to inform him that, unless amendment took place, he would be compelled to part with him. The habit, however, was strong, and the prospect probably preyed upon his spirits. Deceased has left a wife and family, the latter being grown up. An inquest was held at the NEW INN on Monday, before W. Hayes, Esq, deputy-coroner, and a verdict of Temporary Insanity returned. A vague rumour had arisen that there was some defalcation in his accounts, but this is not the case; we are assured, on the best authority, that there has been no misappropriation of anything entrusted to him.”

Brierley Hill Advertiser 16/5/1857

“Halesowen Cricket Club. The opening of the above for this season took place on Tuesday last. The weather being unfavourable, there was not so good a muster as otherwise might have been expected. A supper was provided by Mr. *Grainger* [sic], at the NEW INN, Halesowen, which was highly satisfactory. The chair was taken by E. Moore, Esq, of Halesowen.....”

Brierley Hill Advertiser 20/6/1857 - Advert

“Halesowen And Hagley Floral And Horticultural Show.

Persons willing to supply all the Refreshments (except Confectionary) in Hagley Park, on the 7th July next, are requested to send tenders on or before the 23rd inst, addressed to the Secretary, Mr. *F. B. Granger*, NEW INN, Halesowen, from whom all particulars may be obtained.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 9/2/1859

“East Worcestershire Election On Monday Mr. Calthorpe [liberal candidate] addressed a crowd of electors and non-electors from a window at the NEW INN, Halesowen. Amongst those present were *F. B. Granger*, *G. Granger*.....”

Worcestershire Chronicle 6/4/1859

“Hales Owen and Hagley Horticultural Society. At a meeting of the committee of the above society, held at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, on the 18th ultimo, arrangements were made for the next exhibition to take place, by permission of Lord Lyttelton, in Hagley Park, on August 2nd. Edward Moore, Esq, was elected chairman and treasurer, and Mr. *F. B. Granger*, secretary, for the ensuing year. It is intended by the committee that no efforts shall be spared to make the forthcoming show one of the best of the season in the Midland district. The profits of the exhibition held at the Leasowes last year, having been promised to be given towards the erection of a New Infant School Room, at Hales Owen, the sum of £20 15s 5d has been paid to the Venerable Arch-deacon Hone towards that object.”

Birmingham Journal 16/4/1859 - Advert

“Hales Owen. Important Sale Of Valuable Freehold Properties.

Including One Of The Best Road-Side Inns And Posting Houses In The Midland Counties.

Thomas Howell is favoured with instructions from Charles Birch, Esq, to Sell by Auction, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, on Tuesday, April 26th inst, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot 1. That old-established desirably situated Commercial Inn, Posting House, and Premises, so well known as the NEW INN, situated within the borough of Hales Owen, on the main Turnpike Road from Stourbridge, Hagley, and Kidderminster, to Birmingham; at present and for twenty-three years past in the occupation of Mr. *F. B. Granger* and his predecessor, Mr. *George Granger*. The Premises, which are extensive and conveniently adapted for the trade, comprise seven Chambers, large Drawing Room,

spacious Club Room on ground floor, Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Kitchen, Pantries, Sculleries, Ale and Wine Cellars, Yards, Brewery, Stabling for seven Horses, lock-up Coach-house, Piggeries, and small Garden at the back, with brick-built Summer House.

There are several excellent Clubs attached to the Premises, in addition to which the Officers of Inland Revenue, Court Leet, and Association for Prosecution of Felons, hold their Meetings at this House.

This lot will also include Twelve Dwelling Houses, with Nail Shops, Out-offices, Gardens, &c, adjoining the NEW INN, in the several occupations of Hampton, Hackett, and others, which produce a rental of £66 15s 6d per annum.

Lot 2. All that conveniently arranged Family Residence, adjoining the NEW INN, and known as Whitehall, comprising Entrance Hall, Dining and Drawing Rooms, Library, Kitchen, Pantries, six Chambers, Brewhouse, Out-offices, &c, with Lawn and Flower Garden, two-stalled Stable, Coach-house, spacious Yard, with gateway Entrance, and an excellent ten-quarter Malthouse.

The Malthouse and Premises are in the occupation of Mr. *George Granger*, as a yearly tenant.....”

Birmingham Journal 6/8/1859

“Hales Owen and Hagley Floral and Horticultural Society. The annual exhibition of flowers, fruits, and vegetables, in connection with this society took place on Tuesday in Hagley Park, under circumstances of the most favourable character. The exhibition was of a far more extensive and brilliant character than usual Mr. *Granger*, of the NEW INN, Hales Owen, and Mr. Adams, of Stourbridge, supplied the refreshments.”

Birmingham Journal 3/9/1859 - Advert

“The NEW INN, Hales Owen. Unreserved Sale.

(By direction of Mr. *Felix B. Granger*, who is removing to the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.)

Thomas Howell will Sell by Auction, at the NEW INN, as above, on Tuesday, the 13th day of September inst.

A Portion of the genteel Household Furniture and Public House Effects; comprising four-post, tent, and other Bedsteads, Palliasses, Chairs, and other Chamber Appendages, mahogany Cheffonere; noble Chimney Glass in gilt frame, size of plate 50 inches by 40 inches; mahogany, oak, and other Tables; Reclining and other Chairs, twenty-four Windsor Chairs, set of China, Dinner Service, Glassware, six Dish Covers, numerous Kitchen Requisites, 300-gallon Store Cask, five iron-bound hogshead Casks, pair of square Coolers, 14-bushel Mash Tub, patent Churn, large Water Trough, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock in the morning.

Catalogues will be ready on Wednesday next, and may be had at the Place of Sale; or of the Auctioneer, 34, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, and Lightwoods Villa, Beech Lanes.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1859 - Advert

“NEW INN, Hales Owen. (Late *Betty Taylor*.)

The above well-known Posting and Commercial Inn will at Michaelmas pass into the hands of Mr. *W. H. Merrick*, who has made arrangements with the present Proprietor to take the Posting Stock, which part of the business will be conducted most efficiently, and on the lowest terms. Commercial Gentlemen and the Pubic are respectfully invited to continue their patronage of most convenient and pleasantest situated Inn in the neighbourhood. Their comforts will be watched with every carefulness and the scale of charges entirely new, based upon a footing of liberality.

Good Horses, good Vehicles, and steady Drivers.”

County Advertiser 15/10/1859 - Advert

“The NEW INN, Halesowen.

Mr. *Merrick* desires gratefully to acknowledge the very encouraging and increasing amount of business accorded to him as the Agent to those noted Burton Brewers, Messrs. Bass Ratcliffe and Gretton, and in soliciting a renewal thereof, begs to inform the Clergy, Gentry, and General Public that he has taken the above well-known Inn, and will open it at Michaelmas with an entire new Stock of Wines, Spirits, Ales, &c, &c, of the best quality, on the most reasonable terms. Every effort of his management shall be to promote the comfort of his patrons, and studiously to maintain that supremacy for which the establishment has during many years been distinguished.

Wedding Carriages and Horses on the shortest notice.

Cars, Gigs, Carriages, and Hansom Cabs.”

County Advertiser 17/12/1859 - Advert

“NEW INN, Halesowen.

The Annual Ball in connection with the above Inn will, by kind permission of W. Hayes, Esq, be held in the Large Room at the Public Office, on Thursday, the 5th day of January, 1860.

W. H. Merrick, Proprietor.

Full particulars will appear in our next.”

Birmingham Journal 19/5/1860 - Advert

“On Tuesday Next. In Re *William Higgins Merrick*, A Bankrupt.

Unreserved Clearance Sale, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen (by order of the Assignees).

Thomas Howell is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, upon the Premises, on Tuesday Next, May 22nd, and following day if necessary, punctually half-past Ten in the morning.

The Licenses and Possession of the above old established Commercial Inn and Posting House, situated as above; together with the

whole of the Fixtures, Fittings, Brewing Utensils, Stock-in-Trade, Household Furniture, and other Effects; including a nearly-new Five-pull Ale Machine, with Piping and Taps; an excellent modern Car, in good condition; Hearse, with Plumes, &c; two very useful Post Horses, Brewer's Delivery Cart, Mail Cart, double and single Harness, Cart Gearing, quantity of Straw, about 250 dozens of Porter Bottles, copper and iron Boilers, about fifteen iron-bound Store Hogshead and other Casks; about 400 gallons of Ale and Porter, about thirty dozens of Bottled Porter, small stock of Wines and Spirits, Gas Fittings, handsome Show Lamp, new Signs, and other important Effects.

Catalogues are now ready, and may be had at the Offices of F. Whitmore, Esq, Official Assignee, Temple Street; W. H. Reece, Esq, New Street, both of Birmingham; Messrs Hayes and Wright, Solicitors, Hales Owen; of the Auctioneer, 34, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, and Lightwoods Villa, Beech Lanes; and at the Place of Sale."

Birmingham Journal 14/7/1860 - Advert

"Excellent Roadside Country Inn, at Hales Owen, Worcestershire.

By Roderick and Son. To be Let, with immediate possession, that well-known Old-established House, the NEW INN, at Hales Owen, pleasantly situated on one of the main Coaching Roads from Birmingham, in an important district, and for nearly sixty years successfully carried on by the late Mrs. *Betty Taylor*. This is the largest Inn in the neighbourhood, and all public dinners and meetings are usually held there. The extensive Premises, together with a Field of Pasture Land, are to be let at a fair rent, and a ten-quarter Malthouse may be had, and a Bowling Green will be made, if required. A few Fixtures only are to be taken to, which, with the Licenses, will amount to £40.

For further particulars, apply to the Landlord, Charles Birch, Esq, Lutley Lodge, near Hales Owen; or to Roderick and Son, Auctioneers, Union Passage, Birmingham."

1861 Census

White Hall – NEW INN

[1] *John Brearley* (24), innkeeper, born Fillongley, Warwickshire;

[2] *Emma Brearley* (21), wife, born Stourbridge;

[3] *Frederick J. Brearley* (1 month), son, born Halesowen;

[4] *Susannah Moore* (19), servant, born Monckhopton, Shropshire;

[5] *William Marchant* (17), servant, born Kinver:

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/9/1862 - Advert

"1862. Revision of the List of Voters for the Eastern Division of Worcestershire.

Pursuant to the Act of 6th Victoria, cap.18, sec.32, Notice is Hereby Given, that *Robert Bruce Chichester, Esquire, Barrister-at-Law*, duly nominated and appointed to Revise the List of Voters in the Election of Members to serve in Parliament for the Eastern Division of the County of Worcester, will make a Circuit of the said Division, and hold Courts for the purpose of Revising the said Lists, at the Times and Places following.....

At Halesowen, at the NEW INN, on Wednesday, the said 8th day of October next, at two o'clock in the afternoon....."

Birmingham Journal 20/6/1863 - Advert

"Freehold Houses and Land, Hasbury, and Crock Street, near Hales Owen, Worcestershire.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. *Joshua Hammond*, on Tuesday, the 30th day of June inst, at Six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *Birch*, the NEW INN, Hales Owen....."

W. C. Birch issued tokens from here.

Amos Goode was also a horse dealer. [1864], [1865]

Stourbridge Observer 16/7/1864

"On Tuesday, upwards of 60 of the gentry and leading tradesmen of Halesowen assembled at the NEW INN, lately kept by *Taylor*, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Amos Goode*, to partake of dinner, as a kind of compliment to Mr. *Goode*, the worthy host....."

County Advertiser 7/1/1865 - Advert

"NEW INN, Halesowen.

The Annual Ball will take place at the above Inn on Tuesday, the 10th of January, 1865.

Tickets, including refreshments, Gentlemen, 4s 6d; Ladies, 3s 6d.

A. Goode, Proprietor."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/4/1865

"Worcester County Sessions The following gentlemen were sworn upon the grand jury.....

Amos Goode, Hales Owen, innkeeper....."

County Advertiser 19/8/1865

"A week ago a wager was made at the NEW INN, Halesowen, for £10 a side, that a pony belonging to a butcher named *Fiddian*, of Cradley Heath, would trot from Halesowen to Worcester and back twice, and a mile out of and in Halesowen, making altogether about 100 miles, in twelve hours. The affair caused considerable excitement in the neighbourhood, and bets were freely laid on

and against the pony completing the distance in the specified time. The match took place on Tuesday last, the pony starting from Halesowen at six o'clock in the morning, and arriving in Worcester shortly before nine o'clock. It started out soon afterwards on its return journey to Halesowen, which place it reached in due course, and again arrived in Worcester about half-past two o'clock. Its arrival was anxiously looked for by some hundreds of persons, who had congregated in the Tything, Foregate Street, and the Cross. Upon its arrival the pony was taken to the Hop Market Hotel, and a report was soon circulated that the police were about to prevent its starting again. This turned out to be false; the police visited the animal, but finding it not much distressed it was allowed to proceed. The start was again made from the Hop Market soon after three o'clock, the animal, considering the distance it had travelled, looking comparatively fresh, and there is no doubt that if it could have kept up the pace at which it started the pony would have accomplished the distance in the specified time. It appears, however, that it fell down dead, near Copcut Elm, about four o'clock. It should be stated that the pony ran in harness, and was driven by its owner.

It is to be hoped that the agents of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will be apprised of this case, and will be able to obtain such evidence as will convict the perpetrator of such abominable cruelty; and it is also to be hoped that any magistrate dealing with the case will inflict as a punishment the utmost term of imprisonment the law allows, without the option of a fine."

County Advertiser 16/2/1867 - Advert

"NEW INN, Halesowen.

The Annual Ball will take place at the above Inn on Tuesday, the 5th day of March, 1867.

Tickets, Ladies, 3s 6d; Gentlemen, 4s 6d."

Birmingham Journal 12/10/1867- Advert

"Sale of Valuable Freehold Properties, at Hales Owen.

Fronting to the Birmingham and Hagley Turnpike Road, consisting of the Old-Established Licensed Public House known as the NEW INN, and Twelve Cottages Adjoining.....

Lot 5. An important Freehold Property, adjoining to the last lot, and having a frontage to the Turnpike Road, consisting of the old-established Licensed Inn, known as the NEW INN formerly in the occupation of *Betty Taylor*, but now of Mr. *Amos Goode*....."

Birmingham Journal 21/3/1868 - Advert

"Unreserved Clear Out Sale, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen.

Thomas Howell is instructed by Mr. *Amos Goode* (who is removing to the SHENSTONE HOTEL) to Sell by Auction on Tuesday Next, March 24 – a portion of the capital iron-bound Hogshead and Half-hogshead Casks; Four-pull Ale Machine, Piping and Taps; Four-wheel Carriage, with Head; set Gig Harness, Hackney Saddle, set light-cart Harness, two-knife Chaff Engine, part pocket Worcester Hops, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock in the morning.

Auctioneer's Offices, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, and Smethwick."

Birmingham Daily Post 14/5/1870 - Advert

"Freehold Accommodation Lands, situated at Hasbury, in the parish of Hales Owen, in the county of Worcester.

Freehold Residence, known as White Hall; Freehold Licensed Public House, called the NEW INN; Freehold Cottages, with Gardens adjoining; and valuable Freehold Building Land, at Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Chesshire and Gibson, on Wednesday Next, the 18th Day of May.....

Lot 5. The Family Residence, with Stable, Gig-house, Out-buildings, Garden, and Premises, known as White Hall, pleasantly situated, fronting to the Birmingham and Hagley Turnpike Road, in the occupation of Mr. Hoffman, surgeon. The House contains an Entrance Hall, Drawing Room with bay window, Dining Room, Breakfast Room, six Bed Rooms, with best and second Staircases, a Surgery and Waiting Room, with a separate Entrance, Kitchen, Scullery, and two Cellars.....

Lot 6. A Property, adjoining the last lot, fronting to the turnpike road, consisting of the Old-licensed Inn known as the NEW INN, formerly in the occupation of *Betty Taylor* (but now void), containing Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Club Room, Sitting Room, six Chambers, and Attic, Kitchen, Pantries and good Cellars. In a large yard in the rear are a Brewhouse, Wash-house, Stabling, and other Buildings....."

1871 Census

Whitehall – NEW INN – uninhabited

Giles Melley was also a grocer. [1873]

Dudley Guardian 6/3/1875

"Halesowen Licensed Victuallers' Society. The inaugural dinner of the above society was held at the NEW INN, on Wednesday evening, when the host (Mr. *Giles Melley*) catered in his well-known good style for his bretheren in trade Mr. Millward (the secretary of the Worcester Licensed Victuallers' Association) congratulated the licensed victuallers of Halesowen upon the wisdom they had shown by forming the society, and urged upon them the necessity of combination, by which they were enabled to watch the interests of the trade, and combat more successfully with any infringements upon their rights....."

County Advertiser 11/9/1875

“An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Hawne Collieries Company Limited was held at the NEW INN, Halesowen, on Wednesday afternoon, the inn being immediately adjoining the property of the company.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/1/1878 - Advert

“General Servant Wanted, with good character.
Apply, NEW INN, Hales Owen.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 16/2/1878

“On Tuesday, Mr. R. Docker, Coroner, held an adjourned inquest at the NEW INN, Halesowen, upon the bodies of Amelia Harris (24) and her two children, Eva (4) and Alice (7), who met with their deaths under circumstances already reported. The prisoner (Joseph Harris) was present during the enquiry, but manifested no kind of emotion. A large crowd assembled round the house, and the whole village was in a state of great excitement.

Phoebe Jones, the mother of the deceased woman, gave evidence of identity, and as to finding the dead bodies. She added: Mrs. Harris and her husband did not live together very happily. They frequently quarrelled; but he never beat her in the presence of witness. Jealousy, she believed, was the cause of the quarrels. On the Monday night Harris and his wife were quarrelling after they were in bed until twelve o'clock. The next morning Harris declined to get up at the usual hour to go to work; but said that he intended to have a week's play. He had been in the lunatic asylum at Winson Green, whence he was removed to the asylum at Powick. Since his discharge, in October last, he had been at home. He was an inmate of the General Hospital, at Birmingham, previous to his removal to Winson Green. When he returned from Powick he appeared to be all right. She believed he heard a report that his wife had been unfaithful to him, and he appeared to believe the report.

Samuel Harris, of Coombes Farm, said he lived about 200 yards from the cottage occupied by Joseph Harris. About nine o'clock on Tuesday morning he heard Mrs. Jones screaming. He went with her into the house, and found Mrs. Harris and Eva lying in the position described by the previous witness. He immediately sent for assistance. He did not see anything of Harris.

Sylvanus, the brother of Joseph Harris, was present, and the Coroner intimated to him that if he desired to suggest any questions to be put to the witness on behalf of the prisoner, he was at liberty to do so. The brother intimated that he did not desire to put any questions.

The Coroner (addressing prisoner): You have heard what has been said; do you wish to ask the witnesses any questions?

Prisoner: No, sir; I have nothing at all to say.

James Jones, aged 9, son of Elias Jones, of the Cockshotts, said that about nine o'clock on Tuesday morning he saw prisoner running up a field away from his home. Witness was going with his father's breakfast, and would have to pass the cottage. Prisoner told him to make haste, and not go into the cottage.

Mary Ann Jones, wife of James Jones, residing at Coombes Wood, said that on Tuesday morning, about ten o'clock, she saw Harris standing in a field near the cottage with his hands in his pockets. She was then cognisant of what had happened, and she said to him, 'What have you been doing?' He said, 'Done what? I have done nothing.' She said, 'Amelia and the two children are murdered in the house.' He said, 'I go to see; let's go and see them.' He, however, remained where he was. Witness returned to the cottage. She did not know any reason why they should not have lived happily together, except the tale-telling which had been going on.

Adam Jones said he was the brother of the deceased woman, and lived with her and her husband at the cottage. He heard prisoner refuse to get up on Tuesday morning at six o'clock. Mrs. Harris got up and lighted a candle, but Harris extinguished the light, and she then went to bed again. Witness had never heard Harris use threatening language to his wife.

Samuel Parkes, Coombes Wood, said that about 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning he saw Joseph Harris at Coombes Wood, walking towards the cottage. Witness and a man named Silas Plant went up to him. Plant took hold of his coat, and witness said, 'What have you done that murder for, Joseph?' Harris replied, 'I have not done it.' Witness and Silas Plant then detained him until Police-constable Knowles came up, when Harris was taken into custody. Previously two men named Toy and Tomyns obtained a clothes line, and with that Harris was bound. He offered no resistance and made no statement. Witness did not notice any blood on him.

Police-constable Knowles said he handcuffed Harris, who said, 'It was not me that did it.' He appeared to be very cool and collected. He was taken into the house, and saw the dead body of his wife, but did not appear to be disturbed by the sight. Witness saw blood on Harris's trousers and shirt-sleeve. The blood was dry.

Superintendent Kemp deposed to finding in a recess over the oven a number of tools, and amongst them the axe produced. It was wet with blood and water. He supposed it had been dipped in water, and had partly dried. He called the attention of Police-sergeant Cooper and Mr. Dunn, surgeon, to the condition of the axe. Witness then examined the prisoner's clothes, and found spots of blood upon his trousers and shirt. After cautioning Harris in the usual manner, witness charged him with wilfully murdering his wife Amelia and his child Eva, and also with unlawfully wounding his child Alice, that morning. Harris made no reply, and was then removed to Halesowen. On the following day witness informed him that Alice was dead, and charged him with murdering her. Harris made no reply. He was afterwards taken before the Magistrates, and remanded to Worcester Gaol. On Thursday, the 7th, while being taken through the streets of Worcester, Harris said, 'I know this way. I went this way to Powick. When I and my wife quarrelled, my mother-in-law and Amelia used to vex me by saying that they would send me to Powick again.' He afterwards enquired where the inquest was going to be held, and said, 'I think it would be best for me to say nothing, wouldn't it; and let them say what they like.' Witness informed him, in reply, that he would have an opportunity of saying what he chose.

Mr. G. P. Dunn, surgeon, Halesowen, and Mr. James Walker, surgeon, Blackheath, gave evidence as to the wounds.

Harris stated that he had nothing to say, and the Coroner then briefly summed up. The Jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Joseph Harris. Later on Harris was taken before a Magistrate, and again remanded.”

[At the Worcestershire Assizes on 15th March 1878 Joseph Harris was found not guilty on the ground of insanity. He

was taken back to the gaol and kept there in custody during her Majesty's pleasure.]

Birmingham Daily Post 10/6/1878

“The adjourned enquiry touching the death of Arthur Jones (17), stoker, who was killed on the 17th ult by the explosion of a boiler at the works of Mr. Charles Siviter, gun-barrel manufacturer, Halesowen, was resumed on Saturday afternoon, before Mr. R. Docker, at the NEW INN, Halesowen. Mr. Homer, Brierley Hill, watched the case on behalf of Mr. Siviter.

William Price, gunroller, said that when the explosion took place he was sitting upon a wall facing the boiler. He was blown into the brook and was badly scalded about the face and arms. It was his duty to feed the boiler with water, but beyond that he had nothing to do with it. Mr. Siviter, the proprietor, took the general superintendence of the boilers and engines, and examined them almost every day.

Mr. Charles Siviter said that half an hour before the occurrence he saw the deceased in charge of the boilers and engines. There were four boilers, all connected, but either of them could be disconnected by closing a valve between them. At the time of the explosion there were only two boilers at work. The pressure on the boilers that morning stood at 25 degs, which was the pressure generally carried. There was no steam gauge attached to the exploded boiler, but one was provided for the boiler with which it was connected. The deceased had been employed by witness about four years. Formerly he (witness) had the control of the boilers, but at the expiration of eighteen months after engaging the deceased he gave up to him the entire control of the boilers, as he then considered him competent. The boiler was purchased by him nine and a half years ago; it had, however, been worked previously, but he did not know how long. He was informed that the construction of the boiler was equal to a pressure of 60lb and that it had been previously worked at that. If he had known the condition of the boiler he should have considered it unfit for use. In reply to the Foreman, witness said that the boiler had not been repaired since it came into his possession.

The Coroner: Was not the boiler liable to explode at any time?

Witness: Yes, in that condition.

Mr. Henry Piercy, mechanical engineer, Broad Street, Birmingham, deposed that he inspected the boiler after the explosion. It had been torn into five pieces, and the greater portion of it had fled a distance of 44 yards from its seat. The boiler was so badly corroded that it was impossible to ascertain where the rent began In reply to the coroner, witness said that the boiler was not fit to be worked, and its condition was such that any competent person could have easily detected its unsafe state by striking it with a hammer. He considered that a youth eighteen years old was not too young to manage a boiler if he was properly instructed. Mr. Homer cross-examined the witness for the purpose of showing that the deceased was a competent person to take charge of boilers. He (witness) believed an intelligent boy of that age might be competent.

Mr. Dunn, surgeon, having been examined, the coroner summed up, and the jury, after half-an-hour's deliberation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, adding that, in their opinion, it would be desirable for Mr. Siviter to employ more competent persons in the future.”

County Advertiser 22/6/1878

“On Thursday the directors of the Halesowen Railway Company, together with a number of gentlemen interested, proceeded from Birmingham to Northfield to view the first portion of the new branch line which has been completed for traffic Subsequently the party were entertained at dinner at the NEW INN, Halesowen. . . .”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/9/1878

“Birmingham and Midland Institute. Archaeological Section. Walking Excursion.

On Saturday the members of this section took their last excursion of the season. This was a walking one, and included a visit to the interesting church of St. Kenelm, and the equally interesting remains of Hales Owen Abbey. The party numbered nearly fifty. . . .

After partaking of an excellently served tea at the NEW INN at Hales Owen, the once famous coaching house, known everywhere as *Betty Taylor's*, the party returned by the 7.50 train, thoroughly delighted with this the last excursion of the season.”

County Express 28/2/1880

“The adjourned inquest on the body of Mr. Thomas Bissell, farmer, of Webbs Green, was held at the NEW INN, Halesowen, on Monday last, by Mr. R. Docker, coroner.

Mr. Joseph Green, farmer, stated that he was returning from a rent audit at Hagley, in company with Mr. Bissell. They were in a carriage together. Their horse came quietly enough until near Hayley Green, when he began to increase his pace. Witness did all he could to restrain the horse, but when they reached the hill at Hasbury he found that he had lost all control over the animal. The more the witness shouted the faster the horse went. He shortly afterwards lost all consciousness.

Mr. Arthur G. Hayes produced a chain snaffle bit, with one of the middle links missing, thus accounting for Mr. Green not being able to restrain the horse.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

County Express 3/4/1880 - Advert

“East Worcestershire Election.

Mr. H. Allsopp and Sir Richard Temple (who has arrived from India) will address their supporters, on Wednesday, the 7th day of April, at the undermentioned places.

Halesowen, in the Yard of the NEW INN, at 2.15.

Cradley, at Mr. James Hingley's the ROBIN HOOD INN, at 3.30.

The Lye, at the RAILWAY HOTEL, at 4.45.

Homfray and Holberton, Brierley Hill, Agents for Halesowen and Cradley.”

County Express 10/4/1880

“On Wednesday afternoon a large meeting was held at the house of Mr. *Giles Melley*, NEW INN, Halesowen, in support of the Conservative candidates for East Worcestershire. Mr. F. D. Lea Smith presided.....”

1881 Census

Whitehall

- [1] *Giles Melley* (59), grocer and innkeeper, born Clent;
- [2] Emma Melley (45), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Giles Horace Melley (17), son, clerk, born Halesowen;
- [4] George Arthur Melley (15), son, assistant in grocer’s shop, born Halesowen;
- [5] Rowland Melley (12), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Maud Melley (9), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] William Rose Melley (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] May Melley (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [9] Amy Groves (17), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Express 11/6/1881 - Advert

“NEW INN HOTEL, Halesowen.

To Brewers, Hotel Keepers, Publicans, and Others.

Important Sale of Freehold Property.

Mr. Alfred Gosling has received instructions from the Proprietor (Mr. *Giles Melley*), who is retiring from the business, to Sell by Auction, on the Premises, on the 14th day of June inst, at Six pm sharp, subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot 1. That Old-established Full Licensed Freehold House, called the NEW INN HOTEL, Halesowen (formerly *Betty Taylor’s*), together with the Fixtures, &c. The House is well situated on the Stourbridge, Kidderminster, and Birmingham Road, about three minutes’ walk from the Halesowen Railway Station, and about the same distance from the new line to Bromsgrove, which will be shortly opened; and is doing a good trade, and contains Bar, Club Room, 45 ft long; Tap Room, Smoke Room, Billiard Room, with Lavatory; Six Bed Chambers. Also, Attics, Cooking Kitchen, with Range; Pantry, Brewhouse, Coachhouse, Stabling for six horses, Four Large Cellars, and Piggeries. There is a capital supply of hard and soft Water. The above has also a good Shop attached.....”

County Express 5/5/1883

“Benjamin Spruce, colliery clerk, Waterfall Lane, Blackheath, was charged with stealing a silver watch, value £4 10s, the property of George Parry, miner, Forge Lane, Halesowen, on the 23rd ult. Mr. T. Wall prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron appeared for the defence.

From Mr. Wall’s opening statement it appeared that prosecutor was in the front bar of the NEW INN, Halesowen, about a quarter to six, when a friend named Whitehouse came in with defendant and another man. After some words of a friendly character a suggestion was made that they should have a spar. The landlord had some gloves which had formerly belonged to the Institute, and they adjourned to the club room, where the landlord put the gloves on the parties. Prosecutor divested himself of his coat and waistcoat, putting them carefully down upon a seat, the watch being in the pocket of the latter at the time. Whilst the sparring was going on the defendant requested the landlord to go and put a rug on his horse, which was outside. That was the only occasion on which the landlord was out of the room.

George Parry, the prosecutor, gave evidence to the above effect, and said that when Whitehouse came into the room he ‘jobbed his finger into his chest, and told him he did not get any less.’ In cross-examination prosecutor said he could swear he did not ask defendant to hold his watch for him.

Mr. Waldron: How much is the watch worth; is it worth a sovereign?

Witness: You shan’t have it for four sovereigns.

Mr. Waldron: Well then, you and I shan’t deal. (Laughter.)

William Raybould, landlord of the NEW INN, gave evidence as to the commencement of the sparring, and said that whilst it was going on defendant’s brother asked him if he would go and put a rug on his horse. He went to do so, but found there was one on already, when defendant’s brother told to put another one on. On going back to the room again he saw Mr. Parry have a blow which drew blood, and he told them to take off the gloves, which was done.

Police-constable Stevens stated that he went to the defendant’s house and told him he had come concerning a watch which had been taken from Mr. Parry. Defendant said, ‘He gave me the watch to hold fast for him, and I did not know I had got it until I got home.’ He further said that on getting home he had told his brother he had the watch and that he would take it back, but his brother said morning would be soon enough, as it was late at night then. The watch was then handed to the constable, who brought it away.

Mr. Waldron, for the defence, said this case was an exemplification of the results of respectable people getting into bad company. He thought he might draw a fair inference from the evidence of the policeman and from the landlord himself that Parry had been drinking at the house, and was in a ‘larkish’ mood, being inclined to quarrel with any person coming into the house. The two Spruces were well connected, and had no motive for doing such a thing as was attributed to one of them. He could bring evidence shewing that the watch was handed over to defendant to hold, and by mistake he took the watch home with him. No one could be convicted under the law of larceny unless it was shown the things were taken with a felonious intent, and he submitted there was

no such intent in the present case. As to the value of the watch, he would be quite within the bounds of credibility if he said that a dozen of them could be bought in Birmingham for 10s or 12s.

Frederick Whitehouse was then called, and swore that Parry gave the watch to defendant to hold. No one sparred with Parry except himself.

Shortly after this the Bench thought there was no case against the defendant, and he was discharged.”

County Advertiser 1/11/1884 - Advert

“To Be Let. Hawkins and Son, Auctioneers, &c, 26, Temple Street, Birmingham.

To Let, with immediate possession, the NEW INNS, Halesowen. This well-known Old-Licensed Country Inn is so situated that it will always do a lucrative trade. Lease 11 years. Rent £40.”

County Advertiser 2/7/1887

“To Mrs. *Agnes Greenway*, NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen.

I, Mary Clark, wife of Alexander Clark, of Whitehall House, Halesowen, humbly Apologise to you for having circulated certain Slanderous Statements affecting your character and reputation, and hereby admit that the same are Untrue and without the slightest foundation, and I hereby Express my Regret for having used the same, and in consideration of your agreeing to forego legal proceedings against me, I agree to pay your Solicitor’s Costs and the Costs of this Apology.

Dated this 25th day of June, 1887.

(Signed) Mary Clark.

Witness: John B. Simmons, Clerk with Hawkes, Weekes, and Howlett, Solicitors, Birmingham.”

Dudley Mercury 21/7/1888

“Alfred Edmunds, nailer, of Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *Agnes Greenway*, on the 7th inst, and also with refusing to quit.

Complainant said that on the night in question the defendant went to her licensed house drunk, and refused to leave when requested to do so.

Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Dudley Mercury 22/6/1889

“Christopher Harris, tailor, lodging at High Street, Halesowen, was charged with obtaining 2s 11d worth of refreshments from Mrs. *Greenway*, landlady of the NEW INNS, Whitehall, by false pretences, on the 15th inst. Prosecutrix stated that on the 14th inst prisoner came into her house and had a pint of beer, which was supplied by the little girl, prisoner promising to pay at dinner time. On the same afternoon prisoner had a quart of ale, but did not pay for it. On the following morning, the 15th inst, prisoner again called for a pint of ale, and said it was for a tailor named Mr. Young. She was suspicious, and sent to Mr. Young to ascertain whether the statement was true or not. Prisoner said he was to have refreshments to the amount of £1. One of the persons in the house had a lemonade and whiskey on the strength of the defendant’s statements. Prisoner said it would be all right, because he was going in partnership with Mr. Young the next week. A police officer was then sent for, and, as prisoner would not go to Mr. Young’s house, she gave him into custody.

Mr. Young stated that prisoner had been working for him for a fortnight. He never gave prisoner authority to have any beer in his name.

Prisoner was fined 5s and costs, or seven days.”

Dudley Mercury 3/8/1889

“An inquest was held on Monday last at the NEW INN, Halesowen, before Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) touching the death of Edward Hadley, aged five weeks, son of Sarah Jane Hadley. Evidence was given to the effect that the child had been fed on bread, and it was admitted that the doctor to whom it was taken a fortnight ago told witness that the baby must not have any bread food.

Dr. Young said deceased was brought to him a fortnight ago, and he prescribed for its diet, and gave it some medicine. It was brought to him again on Saturday morning last, wrapped in a shawl, and upon opening the shawl he found the child dead. The body was very much wasted, and the natural opening in the bone of the skull was very much depressed, indicating extreme exhaustion, which might result from acute disease or insufficient or improper food. He was inclined to think that the wasting of deceased was due to improper feeding. He pointed out that it was an extremely common thing to give children bread, and if it was properly prepared after a certain age it would not do any harm. It required to be boiled in order that it might be digested by a young child, and simply scalding it was not sufficient.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

County Express 28/9/1889

“Alexander Clark, Mary Clark, Amos Clark, and Caroline Withers, all of Whitehall, Halesowen, were charged with using threatening language toward *Agnes Greenway*, NEW INNS, Halesowen, on the 20th inst. Mr. Stubbins, Birmingham, appeared for complainant, and Mr. A. Smith, Birmingham, defended.

Mr. Stubbins said that on Friday afternoon last Clark senior went to the coffee room window of the complainant’s house and said ‘I shall never rest until I have done for you.’ The daughter said ‘Let’s fetch her out, jump on her, and burst her’ and the mother said ‘I will if she will come out.’ Amos Clark said ‘You —— I wish I was a woman for an hour I would kill you. If you will come out I will knock these (pointing to his teeth) down your throat.’ There was no provocation given by the complainant.

Complainant, Sarah Jones, Ernest *Greenway*, and Police-constable Price bore out the opening statement.

Mr. Smith (for defendant) totally denied the charge, and said that if any threats were used he should contend that the treatment they had received justified them using strong language.

Mary Clark gave evidence as to the manner in which two men in the defendant's house insulted her in the presence of Mrs. *Greenway*. She (witness) had never had a misword with Mrs. *Greenway*. Cross-examined: She had never had a misword with her. She had apologised through the paper for circulating a slanderous report, but she did not know what she was signing. Mrs. *Greenway* was a dangerous woman, and 'They didn't know what to say for her.'

At this stage an agreement was come to that the quarrel should be settled, each party promising not to molest the other."

1891 Census

White Hall, Rumbow

- [1] *Agnes Greenway* (39), widow, hotel keeper, born Derby;
- [2] Ernest *Greenway* (19), son, fitter, born Birmingham;
- [3] Lena *Greenway* (11), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Michael *Greenway* (9), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] Jessie *Wilcox* (17), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [6] Cyril *Newey* (13), nephew, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 3/5/1893 - Advert

"General Wanted, assist in bar. References strictly enquired into.
Address C. NEW INNS HOTEL, Hales Owen."

County Advertiser 4/11/1893

"Thomas Wilson, of Walsall, who described himself as an ex-soldier, and appeared in the dock with his arm in a sling, was charged with vagrancy by begging, and also with assaulting Inspector Raybould, on the 28th ult.

On Saturday prisoner went to the NEW INN, Whitehall, Halesowen, and demanded some money and drink. These were refused him, and he immediately became very abusive and violent. He attempted to assault the landlady's daughter, and when her mother came into the room attempted to kick her. He was with difficulty ejected, and was afterwards arrested by PC Hawkins, who brought him to the station. Upon being told that he would be detained until inquiries were made, prisoner behaved like a madman, and kicked the inspector on the legs and hand. He was eventually got into a cell, and he then smashed the cell window with his boot.

Prisoner said he did not remember anything at all about it, as he was drunk. He had been a soldier in India for eleven years, and drink made him mad.

Mr. Smith: When were you discharged from the army?

Prisoner: Eighteen months ago, and since that time I have been locked up in fourteen places. It is all through the cursed drink, which has been the ruination of me. If you give me another chance I will try and turn over a fresh leaf. I have lost £263 – £100 on one race – all through the drink.

Prisoner was sentenced to thirteen days for vagrancy, and remanded for fourteen days on the other charge.

When prisoner was removed to the cell he commenced to shout and sing, and also broke the window, and tore two rugs, and did other damage. For this he was brought back and sentenced to two months' imprisonment, and to a month's imprisonment for the assault on the inspector."

Dudley Herald 3/9/1898

"*John Roberts*, NEW INN, Halesowen, was charged with allowing his dog to be at large without a muzzle. PC Hunt stated that the dog had got his muzzle off. The case was dismissed. *John Tibbett*, Terrace Street, Blackheath, was fined 2s 6d for a similar offence."

West Bromwich Weekly News 22/9/1900

"On Wednesday, an inquest was held by Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner), at the NEW INN, Whitehall, Halesowen, concerning the death of Charles Day (73), shoemaker, Whitehall. Deceased had suffered from gout, asthma and bronchitis for several years. Recently he had been very strange in his manner, and suffered from violent pains in his head. On Monday afternoon deceased complained of pains in his head, and his wife, at his request, went into the town for some snuff. Upon returning, three-quarters of an hour later, she found him in the shop, suspended by a piece of rope attached to a nail. She cut the rope, and Doctor T. E. Young was called in, but he pronounced life extinct.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind."

1901 Census

Whitehall

- [1] *John Roberts* (34), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Phoebe *Roberts* (34), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Howard *Roberts* (7), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] Gladys *Roberts* (5), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] Lizzie *Woodward* (24), barmaid, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Mary *Read* (21), housemaid, born Liverpool:

County Express 10/8/1901

“On Tuesday night, Mr. A. H. Hebbert held an inquest at the NEW INNS, Halesowen, respecting the death of James Adams (71), a retired potter, formerly residing in Shenstone Road, Halesowen, who died on Saturday from the effects of falling downstairs at his residence.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 18/1/1902

“On Thursday last week a few members of the Loyal Shenstone Lodge of the Ancient Order of Foresters, Halesowen, attended a supper at the NEW INNS, for the purpose of paying a mark of respect to Br. John Harris, who had been a member of the Court for nearly 25 years, on his leaving the district.....”

County Express 22/3/1902

“A meeting was held at the NEW INNS HOTEL, on Tuesday evening, to consider the advisability of forming a Ratepayers Association. Mr. C. H. Wall presided over a large attendance, and explained that several gentlemen had asked him to convene the meeting, and accordingly he had issued the circulars. The meeting was only a preliminary one, and was really for the purpose of ventilating the subject. Several gentlemen present expressed their sympathy with the object of the meeting, and eventually a resolution was passed that a ratepayers’ association be formed, and that a public meeting should be called to place the objects of the association before the ratepayers. Mr. A. Hollowee was the appointed secretary. Mr. G. B. Raybould treasurer, and a small committee was also appointed.”

County Express 12/4/1902

“The annual meeting of the Halesowen Bowling Club was held on Wednesday at the club house, NEW INNS, Halesowen. The secretary presented the balance sheet, showing cash £9 2s 5d in hand, liabilities nil, and in addition to this there were to the credit of the club assets value of £5 10s.

The report was adopted, and the Chairman (Mr. Bowermen) expressed satisfaction at the favourable position, financially, and otherwise of the club.

Mr. Thomas Williams was again elected president, and Mr. John Wright, Mr. R. Mitchell (Birmingham), and Mr. C. H. Wall were elected vice-presidents; Mr. W. G. Williams was elected captain, Mr. W. Rose vice-captain, and Mr. R. M. Musgrave treasurer and secretary, and were thanked by the members present for their services rendered on behalf of the club.

The green will be opened on May 3rd with the usual interclub match, and cold lunch (given by the steward, Mr. *John Roberts*), and doubtless a very enjoyable day will be spent, and a successful season to follow.”

Tipton Herald 26/9/1903

“On Friday evening last a dinner in connection with the NEW INNS Air-Gun Shooting Club was held at the NEW INNS, and was largely attended. An excellent repast was laid upon the tables, and to which full justice was done. After the removal of the cloth, the chair was occupied by Mr. W. Jones, in the absence of Mr. Baron Rose, President of the Halesowen and District Air-Gun Shooting League, who sent an apology. A smoking concert followed, songs being rendered by Messrs. J. Shilvock, who also acted as pianist, Clifford F. George, H. Bent, D. Kirk and others. A capital night was spent and a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. *J. Roberts*, the host, for serving up the dinner in such an admirable manner.”

County Advertiser 20/2/1904

“On Wednesday afternoon, a meeting of licensed victuallers in Halesowen and district was held at the NEW INNS, Halesowen, to consider the advisability of forming an association for the trade. Mr. T. J. Waring presided over a fair attendance. At the last meeting a committee was appointed to visit the license holders in the division, and obtain their views upon the matter. It was reported that the committee had obtained the promises of 22 license holders to join the association, and others had promised to join when it had started.

On the motion of Mr. Cresswell, seconded by Mr. Pulley, it was resolved to form an association to be called the Halesowen and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Protection Association. The following officers were appointed: President, Mr. F. W. Fisher; vice-presidents, Messrs. H. Grainger and F. J. Waring; secretary, Mr. *J. Roberts*; treasurer, Mr. R. Pullen. A committee was also appointed.”

John Roberts – see also PLOUGH.

County Advertiser 19/11/1904 - Advert

“To Nail, Nut & Bolt Manufacturers, Investors, and Others.

Highly Important Sale of Valuable Freehold Business Premises and Dwelling Houses.

Alfred Hill has been instructed to Sell by Public Auction, at the House of Mr. *F. Williams*, the NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen.....”

County Express 30/5/1908 - Advert

“To Investors, Builders, & Others.

Important Announcement of Sale By Auction of Freehold Building Land with the Mines and Minerals, and known as the Tenterfields Estate at Halesowen.

Alfred W. Dando & Co have received instructions to Sell By Auction, at the NEW INN, Halesowen, on Friday, June 19th, 1908, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, the Freehold Building Estate of 70 plots, being the unsold portion of the Tenterfields Estate, Halesowen, containing areas varying from 300 to 700 square yards or thereabouts, having frontages to Tenter Street, Cobham Street, Wright Street, and proposed new Roads; and being within a few minutes walk of the Railway Station, and close to the main Bromsgrove Road.

The foregoing Plots are fully ripe for immediate development, being some of the best available Building Land in the district, and suitable for the erection of Residences and Dwelling-Houses, for which there is a great and increasing demand.

Further particulars may be obtained and plans inspected at the Offices of Messrs. W. L. Smith, Bagot, and Co, Solicitors, High Street, Dudley; John Wright, Esq, Solicitor, Halesowen; or the Auctioneers, Dudley."

County Express 27/2/1909 - Advert

"Halesowen. Highly Important Sale of a Valuable Freehold Well-Known Beerhouse, Together with Eleven Excellent Dwelling Houses, and Building Land.

To Brewers, Maltsters, Capitalists, Investors, & Others.

Alfred Hill has been instructed by the Trustees of the late Thomas Marriott and Harriet Williams, to Sell By Auction, at the House of Mr. *Fred Williams*, the NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen, on Monday, the 8th day of March, 1909, at 7.30 in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced....."

Tipton Herald 22/5/1909 - Advert

"Halesowen. Notice of Sale by Auction of a Well-known Highly Valuable Freehold Fully Licensed Home-Brewing House.

To Brewers, Maltsters, Wine & Spirit Merchants, Capitalists and others.

Alfred Hill had been instructed by the Trustees of the late Harry Russell to Sell By Public Auction, at the House of Mr. *Fred Williams*, the NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen, on Wednesday, May 26th, 1909, at 7.30 in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be read....."

County Express 29/5/1909

"A sale by public auction was held at the NEW INNS, Halesowen, on Wednesday, when the freehold fully-licensed house, the RAILWAY INN, Forge Lane, Halesowen, was sold to Mr. William Hollies for £1,508. Six freehold houses in Somers Lane, Halesowen producing £78 per annum, were disposed of to Mr. T. Williams, for £671, and the three freehold houses in Forge Lane, let at weekly rentals amounting to £29 5s, were also purchased by Mr. Williams for £315. The solicitors for the vendors were Messrs. G. Green and Thos. Cooksey and Co. The Auctioneer, Mr. Alfred Hill."

1911 Census

14, Whitehall Road – NEW INN

- [1] *Frederick Williams* (39), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Elizabeth Williams (40), wife, married 6 years, assisting in the business, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Frederick Thomas Williams (5), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] Arthur Williams (3), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] Elizabeth Parsons (22), general servant, born Halesowen;
- [6] Eliza Nock (19), general servant, born Halesowen:

Evening Despatch 3/2/1914

"Elizabeth *Williams*, of the NEW INN, Halesowen, was summoned at Halesowen today for selling a quantity of cigarettes to a person under the age of fifteen years on 24 January. On that day a police officer saw a girl leaving the public house with a packet of cigarettes. Defendant's husband said the offence was committed in a moment of thoughtlessness. Payment of costs was ordered, no conviction being registered."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/8/1934

"The sudden appearance of a runaway horse in the bar caused considerable alarm in the NEW INNS HOTEL, Whitehall Road, Halesowen, yesterday.

The horse, attached to a baker's van belonging to Mr. W. Holder, of Colley Gate, Cradley, bolted while the driver was calling at a house in Whitehall Road, and dashed about 200 yards down the street. At the hotel it turned sharply, and rushed through the open door of the building, where the van was jammed and smashed. Relieved of its load and most of its harness, the horse continued through the hall of the hotel and entered the bar, where the landlady and several customers were. The animal appeared to be as alarmed as the customers were but it was calmed down, and then quietly awaited the arrival of its driver.

The door of the hotel was damaged, but the horse was unhurt and nothing in the bar was broken."

1939 Register

14, Whitehall Road

- [1] *Frederick Williams*, date of birth 2/8/1871, married, licensed victualler;
- [2] Elizabeth Williams, dob 17/12/1874, married, domestic duties;
- [3] Frederick J. W. Williams, dob 8/3/1905, single, electrical engineer;
- [4] *Arthur Williams*, dob 17/4/1906, married, cable joiner;
- [5] Doris M. Williams, dob 13/6/1907, married, domestic duties:

In January 1954 notices were issued concerning licences of the NEW INN and HUNTINGTREE. Mitchells & Butlers, the owners, applied for a licence to the HUNTINGTREE premises which were to be constructed by conversion. Mitchells & Butlers also applied for the removal of the licence of the NEW INN to that premises. In both notices it is stated that Mitchells & Butlers hold a provisional grant for removal of the licence of the NEW INN to premises to be erected on land opposite, which will be abandoned if the present application is granted.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/4/1955

“One of the first things the goodwill delegation of Russian trade unionists will do after they arrive in Birmingham tomorrow is to see how a typical British trade union branch runs its meetings. They will be guests at a routine meeting of the Halesowen branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Union in the evening. And a better place could hardly have been found for greeting a goodwill mission – for the meeting will be held in the hospitable atmosphere of the NEW INN, Whitehall Road, Halesowen. They will be in and around Birmingham for three days before taking part in the May Day parade on Sunday.”

It closed in 1955.
Demolished

Birmingham Daily Post 29/11/1966 - Deaths

“*Williams*. At General Hospital, Birmingham, on November 27, *Arthur William*, beloved husband of Doris Muriel, of the LYTTTELTON ARMS, Halesowen, and late of the NEW INN, Halesowen, and youngest son of Elizabeth and *Frederick*. Cremation on Thursday at Lodge Hill, 3.40pm. No flowers, by request.”

NEW TWO GATES

Toys Lane, (63, Two Gates) / Tanhouse Lane, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Samuel Bennett [1873], [1878]

LICENSEES

Henry Parrish [1849] – [1855]
Samuel Bennett [1859] – [1881]
William Bennett [1883] – [1894]
William Massey [1894]
James Henry Taylor [1901]
William Henry Thomas [1903] – **1915**:

NOTES

63, Two Gates [1912]

It had a beerhouse license.

Henry Parrish = Henry Parish

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/7/1850

“*Henry Parrish*, beer-seller, Cradley, was fined 5s and costs for keeping his house open for the sale of beer before due hours, on Sunday, the 30th ult.”

1851 Census

Two Gates

- [1] Sarah Parish (70), licensed brewer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Joseph Parish (43), son, agricultural labourer, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Henry Parish* (36), son, brewer, born Halesowen;
- [4] Charles Parish (6), grand-son, scholar from home, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 31/8/1853

“*Henry Parrish*, licensed victualler, of Cradley, was fined 15s and costs, for allowing his house to be open for the sale of ale during the hours of divine service, on Sunday, the 14th instant.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 7/6/1854

“Supt. Burton brought up a strong muster of delinquents whose scales, weights, or measures were not in accordance with law or justice.....

Henry Parrish, Cradley, two quarts and two pints, fined 5s.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1859

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. On Friday the Magistrates were occupied for several hours at Stourbridge Public Office in renewing old and receiving applications for new licenses.....

Applications for new licenses *Samuel Bennett*, Two Gates, Cradley, farmer and beerhouse keeper Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1860

“On Friday the Stourbridge annual licensing meeting was held in the Magistrates’ room at the Public Office.....

There were eleven applications for licenses, of which only three were granted Those which were refused were.....

Samuel Bennett, Two Gates, Cradley, farmer and beerhouse keeper.”

1861 Census

Two Gates – Public House

[1] *Samuel Bennett* (43), farmer and publican, born Dudley;

[2] Sarah Bennett (43), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *William Bennett* (12), son, gardener, born Cradley;

[4] Sarah Bennett (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[5] Elizabeth Bennett (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[6] Sophia Bennett (4), daughter, scholar, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 27/8/1862

“At the Stourbridge Petty Sessions on Friday The only case taken was one in which four men were charged with damaging oats, in a field belonging to Mr. *Samuel Bennett*, of Cradley. The damage was estimated at 25s, and upon the offence being proved, the defendants were each ordered to pay the costs, and the amount of damage, amounting to a total of 17s 9d each.”

Worcestershire Journal 11/4/1863

“Worcestershire Easter Sessions.....

The following gentlemen were sworn on the Grand Jury Mr. *Samuel Bennett*, farmer, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 31/8/1867

“The annual licensing meeting of the petty sessional division of Stourbridge was held yesterday There were seven applications for spirit licenses, namely..... *Samuel Bennett*, Two Gates, Cradley Refused.”

County Advertiser 11/4/1868 - Advert

“To be Shot For, at Mr. *Bennett*’s, NEW TWO GATES INN, Colley Gate, on Monday, April 20th a Side of Home-Cured Bacon; weight, Six Scores. Eighteen Members at 5s each. The Putter-up to spend £1, and the Winner 10s.

Three birds each. Singe-barrelled Guns, 21 yards rise, 1¾ ounces of shot; Double-barrelled Guns, 19 yards rise, 1½ ounces of shot; Boundary 60 yards.

Shooting to commence at Twelve o’clock.”

Worcester Journal 5/9/1868

“Stourbridge annual licensing meeting was held on Friday, at the Public Office.....

The following applications for licenses were made *Samuel Bennett*, Two Gates, Cradley.....

The Magistrates declined to grant any of the applications.”

Worcester Journal 4/9/1869

“Stourbridge Annual Licensing Meeting.....

There were ten applications for full licence, and only one was granted.....

Samuel Bennett, Two Gates, Cradley, opposed by Mr. Perry, refused.”

County Advertiser 16/7/1870

“On Monday last the members of the Rising Plant Lodge of United Free Gardeners partook of their annual feast at the house of Mr. *Samuel Bennett*, TWO GATES INN, Two Gates, Cradley. Upwards of sixty sat down to the good old English fare. After the cloth was drawn, Mr. Henry Campton, the master of the lodge, was called to the chair, and Mr. John Dunn officiated as vice-chairman. The usual loyal toasts were duly honoured. ‘The health of the Host and Hostess’ and ‘Success to the Brierley Hill District’ were also drunk. Songs and recitations were given at intervals by different members of the Lodge, and a very harmonious evening was spent.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 31/8/1870

“The annual licensing meeting for Stourbridge division was held at the Public Office on Wednesday.....

There were seven new applications for old licenses, viz.....

Samuel Bennett, Two Gates, Cradley.....

The magistrates refused all the applications.”

1871 Census

Two Gates

[1] *Samuel Bennett* (53), farmer of 17 acres, born Netherton;

[2] Sarah Bennett (53), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Elezebeth Bennett (17), daughter, born Cradley;

[4] Sophia Bennett (14), daughter, scholar, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 24/6/1871 - Advert

“The Ancient Order Of Free Gardeners intend holding a Pic-Nic in Cradley Park, on the 26th of June Next, 1871.

The members will start from Mr. *Samuel Bennett's*, the NEW TWO GATES INN, at Ten o'clock in the morning, and proceed to Mr. William Morgan's, the PEAR TREE INN, where they will join their united brotherhood, and form a Grand Procession, which will parade the principal streets of the Lye Waste, Lye, Quarry Bank, Cradley Heath, and Cradley, and will then proceed to the beautiful enclosed grounds kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Edwin Oliver.

The Procession will be headed by Two Splendid Brass Bands, viz:

The East Worcestershire Brass Band, Mr. Jeremiah Whitehouse, Bandmaster;

The South Staffordshire Brass Band, Mr. William Wakelum, Bandmaster.

The Metropolitan Minstrels! Note the Names: Mr. R. Lemont, the littlest and the greatest Negro delineator in the world.

Yeveret, Silver-toned Tenor.

Tomes, the side-splitting lively Pompey.

Mr. Tomes, Violinist.

Mr. Ted Gant, Piccolo and Jig Dancer.

Mr. H. Beaumont, Harp and Baritone, Jig and Eccentric Dancer, &c.

A Singing Contest for Amateurs. The First Prize, 10s; Second, 5s; Third, 2s 6d. Entrance, 1s each.

A Jingle Race. The First Prize 10s. Entrance, 6d each.

The Celebrated Fitzgerald is engaged for the occasion, who will perform some of his wonderful Rope Feats.

Balloon Ascents at Intervals. Old Aunt Sally, &c.

The Bands will play, at intervals, some selections of music, from the most eminent composers; likewise will play, for Dancing, Polkas, Waltzes, Galops, Varsovianas, Schottisches, Quadrilles, Country Dances, &c.

Refreshments of all kind will be supplied on the Grounds.

Tickets, 6d each, may be had of the following persons:

Messrs. *S. Bennett*, the TWO GATES INN, Two Gates; W. Morgan, PEAR TREE INN, Lye Waste; W. Oliver, VINE INN, Colley Gate; Thomas Cox, ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill; W. Pearshouse, Netherend; G. Lickert, Lye; John Owen, Cherry Orchard, Old Hill; Thomas Woodhouse, Netherton; William Wakelum, Gornal Wood; J. Yardley, CHAINMAKERS ARMS, Cradley Heath; R. S. Timmins, DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Brierley Hill.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/8/1871

“Yesterday, the annual licensing session for Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division was held at the Public Office, Stourbridge

the following applied for wine and spirit licenses and were refused.....

Samuel Bennett, TWO GATES INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 16/8/1873 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1872.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District of Stourbridge, in the County of Worcester, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Samuel Bennett*, now residing at Two Gates, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and for six months last past having resided at Two Gates, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the next General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Public Office, in the Township of Stourbridge, in the said County, on the 29th day of August next ensuing, for a License to Sell Excisable Liquors by Retail, to be drunk or consumed in the house or premises thereunto belonging, situate at Two Gates, in the Township of Cradley aforesaid, the same being my own property, and now in my occupation, and which said house and premises are now kept by me as a Beerhouse called the NEW TWO GATES.

Given under my hand this 9th day of July, 1873.

Samuel Bennett.”

County Advertiser 30/8/1873

“The Annual Licensing Sessions for Stourbridge district were held yesterday, at the Public Office.....

Samuel Bennett, beerhouse keeper, Two Gates, Cradley, applied for a license to sell excisable liquors. Mr. Holberton appeared to

support the application; Mr. Perry opposed. The former said that he rested his application on two grounds, namely, that the applicant was a very respectable man, and the house had been a beerhouse for 49 years, 22 of which the defendant had kept it without having any conviction recorded against him. Mr. S. Leonard, surveyor, deposed that the premises were worth £20 a year; and that there having been a considerable development of mines in the district, additional accommodation was required. Applicant stated that he could stable three horses. Mr. Holcroft had opened a new colliery in the neighbourhood. In answer to Mr. Perry, applicant said that there was a licensed house and one or two beerhouses in the neighbourhood. Mr. Perry said he appeared for Simeon Finch, who kept the old-licensed house, and he would tell them there was scarcely sufficient business to keep on the one. The application was refused.”

County Express 29/8/1874

“The annual licensing meeting for the division of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday.....

Mr. Holberton applied on behalf of *Samuel Bennett*, landlord of the TWO NEW GATES INN, Cradley, for a spirit license. He said this was the seventeenth time Mr. *Bennett* had made a similar application. (Laughter.) He had spent a lot of money in making alterations, and he hoped the Bench would now grant the application. From a dull rural neighbourhood Cradley was becoming a rapidly increasing manufacturing neighbourhood.

Mr. Perry opposed the application, which was refused.”

County Advertiser 13/4/1878 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Houses and Building Land, at the Two Gates, Cradley.

Mr. S. Leonard has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the House of Mr. *Samuel Bennett*, the NEW TWO GATES INN, Cradley.....”

County Advertiser 20/9/1879

“The following persons were summoned by Superintendent Wheeler for having in their possession deficient scales and weights, or unstamped weights and measures, and were fined in the sums following their names and costs.....

Samuel Bennett, publican, Two Gates, Cradley, having two quart jugs deficient nearly half a gill each, 20s.”

1881 Census

Two Gates

[1] *Samuel Bennett* (62), licensed victualler, born Netherton;

[2] Sarah Bennett (62), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Flora Adams (6), grand-daughter, born Netherton;

[4] Mary A. Billingham (17), servant, born Two Gates:

County Express 8/12/1883

“Stourbridge Police Court. Yesterday.

Mr. Holberton applied on behalf of *William Bennett*, of the TWO GATES INN, Cradley, for a new license for the BRITANNIA INN lately occupied by Richard Forrest, the renewal of whose license was refused at the last licensing session. Mr. Perry opposed the application. The Bench decided not to grant the license.”

County Advertiser 14/12/1889 - Advert

“NEW TWO GATES, Cradley.

A Rabbit Coursing Meeting will be held at the above Address on December 26th, 1889.

Sparrow Shooting for a Pig on December 27th.

Entrance Fee, 2s 6d.

William Bennett, Proprietor.”

1891 Census

Two Gates – NEW TWO GATES INN

[1] *William Bennett* (41), publican, born Cradley;

[2] Sarah Bennett (45), wife, born Wollescote;

[3] Sarah Phoebe Bennett (18), daughter, born Cradley;

[4] Sophia Bennett (13), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] Joseph Bennett (2), son, born Cradley;

[6] Flora Adams (15), visitor, born Netherton:

County Express 19/12/1891

“While Cradley cyclists are busily engaged training, and testing their skill on a patent home trainer in the district, the flat racers are keeping in condition by the aid of regular cross country spins, and Saturday last saw an interesting match between the Two Gate Harriers and Kidderminster Harriers. The course selected was from headquarters (NEW TWO GATES INN) through Halesowen, crossing to Hasbury and on towards the popular Causeway. Broadmarch was the next place passed en route, and a spurt home completed seven miles which was covered in 38½ minutes. The Two Gates runners scored a hollow victory in furnishing the first, second, third, fourth, sixth, seventh, and eighth men home.....”

County Advertiser 4/11/1893 - Advert

“To Let, NEW TWO GATES INN, Cradley, with 3½ Acres of Land and One Cottage.
Apply, *William Bennett*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/2/1894

“Re *William Bennett*, Cradley, publican and farmer.

This debtor came up for his public examination yesterday, at the Court House, Stourbridge before Mr. Registrar Collis. Mr. Hinds appeared for the debtor. His liabilities were £202 2s 7d and assets £28, leaving a deficiency of £174 2s 7d.

The Official Receiver examined the debtor as to the causes of his failure, but he said that, owing to an accident and illness, which kept him upstairs twenty-two weeks, he did not know anything about his affairs. Till he consulted his solicitor he did not know how he stood.

On the Official Receiver’s application, the Registrar adjourned the examination sine die.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/6/1894

“*William Bennett*, NEW TWO GATES, Cradley, Worcestershire, beerhouse-keeper and market-gardener. First and final dividend, 1s 4d in the pound; payable June 21, at the Official Receiver’s, Dudley.”

County Advertiser 25/8/1894

“The annual licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Stourbridge were held yesterday.....

Mr. Superintendent Pugh reported as follows.....

During my recent inspection of the licensed houses of the district I have found there are many of the houses so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws. I have, therefore, caused notice of objection to be served on the following persons *William Massey*, NEW TWO GATES, Cradley License renewed.”

County Express 16/3/1901

“Mr. Hebbert (deputy coroner), held an inquest yesterday, at the TWO GATES INN, upon James William Hemming, aged 57, carpenter and pattern maker of Two Gates. Deceased’s wife said on Monday evening her husband complained of pains, but declined to let her fetch a doctor. On Tuesday he did not go to work, and in the afternoon she found the bed room door locked. She asked him what was the matter, and to come and open the door. He said he could not, and that he was dying. She then burst the door open, and found her husband lying along the floor, as if he had rolled off the bed, with his head resting on a chair. She went to him and asked him to speak to her, but he was too far gone, and could not. He had a razor in his hand and a wound in his throat. She immediately sent for help. The deputy coroner here read a note which was found in one of deceased’s pockets, which said: ‘Dear Ellen, Can’t live any longer; gone mad; trouble; I leave you my bank-book and everything, good-bye.’ Replying to the coroner, witness said husband had no trouble that she was aware of.

Maria Hadley, a neighbour, also gave evidence.

Police-sergeant Clark said on searching deceased he found the letter which had been read in his possession. The wound was very deep, and had gone nearly to the spine. Deceased was a very quiet, civil man, but had been rather a heavy drinker.

A verdict of Suicide while of Unsound Mind was returned.”

1901 Census

Two Gates

[1] *James H. Taylor* (44), builder, contractor and licensed victualler, born Lye;

[2] *Alice L. P. J. Taylor* (40), wife, born Quarry Bank;

[3] *Alice G. Taylor* (20), daughter, born Lye;

[4] *Margaret Taylor* (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Lye;

[5] *Howard Taylor* (18), son, bricklayer, born Lye;

[6] *Elsie Taylor* (12), daughter, born Lye;

[7] *Kathie Taylor* (10), daughter, born Lye;

[8] *Edith Taylor* (8), daughter, born Lye;

[9] *Doris G. Taylor* (3), daughter, born Cradley:

County Express 22/6/1901

“*James Henry Taylor*, landlord of the TWO GATES INN, Cradley, was charged with preventing Police-constable Allen from entering a room which in the execution of his duty he had a right to enter, on June 10th. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Thompson defended.

The case for the prosecution was that at 10.20pm Police-constable Allen deemed it his duty to go into defendant’s house, and see what was going on. As soon as Allen went in he pushed against the door, but when the landlord saw it was a police officer, he put his foot against it. Allen pushed against the door, but ascertained that the landlord was standing with his back against it to prevent it opening, and he heard the landlord say ‘Put it up.’ The allegation was that gambling was going on. It was some time before the door was opened and the officer could get in. Allen asked why he had not been allowed to go in, and the landlord made no answer.

Police-constable Allen bore this version out in evidence.

Police-sergeant Clarke gave evidence with regard to structural matters.

For the defence Mr. Thompson said the landlord was sitting close to the door, because there was no where else for him to sit,

the room being full of customers, when the door was pushed against his knee. As soon as he could he got up and allowed the police-constable to walk into the room, and the utmost time the police-constable was kept outside was a few seconds while the landlord got up and the officer came in. The landlord denied obstructing the officer. Defendant and other witnesses gave evidence. He was fined £5 (including costs and solicitor's fee of £2 2s)."

County Advertiser 24/8/1901

"The annual Licensing Sessions of the Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division were held yesterday.....

Superintendent Pugh presented his annual report.....

During the year 5 licensed victuallers and 2 beer-house keepers were convicted.....

James Henry Taylor, NEW TWO GATES INN, Cradley, drunk on his own licensed premises, 10s and costs; also refusing to admit the police to part of his licensed premises, £5 including costs; in the latter case there is an appeal pending adjourned to the adjourned licensing sessions."

An air-gun match was held here on 24th July 1903.

County Express 17/10/1908

"Air-Gun League. A meeting was held at the FOX INN on Wednesday, Mr. S. Phillips presiding. The Secretary (Mr. G. H. Darby) reported that eight clubs had joined the league, namely CROWN INN, FOX INN, HEART IN HAND, PARK LANE TAV-ERN, TWO GATES, VINE INN, and WATERLOO INN. Rules were read and passed, and it was decided to limit the number of clubs to 12 within a radius of two miles from Lye Cross, and to close the entrance on the 21st. The next meeting will be held at the CROWN INN, Dudley Road, Lye, on Monday, the 19th inst, at 8pm. Clubs wishing to join should send representatives."

County Express 18/3/1911

"On Tuesday a meeting of the Parade Committee was held at the TWO GATES INN, Mr. Griffiths presiding over a good attendance. Twenty applications for notes were granted. It was decided to send another £2 2s to the Stourbridge Dispensary. Arrangements were made for the parade, which will take place on April 23rd, and it was decided to invite the Fire Brigade and the Boy Scouts to take part. The service will, as usual, be held in the Parish Church."

1911 Census

Two Gates

[1] *William H. Thomas* (34), general dealer and licensed victualler, born Cradley Heath;

[2] *Laura Thomas* (33), wife, married 11 years, born Lye;

[3] *Howard Thomas* (10), son, born Colley Gate;

[4] *Minnie Thomas* (6), daughter, born Colley Gate;

[5] *George Thomas* (3), son, born Colley Gate:

William Henry Thomas, beer retailer, 63, Two Gates. [1912]

County Express 27/4/1912 - Advert

"Potatoes for Sale; best quality; good cookers.

Thomas, NEW TWO GATES, Cradley."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/2/1914

"At Stourbridge Licensing Sessions yesterday.....

The following houses were referred to with a view to compensation on the ground of redundancy.....

NEW TWO GATES, Cradley."

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1914

"At a meeting of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee yesterday.....

In the following cases the committee were of opinion that the licenses should be refused.....

NEW TWO GATES, Cradley, beerhouse, cider and perry (on), ante-1869."

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1914

"The Worcestershire Licensing Committee sat yesterday at the Shire Hall, Worcester – Mr. Willis Bund presiding – to assess the claims made for compensation in respect of nine houses, the licenses of which it had been decided to extinguish. The claims were as follows.....

NEW TWO GATES, Cradley, £803.

The meeting was adjourned to November 9."

Evening Despatch 12/12/1914

"A meeting of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee was held at Worcester today.....

In the case of the NEW TWO GATES, Cradley, it was decided that the licensee, *William Henry Thomas*, receive £74 5s and the trustee £445 15s, of the £520 awarded."

It closed on 12th January 1915.
Demolished

OLD CROWN

2, Intended Street, (2, (19), Hightown), CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Tate [1873]
Truman, Hanbury and Buxton Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Voyager Pubs [2002]
Admiral Taverns [2007]

LICENSEES

Judith Wyer [1861] – [1865]
William Tate [1870] – [1891]
Daniel Proffitt [1896] – 1928);
Isobel Proffitt (1928 – 1929);
Joseph Jinks (1929 – 1950);
Ronald Charles Jinks (1950 – 1951);
Harold Edward Chadwick (1951 – 1959);
Charles Willetts (1959 – 1970);
Roy Bate (1970 – 1973);
Terence John ‘Terry’ Mason (1973 – 1985);
John Smith Wilson (1985 – 1986);
Kenneth Dodd (1986 – 1988);
David John Williams (1988 – []
Tony Underhill [2006]

NOTES

19, High Town [1881]
2, Hightown [1912]

CROWN [1873], [1876], [1886], [1901]

It was sometimes known locally as the ‘Top Crown’.

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Rock Row, Hightown

- [1] *Judith Wyer* (56), widow, retail brewer, born Hanly, Worcestershire;
- [2] *William Tate* (30), son-in-law, puddler in iron works, born Cradley;
- [3] Susan Tate (30), wife, born Cradley;
- [4] Joseph Tate (4), son, born Cradley;
- [5] William Tate (1), son, born Cradley;
- [6] Frederic Tate (2 months), son, born Cradley;
- [7] Sarah Ann Wyer (20), daughter, waiter, born Cradley:

Worcester Journal 23/8/1865

“*Judith Wyer*, of the CROWN INN, Cradley, was charged by Supt. Burton with selling ale after legal hours. PC Griffin proved the case. Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

William Tate = William Tait

William Tate, beer retailer, Cradley. [1870]

William Tate, beer retailer, High Town. [1884], [1888]

County Advertiser 4/2/1871 - Advert

“Freehold Building Land, Cradley.

A Meeting will be held at the house of Mr. *William Tate*, the CROWN INN, Cradley, on Monday, the 13th day of February, 1871, at Six o'clock in the Evening, for the purpose of Ballotting for the choice of Thirty Lots of valuable Freehold Building Land, with the Mines thereunder, adjoining the premises of Messrs. Jones and Lloyd, Nailmasters, in Cradley.

The Purchase Money to be paid by easy instalments.

For particulars, and to inspect plans, apply to Mr. Thomas Homer, Solicitor, Brierley Hill and Colley Gate.”

1871 Census

High Town – CROWN INN

[1] Joseph Tate (14), innkeeper's son, born Cradley;

[2] Fredric Tate (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[3] William Simon (12), step-son, born Quarry Bank;

[4] *Judith Wyer* (76), mother-in-law, widow, formerly painter's wife, born Iley:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1873 - Advert

“Found, a large black Donkey. If not claimed within three days will be sold to defray expenses.

Apply to *William Tate*, CROWN INN, High Street, Cradley, Brierley Hill [sic].”

County Advertiser 16/8/1873 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1872.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District of Stourbridge, in the County of Worcester, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *William Tate*, Beerseller, now residing at High Town, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and for six months last past having resided at High Town, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the next General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Public Office, in the Township of Stourbridge, in the said County, on the 29th day of August next ensuing, for a License to Sell Exciseable Liquors by Retail, to be drunk or consumed in the house or premises thereunto belonging, situate at High Town, in the Township of Cradley aforesaid, my own property, and now in my occupation, and which said house and premises are kept by me as a Beerhouse known by the sign of the CROWN.

Given under my hand this 11th day of July, 1873.

William Tate.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1873

“The adjourned annual licensing session for the Stourbridge district was held on Tuesday at the Public Offices It will be remembered that at the annual licensing meeting held August 29th, the whole of the applications were adjourned on the ground that sufficient notice had not been given in the papers.....

Mr. Homfray appeared, on behalf of *William Tate*, to apply for an old license to the CROWN INN, Cradley, which is now kept by applicant, and has been a beerhouse for 30 or 40 years.

Mr. Perry opposed on behalf of Mr. Hughes, HOLLY BUSH.

Applicant stated that he was the owner and occupier of the house, which he had kept for 15 years. He had never applied before. It was rated at £16 a year.

After inspecting the plans, the Bench refused the license on the ground that they did not think the house possessed sufficient accommodation.”

County Express 29/8/1874

“The annual licensing meeting for the division of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday.....

Mr. Holberton applied on behalf of *William Tait*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Cradley, for a spirit license. In doing so he said the application was made last year, and it was then suggested that certain alterations be made in the premises and the application might be renewed. Mr. *Tait* had carried out the suggestion and now again made the application.

Colonel Fletcher said Mr. Holberton must have been mis-informed, as he did not think the magistrates would make any stipulation like that.

Mr. Holberton said that there was no complaint against the house, and the applicant had occupied it nearly eighteen years. He held an ordinary at his house, and it was very necessary that he should have a spirit license. Mr. Leonard produced a plan of the premises.

Mr. Holberton produced testimonials signed by the Rev. Mr. Cochrane, and leading firms in the district.

Mr. Perry opposed the application on behalf of Mr. Hughes of the HOLLY BUSH INN.

In reply to the Bench Mr. *Tait* said this was the second time he had applied for the license.

The application was refused.”

County Express 13/7/1878

“Conservative Association.

A meeting of this flourishing association was held at Mr. *Tate*'s, CROWN INN, High Town, on the 2nd inst. There was a good attendance.....”

1881 Census

19, High Town

- [1] *William Tate* (51), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Mary F. Tate (50), wife, born St. Georges, Shropshire;
- [3] Joseph Tate (24), son, born Cradley;
- [4] Mary Simon (25), daughter, born St. Georges, Shropshire;
- [5] William Simon (22), son, manager, born Quarry Bank;
- [6] Ellen J. Simon (18), daughter, milliner, born Rowley;
- [7] Henry Jones (21), servant, born Clent, Worcestershire:

County Advertiser 23/10/1886

“Mr. William Griffin, senior, anvil manufacturer, of High Street, Cradley, has been elected as the additional guardian for Cradley, the number of votes given for him being 420. Mr. James Hingley, butcher and farmer, of Cradley, secured 181 votes. Mr. Thomas Fellows, of the MOGUL INN, Netherend, and Mr. *William Tate*, of the CROWN INN, Cradley, were nominated, but were unwilling to serve.”

County Advertiser 20/11/1886

“Thomas Baker, chainmaker, Cradley Heath, was charged with stealing two stockings, value 1s 6d, the property of Mary Francis *Tait*, landlady of the CROWN INN, Cradley, on the 6th inst. Prisoner, who said a man gave him the articles, was fined £1 1s, or one month's imprisonment.”

County Express 2/2/1889

“On Thursday evening a meeting of property owners was held at the house of Mr. *William Tate*, CROWN INN, to consider the advisability of forming a Property Owners' Protection Society. It was decided to establish a society, and on the motion of Mr. B. Thompson, seconded by Mr. James Hingley, Messrs. A. Sidaway, T. Fellows, and B. Thompson, were appointed a committee to draw up a code of rules, which will be presented at the next meeting to be held on the 6th February.”

County Express 25/5/1889

“Joseph Harris, chainmaker, Cradley, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on the licensed premises of *William Tate*, the CROWN INN, Cradley, on the 18th inst, and also with refusing to quit. Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

County Express 7/2/1891

“In consequence of the old Cradley Conservative Association having been allowed to dissolve, Mr. J. R. Oswald, the energetic Conservative agent for the Oldbury or Northern Division of Worcestershire, in which is Cradley, has turned his attention to the matter, and as a result of his efforts a meeting was called for Monday evening, at Mr. *William Tate*'s, the OLD CROWN INN, High Town, Cradley. At this there was a very crowded attendance, the large room being inconveniently filled An association was subsequently formed.....”

1891 Census

Hightown – OLD CROWN INN

- [1] *William Tate* (61), beer seller, born Cradley;
- [2] Mary F. Tate (60), wife, born St. Georges, Shropshire;
- [3] Joseph Tate (34), son, engine fitter, born Cradley;
- [4] Frederick Tate (29), son, pattern maker at iron foundry, born Cradley;
- [5] Mary Simon (29), step-daughter, assistant waitress at inn, born St. Georges, Shropshire;
- [6] Jesse Wynne (29), lodger, brewer, born Gloucester:

County Express 17/10/1891

“On Tuesday a very painful sensation was caused in Cradley by the news that Eli Cook, a collier, living at High Town, Cradley, had committed suicide by strangling himself in his bed room.

An inquest was held on the body at the OLD CROWN INN, on Thursday, before Mr. Hebbert (deputy coroner).

Nancy Cook, wife of deceased, said her husband was a miner, and was 30 years of age. She was away hop picking at the time of his death. In reply to the coroner, she said that deceased had never said anything to lead her to think that he contemplated suicide. Ellen Trawnes was the next witness. She said she lived at High Town, and saw deceased about 7.30 on Monday night. She thought he was a little worse for drink. He was going homewards. She had not seen much of him. He always spoke when he met her. This was the last time he was seen alive.

Police-sergeant Clark said his attention was drawn to the house on Tuesday last about 12.40. He went upstairs, tried the bed room door, but it would only open a few inches. He got a hammer and forced the door. A horrible sight presented itself. Deceased had his belt tightly drawn round his neck. The end of the belt was broken as if he had fastened it to the top of the bed post, and it had

given way with his weight. He searched the deceased's clothing, and found 1s 7½d in money, a tobacco box, a knife, and pocket book, but no writing to suggest anything which led him to commit suicide. He had been drinking heavily of late. He was brought before the Stourbridge magistrates on Friday last for drunkenness, and fined 2s 6d and costs. He asked Mr. Thompson's assistant to give him some pills to sleep him to death. He did not give any explanation for his request.

Dr. Thompson gave evidence as to the cause of death.

A verdict of Temporary Insanity was returned."

AND

"An adjourned inquest was held at the OLD CROWN INN, Cradley on Thursday, before Mr. Hebbert (deputy coroner), upon the body of Emma Webster, aged 21, a married woman, living at Two Gates, who died in giving birth to twins on Sunday morning. John Webster, labourer, the husband of deceased, said he did not engage anyone to attend his wife, as she made her own arrangements, and engaged a Mrs. Harris. His wife at first seemed as well as might be expected under the circumstances, but about 3.30 on Sunday morning and before a surgeon arrived she died. When Mrs. Harris came, deceased, he thought, had gone too far. Mrs. Harris went for the surgeon, but he did not think his wife was alive then. Witness did not know who recommended Mrs. Harris to his wife. Deceased seemed in good spirits till just before she died. He sent for a doctor because he thought his wife was in a fainting fit. She was subject to them.

Mrs. Harris stated that she had been a mid-wife for six years, and had had a good deal of experience. Mrs. Webster arranged with her to attend during her confinement. She was sent for at eleven o'clock on Saturday morning. Deceased was confined of twins. She had attended a woman who had twins three months ago. When she came away about seven o'clock deceased seemed all right. She heard nothing about her till her husband came to her on Sunday morning. She went back with him and found deceased dead. She immediately went for Dr. Thompson. She did not know at the time that deceased was subject to fainting fits.

Elizabeth Newey, the mother of the deceased, said she thought her daughter was progressing favourably when Mrs. Harris left her. She noticed that she went into one of her fainting fits.

Dr. Thompson said when he got to the house he found the woman was dead. He made a post mortem examination. He described the appearances, which did not correspond to the statements made by the mid-wife. He thought the mid-wife had mistaken certain appearance for something else. Had a medical man been called in, deceased in all probability would have lived.

The jury found that deceased met her death from Natural Causes, and thought the mid-wife should be severely censured.

Mrs. Harris, having been called in, the coroner told her she had no business whatever acting as a mid-wife, and was grossly ignorant of mid-wifery – he could not use another term for it. She must give it up, or if she attended another woman, and anything happened, she might have to stand her trial for manslaughter."

William Tate died in the 3rd quarter of 1892.

See also BRIDGE, Cradley.

Daniel Proffitt, beer retailer, 2, High Town. [1896], [1900], [1916], [1921]

County Express 23/6/1900

"Florence Cole, servant, no fixed abode, was charged with stealing a gold ring, value 30s, the property of *Isabel Proffitt* of the OLD CROWN INN, High Town, Cradley, between June 1st and the 5th.

The prisoner was in the employ of the prosecutor, a servant, but was discharged for staying out all night, and after she had gone the ring was missed, and Police-sergeant Clarke arrested her and found it had been pawned at Mr. Sidaway's, Old Hill. The officer informed the Bench that prisoner had lost two situations through staying out at night. Latterly she had taken up with a piano player, but he had turned his back on her.

Prisoner said she had no father or mother and had been led astray.

The Bench said they were extremely sorry for her, and decided to deal as lightly as they could. She was fined £1 1s, or a month's imprisonment."

1901 Census

High Town – CROWN INN

[1] *Daniel Proffitt* (42), beer retailer, born Bradley;

[2] *Isabel Proffitt* (48), wife, born Winchcombe, Gloucestershire;

[3] M. Beatrice Proffitt (16), daughter, born Cradley;

[4] Minerva Proffitt (14), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] Matilda Proffitt (13), daughter, born Cradley;

[6] Isabella Proffitt (9), daughter, born Cradley;

[7] Alice M. Proffitt (7), daughter, born Cradley;

[8] Maud Taylor (22), step-daughter, born Birmingham;

[9] Myra Homer (10), step-daughter, born Dudley Wood:

Daniel Proffitt was a committee member of Stourbridge, Lye and Cradley and District LVA. [1902]

Birmingham Mail 29/6/1906

"Mr. A. H. Hebbert held an inquest last night at the OLD CROWN INN, High Street, Cradley, on Enoch Cox (25), chainmaker, who took his own life early on Tuesday morning after attempting to kill his wife. The affair, sensational as it was, had an additional feature added to it yesterday from a rumour in circulation in the Brierley Hill district, that a woman had disappeared

who was last seen alive in the company of Cox shortly before six on Tuesday evening. She is 26 years of age and a native of the Delph. A description of the woman has been obtained, but no tidings can be gleaned regarding her. Cox's wife was yesterday reported to be going on favourably in the Guest Hospital, Dudley.

The first witness last night was Solomon Cox, of High Town, Cradley, who said deceased Enoch Cox was his son. He was married, but his wife left him six or seven weeks ago. He heard something had happened between twelve and one o'clock on Tuesday night, when officers came, and he had orders to lock the front and back doors. After a time a rap came, and witness unlocked the back door, thinking it was one of the officers. His son was at the door, and got his foot on the doorsill. He said, 'Father, let me come in.' Witness could not turn his own son out, and he came in. He got inside three or four yards from the back door, and then fired a revolver and fell headlong. As he did it he said, 'Her's gone, and I am going.' His son did not speak again, but was alive when the doctor came.

Police-constable Rivers, of Netherton, said he was called to a house at the Pleck on Tuesday night, and found Mrs. Cox had been wounded, and a doctor attended her. Afterwards he went to Cradley, which was a mile or more away, to look for the deceased. He watched his father's house, and when he heard the noise of a lock he ran across the yard. When close to the door he heard the report of a firearm. Entering, he saw Cox lying on his back in the kitchen, bleeding from both sides of the head. Witness at once sent for a doctor. Near deceased was the revolver produced. He died about forty minutes after he shot himself. He never spoke before he died.

Dr. Belbin said he was called to see the deceased on Tuesday morning. He had a wound on each side of the head, a bullet having entered on the left side and going out of the right. He must have had the revolver in his left hand when he fired.

One of the jurors asked the father if, from what he had seen of deceased in the last five or six weeks, he thought he was capable of understanding what he was doing?

Cox: No. I don't think he was.

The Coroner briefly summed up, and the jury returned a verdict of Suicide during Temporary Insanity."

1911 Census

Upper High Street

- [1] *Daniel Proffitt* (50), beer retailer, born Bradley, near Bilston;
- [2] *Isabell Proffitt* (55), wife, married 13 years, assisting in business, born Winchcombe, near Cheltenham;
- [3] Florence Matilda Proffitt (22), daughter, assisting in business, born Cradley;
- [4] Myra Homer (18), step-daughter, clerk, fancy leather goods, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] Marjorie Jinks (7), grand-daughter, born Cradley:

Daniel Proffitt, beer retailer, 2, High Town. [1912]

1939 Register

2, Intended Street – OLD CROWN INN

- [1] *Joseph Jinks*, date of birth 1/6/1879, beer retailer, married;
- [2] Isabel M. Jinks, dob 7/7/1877, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Demolished

Rebuilt

A full license was granted on 4th February 1958.

Evesham Standard 25/4/1958

"Worcestershire County Confirming and Compensation Committee have approved licenses in respect of public house and other premises granted by Magistrates in various parts of the county.

Martin Ridley Barnsley, Colman Hill, Cradley (provisional publican's license in respect of new premises to be built at junction of Intended Street and New Road, Cradley)."

Charles Willetts – see also BLUE BALL.

Tony Underhill was born c.1962.

It closed in June 2007.

Express & Star 25/6/2008

"Once the focal point of community life, the OLD CROWN INN in Cradley is now earmarked for demolition with up to seven bungalows set to be built in its place. In recent years business had declined rapidly and just before it closed, according to locals, it had become a hang-out for underage drinkers causing problems of anti-social behaviour. M&E Construction, located at Wolverhampton Airport, submitted plans to Dudley Council to flatten the pub earlier this year. Ward councillor Richard Body said the decision to shut the pub in Intended Street a year ago came after it fell on hard times."

Demolished [2008]

OLD HOUSE AT HOME

Brettell Town, Netherend, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Raybould [] – 1869);
James Fradgley (1869 – 1872);
Mrs. Sarah Ann Fradgley (1872 – []
Henry Perks [1881]
Edward Wakeman [1884]
John Wakeman [1889]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Aris' Birmingham Gazette 16/10/1869

“A beerhouse occupied by *Thomas Raybould*, Cradley, was transferred to *James Fradgley*.”

1871 Census

Brettell Town – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *James Fradgley* (44), engineer and beer seller, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] *Sarah A. Fradgley* (39), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] *Louisa Fradgley* (20), daughter, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] *Mary E. Fradgley* (13), daughter, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] *James Fradgley* (11), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] *Roland Fradgley* (5), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] *Walter Fradgley* (2), son, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 13/4/1872

“Yesterday, the Bench allowed the following license transfers.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Cradley, from *James Fradgley* (deceased) to his widow, *Sarah Ann*.”

1881 Census

Brettell Town – OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN

- [1] *Henry Perks* (44), publican and horsenail maker, born Cradley;
- [2] *Sarah A. Perks* (48), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *James Fradgley* (21), step-son, chainmaker, born Cradley;
- [4] *Roland Fradgley* (15), step-son, chainmaker, born Cradley;
- [5] *Albert Fradgley* (9), step-son, scholar, born Cradley:

County Express 26/7/1884

“*Edward Wakeman*, landlord of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Netherend, was summoned for illegally causing nine pigs to be removed from the County of Stafford to that of Worcestershire on the 16th inst, and was fined 40s and costs, or one month's hard labour.”

Dudley Mercury 6/4/1889 - Advert

“Brettell Town, Netherend, near Stourbridge.

Mr. W. Fiddian has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the MAY POLE INN, Cradley Forge, on Monday, the 22nd day of April, 1889, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, and subject to conditions (incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society), the undermentioned valuable Freehold Property, in one or two Lots, as may be agreed upon at the time of Sale, namely:

Lot 1. All that well-situated Freehold Public House, known as the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, situate at Brettell Town aforesaid, in the occupation of *John Wakeman*, at a rental of £14 per annum, together with the Land, Brewhouse, Stable, and Appurtenances thereto belonging. Also Two Cottages, with Workshop, Brewhouses, and Outbuildings, adjoining the above in the occupation of *J. Wakelam* and *E. Stinson*, at a rental of £10 8s per annum, and Two other Cottages at the back of the Public House, now void.....”

Dudley Mercury 4/5/1889

“*John Wakeman*, landlord of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Brettell Town, Cradley, was charged with permitting gambling on his premises on the 20th ult.

Police-sergeant Chare stated that at 10.20 on the night in question he was near the defendant’s house with Police-constable Jones. In consequence of hearing some loud talking, he listened outside the house. There was raffling going on, and he heard shaking. He also heard money being put down on the table. Someone said, ‘I shall have mine on diamonds this time,’ and another one said, ‘I shall have mine on hearts.’ He went into the house and found ten men and youths there round the kitchen table. He pushed the customers on one side and rushed into the centre of them. The gaming board was on the table with money on it. He seized it, after a struggle with the landlord, and some money fell from the table to the floor, and two pennies were left on the table. One of the men then ran out of the house and some of the others were ‘scuffling’ their hands behind them, and he was unable to get the box and dice. Witness asked the landlord how he accounted for allowing gaming for money on his premises, and he replied, ‘We are not playing for money, we was only playing for a jug of beer,’ pointing to a quart jug containing beer on the table. Defendant also said, ‘I didn’t think there was any harm in it; it was only to encourage a little custom.’

Police-constable Jones corroborated.

Defendant was fined 40s and costs, and the license was endorsed.”

County Advertiser 11/5/1889 - Advert

“Clearing-Out Case, at the OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN, Netherend, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall will Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, May 13th, 1889, the Brewing Utensils, Fixtures, &c, comprising 80 and 40-gallon Boilers, Vats, Mash Tub, Fermenting Tubs, Lot of Casks, Malt Crusher, Strong Painted Screens, Tables, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *John Wakeman*, who is leaving.

Sale at Twelve o’clock.”

County Express 24/8/1889

“The annual licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday.....

There was no appearance for the extension of the license of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Netherend, Cradley. The landlord was convicted and heavily fined a short time ago for permitting gaming, and the license was also endorsed.”

County Express 23/8/1890

“Annual Licensing Day. Superintendent Wheeler’s Report.....

At the last annual licensing meeting the justices refused the renewal of two licenses, namely, ROSE AND CROWN, Coventry Street, Stourbridge, alehouse; and the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Netherend, beerhouse.”

Check OUR HOUSE.

OLD LION

15, Birmingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

J. T. Rawlings, Shrewsbury

LICENSEES

Mrs. Sarah White [1849]

Mrs. Sophia White [1850] – [1854]

Joseph Hall [1855] – [1865]

Henry Withers [1869] – [1896]

George Withers [1901] – [1911]

Mrs. Alice Withers (1911 – [1912])

NOTES

LION [1849]

WHITE LION [1869]

RED LION [1870], [1872], [1877], [1891], [1896], [1910], [1911]

OLD RED LION [1884], [1889], [1907], [1912]

BROWN LION [1885]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Birmingham Street – Beer House

- [1] *Joseph Hall* (55), victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phebe Hall* (55), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Mary Ann Hall* (8), grand-daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

Joseph Hall, beer retailer, Birmingham Street. [1864], [1865]

Stourbridge Observer 11/9/1869

“George Williams, James Jones, Alfred Wilmott, Joseph Wood, and Thomas Neal, nailers, were charged by Superintendent Overend with being drunk and refusing to leave the WHITE LION INN, when requested to do so.

Police-sergeant Kennedy said he was sent for to *Henry Withers*, the WHITE LION INN, Birmingham Street. When he got there he was requested by the landlord to clear the house, as he said there would be murder done. Witness went in, and found all the defendants there, drunk, and wanting to fight. He got them out of the house, and it took him more than an hour to clear the street. Ordered to pay costs, and cautioned. Defendants said they could not pay the costs, and they were fined 6d each; in default seven days.”

Henry Withers, beer retailer, Birmingham Street. [1870]

1871 Census

Birmingham Street – OLD LION

- [1] *Henry Withers* (34), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Betsy Withers* (33), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Henry Withers* (5), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] *George Withers* (1), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] *George Withers* (28), brother, sawyer, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Olivia Withers* (28), sister-in-law, born Cradley:

Henry Withers was also a bird dealer. [1873]

County Express 17/2/1877

“*Henry Withers*, landlord of the RED LION, Birmingham Street, was charged with having permitted drunkenness on the 16th ult. Mr. Hayes defended. After hearing the evidence adduced, the Bench considered the case was not established, and therefore dismissed it.”

London Gazette 25/3/1879

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Henry Withers*, of the OLD LION INN, Birmingham-street, Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler, and Breeze and Coal Dealer. Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. W. E. Simmons, Solicitor, 40, Bennetts-hill, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 3rd day of April, 1879, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 19th day of March, 1879.

W. E. Simmons, 40, Bennetts-hill, Birmingham, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

County Express 5/4/1879

“A meeting of the creditors of *Henry Withers*, of the OLD LION INN, Halesowen, was held on Thursday, at the office of Mr. W. E. Simmons, solicitor, 40, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £179 15s, and assets £20. An offer of a composition of 2s in the pound, payable within one calendar month from the registration of the resolution, was made and accepted.”

County Advertiser 8/11/1879

“William Robinson and George Robinson, butchers; Edward Pearce, blacksmith; and *Henry Withers*, innkeeper; were charged with unlawfully obstructing the highway in Birmingham Street, by causing an ox to be roasted. Mr. Hayes defended.

Police-constable Raybould said that on the morning of the 13th, about 3am, he saw William Robinson and David Rose take a quantity of bricks from a yard and empty them in Birmingham Street. On telling them he should summon them they replied, ‘We must pay then.’ At 5-15 they lit a fire, and the street was afterwards blocked up by a square barricade formed of tubs and rails.

Superintendent Kemp said he received information on the 6th of September last to send notice to the surveyors and the ox roasting committee that the obstructions would not be allowed.

Police-constable Parkes said he saw at about half-past six on the morning in question *Henry Withers* bring a load of coal and emp-

ty it down in the street, near the fireplace. He afterwards brought another load and emptied that also. Geo. Robinson and Pearce carried the ox, and placed it before the fire.

Mr. Hayes pleaded guilty on behalf of all the defendants with the exception of *Withers*, who, he contended, had done no more than he always did, and could not be held liable, because he had done what every coal dealer would do. He was ordered to put another load down, and he did it.

The Bench, after cautioning the defendants, discharged them on their paying the costs.”

1881 Census

Birmingham Street – OLD LION INN

- [1] *Henry Withers* (44), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Betsy Withers* (43), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Harry Withers* (15), son, labourer at iron works, born Halesowen;
- [4] *George Withers* (11), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Mary Ann Withers* (9), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Major Withers* (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Agnes Withers* (4), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [8] *Phebe Withers* (2), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] *Selina Hayward* (19), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Express 16/5/1885

“*Henry Withers*, landlord of the BROWN LION, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours on the 10th inst, and William Steele, George Barrand, and John Reade were charged with being on the premises during prohibited hours. The whole of the charges were adjourned for one month.”

County Advertiser 29/8/1885

“On Tuesday last the annual licensing meeting was held at the Public Office, Halesowen.....

The following licenses were held over till the adjourned licensing meeting.....

Henry Withers, Halesowen.....

Sergeant Raybould drew the attention of the magistrates to the case of *Henry Withers*, and said he had received numerous complaints against the house, and also as to the complicated arrangements of the back premises, which were described as more fit for a rabbit warren than a licensed house. The Chairman said that the magistrates had decided to have the premises inspected before renewing the license.”

County Advertiser 7/12/1889

“*Henry Withers*, licensed victualler, OLD RED LION, Birmingham Street, on a charge of permitting a nuisance by allowing a quantity of manure to remain on his premises was ordered to pay costs and to remove the nuisance.”

1891 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Henry Withers* (54), widower, sawyer of timber, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Harry Withers* (25), son, nailer, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Polly Withers* (19), daughter, pianist, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Major Withers* (17), son, labourer at ironworks, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Agnes Withers* (14), daughter, dressmaker, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Pheobe Withers* (12), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Lucy Withers* (15), niece, barmaid, born Oldbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/6/1891

“At Stourbridge County Court, yesterday – before Sir Rupert Kettle and a jury – *George Withers*, Pinfold Street, Oldbury, sawyer, sued James Taylor, Islington, near Hales Owen, sawyer, for £25 damages for personal injuries. Mr. R. E. C. Kettle (instructed by Mr. Waldron) was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Arthur Smith (Birmingham) for the defendant.

On December 26 plaintiff said he was standing on the steps of his brother’s house, the RED LION, at Hales Owen, when he heard a noise. He went to see what was the matter, and said he saw defendant holding a lad named Shuter by the neck. He remonstrated with defendant, who then turned on him and assaulted him. Defendant bit his finger and severed a tendon, and he was unable to work for seventeen weeks. His average earnings were 30s a week. In cross-examination plaintiff said he had three weeks’ pay from a society he was in, and then the officers refused to continue it because they alleged he had been fighting.

The defence was that there had been fighting between the men, that plaintiff struck defendant in the mouth, and in that way his finger was accidentally injured. The jury found a verdict for plaintiff, damages £10.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/11/1895

“Worcestershire Assizes.

William Bastable (on bail) was charged with maliciously wounding Edward James on October 15. Mr. Hickey prosecuted and Mr. Shakespeare defended.

Prisoner and prosecutor met in the RED LION INN, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen, and as a result of a dispute prisoner struck

prosecutor. A fight ensued, in the course of which prisoner bit the prosecutor's nose so severely as to necessitate five stitches being put in.

The medical evidence showed that a portion of the nose had been nearly bitten off, an injury which could not have been occasioned by a fall.

The defence was a total denial of the charge, and a suggestion that the injury was caused by a fall.

The jury found the prisoner guilty. He received a very good character.

The Judge characterised the assault as a very savage one, and sentenced the prisoner to four months' hard labour."

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

"The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *Henry Withers*, RED LION INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for.....

In the cases of *Henry Withers* the objections of the police remained good, and these were postponed until the 20th inst, when the adjourned Sessions will be held."

County Advertiser 3/10/1896

"The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held on Tuesday.....

Inspector Raybould said that in the cases of *Joseph [sic] Withers* the structural alterations required had been carried out, and he, therefore, withdrew his objections to the renewal of the licenses.

The licenses were renewed to the applicants."

1901 Census

Birmingham Street

[1] *George Withers* (31), nail making and innkeeper, born Halesowen;

[2] *Alice Withers* (30), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Percy Withers* (9), son, born Halesowen;

[4] *Beatrice Withers* (7), daughter, born Halesowen;

[5] *Stanley Withers* (6), son, born Halesowen;

[6] *Ruby Withers* (3), daughter, born Halesowen;

[7] *Harry Withers* (35), brother, labourer at brewery, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 1/6/1907 - Advert

"Important Sale of Freehold Properties.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, on Monday, June 17th inst, at 7pm, at the STAR HOTEL, Halesowen, subject to Conditions then to be produced, the following Valuable Freehold Properties.

By Order of the Halesowen Coffee House Co. Ltd.

Lot 1. All that Extensive Business Premises, known as the Halesowen Coffee House.

There is connected large Yard, Garden, and Orchard, comprising in area 3,080 square yards or thereabouts, and is situate in Hagley Street, now being in the occupation of Mr. Wilson.

Lot 2. By order of Executors of late Mr. J. T. Rawlings.

The Freehold Fully-Licensed Public-House, the OLD RED LION, situate in Birmingham Street, Halesowen, together with the Eight Messuages adjoining and extensive Outbuildings, Yards and Garden Land.

For further particulars as o Lot 1, apply to Messrs. Homfray, Goodman, and Mellor, Solicitors, Halesowen; as to Lot 2, to Messrs. Salt and Sons, Solicitors, Shrewsbury; or as to both Lots, the Auctioneer, Halesowen."

County Express 12/2/1910

"On Tuesday morning the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen petty sessional division were held at the Police Court.....

Supt. Hill intimated that he proposed to object to the renewal of the license of the TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, the RED LION, Birmingham Street, and the FOX INN, Cornbow. On his application these licenses were deferred for consideration at the adjourned sessions in order that the police could serve notices stating the grounds of objection. The whole of the other licenses were renewed."

Alcester Chronicle 9/7/1910

"Worcestershire Licencing Committee sat at the Guildhall, Worcester, on Saturday, to consider the fourteen houses referred to them as compensation authority by the several local benches.....

Of the houses reported, the following did not oppose extinction of their licenses.....

RED LION INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen."

Evesham Standard 10/12/1910

“Worcestershire Licensing Committee. Determining Compensation Claims.

A supplemental meeting of this Committee was held on Saturday at the Shirehall.....

The special purpose of the meeting was for the purpose of determining the amount of compensation to be paid for the extinction of licenses. Fourteen such licenses had been reported by the justices to the Committee, and the Committee had already decided to renew one. The amounts claimed in respect of the other thirteen were.....

RED LION INN, Birmingham, £1,365 2s.

The Committee took evidence in support of the claims calculated on the capitalized loss of trade, the capitalized loss in the value of the premises by the extinction of the license, and the loss on the sale of fittings.....

Mr. Cooksey appeared for the licensee, and Mr. Goodman for the owner in the case of the RED LION, Halesowen, and evidence was given by Mr. F. H. Jones in support of the claim of £1,365 2s. The Chairman pointed out that the property was sold for £800 in 1907, and expressed the opinion that the witness was really ‘playing with the Committee.’ Witness replied that the amount he gave was his estimate of what the premises would now realise as a free house in the open market. There was no competition for a tied house. He allowed for 25 per cent of the beer sold being given as over-measure, but explained that that was not ‘the long pull.’ The Chairman: Is it not long enough?

The committee decided to award £722 in the case of the RED LION.”

County Express 14/1/1911

“A number of local licenses were under review at the adjourned meeting of Worcestershire Licensing Committee which was held on Saturday, Mr. J. W. Willis Bund presiding.

In the case of the two Halesowen houses which have been referred for compensation the committee settled the shares to be paid to the various parties as follows.....

RED LION INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, £722 awarded; £217 10s to the licensee, £54 10s to the registered owners, £510 to the mortgagee.”

1911 Census

15, Birmingham Street

[1] *George Withers* (40), licensed victualler, born Birmingham Street, Halesowen;

[2] *Alice Withers* (39), landlady, born Birmingham Street, Halesowen;

[3] *Percy Withers* (19), son, carpenter, builder’s, born Birmingham Street, Halesowen;

[4] *Beatrice Withers* (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Birmingham Street, Halesowen;

[5] *Stanley Withers* (16), son, tube worker, born Birmingham Street, Halesowen;

[6] *Ruby Withers* (13), daughter, shop girl, grocer’s, born Birmingham Street, Halesowen:

Bromsgrove Messenger 9/3/1912

“A meeting of the Worcestershire County Licensing Committee was held at the Shirehall, Worcester, on Saturday afternoon.....

The following amounts, which had previously been awarded, were now ordered to be paid on March 29th.....

RED LION, Bredon Street, Halesowen, £722 (including £217 10s for licensee).”

OLD LYTTLETON ARMS

6, High Street, (Hagley Street), (Church Street), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Richard Tildesley

M. V. Beard and Sons, Birmingham

Ansells Ltd. [1955]

LICENSEES

Samuel White [1835] – [1855]

Richard Tildesley [1870] – [1881]

Mrs. Eliza Tildesley [1884] – **1906**;

Joseph Tildesley (**1906** – []

John David Harris (**1907** – [1912]

James A Silk [1939]

Theresa Lillian Silk [1942]

NOTES

Hagley Street [1855], [1870], [1900]
Church Street [1904]
6, High Street [1911], [1912], [1939]

LYTTLETON ARMS [1849], [1904], [1906]
YE OLDE LYTTLETON [1939]
YE OLDE LYTTLETON ARMS [1942]

It opened in 1756.

1841 Census

High Street

- [1] *Samuel White* (35), farmer;
- [2] Elizabeth White (32);
- [3] Thomas White (12):

Samuel White was also a farmer. [1849], [1854]

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Samuel White* (47), victualler, farmer of 50 acres, employing 2 labourers, born Halesowen;
- [2] Elizabeth White (41), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Thomas White (22), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] Sarah Neale (20), general servant, born Halesowen:

Samuel White, victualler, Hagley Street. [1855]

Demolished

It was rebuilt in the mid 19th century.

Richard Tildesley = Richard Tiddeley

County Express 10/9/1870

“The Court on Wednesday was made special for the adjourned licensing day. Applications for Spirit licenses were made by *Richard Tiddeley*, OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Hagley Street, Halesowen, supported by Mr. Hayes, and opposed by Mr. S. W. White All were refused.”

1871 Census

High Street – OLD LITTLETON’S ARMS

- [1] *Richard Tildesley* (37), green grocer and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Eliza Tildesley* (38), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Sarah Tildesley (15), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Richard Tildesley (13), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] George Tildesley (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Thomas Tildesley (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Mary A. Tildesley (6), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] James Tildesley (4), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] Eliza Tildesley (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [10] *Joseph Tildesley* (3 months), son, born Halesowen;
- [11] Mary A. Parkes (12), general servant, born Netherton:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1871 - Correspondence

“The Nail Trade. To the Editor of the *Daily Post*.

Sir. At a district meeting held at the house of Mr. *Richard Tildesley*, the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Hales Owen, on Saturday, August 26th, it was unanimously agreed to appoint a deputation of two men to solicit the masters in the wrought nail trade of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire to pay the net list price agreed upon by the masters September 15, 1869, without deduction or deviation. On Saturday next, September 2nd, when the deputation appointed to wait upon the masters will attend an adjourned meeting, appointed to be held at the house of Mr. Joseph Whitmore, the GOLDEN CROSS, Old Hill, at six o’clock in the evening, the result of the deputation will be finally discussed. Gentleman of the nail trade, I hope you will comply with our wishes, and give us the net list price of September 15, 1869, so as to prevent a general strike, that would be painful both to masters and men. Think of the great suffering we poor nail makers must undergo during the approaching winter if we are to work at ten per cent off the very low prices of the net list. I humbly appeal to you on behalf of a starving people to give us the price.
Yours truly, John Price. Rowley Regis, August 28, 1871.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/9/1871 - Correspondence

“The Nail Trade. To the Editor of the *Daily Post*.

Sir. I beg to inform you that an adjourned district meeting of nail-forgers was held on Saturday last, at the house of Mr. Joseph Whitmore, GOLDEN CROSS, Old Hill, for the purpose of receiving the report of the deputation which waited on the masters, and to carry out the resolutions of the former meeting, held at the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Hales Owen. The meeting was well attended by representatives of the various districts, and the report was somewhat favourable. Six of the masters have already promised to pay the price on Saturday next. The others do not object; but, on the contrary, most of them sympathise with us, and believe that the trade will allow the net list price of 1869 to be paid. The matter was fully discussed, and we do sincerely hope and trust that by Saturday next the whole of the masters will pay the full list price; and so we shall not be driven to the painful necessity of a general strike.

Yours truly, John Price, District Chairman, Rowley Regis.”

Richard Tildesley, beer retailer, High Street. [1876]

County Advertiser 22/12/1877

“*Richard Tildesley*, fruiterer, High Street, Halesowen, was summoned by Mr. Kemp, superintendent of police, under the Highways Act, for allowing three horses to stray on the highway on the 9th inst. Mr. Kemp proved the offence, and as defendant has been cautioned previously on several occasions he was fined 5s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/5/1880

“The Hales Owen magistrates were engaged yesterday for several hours investigating assault cases which arose out of the election for East Worcestershire, on the 12th of April. Twelve persons were summoned, at the instance of Police-constable Kemp, under the Riot Act, charged with riotously disturbing the peace. Four summonses were also taken out against the police for assault. *Richard Tildesley*, landlord of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, was summoned for aiding and abetting and inciting divers persons to commit an assault upon Superintendent Kemp and other police-officers. Mr. W. Hayes appeared for the police, and Mr. Nathan (Birmingham) for other persons concerned. The cases against the alleged rioters were first entered into, in the presence of a crowded court.

Superintendent Kemp gave evidence of the riot which occurred on the night of the 12th ultimo, and the extent to which the rioters were individually concerned in it. The police, he said, were severely stoned, and so great was the disturbance that residents of the town were thoroughly terrified. At eleven o’clock he was marching up the street, when the defendant *Tildesley* presented himself at the window, and cried out in a loud voice, ‘Fetch your pokers and brock-ends, and give it to them. Drive them policemen back to Brummagem.’ He repeated this expression several times and witness saw stones thrown at the police from one of *Tildesley*’s upper windows.

Some other evidence was given, after which Mr. Nathan for the defence, submitted that there was really no case to answer. The summons against *Tildesley* was ultimately dismissed, and that of Superintendent Kemp was withdrawn.

The cases against the twelve men charged with rioting was afterwards gone into.....”

Dudley and District News 25/9/1880

“John Harris (23), engineer, Bloomfield Street, Halesowen, surrendered to his bail to answer a charge of abducting Mary *Tildesley*, a young woman, the daughter of *Richard Tildesley*, green-grocer, and landlord of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen. The circumstances attending the affair, which was reported at the time as a romantic elopement, will doubtless be remembered. Harris had been paying his attentions to the young woman, and on the night of the 4th inst, he visited her father’s house. The next morning it was found that she was missing, and Harris was also found to be non est, it was concluded the pair had eloped together. A warrant was then taken out against Harris for abduction, and subsequently on the arrival of the parties at home he was arrested by Police-superintendent Kemp and bailed to appear that day. It, however, transpired that during their absence the couple had been married.

Mr. Shakespeare, now addressing the Bench, said he appeared for the prosecution, the charge being one of abduction. He believed, however, the parties had been married, having gone away from home with that intention. Under the circumstances, with the permission of the Bench, he wished to withdraw the charge.

Mr. Hayes, who appeared for the defence, said he could only state that the defendant was a young man of very good character, and had acted in a perfectly honourable manner throughout, and at the time he went away had no idea that he was committing a legal wrong. He and the complainant were now married, and he (Mr. Hayes) thought the suggestion by Mr. Shakespeare was the proper way of settling the matter.

Mr. Gibbons: Very well, we agree to allow the charge to be withdrawn.

Harris then left the court by a private door, to avoid the gaze of the crowd assembled about the main entrance.”

1881 Census

High Street – OLD LYTTLETON ARMS

- [1] *Richard Tildesley* (50), fruiterer and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Eliza Tildesley* (50), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] George Tildesley (21), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] Thomas Tildesley (19), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Joseph Tildesley* (11), son, scholar, born Halesowen;

[6] Annie Harris (15), general servant, born Cradley;
[7] Charles Neale (19), porter, born Halesowen:

Mrs. *Eliza Tildesley*, greengrocer and beer retailer, High Street. [1884]

1891 Census

High Street

[1] *Eliza Tildesley* (50), widow, fruiterer, born Halesowen;
[2] Thomas Tildesley (25), son, fruiterer, born Halesowen;
[3] *Joseph Tildesley* (21), son, fruiterer, born Halesowen;
[4] Mary Bekes (20), general servant, born Manchester:

County Advertiser 26/8/1893

“The annual licensing session for the petty sessional division of Halesowen was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court..... Superintendent Chare presented the following report I have also to report to your Worships that there are several licensed persons who are carrying on other businesses on their licensed premises, viz, one that of a butcher, and the others grocers and a greengrocer. I have given notice to three of them to appear before your Worships *Eliza Tildesley*, of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen, who is carrying on the business of a greengrocer on her premises. In the room where the business is carried on there is a beer machine and bottled stout also on the shelves. She until a fortnight ago refused to close this room at the proper closing time, and on Sundays she opens for the sale of fruit during prohibited hours I consider it gives facilities for illicit trade – female drinking I respectfully ask for an expression of opinion in the matter, and shall be glad to carry out anything you may suggest.....

With respect to those persons who carried on other businesses, Mr. Howard said the Bench could not allow licensed premises to be of such a character as would open the door to breaches of the law, and it was necessary for these persons to make such alterations in the re-arrangement of their businesses as would satisfy the police, otherwise the Bench could not renew the licenses.”

County Advertiser 30/9/1893

“The annual adjourned licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held at the Court House on Tuesday....

The case of *Eliza Tildesley*, landlady of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Halesowen, was taken. Objection was taken to the renewal of the license on the licensing day because of a grocer’s business being conducted on the premises. Mr. Vachell appeared for the applicant.

Inspector Raybould said that bottled beer and stout, and a beer machine were kept on the grocery premises, and the house was not required. There was a public house on each side of it within fifty yards. Moreover, nine months ago serious complaints were made to him that illicit drinking went on while other houses were closed, and that women drank at the house on Sundays.

Mr. Howard said he failed to see any objection in the grocery business being carried on.

Inspector Raybould said he chiefly objected to the grocery business being kept open after the other parts of the premises were closed at the proper time. He had told the applicant about it, and since then she had complied with his wishes.

Mr. Vachell said the whole of the premises were licensed. On the ground floor there was a small grocery business carried on, which had been done since the premises were licensed in 1868. His client would give an assurance that she would close the shop at the proper hours, and, in fact, she was bound to do so, or else she would get into trouble.

The Bench granted the application on the understanding that applicant would close at the proper time.....

Mr. Howard said the Bench had taken into consideration what had been urged on behalf of the three applicants, and they had decided to grant the renewal of their licenses, but if there was any case against them of the same kind in future, they would be dealt with in a very different manner.”

County Advertiser 6/10/1894

“*Joseph Tildesley*, of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, High Street, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the MALT SHOVEL INN, on the 27th ult. Police-constable Macnamara said he visited the MALT SHOVEL INN on the night of the 27th, about 8-30, and again at 10-30. On each occasion he saw the defendant there, and on the second visit defendant was drunk. Police-constable Leight corroborated. Inspector Raybould said that at about 10-50 on the evening in question he visited the MALT SHOVEL INN. On the way there he saw defendant being assisted home. He afterwards told the landlord what he had seen, and the landlord made no reply. Defendant said he was playing the piano each time the officers went to the house. He was not drunk. Fined 2s 6d and costs, or fourteen days.”

County Express 28/4/1900

“*Joseph Tildesley*, OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Hagley Street, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the premises of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS on the 17th inst. Police-constable Harley said he was sent to the house to quell a disturbance, and there found the defendant drunk. Police-constable Taylor corroborated. Defendant, who denied the charge was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Express 9/3/1901 - Advert

“Monday Next, March 11th, 1901, 7.30pm. Halesowen.

Large And Important Sale of Twelve Freehold Houses including Off-Beerhouse & Business Premises.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Representatives of the late Mr. *Richard Tildesley* to Sell By Auction (subject to conditions incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Laws Society), on Monday, March 11th, at the House of Mr. Bolus, The LYTTLETON ARMS, as above, at 7pm, the following attractive properties.....”

County Express 16/3/1901

“Joseph Smart conducted an important sale of property at the LYTTLETON ARMS INN, on Monday evening, acting upon instructions from the representative of the late *Richard Tildesley*. Lot 1, two freehold dwelling houses, with nail shops, etc., at Islington, producing £14 14s per annum, was sold to Mr. G. B. Parkes at £202 10s. Lot 2, five freehold dwelling houses, fronting Bromsgrove Street, and producing £53 13s, was also sold to Mr. G. B. Parkes for £756. Lot 3, an off-beerhouse and grocer’s shop, and a freehold dwelling house, both fronting Birmingham Road, producing £29 5s, was withdrawn at £800, but was sold privately afterwards to Mr. William Pearson. Lot 4, three freehold dwelling houses, fronting Church Street, and producing £22 2s, was sold to Mr. G. B. Parkes for £326. The result of the sale was considered most satisfactory. Messrs. Homfray, Goodman, and Mellor were the solicitors acting in the matter.”

1901 Census

High Street

[1] *Eliza Tildesley* (60), widow, beerhouse keeper and greengrocer, born Halesowen;

[2] *Joseph Tildesley* (28), son, greengrocer, born Halesowen;

[3] Alice Oakes (17), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Express 1/11/1902

“*Eliza Tildesley*, landlady of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, High Street, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness on her licensed premises, and with selling to a drunken person on October 1st. Mr. J. Walter Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended. About 8.30pm on the date named PS Pass and PC Kings visited the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, and there saw Thomas *Tildesley*, the defendant’s son, sitting on a bench in the kitchen. As they entered *Tildesley* was drinking out of a pint cup, and it was apparent that he was drunk. The officers called the landlady’s attention to him, and she admitted that he had had a drop too much. Pass told *Tildesley* to go home. Inspector Hill told the Bench at seven o’clock *Tildesley* went to the police station, and he was then in a drunken condition. The defence was that the police had made a mistake as to the man’s condition. There was no evidence to justify the Bench to say either a sale or anything in the nature of a sale had taken place. Evidence was then called. Defendant was fined 5s and costs, including £2 2s solicitors’ fee for permitting drunkenness. The charge of selling intoxication liquor to a drunken person was dismissed.

Tildeley was fined 5s and costs for being drunk on the premises. He was further charged with using indecent language on the 1st ult, and was ordered to pay the costs, 7s 6d, for this offence. PS Pass gave evidence.”

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

“On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report.....

During the past year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows.....

Eliza Tildesley, OLD LYTTTELTON ARMS, Halesowen, permitting drunkenness, fined 5s and costs, 47s 6d.....

He had given notice of his intention to oppose the renewal of the following licenses upon these grounds.....

Eliza Tildesley, OLD LYTTTELTON ARMS INN, Halesowen, (1) that on the 28th of October last she was fined 5s and costs for permitting drunkenness upon her premises.....

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the ‘black list’.....

Upon consideration of the OLD LYTTTELTON ARMS INN, Halesowen, Superintendent Sheriff stated that Mrs. *Tildesley* had kept the house for over forty years, and he did not wish to press the objection. The transfer [?] was then granted.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population.....”

Brierley Hill Advertiser November 1906

“To Maltsters, Brewers and Others.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Trustees of the late Mr. *Richard Tildesley* to Sell by Auction on Monday, November 12th 1906 at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen The OLD LYTTLETON ARMS situate at High Street, Halesowen, with extensive Outbuildings and Yards, which have been successfully carried on by the *Tildesley* Family for a great many years.....”

County Advertiser 15/12/1906

“The license of the OLD LYTTLETON ARMS INN, Halesowen, was transferred from *Elizabeth* [sic] *Tildesley* (deceased) to *Joseph Tildesley*.”

Fine Home brewed Ales and Good Stabling were advertised on the front of the building. [c.1910]

John David Harris's second wife was Mary.

1911 Census

6, High Street

- [1] *John D. Harris* (55), fruit salesman, born Waterloo, Monmouthshire;
- [2] Mary Harris (50), wife, married 30 years, born Halesowen;
- [3] Charlotte Harris (22), daughter, school assistant elementary, born Halesowen;
- [4] Thomas Harris (20), son, brewer (journeyman), born Argoed, Monmouthshire;
- [5] Gwendoline Harris (17), daughter, born Rowley Regis;
- [6] Maude M. Harris (8), daughter, school, born Rowley Regis;
- [7] Doris M. Harris (6), daughter, school, born Rowley Regis;
- [8] Annie Marsh (21), general servant:

Birmingham Mail 6/10/1911 - Advert

“Pianist, at once, three nights weekly; one to sing preferred.
Harris, OLD LYTTLETON ARMS, Hales Owen.”

John David Harris, greengrocer and beer retailer, 6, High Street. [1912]

1939 Register

6, High Street – YE OLDE LYTTLETON

- [1] *James A. Silk*, date of birth 29/3/1882, publican, married;
- [2] *Theresa L. Silk*, dob 2/2/1885, publican, married;
- [3] Joseph A. Silk, dob 14/2/1910, motor mechanic, single;

[1955]

Closed

Demolished

OLD MOGUL

Mogul Lane, Netherend, (Brettell Town), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Thomas Fellows
George Albert Ingley
Rhoda Miriam Ingley
Ansells Ltd. (acquired in 1923)

LICENSEES

John Fellows Snr. []
Thomas Fellows Snr. [1832] – [1836]
Thomas Fellows Jnr. [1845] – 1869)
Thomas Fellows [1870] – 1906)
George Albert Ingley (1906 – 1917);
Rhoda Miriam Ingley (1917 – 1919);
George Albert Ingley (1919 – 1921);
George Johnson (1921 – 1923);
Fred Piper (1923 – 1932);
George Thomas Hadley (1932 – 1933);
William Francis ‘Bill’ Tibbetts (1933 – 1937);
Joseph Richard Barnes (1937 – 1939):

NOTES

GREAT MOGUL [1855]

MOGUL [1857], [1858], [1859], [1861], [1864], [1868], [1870], [1877], [1908], [1910]
OLD MOGUL [1860], [1862]

It had a beerhouse license.

[1775]

John Fellows (1775 - 1832)

Black Country Bugle (Oct. 1995)

'The Fellows Of Netherend And Corngreaves Hall'

".....*Thomas Fellows Snr* He was very keen on sport with dogs and guns, fox hunting at every opportunity and even bull baiting and cock fighting died in 1832 or 1833."

Birmingham Journal 9/2/1839

"National Rent.

Feb 2. From a Society held at the OLD MOGUL, Netherend, Halesowen. £1 0s 0d.

Few friends, same place. £0 6s 9d."

Thomas Fellows Jnr. (1799 - 1869) was also a chainmaker. [1845]

He married Maria Stevens, the daughter of Edward and Sarah Stevens, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY.

They had 10 children - Isaac (b.1820), John (b.1821), Phoebe Stevens (b.1822), Henry (b.1824), Sarah (b.1826), Lucy (b.1829), Emily (b.1832), Thomas (b.1834), Edwin Stevens (b.1837), and Martha (b.1838).

He employed four or six chainmakers in the rear yard.

1841 Census

Netherend

- [1] *Thomas Fellows* (40), publican;
- [2] Maria Fellows (45), born Worcestershire;
- [3] Isaac Fellows (20), born Worcestershire;
- [4] Henry Fellows (15), chainmaker, born Worcestershire;
- [5] Sarah Fellows (15), born Worcestershire;
- [6] Emily Fellows (9), born Worcestershire;
- [7] *Thomas Fellows* (6), born Worcestershire;
- [8] Edward Fellows (4), born Worcestershire;
- [9] Martha Fellows (2), born Worcestershire:

1851 Census

Netherend

- [1] *Thomas Fellows* (51), victualler and chainmaker, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] Maria Fellows (56), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Lucy Fellows (21), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Thomas Fellows* (16), son, chainmaker, born Cradley;
- [5] Edward Fellows (14), son, chainmaker, born Cradley;
- [6] Martha Fellows (12), daughter, scholar, born Cradley:

Worcester Journal 24/11/1855

"*Thomas Fellows*, landlord of the GREAT MOGUL INN, Cradley, was charged by PC Crowther with having allowed parties to be drinking before one o'clock on Sunday morning last. Defendant pleaded guilty, but being the first offence, he was let off paying 2s 6d and 9s 6d expenses."

County Advertiser 11/4/1857 - Advert

"On Easter Monday, April 13th, 1857, a Public Tea Party will be held in the Large Room, at Mr. *T. Fellows*'s, MOGUL INN, Netherend.

Tea to be on the Table precisely at Five o'clock.

Tickets One Shilling each.

A Quadrille Band will be in attendance."

Brierley Hill Advertiser 30/5/1857 - Advert

"Grand Entertainment, at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend.

Mr. *Thomas Fellows* begs respectfully to inform his Friends and the Public that there will be a Grand Ball and Concert at the above house, on Wednesday, the 3rd day of June next.

Dancing to commence at Three o'clock, when some of the most Popular Music of the day will be performed by the Old Netherend Band, with a variety of Madrigals, Glee's, Trios, Duets, and Songs, at intervals.

Admission Sixpence, to be returned in Refreshments.”

County Advertiser 16/10/1858

“The following persons were fined for having deficient measures in their possession.....

Thomas Fellows, publican, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 16/10/1858 - Advert

“The Annual Tea Party will take place on Monday Next, October 18th, in the large and commodious Room at Mr. *T. Fellows*’s, MOGUL INN, Netherend. Tea on the table at Five o’clock. Tickets One Shilling each. A Quadrille Band is engaged.”

Worcester Journal 1/1/1859

“Henry Pass and Jeremiah Webster, of Cradley, and stewards to a club held at Mr. *Fellows*’, the MOGUL, at Netherend, was charged by Jonathan Priest with refusing to pay him the sum of 6s per week, which he was entitled to, he not being able to work. Mr. Burbury appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Bartlett, of Wolverhampton, for defendants. Mr. Burbury said that he had given the defendants notice to produce their rules, but as they had not done so, he must ask for an adjournment of the case, in order to get the rules from the clerk at Worcester. Mr. Bartlett objected to this, as he said that he was prepared for the defence, but would agree to an adjournment if the complainant would pay the costs. It was ultimately agreed that the costs should be considered after the case had been heard, and the hearing was then adjourned for a fortnight.”

1861 Census

Netherend

- [1] *Thomas Fellows* (61), victualler, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Maria Fellows (63), wife, born Netherend;
- [3] *Thomas Fellows* (26), son, chainmaker, born Netherend;
- [4] Martha Edwards (6), grand-daughter, scholar, born Colley Gate;
- [5] Pheoby G. Pershouse (16), servant, born Netherend:

Thomas Fellows, beer retailer, Netherend, Cradley. [1864], [1865]

County Advertiser 19/10/1861 - Advert

“The Annual Tea Party and Ball, will be Held in the Large Room, at *Thomas Fellows*’, the MOGUL INN, Netherend, on Monday, October 21st, 1861.”

County Advertiser 16/1/1864 - Advert

“For Sale by Private Contract, Two Dwelling-Houses, situate at Chapel Street Brierley Hill, belonging to Fellow’s Club, Netherend – on in the occupation of Benjamin Perry, and the other void. Apply to Thomas Fellows, MOGUL INN, Netherend.”

Stourbridge Observer 17/2/1866

“At the Petty Sessions, yesterday, before B. Littlewood, J. Hunt, W. C. Firmstone, and R. L. Freer Esqs, and the Hon. C. G. Lyttleton, *Thomas Fellows*, licensed victualler, residing at Netherend, was charged by Edward Thomas, supervisor, that he did cause to be altered on the 27th of November last, a wrong entry as to the quantity of malt to be brewed, it having been previously entered on the 25th, four bushels, and then altered to one quarter and four bushels, rendering himself liable to a penalty of £200.

Mr. Homfray appeared for the defendant, and said he was instructed to plead guilty. The defendant, who was an old man, was blind, and his business was carried on by his son, but of course the defendant was liable. He would throw himself on the mercy of the Bench.

Mr. Thomas did not wish to press the case, and he thought the ends of justice would be obtained if the Bench fined the defendant in the mitigated penalty of £5. Mr. Thomas said that he had no opposition to offer to the application of Mr. Homfray. Defendant was then fined £50. The Bench said they would recommend the Board to reduce the fine to £5.”

County Express 29/8/1868 - Advert

“Wanted, Rents and Debts to Collect by *Thomas Fellows*, General Agent, MOGUL, Netherend, Cradley, Brierley Hill.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/5/1869 - Advert

“Building Land at Netherend, Cradley, Worcestershire.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. H. W. Smith, at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, Cradley, on Wednesday, the 2nd day of June, next, at Four o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions.....”

County Express 27/8/1870 - Advert

“For Sale by Private Treaty, Two Houses, situate in Chapel Street, Rock’s Hill; also Two in Quarry Bank; with excellent Well of Water. All tenanted.

For particulars, and to Treat, apply to the MOGUL INN, Netherend.”

1871 Census

Netherend – MOGUL INN

- [1] *Thomas Fellows* (37), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Jane Fellows* (32), wife, born Kings Norton;
- [3] *Sarah M. Fellows* (1 month), daughter, born Castle Bromwich;
- [4] *Mariah Fellows* (75), mother, born Cradley;
- [5] *Martha E. Tate* (16), niece, domestic servant, born Cradley;
- [6] *Alfred Haddock* (40), boarder, painter and glazier, born Cradley;
- [7] *Thomas Fellows* (4), nephew, born Brockmoor:

Stourbridge Observer 28/12/1872

“James Millward, of the Lye, was summoned for being drunk and refusing to quit the OLD MOGUL INN, on the 23rd inst. *Thomas Fellows*, landlord, said that defendant came into his house drunk. He called for ale, but it was refused him, when defendant picked up a pint of ale belonging to another man. Defendant refused to go out, and witness had to send for the police. Pleaded guilty. Fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 30/8/1873

“The inquest on the body of John Stokes, servant of the Rev. Wm. Cochrane, was held in the OLD MOGUL, on yesterday week, by the Deputy Coroner. It will be recollected that Stokes was found hanging in the coach-house by Sarah A. Compson, his fellow servant, and ‘Rumour’ taking, as it generally does, the worst view of the case, set it down as one of suicide, and so it was reported by means of the broad sheet as well as idle tongues. When the facts and surrounding circumstances came to be known, it was easily seen that the melancholy end of the poor fellow was not brought about by self-destruction, but was the result of a pure accident. And so the jury, when the evidence was brought before them, had no difficulty in giving as their verdict, Accidental Death. A verdict in which the Coroner concurred, and the only one he said the evidence justified. Would it not be well if ‘Our Own Correspondents,’ before giving currency to flying reports, would endeavour to ascertain what truth they represent. It is bad enough to speak evil of the living. It is worse to defame the dead.”

Stourbridge Observer 3/1/1874

“At the Stourbridge Police Court, yesterday, before Major Fletcher and Mr. Scott, David Kendrick was charged with being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the OLD MOGUL INN, on the 26th ult. Mr. Perry defended. *Thomas Fellows*, landlord, said the defendant came into the house and called for something to drink. Defendant asked witness to drink with him, and on his refusing to do so he pulled off his coat and wanted to fight. Witness ordered him out and he refused to go. On cross examination witness admitted he was related to defendant’s father. Defendant did not appear drunk. Mr. Perry addressed the Bench for the defence and contended that complainant was the aggressor. He called witnesses as to defendant’s sobriety. The Bench remarked that the landlord’s evidence was not sufficiently strong for them to convict, and dismissed the summons.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/2/1875 - Advert

“‘Defensio, Non Provocatio.’ Caution.

The Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, Southwark Street, Borough, London.

This association, having prosecuted and convicted a Grocer, at Bradford, at the Leeds Assizes, under the ‘Merchandize Marks Act, 1862,’ and also prosecuted a man at Chester Assizes, who was sentenced to six months’ imprisonment for fraudulently counterfeiting and imitating their Trade Mark, and having obtained a decree for a perpetual injunction against a Tea Company (Limited), restricting the said Company from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, or not materially differing therefrom, or in any cover or wrappers which by their shape, size, colour, labels, writings, figures, inscriptions, trade mark, or general character should make it appear that the packets sold or exposed for sale were those of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association, and which decree on appeal was confirmed by the Lord Chancellor, notice is hereby given that all persons Counterfeiting or Imitating the Trade Mark of the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association will be forthwith Proceeded Against; and Licensed Victuallers, Grocers, Bakers, Confectioners and others are hereby warned from selling or exposing for sale Tea packed in covers or wrappers made in imitation of those used by said Association. Thompson and Son, 60, Cornhill, Solicitors for the Licensed Victuallers’ Tea Association.

Agents For Staffordshire.

Dudley: *T. Fellows*, OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/10/1877

“Cradley Conservative Association.

Another meeting of this flourishing association – which has been recently formed under the auspices of the Stourbridge Constitutional Association – was held at the house of Mr. *Thomas Fellows*, MOGUL INN, Netherend on Tuesday evening.”

County Advertiser 23/2/1878 - Advert

“Netherend, Cradley.

Mr. R. G. Rowley will Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, February 25th, Household Furniture, Sewing Machines with Treadle, ‘Singer’s,’ Pair of Horse Gears, Hay Fork, and other Effects taken under an execution for rent and removed for convenience of Sale to the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend aforesaid.

Sale to commence at Ten o’clock to the minute.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Union Chambers, Stourbridge.”

County Express 20/11/1880 - Deaths

“On the 9th inst, at Netherton, Edward, youngest son of the late *Thomas Fellows*, MOGUL INN, Netherend, aged 43 years.”

1881 Census

Netherend

- [1] *Thomas Fellows* (46), publican, born Kings Norton;
- [2] Jane Fellows (42) wife, born Castle Bromwich;
- [3] Sarah M. Fellows (10), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Jessica Fellows (9), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] Emily J. Fellows (5), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] Candace Fellows (5), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Rhoda Fellows* (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] Mary Duncan (21), general servant, born Old Hill:

Thomas Fellows, beer retailer, Netherend. [1884], [1888]

County Advertiser 23/10/1886

“Mr. William Griffin, senior, anvil manufacturer, of High Street, Cradley, has been elected as the additional guardian for Cradley, the number of votes given for him being 420. Mr. James Hingley, butcher and farmer, of Cradley, secured 181 votes. Mr. *Thomas Fellows*, of the MOGUL INN, Netherend, and Mr. William Tate, of the CROWN INN, Cradley, were nominated, but were unwilling to serve.”

1891 Census

Brettell Town

- [1] *Thomas Fellows* (56), licensed victualler, born Netherend;
- [2] Jane Fellows (52), wife, born Kings Norton;
- [3] Emily J. Fellows (17), daughter, born Netherend;
- [4] Candace Fellows (15), daughter, pupil teacher, born Netherend;
- [5] *Rhoda M. Fellows* (13), daughter, pupil, born Netherend;
- [6] William Bayliss (76), father-in-law, widower, retired labourer, born Alvechurch;
- [7] Eliza Bayliss (26), domestic servant, born Netherton:

County Express 18/4/1891

“At a special sessions, held at Stourbridge, on Wednesday, before Messrs. C. Cochrane and W. J. Turney, *Thomas Fellows*, inn-keeper and brewer, of Netherend, Cradley, was charged with having on the 4th of February entered in the book kept by him as a brewer to make entries required by statute, that he intended to use fourteen pounds of sugar in a certain brewing, which was an untrue entry, the quantity used being fifty-six pounds. There was a second charge that on the 7th of February he concealed thirty gallons of wort; and a third charge that on the 7th of February he used a certain vessel in his trade as a brewer which was not duly entered for use as such.

Defendant pleaded guilty to each of the charges.

Mr. Squire (solicitor from the Inland Revenue Board, Somerset House, London) appeared to prosecute. He said the defendant, Mr. *Thomas Fellows*, was a brewer of beer for sale, and carried on business at the premises known as the OLD MOGUL, Netherend. He had pleaded guilty to the three informations exhibited against him, and he (Mr. Squire) would shortly tell the Bench the facts, and lay before them such circumstances as might tell in his favour, leaving the matter then in their hands.

On the 4th of February Mr. *Fellows* made an entry in his brewing book that he intended to brew on the 6th, and on that day the brewing took place. If the supervisor had followed his usual practice probably nothing would have been found out, but the supervisor went earlier than usual to defendant's premises on the morning of the 7th February. He found Mr. *Fellows* coming from a cellar and carrying a couple of empty buckets. Defendant said, ‘We are not quite ready; if you are going a little further we shall be ready when you come back.’ The supervisor (Mr. King) remained and examined the premises. He went into the cellar, and there saw a cask capable of holding sixty gallons. Under section 22 of the Inland Revenue Act the law required that every brewer before he began to brew should make entry in a prescribed form of all places and vessels intended to be used by him for receiving the produce of brewings, specifying each place and vessel, and the mark by which it was to be distinguished. The object of this was that the supervisor, when he made a visit, might know where to look for the produce of any particular brewing. Three vessels had been entered by the defendant to collect the produce of his brewing in, and these all might have been used. He found, however, this other vessel which was not entered was being used, and contained a quantity of fresh wort. He called defendant's attention to it, and asked for an explanation. Defendant said it was only some wort from the last brewing that did not work, and he was going to mix it with some fresh to make it work. The supervisor, however, found that it was fresh wort, and samples were ultimately taken from the cask and sent to Somerset House for analysis. It turned out that instead of fourteen pounds of sugar having been used, as was entered in the brewing book, there must have been about half a cwt of sugar used. They found there was cane sugar present in this concealed wort, and also in the wort which was actually brought to charge, and that it went beyond the fourteen pounds entered as intended to be used. It appeared the defendant had mashed the proper quantity of malt he had entered as intended to be used, but as the Bench knew it was equally possible to brew from sugar, and defendant appeared to have thought he could increase the quantity of his brewings by dissolving this sugar. Mr. Squire mentioned the strength of the wort which was

sent for analysis, and said the facts showed that there was a deliberate fraud attempted to be committed by the defendant, and but for the early visit of the supervisor it would not have been found out. Mr. *Fellows*, however, admitted the fraud, and what he (Mr. Squire) had to say in his favour was this. He had carried on business for a number of years – about twenty – and they had no record of any offence against him. Having regard, however, to the fact that this was a deliberate fraud, and not a casual infringement of the regulations, he should ask the Bench not to let the previous good character of the defendant weigh so far with them as to impose only a nominal penalty, but such a penalty as would be a warning to him in future.

The Bench asked if it were necessary to go into the third case?

Mr. Squire said there were three offences, and it was necessary for the defendant to enter the quantity of material he going to use. He made the entry that had been mentioned, and being improperly entered, it made him liable to a penalty of £100. Then in order to cover the fraud, he did something else. He put into a vessel the portion of the brewing, this thirty gallons of strong wort spoken of, and the concealment of the wort rendered him liable to another £100 penalty. With regard to the third charge, they might consider it was merely a technical offence in making use of the vessel which was not entered. There was something in Mr. *Fellows*' mode of working recently which he ought to mention. His produce for some months had been irregular, and calculated to arouse suspicion.

The Bench: Is it necessary to go into that?

Mr. Squire said he did not propose to go further than he had.

The Clerk put to the defendant whether he preferred to be tried at Worcester by a jury, or there?

Defendant said he should prefer to be tried there.

Evidence was then called in formal proof of the charges.

Mr. A. J. King, supervisor of Inland Revenue for the district in which the defendant carried on the business of a brewer, said on the 7th of February he visited defendant's premises. There was an entry in his brewing book, dated 4th February, that he would brew on the 6th February. When he saw defendant, he said: We are not quite ready yet; if you are going further, we shall be ready when you come back. Witness remained on the premises. He found a 60-gallon cask in the cellar with wort over 103 degrees, and a temperature of 57. He found it to be fresh wort, and asked for an explanation. Defendant said it was a portion of a former brewing, but he told defendant he could not agree with him. He took samples. He noticed brewing produce in defendant's collecting vessels. Witness took the charge and checked the account, and that practically agreed as to the malt with what he entered in the book. Defendant asked to be permitted to put in the collecting vessel the 30 gallons witness found in the cask spoken of. He seized this wort and appraised it at £2 15s. Defendant redeemed it and paid the £2 15s.

Mr. Squire: This being concealed wort was forfeited.

Mr. Cochrane: It was a purchase back?

Mr. Squire: He incurred a penalty of £100, and the wort and vessel were seized.

Mr. Cochrane: But he could redeem it?

Mr. Squire said he was allowed to do so. They could throw it down the drain and burn the cask, but they allowed it to be bought back.

Mr. King said the samples he took were sent to Somerset House. Mr. *Fellows* had been under his survey for over five years, and previous to that carried on business a goodly number of years. He had no record of any complaint against him.

The survey book was put in, in which were entered the vessels defendant intended to use. The vessel in which he found the concealed wort was an unentered vessel.

Mr. George Naylor Stoker, an analyst at Somerset House, spoke to the analysis of the samples of wort he received. He examined the samples purporting to be from the concealed vessel and from two collecting vessels. They all contained sugar. There was not less than 20lbs in the former, and not less than 25lbs in the latter. It had been cane sugar originally, but taken the form of invert sugar. The sugar changed under the polariscope. The sugars were not quite identical. The invert sugar had taken up a molecule of water.

Defendant, asked what he had to say with regard to the charge, said that his entries had always been all right till the illness of his wife, when he had to leave the brewing to someone else. He had a certificate to show that his wife had been ill.

The Bench said the illness of his wife could have nothing to do with this charge.

Defendant: I had to neglect my brewing.

The Bench: To attend to your wife? – Defendant: Yes; hence this trouble I'm now in.

The Bench said they did not see the connection between the two things.

Defendant: It is my first offence, I assure you, and I intend it to be the last. I have a large family, and am a poor man, and leave it entirely to your worships.

The Bench, after consulting, said they had decided, upon the one hand, to inflict such a penalty as would make defendant feel he must not be guilty of breaches of the law in future; and, on the other hand, they remembered he had not been guilty of any offence previously. Having regard to that, they should inflict, in the two first cases, a fine of £20 in each case; and, in the other, release him as to the charge of making use of a vessel which he had not entered for use for brewing purposes.

The Clerk: And the costs.

The Bench: And the costs.

The Clerk said the costs would be 6s in each case.

Defendant asked for time to pay, and was allowed a month."

County Advertiser 5/1/1895

"An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon by Mr. Hebbert, at the OLD MOGUL INN, Cradley, on Harry Stafford (29), Nether-end, whose decapitated body was found on the railway on Saturday morning.

Mrs. Stafford was the first witness, and said deceased, her husband, was a chainmaker, and had not been well for many weeks and

could not sleep. He got up early on Saturday, and went out about six without saying anything, and he was brought home dead shortly after seven. When getting up, deceased said he would have a pipe to see if he could get to sleep. Deceased had plenty of work at Sykes's, but could not go to it.

Dr. Wesley Thompson, said he had attended deceased for influenza. Deceased complained of inability to sleep and intense headaches. The skull was smashed, and entirely emptied of its contents. Death must have been instantaneous. It appeared as if the guard of the engine had struck him.

Neri Pardoe proved to finding the body on Saturday morning near the bridge on the railway.

Police-sergeant Clarke said deceased appeared to have been struck on the Lye side of the bridge. Blood and brains were all along the line to where the deceased was found, twenty-five yards in all. There was nothing on deceased to show whether he had committed suicide. On the off-side of the line appearances seemed to show that deceased lay with his head on the metals. Questioned, the sergeant did not know whether deceased might have been struggling to get in or out of the way, or had a seizure of some sort. Walter Harris, station master, Cradley, thought deceased must have been in a stooping position on the line, and not with his head on the line. Deceased might have tripped over the signal wires in the darkness, but it was not probable.

The Coroner thought the presumption was in favour of suicide.

The jury, after deliberation, said that they had come to the conclusion that death was accidental.”

County Advertiser 30/3/1895

“The Extraordinary Gale.

In the middle part of Sunday a gale of short duration but of exceptional violence passed over the greater part of the country, causing not a little loss of life and immense destruction of property.....

At the MOGUL INN, Netherend, occupied by Mr. *Thomas Fellows*, a chimney stack was blown down, and the falling masonry broke through the ceiling of the club room.”

Rhoda Miriam Fellows married *George Albert Ingley* in the 1st quarter of 1901.

1901 Census

Netherend

[1] *Thomas Fellows* (66), born Cradley;

[2] *Jane Fellows* (61), wife, born Kings Norton;

[3] *Gwendoline Westwood* (7), grand-daughter, born Lye;

[4] *George A. Ingley* (24), son-in-law, clerk, born Quarry Bank;

[5] *Rhoda Ingley* (23), daughter, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 21/9/1901

“At Stourbridge on Friday, before Messrs. J. Amphlett and C. King, *Thomas Fellows*, of the MOGUL INN, Netherend, Cradley, was summoned for concealing 30 gallons of wort, and also for making a false entry in his brewing book. It was proved that defendant entered 30 gallons less wort than he was using. The Bench fined defendant, who had been previously convicted, £25 and costs, in each of the two cases.”

County Advertiser 7/5/1904

“We regret to record the death, on Tuesday, afternoon, at the MOGUL INN, Netherend, of Mrs. *Fellows*, wife of Mr. J. [sic] *Fellows*, the landlord. Deceased was well known in the district for her kindness of heart and generosity to the poor. The inn of which her husband is landlord has been held by the *Fellows*' family for several generations. Mrs. *Fellows* was a member of the congregation of Quarry Bank Parish Church, and her daughters were teachers in the Sunday school. She had attained the age of 65.”

County Advertiser 24/6/1905

“On Monday evening last Mr. *Thomas Fellows*, host of the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, celebrated the attainment of his 71st birthday by entertaining his friends to a very substantial dinner After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. John Fellows, in felicitous terms, proposed the ‘Health of the Landlord,’ congratulating him upon attaining his 71st birthday. In replying, Mr. *Thomas Fellows* gave some very interesting reminiscences of his career, and incidentally mentioned the fact that the name of *Thomas Fellows* had been continuously upon the sign of the OLD MOGUL for upwards of 200 years. Songs and recitations were rendered, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Advertiser 4/8/1906 - Notice

“*Thomas Fellows*, Deceased.

All Persons having any Claims or Demands against the Estate of *Thomas Fellows*, late of the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, Cradley, Licensed Victualler, who died on the 25th inst, are Requested to Send Particulars thereof in writing to me, the undersigned, forthwith; and all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to pay such Debts to me.

W. Stanley Mobberley, Bank Chambers, Lye, Solicitor to the Executors.

Dated 27th July, 1906.”

County Advertiser 25/8/1906 - Advert

“Notice Of Sale By Auction, of Two Fully-Licensed Properties, 20 Freehold Dwelling Houses, and Building Land at Quarry Bank,

Netherend and Lye.

Alfred W. Dando has received instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. *Thomas Fellows*, to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. J. Rowland, the VINE AND RAILWAY HOTEL, Cradley, on Monday, September 3rd, 1906, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced as follows.....

Lot 2. A Substantially-built Double-fronted Fully Licensed Property, widely known as the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, containing Bar-tap Room, Smoke Room, Stores, and Living Kitchen on the Ground Floor; Two Bed Rooms and Club Room, 34ft by 26ft, on the First Floor; Basement Cellars and Brewery in Yard, approached by Double Gateway Entrance at back, for many years and until recently in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Fellows*, since deceased.

The Property is situate on the main road between Colley Gate and Quarry Bank, with an unbuilt-upon frontage thereto, and is singularly free from opposition. Possession may be had upon completion.....”

County Advertiser 8/12/1906

“On Monday evening last Mr. and Mrs. *G. A. Ingley* entertained their customers and a few friends to dinner at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, to celebrate their taking possession of this noted hostelry. There was a large gathering including Messrs. J. Rowland, F. Oliver, J. Barns, D. Hill, H. Colburn, W. H. Ingley, F. Colbourn, J. Ingley, T. Patehall, Westwood, Homer, Tallis, and others. A very interesting feature in connection with the above event is the fact that it is one of the oldest licensed houses in the parish, and is an undoubtable fact until the present proprietor took possession, the name *Thomas Fellows* was upon the sign for upwards of 200 years. A very enjoyable evening was spent, the usual toasts were duly honoured, and at the close a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the host and hostess for their generosity.”

County Express 4/1/1908

“On Saturday an invitation supper was held at the MOGUL INN, Netherend, when about 60 sat down to an excellent spread provided by Mr. and Mrs. *George Ingley* (host and hostess). After supper Mr. Joseph James and Mrs. J. Barlow were voted to the chair and vice-chair, and an enjoyable programme was gone through, the accompanist being Mr. Thos. Hill, and the vocalists Messrs. B. Westwood, W. Bloomer, Milton Hart, Luke Hill, Joseph Griffiths and R. Burgess. The evening closed with a vote of thanks to the host and hostess for their catering, acknowledged by the host.”

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies’ parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter’s Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher’s Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, ‘Onward Christian Soldiers,’ a solo from ‘Thus saeth the Lord,’ splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, ‘Rousseau’s dream,’ finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, ‘O, clap your hands,’ and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter’s Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

County Express 16/1/1909

“Dividend Clubs OLD MOGUL (Netherend).

At the annual supper the secretary (Mr. Charles Waldron) presented his report, and a dividend of 15s 9d was declared. Mr. J. James presided, and the following contributed to the evening’s entertainment: Messrs. Wm. Pearshouse, Wm. Bloomer, Jack Chance, Ben Westwood, Ben Griffiths, Jack Watkins, Chas. Smart, and Emil Kuhn. Mr Harry Hill was the accompanist. Thanks were accorded to the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *G. A. Ingley*, for their catering.”

County Express 17/4/1909

“On Wednesday the usual Easter dinner was partaken of at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, when Mr. Wm. Bloomer presided over a large attendance, Mr. Jos. Taylor being in the vice-chair. After an excellent dinner, provided by Mr. and Mrs. *G. A. Ingley*, those present enjoyed a concert given by Messrs. J. Chance, M. Hart, W. Bloomer, Z. Davies, F. Aston, B. Westwood, A. Sidaway, J. Taylor, A. Billingham, and H. Hill (accompanist).”

County Express 10/7/1909

“Dividend Societies OLD MOGUL, Netherend.

The members of the money club recently enjoyed a dinner given by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *G. A. Ingley*. Subsequently Mr. F. Wylde presided and harmony ensued, the artists being Messrs. Ben Griffiths, Jack Chance, J. James, Fred Stanford, Arthur Sidaway (bones), and Hy. Hill (accompanist).”

County Express 18/9/1909

“Cradley Air-Gun League.

With a view to the formation of an air-gun league for Cradley and district a meeting was held at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend on Tuesday. The following clubs were represented: OLD MOGUL, Netherend; SPREAD EAGLE, Dudley Road, Lye; ROSE AND CROWN, Lye Cross; MAYPOLE HOTEL, Cradley Forge; ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Quarry Bank; CHURCH TAV-ERN, Quarry Bank; and VINE INN, Quarry Bank. On the motion of Mr. George Davies, Quarry Bank, seconded by Mr. Frank Wylde, Netherend, it was decided that the radius for the league be 1½ miles from the club house.

It was proposed by Mr. George Davies, Quarry Bank, seconded by Mr. Adams, and carried, that the league be composed of 12 clubs, and no more.

On the proposition of Mr. Miller, VINE INN, seconded by Mr. Wylde, it was decided that the entrance fee be 7s 6d and guarantee 7s 6d or 15s in all. A further meeting was arranged to be held at the OLD MOGUL INN next Tuesday at 7.30.”

It was a home brew house. [1909]

It was the headquarters of Netherend FC. [1909]

County Express 16/4/1910

“On Saturday Mr. and Mrs. *G. A. Ingley*, host and hostess of the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, gave a supper for the sick and draw club and a few friends, the party numbering about 25. The toast, the host and hostess was honoured, reference being made to their excellent catering. A concert was held in the large smoke room. Mr. Jos. Taylor presided.....”

County Express 23/4/1910

“On Saturday at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *G. A. Ingley*, gave a supper to the members and a few friends of the Air-gun-Club. About 30 enjoyed an excellent supper. After the usual toast to Mr. and Mrs. *Ingley* for their kindness and catering, a concert was contributed to by the flowing artists: Messrs. D. Hill, C. Smith, A. Herrin, J. Griffiths, B. Westwood, W. Waldron, F. Stanford, G. Tallis. Mr. David Hill presided, and Mr. W. Tate was the accompanist.”

County Express 21/5/1910

“Yesterday week Mr. and Mrs. *G. A. Ingley*, host and hostess of the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend, gave a cold spread to Mr. Frank Wilde and a few friends on the occasion of his departure to America.....”

County Express 2/7/1910

“On Wednesday evening at the MOGUL INN, Netherend, Mr. Docker (coroner) held an inquest on the body of John Wm. Southall (53), labourer, of Netherend, who hanged himself on Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Southall said that her husband had been suffering from blood poisoning. He had to go to the Guest Hospital on February 18th, and he did not come out until June 22nd. While at home he seemed very much distressed in mind. He had attended the hospital as an out-patient since his discharge from the infirmary. On Tuesday he rose about 6.30am, and the last witness saw of him alive was at 8.10am. She went down the garden to feed the fowl, and when she returned he had gone upstairs, but she did not go up until about 8.40am, as he had been in the habit of lying down. When she did go she found him hanging from the bed post. He had fastened himself to the post with an elastic belt, and was on his knees. She called in Mrs. Blunt, a neighbour, and sent for the doctor and the police.

Dr. Belbin said when he saw deceased on Wednesday week there was practically nothing the matter with him, but his wife informed him that he had had curious tremors, and this witness ascribed to excitement in coming out of the hospital the day before. Witness was called to see him on Tuesday, and when he arrived deceased had been dead about two or three hours. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide while of Unsound Mind. Mr. J. H. Round, of Messrs. Hooper and Taylor, Dudley, represented Messrs. King Bros. Ltd., under whom deceased had been employed.”

County Express 1/10/1910

“The wedding was solemnised on Saturday at Cradley Church between William Vincent and Eliza Dunn (who for over 30 years has been in service at the OLD MOGUL INN, Netherend). About 30 friends were afterwards entertained at the OLD MOGUL INN to celebrate the event, and a musical evening followed. Mr. Charles Waldron presided, Mr. Harry Hill was the accompanist,

and the other artists were Messrs. David Hill, John Patrick, Alf. Pardoe, Will Lavender, Jack Griffiths, and A. Jennings.”

County Express 4/2/1911

“Some 30 members of the OLD MOGUL dividend club recently assembled to a supper on the invitation of the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Ingley*). Afterwards a musical evening was enjoyed. Mr. Joe Taylor presided, supported by Mr. Chas. Waldron (secretary) and the artists were Messrs. A. Tate, David Hill, Hy. Boucher, Jack Griffiths, William Lavender, Sailor Byman, Fred Stanford, Hy. Southall, Ben Westwood, and J. Taylor.”

1911 Census

Netherend

- [1] *George Albert Ingley* (34), licensed victualler, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] *Rhoda Miriam Ingley* (33), wife, married 10 years, born Netherend;
- [3] Rhoda Jane Ingley (9), daughter, at school, born Netherend;
- [4] George Cope (37), boarder, carpenter, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] Jane Maud Westwood (14), servant, born Saltbrook, Lye;
- [6] William Cope (34), visitor, joiner, born Cradley Heath:

County Express 8/7/1911

“The quarterly meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley, and District Licensed Victuallers’ Protection and Benevolent Society was held at the OLD MOGUL, Netherend, on Thursday night in last week. Mr. D. Profit (chairman) presided.....”

1939 Register

Mogul Lane – OLD MOGUL

- [1] *Joseph R. Barnes*, date of birth 27/8/1871, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Frances Barnes, dob 2/2/1879, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Eugenie V. Barnes, dob 25/5/1904, manageress lock-up off license, single:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/3/1939

“Stourbridge Licensing Justices yesterday.....

The OLD MOGUL INN, Cradley, the ROBIN HOOD, Cradley, the UNION INN, Lye, and the ROYAL OAK, Lye, were referred to the compensation authority, but the license of the BLUE BALL, Cradley, was renewed, Mr. T. T. Dineen having stated that the owner was prepared to make any alteration the justices required.

‘We could very well dispose of six public houses in Cradley,’ said PS Lambourne, who added that in most cases public houses were merely part-time occupations, the licensees going out to work.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/6/1939

“At yesterday’s meeting, the Worcestershire County Licensing Committee refused renewal of the following licenses..... Stourbridge district OLD MOGUL, Cradley, owned by Ansells Brewery Company Ltd, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/6/1939 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Worcester.

Notice as to Sending in Claims to be Treated as Persons Interested in Licensed Premises

Notice Is Hereby Given that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting held on the 12th day of June, 1939, to refuse the renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, all persons claiming to be interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensees and the Registered Owners of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act in respect of the said Premises.

Notice of Claims must be given in the Form annexed, and may be sent to the Clerk of the Compensation Authority, at his Office at the Shirehall, Worcester.

Licensed Premises in the Stourbridge Licensing Division.....

OLD MOGUL, Cradley. Licence, Publicans ‘On’. Licensee, *Joseph Richard Barnes*. Registered Owner, Ansells Brewery Co. Ltd., Aston, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/9/1939

“Worcestershire Licensing Committee yesterday awarded the following sums as compensation for the closing of six houses in the county.....

OLD MOGUL, Cradley, owned by Ansells Brewery Co. Ltd., Aston; claim £2,819, award £2,412.”

It closed on 30th October 1939.

OLDE QUEENS HEAD

1, Birmingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mrs. Ann Bagley [1892]
James Bagley
Percy Withers [1939]
Davenports Ltd.
Greenall Whitley [1991]
Pubmaster [2002], [2008]
Admiral Taverns [2019]

LICENSEES

William Ganner [1822] – [1835]
Mrs. Jane Ganner [1840] – [1850]
William Ganner [1850]
Charles Cox [1851] – **1870**;
Mrs. Elizabeth Brown [1868]
John Wilkes [1869]
Mrs. Brown [1869]
Richard Roberts (**1870** – [1876]
George Thompson [1876]
James Bailey [] – **1877**);
Joseph Willetts (**1877** – []
John Williams [] – **1878**);
Mrs. Mary Ann Saunders (**1878** – [1880]
Joseph Decker* [1881]
John Dexter* [] – **1882**);
Emma Chesshire (**1882** – []
James Waterfield [1884]
James Austin [1888] – [1892]
Arthur Hodgetts [1888] – **1892**)
Mrs. Ann Bagley (**1892** – []
Henry Whittle [1896] – **1904**);
Jeremiah Bagley (**1904** – [1905]
Joseph James Moore [1911] – [1916]
Mrs. Edith Moore [1921]
Percy Withers [1931] – [1939]
Norman Holt (**1958** – **1967**);
Mrs. Winifred Holt (**1967** – [1991]
Jean and Robert Lelean (**2001** – [2002]
Jill Palmer (**2004**);
Chris Gormley (**2004** – [2005]

NOTES

It was originally the QUEENS HEAD.

Aris' Birmingham Gazette 22/6/1840 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Front Shops and Premises, Halesowen, near Birmingham.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Davis, at the NEW INN, Halesowen, on Wednesday the 8th of July next, at four o'clock (unless an acceptable offer be made by private contract) in the following or such lots as may be agreed upon, and subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot I. All that Freehold double malthouse, in the occupation of Mrs. *Ganner*, with considerable frontage to the principal business street, and with Land behind and other Buildings, extending about 240 feet in length, as staked out.....”

1841 Census

Birmingham Street

[1] *Jane Ganner* (76), publican, born Worcestershire;

[2] *Jane Ganner* (32);

- [3] *William Ganner* (15), maltster;
[4] Joseph Ganner (12);
[5] Mary Ganner (10);
[6] Mary Barton (60), born Worcestershire;
[7] Eliza Timmins (11), nailer, born Worcestershire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/12/1846

“William Rudge is open to fight William Hedge of Brierley Hill, for £10 or £25 a side, at 9st 8lb. The match to be made at the QUEENS HEAD, Halesowen, on Tuesday evening next.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 21/7/1847

“Summer Assizes. *Ganner v Wright*.

The counsel for the plaintiff stated the case. It was an action brought by Mrs. *Ganner*, a widow and publican at Halesowen, and the defendant was also a widow and publican, keeping the BELL INN, at Netherton. The families were connected by marriage, the son of one marrying the daughter of the other; which would account for the reason why this cause had not been brought to trial before. The plaintiff united to her trade as a publican that of a maltster, and supplied the defendant with malt as long ago as the year 1840; the first dealing between them being on the 22nd of April of that year, and the last delivery was on the 3rd of November of the same year. The value of the aggregate quantities of malt supplied was £72. Some money was received on account. The first payment made was £14 8s on Dec. 11, 1840. This reduced the debt to £57 12s. In June, 1841, the sum of £14 was paid, leaving a balance of £43 12s. Frequent application was made for payment, the plaintiff being unwilling to carry proceedings into a court of law, until at length she ascertained that the defendant intended taking shelter under the statute of limitations. Proceedings were therefore immediately instituted, and the action entered just three days before the period when the statute of limitations would have become available.

The learned counsel then called *William Ganner*, to prove the deliveries of the goods and the payments of the various instalments. Mr. Whitmore, for the defence, here pleaded that the last payment of £14 was for a specific delivery of goods, and not in part payment of a running account, and therefore the antecedent debt was made null and void by the statute. He also produced vouchers which proved the payment of all but £28 16s; and after some conversation between his lordship and the counsel a nonsuit was agreed to.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 26/7/1848 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Houses, Gardens, and Premises, at Gosty Hill, in the Parish of Rowley Regis, and eligible Freehold Building Land, Houses, and Nail Shops, at Spring Hill, Hasbury, in the Parish of Halesowen.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Newbold, on Monday, the 7th day of August, 1848, at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, at 6 o'clock in the evening.....”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 20/9/1849

“Emanuel Ellis of Halesowen will run Thomas Chambers, the Smethwick Novice, 120 yards for £10, £15, or £20 a side, or Redman Davis of Dudley on the same terms. The money is ready at the QUEENS HEAD, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Journal 7/9/1850 - Advert

“QUEENS HEAD Public House, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen.

Thomas Howell will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday Next, the 11th day of September, 1850, commencing in the morning punctually at Eleven o'clock – the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above, old-established House, together with the whole of the valuable Stock of Ale, Fixtures, Brewing Plant, six capital iron-bound 250 Gallon Casks, nine Hogsheads, three Half-Hogsheads, numerous smaller Casks, the neat and clean Household Furniture, two Store Pigs, Poultry, and other important Effects.

Catalogues will be in circulation this day and may be had at the Place of Sale; BLACK SWAN, Cradley; and of the Auctioneer, High Street, Hales Owen, and 23, Edmund Street, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Journal 5/10/1850 - Advert

“An Advantageous Opportunity for a Small Investment.

The QUEENS HEAD, Old Licensed Public House, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen.

Thomas Howell is instructed by the present Proprietor to Sell by Private Contract, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above well-frequented House, which has been established upwards of Two Hundred, and has never changed hands for upwards of Fifty years.

The Stock, Fixtures and Brewing Utensils, together with part of the Furniture, to be taken to at a fair valuation, which will not exceed £120.

Rent and all Parochial Payments do not exceed Seventy Guineas per annum. Further comment is unnecessary.

Immediate possession may be had.

For particulars, apply to Thomas Howell, Auctioneer and Appraiser, High Street, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Journal 12/10/1850 - Erratum

“In the advertisement inserted of the Letting of the QUEENS HEAD public house, Hales Owen, by Mr. Thomas Howell, last week, the rent and payments were stated at £70, instead of £20.”

Birmingham Journal 7/12/1850 - Advert

“Hales Owen. Sale at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Birmingham Street.

To be Sold by Auction, by Thomas Howell, upon the Premises, on Monday Next, the 9th day of December, at Eleven o'clock in the morning punctually, under the usual conditions.

The valuable Fixtures, Brewing and Cellar Plant, with all other Requisites appertaining to the Public Business; comprising capital wrought and cast-iron Boilers, Grates and settings, Mash and Gathering Tubs, six capital 250-gallon store Casks, nine excellent Hogsheads, half Hogsheads, and numerous smaller Casks, Tubs and Coolers, Bowling Frame, Pegs and Bowls, excellent 4-pull Ale Machine, with patent taps, Measures, seven iron-bound Drinking Tables, Benches, Cupboards, Cups, Jugs, Glass Ware, &c; together with the whole of the Household Furniture, part pocket of prime Hops, and other Important Effects; the property of Mr. *William Ganner*, who is declining the Public Business.

Catalogues may be had at the Place of Sale; or at the Offices of the Auctioneer, High Street, Hales Owen.

Agent to The Royal Insurance Company of London and Liverpool.”

Birmingham Journal 1/3/1851 - Advert

“Old-Established Freehold Fully-Licensed Public House, and Five Dwelling Houses with the Appurtenances thereto belonging, situated in Birmingham Street, Hales Owen, in the County of Worcester.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Thomas Howell, at the LYTTLETONS ARMS INN, Hales Owen, on Monday Next, the 3rd day of March, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced – all that valuable Freehold Property, consisting of the QUEENS HEAD Public House, Out-buildings, &c, and Five Dwelling Houses, viz, two adjoining the Inn, in front, and three at the back thereof.

The whole is calculated to produce low rentals nearly £40 per annum.

The QUEENS HEAD is the oldest established Inn in the ancient borough of Hales Owen, and has for many years commanded an excellent in and out-door Business.

For particulars apply to Mr. Frederick Harris, Solicitor, 26, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham, or to the Auctioneer, High Street, Hales Owen.”

1851 Census

Birmingham Street – QUEENS HEAD INN

- [1] *Charles Cox* (38), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Mary Cox* (28), wife, born Clent, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Charles Cox* (5), son, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] *Ann Cox* (4), daughter, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] *Elizabeth Withers* (15), house servant, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Mary Steventon* (29), visitor, born Rowley Regis;
- [7] *Ann Huxley* (63), visitor, born Clent, Staffordshire:

County Advertiser 23/10/1858 - Advert

“Economy in Brewing.

Thomas Mees, Boiler Maker, Bell Works, Brierley Hill, begs to call attention to the superiority of his Wrought-iron Brewing Boilers, over those of either copper or cast-iron; being one-third less the cost of copper, and more durable than either. Cast-iron boilers are made hot-blast, cinder iron, are very liable to burst from expansion and contraction, or from having cold water put into them when hot, and also by frosty weather. The wrought-iron boilers are made of the best charcoal iron, from 20 to 200 gallons each, or larger if required, are worked at 25 per cent less cost in fuel and labour; and if erected by an experienced mason will last for twenty years.

These Boilers may be seen in use at.....

QUEENS HEAD, Halesowen.....”

1861 Census

Birmingham Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Charles Cox* (49), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Mary Cox* (38), wife, born Clent, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Charles Cox* (15), son, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] *Ann Cox* (13), daughter, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] *Susannah Waldron* (13), visitor, scholar, born Clent, Worcestershire:

Stourbridge Observer 6/1/1866

“Assault on the Police. At the Petty Sessions on Tuesday, before E. Moore and E. Gem Esqs, Jeremiah Bagley was charged by Superintendent Overend with this offence. Police-constable Kennedy stated that on the 26th of last month about half past eleven he was sent to the QUEENS HEAD. Mr. *Cox*, the landlord, requested him to remove the defendant and another man from the kitchen, on account of their riotous conduct. He asked them to go, but they said they would not. He then took hold of defendant, who turned very violent and resisted as much as ever he could. Bagley, in being removed, both struck and kicked the officer. Superintendent Overend corroborated the above evidence.

The defendant was also charged with refusing to leave the QUEENS HEAD on the same date. The charge was substantiated, and the defendant was fined 30s and costs in the first case, and 10s and costs in the second; in default two months.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/12/1868

“John Scott, an Irishman, appeared to answer a charge of made against him by Mr. *Charles Cox*, formerly landlord of the QUEENS HEAD, Hales Owen, for having on the 23rd of October last, unlawfully and maliciously published a certain defamatory libel of and concerning the said *Charles Cox*. Mr. Homfray appeared for the defence. Mr. *Cox* said he did not wish to press the charge against the defendant, and if he would pay costs and apologise he should be quite satisfied. Defendant’s solicitor consenting to this, the summons was accordingly withdrawn.”

Stourbridge Observer 26/12/1868

“A daring robbery was committed at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Birmingham Street, on Thursday afternoon last. Mrs. *Elizabeth Brown*, who is the landlord of the QUEENS HEAD, has a great horror of banks, and having a little money she thought the safest plan would be to place the money between the bed and the mattress, informing only a young lady friend of the place of concealment. On the above day, two men came into the house, one a Halesowen man, and the other supposed to be a Birmingham man, and called for some gin and water. Mrs. *Brown* noticed that whilst they were there the stranger appeared very restless, and kept walking about the house, but as Mrs. *Brown* was very busy she took little notice, but on going into the kitchen she was surprised to find the stranger gone without touching scarcely his gin and water. His companion did not leave till some time afterwards. Shortly afterwards, Mrs. *Brown*’s little girl went upstairs to put a farthing in her money box, but the box could not be found. Mrs. *Brown* coming up to assist in the search was thunderstruck to find six sovereigns lying on the bed. She at once pulled off the clothes, and found her worst fears realised. All her money – between £10 and £50 – was gone, with the exception of the six sovereigns she supposes the robber must have dropped. The child’s money, about 3s, was also taken, as well as some valuable earrings and other jewellery.”

Stourbridge Observer 5/6/1869

“John Taylor, John Marshall, and Alfred Marshall were charged by Superintendent Overend with refusing to leave the QUEENS HEAD public house when requested, on the 29th ultimo.

John Wilkes, landlord, said the three defendants came into his house at half past eleven o’clock, and had a pint of ale. They wanted some bread and cheese, being after twelve o’clock. He went to fetch the police to turn them out, as they refused to go. Fined 1s each and costs; in default 11 days.

Thomas Taylor was then charged with assaulting *John Wilkes* at the same time. Defendant pleaded guilty.

Complainant said the defendant refused to leave the house, and struck him on the eye. Charles Tonks, Parish-constable, corroborated the complainant.

Fined 2s 6d and costs; in default 21 days.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 3/11/1869 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that Old-licensed and good-accustomed Public-House, now doing a nice business, the QUEENS HEAD, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, with large Club Room, Stabling, Pigstyes, and every convenience for the business. The present occupier is leaving on account of ill-health. Coming in about £70.

Apply to Mr. Edwards, Auctioneer and Publican’s Valuer, Stourbridge; or to Mrs. *Brown* upon the Premises.”

1871 Census

Birmingham Street – QUEENS HEAD

[1] *Richard Roberts* (35), licensed victualler and carpenter, born Halesowen;

[2] *Elizabeth Roberts* (35), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Ann Roberts* (12), daughter, scholar, born Hasbury;

[4] *Jane Roberts* (10), daughter, scholar, born Hasbury;

[5] *Fred Roberts* (8), son, scholar, born Hasbury;

[6] *George Roberts* (6), son, scholar, born Hasbury;

[7] *Eliza Roberts* (4), daughter, scholar, born Hasbury;

[8] *Walter Roberts* (2), son, born Hasbury:

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 19/8/1876 - Advert

“Freehold Public-House, and Cottages and Gardens, in Birmingham Street, Hales Owen, and at Kitwell and Hunnington, near Hales Owen.

By Roderick and Son. To be Sold by Auction (by direction of the Trustees of the late Mr. Connop), at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, at Hales Owen, on Wednesday, September 13, 1876, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot 1. Hales Owen. The Old-Licensed Freehold Public-House, known as the QUEENS HEAD, situate in Birmingham Street, in the town of Hales Owen, with Brewhouse, Yard, and Premises, let to Mr. *George Thompson* as annual tenant at the very low rent of £18; also Two Front Houses adjoining, let to *Ann Ingram* and *Thomas Ryston*, and Two Houses in the rear, with Outbuildings, let to *Jonah Wood* and Mrs. *Hackett*, at rents amounting to £18 4s per annum....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/1/1877 - Advert

“Hales Owen. QUEENS HEAD, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen.

A desirable Shop and House, doing a prosperous trade in this thriving place. In coming £140.

J. A. Duffield, Auctioneer, 13, Cannon Street, Birmingham.”

County Advertiser 24/11/1877

“County Court. *Eccleston v Saunders*.

In this case the plaintiff was a draper, of Brockmoor, near Brierley Hill, and the defendant Mrs. *Mary Ann Saunders*, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Hales Owen.

The action was to recover £50 for non-completion of a contract alleged by the plaintiff to have been entered into by himself and the defendant. Mr. Waldron, Brierley Hill, supported the plaintiff; Mr. Plumtre of Birmingham, appearing for the defence, instructed by Messrs. Sanders, Smith and Co, Dudley.

The facts appeared from so much of the plaintiff’s case as was gone into, to be that in July last Mrs. *Saunders* (who was formerly landlady of the WHITE HORSE INN, Brettell Lane) became the tenant of the Golden Lion Inn, Bromsgrove, where she intended residing, and also of an adjoining house which plaintiff contended she agreed to let to him as a draper’s shop. She applied to the licensing magistrates for a license for the Golden Lion, but it was refused, and in consequence of some further difficulty, the tenancy was broken off, so that Eccleston found he could not have the house when he went to take possession of it. He instituted the present suit to obtain damages to reimburse him for the loss in giving up his Brockmoor business, &c. Mr. Waldron produced for inspection of His Honour a document which constituted an acknowledgement of payment of £1 by the defendant as earnest-money, and which he submitted was an agreement between plaintiff and defendant, binding upon the latter. It was upon this plaintiff’s claim rested.

His Honour, however, considered the terms employed in the document were so indefinite as to leave it doubtful whether it was an agreement or only a receipt for money. He held that as it was not stamped it could not be put in as an agreement, and remarked that even if it had been stamped it would be valueless, because it did not disclose the terms of the relationship between landlord and tenant with any perspicuity.

Eventually His Honour consented to strike out the case, defendant’s professional costs being paid by the plaintiff.”

County Advertiser 28/9/1878 - Advert

“Found, on 17th, Black Bull Pup; white breast. If not owned in seven days will be sold. Mrs. *Saunders*, QUEENS HEAD Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 18/1/1879

“*Samuel Saunders*, a youth, was charged by Police-sergeant Lane with being drunk and disorderly on the 14th inst. He was stated to be the son of the landlord of the QUEENS HEAD, Birmingham Street, and to be often under the influence of drink. The magistrates cautioned him, and inflicted a fine of 2s 6d and costs.”

County Express 27/9/1879

“*Samuel Saunders*, a youth, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Halesowen, was charged by Police-constable Webb with being drunk and disorderly in Birmingham Street, on the night of the 30th of August. There was also a charge against *Mary Ann Saunders*, landlady of the QUEENS HEAD, of being drunk and disorderly; and a charge of assault brought by *Samuel Saunders* against Police-constable Webb. Mr. Hayes appeared for *Samuel* and *Mary Saunders*.

In the charge brought by the police it appeared from the evidence of Police-constable Webb, Police-sergeant Raybould, and Mr. Superintendent Kemp that on the night in question there was some disturbance in Birmingham Street. Police-constable Webb went up, and on going near to the QUEENS HEAD he found the defendant *Samuel Saunders* leaning against a wall, and quite drunk. He advised him to go into his home. The defendant then began to use profane and abusive language, and knocked the officer’s hat off. He also threatened ‘to have his — coat off the next day.’

Webb denied in cross-examination that he had the defendant down in an entry close by or that he was upon the top of him. He denied that there was blood upon the defendant’s hands.

Shortly after the above circumstances the defendant *Mary Ann Saunders* came out of the house in a state of intoxication and used abusive language to the officers, Police-constable Webb and Police-sergeant Raybould. Subsequently the defendant *Samuel Saunders* saw Superintendent Kemp, who now stated that he was drunk at the time as stated by Police-constable Webb. Mr. Kemp also saw Mrs. *Saunders*, and she was not sober. He saw Police-constable Webb, who was quite sober.

Mr. Hayes, in defence, called several witnesses who swore neither of the defendants were drunk; and that Police-constable Webb assaulted the younger *Saunders* in an entry near his home.

The Bench dismissed all the cases.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/10/1879 - Advert

“QUEENS HEAD, Birmingham Street, Halesowen. A first-class Spirit Vaults, with good business and very long lease. In-coming about £300.

Apply, Roderick and Son, Auctioneers, Birmingham.”

Joseph Decker = Joseph Dexter

West Bromwich Weekly News 12/2/1881

“*William Roberts*, horse nail maker, was summoned on a charge of being drunk on the licensed premises of *Joseph Dexter*, the QUEENS HEAD INN, on February 4th. The complainant said the defendant came into his house and threw a shilling on to the table which fell on the floor, and as he could not find it he became enraged, and created a disturbance. Defendant said he could not find his shilling.

Mr. Gem: Then we will fine you another shilling, that will make two, but unfortunately the costs are 8s (Laughter).”

1881 Census

Birmingham Street – QUEENS HEAD INN

- [1] *Joseph Decker* (37), licensed victualler, born Leicester;
- [2] Martha Decker (29), wife, born Yorkshire;
- [3] Elizabeth Williams (15), domestic servant, born Halesowen;
- [4] Edward Johnson (27), lodger, striker at tube works, born Wolverhampton:

* possibly the same person

County Express 17/12/1881

“James Dillon, an Irish comedian, was charged with stealing a watch, value £5, the property of Emma Hare, on the 11th ult. The prisoner was engaged last month at the QUEENS HEAD Music Hall, and was lodging at Mrs. Hare’s, a baker’s shop, in Peckingham Street. On the day named Mrs. Hare missed the watch, and it was subsequently discovered at a pawnshop in the Bull Ring, Birmingham, where the prisoner received £1 on it. He was taken into custody at Belfast by Police-constable Harwicke, and on the way to Halesowen he admitted he had stolen the watch. The prisoner, who was in tears at the close of his trial, now stated that he was taken ill during his engagement, and he telegraphed some money from his home in Ireland, but receiving no reply he took the watch, intending to return it. As he had previously been convicted, the Bench now committed him to take his trial at the Sessions.”

[James Aloyious Dillon, on 14th December 1881, pleaded guilty to larceny and was imprisoned for twelve months with hard labour, and 3 years’ police supervision.]

Birmingham Daily Post 13/3/1882 - Advert

“QUEENS HEAD, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen. Modern-fitted Spirit Vaults. Long Lease. Low Rental £30. Taking an average of £20 a week. Price to an immediate purchaser £350.
W. J. Seal, Auctioneer, 5, Union Street.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/9/1882 - Advert

“Hales Owen. Valuable Spirit Vaults, the QUEENS HEAD, Birmingham Street.
Important Unreserved Sale of the Valuable Lease, Goodwill & Possession, the Whole of the Nearly-New and Handsome Bar Fittings, Spanish Mahogany-Top Counter, Six-Pull Patent Beer Machine, Spirit Founts, Concert Hall Fittings; Household Furniture, Stock, and Effects.
W. J. Seal has received instructions from the Mortgagee, to Sell by Auction, without reserve, on Tuesday, September 19, 1882 – the whole of the Costly Fittings throughout the Premises; also the Lease, of which 16 years is unexpired, at a very low rental of £30 per annum.
The Auctioneer invites the special attention of any one seeking a genuine country Spirit Vaults to this Sale, which enables them to secure a capital business at less cost than the valuation of the Fittings. The House has always done a good trade, and with attention might be considerably increased.
Sale to commence at 11 o’clock prompt.
Catalogues and full particulars to be obtained at the Auctioneer’s Offices, 5, Union Street, Birmingham.”

County Advertiser 7/1/1888

“*Arthur Hodgetts*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours on the 15th ult.
It was shown in evidence by Police-sergeant Raybould that two men were found upon the defendant’s premises at 11.45 on the night of the above date. One of the men, however, was a lodger at the house, and the other man came to see the lodger. In answer to the Bench Raybould said the house was not open; the doors were all locked.
For the defence it was urged that the man went to the house to see the lodger in order to give him a book. The case was dismissed. William Smith, engineer, Halesowen, was charged with being on the above licensed premises during prohibited hours, and this case was also dismissed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/2/1890 - Advert

Pianist. Wanted a young Lady, for two nights a week, or to live in.
Address, J. Child, QUEENS HEAD Birmingham Street, Hales Owen.”

County Express 24/10/1891

“Charles Mynett, Rumbow, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *Arthur Hodgetts*, the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, on the 3rd inst, and he was fined 1s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/2/1892 - Advert

“General Servant (good) Wanted, 18 to 20; must understand cooking; clean and fond of children.
Apply, QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

County Advertiser 27/8/1892

“The annual licensing session for the Halesowen Division was held at the Police Court on Tuesday..... Superintendent Speke reported.....

He wished to give notice that he had served notices of objections upon *Arthur Hodgetts*, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, because he did not reside on the premises Under these circumstances they could not have proper control over their houses The renewal of the license of the QUEENS HEAD to *Arthur Hodgetts* was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/9/1892

“Hales Owen. Yesterday the adjourned licensing session were held.....

On the application of Mr. Wright, the magistrates who refused the renewal of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen, at the last licensing sessions, decided to grant it to Mrs. *Ann Bagley*, the owner.”

Henry Whittle = Henry Whittall

1901 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Henry Whittle* (36), licensed victualler, born Tenbury, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Annie Whittle* (36), wife, born Little Marcle, Herefordshire;
- [3] *Louie Whittle* (15), daughter, dress maker, born Little Marcle, Herefordshire;
- [4] *Sidney Whittle* (14), son, errand boy, born Donnington, Herefordshire;
- [5] *Olive Whittle* (12), daughter, born Donnington, Herefordshire;
- [6] *George Whittle* (11), son, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Emily Whittle* (9), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [8] *Harry Whittle* (7), son, born Halesowen;
- [9] *Percy Whittle* (5), son, born Halesowen;
- [10] *Edith Whittle* (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [11] *Emily Davis* (25), general servant, born Ledbury, Herefordshire;

Birmingham Mail 10/10/1905

“Today at Hales Owen Police Court, James Faulkner (39), labourer, of no fixed abode, was charged with stealing 3s, belonging to *Jeremiah Bagley*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Birmingham Street, Hales Owen. It was alleged that money placed on the counter by a woman named Williams was taken by the prisoner, who afterwards left the house. Prisoner was arrested by Inspector Brazier, when he denied all knowledge of the money, but later on this was found concealed in a lodging house where the prisoner lived.

Prisoner was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions.”

[At the Michaelmas Assizes on 16th October 1905 James Faulkner, who had 19 previous convictions between 1887 and 1901, was sentenced to 6 calendar months' hard labour.]

1911 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Joseph James Moore* (32), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Edith Moore* (30), wife, married 7 years, assisting in the business, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Howard Moore* (6), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Earnest Moore* (3), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Nellie Johnson* (21), general servant, born Kidderminster;

County Express 19/11/1911 - Advert

“Preliminary.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, at an early date,

The Fully-Licensed Public-House known as the QUEENS HEAD, Halesowen, and Ten Private Dwelling-Houses, situate at Hasbury, belonging to the Estate of the late Mr. James Bagley.”

County Express 9/12/1911 - Advert

“Halesowen And Hasbury. To Brewers And Others.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Trustees of Mr. James Bagley (deceased) to Sell By Auction, on Monday, December 11th, 1911, at 7pm, at the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, subject to Conditions to be produced at the time of Sale, the Valuable Freehold Licensed and other Properties.

Lot 1. The old-established Fully-licensed Public House, being No.1, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, and known as the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL. This Lot will include a side draw-in-to Yard, Brewhouse, Cart Shed, Five-stall Stable with store room over. This Lot being situated in a thickly-populated part of Halesowen should form an attractive opportunity to Brewers and others for securing a fully-licensed Property. The licensee is Mr. *J. J. Moore*, at an annual rent of £35.....”

County Express 16/12/1911

“On Monday night an auction was held at the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, when three freehold

houses fronting Spring Hill, Hasbury, let at rentals amounting to £23 8s per annum, were sold to Mr. Joseph Price for £175. Three freehold houses, also in the same locality, yielding £24 10s per annum, were secured by Mr. Joseph Price for £157, whilst four houses at Hall Street, Hasbury, let at rents equal to £40 6s per annum fetched £356, the purchaser being Mr. W. Craddock. The fully-licensed house known as the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL was offered for sale, but was withdrawn at £1,000. Mr. Joseph Smart was the auctioneer.”

1939 Register

1, Birmingham Street – QUEENS HOTEL

[1] *Percy Withers*, date of birth 4/9/1891, married, hotel proprietor, licensed brewer;

[2] Annie Withers, dob 8/11/1896, married, unpaid domestic duties;

[3] Joyce Withers, dob 23/10/1926, single, at school;

[4] Cissie (Edwards) Walker, dob 13/9/1918, barmaid:

Black Country Bugle

Letter from P. C. Simms, Hunnington

“....I had the honour of playing the piano there for five years in the late 1940s and early 1950s. I was surprised no mention was made of *Percy Withers*, who owned and managed the QUEENS for 30 years before selling out to Davenports.

Although it was a free house, it sold mostly M&B ales, but before the war he also brewed his own.”

Sports Argus 23/3/1940

“A number of well-known personalities in schoolboy football in Birmingham attended a smoking concert at the QUEENES HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, on Wednesday night, for a presentation of a Westminster Clock and cheque to Mr. J. L. (‘Jack’) Read, who for several years has been an outstanding figure in local school-boy football, and in the Halesowen Association which he, with Mr. O’Connor founded in 1928. He was its hon. secretary until last year, and on resigning was appointed chairman. Mr. Read has been prominently associated with the Birmingham and District County Schools Association, and was its secretary for two years from 1938-49. He has been on the emergency committee of that body, and has acted as vice-chairman and chairman of the Hackett Cup committee. During the secretarship of the Halesowen organisation, the Association’s representative team have appeared in the final of the Birmingham and District Shield, Divisional Final of the English Shield, and have won the Hackett Cup.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/2/1965 - Engagements

“The engagement was announced on St. Valentine’s Day between Vivienne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *N. Holt*, QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, and Benjamin, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Brown, of Colley Gate.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/1/1967

“Mr. *Norman Holt*, licensee of the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Halesowen, has died at the age of 68. He spent all his working life in the hotel trade, beginning as a page boy at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham. After service in the First World War he became head waiter at the White Horse Hotel, Congreve Street, Birmingham. He has been a licensee since 1928 and was at the QUEENS HEAD for nine years. Earlier he had been at the HARE AND HOUNDS in Halesowen for eight years. He leaves a widow, one son and a daughter.”

Norman Holt (Snr) died in the 1st quarter of 1967.

See also HARE AND HOUNDS.

Birmingham Daily Post 5/12/1968

“The omission of a residential hotel in the redevelopment of Halesowen town centre is to be remedied by Mr. Paul Holt and his sister Vivienne, who run the QUEENS HEAD. Halesowen licensing justices have approved their plans to make the QUEENS HEAD, at the junction of Peckingham and Birmingham Street, the town’s first residential hotel. The scheme will cost about £10,000.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/12/1968

“Mention the Carlton Club, and you are liable to produce visions of something plush and thickly-carpeted in the East End of London. On the other hand the place which is not likely to sprang to mind is Halesowen.

Halesowen, however, has its own Carlton Club. It consists of a group of 20 businessmen and local government officials and there is a waiting list for membership.

There is no membership fee – and only one meeting a year. The club’s aims are ‘Good company, good conversation, good wine, and good food,’ and it spares no pains to fulfil them when it meets at the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, in Birmingham Street, for a Christmas meal.

This year’s chairman is Mr. Reg Hollies, head of a family butcher’s business which has been in existence for more than 200 years. And this year’s menu? Poached Scotch salmon, roast round of beef, roast suckling pig and roast Norfolk turkey with stuffing.”

QUEENS HEAD HOTEL sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

Sandwell Evening Mail 21/9/1991

“Totting up the number of pubs Halesowen has lost over the years can be a depressing exercise. Regulars who were around when time was called on several bars in the town’s main thoroughfare find consolation now in a fine pub which escaped the axe. A friendly group of lunchtime customers in the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL left me in no doubt that this was one local hostelry that was treasured. ‘It’s a real family pub, the old-fashioned sort that’s hard to find these days,’ said one happy member of the party. They like their favourite spot in the corner of a clean, comfortable lounge and more than that perhaps, enjoy being looked after by hosts clearly proud of their ties with the town centre pub. For while many licensees grow disillusioned with the trade, the *Holt* family appear well-content holding on to the reins of the QUEENS HOTEL which has been safe in their charge for the last 35 years.

Mrs. *Winfred Holt*, 88, keeps her name over the door as licensee but the day-to-day affairs of the business are run by her son Paul and daughter Vivienne. ‘It has become our way of life and customers seem to like the fact that it is a family-run pub,’ said Vivienne.

The *Holts* come from a long line of licensees and Vivienne’s career was virtually decided from the day she was born in a Birmingham pub. Her main task at the QUEENS HEAD is to oversee the food side of the operation which often starts with early morning breakfast for overnight guests – the pub has seven bedrooms.

Present-day customers reckon they still get good value from the QUEENS HEAD menu that provides a choice of main-course dishes and snacks in the bar and in an upstairs room used for private functions.

An outside patio area, handsomely set off by hanging baskets, has come into its own during long hot summer days.

The pub is run very much on traditional lines. ‘We don’t have any fruit machines or a juke box,’ said Vivienne. ‘Our customers seem to prefer it that way, even the younger people who use the bar can meet and talk in a friendly atmosphere.’ Her brother Paul ensures the bars are well stocked with a range of ales and lagers.

The QUEENS HEAD is still flagged as a Davenports pub, one of many that now form part of the Greenalls’ estate.

The *Holts* encourage plenty of customer activity in fund-raising and party-time events. A big turn-out is expected for a seven-mile walk, starting from the pub, on October 6 and plans are in hand for another Christmas and New Year fancy dress party.

Average price of a pint: Mild, £1.10; Bitter, £1.20.”

It was renamed PORTER’S ALE HOUSE [2002]

It closed after a fire bomb attack on 5th August 2002 gutted the inside of the pub, causing £150,000 worth of damage.

It reopened.

It was renamed OLDE QUEENS HEAD. [2004]

[2019]

OLD ROYAL

10, Islington, (Islington Street), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Lydia Hackett

Home Brewery (Quarry Bank) (acquired on 5th February 1907)

Tom Cresswell, Cherry Tree Farm, Hayley Green (acquired on 14th February 1911)

LICENSEES

William Williams [1855] – 1872);

George Hackett (1872 – [1892]

Mrs. Lydia Hackett [1896] – [1912]

Joseph Layton (1914 – 1915);

William Smith (1915 – [1921]

Charles Woodward [] – 1925);

Mrs. Elizabeth Woodward (1925 – []

NOTES

It was originally called the NAILORS ARMS.

NAILFORGERS ARMS [1855], [1861], [1872], [1876], [1891], [1892], [1893], [1896], [1904]

NAILFORGERS INN [1874], [1880]
NAILMAKERS ARMS [1874]
NAILERS ARMS [1849], [1876], [1877], [1880], [1884], [1894]

It had an ante 1869 beerhouse license.

Worcestershire Chronicle 15/8/1849

“On Monday last an inquest was held before William Hayes, Esq, at the NAILORS ARMS, Hasbury, near Halesowen, upon the body of Charles Turner, who died on Friday last from Asiatic cholera, after an illness of thirteen hours duration. From the evidence of Lydia Townley, who resided near the deceased, it appears that he had gone to bed the night previously in good health, and was awoke with violent pains in the bowels, followed by vomiting, purging, and cramps; he continued to get so much worse that about six o’clock in the morning they sent to Mr. Moore’s for medical assistance, when Mr. J. F. Clarke, surgeon, attended immediately, and rendered him every possible assistance up to the time of his death, which took place about seven o’clock the same evening. The coroner, in summing up, made some observations to the jury respecting the sanitary condition of the locality, and considered it necessary, this being the third case of cholera in the neighbourhood, that the Inspector of Nuisances should be requested to visit and cause to be removed anything that would tend to produce or influence disease, and strongly urged the necessity of immediate application for medical assistance in all cases of attack. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Asiatic Cholera.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 29/8/1849

“We noticed last week two other cases of cholera in the neighbourhood of Halesowen, one of which, the case of the boy, Turner, aged seven, son of the unfortunate man who died of the same malady a short time back, terminated fatally on Tuesday, the 21st instant. On the following day an inquest was held on the body at the NAILERS ARMS, Hasbury, when the jury, after hearing the evidence from Mr. Clarke, surgeon, returned a verdict of Died from Asiatic Cholera.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 12/9/1849

“An inquest was held on Monday last at the NAILORS ARMS, Hasbury, before W. Hayes, Esq, coroner, on the body of John Baylis, aged 12 years. It appears from the evidence of Mr. J. F. Clarke, surgeon, who attended the deceased up to the time of his death, that he was seized on Saturday, about 12 o’clock, with all the symptoms of cholera. Mr. Clarke on visiting the deceased immediately placed him under the influence of chloroform, which was followed by the most marked benefit, and the boy continued to improve up to five o’clock on Sunday morning, when he became worse and died. Verdict, Asiatic Cholera.”

1861 Census

Islington Street – NAIL FORGERS ARMS

- [1] *William Williams* (58), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ann Williams (53), wife, born Northfield:

William Williams, beer retailer and shopkeeper, Islington. [1864], [1865]

1871 Census

Islington – Public House

- [1] *William Williams* (69), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ann Williams (63), wife, born Northfield;
- [3] Elizabeth Priest (18), general servant, born Rowley Regis:

County Advertiser 28/9/1872 - Advert

“NAIL FORGERS ARMS INN, Halesowen.

To Let, this Old Established Public House, through illness of present tenant, who has occupied the house for the last 22 years.

Stock, Fixtures, and Goodwill to be taken at Valuation.

Apply to Mr. Leonard, MAY POLE INN, Cradley, or to Mr. Thomas Williams, Townsend, Halesowen.”

Stourbridge Observer 18/4/1874

“Thomas Rudge, William Rudge and Edward Lowe were charged with refusing to quit the NAIL FORGERS INN, Islington, when requested. Fined 2s 6d each and costs.”

Stourbridge Observer 11/7/1874

“At the Police Court, on Tuesday, before Major Smith and Mr. H. Howard, Thomas Hall was charged with being drunk on licensed premises, and refusing to quit when requested on the 18th ult. Police constable Knowles said he was fetched to the house of *George Hackett*, the NAILMAKERS ARMS INN, Islington. On arriving there he saw the defendant, who was drunk. The landlord ordered defendant out, as also did witness, but the man refused to go. Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 5s and costs.”

County Express 19/2/1876

“The first annual dinner of the Confidential Society was held at the house of Mr. *George Hackett*, the NAIL FORGERS ARMS,

Islington, on Monday evening last. On the withdrawal of the cloth, the secretary produced his report, which showed that a surplus remained in hand after paying the sick and funeral expenses. Since the commencement of the society – about nine months ago – it has grown into a flourishing condition. At the conclusion of the business, the company were enlivened by the merry peals so skilfully performed on the handbells by some of the members. Some excellent singing was also rendered by Mr. J. Hundey. A vote of thanks to the host and hostess brought an enjoyable evening to a close.”

County Advertiser 9/6/1877

“*George Hackett*, grocer and landlord of the NAILERS ARMS, Islington Street, was charged with having several weights which were unjust. Mr. Kemp proved that he found in defendant’s shop the weights produced, which were slightly deficient. Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 11/9/1880

“Local Failures. Yesterday a meeting of the creditors of *George Hackett*, of the NAIL FORGERS ARMS INN, Islington, Halesowen, licensed victualler, grocer, and nail and rivet manufacturer, was held at Mr. William Shakespeare’s Office, Church Street, Oldbury. Mr. Herbert Humphries, of Stourbridge, was in the chair. The statement of accounts presented to the meeting showed, unsecured creditors, £230 14s 4d; creditors fully secured, £690; less estimated value of securities, £740; surplus to the contra, £50. Assets, stock in trade secured by a bill of sale, book debts, £68 14s 2d, estimated to produce £35; surplus from contra £50; total assets, £80 less creditors to be paid in full £7 18s 9d; leaving nett assets at £77 1s 3d. After considerable discussion it was decided to liquidate the estate, and Mr. Herbert Humphries was appointed trustee without a committee of inspection.”

1881 Census

Islington

- [1] *George Hackett* (37), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Lydia Hackett* (25), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Laura Hackett* (5), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Ewart Hackett* (3), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Amy Hackett* (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Horace Hackett* (7 months), son, born Halesowen:

George Hackett, beer retailer, Islington. [1888]

1891 Census

Islington – NAILFORGERS ARMS

- [1] *George Hackett* (47), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Lydia Hackett* (35), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Laura Hackett* (15), daughter, pupil teacher, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Ewart Ulysses Augustus Hackett* (13), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Amy L. Hackett* (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Horace Hackett* (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Ethel Hackett* (8), scholar, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 17/6/1893

“On Wednesday night a meeting of rivet makers was held at the NAIL FORGERS ARMS INN, Halesowen, for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken to improve the condition of the gas-rivet makers in the district.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/10/1894

“Last night a meeting of rivetmakers was held at the NAILERS ARMS INN, Islington, Hales Owen, for the purpose of considering the wages question.....”

1901 Census

Islington

- [1] *Lydia Hackett* (45), widow, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Laura Hackett* (25), daughter, assistant teacher, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Horace Hackett* (20), son, student for civil service, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Ethel Hackett* (18), daughter, pupil teacher, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Amy Hackett* (25), general servant, born Halesowen;

It was renamed OLD ROYAL.

County Advertiser 12/9/1903

“On Thursday afternoon, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the OLD ROYAL INN, Islington, Halesowen, concerning the death of *Florence Hackett* (23), a married woman, formerly residing at Islington, who was found dead at the bottom of the stairs at her residence on Wednesday morning. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased is the wife of *Samuel Hackett*, a button maker, and it was explained that she had been subject to fits for the last seven years, and she had been attended

by Drs. Wall and Phillips, of Halesowen. About seven o'clock on Wednesday morning her husband left deceased in bed and went to work, and she then appeared to be in her usual health. About 8.30 the same morning she was about the house preparing for day's washing, and she was seen by her mother-in-law, Eliza Hackett; then she was apparently all right, and was proceeding with her work as usual. Shortly afterwards the neighbours heard a noise as though someone had fallen down stairs. Being alarmed Eliza Hackett went into deceased's house, and found her lying at the bottom of the stairs with her head downwards and enveloped in a large quantity of linen, which she had apparently been carrying in her arms. The assumption of the witnesses was that she was carrying the linen down stairs when she accidentally fell down. Inspector Hill stated that he was notified of the occurrence, and proceeded at once to the house where he apparently found Mrs. Hackett apparently dead. He tried to restore her by means of artificial respiration for about ten minutes, but without success, and Dr. Wall, who was summoned, pronounced life extinct. The Jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased was Accidentally Suffocated whilst in a fit."

1911 Census

Islington

- [1] *Lydia Hackett* (55), widow, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Horace Hackett (29), son, auctioneer, born Halesowen;
- [3] Ethel Hackett (27), daughter, elementary school teacher, born Halesowen;
- [4] Laura Constance Cox (9), grandchild, school, born Cradley;
- [5] Laura Thomas (34), daughter, visitor, born Halesowen;
- [6] David Beaumont Rhys Thomas (1), grand-son, visitor, born Ladismith, Cape Colony;
- [7] Mary Pitchford (21), general servant, born Cradley:

County Express 26/8/1911

"An agitation has been commenced by the spike makers and blank bolt makers engaged in the Halesowen district for an advance in wages the work people employed by Messrs. Shilvock, Hackett Bros, and Partridge and Sons conferred together, and this culminated in a meeting being held at the OLD ROYAL INN, Islington, Halesowen It was agreed that the three employers should be asked to formulate a price list to govern the trade in the district....."

County Express 28/10/1911

"At Halesowen Police Court on Tuesday, *Lydia Hackett*, licensee of the OLD ROYAL INN, Islington, Halesowen, was summoned for permitting drunkenness upon her licensed premises on September 30th. Mr. J. S. Sharpe (West Bromwich) prosecuted, and Mr. Willison (Philip Baker and Co. Birmingham) defended.

Mr. Sharpe said that Mrs. *Hackett*, together with her late husband, had held the license of the house for 39 years, and he believed possessed an excellent character. The circumstance of the case, however, were such that the police were bound to bring that prosecution. At 9.35 on the night in question PS Hemming and PC Berry were standing in Islington Street when they saw a man, named Harry Partridge, come out of the front door of the house in a very drunken condition and being assisted by two men. Sergeant Hemming stopped Partridge, and the latter made a statement, after which he took the man back into the house, and said to defendant, 'This man states he had been on the premises for an hour. How do you account for it?' Defendant replied 'I didn't know he was in the house,' and her daughter added 'He has only been in a few minutes.' Subsequently Sergeant Hemming saw defendant and informed her that proceeding would be taken. She replied, 'I wasn't likely to know he was on the premises, as he was up the yard talking with a man named Harry Rudge a long time. He got his drink at the Conservative Club.' Police-Sergeant Hemming gave evidence in support of his statement. Replying to Mr. Willison he said he knew a football club was held at the house.

Mr. Willison: Did he appear to have been engaged in an exciting argument? – That would not take his legs off.

PC Berry also gave evidence.

Harry Partridge, Whitehall, stated that he was at the public house for an hour.

Answering Mr. Willison, witness said he had played his first football match since Christmas; it had been a strenuous game, and he afterwards went to the Conservative Club and played a most exciting game of bowls, losing by one point. He had three-and-a-half pints of ale at the Conservative Club. He did not call for any drink at the public house; there was some drink supplied by the servant, but it was for the committee.

Mr. Willison: Did you get into a strong argument with Rudge as to the relative ability of Aston Villa and West Bromwich Albion? – Yes, sir.

They had played that day? – Yes, sir.

Where did you have that argument? – Up the yard.

Mr. Sharpe: Do you suggest the argument made you drunk? – The argument did a lot of it.

Not all of it? – No, sir.

Mr. Willison urged that his client and the persons engaged with her exercised reasonable, legitimate care in the conduct of the house. When the man was in the house there was not a sign that he was suffering from drink. The man was not directly served in the house. He suggested the Bench might reasonably dismiss the case on payment of costs.

The Bench held a private consultation and upon returning the Chairman (Mr. R. T. Pearson) said they did not regard it as a serious case, or a strong case, but they wished to ask one or two questions as to how the beer supplied in the house was paid for, and by whom the beer was ordered.

Defendant then went into the box, and said that on such occasions the secretary of the club ordered the beer, and payment was made through funds.

The Chairman enquired if the secretary was present, and Mrs. *Hackett* replied in the affirmative.

The Chairman: They give you an order for so much beer? – Yes, sir.

And you deliver it to members of the club? – Yes, sir.

The Chairman said the Bench wanted defendant to promise that some different system should be adopted. They thought very strongly that the beer should not be supplied at the order of the secretary, because they were then supplying the members, and it was impossible to regulate the supply to the individual.

Mr. Willison said, acting on the defendant's behalf, he would promise that immediate steps should be taken to deal with the matter. The Chairman added that one individual man might have a desire to consume several quarts, and another might drink a few glasses.

Mr. Sharpe said the police appreciated the remarks of the Bench, and also the fact that they had obtained a promise from the licensee.

The Chairman said, under the circumstances, and taking into consideration the number of years defendant had conducted the house, they would dismiss the case on payment of costs, £2 12s 6d."

Charles Woodward died in 1925.

OLD THATCHED COTTAGE

HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1911]

OLD TWO GATES

50, Windmill Hill, (Toys Lane), Park Side, Two Gates, CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Henry Finch [1896]
Thomas Plant and Co. Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Bache [1828] – [1846]
Thomas Davies [1849] – **1850**;
Leah Edmonds (**1850** – [1851]
Simeon Finch [1860] – **1884**)
Mrs. Mary Finch [1885] – [1888]
William Walters [1891] – [1896]
William Henry Finch (**1896** – []
Arthur Auden [1901] – **1906**);
Thomas Homer (**1906** – **1907**);
Simeon Harris (**1907** – **1909**);
Thomas Richard Savage (**1909** – **1910**);
George Botfield (**1910** – **1913**);
Samuel Clarke (**1913** – **1915**);
James Albert Leonard (**1915** – **1927**);
Thomas Edge (**1927** – **1941**);
Mrs. Mary Ann Edge (**1941** – **1950**);

Noah Dunn (1950 – 1951);

Noah Dunn (1951 – 1957);

NOTES

Richard Bache = Richard Beach = Richard Baich = Richard Beache

Aris's Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/6/1828 - Advert

“Freehold Land at Cradley, near Stourbridge.

To be Sold by private Contract, a Close of valuable Freehold Land, near Cradley Windmills, about two miles from Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, containing 2½ acres, in the occupation of Mr. *Richard Beach*, tenant at will.

Mr. *Beach*, of the TWO GATES public house at Cradley, will shew the premises on application; and for price and further particulars apply to Mr. Allen, Builder, Lench Street, or Mr. Henry Jacob, Land Agent, 20, Newhall Street, Birmingham.”

Aris's Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/7/1828 - Advert

“Freehold Land at Cradley, near Stourbridge.

To be Sold by Auction, by Henry Jacob, at the house of Mr. *Richard Bache*, the TWO GATES Public House, near Cradley Windmills, on Tuesday the 29th day of July inst, at four o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced.

A Close of excellent Land, pleasantly situated near the TWO GATES Public House, at Cradley aforesaid, adjoining the road from Cradley Windmills to Oldswinford, containing about three acres.

The above Land is freehold, of excellent quality, and very pleasantly situated for building upon.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Allen, Builder, Lench Street, or the Auctioneer, Newhall Street, both of Birmingham, and Mr. *Bache*, of Cradley, will shew the land on application.”

Worcester Journal 10/3/1836

“Worcester Lent Assizes.....

Samuel Jones, nailor, and Richard Norris, 28, labourer, were indicted for having, on the 2nd of January last, assaulted William Tibbetts, on the King's highway, at the parish of Halesowen, in this county, and stolen from him two half-crowns and three shillings. By the evidence of William Tibbetts it appeared that on the evening of the 2nd of January he had been drinking at a public house called the TWO GATES, in the parish of Halesowen. He left that house at a quarter before 12 o'clock, and in going down a lane he was met by three men, two of whom were the prisoners at the bar. It was a moonlight night, and snow was on the ground.

Jones struck him on the face and knocked him down, observing that if he attempted to get up he would serve him worse. Norris assisted in the assault. After the prisoners had left him he got up and found his money gone – the amount stated in the indictment; his pocket was turned inside out. He immediately went back to the TWO GATES, a short distance only from the place of the robbery, and mentioned what had occurred.

In the cross-examination of Tibbetts many questions were put to him respecting conversations which he had with a person named James Bartlett; but Bartlett was not called to swear to those conversations.

Tibbetts deposed that he had not taken more than three pints of beer at the TWO GATES, on the night in question, and that he had not been fighting, but that the blood and bruises on his face, sworn by two witnesses, Ann *Baich* and Mary Collins, the former of whom kept the TWO GATES public house, were occasioned by the blow which he received from the prisoner Jones. He had known Norris two years and Jones about twelve months; their persons were therefore familiar to him, though he could not positively swear what clothes they had on when they robbed him. He was sure it wanted a quarter to 12 when he left the TWO GATES, and the robbery took place in about twenty minutes afterwards. Mrs. *Baich* gave the same representation as to the time; and Mary Collins said Tibbetts was in her house at a quarter past 12, his nose and mouth bleeding. She had just before this time heard a cry of ‘Murder,’ and on hastening to the lane she saw two men running away. Tibbetts then came up and complained of the robbery. All this, Mr. Justice Alderson remarked to the Jury, confirmed the evidence of Tibbetts that an assault and a robbery had been committed; the identity however of both the prisoners rested on the evidence of Tibbetts alone; and the question was, whether that was sufficient to satisfy them. The fact of the persons of the prisoners being well known to Tibbetts should have great weight on their decision. If he had only seen them for the first time on the night of the robbery, the case would have been very different, his testimony not near so strong. As to remembering their clothes, that, his Lordship conceived, was not a material point; persons who were known were easily recognised by their walk, by their manners; and Tibbetts' evidence was very clear on those points.

The Jury took nearly a quarter of an hour to consider their verdict; they then found both the prisoners Guilty, but recommended them to mercy.

The Judge said he would attend to the recommendation of the Jury, and he had no doubt that the lives of the prisoners would be spared; but as Norris had before been convicted of felony, some distinction would doubtless be made in his punishment.

Death recorded.”

Worcester Journal 5/5/1836

“The following convicts were sent off from the County Gaol, on Thursday afternoon, to undergo the punishment of transportation, to which they were severally adjudged at the last Assizes and Sessions.....

For Life. Richard Norris, for a highway robbery at Halesowen.

For Fourteen Years. Samuel Jones, an accomplice of Norris in the highway robbery at Halesowen.

The whole of the above convicts were directed to be conveyed to Woolwich, to be placed on board the receiving ship there, preparatory to their being removed to the penal colonies.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/8/1838 - Advert

“Freehold Houses and Land, at Cradley, in the county of Worcester.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Newbold, on Monday, the 13th day of August, 1838, at the house of Mr. *Richard Bache*, TWO GATES INN, Cradley, precisely at six o'clock in the evening.....”

1841 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *Richard Bache* (60), publican, born Worcestershire;
- [2] Ann Bache (60);
- [3] Richard Bache (20), born Worcestershire;
- [4] Pheby Bache (25), born Worcestershire;
- [5] Samuel Bache (15), born Worcestershire:

Birmingham Journal 12/5/1849 - Advert

“Eligible Freehold Public House, Three Cottages, and Land, in Cradley, in the County of Worcester.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Howell, by order of the Mortgagee, at the House of Mr. *Thomas Davis*, the OLD TWO GATES INN, at Cradley, on Tuesday, May 15, 1849, at Six o'clock in the Evening, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of Sale, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot 1. All that the above-mentioned Old-established and very desirable Public House, with the Out-buildings belonging thereto, known by the Sign of the OLD TWO GATES INN, together with the large Piece of Garden Ground at the back thereof, containing about 1,660 square yards, having frontages next the two roads leading from Netherend and Cradley to the Stourbridge and Hales Owen Road, and being very well adapted for Building Purposes, all which said Premises are very pleasantly situated in the township of Cradley, and are now in the occupation of the said *Thomas Davies*.

Lot 2. All that triangular Piece of Land, and Two Nail Shops erected thereon, situated near the above-mentioned Public House, and having extensive frontages next the two roads leading from Hales Owen and Cradley to Stourbridge, and containing about 700 square yards.

Lot 3. All those Three substantially-erected Cottages, with the Brewhouse and large piece of Garden Ground adjoining thereto, situate nearly opposite the said Public House, and now in the several occupations of Richard Bache and others.

For further particulars, apply at the respective Offices of Mr. Bolton, Solicitor, Dudley; or the Auctioneer, Church Street, Hales Owen.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/4/1850 - Advert

“The OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley, near to the main Turnpike Road from Birmingham to Stourbridge.

Thomas Howell is instructed to Dispose Of the above old-established Public House, now doing a good business. Rent under £15 per annum. Payments very low.

No Stock to be taken to; and the valuation of the Fixtures, &c, will not exceed £25.

To treat apply to Mr. Thomas Howell, Auctioneer, Appraiser, Land Agent, &c, Church Street, Hales Owen.”

1851 Census

Two Gates – TWO GATES INN

- [1] *Leah Edmonds* (70), widow, licensed victualler, born Rowley;
- [2] David Edmonds (27), son, agricultural labourer, born Portsmouth;
- [3] Hanna Edmonds (27), daughter-in-law, born Rowley;
- [4] Leah Edmonds (6), grand-daughter, scholar from home, born Rowley;
- [5] Martha Edmonds (4), grand-daughter, scholar from home, born Rowley;
- [6] Mary Edmonds (1), grand-daughter, born Rowley;
- [7] Rachel Edmonds (15), grand-daughter, servant, born Rowley;
- [8] Joseph Edmonds (12), grand-son, chain maker, born Rowley;
- [9] Benjamin Edmonds (11), grand-son, chain maker, born Rowley;
- [10] Benjamin London (11), grand-son, chain maker, born London:

Simeon Finch = Simeon Fink

1861 Census

Two Gates – TWO GATES INN

- [1] *Simeon Finch* (47), publican born Oldswinford;
- [2] Sarah Finch (45), wife, born Oldswinford:

County Advertiser 31/8/1867 - Advert

“To be Let or Sold, all that newly-erected House, Shop, Stable, Coach-House, and Premises, opposite the Cradley Church Schools, late in the occupation of William Henry Charlton. Immediate possession can be given.

For further particulars apply to Mr. *Simeon Finch*, Publican, Two Gates.

County Advertiser 27/6/1868 - Advert

“That first-class Brawn, late the property of Mr. Perrins, of the HARE AND HOUNDS, Careless Green, has been Purchased by Mr. *Finch*, of the OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley. He is the finest Brawn in the county.”

1871 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *Simeon Finch* (59), licensed victualler, born Lye;
- [2] Hannah Finch (61), wife, born Bromsgrove;
- [3] William Rainbow (20), son-in-law, wheelwright, born Brierley Hill:

Stourbridge Observer 10/2/1872

“An inquest was held on Thursday, at Mr. *Simeon Fink*’s, the OLD TWO GATES, before R. Docker Esq, touching the death of a boy named Alfred Willetts, aged six weeks, who died on the 21st September last. After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes.”

Stourbridge Observer 17/2/1872

“An inquest was held yesterday, at Mr. *S. Finch*’s, the TWO GATES INN, before R. Docker Esq, on the body of Richard Weaver, who met with death at Cradley Fields Colliery, the particulars of which have already appeared. After hearing the evidence the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Advertiser 30/8/1873

“The Annual Licensing Sessions for Stourbridge district were held yesterday, at the Public Office.....

Samuel Bennett, beerhouse keeper, Two Gates, Cradley, applied for a license to sell excisable liquors. Mr. Holberton appeared to support the application; Mr. Perry opposed. The former said that he rested his application on two grounds, namely, that the applicant was a very respectable man, and the house had been a beerhouse for 49 years, 22 of which the defendant had kept it without having any conviction recorded against him. Mr. S. Leonard, surveyor, deposed that the premises were worth £20 a year; and that there having been a considerable development of mines in the district, additional accommodation was required. Applicant stated that he could stable three horses. Mr. Holcroft had opened a new colliery in the neighbourhood.

In answer to Mr. Perry, applicant said that there was a licensed house and one or two beerhouses in the neighbourhood. Mr. Perry said he appeared for *Simeon Finch*, who kept the old-licensed house, and he would tell them there was scarcely sufficient business to keep on the one. The application was refused.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1873

“The adjourned annual licensing session for the Stourbridge district was held on Tuesday at the Public Offices It will be remembered that at the annual licensing meeting held August 29th, the whole of the applications were adjourned on the ground that sufficient notice had not been given in the papers.....

George Partridge applied for a full license to the WHY NOT beerhouse, Cradley. Mr. Collis supported, and Mr. Perry opposed, on behalf of Mr. *Simeon Finch*, the TWO GATES INN. The application was refused.”

1881 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *Simeon Finch* (69), widower, licensed victualler, born Lye:

County Express 7/7/1883

“William Lee, labourer, Cradley, was charged with being drunk at the OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley, on the 1st inst. Police-constable Gillian proved the case, and defendant was fined 5s and costs, or 14 days’ hard labour.”

Simeon Finch died on 27th August 1884.

County Express 22/11/1884 - Notice

“Notice is Hereby Given, that all Creditors and persons having any claims or demands upon or against the estate of *Simeon Finch*, late of the OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley, in the Parish of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, Innkeeper, deceased (who died on the 27th day of August, 1884, and whose Will was proved by John Lane, of Brierley Hill, in the County of Stafford, Blacksmith, and Thomas Pateshall, of Cradley Heath, in the said County of Stafford, Auctioneer, the Executors therein named, on the 13th day of November, 1884, in the Worcester District Registry of the Probate Division of Her Majesty’s High Court of Justice), are hereby required to send in the particulars of their claims and demands to the said John Lane and Thomas Pateshall, or to the undersigned, their Solicitor, on or before the 8th day of December next, and Notice is hereby also given, that after that day the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which the said Executors shall then have notice, and that they will not be liable for the assets or any parts thereof, so distributed to any person of whose debt or claim they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 20th day of November, 1884.

Thomas Homer, Brierley Hill, Solicitor for the said Executors.”

County Advertiser 11/7/1885 - Advert

“Wanted, a General Servant Girl; two in family; used to public business. Mrs. *Finch*, OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley.”

1891 Census

Two Gates – OLD TWO GATES INN

- [1] *William Walters* (38), publican, born Bowtree Heath, Worcestershire;
- [2] Ann Walters (48), wife, born Two Gates;
- [3] Harry Barnes (16), step-son, coal miner, born Two Gates;
- [4] Agnes Walters (14), daughter, born Two Gates;
- [5] Florence Walters (6), daughter, born Two Gates;

County Advertiser 16/5/1896 - Advert

“A Strong Spring Trap for Sale, good as new; well suited for pleasure parties, being seated round, with back to seats. Apply, *William Walter*, OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 6/6/1896 - Advert

“OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley.

Mr. Pateshall is instructed to Sell by Auction as above, on Monday, June 8th 1896, a quantity of genteel Household Furniture, Casks, Spring Trap, Strong Cart, Harness, Lot of Shedding, Store Pigs, Nine Couple of Fowls, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *William Walters*, who is leaving the Premises. Sale at Eleven o'clock.”

County Advertiser 15/8/1896

“Mr. J. W. Clulow applied for the transfer of the license of the OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley, to *William Henry Finch*. Mr. Clulow explained that the applicant was the owner of the house, and there was no objection by the police. Applicant had been convicted ten years ago, but it was a technical offence, and he was only fined 1s and costs. The Bench granted the application, intimating that it must not be a precedent.”

County Advertiser 13/11/1897 - Advert

“Absolutely Unreserved Sale of Fully-Licensed Freehold Public House, Cradley, Staffs.

Mr. T. Pateshall will Sell by Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley, on Wednesday, the 24th day of November, 1897, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions.

All that very Important and Well-known Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Premises, the OLD TWO GATES INN, Cradley, for many years successfully carried on by the late Mr. *Simeon Finch*.

The Property occupies a splendid corner position at the junction of five thoroughfares, at the Two Gates, Cradley, aforesaid, and comprises Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Two Cellars, with level rolling way from street; Stable with Loft over, Four Piggeries, Store Room, a large enclosed Garden, and Gas and Water are laid on.

The area of the Land, with site of Buildings, is 1,660 square yards or thereabouts, and the whole of the Mines and Minerals thereunder will be Sold with the surface. Early possession may be had. This Sale offers an unique opportunity for any person desirous of acquiring a really genuine Business House.

For further particulars and to inspect Plans, apply to Thos. Homer, Esq, Solicitor, Brierley Hill and Colley Gate; John Wright, Esq, Solicitor, Cradley Heath and Halesowen; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Express 5/1/1901

“Samuel Beasley, miner, Stambermill, Joseph Beasley, ironworker, Cherry Orchard, Old Hill, were charged with assaulting Isaac Taylor on December 3rd. Mr. Waldron appeared for Taylor, and the Beasleys were represented by Mr. Ward. The case for the prosecution was that Isaac Taylor went into the OLD TWO GATES, Cradley, on the 3rd ult. There he found some of his own relations, and the two defendants and some of their relatives. Someone mentioned the name ‘Robin’ which Samuel Beasley was sometimes known by, and this appeared to excite him, and he began to take his coat off. Isaac Taylor advised him to take no notice, and at that moment the landlord came in and told Samuel Beasley he should have nothing of that kind in his house and ordered him out. As he went out, and passed Isaac Taylor, he struck him a most violent blow in the mouth and upon the nose, making them bleed very much. Taylor then struck at Beasley but missed him. The landlord tried to get them out, but the two defendants started to punch and thump Isaac Taylor, and knocked him against the end of a screen. The result of that treatment was that the prosecutor was in bed for three weeks.

Dr. Sturgess White said he was called to see prosecutor on the Sunday after the occurrences. He was in bed, and from witness’s examination he found he had received severe contusions on the left side of the chest and in the abdomen. The injuries might certainly have arisen from blows. The prosecutor was in bed three weeks, and witness did not consider he was perfectly well yet. *Arthur Auden*, the landlord, John Taylor, Albert Taylor, and Police-sergeant Clark were called for the prosecution.

For the defence Mr. Ward submitted it was a public-house row, but he put it the whole matter was grossly exaggerated by the prosecution. If the prosecutor received any injury it was in a general fight.

The defendants were sworn, and alleged Isaac Taylor struck Samuel Beasley first, and afterwards there was a general fight. Several witnesses were called for the defence.

Samuel Beasley, who had been convicted over twenty times, was sent to six weeks' hard labour, and Joseph, who had not been previously convicted, was fined 20s, and costs, or a month's hard labour."

1901 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *Arthur Auden* (29), manager of tavern, formerly fitter, born Cradley;
- [2] *Lottie Auden* (28), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Lottie Auden* (5), daughter, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 19/3/1904

"Parish Council Elections. Cradley.

Mr. E. H. Groves (returning officer) received the following nominations in connection with the Cradley Parish Council elections.....

Arthur Auden, licensed victualler, Two Gates.....

There are 29 candidates for 15 seats. Polling will take place on the 28th inst."

[*Arthur Auden* (Liberal) had the 10th highest number of votes and was elected.]

Arthur Auden – see also FISH.

County Express 15/8/1908

"Bowling..... Quite an exciting finish marked the contest between STATION INN (Stourbridge) and OLD TWO GATES (Cradley). Host Mathews bowled excellently, but W. Roper's performance the less said the better."

County Express 15/5/1909

"Bowling. OLD TWO GATES and STATION INN provided a number of even games. C. Yarwood is evidently not in form, for I notice he was only able to score 3 points against G. Evans. H. Meacham secured an 11-2 victory over S. Mathews."

County Express 10/7/1909

"On Saturday at the OLD TWO GATES INN the first annual bowling club supper was held, some 30 members assembling. Subsequently there was a bowling match, Captain's team v Vice-captain's team (reported elsewhere), and afterwards Mr. J. Bate presided at a smoking concert. Songs were rendered by Messrs. J. and D. Allen, J. Jasper, G. Evans, W. Robins, J. Crampton, and B. Newton. Mr. Thomas Hill supplying the accompaniment. Hearty thanks were accorded the host and hostess for their excellent catering."

Tipton Herald 2/10/1909 - Advert

"Full Licensed House, Two Gates, Cradley, bowling green; immediate possession; rent low. Tied or Free. Apply, *Savage*, Two Gates."

1911 Census

Two Gates – OLD TWO GATES INN

- [1] *George Botfield* (34), licensed victualler, born Hampton Loade, Shropshire;
- [2] *Theresa Botfield* (35), wife, married 14 years, born Cradley Heath:

1939 Register

Toys Lane – OLD TWO GATES INN

- [1] *Thomas Edge*, date of birth 25/9/1885, small end chainmaker, innkeeper, married;
- [2] *Mary A. Edge*, dob 14/7/1885, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] *Megan Leaver*, dob 15/8/1915, unpaid domestic duties, married:

T. Edge issued tokens from here.

Thomas Edge died on 2nd August 1941.

He was married to *Mary Ann*.

He was also the licensee of ROBIN HOOD.

Black Country Bugle 12/8/1999

'Sad End For Chicka - The Cradley Pub Monkey'

"The OLD TWO GATES was a family pub having a happy atmosphere where three generations would come for a good couple of hours relaxation About 1938 my Dad [*Thomas Edge*] bought me a small Capuccini monkey His name was Chicka and one or two families would say 'we're going up to the Monkey House tonight.'"

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1946

"Halesowen Licensing Justices yesterday refused two applications in respect of new premises – one by Holts for the removal of the license of the TWO GATES at Cradley to Drews Holloway, at the junction of Stourbridge Road and a new road to be constructed; the other by Mitchells and Butlers in respect of premises proposed to be built at Huntingtree."

It closed on 3rd September 1957.

OLD URN

Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Oliver [1864]

NOTES

Stourbridge Observer 10/12/1864

“*William Oliver*, landlord of the OLD URN INN, Colley Gate, was summoned by Superintendent Freeman, for having a bagatelle board in his possession, and allowing persons to play upon it, he not being duly licensed. P.C. Denant proved the case. The magistrates said it was a very serious offence. He was liable to £100 penalty, and £10 for every day he allowed playing upon it. Defendant pleaded ignorant of the law. He was fined 5s and costs, 16s 6d.”

[Was this the OLD VINE?]

OUR HOUSE

Brettell Town, Netherend, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. Shore [1856]

NOTES

Brierley Hill Advertiser 31/5/1856

“Mary Ann Harris, of Cradley, a servant in the employ of Mrs. *Shore*, the landlady of OUR HOUSE, Cradley, was charged with stealing 3 quarts of ale; the landlady kindly withdrew the charge, believing the girl to have been a tool in the hands of some other person.”

Brierley Hill Advertiser 19/7/1856 - Advert

“To be Let or Sold. That well-accustomed Public House, with Grocer’s Shop, Garden, Stable, &c, known as OUR HOUSE, situate at Brettell Town, Netherend, near to the Ironworks of Mr. H. Evers.

Application to be made to the proprietor, on the premises. Possession may be had immediately.”

Check OLD HOUSE AT HOME.

PARK

Park Gate, (High Park), CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Tibbetts [1861] – [1865]

NOTES

Bull baiting was held in an enclosure at the rear during Cradley Wakes.

1861 Census

High Park – PARK INN

- [1] *John Tibbetts* (34), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Rachel Tibbetts (26), wife, born Ridgacre, Halesowen;
- [3] Philip Tibbetts (7), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Alfred Tibbetts (5), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] Mary A. Tibbetts (3), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] David Tibbetts (1), son, born Cradley;
- [7] Ann M. Smith (11), domestic servant, born Brierley Hill;
- [8] Samuel Brown (30), servant, carter, born Hagley;

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1863

“The Stourbridge annual general licensing meeting for the division was held yesterday.....

The following were reprimanded for infractions of their licences.....

John Tibbetts, Park Gate, Cradley. Licence suspended till the adjourned licensing meeting.”

Stourbridge Observer 29/7/1865

“At the Petty Sessions yesterday, *John Tibbetts*, of Cradley, was summoned by Superintendent Freeman, charged with having had his house open for the sale of beer, on Sunday morning last. Defendant’s wife appeared, and said that her husband could not attend as he was at work. The Bench said he was summoned and must appear, and they should adjourn the case for his attendance next Friday, and if he did not attend, they should issue a warrant for his apprehension.”

Stourbridge Observer 5/8/1865

“At the Petty Sessions yesterday, *John Tibbetts*, landlord of the PARK INN, was summoned by Superintendent Freeman for having had his house open for the sale of beer on the 22nd ult. Police-constable Parton proved having visited defendant’s house, and finding four men drinking. Pleaded guilty. Fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 26/8/1865

“The annual licensing meeting for the Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division was held yesterday.....

The following publicans were cautioned for irregularities in the conduct of their houses during the past year.....

John Tibbetts, PARK INN, Cradley.”

PARK LANE TAVERN

Park Lane, Netherend, CRADLEY

OWNERS

J. Moore, Cradley

Harper and Moore, Cradley [1873]

William Oliver and Sons Ltd.

John Lemonde Pargeter (acquired in 1933)

Darby’s Brewery Ltd. [1935]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Stan Owen [1986]

LICENSEES

Thomas Hill [1868] – [1876]
William Oliver Jnr. [1880] – [1884]
James Davies [1881]
Frederick and William Oliver [1888]
William Oliver [1891]
Joseph Pearshouse [1903] – 1907);
Mrs. Lucy Tate (1907 – 1909);
Simeon Robinson (1911 – 1919);
Thomas Henry Neath (1919 – 1928);
Joseph Richard Barnes (1928 – 1933);
John Lemonde Pargeter (1933 – 1934);
Harry Victor Cook (1934 – 1954);
Eric Clifford Wylde (1954 – 1960);
James Ryder (1960 – 1980);
William Billingsley (1980 – 1982);
Stanley Owen (1982 – 1986);
David Hugh Stiff (1986 – 1989);
Stuart Leonard James (1989 – []
Rob Smith [2012] manager
Samantha Wright [2014] manager

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

County Advertiser 24/3/1866 - Advert

“Netherend, Cradley, Worcestershire.

Freehold Malthouse, Dwelling Houses, Gardens, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder.

Davies and King are instructed to Offer for Sale by Auction, on Friday, the 13th day of April Next, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Stourbridge, at Six o'clock in the evening, the undermentioned valuable Property, subject to conditions then to be produced.

All that well-arranged and substantially-erected 6½-quarter Malthouse and Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, with Stable, Brew-house, Outbuildings, and Gardens, now in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Hill* and Mrs. Parkes; also a Detached Dwelling House, Garden and Outbuildings, in the occupation of Ann Dayas, the whole producing, at low annual rentals, £40 16s.

This Property contains an area of 1,290 square yards, is situated at Netherend, in the township of Cradley, and possesses an extensive frontage to the road leading from Park Gate through Netherend to Quarry Bank.

The Mines of Fire Clay, Coal, and other Minerals lying under the above and under half the road (making a total quantity of 1,610 square yards) will be sold with the Property, which is bounded by important Mining Estates in full operation.

For further information apply to Messrs. Freer and Perry, Solicitors, Stourbridge; Messrs. Heckford and Roden, Solicitors, Kidderminster; or the Auctioneers, Stourbridge.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 14/3/1868 - Advert

“Netherend, Cradley, Worcestershire.

Freehold Malthouse, Dwelling Houses, and Gardens, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder.

Davies and King are instructed to Offer for Sale by Auction, on Friday, the 27th day of March, 1868, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Stourbridge, at Six o'clock in the evening – the undermentioned valuable Property, subject to conditions then to be produced.

All that well arranged and substantially erected six and a half-quarter Malthouse and the Public House adjoining, known as the PARK LANE TAVERN (formerly two dwelling houses), with Stable, Brewhouse, Outbuildings, and Gardens, now in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Hill*; also a detached Dwelling House, and Garden and Outbuildings, in the occupation of Ann Dayas, the whole producing at low annual rentals £40 16s.

This Property contains an area of 1,290 square yards, is situate at Netherend, in the township of Cradley, and possesses an extensive frontage to the road leading from Park Gate, through Netherend, to Quarry Bank.

The Mines of Fire Clay, Coal, and other Minerals lying under the above and under half the road (making a total quantity of 1,610 square yards) will be sold with the Property, which is bounded by important Mining Estates in full operation.

For further information apply to Messrs. Freer and Perry, Solicitors, Stourbridge; Messrs. Heckford and Roden, Solicitors, Kidderminster; or the Auctioneers, Stourbridge.”

County Advertiser 14/3/1868 - Advert

“Wanted, a General Servant. One accustomed to a public house preferred.

Apply, Mr. *Thomas Hill*, Maltster, PARK LANE TAVERN, Netherend.”

1871 Census

Park Lane – PARK LANE TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Hill* (33), maltster and beer house keeper, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Maryann Hill* (28), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] *William Hill* (11), son, born Rowley;
- [4] *Thomas Hill* (9), son, born Rowley;
- [5] *John Hill* (7), son, born Rowley;
- [6] *Elizabeth Hill* (5), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Frederick Hill* (3), son, born Cradley;
- [8] *Frank Hill* (7 months), son, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 16/8/1873 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1872.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District of Stourbridge, in the County of Worcester, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Thomas Hill*, Beerhouse-keeper, now residing at Park Lane, in the Township of Cradley, in the county of Worcester, and for six months last past having resided at Park Lane, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the next General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Public Office, in the Township of Stourbridge, in the said County, on the 29th day of August next ensuing, for a License to Sell Exciseable Liquors by Retail, to be drunk or consumed in the House or Premises thereunto belonging, situate at Park Lane, in the Township of Cradley aforesaid, rented by me of Harper and Moores, of the Township of Cradley, and now in my occupation, and which said House and Premises are now kept by me as a Beerhouse, and known by the sign of the PARK LANE TAVERN.

Given under my hand this 18th day July, 1873.

Thomas Hill.”

Thomas Hill, beer retailer, Park Lane. [1876]

He was married to Marian.

Dudley and District News 8/1/1881

“*William Jones* was charged with refusing to quit the PARK LANE TAVERN, Park Lane, on the 27th of December.

James Davies, landlord of the house in question, proved the offence, stating that he sent for a policeman to turn the defendant out, as he had had enough liquor, and while the servant was gone, he left, but afterwards returned, and had to be turned out by the police.

Defendant was fined 17s 6d, including costs, or fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

1881 Census

Park Lane – PARK LANE TAVERN

- [1] *William Oliver* (26), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] *Mary M. G. Oliver* (27), wife, born Quarry Bank;
- [3] *William H. Oliver* (2), son, born Cradley;
- [4] *John Oliver* (1), son, born Cradley;
- [5] *Mary Oliver* (1 month), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] *Rebecca Pearson* (17), general servant, born Cradley:

Frederick and William Oliver – see also TALBOT HOTEL.

County Express 21/3/1891

“*Mr. A. H. Hebbert* (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the PARK LANE TAVERN, Netherend, yesterday, on *Elisha Hill* (14), who met his death by falling down a clay pit belonging to Messrs. King Brothers, on Wednesday. *Mr. Scott*, inspector of mines, was present.

Deceased was the son of *David Hill*, Park Lane, and was employed by Messrs. King Brothers to drive the gin which draws water from the clay pits.

Joseph Pearson, of Attwood Street, Lye, said he worked at Messrs. King Brothers’ colliery. Deceased drove the gin, and witness turned the water out of the tubs from the pit. The gin ring was about three or four yards from the pit’s mouth. There were two shafts, and while he was at one he noticed that the gin at the other was not turning. Then he missed the boy, and shouted ‘*Lisha*’ but received no answer. There was a fire lamp for them to see to work by. They could not see at times when it was windy. There was a guard for the pit, but he was not sure that he put it up after he let the tub down.

Robert Wood, an uncle of the deceased, said he went down the shaft and found the body of the deceased in 2ft 6ins of water.

Dr. Thompson, Cradley, was also examined.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and the Coroner severely censured *Pearson* for not doing his duty by putting up the fence.”

1891 Census

Park Lane

- [1] *William Oliver* (36), widower, licensed victualler and farmer, born Cradley;
- [2] *Joseph Oliver* (11), son, born Cradley;

- [3] Mary Oliver (10), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] Lilly M. Palmer (22), barmaid, born Stamber Mill;
- [5] Caroline Parsons (14), general servant, born Cradley:

County Express 5/1/1901

“Annual Meetings Of Sick And Draw Clubs PARK LANE TAVERN (Netherend).

A good repast was served at the annual meeting of this club. After the cloth was drawn the members enjoyed themselves in songs and recitations. The dividend on the last year's account was £1 0s 6d each.”

County Express 11/1/1908

“An enjoyable supper was held at the PARK LANE TAVERN on Saturday, given by the hostess, Mrs. *L. Tate*, to her customers. Some 40 sat down. After the cloth was drawn Mr. Joseph Bate was elected to the chair, and Mr. Geo. Hill vice-chairman. The recitations of Mr. Grosvenor, of Cradley Heath, were especially enjoyed, as were also the songs of Mr. Luke Hill, and the bass songs of Mr. Geo. Tallis. The other artists were Messrs. A. Evers, W. Bagley, H. Southall, S. Potter, and A. Priest. The evening closed with hearty thanks to the hostess for her admirable catering.”

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies' parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter's Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher's Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, 'Onward Christian Soldiers,' a solo from 'Thus saeth the Lord,' splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, 'Rousseau's dream,' finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, 'O, clap your hands,' and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, 'What shall I do to inherit eternal life?' He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

County Express 26/9/1908

“A meeting was held at the STAR INN, Talbot Street, on Monday, with a view to forming an air-gun league. Representatives from the following clubs were present: STAR INN, CROWN INN, FOX INN, PARK LANE TAVERN, and WATERLOO INN. Mr. S. Phillips presided, and Mr. G. H. Darby was elected secretary pro tem. After some discussion it was decided that the secretary invite representatives from other air-gun clubs to attend the next meeting, fixed for next Monday at 8pm, at the PARK LANE TAVERN, Netherend.”

County Express 17/10/1908

“Air-Gun League. A meeting was held at the FOX INN on Wednesday, Mr. S. Phillips presiding. The Secretary (Mr. G. H. Darby) reported that eight clubs had joined the league, namely CROWN INN, FOX INN, HEART IN HAND, PARK LANE TAVERN, TWO GATES, VINE INN, and WATERLOO INN. Rules were read and passed, and it was decided to limit the number of clubs to 12 within a radius of two miles from Lye Cross, and to close the entrance on the 21st. The next meeting will be held at the CROWN INN, Dudley Road, Lye, on Monday, the 19th inst, at 8pm. Clubs wishing to join should send representatives.”

County Express 27/3/1909

“The PARK LANE TAVERN Shooting Club held their annual gathering on Saturday, when upwards of 25 members enjoyed an excellent supper. After the cloth was drawn, the Chairman (Mr. David Hill) made presentation of a medal and a meerschaum pipe to Mr. Tate and Mr. F. Wylde for best average shots during the season. Songs were rendered by Messrs. D. Hill, J. Griffiths, B. Priest, G. Tallis, J. Bate, F. Whyld, and H. Southall, and Mr. A. Tate was the pianist. At the close of an exceptionally pleasant evening thanks were accorded to the hostess, Mrs. *Tate*, for her catering.”

1911 Census

Park Lane

- [1] *Llewelyn Robinson* (37), chain maker, iron, born Cradley;
- [2] Alice Robinson (37), wife, married 11 years, born Lye;
- [3] Robert Robinson (10), son, school, born Cradley;
- [4] Joseph David Robinson (6), son, born Cradley;
- [5] Eva Elizabeth Robinson (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] Joseph Robinson (22), son-in-law, chain maker, iron, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/1/1933

“Nine licensed houses, the property of Messrs. William Oliver and Sons, of Cradley – a firm which has been established for nearly a century – were sold by auction at the TALBOT HOTEL, Stourbridge, yesterday. The houses, which are situated within a three mile radius, including Dudley, Stourbridge, Amblecote, Brierley Hill, Cradley Heath, Lye, and Cradley, fetched £14,925. The houses and amounts were PARK LANE TAVERN, Cradley, £950.”

A wine license was granted on 3rd March 1939.

1939 Register

Park Lane – PARK LANE TAVERN

- [1] *Harry V. Cook*, date of birth 24/12/1912, licensed victualler and brewer, married;
- [2] *Beatrice M. Cook*, dob 14/7/1911, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Ann P. Cook*, dob 24/7/1933, at school, single:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/9/1944

“Skidding on newly-laid tarmac at Colley Gate, Cradley, a Midland Red bus mounted the pavement and killed *Ann Cook*, aged 11, of PARK TAVERN, Park Lane, Cradley, who was standing against a bus sign. The girl was knocked down and pinned between the front wheel and the wall. Inquest verdict, Accidental Death.”

A spirit license was granted on 1st March 1955.

Tipton Herald 30/7/1960

“Watching through the window of the PARK LANE TAVERN, Park Lane, Cradley, in the early hours of May 22nd three police officers saw a ‘party’ being held in the bar. They saw six men and two women, and all the men had glasses in front of them, filled with ‘short’ drinks. But when a police officer went into the bar the glasses of drink had all disappeared. This was stated at a special Magistrates Court at Halesowen on Wednesday, when the licensee, his wife and four customers were summoned. *Eric Clifford Wylde* (35), licensee, who admitted two offences of selling intoxicating liquor through an agent after permitted hours, and four offences of aiding and abetting customers to consume intoxicating liquor after hours, was fined a total of £18. His wife, *Amy Margery Vera Wylde* (44), who admitted selling the drinks was fined £6. Four customers were each fined £4 for consuming intoxicating liquor after hours. They were *John Skitt* (21), of 28, Westfield Road, Cakemore; *Gary Raybould* (23), of 12, Charter Crescent, Old Hill; *Robert Mole* (33), of 22, Stanley Road, Stourbridge; and *John Grosvenor* (32), of 28, Dunstall Road, Halesowen. Payment of costs of £9 9s were ordered to be shared among all six. PC Webb said he knocked at the door at 12.45am, and it was opened by a customer named Nash. The constable alleged that Nash walked slowly in front of him down a passage ‘so that I could not hurry into the bar.’ When he did arrive the glasses had all disappeared. Mr. Norman Bayley (defending) said, ‘The reason for the party was that the licensee is leaving to go into private life.’ He added that no charge was brought against Nash.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/9/1963

“Householders of Park Lane, Cradley, are plagued by flies. They swarm into the houses covering walls, ceilings and windows ‘like a huge currant cake,’ one resident said. The flies come from a temporary tip used by Birmingham Corporation for burnt refuse from the Rotton Park area. About 30 houses are affected. When residents held a protest meeting in the smokeroom of the PARK TAVERN, last night, flies covered the ceiling. One man produced a paper bag containing over 200 dead flies which he said he had found in his living room. Mr. *J. Ryder*, licensee of the PARK TAVERN, said, ‘The flies come in droves. Today I saw a load being tipped from a lorry. It was one mass of flies. A small bulldozer covers the rubbish with ashes but still the flies come.’ Mr. *Ryder* said that customers complained that flies dropped into their beer and that when fly spray was used it took the ‘head’ off the beer. Councillor *W. Dickens*, a Cradley member of Halesowen council, said he had approached Birmingham Corporation’s salvage department who had promised to discontinue tipping from today. A spokesman for Halesowen Public Health Department said last night, ‘We have kept the tip under observation but we have seen no evidence of an excessive amount of flies. This is an example of first-class tipping and all reasonable steps are being taken including the use of fly repellants. ‘There may be flies in the houses and, though some may come from the tip, there are other breeding places.’”

It closed in 1982.

It reopened on 5th August 1986.

Closed

It reopened on 22nd November 1989.

Closed

It reopened in 2010.

Rob Smith was married to Jodie.

Express & Star 2/6/2017

“A 94-year-old woman and several children were among the people poisoned after eating a carvery at PARK LANE TAVERN in Park Lane, Cradley. The food operator at the pub, IP Carvery, made a formal public apology during a hearing at Wolverhampton Magistrates’ Court, which heard all the affected customers had eaten in a two-hour slot.

The court heard how all 20 customers had suffered *Clostridium Perfringens* food poisoning, a bug associated with the inadequate cooling of meat. Two leftover samples of turkey taken home by the customers were found to be contaminated with the bacteria, following the visit on April 2 last year. IP Carvery Ltd told the court that the company now employed a food safety expert to advise them who now regularly inspects the company’s premises and that staff had been retrained. The firm pleaded guilty in court to an offence of placing unsafe food on the market in a case brought by Dudley Council. The company was fined £1,350 and ordered to pay costs of £2,483.55 to Dudley Council and a victim surcharge of £120. It is understood that the company’s insurers have also received compensation claims on behalf of affected customers.

Nick Powell, head of environmental health at Dudley Council, said, ‘Serious food safety errors were made in this case which put the health of customers at risk and caused illness in 20 people, who fortunately recovered but the outcome could have been far worse as young children and the elderly are often more severely affected by food poisoning. Whilst we prefer to work with businesses to secure compliance with the law, we will not hesitate to take legal action against the minority of food businesses proprietors who fail to meet their legal responsibilities and put public health at risk as a result.’

The pub has been approached for comment by the Express & Star.”

[2018]

PLOUGH

29, Rumbow / Birmingham Road, (Church Lane), (Hagley Street), (Dog Lane), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Major George Cox
John Rolinson and Son Ltd. (leased from 1909)
Thomas Cresswell
Home Brewery (Quarry Bank)
Dare’s Brewery Ltd. [1950]

LICENSEES

Francis Bradley [1849] – [1851]
Robert Hackett [1864] – [1876]
James Siviter [1880] – [1896]
Pugh []
Charles Houchin [1901] – **1904**;
Mrs. Laure Houchin (**1904 – 1905**);
John Roberts (**1905** – [])
Enoch Pearce (**1906** – [])
Mrs. Sarah Mills (**1909** – [])
Gertrude (Mills) Fletcher [1909]
George Harry Johnson [1911] – [1912]
Harry Hampton [1916] ?
Sarah Mills (**1913 – 1919**)
Herbert Tom Cresswell [1921]
Harry Richard Chant [1920s]
Frederick Smith [] – **1931**)
Herbert Bailey [1939]
Horace ‘Bill’ Higgins [1953]

NOTES

Hagley Street [1865]
29, Rumbow [1912], [1921]

PLOUGH AND HARROW [1880], [1884], [1888], [1892], [1911], [1912]

It was known sometimes as the “cider house”.

Francis Bradley, beer retailer and farmer, Stourbridge Road. [1849]

Birmingham Journal 5/1/1850 - Advert

“Worcestershire. Valuable Land. (With the Mines and Minerals Under the Same.)

Houses and Shopping, Situate at Cradley and Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. W. Callum, on Monday, the 4th day of February, 1850, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, at Four o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced.....

Dwelling Houses at Hales Owen.

Lot 9. All that valuable Messuage, with the Brewhouse, Stable, Out-buildings, Yard, Garden, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at the bottom of Dog Lane, Hales Owen, and called the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, now in the occupation of Mr. *Francis Bradley*.

Lot 10. All those Nine Messuages or Dwelling Houses, with seven Nail Shops and Appurtenances, let to Weekly Tenants at low rents, and situate in Birmingham Street, Hales Owen, with the Barn, Foldyard, and Premises, situate near to the said Messuages, now in the occupation of Mr. *Francis Bradley*.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Wright, Solicitor, 6, Waterloo Street; or to the Auctioneer, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 5/2/1851

“On Tuesday week, Alexander Tromans and Benjamin Hill were brought before Edward Moore, Esq, charged with stealing, early on the Sunday morning previous, fifteen quarts of ale, the property of *Francis Bradley*, of Halesowen, beer-house keeper. On the morning in question, it appeared the prisoners effected an entrance into the prosecutor’s ale cellar by means of false keys, and had removed the above quantity of ale in a large stone jar into the yard. They were discovered in the cellar by the prosecutor’s servant, who immediately fastened the door, and caged, as it were, the delinquents; and, keeping guard, he managed to arouse his master, who sent information to the police, and had the prisoners taken into custody. The facts were clearly proved, and they were fully committed to take their trial at the next adjourned sessions for the county of Worcester.”

Worcester Journal 6/3/1851

“Worcestershire Adjourned Epiphany Sessions.

Benjamin Hill and Alexander Trowman, laborers, were charged with stealing 15 quarts of ale, the property of *Francis Bradley*, on the 19th of January, at Halesowen. Mr. Chance prosecuted and Mr. Huddleston defended the prisoners.

At the close of the case for the prosecution, which proved the prisoners were found in prosecutor’s ale house, between four and five o’clock in the morning, with a key which unlocked the door, and also that a quantity of ‘beer’ was found in a jar outside the house, ready to be carried away, Mr. Huddleston stated that the case must be at an end, as the indictment charged the prisoners with stealing ‘ale’ and not ‘beer’ which the evidence proved that it was. The Court, however, over-ruled the objection, and the Learned Counsel then endeavoured to show that the jar containing the beer, which had not been traced to the prisoners’ possession, but was found outside the prosecutor’s house, might have been placed where it was found by some other persons who were, as the Learned Counsel described it, ‘out donkey hunting’ that morning, while the policeman was taking the prisoners to the station house, as it was not found when they were taken into custody. The excuse the prisoners made when found in the ale house was that a dog had barked at them and they went there to protect themselves from him. Two witnesses were also called to character, one of whom had known Trowman for thirty years, and the other witness had known Hill for more than twenty years.

The Chairman then summed up the evidence, and the Jury having consulted for some considerable time, found the prisoners guilty, but recommended them to mercy on account of the wrong indictment; which, after some discussion between the Court and the Counsel on either side, was stated by the Foreman to mean that they found the prisoners guilty of being on the premises with intent to steal, but that there was no evidence to prove that they put the ale where it was found.

The prisoners were then discharged.”

1851 Census

Dog Lane

[1] *Francis Bradley* (48), publican, born Rock, Worcestershire;

[2] Sarah Bradley (48), wife, born Rock, Worcestershire;

[3] Sarah J. Simpson (8), visitor, born Stourbridge;

[4] Mary A. Simpson (6), visitor, born Stourbridge;

[5] Eliza Tomlins (22), general servant, born Hartlebury, Worcestershire:

1871 Census

Rumbow – PLOUGH AND HARROW

[1] *Robert Hackett* (65), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] Mary Hackett (57), wife, born Malpass, Cheshire;

- [3] Edwin Hackett (18), son, saddler and harness maker's apprentice, born Halesowen;
[4] Elizabeth J. Hackett (12), grand-daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
[5] Rosa Hackett (8), grand-daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

1881 Census

Rumbow – PLOUGH AND HARROW

- [1] *James Siviter* (35), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
[2] Janet Siviter (35), wife, born Halesowen;
[3] Alice Julia Siviter (17), daughter, barmaid, born Halesowen;
[4] Janet Siviter (11), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
[5] Harry Siviter (5), son, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Express 26/7/1884

“*James Siviter*, landlord of the PLOUGH AND HARROW, Rumbow, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 9th inst. Police-constable Harris went to serve a summons on Bastin, the person named in the case above, and found him drunk in defendant's house with a cup of ale before him.

Sergeant Raybould said he visited the house and called the landlord's attention to the fact that the man was drunk, on which he immediately turned him out.

Mr. Waldron held that there was no evidence to show defendant had any knowledge the man was drunk, or that he had been supplied with ale.

The magistrates decided not to convict but told the defendant there seemed to be a want of vigilance on his part of people coming into the house.

Siviter was then charged with being drunk on his own premises on the same date.

Police-constables Harris and Hardwick visited defendant's house at three and eleven o'clock on the date named, and saw defendant drunk.

Sergeant Raybould said he saw defendant drunk at nine o'clock at night.

It was stated for the defence that defendant was not drunk, but was suffering from want of sleep, his wife having been confined, and the whole conduct of the business falling upon him.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs.

William Bastin, on a charge of being drunk on the premises, was fined 2s 6d and costs, or seven days.”

1891 Census

Rumbow

- [1] *James Siviter* (48), publican, born Halesowen;
[2] Janet Siviter (48), wife, born Halesowen;
[3] Harry Siviter (15), son, born Halesowen;
[4] Bertha Siviter (6), daughter, born Halesowen:

Black Country Bugle

Letter from Arthur Mole

“.....It was a Dare's house, I believe, but cider was most called for.”

1901 Census

Rumbow

- [1] *Charles Houchin* (46), boot and shoe maker, publican, born Halesowen;
[2] Nora Sarah Houchin (38), wife, born Halesowen;
[3] John Charles Houchin (13), son, born Halesowen;
[4] William R. Houchin (12), son, born Halesowen;
[5] Lilian Houchin (10), daughter, born Halesowen;
[6] Laura Jane Sidaway (23), general servant, born Quarry Bank:

County Express 21/12/1901

“Sitting at the Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday, Messrs. J. G. Reay, and A. J. Grove were occupied some hours hearing cases under the Licensing Acts. The first case was on one in which *Charles Houchin*, landlord of the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 7th inst. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. E. H. Grove defended.

From the evidence it appeared that Inspector Pitt and PC Owen visited the PLOUGH AND HARROW on the date named. They went into the tap room and there saw Mr. John Wright sitting on the table. He was very drunk; so drunk that anyone entering the tap room must have noticed it. The other customers were in the room, and also the landlord. The latter, questioned by Inspector Pitt as to how he accounted for having Mr. Wright there in such a state, replied that he had been at work in his shop. It was explained the *Houchin* was a shoemaker as well as licensed victualler, and carried on this trade in a shop at the rear of the public-house. *Houchin* further told the inspector that he did not know Mr. Wright was there until his wife apprised him of the fact. The inspector said Mr. Wright had been there some time, and *Houchin* replied, ‘What can I do, I cannot turn him out.’ Inspector Pitt said he could have obtained the assistance of the police, and the landlord said, ‘Yes, but I did not like to do so.’ The officers then left, and shortly afterwards saw Mr. Wright being taken home.

Mr. Grove, for the defence, argued that the landlord did all he could to persuade Mr. Wright to leave the premises, and submitted that under the circumstances there should not be a conviction. His client had been a licensed victualler for 6½ years, and the landlord of this house for over twelve months entirely without complaint. The defendant then detailed the steps he took to persuade Mr. Wright to leave his house. He asked him a dozen times to leave, and it was not until he threatened to send for the inspector he said he would leave. Other witnesses were called. Defendant was fined 40s and costs, including solicitor's fee."

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

"On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report. . . . He had served notices of objection to the following persons who were convicted for permitting drunkenness in 1901 and after the last Brewster Sessions. . . . *Charles Houchin*, PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Halesowen, fined 40s and costs. The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the 'black list' The license of the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Halesowen, was renewed to *Charles Houchin*, the Bench being satisfied that the house was being properly conducted. The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population. . . ."

County Advertiser 17/12/1904

"The licenses of the following public houses were transferred. . . . PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Rumbow, from *Charles Houchin* (deceased) to *Laure Houchin*."

County Advertiser 24/12/1904

"Mr. E. H. Grove applied for a temporary permit for the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Rumbow, from Mrs. *Houchin*, widow of the late licensee, to *John Roberts*. The applicant had kept a public house in Halesowen for twelve years, and had conducted it satisfactorily. The Bench granted the application."

John Roberts – see also NEW INN.

County Advertiser 30/3/1907

"Albert Tilley (28), of Greystone Street, Dudley, and Sarah Round (19), of New King Street, Dudley, were charged with stealing a cash box containing 9s, belonging to *Enoch Pearce*, landlord of the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Rumbow, Halesowen, on the 19th inst. It was alleged that on the date named the two prisoners visited the public house, and were served with two bottles of stout by a child named *May Pearce*, aged eleven years. Subsequently, when prisoners had left the house, the robbery of the cash box was discovered. The female prisoner dropped a piece of paper upon the floor which led to the arrest of the prisoners by Detective Taylor and Police-constable Hilliard. Tilley admitted stealing the cash box, and sharing the money, but Round said she did not know that Tilley had taken it. The Bench committed prisoners for trial at the next Worcestershire Quarter Sessions."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/4/1907

"The iniquities of Birmingham in augmenting the national supply of criminals in Worcestershire again formed the text of Mr. Willis Bund (chairman's) charge to the Grand Jury at the Shire Hall at the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions yesterday. The number of cases, he said, were slightly fewer than usual. The majority of them were cases of persons who came over the borders from Birmingham and committed housebreaking, burglary, or offences of that kind. It seemed that when Birmingham thieves had nothing else to do they came into Worcestershire to see what they could lay their hands on. . . . [Although that isn't the case in this case.] Sarah Round (19), servant, was charged with Albert Tilley (32), fitter, with stealing a cash box containing 9s from the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN at Halesowen. Tilley said he shared the money with Round, who denied that she knew it was stolen. The girl was found not guilty, and Tilley was sent to prison for six months' hard labour."

Black Country Bugle

Letter from Mrs. B. Cartwright

" The PLOUGH at Halesowen, as it was a constant topic of conversation when our mother was alive, the PLOUGH being her home when she was young. Her mother, our grandmother, was born Sarah Nock. Her parents owned a farm at Lutley around the 1870s. Grandma married Joseph Mills who was the son of William Mills (better known in Halesowen as Butcher Mills), that being his business. He also owned some pits around there. Our grandparents went to live in Birmingham Road. Mother and her three brothers were born there, they were Archie, Fred, Percy and *Gertrude Mills*. Around 1900 they moved to the PLOUGH AND HARROW as it was then known In those days the inn was opened at six o'clock in the morning with a fire blazing in the grate and the spittoons put around ready for when the men came from the pits When mother was nineteen her father died

so she helped her mother with the business, liking it so much that at the age of 21 years she applied for, and was granted, the license to take over the PLOUGH AND HARROW. She told us she was the first woman to have a license in Halesowen. She was married in October 1909 to Isaac Fletcher whose father John Fletcher was the licensee of the WAGGON AND HORSES, The Hill, Halesowen, now known as Long Lane In 1913, with two children, mother took over the license of the BULLS HEAD at Whiteheath and grandma once again the PLOUGH.”

County Express 3/7/1909

“At Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday, *Sarah Mills*, licensee of the PLOUGH AND HARROW, Rumbow, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness upon her licensed premises on the 15th ult. Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. W. Waldron defended.

Mr. Sharpe stated that at 7.30pm PC Cowell was on duty in the neighbourhood of the public-house when he saw a man named George Barran drive up in a trap and go into the public house. At 9.10pm he saw Barran assisted out of the house in a very drunken condition. He was placed in the trap by several men, but as soon as they let him go he tumbled out. He was picked up and put into the trap again. Barran was attempting to drive away when the officer went up to him and took him into custody. He was in a helpless state of drunkenness, and at the police station he was seen by Inspector Brazier and PS Jones. Subsequently Inspector Brazier and PS Jones visited the house and asked defendant how she accounted for allowing Barran to remain in the house. She replied ‘He has not had a lot to drink. He has not been here all the while. He was not at all that drunk, and was drinking with the others. He had a few pints with his son-in-law. I was serving. He went out and seemed to go all at once. The officer did see him leave my house. I noticed that he looked as though he had had enough, and I told him that he had better have no more.’ PC Cowell gave evidence in support of this statement. In reply to Mr. Waldron he said he did not know if Barran suffered from giddy turns. He was very drunk.

Evidence was given also by Inspector Brazier and PS Jones.

Mr. Waldron contended that the man was perfectly sober, and was suffering from a giddy seizure. Barran was defendant’s brother-in-law, and he left the house earlier in a sober state. He submitted that the police had made a mistake, and thought Barran’s giddiness was drunkenness. He commented on what he urged was unfairness on the part of the police in bringing up the defendant at another court after they had secured a conviction against Barran for drunkenness. The defendant was a widow, who held an excellent character, and he asked the magistrates to give her the benefit of the doubt. He further pointed out that several days after the offence Barran had another seizure whilst in Birmingham, and he had obtained a certificate from a chemist.

Mr. Sharpe remarked that his friend had no legal right to put in the certificate, and ought not to have mentioned the fact.

Mrs. *Mills* stated that her brother-in-law did not stagger when he left the house. She told the police officer that he appeared to be sober when he left the house. She did not think he had had too much to drink. She was aware that he had been subject to these giddy turns for twelve months.

Mr. Sharpe: People who have too much to drink are subject to giddiness? – Defendant: I don’t know.

Gertrude Mills, daughter of the landlady said her uncle was not drunk when he left the house.

The man Barran, was called as a witness, said he was seized with a giddy fit, and he was not quite right when he left the police cell on the following morning. These giddy turns lasted for several hours at a time. He was seized with another turn in Birmingham a few days later, and had to be treated by a chemist.

After a lengthy hearing Mr. Pearson (chairman) said they considered Barran was drunk, and imposed a fine of 20s and costs, amounting in all to £3 7s 6d.”

1911 Census

29, Rumbow

[1] *George Harry Johnson* (50), blacksmith at the Iron Tube Works, born Cookley, Worcestershire;

[2] *Sarah Johnson* (43), wife, married 1 year, born Halesowen;

[3] *William Johnson* (17), son, worker iron tube works, born Kidderminster;

[4] *Frank Johnson* (14), son, errand boy, born Birmingham;

[5] *Laura Pritchard* (22), domestic servant, born Old Hill:

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1915

“At the licensing sessions at Hales Owen, yesterday, Superintendent A. Pass reported an increase of 11 persons convicted for drunkenness during the past year, six of whom were non-residents of the vagrant type. . . .

The renewal of the FORGE INN, Dudley Road, and STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, objected to on the ground of previous convictions, and the PLOUGH AND HARROW, Rumbow, on the ground of redundancy, were deferred until the adjourned sessions.”

Dudley Herald 14/11/1931

“Mr. *Frederick Smith*, the licensee of the PLOUGH INN, Rumbow, died on Friday of last week. He was 63 years of age and was a man of considerable military knowledge, having served in the army for 33 years. He first joined the Royal Berks Regiment, and was Drum Major in the 2nd Seaforth Highlanders. During the war he was a barrack warden on Salisbury Plain, and subsequently became manager of the Princess Mary Convalescent centre at Rednall. When that closed he came to the PLOUGH, and has been there for six years. The funeral took place on Wednesday, in the Parish Churchyard, The Rector (Rev. Canon H. G. A. Colville) officiating. Six of his fellow members of the British Legion acted as bearers.”

1939 Register

29, Rumbow

[1] *Herbert Bailey*, date of birth 14/8/1873, innkeeper, married;

[2] *Nellie Bailey*, dob 16/5/1875, unpaid domestic duties;

Birmingham Mail 22/3/1943 - Deaths

“*Bailey, Herbert (Mick)*, late Coy. Sergt.-Major, RWF, also of the PLOUGH, Halesowen, passed away on the 19th March. Funeral at Witton, Tuesday, 2.30.”

Birmingham Mail 11/9/1943 - Advert

“Pianola Piano Steck & Stool & Rolls price £150.

PLOUGH Rumbow Halesowen.”

Black Country Bugle

Letter from Mrs. R. Leashon

“.....Before Mr. and Mrs. *Higgins* kept the pub a young couple kept it for a while, then moved away to Nuneaton.”

Horace Higgins was married to Eunice.

It closed in 1963.

Demolished in 1963.

PLUME OF FEATHERS

Church Street, (High Street), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Moses Rose [1867]

LICENSEES

Aaron Rose [1822] – [1852]

Moses Rose [1852]

John Middleton [1853] – [1854]

Moses Rose [1855] – [1856]

William Letts [1858] – [1861]

Steward D Birch [1864]

Moses Rose [1866] – [1889]

Mrs. Ann Rose [1891] – **1892**;

NOTES

High Street [1870]

Birmingham Journal 21/2/1829

“An information was laid on the 26th of November last, against Mr. *Aaron Rose*, maltster, of Hales Owen, for having sprinkled a couch of malt before the time allowed by law. The case came on to be heard at the Public Office, Hales Owen, on Monday last, and after the witnesses had been heard for the Excise, a defence was set up, conducted by Mr. Wm. Fellows, of Dudley, which satisfactorily proved to the magistrates that the malt became wet from a leakage through the wall, and not from sprinkling, as stated in the indictment. In order to substantiate this defence, several respectable witnesses were called, who proved the leakage through the wall, where there had formerly been a door-place, and the ground being higher outside opposite the couch in question. Other witnesses were also called, to show that sprinkling at that time would be injurious to the maltster, as the couch was only 79 hours old, and it would benefit the revenue more than defraud it, because at that age the last gauge had not been taken, consequently, the couch would have been subject to a floor charge, which had not been the case. The defendant was honourably discharged.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/8/1833 - Notice

“All Persons having claims upon the estate of the late Mr. Ezekiel Troman, of the ROSE AND CROWN, Haden Cross, in the parish of Rowley Regis, and county of Stafford, are requested to send particulars thereof; and all persons who stand indebted to the said estate are requested to pay the same to Mr. *Aaron Rose*, Executor, PLUME OF FEATHERS, Hales Owen, Salop.

August 15, 1833.”

1841 Census

Church Street

- [1] *Aaron Rose* (45), gun barrel maker, born Worcestershire;
- [2] Elizabeth Rose (40), born Worcestershire;
- [3] Rebeck Rose (20), born Worcestershire;
- [4] William Rose (20), born Worcestershire;
- [5] *Mosis Rose* (15), born Worcestershire;
- [6] Meager Rose (10), born Worcestershire;
- [7] George Rose (10), born Worcestershire;
- [8] Emma Rose (5), born Worcestershire;
- [9] John Rose (3), born Worcestershire:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 4/10/1841 - Notice

“Notice is hereby given, that the Partnership lately subsisting between us, the undersigned Thomas Edge and *Aaron Rose*, of Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, Gun-barrel-makers, was this day dissolved by mutual consent, and that the business will in future be carried on by the said *Aaron Rose*, who is authorised to receive and pay all debts due to and owing to the said late co-partnership; as witness our hands this 29th day of September, 1841.

Thomas Edge. *Aaron Rose*.

Witness to the signing by the said Thomas Edge and *Aaron Rose*. Wm. Hayes, Attorney, Hales Owen.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 8/4/1846

“Guardians of the Stourbridge Union. The following gentlemen have been unanimously elected guardians of the poor for the ensuing year new guardians Halesowen *Aaron Rose*.”

[He was again elected in 1847.]

Birmingham Journal 16/5/1846 - Died

“On the 4th inst, Selina Elizabeth, youngest and beloved daughter of Mr. *Aaron Rose*, of Hales Owen.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 28/11/1849 - Married

“At Halesowen, by the Rev. R. B. Hone, Vicar, Mr. W. *Rose*, eldest son of Mr. *Rose*, PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Halesowen, to Miss Hedge [sic], only daughter of the late T. Hedge, Esq, of Halesowen.”

AND

Worcestershire Chronicle 12/12/1849 - Married

“At Halesowen Church, by the Rev. R. B. Hone, vicar, and archdeacon of Worcester, Mr. Wm. *Rose*, eldest son of Mr. *Aaron Rose*, gun-barrel manufacturer, of Halesowen mills and forge, to Mary, only child of the late T. Edge, Esq, of Birch-hill House, near Halesowen.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 15/5/1850

“On Monday last a large open air meeting of the inhabitants of Halesowen and neighbourhood, comprising also many of the nailers, who are still on the strike throughout the district, was held in Birmingham Street, to consider the injurious effects upon trade in general, occasioned by many masters paying their workmen's wages in goods instead of money, or, as is more commonly understood, in 'truck' or 'tommy,' and to establish a branch in this town in connection with the Dudley Anti-Truck Association Mr. Clark, one of the deputation from Dudley, moved 'That a committee, consisting of the following gentlemen, be formed to act in conjunction with the Dudley Anti-Truck Association for the suppression of the illegal, injurious, and degrading practice of grinding the face of the poor, and forcing the working men to take goods instead of money as compensation for their toil Mr. *Aaron Rose*.....”

1851 Census

Church Street

- [1] *Aaron Rose* (59), gun barrel manufacturer employing 17 men, born Rowley;
- [2] Elizabeth Rose (54), wife, born Illey, Worcestershire;
- [3] Major Rose (22), son, nail factor, born Halesowen;
- [4] George Rose (20), son, gun barrel borer, born Halesowen;
- [5] John A. Rose (13), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Jane Carsewell (19), general servant, born Shropshire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 28/7/1852

“Insolvent Debtors.

To be heard before the Judge of the County Court of Worcestershire holden at the Guildhall Worcester, on Wednesday, the eleventh day of August, 1852, at ten in the morning precisely.....

Aaron Rose, late of the PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Halesowen, in the County of Worcester (out of business), previously of the same place, Licensed Victualler, Gun Barrel and Anvil Manufacturer.”

Birmingham Journal 12/3/1853 - Advert

“To be Let. That excellent Old-licensed House, the PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Hales Owen. Rent low. Coming-in about £20. Apply on the Premises. Immediate possession may be had.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/1/1854 - Advert

“Excellent Old-Licensed Public House, the PLUME OF FEATHERS, Hales Owen.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, in consequence of the Proprietor having other engagements, the above capital House, now doing a good trade; comprising tap-room, kitchen, bar and bar parlour, smoke-room, five bed-rooms, entire Yard, and Stable, with a first-rate Brewing Plant. Rent under £20.

Stock, Fixtures, and Brewing Utensils to be taken to at valuation.

Apply on the premises, or to William Edwards, Auctioneer and Publicans' Valuer, No.32, Market Street, Stourbridge.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 5/4/1854

“*John Middleton*, of Halesowen, innkeeper, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for keeping his house open for the sale of beer, &c, before half-past twelve o'clock in the afternoon of Sunday, the 12th instant.”

Birmingham Journal 4/11/1854 - Advert

“To be Let, the PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Halesowen. Rent £19 10s. Immediate possession.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. John Taylor, Windmill Lane, Smethwick.”

London Gazette 1/12/1854

“In the Matter of the Petition of *John Middleton*, at present and for five days last past, residing in lodgings at No.30, Kidderminster-street, Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, carrying on the trade or business of Horse Breaker and Clipper, and for eighteen months and three weeks previous thereto, residing at the PLUME OF FEATHERS, Church-street, Halesowen, in the county of Worcester aforesaid, carrying on the trades or businesses of a Licensed Victualler and Horse Breaker and Clipper, also occasionally working as a Labourer, and for six months previous thereto residing in or near Constitution-hill, Dudley, in the county of Worcester aforesaid, carrying on the trade or business of Horse Breaker and Clipper.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Worcestershire, at Stourbridge, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 18th day of December instant, at ten of the clock in the forenoon precisely, unless cause be then and there shown to the contrary.”

Worcester Journal 30/12/1854

“At the late Insolvency Court, before B. Parham, Esq, *John Middleton*, horse breaker and clipper, late of Halesowen, where he also carried on the business of licensed victualler, came up on his final examination, supported by Mr. Lowe, of Dudley, and opposed by Mr. Homfray. Adjourned till the next Court day, the 22nd of January.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/1/1855

“*John Middleton*, horsebreaker, late of Halesowen, came up for his final hearing, supported by Mr. Lowe. Mr. Homfray opposed, but his Honour considered the petitioner to be an honest man, and therefore passed him.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/12/1855

“At Mr. *Moses Rose's*, PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Halesowen (four miles from Birmingham), a prime fat ox will be shot for by 21 members, at £1 each, 6 birds each, ¾-bore, 2-oz of shot, 21 yards rise; double guns 1¾-oz of shot, 19 yards rise, 80 boundary. The best blue rocks will be supplied by Woodhouse. To commence at twelve o'clock.”

Birmingham Journal 20/12/1856 - Advert

“To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that Old-licensed Public House, known as the PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Hales Owen, now doing a good trade, in the occupation of Mr. *Moses Rose*, who is leaving on account of other engagements.

Rent about £16. Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a fair valuation.

Apply as above.”

County Advertiser 2/1/1858

“The following persons were charged, through the information of Mr. Miles Overend, Inspector of Weights and Measures, with having in their possession unjust measures.....

William Letts, PLUME OF FEATHERS, Halesowen, 11 quarts and 3 pints. Fined 1s with costs.”

1861 Census

Church Street – PLUME OF FEATHERS

[1] *William Lett* (26), grocer and publican, born Northamptonshire;

[2] *Mary Lett* (22), wife, born Cradley;

[3] *Ann Lett* (3), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] *William Lett* (2), son, born Halesowen;

[5] *Henry Lett* (1), son, born Halesowen;

[6] Frederick Allin (18), grocer, shopman, born Warwickshire;

[7] Ann Pearsall (15), servant, born Herefordshire:

Steward Birch = Stewart Birch

Steward D. Birch was also a grocer. [1864]

Birmingham Daily Post 6/1/1865 - Advert

“Peremptory Sale. PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Church Street, Hales Owen.

Court of Exchequer. Wareing v *Birch*.

To Publicans, Grocers, Brokers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent, This Day (Friday), January 6, 1865.

The whole of the Public House Fixtures, Brewing Plant, Stock of Ale, half-hogshead and 36-gallon Casks, and 18-gallon ditto, Mash Tubs, Cooler, Gathering Tub, 4-pull Beer Machine and Piping, complete; capital Bagatelle Board, slate bottom, with pockets, cues, balls, and marking board, complete; Pewter Ale and Spirit Measures, Cups, Jugs, Glasses, Spirit Bottles; 100-gallon Iron Boiler, Brickwork, and Fittings; Tea Canisters, Provision Scales, copper Tea and Stand ditto, Shop Counters, mahogany-top Corn Bins, with seven divisions; Flour Scales and Flour Bin, Set of Brass and Iron Weights, 70lbs Black and Green Tea, Brooms, Brushes, Mops, Clogs, Pattens; Feather and Flock Beds, Bedsteads, mahogany Sofa, Chest of Drawers, Prints, and Frames; together with the Licenses, belonging to Mr. *Stewart Birch*, under an execution from the Sheriff.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.”

London Gazette 14/2/1865

“Notice is hereby given, that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned, William Rose, Major Rose, *Moses Rose*, George Rose, and John Aaron Rose, of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Gun Barrel Manufacturers, trading under the firm of Rose Brothers, has been dissolved as far as regards the said William Rose, as and from the 31st day of December last. All debts and accounts due from and owing to the partners will be paid and received by the said Major Rose, *Moses Rose*, George Rose, and John Aaron Rose, by whom the business will in future be carried on.

Dated this 28th day.

William Rose. Major Rose. *Moses Rose*. George Rose. John Aaron Rose.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/4/1865

“Worcester Quarter Sessions The following were sworn on the Grand Jury.....

Moses Rose, Hales Owen, gun barrel maker.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/5/1866 - Advert

“Fishing.

Good Fishing may be had by Applying to *Moses Rose*, PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Halesowen.

The Pool is upwards of Ten Acres, and has not been Fished for upwards of Twenty Years.

A Paddle-wheel Pleasure Boat is on the Pool, capable of carrying Thirty Persons.

Angling 1s 6d each per Day.

Trolling 3s 0d each per Day.

Trimmers 0s 6d each per Day.

Or Twelve for Five Shillings.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 21/12/1867 - Advert

“Freehold Public House and Front Shop, Church Street, Hales Owen.

Messrs. Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge are instructed by the Proprietor, to Sell by Auction, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, on Wednesday, the 1st day of January next, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions – all those extensive and well-situate Business Premises, the PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, together with the excellent Front Shop, now in the occupation of Mr. *Moses Rose*, the proprietor. The Premises are walled in, and there is every convenience for carrying on a first-class Business, at this long-established Inn, whilst the Front Shop is suitable for a Draper or Butcher.

For further information apply to Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors, Brierley Hill; or to Messrs. Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge, Land Agents, Stourbridge.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/12/1867 - Advert

“Postponement Of Sale.

The Sale of the PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, at Halesowen, advertised for the 1st of January, at the NEW INN, Will Not Take Place.

Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge, Auctioneers.”

1871 Census

Church Street

[1] *Moses Rose* (46), gun manufacturer, born Halesowen;

[2] *Ann Rose* (42), wife, born Warley;

- [3] John Aaron Rose (21), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] Mary A. Rose (18), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] Albert T. Rose (15), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Major T. Rose (12), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Colonel G. Rose (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] Agnes J. Rose (7), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] Elizabeth Rose (4), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [10] Ernest Rose (1), son, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 21/8/1875 - Advert

“Guns! Guns!! Guns!!!

A large quantity of Guns to be Sold, at 4s each, at Mr. *Moses Rose*'s, near the Church, Halesowen.”

Worcester Journal 18/3/1876 - Deaths

“March 10, in her 80th year, Elizabeth, relict of *Aaron Rose*, of Halesowen.”

County Express 30/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. Holberton applied for the renewal of the license held by *Moses Rose*, of the PLUME OF FEATHERS, Halesowen, to which an objection was raised at the licensing meeting, on the ground of the house not then being used as a licensed house. Mr. Holberton now stated that during the past year the house had been closed for restoration and repair, it being previously in a very dilapidated state, and Mr. *Rose* had been at considerable expense in repairing the premises. He had now obtained the usual excise licenses and carried on the trade of a licensed victualler upon the premises. The application was granted.”

1881 Census

Church Street – PLUME OF FEATHERS

- [1] *Moses Rose* (56), gun barrel manufacturer and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Ann Rose* (53), wife, born Halifax;
- [3] John Aaron Rose (31), son, clerk, born Halesowen;
- [4] Mary Ann Rose (28), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] Albert Taylor Rose (25), son, gun barrel borer, born Halesowen;
- [6] Major Townsend Rose (23), son, nail weigher, born Halesowen;
- [7] Colonel Garibaldi Rose (20), son, butcher, born Halesowen;
- [8] Agnes Julia Rose (17), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [9] Elizabeth Rose (14), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [10] Ernest Rose (11), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [11] Hetty Rose (8), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

Moses Rose was also a butcher. [1884]

Dudley Mercury 9/2/1889 - Advert

“Splendid Lamp for Sale, price £5 10s.

Apply, *Moses Rose*, Church Street, Halesowen.”

Moses Rose issued tokens from here.

1891 Census

Church Street

- [1] *Ann Rose* (63), widow, born Halifax;
- [2] John Aaron Rose (40), son, gun barrel maker, born Halesowen;
- [3] Mary A. Rose (39), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Major T. Rose (34), son, gun barrel maker, born Halesowen;
- [5] Colonel Garibaldi Rose (31), son, butcher, born Halesowen;
- [6] Elizabeth Rose (24), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] Ernest Rose (21), son, gun barrel maker, born Halesowen;
- [8] Hetty Rose (18), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 27/8/1892

“The annual licensing session for the Halesowen Division was held at the Police Court on Tuesday.....

Superintendent Speke reported He wished to give notice that he had served notices of objections upon *Ann Rose*, of the PLUME OF FEATHERS INN, Halesowen, for structural defects, and also that the license was not required.....

The license of *Ann Rose* was refused in consequence of the house not having been used for two years, and because the license was not required.”

RAILWAY

20, Forge Lane, (Connops Hole), (Somers Road), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Henry Russell
William Hollies (acquired 1909)
Frederick Smith Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry 'Harry' Russell [1896] – 1904);
Mrs. Annie Russell (1904 – []
Mrs. Annie Hollies [1909]
Harry Hollis [1910] – 1911);
Kate Hollis (1911 – [1913]
Henry Hollis [1912] – [1921]
Frederick H Wood [1932] – [1939]

NOTES

County Advertiser 10/7/1897

“On Saturday Mr. A. H. Hebbert held an inquest at the RAILWAY INN, Halesowen, respecting the death of Samuel Simmonds (68), brickmaker of Mucklow’s Hill, who was found drowned in the Birmingham Canal on Thursday last, July 1st. Deceased lived near the canal side. On Wednesday night he left home to see his son, Alfred Simmonds, of Halesowen. The son stated that deceased left him about ten o’clock, near the railway station at Mucklow’s Hill, with the intention of going home. He, however, did not reach there, and his body was found in the canal near Haywood Forge. It was stated that deceased on several previous occasions had walked into the canal. It was supposed that he was dazzled by an electric-light shown at a neighbouring forge. A verdict of Accidentally Drowned was returned.”

1901 Census

Forge Lane

- [1] *Henry Russell* (48), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Annie Russell* (40), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Harry Russell* (19), son, railway porter, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Annie Russell* (17), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Hubert Russell* (6), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Annie Ganner* (18), barmaid, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 1/3/1902

“*Henry Russell*, RAILWAY HOTEL, Halesowen, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk in charge of a horse and cart on the 20th inst. Police-sergeant Pass gave evidence.”

County Advertiser 9/5/1903

“*Harry Russell*, residing at the RAILWAY HOTEL, Halesowen, was, on the evidence of Police-constable Beswick, fined 2s 6d for being drunk and disorderly.”

County Advertiser 23/7/1904

“Mr. A. G. Hayes made an application for the transfer of the license of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Forge Lane, Halesowen, from *Henry Russell*, deceased, to his widow, *Annie Russell*. The application was granted.”

County Advertiser 3/12/1904

“Mrs. *Russell*, landlady of the RAILWAY INN, Halesowen, applied for an occasional license for the Drill Hall on the 5th and 6th insts, on the occasion of smoking concerts promoted on behalf of the baths fund. The application was granted.”

Tipton Herald 22/5/1909 - Advert

“Halesowen. Notice of Sale by Auction of a Well-known Highly Valuable Freehold Fully Licensed Home-Brewing House.

To Brewers, Maltsters, Wine & Spirit Merchants, Capitalists and others.

Alfred Hill had been instructed by the Trustees of the late *Harry Russell* to Sell By Public Auction, at the House of Mr. Fred Williams, the NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen, on Wednesday, May 26th, 1909, at 7.30 in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be read.

Lot 1. All that Well-known Highly Valuable Freehold Fully Licensed Home-Brewing House and Premises, the RAILWAY INN, situate at Forge Lane, Halesowen (one minute from Railway Station) now in the occupation of Mrs. *Annie Hollies*. The accommodation consists of Bar Parlour, large Smoke Room, Kitchen, Pantry, large Cellar, Three Bedrooms, Spirit Room, Clothes Closet, Brewhouse, Coal House, Two-stall Stable with loft over same, partly Brick-built Store Room, range of Piggeries, Garden and usual Out-buildings in large Yard with Cartway Entrance at side.

Special attention of the Trade and others is called to this well-known entirely Free House. It has always done a good sound Trade and will continue to command such on account of its proximity to the Railway Station and leading Works and Factories of the District. The Auctioneer can, with every confidence, recommend the above to intending purchasers as one of the Best Licensed Businesses in the neighbourhood.

For further particulars apply to Geo. Green Esq, Solicitor, Cradley Heath and Halesowen; Messrs. Thos. Cooksey & Co, Solicitors, Old Hill and Blackheath; or the Auctioneer, Halesowen.”

County Express 29/5/1909

“A sale by public auction was held at the NEW INNS, Halesowen, on Wednesday, when the freehold fully-licensed house, the RAILWAY INN, Forge Lane, Halesowen, was sold to Mr. William Hollies for £1,508. Six freehold houses in Somers Lane, Halesowen, producing £78 per annum, were disposed of to Mr. T. Williams, for £671, and the three freehold houses in Forge Lane, let at weekly rentals amounting to £29 5s, were also purchased by Mr. Williams for £315. The solicitors for the vendors were Messrs. G. Green and Thos. Cooksey and Co. The Auctioneer, Mr. Alfred Hill.”

County Express 23/7/1910

“The Crump Fund.

The fund which has been opened in Halesowen district for the benefit of the widow of the man Philip Crump, who lost his life in an heroic attempt to rescue a boy from drowning now stands as follows.

Amount already acknowledged £25 15s 7d.

Collected by Mr. *Harry Hollis* (RAILWAY INN, Halesowen) 17s 0d.”

1911 Census

Forge Lane – RAILWAY INN

[1] *Harry Hollis* (37), licensed victualler, born Coleshill, Warwickshire;

[2] *Kate Hollis* (37), wife, married 11 years, born Selliadge, Kent;

[3] Thomas William Hollis (10), son, school, born Whitacre, Warwickshire;

[4] Elsie Doris Hollis (7), daughter, born Halesowen;

[5] Elsie Mills (20), general servant, born Kinver:

County Express 12/8/1911

“*Harry Hollis* (37), landlord of the RAILWAY INN, Forge Lane, Halesowen, committed suicide in a determined manner at his home on Saturday afternoon. It appears that on the 28th July the deceased was delivering a barrel of beer at the residence of Mr. Baron Rose, when he slipped and fell down the steps, injuring his left arm severely. Dr. Thompson attended the man, but blood poisoning set in, and for several days prior to his death *Hollis* was in a delirious state. On Saturday morning he appeared to be slightly better, and was much more comfortable at 1.40 when he was visited by his wife, *Annie Hollis*. Ten minutes later Mrs. *Hollis* paid another visit to the bed room, and was then horrified to discover that her husband had got out of bed and was on his knees with his head upon the bed. He had a large pen knife in his right hand, which was blood-stained, whilst there was a large quantity of blood upon the carpet. Mrs. *Hollis* cried out, and a man named Walter Evans came to her assistance. Dr. Thompson was at once summoned, but the unfortunate man expired a few seconds after his arrival at the house. The affair caused quite a sensation in the town, where *Hollis* was so well known. Deceased leaves a widow and two children. Deceased was a well-known local cricketer and footballer.

The deputy coroner (Mr. A. H. Hebbert) held the inquest at the Shenstone Coffee House, Halesowen, on Tuesday night.

The widow stated that on July 28th deceased met with an accident by falling down and injuring his left arm. He afterwards became very ill in consequence of blood poisoning setting in, and on the previous Wednesday was ordered to go to bed by Dr. Thompson. On Saturday afternoon she left the bed room for a short time, and when she returned she saw her husband in a kneeling position with his throat cut. Death took place shortly afterwards.

Walter Evans, an engineer, said in consequence of Mrs. *Hollis* giving an alarm he hurried to the bed room and saw the deceased on his hands and knees before the bed. *Hollis* was bleeding profusely from a wound in his throat. The wound had apparently been inflicted with a penknife which he was holding firmly in his right hand.

Dr. Thompson stated that he saw the deceased on July 29th, and he was then suffering from a severe bruise on the left elbow, the skin having been broken in several places. The left leg was also injured. On Wednesday, the 2nd inst, he took the deceased's temperature, and he was feverish, he ordered him to go to bed, which he did. On Saturday morning he saw the deceased again, and he was still feverish and showed signs of delirium. In consequence of this he told Mrs. *Hollis* that her husband ought not to be left. He saw deceased again at two o'clock in the afternoon in response to an urgent message. When he reached the house *Hollis* was practically dead. He had a large wound in the left side of the neck, and the windpipe had been cut across, and one or two blood

vessels were severed.

The Deputy Coroner: Did you find any other wounds? – Yes. There were eight to ten scars across the neck. There were two small wounds on the left side of the chest and one on the right side. Deceased had lost a great amount of blood, the floor and the bed clothes being covered with it. The cause of death was haemorrhage. Deceased undoubtedly cut his throat when delirious. The blood poisoning was set up by a microbe after the accident on the 28th inst.

A Juror: Did you think he was in great pain? – He did not complain of any, but I should say that he was in terrible pain. He was bound to suffer pain.

The Deputy Coroner said the jury would have no trouble in returning a verdict that deceased took his own life.

The Foreman of the Jury: Don't you think it originated from the fall? – The Deputy Coroner: No doubt; but it was not a natural consequence of the fall.

The Foreman consulted with the jurymen, and then said they considered the man's death would not have occurred but for the accident.

The Deputy Coroner: It lies with you entirely, but you cannot return a verdict of Accidental Death. It was not a natural consequence of the accident. You can say the deceased committed suicide whilst delirious.

A Juror (to Dr. Thompson): Do you think the man would have got well if he had not committed suicide? – Dr. Thompson: There was every chance of him recovering.

The jury consulted again, and the foreman said they agreed that the man would have been alive that day but for the accident, which was the real cause of it.

The Deputy Coroner: There is no doubt that it was the result of the accident, but you cannot return a verdict of Accidental Death. The man's death was not the natural consequence of the accident, though indirectly he agreed it was. The proper verdict was that he committed suicide.

The Foreman: I should say that was the cause of it.

The Deputy Coroner: I shall add that to it if you wish.

The Foreman: Say he committed suicide whilst insane, and that it originated from the accident.

The Deputy Coroner: Very well; I will add that to it.

The remains of the deceased man were interred on Wednesday afternoon in the Parish Churchyard in the presence of a large crowd of people. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. W. Davis-Winstone. The bearers were Messrs. R. Barnsley, F. Wood, J. B. Downing, W. Lashford, F. Sanders, and F. Lacey. Mr. McNaught, the secretary, represented the Halesowen Conservative Club. A number of wreaths were placed upon the grave including one from Messrs. Rose Bros. and the Halesowen Conservative Club. Mr. S. J. Small was the undertaker."

Kate Hollis = Kate Hollies

[Dudley Chronicle 26/8/1911](#)

"The license of the RAILWAY INN, Forge Lane, Halesowen, was transferred from *Harry Hollies* to his widow *Kate*."

[County Express 26/8/1911 - Acknowledgements](#)

"Mrs. *Hollis*, the RAILWAY INN, Halesowen, begs to Thank very sincerely all friends who so kindly sent letters and messages of condolence in her recent bereavement."

[Bromsgrove Messenger 8/3/1913](#)

"Adjourned Licensing Sessions.

The licenses adjourned from the annual licensing meeting were all renewed, viz.....

Kate Hollies, RAILWAY INN, Halesowen.....

Superintendent Rudnick said all the alterations had been carried out satisfactorily."

[Auction Catalogue 25/10/1932](#)

"Forge Road and Somers Road close to the Railway Station. Fully licensed. Situate just off the main road with several large works close by. The Accommodation comprises: Entrance Passage, Smoke Room front, Bar Smoke Room, Side passage leading to Kitchen, Kitchen with glazed sink, H and C water. On the first floor: Three bedrooms. In the basement: Arched cellar with rolling way.

In a spacious yard with double gateway approach is a corrugated iron built Work Shed, two WCs and Urinal.

Held under a quarterly Tenancy. Tenant: Mr. *Fred H. Wood*. Rent 30s per week inclusive. Landlord paying all outgoings. Value of Trade Fixtures: £105 10s."

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/10/1932](#)

"Public houses in the Black Country are greatly in demand. At a Dudley sale this week ten licensed properties and a small number of dwelling houses realised £29,542 10s.

The premises that changed hands were as follows.....

RAILWAY INN, Forge Road and Somers Road, Halesowen, £2,150."

[1939 Register](#)

20, Forge Lane

[1] *Frederick H. Wood*, date of birth 9/10/1875, married, inn keeper;

[2] Edith M. Wood, dob 20/4/1887, married, unpaid domestic duties;
[3] Harold B. Wood, dob 19/6/1914, single, carpenter, building trade;
[4] William F. Wade, dob 20/11/1899, single, spring maker, motor:

Check BRIDGE.

RED COW

Great Cornbow Street, (Birmingham Street), (Peckingham Street), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Henry Charlton [1845] – [1850]
George White [1849] – [1850]
Joseph Rudge [1851] – [1855]
Henry White [1854]
Jones [1854]
Edward Willetts [1859]
Thomas Hill [1861] – [1870]
Henry Hall [1872]
Benjamin Grove [1873]

NOTES

Peckingham Street [1849], [1850], [1851], [1854], [1855], [1864], [1870]
Birmingham Street [1872]
Great Cornbow Street [1873]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1849

“Modern Masonry.

On Tuesday evening, Lodge 59 of the above order was opened at the house of Mr. *George White*, the RED COW INN, Halesowen, under the most promising auspices. The district officers accompanied by several brethren of the craft from Long Lane, Birmingham, and adjacent places, were in attendance, and after partaking of a liberal repast, supplied by the worthy host, a numerous company of young and respectable candidates were initiated into the mysteries of the order.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/2/1850

“Emanuel Ellis (the Halesowen Stag) is surprised at Joseph Messenger of Birmingham challenging him to run five score yards, when he is aware that it is not his length, but he will run him 140 yards; or T. Cheshire (the Smethwick Novice), or Edward Mills of Dudley Port, on the same terms, for £5 or £10 a side. The money is ready at the RED COW, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Journal 27/4/1850 - Advert

“To be Let, and may be entered on immediately, an Old-licensed Public House, at Hales Owen, known by the sign of the RED COW INN. Coming-in of the Licenses, Goodwill, and Stock, not to exceed £80. Apply to *George White*, on the Premises.”

Birmingham Journal 21/8/1852 - Advert

“The RED COW INN, Top of Peckingham Street, Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Private Treaty, by Thomas Howell, the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above capital House of Business, situated in the very centre of the town of Hales Owen, and doing a good Trade in Ale, Spirits, &c. The Valuation will not exceed £80. Rent only £14 per annum. Rates exceedingly low.

Satisfactory reasons can be given by the present Proprietor for leaving, and everything will be amicably arranged for an immediate purchaser.

For further particulars, apply to Thomas Howell, Auctioneer and Appraiser, Furnishing Mart, Hagley Street, Hales Owen.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/5/1854 - Advert

“To Publicans. The RED COW INN, Hales Owen.

To be Let, that Old Licensed Public House, with immediate possession, or at Midsummer next. Coming in about £35.

Apply to Thos. Hodgetts, Hight Street, Hales Owen, or to Mr. *Jones* on the Premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/7/1859 - Advert

“The RED COW INN, Top of Peckingham Street, Hales Owen.

Thomas Howell is instructed by Mr. *Edward Willetts*, who is leaving the Premises, to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday Next, July 27th – the whole of the Public House Fixtures, Fittings, Brewing and Cellar Vessels, Stock of Ale and Porter, Hops, Household Furniture, and numerous other Effects.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/7/1859 - Advert

“RED COW INN, Hales Owen.

The Sale advertised for To-morrow (Wednesday), July 27th Will Not Take Place.

Thomas Howell, Auctioneer, Auction Offices, 34, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham.”

1861 Census

Little Cornbow

[1] *Thomas Hill* (53), victualler, born Madeley, Shropshire;

[2] *Ann Hill* (52), wife, born Coseley;

[3] *Abraham Hill* (19), son, coal miner, born Old Hill;

[4] *Hannah Hill* (17), daughter, born Old Hill;

[5] *Caroline Hill* (14), daughter, born Old Hill;

[6] *Richard Hill* (10), son, scholar, born Old Hill:

RED LION

32, (55), Hagley Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Thomas Beach [1889]

Penn Brewery Co. Ltd.

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Willetts [1861] – **1877**;

Henry Basterfield (**1877** – [1884]

William Grainger [1889] – **1904**);

William Parsons (**1904** – []

William Willetts [1911]

(John Charles) Charles John Withers [1939]

NOTES

55, Hagley Road [1911]

32, Hagley Road [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was situated at the bottom of Hagley Road, where the HUSKY DOG was later built.

1861 Census

Hagley Road – Beer House

[1] *Edward Willetts* (33), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Ellen Willetts* (36), wife, born Halesowen:

Edward Willetts, beer retailer, Hagley Road. [1864], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

Hagley Road – RED LION

[1] *Edward Willetts* (44), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Ellen Willetts* (46), wife, born Halesowen:

County Express 25/10/1879

“*Henry Basterfield*, beerhouse keeper, RED LION INN, Spring Hill, was charged with keeping open his licensed premises for the sale of intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours on the 13th inst.

Mr. Superintendent Kemp said he visited the defendant’s house at ten minutes to twelve on the night of the above date, and finding the door open, went in. In the bar he saw the defendant, who was not sober, and also four other men. There was a glass containing ale on the table, and a jug containing ale underneath. Witness picked up the jug, and asked the landlord for an explanation. The landlord replied that he ‘should give no b— explanation.’ Three of the men drank the ale and left the house.

The defendant was fined 20s and costs.

Edward Basterfield, Thomas Withers, Thomas Rudge, and John Jones were charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours and were each fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Advertiser 28/8/1880

“Halesowen Annual Brewster Sessions

Police Superintendent Kemp presented his annual report

Since the last annual meeting four licensed victuallers and one beerhouse keeper had been fined

Henry Basterfield, beerhouse keeper, keeping open during prohibited hours, fined 20s and costs.”

1881 Census

Hagley Road – RED LION INN

[1] *Henry Basterfield* (28), bricklayer and publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Jane Basterfield* (29), wife, born Cradley;

[3] *Willie Macauley* (8), stepson, scholar, born Cradley;

[4] *Edward Basterfield* (3 months), born Halesowen;

[5] *Louisa Parry* (20), general servant, born Blackheath:

Henry Basterfield, beer retailer, Hagley Road. [1884]

County Express 17/1/1885

“At a special Petty Session held on Thursday at the Police Station, before Mr. F. D. Lea Smith, *Jane Basterfield*, wife of *Henry Basterfield*, of the RED LION INN, Hagley Road, Halesowen, was charged with attempting to commit suicide.

John Jones deposed that he was in the RED LION INN on the night of the 26th ult, when he saw prisoner deliberately cut her left arm with a razor.

Mr. Young, surgeon, said he was called to see prisoner on the date mentioned, and found her in a dangerous condition owing to loss of blood. Upon examining her he found four incised wounds on her left arm, which if they had not received prompt attention would have proved fatal.

Prisoner admitted cutting her arm, but said it was not with the intention of destroying herself, but merely to frighten her husband, with whom she had been quarrelling. She expressed sorrow for what she had done, and after being cautioned by Mr. Smith as to her future conduct was discharged.”

County Express 3/8/1889 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or Township of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District or Division of Halesowen, in the said County, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *William Grainger*, Beerhouse Keeper and Fruiterer, now residing at the RED LION, Hagley Road, in the Parish or Township of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, for the Division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office, at Halesowen, in the said County, on the 27th day of August instant, for the Grant of a License or Certificate authorising me to apply for and hold an Excise License for the Sale by Retail, at a House and Premises situate at the RED LION, Hagley Road, in the Parish or Township of Halesowen aforesaid, of Wine, to be consumed either on or off the premises, in pursuance of the Act 23 Victoria, cap.27, sections 7 and 8, and Acts amending the same, of which said premises one Thomas Beach is the owner, and the same are of the annual value by law required, and are now in my own occupation.

Given under my Hand this 2nd day of August, 1889.

William Grainger.”

County Express 31/8/1889

“At the Halesowen Police Court on Tuesday, the annual licensing sessions were held

William Grainger, landlord of the RED LION, Hagley Road, Halesowen, applied for an additional wine license. He said he held an indoor license, and he applied for a wine license, to be sold on the premises.

Mr. Gem: You must make your money in some other way. You won’t make much by selling wine. It will be refused.”

1891 Census

Hagley Road – RED LION

- [1] *William Grainger* (32), beerhouse keeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Sarah A. Grainger (28), wife, born Hasbury;
- [3] Lizzie Grainger (6), daughter, scholar, born Hasbury;
- [4] William E. Grainger (3), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Percy J. Grainger (2), son, born Worcestershire;
- [6] Charles S. Grainger (6 months), son, born Worcestershire;
- [7] Rhoda Bradley (15), domestic servant, born Hasbury:

County Express 2/1/1897

“Old Hill and District Miners’ Protection Society.

A lodge dinner in connection with the above district took place on Christmas Eve, at the RED LION INN, Hagley Road, Halesowen, and a large number of the members were present upon the occasion. The repast being over, Mr. B. Winwood, miners’ agent, was voted to preside, and moved the best thanks of the meeting be tendered to the host and hostess for their very able catering, which was carried unanimously. After the election of the lodge officials and other important local matters had been disposed of, the Chairman advocated the federation of all miners as the best means towards the attainment of the workers’ rights, and said, although the lodge had only been reformed but a few months, he was very pleased to know that some of their fellow members had already derived great advantages, which they could not otherwise have obtained without organization, thus once more the power of combination was demonstrated when it was rightly put into operation for good. He went on to urge them all to increase their efforts to advance the cause of unionism, so that they could resist an undue encroachment being made upon their hard earnings in whatever way the attempts might be put forth.”

Sporting Life 28/10/1898

“Navigation Grounds, Smethwick. John Griffiths and Fred Lea, for £20.

These well-constructed grounds, which at one time played a prominent part in Midlands pedestrianism, but of late have lain idle for various reasons, were on Saturday afternoon set apart for the long-impending foot race between Fred Lee and John Griffiths, both hailing from Langley, near Oldbury, Worcestershire, who had signed articles to run 120 yards, Lee receiving 2 yards start inside, for a stake of £10 a-side, the *Sporting Life* being appointed stakeholder, and appointing pistol-firer and referee. Wretched weather prevailed, rain and fog making things decidedly unpleasant, but far too much interest was centred in the match to deter Langley and district sports from assembling in large numbers. The competitors can scarcely be termed flyers, nor are they widely known at the business. Lee, however, is very well known as an exponent of the manly art of self-defence, and has taken part in many contests with the mittens, while he has also been seen to advantage as a pedestrian in the amateur ranks. He is a well-built young fellow of twenty-three years of age, stands 5ft 9in in height, and scales 11st 11lb. He was trained by the well-known Brum-magen pedestrian Lou Goodman, and took the fore part of his training just outside Rubery, but finished at host *Grainger’s*, the RED LION INN, Halesowen. Griffiths is twenty-six years of age, stands 5ft 7in in height, and weighed about 11st. He had up to the present match accomplished very little on the cinder-path. He followed his employment until a week ago, when he was trained by F. Lowe from the BEEHIVE INN, Langley, and was in excellent fettle, all things considered. Four o’clock was the specified time on the articles, but it was twenty minutes late before the competitors made their appearance. In the meantime Lee had been all the rage among the betting fraternity, and ‘a ton of money’ was behind him. Griffith’s party were not so sanguine, consequently odds rapidly rose to 7 to 4, and in some instances 2 to 1 on Lee. Nevertheless, a good sum was invested. Griffiths won the toss, and chose the nearest side to the spectators. It was a bit hazy when starter Lewis despatched the men to a splendid start, and then commenced a most exciting race. Amid cries of ‘Lee wins!’ Griffiths gradually crept up, but still thirty yards from the worsted it looked odds on the favourite, but Griffiths finishing in a most game and determined manner, got on terms, and finally won one of the most exciting and splendidly contested races ever seen here by a foot. Mr. W. Lewis, of Birmingham, fired the pistol, and Mr. Thos. Pike (both appointed by the *Sporting Life*) officiated as referee.

We shall forward a cheque, less expenses, to the winner’s address given our representative.”

County Advertiser 21/10/1899

“Worcestershire Quarter Sessions.

George Withers (24), miner, and Albert Withers (on bail) were charged with stealing a quantity of harness, value £7, the property of Joseph Beach, on January 2nd; and Albert Withers was charged with receiving stolen goods.

There were further charges against the prisoners of breaking into the stable of Charles Envoy Carr and stealing a quantity of harness on May 15th; in respect of harness, the property of *William Grainger*, on January 13th; and of breaking into the premises of Messrs. Grove, on September 14th. Mr. Marchant prosecuted and Mr. R. Kettle defended the prisoner Albert, and Mr. J. B. Mathews defended George.

Albert Withers is the holder of the license of the LEOPARD INN, Halesowen, and the harness was found on his premises. He stated he bought it from the other prisoner, but this was not corroborated, and, by direction of the Chairman, George Withers was discharged. The prisoner Albert was found guilty of receiving goods, and was sentenced to three months’ hard labour.”

[For the full report of the harness stealing see County Advertiser 14/10/1899 under the LEOPARD.]

1901 Census

Hagley Road

- [1] *William Grainger* (42), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Sarah Grainger (39), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Walter Grainger (24), brother, fruit and vegetable salesman, born Halesowen;

- [4] Lizzie Grainger (16), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] William Grainger (14), son, fruit and vegetable salesman, born Halesowen;
- [6] Percy Grainger (12), son, born Halesowen;
- [7] Charles Grainger (10), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] Florry Grainger (8), daughter, born Halesowen:

Tipton Herald 6/11/1909

“A number of friends partook of dinner at the RED LION INN, Halesowen, on Tuesday. Amongst those present were Messrs. G. B. Downing, D. Andrews, W. Salt, H. Barnsley, A. Simmons, G. Withers, T. Simmons, E. Guest, H. Brettle and T. Jones. After the meal the evening was spent convivially. The host and hostess and artistes were thanked.”

1911 Census

55, Hagley Road – RED LION INN

- [1] *William Willetts* (31), publican and collier (pikeman), born Halesowen;
- [2] Sarah Willetts (36), wife, married 11 years, assisting in publican business, born Halesowen;
- [3] Horace Nock (16), son of wife, assistant prover at gas tube works, born Halesowen;
- [4] Ivy Willetts (10), daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [5] Elsie Willetts (7), daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [6] Frederick William Mills (24), cousin, clerk at gas tube works, born Halesowen;
- [7] Daisy Sidaway (21), domestic servant, born Cradley Heath:

County Express 9/12/1911 - Advert

“General Wanted, age 18 to 20.
Willetts, RED LION, Hagley Road, Halesowen.”

A team from here took part in the Cradley Charity Air Gun League. They were champions in the 1919/1920 season.

County Express 21/5/1921

“RED LION Shooting Club.

The annual meeting and presentation of the championship medals was held at the Club House, the RED LION INN, on Friday week. Mr. H. Griffiths presided, and was assisted by the following: Messrs. J. Roberts, J. Wood, G. Farmer, E. Basterfield, T. Hart, and A. Holloway (secretary).

The Secretary reported that the club had made a record for the district, having won the Halesowen League and only lost one point. The record was: shot 28, won 27, drawn 1, making 55 points out of a possible 56. The best average shot was S. Smith (captain). The evening was spent pleasantly, and officers were recommended for next season.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/10/1931

“4,000 Anglers Compete In The Severn. Birmingham £50 Challenge Cup Won with 4lb 12oz.....
Chief Prize-Winners J. Godfree (RED LION, Halesowen) 11b 3oz.....
Specimen fish prizes were secured as follows Perch: J. Godfree (RED LION) 11b 5½oz.”

1939 Register

32, Hagley Road – RED LION

- [1] *Charles John (John Charles) Withers*, date of birth 21/5/1884, married, bolt maker (heavy work);
- [2] Mary Withers, dob 18/10/1887, married, unpaid domestic duties;
- [3] Maria (Dickens) Connop, dob 13/12/1863, widow, unpaid domestic duties;

Birmingham Daily Post 8/9/1967 - Advert

“Austin A55 Farina, radio, spots, many extras; £190 o.n.o.
The RED LION, Halesowen. Telephone Halesowen 1662.”

Closed
Demolished

RISING SUN

99, Overend, (Butchers Lane), Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Hotchkiss, Cradley [1893], [1895]

Ann Maria Hotchkiss
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1896)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

Abraham Sitch [1824]
William Jenks [1829]
Benjamin Beasley [1829] – [1846]
William Herbert Hawkeswood [1845] – **1871**);
Benjamin Burley Hawkeswood (**1871** – [1891]
Alfred Wilson [1892]
William Henry Walker [1893]
William Hotchkiss [1893]
Mrs. Ann Maria Hotchkiss [1895] – [1896]
John Auden [1897] – [1901]
George Robins [1903] – [1924]

NOTES

It had a six-day license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 8/11/1824 - Died

“A few days ago, aged 82, Mrs. *Sitch*, wife of *Abraham Sitch*, of the RISING SUN INN, Cradley.”

Benjamin Beasley = Benjamin Beasley

Benjamin Beasley was also a gun-barrel maker. [1840]

1841 Census

Overend

- [1] *Benjamin Beasley* (45), gun barrel manufacturer, born Worcestershire;
- [2] Phoebe Beasley (45);
- [3] Joseph Beasley (20);
- [4] William Beasley (18), enumerator;
- [5] Charles Beasley (16);
- [6] Priscilla Beasley (14), born Worcestershire;
- [7] Phoebe Beasley (11), born Worcestershire;
- [8] Benjamin Beasley (9), born Worcestershire:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/10/1845 - Advert

“Freehold Property At Cradley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Thomas Danks, at the RISING SUN, at Overend, Cradley, on Tuesday the 11th day of November next, at five o'clock in the afternoon, together or in several lots, as may be determined at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be then produced – an old-established and well-accustomed Public House, called the RISING SUN, situate at Overend, in the township of Cradley, in the county of Worcester, fronting the road leading from Corngreaves to Cradley, with the Brewhouse, Dairy, Pigsties, and Orchard thereto belonging, occupied by Mr. *William Herbert Hawkswood*.

The House comprises excellent cellars, large club room, two parlours, tap-room, bar, kitchen, malt-room, and three chambers. Also Four Cottages adjoining the above premises, with Shop, Gardens, and Outbuildings, in the occupations of Thomas Harris, Tobias Robinson, and the Widow Robinson, one of them being void.

The above Property, which is in excellent repair, is very pleasantly situated, being bounded on the north side by the River Stour, and there is an abundant supply of spring water.

For further particulars apply at the offices of Mr. W. Fellowes, Solicitor, in Dudley.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 18/10/1848 - Advert

“Overend, near Cradley, in the Parish of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester.

Desirable Freehold Houses and Land.

Messrs. Oates and Perrens have received instructions from the Proprietor To Sell By Auction, on Monday, the 30th day of October, 1848, at the SUN INN, Overend, near Cradley, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.....”

1851 Census

Overend

- [1] *William H. Hawkeswood* (41), publican and grocer, born Cradley;
- [2] *Nancy Hawkeswood* (33), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] *Benjamin Hawkeswood* (12), son, born Cradley;
- [4] *Edward Hawkeswood* (11), son, born Cradley;
- [5] *Mary Hawkeswood* (7), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] *Sarah Hawkeswood* (5), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Eliza Hawkeswood* (2), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] *Elizabeth Hawkeswood* (1 month), daughter, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/3/1858

“A rough-looking fellow, named Daniel Grove, was charged with stealing two deal planks. The prosecutor, *William Herbert Hawkeswood*, residing at Cradley, said the two planks produced in Court were his property, and were worth about 4s. They formed part of a building, where he saw them safe on Saturday, and on Sunday morning he found they had been wrenched off and carried away. Accompanied by Police-constable Bentley, he discovered the two planks at the prisoner’s house. Police-constable Bentley apprehended the prisoner, who, when charged, said he knew nothing of the affair. The Magistrates committed the prisoner (who said he supposed he was guilty) to hard labour for one month.”

Birmingham Journal 26/2/1859

“At the Police Court, on Friday, a dirty-looking fellow, named James Weaver, with a character as worthless as the dilapidated garment on his back, was charged with stealing a hen fowl, the property of *William Herbert Hawkesworth* [sic], a victualler residing at Cradley. Prosecutor said he missed the fowl about six weeks ago. The one produced was the one he had lost at that time. He was sure it was his from some white feathers in its wings, and he also knew it because he had reared it from a chicken, and ‘had hatched it himself!’ A man named Dayus purchased it from the prisoner for 2s 6d about the time it was missed by the prosecutor. The prisoner pleaded guilty, and was sent to the House of Correction for two months.”

William Herbert Hawkeswood, was also a shopkeeper. [1860]

Birmingham Journal 17/3/1860 - Advert

“Cradley and Lye, near Stourbridge. Fine Ash, Oak, Elm, and Other Growing Timber. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. B. Wooldridge, at the house of Mr. *Hawkeswood*, SUN INN, Overend, Cradley, on Tuesday Next, the 20th of March, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions – One Hundred and Thirty-six fine Ash, Oak, Elm, and other Timber Trees.....”

Worcester Journal 5/5/1860

“During the night of Friday last, some thieves entered the premises belonging to Mr. *Hawkeswood*, landlord of the RISING SUN, Overend, near Halesowen, and carried off seventeen fowls, some of them valuable, and eight tame rabbits. A pair of boots was stolen from the dwelling-house of Mortimer Ready, Bond Street, and a pair of boots from the shop of Mr. Duff, Bush Street, the following day.”

1861 Census

SUN INN

- [1] *William H. Hawkeswood* (50), widower, licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Benjamin Hawkeswood* (22), son, born Cradley;
- [3] *Edward Hawkeswood* (21), son, born Cradley;
- [4] *Mary Hawkeswood* (17), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] *Sarah Hawkeswood* (15), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] *Eliza Hawkeswood* (12), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Elizabeth Hawkeswood* (10), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] *William Hawkeswood* (5), son, born Cradley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 28/5/1862

“On Friday, at the Police Court, before C. E. Swindell, J. Hunt, and W. C. Firmstone, Esqrs, Joseph Parsons, a chainmaker, was brought up on remand from Wednesday, charged with cutting and wounding Evan Robinson, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm. It appeared that on Saturday night last there was a club meeting at the RISING SUN, at Overend, at which both prosecutor and prisoner were present. In the course of the night a disturbance took place, the prosecutor was knocked down, and while on the ground was stabbed. One wound was on the head, and another was aimed directly at the heart, but the knife was fortunately stopped by coming against a rib. But for this there can be no doubt that it would have been a case of murder. The prosecutor was conveyed home, and afterwards gave PC Woodward money to take out a warrant against the prisoner on the above charge. He now equivocated as to who the party was who assaulted him stating that he could not tell. He was ordered to stand down, and John Brooks, who had stated to Police-constable Jenkins that he saw the prisoner with a pen-knife in his hand immediately after the prosecutor was stabbed, was called. Brooks said that when the alarm was raised he went up into the room at the RISING SUN, and saw the prisoner there, but could not say what he had in his hand. He had previously told the police that it was a knife, but he now stated that he was drunk when he said it. PCs Woodward and Jenkins swore that that was not so, and the magistrates said they feared Brooks was telling a wilful untruth. They also said that they were convinced there was something at work behind

hand that such a case was not being prosecuted as it ought to be; but inasmuch as there was no evidence before them that they could act upon, they must discharge the prisoner. The case was accordingly dismissed.”

William Hawkeswood was also a grocer. [1864], [1865]

Stourbridge Observer 21/5/1864

“The members of the club held at Mr. *Hawkeswood*’s, Overend, had their annual feast. They paraded the neighbourhood accompanied by the Reddal Hill Band, and returning did ample justice to the dinner provided by their worthy host.”

County Advertiser 11/3/1865 - Advert

“Hunnington, near Halesowen.

To be Let with immediate possession, a Recently-erected Pleasantly-situated Dwelling House, containing Four Chambers, Front and Back Kitchens, Sitting Room, and Parlour; with Stable, Yard, Garden, and Other Out-buildings; with good supply of Water; suitable for Business or Private Residence. It is situated within a short distance from Clent Hills, and the proposed Halesowen and Bromsgrove Railway.

For particulars apply to *B. B. Hawkeswood*, SUN INN, Cradley.”

Worcester Journal 7/11/1868

“Representation of the Eastern Division.

Address of Mr. Amphlett at Cradley.

On Monday evening R. Paul Amphlett, Esq, QC, the Conservative candidate for the representation of the Eastern Division addressed the electors of Cradley and neighbourhood, at the SUN INN, Overend. There was a crowded meeting, a very large number of the electors having declared for Mr. Amphlett, who had an enthusiastic reception.....”

1871 Census

Overend

[1] *William H. Hawkeswood* (61), widower, victualler, born Cradley;

[2] *Benjamin B. Hawkeswood* (30), son, grocer, born Cradley;

[3] Edward Hawkeswood (28), son, farmer’s bailiff, born Cradley;

[4] Mary Ann Hawkeswood (24), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] Eliza Hawkeswood (21), daughter, born Cradley;

[6] Elizabeth Hawkeswood (19), daughter, born Cradley;

[7] William H. Hawkeswood (13), son, born Cradley;

[8] Harriett Hawkeswood (11), daughter, scholar, born Cradley:

Benjamin Burley Hawkeswood was also a grocer and provision dealer. [1873]

He was described as also being a shopkeeper. [1884]

County Express 24/1/1874

“East Worcestershire Division. A meeting of Mr. Allsopp’s committee was held last evening at the SUN INN, Overend. Mr. Jeston Homfray in the chair. The register was carefully gone through and exhibited a most satisfactory result both from the efforts of political reaction and the large addition of Conservative voters which have been placed on the register since the last contest.”

County Advertiser 19/9/1874 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, with good character.

Apply, SUN INN, Overend, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 23/1/1875 - Deaths

“On the 4th inst, in his 19th year, William Henry, the beloved son of *William Herbert Hawkeswood*, Yew Tree Farm, Overend, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 3/7/1875 - Deaths

“On the 1st inst, at Yew Tree Farm, Overend, in the 31st year of her age, Mary Ann, eldest daughter of *William Herbert Hawkeswood*; much respected by all who knew her.”

County Advertiser 9/9/1876 - Marriages

“On the 5th inst, at St. Andrew’s Church, Netherton, by the Rev. C. H. Barton, George, eldest son of Mr. John Williams, Darby Hand, to Sarah, eldest daughter of Mr. *William Herbert Hawkeswood*, Yew Tree Farm, Overend, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 25/8/1877 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, must be clean, honest, and industrious.

Apply, Mrs. *Hawkeswood*, SUN INN, Cradley.”

County Express 2/2/1878

“On Tuesday evening a large and influential meeting of the Cradley Conservative Association was held at the house of Mr. *B. Hawkeswood*, SUN INN, Overend, Cradley.....”

1881 Census

Overend

[1] *Benjamin B. Hawkeswood* (42), licensed victualler and grocer, born Cradley;

[2] Eliza Hawkeswood (33), wife, born Cradley;

[3] Betsy Hipkins (21), general servant, born Rowley:

1891 Census

Overend - Public House

[1] *Benjamin Hawkeswood* (52), publican, born Cradley;

[2] Eliza Hawkeswood (43), wife, born Rowley Regis;

[3] Mary Ann Harris (17), general servant, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/5/1891 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public-House, the RISING SUN INN, at Overend, Cradley, Cradley Heath.

By Roderick and Son. To be Sold by Auction, at the Property Mart, 6, Temple Row West, Birmingham, Tomorrow (Tuesday), May 12, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced – a very Old-established Full-licensed Freehold Public-House, well known as the RISING SUN INN, at Overend, Cradley, Cradley Heath, for many years past in the occupation of Mr. *Hawkeswood*, who is now retiring from business, and will give possession to the purchaser.

This is an important House of Business, being situated near the Corngreaves Works, and commanding the trade of an extensive well-populated district.

The Property includes a productive Orchard and Garden.

In addition to the Wine, Spirit and Ale Trade, there is a profitable Corn and Provision Trade attached.

All Fixtures will be included in the sale of the Freehold; but the purchaser will be required to take the Trade Furniture, Utensils, and loose Effects, and the current Stock at valuation, which will probably not exceed £250.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Arthur G. Frost, Solicitor, Church Street; or the Auctioneers, Temple Row West, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/5/1891

“At the Property Mart, 6, Temple Row West, last night, Messrs. Roderick and Son offered for sale several important properties.....

A freehold full-licensed public-house at Cradley, the RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley Heath, for many years past in the occupation of Mr. *Hawkeswood*, who is now retiring from business, was one of the most important lots included in the sale. The house is near the Corngreaves Ironworks, and includes a productive orchard and garden. The business includes profitable corn and provision trade. The fixtures are included in the freehold. The property was knocked down at £1,390.”

County Advertiser 5/3/1892 - Advert

“RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley.

To Let, this Genuine Old-established Free Full-Licensed House (home brewing), with Corn and Provision Trade attached; large Club Room 26ft by 56ft; productive Orchard and Kitchen Garden, Stabling, Piggeries, and every convenience for the trade. Incoming, including Fixtures, Fittings, Brewing Plant, Stock, &c, about £275.

W. R. Skelding, 98, High Street Stourbridge.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/4/1893

“London Gazette – April 7. The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890. Receiving Orders.

William Henry Walkie [sic], RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley, Worcestershire, licensed victualler and grocer.”

County Express 3/6/1893 - Advert

“Re *William Hy. Walker*, a Bankrupt.

The RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed by T. H. Gough, Esq, Chartered Accountant, the Trustee, to Sell by Auction, as above, on Thursday, June 8th, 1893, the genteel Household Furniture and Effects, consisting of Chimney Glasses, in rosewood frames; Clocks, Pictures, Cottage Pianoforte, Mahogany Couch in leather; Mahogany Horsehair-seated, cane-seated, and Windsor Chairs; Easy Chairs, Lamps, Carpets, Mahogany Centre Table, Mahogany Toilet Tables and Glasses, Mahogany Chests of Drawers, Night Chair, Mahogany Arabian and Iron Bedsteads, Two Panelled Oak Linen Chests, Oak Bureau and Beaufet, Mahogany glazed-front Bookcase and Chiffonier combined; Oak corner Cupboard; Painted Screen, Wringing Machine, &c, &c.

Sale at Eleven o'clock.

Catalogues to be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 1/7/1893 - Advert

“Re *Wm. Henry Walker*, a Bankrupt.

RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley.

To Licensed Victuallers and Others.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed by T. H. Gough, Esq, Chartered Accountant, the Trustee, to Sell by Auction, upon the Premises, as

above, on Monday Next, July 3rd, 1893, about 125 Gallons of Rum, Irish and Scotch Whiskeys, Brandy and Cordials, in quantities to suit Purchasers. The Spirits are of the Finest Brands, and are in excellent condition.
Sale at Two o'clock prompt."

County Advertiser 16/9/1893 - Notice

"To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

I, *William Hotchkiss*, the Holder of a Six Days' License to Sell Intoxicating Liquor, now residing at the RISING SUN INN, Overend, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, Do Hereby Give Notice, that it is my intention to Apply, at the Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be Holden at the Court House, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 29th day of September next ensuing, for a Seven Days' License to Sell by Retail Intoxicating Liquor to be Consumed either on or off the Premises, at a House situate at Overend, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and being within the said Division, and known by the sign of the RISING SUN INN. The Owner of the House in respect of which the License is required is myself.

Given under my hand this 31st day of August, 1893.

William Hotchkiss."

Birmingham Daily Post 18/8/1894

"London Gazette – August 17. The Bankruptcy Acts 1883 and 1890. Notice of Dividends.

William H. Walker, the RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley, Worcestershire, licensed victualler and grocer.

First and final dividend, 6d in the pound; payable September 3, at 257, Castle Street, Dudley."

County Advertiser 7/9/1895 - Notice

"To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Stourbridge, in the said County.

I, *Ann Maria Hotchkiss*, the holder of a Six Days' License to Sell Intoxicating Liquor, now residing at the RISING SUN INN, Overend, in the Township of Cradley, in the said County, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply, at the Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Court House, Stourbridge, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 27th day of September, 1895, for a Seven Days' License to Sell by Retail, Intoxicating Liquor, to be consumed either on or off the Premises, at a House situate at Overend, in the Township of Cradley, in the said County, and being within the said Division, and known by the sign of the RISING SUN INN.

The Owner of the House in respect of which the License is required is *William Hotchkiss*, of Cradley.

Given under my hand this 5th day of September, 1895.

Ann Maria Hotchkiss."

County Advertiser 28/9/1895

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the petty sessional division of Stourbridge were held yesterday....

Mr. Waldron applied for the renewal of the license of the RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley, to *Ann Maria Hodgkiss*, and also for the extension of her license from six days' to a seven days' license. This house was the only house in Cradley which was closed on Sundays, and it had been licensed for over one hundred years. During that lengthy period there had not been one single complaint against the different holders of the license during that time. The applicant wished to be placed exactly on the same footing as other license-holders in the neighbourhood, and there was no opposition to the application. He had a memorial in his possession which was signed by some of the other publicans. There had been two applications for the extension before, and since the last application there had been thirty houses built.

Mr. Freer said he had heard several publicans make bitter complaints that they were obliged to open on Sunday because others did. That was the other side of the question.

Mr. Waldron argued that he was not asking for a new license, but simply for an extension from six days to seven days.

The application was refused and the license renewed."

Mrs. *Ann Maria Hotchkiss* was also a shopkeeper. [1896]

County Express 25/9/1897

"The adjourned licensed sessions for the Stourbridge division were held yesterday....

Mr. Herbert Collis applied on behalf of *John Auden*, of the RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley, for a seven days' license instead of a six days' license The Bench refused to grant the seven days' license, but renewed the six days' license."

County Advertiser 6/8/1898 - Notice

"To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Stourbridge Division, in which the House and Premises hereinafter mentioned are situate.

I, *John Auden*, Licensed Victualler, now residing at the RISING SUN INN, Overend, Cradley, in the Parish of Cradley, in the said County of Worcester, Do Hereby Give Notice, that it is my intention to Apply, at the next General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Court House, Stourbridge, in the said Division and County, on the 26th day of August, 1898, for a License to hold any of the Excise Licenses that may be held by a Publican, to Sell by Retail under the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, 1828, Intoxicating Liquor to be Consumed either on or off the House or Premises thereunto belonging, situate at Overend, Cradley,

aforsaid, in the said Parish and Division, and known by the Sign of the RISING SUN INN, of which Premises the North Worcestershire Breweries Limited, of Stourbridge, in the County of Worcester, Brewers, are the Owners, and that the said Premises are of the annual value of £30, and that such House contains, exclusive of the Rooms occupied by the Inmates thereof, Two Rooms. Given under my hand this 25th day of July, 1898.

John Auden.

Witness: David Wall, Clerk with Mr. J. W. Clulow, Solicitor, Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 27/8/1898

“The annual licensing sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Stourbridge, were held yesterday at the Police Court.....

John Auden, landlord of the RISING SUN INN, Cradley, applied for his six days’ license to be extended into a seven days’ one. Mr. Thompson appeared on behalf of Mr. Wall (from the office of Mr. J. W. Clulow) in support of the application. Mr. Thompson said the position of the house and the circumstances of the application were, he ventured to think, unique. It was one of the oldest, if not the oldest house in the parish of Cradley, and it had been licensed for a period of sixty or seventy years, and up to twelve years ago it had a seven days’ license instead of a six days’ one. At that time a man named *Hawkesford* [sic], who had the license, came into the possession of some money and became independent, with the result that it became a six days’ license. The application was made four years ago, but since then new houses had been erected, and the Corngreaves estate had been put up, affording occupation to an increased population. Forty-six new houses had been built in the town during the last four years, and this house was the only one in the neighbourhood which had not got a seven days’ license.

Applicant gave evidence as to the facts, and said he was often asked for beer on Sundays. The house belonged to the Worcestershire Breweries Limited, and had one room 50ft long and 20ft wide, and a dozen bed rooms.

Police-superintendent Pugh asked the applicant if he knew that the holder of the license who dropped the seventh day paid the seven days license for some years and did not open.

Applicant: I have been led to understand so.

In answer to further questions, applicant said children came to his house for beer on Sundays.

Police-sergeant Clarke stated that no houses had been built in Overend for the last 18 months.

The Bench refused to grant the application.”

County Advertiser 14/4/1900

“The proceeds of a smoking concert recently held at the SUN INN, Overend, amounted to £2 13s, which sum has been handed over to the local reservists’ fund.”

County Advertiser 9/3/1901

“Halesowen Rural Council. Sanitary Committee.....

The county analyst reported that no trace of arsenic was detected in any of the samples of beer taken from Annie Halward, HARE AND HOUNDS, Hasbury; Enoch Pearce, FORGE INN, Halesowen; John Homer, BLACK HORSE, Cradley; *John Auden*, RISING SUN, Cradley.”

1901 Census

Butchers Lane – SUN INN

- [1] *John Auden* (33), blacksmith, born Cradley;
- [2] Rhoda Auden (32), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Lawson Auden (10), son, born St. Helens;
- [4] Nelly Auden (8), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] Wesley Auden (6), son, born Cradley;
- [6] Rhoda Auden (2), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] Sarah A. Emery (16), domestic servant, born Cradley:

John Auden – see also KATIE FITZGERALDS, Stourbridge

Birmingham Mail 9/6/1906

“Today the Worcestershire Licensing Committee opened its ‘principal’ meeting for the consideration of licenses reported by the justices of various petty sessional divisions as being unnecessary to renew. Mr. Willis Bund presided. The licenses in question are nearly forty in number, and the court was crowded with the parties concerned and the legal gentleman involved. It is expected that the sittings of the committee will extend over several days.

At the outset the Chairman announced that the magistrates who reported houses would not adjudicate upon them, that witnesses might be cross-examined upon the question of the selection of certain houses, and that evidence must be tendered as to why the selection had been made.

Upon the application of the Hon. R. Coventry, the license of the OLD TAVERN, Stambermill, Lye was transferred to the RISING SUN, Overend Cradley, and that of the SKIDMORE VAULTS, Stourbridge to the BALLS LANE TAVERN.....”

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowl-

edges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter's Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

Indenture 28/10/1909

“All that messuage or dwelling-house situate at Cradley in the County of Worcester and used as a public house called The RISING SUN INN with the brewhouse store room pigstye petty and all the land at the back thereof down to the River Stour.”

1911 Census

Overend – RISING SUN

- [1] *George Robins* (43), dresser, born Cradley;
- [2] *Zerinah Robins* (40), wife, married 19 years, born Cradley;
- [3] *Laura Robins* (17), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Theresa Robins* (12), daughter, school, born Cradley;
- [5] *Joseph Robins* (10), son, school, born Cradley;
- [6] *Winnie Robins* (5), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Cissie Robins* (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] *Harriett Brettell* (76), mother-in-law, widow, born Cradley:

It closed on 30th May 1925.

ROBIN HOOD

High Street / New Street, CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Oliver and Sons
Benjamin Tromans

LICENSEES

Mary Yardley [1835] – [1846]
Josiah Bloomer [1838] – **1860**;
William Parkes (**1860** – [1861]
James Hingley [1878] – [1880]
William Tibbetts [1891] – [1901]
John Auden [1903] – **1904**;
William Tibbetts (**1904** – **1905**);
Harry William Davies (**1905** – **1910**);
William Weaver (**1910** – **1911**);
Llewelyn Robinson (**1911** – **1921**);
Albert Jeavons (**1921** – **1925**);
Thomas Edge (**1925** – **1927**);
Benjamin Tromans (**1927** – **1934**);
James Hanstock (**1934** – **1938**);
Samuel Pearson (**1938** – **1939**);

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/3/1837

“Shropshire Assizes.

Thomas Nock was found guilty of having robbed John Penn on the highway in the parish of Hales Owen, and having feloniously

cut and wounded him with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm.

The prosecutor was a stock taker to Mr. Evans, of Cradley, ironmaster. On the evening of the robbery he and his brother called at the ROBIN HOOD public house, Cradley. Previously to leaving the house the prisoner entered, and had some conversation with him. When the prosecutor arrived at a place called Whitley Lodge he was felled by a blow on the head from a heavy instrument which proved to have been an iron bar, and when on the ground he raised his head and saw the prisoner standing over him. He received sixteen wounds in different parts of his head and face, from the effects of which he did not recover for several weeks. The Jury recommended him to mercy. Death recorded.”

Evening Mail 24/3/1837

“Mr. Baron Parke sentenced the prisoner, Thomas Nock, who was convicted yesterday of highway robbery, to be transported for life, telling him that he would be sent to the penal settlement at Port Macquarrie.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 21/6/1838

“*Josiah Bloomer*, of Cradley, innkeeper, was summoned by the Guardians of the Stourbridge Union, to shew cause why he refused to maintain his father and mother, who had in consequence become chargeable to the Township of Cradley. Mr. King in an impressive manner inculcated on defendant’s mind, the duty of children possessing the requisite means, to support their parents when age or infirmity prevented them from obtaining their own living. The case was adjourned for a week, in order to afford either party an opportunity of accommodation.”

1841 Census

High Street

- [1] *Josiah Bloomer* (30), publican, born Worcestershire;
- [2] Elizabeth Bloomer (30), wife, born Worcestershire;
- [3] Joseph Bloomer (6), son, born Worcestershire:

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Josiah Bloomer* (42), victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Elizabeth Bloomer (40), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Josiah Bloomer (16), son, chainmaker, born Cradley;
- [4] Alfred Bloomer (5), son, born Cradley;
- [5] Catherine Bloomer (9 months), daughter, born Cradley:

Josiah Bloomer was also a pawnbroker.

London Gazette 8/11/1861

“In the matter of the Petition of *William Parkes*, now of Cradley, in the township of Cradley, in the parish of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, in lodgings, a Journeyman Bricklayer, keeping the ROBIN HOOD, previously of Light Green, in Cradley, aforesaid, in the county aforesaid, keeping the CROWN INN, licensed victualler, and during part of the time in partnership with Samuel Parkes, and trading under the name or firm of Messrs. W. and S. Parkes, as Builders, an Insolvent Debtor. Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Worcestershire, at Stourbridge, acting in the matter of this petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 26th day of November instant.....”

County Express 3/8/1878

“Conservative Association. A meeting of this flourishing Association was held on Wednesday evening last at the house of Mr. *James Hingley*, ROBIN HOOD INN, High Street, Cradley.....”

County Express 3/4/1880 - Advert

“East Worcestershire Election.

Mr. H. Allsopp and Sir Richard Temple (who has arrived from India) will address their supporters, on Wednesday, the 7th day of April, at the undermentioned places.

Halesowen, in the Yard of the NEW INN, at 2.15.

Cradley, at Mr. *James Hingley*’s the ROBIN HOOD INN, at 3.30.

The Lye, at the RAILWAY HOTEL, at 4.45.

Homfray and Holberton, Brierley Hill, Agents for Halesowen and Cradley.”

County Advertiser 10/4/1880

“East Worcestershire.

Conservative Meetings.....

Later in the day a meeting was held at Mr. *J. Hingley*’s, ROBIN HOOD INN, Cradley, Mr. Pateshall, who presided, remarked that the licensed victuallers were prepared to support Conservative candidates. Mr. Richard Temple then addressed the meeting at some length.....”

1891 Census

High Street – ROBIN HOOD INN

- [1] *William Tibbetts* (25), innkeeper, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Hannah M. Tibbetts (28), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] Annie F. Tibbetts (2), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] William Tibbetts (9 months), son, born Cradley;
- [5] Alice H. Shaw (14), general servant, born Cradley Heath:

County Advertiser 29/6/1895 - Advert

“Cradley. Sale of Freehold Properties, High Street, and Butcher’s Lane. (By direction of the Mortgagees.)

Mr. Herbert Humphries will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, July 9th, 1895, at the ROBIN HOOD INN, Cradley, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions.

Lot 1. All those Three Cottages, situate between the WHITE HORSE INN and the ROBIN HOOD INN, High Street, Cradley, to which street it has an important frontage.....”

County Advertiser 7/9/1895

“John Sidaway, of West End, Cradley, secretary to Court Lily of the Valley, No.4431, branch of the Dudley and Cradley Heath District of the Ancient Order of Foresters, was summoned for non-payment of 40s, alleged to be due to William Boxley, a member of the court, which is held at the ROBIN HOOD INN, Cradley, as sick pay at the rate of 10s per week, up to the 29th day of July, 1895. Mr. James appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Hinds defended.

The case was adjourned from the previous week on the point of whether the Court had any jurisdiction in the face of previous arbitration by the Order.

The complainant said he was a member of the court mentioned. He went out with his wife and three children in a trap on the 15th June last, and met with an accident. The court paid him sick pay for a fortnight, and refused to pay on the third week, alleging that complainant was drunk when the accident occurred. On the suggestion of defendant the Arbitration Committee were called together, and heard two witnesses called by complainant but would not hear complainant himself.

Mr. James said he submitted that there was no arbitration on the claim, the only question raised at the arbitration was whether the complainant was drunk.

Mr. King said that would be a material point.

Complainant said he did pay any arbitration fees, nor had he had the award of the Arbitration Committee. The committee had decided they would not pay him before the arbitration was held.

Mr. James submitted that the Arbitration Committee should have given an award to the complainant.

The Bench did not consider they had any jurisdiction, and they dismissed the case.”

County Express 9/10/1897

“The second annual parade of Foresters in the Cradley, Cradley Heath, Quarry Bank, and Dudley Wood districts, for the benefit of the home at Clent, took place on Sunday afternoon, with every element of success attending it – the day was fine, the crowd was large, and the collections were very satisfactory. A pleasing feature about the parade was the number of members who turned out, and the number of courts. The following courts were represented.....

Lily of the Valley, ROBIN HOOD INN, Cradley.”

1901 Census

High Street – ROBIN HOOD INN

- [1] *William Tibbetts* (36), beer retailer, born Cradley Heath;
- [2] Hannah M. Tibbetts (38), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] Annie Tibbetts (12), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] William Tibbetts (10), son, born Cradley;
- [5] Cicely Tibbetts (9), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] Minnie Tibbetts (4), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] Harold Tibbetts (1 month), son, born Cradley;
- [8] Esther Houley (28), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Express 4/5/1901

“William Baker, of Intended Street, Cradley, was fined £2 and costs for refusing to quit the ROBIN HOOD INN, Cradley, on April 29th, and ordered to pay costs for maliciously damaging a window, value 6s, the property of *William Tibbetts*, the landlord.”

County Advertiser 25/5/1901 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, abut 20 years of age.

Apply, Mr. *Tibbetts*, ROBIN HOOD, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 9/1/1904

“On Wednesday the half yearly meeting of the sick and draw club was held at the ROBIN HOOD INN. An attractive supper was spread by the host and hostess. After the usual business had been gone through the secretary declared a dividend of 11s 4d. A silver-mounted umbrella was presented to Mr. Alfred Hodgetts in recognition of his six years’ services as an officer of the club, and was suitably acknowledged. A very pleasant musical evening followed, with Mr. Deeley in the chair. At the close hearty thanks

were voted to the host and hostess and to the chairman.”

1911 Census

High Street

[1] *William Weaver* (51), public house manager, born Cradley Heath;

[2] *Elizabeth Weaver* (47), wife, married 28 years, born Woodside;

[3] *Edith Weaver* (17), daughter, born Cradley Heath;

[4] *William Weaver* (13), son, butcher, born Cradley Heath:

County Express 24/9/1921 - Advert

“*Alfred W. Dando and Co.* have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the FIVE WAYS HOTEL, Cradley Heath, on Friday, October 7th, 1921, at seven o'clock in the evening precisely, subject to conditions of sale to be produced as follows.

Lot 1. By direction of the representative of *William Tibbetts* deceased, the important Double-fronted Roomy and Substantial On-Beerhouse and premises know as the ROBIN HOOD INN, High Street, corner of New Street, Cradley, containing entrance and side passages, long bar, two smoke rooms; kitchen, dairy, spacious club room with separate entrance, three first floor and two second floor bedrooms, four good cellars with rollingway, together with the very complete range of out-buildings in large walled yard, having double gateway approach, as in the occupation of Messrs. *Oliver and Sons Ltd.*, with vacant possession upon completion of the purchase. The foregoing is a most substantial, well laid out property, with ample business and private accommodation, and is one of the best known business houses in the manufacturing centre of Cradley.”

Thomas Edge was married to *Mary Ann*.

He died on 2nd August 1941.

See also OLD TWO GATES.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/11/1937

“*Cradley Heath Money Society*, which has been in existence for nearly 40 years, is hopelessly insolvent, and only has £3,200 to meet liabilities of about £8,500, much of it to poor people. This was revealed at Dudley County Court yesterday when *Dr. Dawson Sadler*, sitting for Judge *Tebbs*, made an order for the compulsory winding up of the society.

Mr. Gilbert Griffiths made the petition on behalf of four members, *Benjamin Millward (junior)*, 15, Sydney Road, Cradley Heath, manufacturing engineer; *Samuel Pearson*, of the ROBIN HOOD, High Street, Cradley Heath, an engineer's fitter; *Sydney Howard Millward*, 'Ashulle,' Red Hill, Stourbridge, manufacturing engineer; and *James Claude Hickman* of 560, Haden Park Road, Old Hill, laboratory assistant, to whom the society was indebted to the extent of £190.

Mr. Griffiths said that many other interests were represented in court and other solicitors appeared for nearly 100 other men. He said the society, which had its headquarters at the Waterloo Coffee House, Cradley Heath, was formed in 1899 to create funds by weekly subscriptions from investing members, which were loaned to borrowing members at a rate of interest to provide a return for the investing members and cover management expenses. Unfortunately, for reasons into which they need not go, the society had become insolvent.

Mr. William Jones, of Cradley Heath, chartered accountant, gave the details of the financial position of the society, and said there would be a deficiency of between £5,000 and £6,000. 'I cannot give accurate figures because I have not the required information,' he said, 'but there is no doubt that it is hopelessly insolvent and that the only method of dealing with it is by winding up.'

Making an application for the costs of the supporting solicitors to be paid out of the assets, *Mr. O. L. Bergendorff* said that all the people they represented were very poor people. *Dr. Sadler* said he could not grant that application, but he agreed to the petitioners' costs being paid.”

1939 Register

High Street – ROBIN HOOD INN

[1] *Samuel Pearson*, date of birth 1/1/1887, engineering metal trade, maintaining pulley blocks and crane, married;

[2] *Alice May Pearson*, dob 21/9/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Fanny (Mabel) Pearson*, dob 21/7/1922, aluminium hollowware worker, single;

[4] *Eugene (Pearson) Lester*, female, dob 21/7/1925, sugar confectionery maker, single;

[5] *Stephen Wallace*, dob 11/12/1886, incapacitated, single:

Evening Despatch 3/2/1939

“The annual licensing sessions at Stourbridge.....

All licenses were renewed except the following.....

ROBIN HOOD, Cradley.....

They were referred back on the grounds of redundancy.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/3/1939

“*Stourbridge Licensing Justices* yesterday.....

The OLD MOGUL INN, Cradley, the ROBIN HOOD, Cradley, the UNION INN, Lye, and the ROYAL OAK, Lye, were referred to the compensation authority, but the license of the BLUE BALL, Cradley, was renewed, *Mr. T. T. Dineen* having stated that the owner was prepared to make any alteration the justices required.

‘We could very well dispose of six public houses in Cradley,’ said *PS Lambourne*, who added that in most cases public houses

were merely part-time occupations, the licensees going out to work.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/6/1939

“At yesterday’s meeting, the Worcestershire County Licensing Committee refused renewal of the following licenses.....
Stourbridge district ROBIN HOOD, Cradley, owned by Benjamin Tromans, Cradley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/6/1939 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Worcester.

Notice as to Sending in Claims to be Treated as Persons Interested in Licensed Premises.

Notice Is Hereby Given that the Compensation Authority for the above area having decided at their Principal Meeting held on the 12th day of June, 1939, to refuse the renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below, all persons claiming to be interested in the said Premises for the purpose of the payment of Compensation under the said Act (other than the Licensees and the Registered Owners of the said Premises), are required to send to the Compensation Authority to ascertain in manner provided by the Licensing Rules, 1910, the Persons entitled to Compensation under the said Act in respect of the said Premises.

Notice of Claims must be given in the Form annexed, and maybe sent to the Clerk of the Compensation Authority, at his Office at the Shirehall, Worcester.

Licensed Premises in the Stourbridge Licensing Division.....

ROBIN HOOD, Cradley. Licence, Beerhouse ‘On’. Licensee, *Samuel Pearson*. Registered Owner, Benjamin Tromans, DUKE WILLIAM INN, Cradley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/9/1939

“Worcestershire Licensing Committee yesterday awarded the following sums as compensation for the closing of six houses in the county.....

ROBIN HOOD, Cradley, owned by Benjamin Tromans, Cradley; claim £3,155, award £2,439 5s.”

It closed on 30th October 1939.

It became the Cradley Pentecostal Mission Hall.

ROSE AND CROWN

95, Colley Lane, (19, High Street), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Isaiah Hughes

Frederick Edward Cutler, Brook Street, Stourbridge (acquired on 9th October 1900 for £1,730) [1903]

Hereford and Tredegar Breweries Ltd.

T. Plant and Co. Ltd. (acquired on 19th August 1919)

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Albert Potter

Alan Potter

LICENSEES

Francis Simms [1849] – [1850]

Elizabeth (Simms) Gibbs [] – 1857);

Joseph Gibbs (1857 – 1859);

John Bridgewater (1859);

John Warr (1859 – 1861);

William Bennett (1861 – [1866]

John Millward [] – 1871);

William Deeley (1871 – [1876]

Mrs. Louisa Deeley [1880] – [1884]

Frederick Edward Cutler [1888] – 1912);

Frank Midwinter (1912 – 1913);

Benjamin ‘Ben’ Hughes (1913);

Samuel Joseph Salt (1913 – 1914);

Harry Smith (1914 – 1916);

Josiah Bloomer (1916 – 1919);

George Millward (1919 – 1921);

Walter Williams (1921 – 1922);
Egbert Bedford (1922);
Edward Morris (1922 – 1923);
Fred Boxley (1923 – [1932])
William James Hall [1939] – [1940]
Nat Davis [1943] – [1944]
Robert Field [1968] – 1970)
Mrs. Lilly Potter (1972 – 1977);
Alan Potter (1977 – [1984])
Dennis William Ernest Goldwray []
Alan Potter [2015]

NOTES

19, High Street
95, Colley Lane [1960]

It had a beerhouse license.

Worcester Journal 24/1/1857

“Transfer of Licenses..... ROSE AND CROWN INN, Cradley, from Miss *Elizabeth Sims* to her husband, Mr. *Joseph Gibbs*.”
AND

Worcestershire Chronicle 21/1/1857

“Transfers..... ROSE AND CROWN, *Elizabeth Simms* to her present husband *Joseph Gibbs*.”

County Advertiser 3/9/1859 - Advert

“Sale At The ROSE AND CROWN INN, Cradley.

To be Sold by Auction, by S. Insull, on Monday Next, Sept. 5th, 1859, the whole of the Public House Fixtures, Brewing Utensils, Household Furniture, &c, comprising Ash and other Chairs, Mahogany Work Table, Book Shelves, Lot of Books, Deal Sideboard, Chest of Drawers, Bright Fender and Fire-irons, Screen, Drinking Table, Swing Glasses, Four-post and Tent Bedsteads, Flock Bed, Bed Linen, Coolers, 90-gallon Cask, Iron Boiler and Grate, Mashing Tub, Tunpails, Bushel Measure, Four-pull Beer Machine, with Piping and Taps, complete; Water Tubs, Small Iron Boiler, Several Iron-bound Casks, and numerous other effects, belonging to Mr. *Joseph Gibbs*, who is giving up the business.

The Licenses and Good-Will with immediate possession, will be sold at Two o’clock.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

William Bennett, retailer of beer, Cradley. [1862]

William Bennett was also a greengrocer. [1864]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/2/1866

“On Friday afternoon last a fight took place between two men employed at the works of Messrs. Mountford and Homer, chain manufacturers, Cradley, which ended fatally. The two men are named Adam Williams, alias Dipper, and Samuel Woodhouse, alias Baby. The former is a young man about 19 years of age, residing at High Lane, Cradley, and the latter is a married man, aged 24, residing near the BEEHIVE, Cradley Heath. It appears that the two men worked in the same shop, and that a bad feeling had been engendered in connection with a pigeon match a few days previously. During the morning the deceased was chaffing Woodhouse, and at dinner time Mrs. Woodhouse brought her husband’s dinner, which did not please him, and he sent it back untouched. Deceased made all sorts of remarks about this suggesting that Woodhouse should go out and give his wife a good thrashing. Woodhouse replied that he should prefer thrashing Williams. To which Williams said, ‘Come and try it on,’ and led the way out of the shop. The two, with three other workmen, then proceeded to a small field at the back of the Baptist Refuge Chapel, and fought several rounds, when Woodhouse struck deceased a violent blow on the pit of the stomach, causing Williams to fall insensible. His comrades rubbed him and bathed him with warm water, but death had already taken place. He was quickly removed to Mr. *Bennett*’s, the ROSE AND CROWN INN, where further efforts were made to restore consciousness, but without success. During the afternoon Woodhouse was apprehended, and conveyed to Stourbridge police cells. On Saturday morning he was brought before Mr. R. L. Freer, and remanded until Tuesday next.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/3/1866

“Worcestershire Spring Assizes.

Pleaded Guilty..... Samuel Woodhouse, to the manslaughter of Adam Williams, on the 16th of February, at the parish of Cradley, two months’ imprisonment.”

1871 Census

High Street – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *John Millward* (43), chain maker, born Lye Waste;
- [2] *Emma Millward* (36), wife, born Quarry Bank;
- [3] *Lucy Westwood* (15), step-daughter, house maid, born Overend
- [4] *Betsy Westwood* (11), step-daughter, scholar, born Quarry Bank;
- [5] *Patience Westwood* (8), step-daughter, scholar, born Quarry Bank;
- [6] *Amos Westwood* (5), step-son, scholar, born Quarry Bank;
- [7] *Harriot Westwood* (3), step-daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] *Emma Millward* (8 months), daughter, born Cradley:

1881 Census

19, High Street

- [1] *Louisa Deeley* (32), widow, innkeeper, born Cradley;
- [2] *Louis W. Deeley* (11), son, scholar, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/12/1886 - Advert

“General Wanted, for Hotel and to Assist in Bar. Previous knowledge not necessary.
CROWN HOTEL, Cradley.”

County Express 27/9/1890

“At the County Court, on Saturday, in an action of *Humphries v Cutler*, the plaintiff, who is an auctioneer, sued for £2, the value of an iron safe and an oil painting and picture sold to the defendant at a sale. Mr. Homer appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. Waldron for defendant.

The defendant had bought the articles in question at a sale at the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Cradley, and the auctioneer’s clerk on that occasion was a young man named Wall. There was a direct conflict of evidence between Wall and defendant as to what occurred with regard to the lots. Wall stated that defendant came to him and asked for his bill, but did not give him any money, saying either he (Wall) could call for it or he would send it. The bill was said to be asked for with a view to the removal of the goods purchased, the porter having refused to let them go without a delivery note. Defendant’s evidence was that he not only asked for the bill but paid the money to Wall.

His honour pointed out that the paper which had been produced in the case was neither an invoice nor a receipt, but a delivery note only. There was nothing on the face of it to show the money was paid, and his Honour gave a verdict for plaintiff declining to grant a new trial.”

1891 Census

High Street

- [1] *Frederic E. Cutler* (29), licensed victualler, born Old Hill;
- [2] *Amy Cutler* (29), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Frederic Cutler* (4), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] *Louisa E. Cutler* (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] *Sarah Harbach* (18), general servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 14/12/1891 - Advert

“Christmas Club. ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley. Proprietor *Fred Cutler*.

Choice Wedderburn’s Jamaica Rum, Seven Years Old. Per Pint, 2s 6d.

Geo. Roe’s Irish Whiskey, Five Years Old. Per Pint, 2s 3d.

Special Scotch Whiskey.

French Cognac, 13 Years Old. 4s Per Pint. Lower Prices according to Quality.

Finest London Gin.

Wines, Cordials, and Home-Brewed Ales of the Finest Quality.”

County Advertiser 14/3/1896

“On Monday evening, in the Church Schools, Cradley, a parish meeting was held for the purpose of nominating and electing parish councillors for the ensuing year. The number of candidates to be elected was fifteen. The names of those nominated and the number of votes recorded for each candidate, are as follows.....

Frederick Edward Cutler (publican), High Street, 89.”

[He was elected.]

County Express 12/6/1897

“A quarterly meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Protection and Benevolent Society was held at the house of Mr. H. Walker, VICTORIA INN, Cradley, on Thursday, Mr. *F. E. Cutler* (president) presiding.....”

County Advertiser 23/12/1899

“The Education Department has authorised the formation of a School Board, and the following nominations for the seven seats were received by Mr. T. Wall, returning officer, on Saturday last.....

Frederick Edwin Cutler, CROWN INN, Cradley.....

[He withdrew his nomination.]

County Advertiser 22/9/1900 - Advert

“Important to Brewers, Maltsters, Licensed Victuallers, Parties Seeking Investment and Others.

Freehold Old-Licensed Premises (Perfectly Free from Trade Ties).

The ROUND OF BEEF, Windmill Hill, Cradley; the ROSE AND CROWN, in the Town of Cradley; the WHY NOT (Beerhouse), Two Gates, Cradley; Front Shops, Malthouse, 50 Dwelling Houses and Tenements, Chain and Anchor Factories, and Building Land in and about the Neighbourhood of Cradley and Quarry Bank, in the immediate vicinity of extensive Ironworks, Manufactories, and Collieries.

H. King and Son, in Conjunction with Thomas Pateshall, are instructed by the Trustees of the late Mr. Isaiah Hughes, to Offer for Sale by Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley, on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 9th and 10th, 1900, at Six o'clock each Evening, and subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, the following Licensed Premises and Other Properties.....

The Freehold, Fully-Licensed, and perfectly Free Inn, the ROSE AND CROWN, situate in High Street, in the centre of the town of Cradley, and now let to Mr. *Frederick E. Cutler*, upon an annual tenancy.

The accommodation consists of Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Sitting Room, Three Bed Rooms, Two Cellars, Brewhouse, Coalhouse, &c. There is a right of road, eight feet wide, on the north side of the House, giving access to the premises in the rear. This is an old-fashioned Inn, in good repair, which enjoys a large and respectable trade. It is situate in the midst of a dense population, near important Ironworks, factories, and collieries, and offers an exceptional opportunity, either to brewery companies or private individuals, of acquiring one of the most genuine houses in the market.”

County Advertiser 13/10/1900

“An important sale of freehold property, being the estate of the late Mr. Isaiah Hughes, was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, on Tuesday and Wednesday. A very large company attended each evening, and enabled the auctioneer, Mr. King (of the firm of H. King and Son), to dispose of every lot offered at highly satisfactory figures. Mr. Pateshall was jointly concerned, and Messrs. Perry and Travis, of Stourbridge were the solicitors. The following are the details.....

ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, realised £1,730.”

1901 Census

High Street (west side)

[1] *Frederick Edward Cutler* (39), licensed victualler and brewer, born Cradley Heath;

[2] Amy Georgina Cutler (39), wife, born Cradley;

[3] Frederick Edward Cutler (14), son, solicitor's clerk, born Cradley;

[4] Nellie Cutler (13), daughter, born Cradley;

[5] Mabel Cutler (9), daughter, born Cradley;

[6] Priscilla Hodgetts (21), domestic servant, born Cradley:

F. E. Cutler was a committee member of Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley and District LVA. [1902]

County Advertiser 7/2/1903

“The annual Licensing Sessions for Stourbridge Petty Sessional Division were held yesterday morning at the Police Court.....

Mr. *Frederick Edward Cutler*, tenant and owner of the ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, made an application for a provisional license for an extension of the premises. Mr. E. H. Grove appeared in support of the application, and said the new premises would take in a bit of the site of an adjoining house. The licensed premises would be increased by about 800 square feet, but the drinking portion of the premises would only be increased by six inches.

The Bench granted the application.”

County Advertiser 12/3/1904

“District Council Nominations Halesowen Cradley Ward.....

**Frederick Edward Cutler*, licensed victualler, High Street, Cradley.....

The asterisk denotes the retiring members.”

County Advertiser 19/3/1904

“Parish Council Elections. Cradley.

Mr. E. H. Groves (returning officer) received the following nominations in connection with the Cradley Parish Council elections.....

Frederick Edward Cutler, licensed victualler.....

There are 29 candidates for 15 seats. Polling will take place on the 28th inst.”

[*Frederick Edward Cutler* (Independent) had the highest number of votes and was elected.]

County Advertiser 5/1/1907

“Sick and Draw Clubs..... The club held at the ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL, Cradley, met on Friday evening in last week to their annual dinner. Some fifty members sat down to an excellent repast provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *F. E.*

Cutler. After dinner Mr. W. Head was voted to the chair, and remarked that the club had had a very successful year. The secretary (Mr. Josiah Bloomer) presented the annual report and balance sheets, which being satisfactory, was passed. He announced a dividend of 17s per member. During the evening songs and recitations were rendered by the members, and votes of thanks to the host and hostess and to the officers concluded a very pleasant evening. It was decided to restart the club next Monday.”

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies’ parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter’s Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher’s Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, ‘Onward Christian Soldiers,’ a solo from ‘Thus saeth the Lord,’ splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, ‘Rousseau’s dream,’ finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, ‘O, clap your hands,’ and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

County Express 27/6/1908

“On Thursday evening the quarterly meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley, and District Licensed Victuallers’ and Beer Retailers’ Protection and Benevolent Society was held at Mr. *F. E. Cutler*’s, the ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL, Cradley. Mr. D. Proffitt (vice-chairman) presided.....”

County Express 14/11/1908

“On Saturday, at the Birmingham Canine Societies annual show, Mr. *F. E. Cutler*, of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, was awarded first prize in the class for Pomeranian dogs and bitches with his ‘Lady Superior.’”

County Express 9/1/1909

“Dividend Clubs..... ROSE AND CROWN (Cradley).

The annual dinner was held on Thursday week, when Mr. T. Partridge presided over a large attendance. After an excellent dinner, provided by Mr. and Mrs. *F. E. Cutler*, the secretary, Mr. William Edge, read the annual report and a dividend of 18s 10d per member was declared. The membership was stated to be 58, an increase upon the previous year, and it was also reported that Mr. *Cutler* had generously contributed over 2½ per cent of the total income, which was £64 16s 3d. W. Ashmore, G. Tranter, and F. *Cutler* jun, rendered musical items, and they and the host and hostess were heartily thanked.”

F. E. Cutler was a councillor of Halesowen and Cradley. [1909]

He was a member of the Stourbridge Board of Guardians. [1909]

County Express 30/1/1909

“Shortly before 11 o’clock on Wednesday evening a fire was discovered in the servant’s bedroom in the upper storey of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, in the occupation of Mr. *F. E. Cutler*. It seems that the fire was first noticed by some people living on the opposite side of the street, who immediately informed Mr. *Cutler* of the fact, and rendered assistance in putting the fire out, but not before considerable damage was done to some of the furniture and drapery in the room. It is said that no one was in the room for at least an hour before the fire was discovered, and apparently an unextinguished match, accidentally left on the floor near the window, was the origin of it. Had it not been for the prompt assistance rendered to Mr. *Cutler*, serious damage would undoubtedly have been done, because when the room was first entered the fire had a good hold of the window frame and curtains.”

Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

“A fire occurred on Monday evening in one of the bedrooms at the ROSE AND CROWN, the house of Mr. *F. E. Cutler*. By some means or other the curtains took fire, but, fortunately, the flames were extinguished before much damage was done.”

Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

“A meeting of the Cradley Heath and District Chainmakers’ Association was on Tuesday evening held in the clubroom at the ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley. There was a large attendance. Mr. J. H. Smith (the secretary) spoke on matters affecting the trade, and later routine business was transacted.”

Tipton Herald 20/3/1909

“One of the reporters of this journal made it his business last week to dill upon a number of Liberals and Unionists to ask their

opinions on the speech made a fortnight ago by Mr. *F. E. Cutler*, at a Unionist meeting at the ROUND OF BEEF, at Colley Gate, on the question of the statement by Mr. Wilson MP, that publicans forced drink down the throats of the people. Many, however, refused to express an opinion, whilst others declined to allow their names to be publicly mentioned. Now, I notice, Mr. Wilson has denied that he made the statement. What I should like to know, however, is this – If Mr. Wilson really did not use the words why did not the Liberal Club officials deny the accuracy of the reports when the newspapers containing the reports appeared? If they had known Mr. Wilson did not make the statement would they not have said so long before this? Mr. Campion ought to have something interesting to say on this topic when he next speaks in Cradley.”

County Express 5/6/1909

“On Tuesday evening the members of the ROSE AND CROWN dividend society assembled to an excellent supper, provided by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *F. E. Cutler*. After the cloth was drawn Mr. Thomas Partridge presided, and thanks were heartily accorded to the host and hostess. Mr. Joseph Hodgetts contributed a pianoforte selection, and a series of gramophone records were supplied by Mr. Cutler. A most enjoyable evening closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.”

County Express 15/1/1910

“Dividend Societies.....

ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley. Chairman, Mr. W. Homer; dividend, 15s 6d.”

County Express 12/3/1910 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Properties, Lyde Green, Cradley.

T. Pateshall is instructed to Sell By Auction, at the house of Mr. *F. E. Cutler*, the ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL, Cradley, on Monday, the 21st day of March, 1910, at Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions.....”

County Express 12/11/1910

“Under the auspices of the local branch of the Tariff Reform League a smoking concert was held at the ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, on Tuesday evening. Mr. James H. Smith presided, supported by Mr. *F. E. Cutler* and Mr. J. H. Rooke. During the evening Mr. Rooke and the chairman spoke upon tariff reform.”

County Express 11/3/1911

“There was a large attendance at a benefit concert, held at the ROSE AND CROWN on Monday, for Mr. C. Bridgewater and Mr. A. Head, who are both ill. Mr. E. C. Starling presided. The programme was contributed by Messrs. B. Hingley, A. Billingham, G. Tranter, W. Ashmore, E. Bloomer, S. Worton, and *F. Cutler*, jun, and P. Lowe (accompanist).”

County Express 25/3/1911 - Advert

“Sale On Monday Next, March 27th, at the ROSE & CROWN HOTEL, Cradley.

T. Pateshall will Sell By Auction, as above, a quantity of Excellent Household Furniture, Brilliant-toned Upright Grand Overstrung Pianoforte, Oil Paintings, quantity of Old Brass, Lead and Copper, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Fred. E. Cutler*, who is leaving. Sale at 2 o’clock.”

County Express 1/4/1911

“The smoking concert held recently at the ROSE AND CROWN HOTEL, for the benefit of Messrs. C. Bridgewater and A. Head resulted in £10 1s being handed over to the recipients in equal proportions last Monday. Mr. *F. E. Cutler* acted as treasurer, and the concert was organised by Mr. A. Hodgetts (chairman), Mr. W. Homer (secretary), and a committee appointed from the ROSE AND CROWN sick and draw club.”

County Express 5/8/1911

“There was held recently, at the BRIDGE INN, a supper in connection with the late ROSE AND CROWN dividend club, which has a membership numbering 80. A good supper was provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Jasper). Songs were rendered by Messrs. A. Billingham, A. Cook, and G. Auden, and gramophone recitals were provided by Mr. Robinson. Mr. A. Hodgetts was chairman, and the secretary is Mr. W. Homer.”

County Express 12/8/1911

“On Monday the members of the ROSE AND CROWN Sick and Draw Club were entertained by Mr. *F. E. Cutler*. After a good spread votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. Binfield and his staff. Messrs. Homer, Parsons, Kirton, and Malin gave songs and recitations, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. A. Hodgetts occupied the chair.”

County Express 11/11/1911 - Advert

“On Monday Next. Lyde Green, Cradley. Sale of Highly Valuable Freehold Property.

E. O. Nightingale has received instructions to Sell By Auction, at the House of Mr. *F. E. Cutler*, the ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, on Monday, the 13th day of November, 1911, at 7 o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced.....”

Frederick Edward Cutler was also a brewer. [1912]

County Express 10/2/1912 - Advert

“Sale of Capital Three Quarter Brewing Plant at Lyde Green Brewery, Cradley.

A. H. Sidaway is favoured with instructions from Mr. *F. E. Cutler* to Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, Feb. 13th, 1912.

The Valuable Model Three-Quarter Steam Brewery Plant, consisting of 600 Gallon Copper Boiler, by Gaskell and Chambers; 2 small Copper Boilers, 4-Horse Steam Boiler, Refrigerator by Llewellyn and James, Mash Tun with slotted plates, Patent Steam Heater underneath by Potterton, Hop Back with slotted plates, Steam Pump by Evans, 2 Fermenting Rounds with Copper Attemperators; 21-Barrel Fermenting Square, Priming Plant, complete with Copper Attemperator; Dissolving Vessel with Steam Connections, Slate Fermenting Square, Weighing Machine, Winch, Four Drums Black Harness Oil, Seven Kegs superior Cart, Wagon and Wheel Grease, and numerous other Effects.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, Cradley Road, Cradley Heath.”

County Express 13/4/1912 - Advert

“On Monday April 29th, 1912.

Sale of Freehold Houses and Building Land, at Cradley.

Messrs. Frank C. Cooper & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the House of Mr. *F. Midwinter*, ROSE & CROWN, Cradley, on Monday, April, 29th, 1912, at 7.30 o'clock in the Evening prompt, subject to Conditions then to be produced.....”

County Express 31/8/1912

“An enquiry was held at the ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, on Wednesday evening by the deputy-coroner (Mr. A. H. Hebbert) touching the death of Mercy Ann Caroline Barlow, aged 13, of the Refuge, High Street, Cradley.

The mother of the deceased, Mary Barlow, stated that the girl, although ill, was as usual until late on Sunday night, when she was taken much worse. She collapsed altogether on Monday morning, and died just before eight o'clock.

Dr. Belbin gave evidence as to making a post mortem examination. He said the girl was suffering from advanced tuberculosis.

Although 13, she only weighed 30lbs, which was merely the weight of a child of three. The liver, which was very much diseased, weighed 3lbs 10ozs, which was 2lbs heavier than that of an adult.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1939 Register

43, High Street

[1] *William James Hall*, married, date of birth 30/3/1888, licensee;

[2] Myra Hall, dob 30/10/1891, married, unpaid domestic duties;

[4] Gladys Giles, dob 30/6/1914, married, unpaid domestic duties;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/10/1943

“Posted as missing after one of the heaviest air raids on Birmingham, Mr. *Nat Davis*, one-time dance promoter, is now very much alive. He is landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, where he has staged a harvest festival – a form of charitable effort not uncommon to Black County public houses.

Flowers, fruit and vegetables, all gifts of customers, are displayed and later will be sold by auction to aid the Services Comforts Fund run at the house.

Mr. *Davis* was bombed out of two licensed houses in Birmingham – the Bowling Green at Holloway Head, and the Ryland Arms, Grant Street.”

Birmingham Mail 29/12/1944 - Advert

“I, *N. Davis*, ROSE AND CROWN, Cradley, Thank Holt Brewery Ltd. for their wonderful Christmas gift; also kindness when we were bombed out in Birmingham. Not forgetting Mr. Cornwell, Mr. Wilkes, Mr. Golby, etc.”

It was closed between 1970 and 1972.

Mrs. *Lilly Potter* was married to Albert.

Alan Potter was married to Cheryl.

[2016]

Closed [2019]

ROSE AND CROWN

Hagley Road, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Hereford and Tredegar Breweries Ltd. [1931]
Thomas Plant and Co. Ltd.
Ansell's Ltd. [1987]
Holt, Plant and Deakin (acquired in 1988) [1991]
Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd.
[Allied Domecq Inns](#) [1997]
Spirit Group [2003]
[Greene King](#) [2021]

LICENSEES

Thomas Baker [1855]
Austin Grove [1861] – [1862]
William Robinson [1864] – [1865]
John Willetts [1869] – [1884]
Ann Willetts [1891]
[George Parish](#) (1893 – [])
[Joseph Coley](#) (1895 – [1898])
Miss F Briton [1909]
Harry Taylor [1916] – [1921];
Frederick 'Fred' William Williamson [1920s] – 1931);
Susan 'Suzie' Williamson (1931 – [1939])
Tom Williamson []
Margaret Ella Sanders [1958]
Michael Vale [1985]
Ivan Munnely [1988]
Don Curry (1989 – [1990])
[John Poole](#) [2021]

NOTES

It was originally a cottage occupied by Thomas Winnall in 1844.

It had a beerhouse license.

[Birmingham Journal 21/8/1852 - Advert](#)

“ROSE AND CROWN INN, Hasbury, near Hales Owen.

Thomas Howell is instructed to Dispose Of the Licenses and Possession of the ROSE AND CROWN Retail Tavern, Hasbury, near Hales Owen, the business of which has been successfully carried on by the present Proprietor and his relations for many years.

It is situated on the main Turnpike Road from Birmingham to Kidderminster, and calculated to do a good business. Engagements at a distance prevent the present Proprietor continuing the same.

Rent £14. Payments about £1 10s. Coming-in can be reduced to about £25.

Apply to Thomas Howell, Auctioneer, Hagley Street, Hales Owen.”

1861 Census

ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *Austin Grove* (50), publican and grocer, born Llanfayr, Monmouthshire;
- [2] *Jane Grove* (53), wife, born Gloucester;
- [3] *Matilda Grove* (13), daughter, scholar, born Usk, Monmouthshire;
- [4] *George Grove* (25), son, sadler, born Kemiscommon, Monmouthshire;
- [5] *Robert Grove* (75), lodger, retired farmer, born Romsley, Worcestershire;

County Advertiser 26/7/1862 - Advert

“Picnic and Tea Party.

On Monday Next, July 28th, 1862, a Grand Picnic and Tea Party will be held at Mr. *Austin Groves*'s, ROSE AND CROWN INN, Hasbury.

Field's Brass Band will be in attendance for Dancing on the Green. A Tent will be erected for the occasion. The Grounds will be thrown open at Two o'clock. Tea at Five o'clock.

Tickets, for Picnic and Tea Party, 1s each; admission after Tea, 3d each. Tickets may be had of Mr. *Austin Groves*, ROSE AND

CROWN, Hasbury; Mr. Hall, Hairdresser, Cradley; Mr. John Bradford, Grocer, Cradley Heath; Mr. Field, Hairdresser, Stourbridge; Mr. Hodgetts, Halesowen; and others.

Ale, Porter, and other Refreshments to be had at Reasonable charges.”

County Express 18/3/1865 - Advert

“Hasbury, near Halesowen.

Mr. Chandley will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday Next, March 22nd, 1865, at Twelve o'clock, the useful Household Furniture, &c, consisting of Tent Bedsteads, Feather and Flock Beds, Chairs, Tables, Cupboard, Canopean, Sofa, Three Sets of Nailers Tools, Pair of Smith's Bellows, Olivers and Effects, removed under a distraint for Rent, to the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Hasbury.”

County Advertiser 22/5/1869

“On Sunday last, at Hasbury, between one and two o'clock in the afternoon, a child named Henry Willetts, aged sixteen months, son of Samuel Willetts, lost his life by falling into a hole of dirty water, near the door of the house. The deceased had only run from his father's knee a few minutes before he was found dead in the hole. An inquest was held on Monday, at Mr. *J. Willetts's*, ROSE AND CROWN INN, before Mr. Docker, Coroner, when, after hearing the evidence of the parents and the surgeon, a verdict was returned by the Jury of Accidentally Drowned. The owner of the property where deceased lost his life was ordered by the Jury to fill the hole up, or fence it so as to prevent accidents in future.”

John Willetts, beer retailer, Hasbury. [1870], [1872], [1884]

1871 Census

Hagley Road – ROSE AND CROWN

[1] *John Willetts* (31), farmer of 2 acres and beerhouse keeper, born Hasbury;

[2] *Ann Willetts* (31), wife, born Abberley, Worcestershire;

[3] Mary Ann Willetts (9 months), daughter, born Hasbury:

Stourbridge Observer 1/6/1872

“At the Police Court, on Tuesday, before Mr. E. Moore, Joseph Withers and James Foley were charged with being drunk and refusing to quit, the ROSE AND CROWN, Hasbury, on the 19th ult. *John Willetts*, the landlord, said defendants were in his house disorderly and he requested them to leave, and they refused to go. He was compelled to put them out. Superintendent Overend said there had not been any complaints against complainant's house. Defendants were fined 1s and costs.”

1881 Census

Lower Hasbury – ROSE AND CROWN

[1] *John Willetts* (43), publican and wood hoop maker, born Hasbury;

[2] *Ann Willetts* (43), wife, born Abberley, Worcestershire;

[3] Thomas Willetts (5), son, born Hasbury;

[4] Walter Willetts (6 months), son, born Hasbury;

[5] Arthur Smith (12), servant, boots etc, born Hasbury:

County Express 12/1/1889

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert held an adjourned inquest on Tuesday evening at the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Hasbury, touching the death of Annie Price, aged three years, who had been found dead in a pond. On the morning of the 7th inst, the deceased followed some ducks on to a pond, which was partially covered with ice. She was subsequently found dead in sixteen inches of water.

Police-sergeant Raybould said nearly all the police officers held St. Johns Ambulance Class certificates, and had one who lived near been sent for, he would probably have saved the child's life.

The Deputy Coroner said it was very important it should be known that the police could render such assistance.

Dr. Young said had artificial respiration been used, no doubt the deceased's life would have been saved.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

Lower Hasbury

[1] *Ann Willetts* (51), widow, publican, born Abberley, Worcestershire;

[2] Walter Willetts (10), son, scholar, born Hasbury;

[3] Mary Drew (21), domestic servant, born Quarry Bank:

Bromsgrove Messenger 2/4/1898

“James Humphresson and John Southall, two bakers residing at Smethwick, were charged with stealing a quantity of bacon and two brushes, the property of *Joseph Coley*, of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Hasbury, on the 22nd of March.

Complainant's wife gave evidence to the effect that defendants called for a drink on the date named, and after they had left she missed the articles. Police-constable Etheridge afterwards found them in defendants' shop at Cape Hill, where they were arrested. For the defence Mr. Waldron (Brierley Hill) produced a certificate from a doctor to the effect that Humphresson was not accountable for his actions, and also certificates from two justices. The other defendant, Mr. Waldron said, was led on by Humphresson. He asked that the case should be withdrawn on payment of costs, and this the Bench agreed to.”

Bromsgrove Messenger 15/2/1908

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. W. H. Thompson, of Wasley, applied on behalf of Messrs. Plants Brewery Company, for sanction to alter the premises of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Hasbury. The suggested alterations would not increase the drinking facilities, but would give more accommodation to the licensee and his family.

The Bench decided to adjourn the application to the adjourned licensing date.”

County Express 24/10/1908

“On Saturday a party numbering some 50 sat down to a supper at the ROSE AND CROWN INN. After the cloth was drawn a most enjoyable evening’s music was provided. Selections were rendered by Lye and Wollescote Band, and songs by Messrs. W. Hart, J. T. Pearson, C. Edwards, etc. Hearty thanks were accorded to Miss *F. Briton* (hostess) for her excellent catering.”

Harry Taylor, beer retailer, Hasbury. [1916], [1921]

He was married to Sarah.

Fred Williamson married *Suzie* Hulston.

Suzie Williamson (nee Hulston) was born in Halesowen in 1883.

Dudley Herald 7/11/1931

“Mr. F. J. Burke (barrister) applied on behalf of Mr. Joseph Petford for the transfer of the license of the ROSE AND CROWN, Hasbury, from *F. W. Williamson*.

He said that from the death of Mr. *Williamson*, his wife had held the license until September 1st when she was given authority by the Bench to carry on until September 29th. Then she made another application for the transfer of the license, and the owners of the property desired the license to be held by Mr. Petford. The Court made a temporary order in his favour, but she had remained in possession of the premises and no trade could be done. County Court proceedings were pending. He pressed the magistrates to grant the transfer in the usual way, because there was no personal reason against the applicant. If the issue was in the air when the County Court proceedings took place, the Judge might say, ‘My decision is in the air until the Bench decides.’ They had no option and the full transfer ought to be made. It would be very inconvenient if an adjournment was ordered.

The Clerk (Mr. A. Homfray): I must advise the magistrates to adjourn the case, as he is not in possession.

Mr. Burke: He has been in possession.

The case was adjourned until November 17th.”

Frederick William Williamson was born in 1874.

He died in the 3rd quarter of 1931.

See also FORGE.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/11/1931

“The dispute between Hereford and Tredegar Breweries Ltd. and *Susan Williamson* regarding the tenancy of the ROSE AND CROWN public-house, at Hasbury, Halesowen, went a step further at Stourbridge County Court yesterday when the company claimed possession of the premises. The house, which was described as one of the most important in the district, has been closed since 29 September.

Mr. J. F. Bourke, for the applicants, said that Mrs. *Williamson*’s husband was the licensee, but he died while under notice to quit, and afterwards the widow continued in possession and carried on the business. She had secured two temporary permits from the magistrates at Halesowen without the consent of the brewery company, and, when she applied on 29 September for the transfer of the license from her husband to herself, the company opposed her application and made a simultaneous request for a transfer of the license to a man named Petford.

The magistrates refused the woman’s application and gave a temporary authority to Petford, who obtained possession of the house for about two hours, and then Mrs. *Williamson* found the means to lock him out, said Mr. Bourke, and it had not been possible to do any business since that time.

Two of the grounds upon which they sought possession were that the premises were decontrolled and also that the magistrates had refused to renew the license to the woman.

The previous licensee to Mr. *Williamson*, a man named *Taylor*, had given up possession to Mr. Shaw, the manager of the company, and later on the same day *Williamson*, who was told that the house was decontrolled, had taken possession.

Mr. Shaw, in evidence, said that the company was not willing to have a woman in charge of such an important house.

He admitted, in answer to Mr. J. Wylie (for the respondent) that Petford was granted a temporary license by the magistrates on 29 September. He also agreed that he understood there was an appeal at the Quarter Sessions on the ground that Petford was not in possession of the house at the time.

Mr. Wylie: Did Petford swear before the magistrates that he was in possession? – Witness: Yes.

Did he produce a key as evidence of possession? – Yes.

‘How did he get it?’ asked Mr. Wylie, and when witness replied that it was taken out of the door, counsel observed, ‘And is that the way you get possession of a licensed house?’

Continuing, Mr. Wylie asked: Did not his possession merely consist of this – his daughter and her young man went to the house and ordered drinks, the same as any customer might do, and remain there while Petford was making his application at Court?

Mr. Shaw: Petford was in possession and Mrs. *Williamson* turned him out.

Alluding to Mr. Shaw's contention that he took possession of the house from *Taylor*, Judge Roope, KC, said to witness: 'I suppose that immediately *Taylor* left *Williamson* was there to serve the very next customer that came in? Witness said that was so. Joseph Ralph Petford, when cross-examined by Mr. Wylie would not agree that he got his temporary license under a misrepresentation. He agreed, however, that he produced a key given him by Mr. Shaw while Mrs. *Williamson* was in possession.

Remarking that Mrs. *Williamson* declared that the key was removed from the door of the house without her permission or knowledge, Mr. Wylie submitted that the justices had never refused to renew the license and also that the house was not decontrolled.

The Judge said it was a lamentable case, and if he had the power to do what he thought was best for all parties he would probably give the brewery company possession, but he could not act in that off-hand way.

The policy of the brewery company, and rightly so, was to preserve continuity of service on the licensed premises, but in that case it appeared to have endeavoured to hunt with the hares and run with the hounds.

He was satisfied that the intention of the brewery company to de-control the house was never actually carried out. There had been no refusal on the part of the justices to renew the license, and if no opposition had been forthcoming he thought the woman would have been allowed to carry on.

The license was granted to Petford under circumstances which the magistrates did not seem to appreciate. In giving it to him they did not seem to realise that he could not possibly use it because he had no effective possession of the house.

The existing difficulties had largely been created by the brewery company itself.

His Honour dismissed the application and gave judgement for respondent with costs."

Dudley Herald 21/11/1931

"Mr. A. G. Rudge (Messrs. Clulow and Rudge) asked for the transfer of the license of the ROSE AND CROWN, Hagley Road, Hasbury, from *Frederick Wm. Williamson* (deceased) to his widow. The license of the house was transferred to Joseph R. Petford, but Mrs. *Williamson* declined to leave it, and an application to the Stourbridge County Court last week for an ejection order failed. When the case came before the Justices, Superintendent Gray pointed out that the house had since been closed.

The Chairman: I suppose the Superintendent thinks that if the house can be done without for two or three months it can be done regularly.

Superintendent Gray: That is my idea.

The application was granted, and the bench also allowed the withdrawal of the transfer to Petford made by Mr. Hathaway to be effected."

1939 Register

Hagley Road – ROSE AND CROWN

[1] *Susan Williamson*, date of birth 6/3/1889, widow, licensee;

Evesham Standard 25/4/1958

"Worcestershire County Confirming and Compensation Committee have approved licenses in respect of public house and other premises granted by Magistrates in various parts of the county.....

Mrs. *Margaret Ella Sanders*, the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Hasbury, Halesowen (publican's license)."

Suzie Williamson died in May 1974.

She was Plant's first female licensee.

Sandwell Evening Mail 7/11/1988

"Oldbury-based brewers Holt, Plant and Deakin are spending £200,000 on two more Black Country pubs. The brewery is currently revamping the ROSE AND CROWN at Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen, and the QUEENS HEAD in High Street, Wordsley. A spokesman said the two pubs would bring the number of pubs in the brewery estate to 29.

The pubs are expected to re-open in mid-December."

It opened as a Holt, Plant and Deakin pub in December 1988.

Sandwell Evening Mail 19/12/1988

"Drinks were on the house for Mr. Jack Jones today as a refurbished Halesowen pub toasted his 50 years as a regular. The ROSE AND CROWN in Hagley Road, Hasbury, opened its doors after a £100,000 restoration and 'Very Important Punter' Jack was the guest of honour.

Father-of-ten, Jack, of Uffmoor Lane, Hasbury, has visited the ROSE AND CROWN virtually every day for half a century, and bosses at Oldbury brewers Holt, Plant and Deakin were glad to treat him to a pint or two.

Jack, aged 70, a former prisoner of war, has always lived in the Hasbury area and is happy to walk to the pub every day for his favourite pint of mild. 'I must have drunk tens of thousands of pints in this pub; it's probably cost me a small fortune over the years, but it has been worth it. It's always been a lovely pub.'

Mrs. Elaine *Munnelly* whose husband *Ivan* is licensee at the ROSE AND CROWN said Jack was treated to free beer all night on Saturday when he joined brewery bosses. 'He is a great character and always has a tale to tell,' said Elaine."

Sandwell Evening Mail 5/5/1990

"Down Your Local.

The ROSE AND CROWN, in Hagley Road, Halesowen, has become one of the town's most popular pubs. Situated in Hasbury, near to the local fire station, it underwent an extensive refurbishment programme by Holt, Plant and Deakin after they took it over from Ansells in 1988. The typical Holts treatment completely changed the interior from a three-room tavern into one huge room, divided into cosy alcoves. The olde-worlde style includes lots of pictures, clocks and stuffed birds, much admired by the customers.

The pub has been greatly extended over the years, and in the early days was surrounded by farms.

Older drinkers like Jack Jones will tell you they've seen a few gaffers come and go over the decades, but none to compare to former landlady *Suzie Williamson*, who ran the place for nearly 30 years. She and her husband *Fred* moved there in the 1920s and after he died, *Suzie* was served with notice to quit by the brewery Plants, who had a 'no female licensee' rule. But she refused to go and barricaded herself inside the pub for three months until the brewery changed its mind and made her its first lady licensee. Retired bricklayer Jack Jones, aged 72, from Halesowen, has been drinking at the ROSE AND CROWN for 50 years, and *Suzie's* son Tommy used to work with him as a bricklayer's labourer. Jack recalls, '*Suzie* was very well liked and most of the older customers remember her.' Jack comes in lunchtimes and is a personal friend of the present hosts, *Don* and *Sharon Curry*. In fact, he's almost an 'adopted' grandad to the *Currys'* nine-month-old son Joe. *Don* said, 'Jack looks after Joe while he's in the pub and he really dotes on him. Joe loves to be with him.' Jack, who has ten children of his own and seven grandchildren, keeps an eye on Joe in his pram while his mum and dad get on with their work.

Don and *Sharon* have kept the ROSE AND CROWN since April last year. Before that they were at the OLD PRIORY in Dudley, and another pub in Leicester. They have been in the trade for eight years, after meeting in Germany. *Don* went over on a working holiday as an industrial painter, and *Sharon* was an au pair. They met, fell in love and decided to stay, running a pub in Cologne. 'We couldn't speak the language at first, but we gave it a go and learned very quickly!' said *Don*. 'It was more of a bar than a pub and didn't sell such a wide range of products. We came back in 1986 and got a pub in Leicester.'

You can drink the famous Holts Entire mild and bitter and Castlemaine among other things, and there's a good selection of meals during lunchtimes Monday to Saturday. The clientele is a good mixture of old and young, with a brisk lunchtime trade. The younger regulars are setting up a football team and hoping to get into the Kidderminster League. And everyone, young and old, likes to help out for a worthy cause, and donate to collections for Hayley Green Hospital. *Don* has more fund-raising ideas in the pipeline. His 20 staff keep this very busy pub running efficiently with 'a good atmosphere, good service, good beer and excellent clientele.'

Characters you'll regularly find supping a pint include Horace Bradley, Joe Scanlon, Tom and Barry. Horace, aged 68, a retired foreman blacksmith, has been coming in for a quiet drink every day since he moved to the area in 1958. 'I like the beer and there's never any trouble,' he said."

Don Curry was married to *Sharon*.

See also OLD PRIORY, Dudley.

[Sandwell Evening Mail 1/11/1991 - Advert](#)

"Early Evening Pint Savers. Holts Bitter 99p per pint. Holts Entire 105p per pint.

Special offer prices for the month of November only.

Available Mon-Sat evenings 5.30-8pm.

Only from these Holts pubs ROSE AND CROWN, Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen."

[Daily Mirror 3/6/1997](#)

"Our £3.5 Million Great Pub Giveaway gets a boost today from Budweiser – the most popular beer in the world. We're offering readers the chance to win one of four superb trips to the USA, home of Budweiser, the 'King of Beers.' [sic].....

All you have to do for your chance to win is answer the question and complete the tie-breaker on the entry form. Then add your name and address and take the coupon to your nearest participating Allied Domecq Inns pub. When you buy a bottle of Budweiser, hand your completed entry form to the bar staff and it will go into our luxury holidays competition Where to get your drinks.....

ROSE AND CROWN, Hagley Road, Hasbury, Halesowen."

The Modern World Scooter Club held their meetings here. [2008]

[Dudley News 31/3/2020](#)

"A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town's In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, 'The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....'"

[Halesowen News 7/4/2021](#)

"A Halesowen pub has created an outdoor bar and drinking pods ready for reopening next week thanks to £15k worth of investment. The ROSE AND CROWN on Hagley Road will join pubs across the country which are allowed to reopen for outdoor table

service on Monday (April 12). As part of the loosening of restrictions groups of six people or two households will be able to mingle. The pub was given £15k worth of investment from Carling and Corrs to install ten six-seater pods, as well as an outdoor bar. Landlord *John Poole* said people are keen to get back to their local for a pint. He said, 'People have been ringing me for the last eight weeks trying to book. We are taking bookings just for Monday. From Tuesday it will be first come first served, as when we had to do table service before it caused issues with people not turning up and it taking up a lot of staff time. It's not been easy, but you have to keep plodding on. I'm not looking forward to Monday night and the first Friday and Saturday nights! Seriously I don't think it will be crazy, but it will be good in June when things hopefully get back to normal.'

Drinkers must wear face masks when getting up from the table, but not when seated. They must social distance from other tables. The pub, which *John*, who is a single parent to two boys aged seven and four, leases from owner Greene King, can cater for 142 people but is only booking for 120."

[2021]

ROUND OF BEEF

33, Windmill Hill, (33, Colley Gate) / Two Gates Lane, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Samuel and Isaiah Hughes

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired on 11th September 1919) [1964]

Union Pub Co.

New River Retail

LICENSEES

Edwin Cox (1844 – [1861])

Thomas Cox (1864 – 1901);

Harry Vernon Cox (1901 – 1953);

Norman Bernard Cox (1953 – 1982);

Colin Brian Barham (1982 – 1987);

Warwick Clive Thompson (1987);

Keith Fox (1987);

George Hubert Wood (1987 – 1988);

Derrick C Piggford (1988);

Tracy Turner (1988 – 1989);

Mervyn John Jarvis (1989 – [1999])

Daniel Harris (2003 – [])

Helen Little [2009]

James Andrews and Dean Worton [2016]

NOTES

33, Colley Gate [1912], [1916]

33, Windmill Hill [1993]

It had an old full license.

1851 Census

Two Gates

[1] *Edwin Cox* (41), gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;

[2] *Ann Cox* (37), wife, nailor, born Hasbury;

[3] *Eliza Cox* (15), daughter, nailor, born Cradley;

[4] *Charles Cox* (14), son, gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;

[3] *Thomas Cox* (12), son, gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;

[4] *William Cox* (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[5] *Sarah Cox* (6), daughter, at home, born Cradley;

[6] *Thomas Cox* (3), son, at home, born Cradley;

[7] Emma Cox (1), daughter, at home, born Cradley;

1861 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *Edwin Cox* (51), gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;
- [2] *Ann Cox* (47), wife, nailor, born Cradley;
- [3] *Thomas Cox* (22), son, gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;
- [4] *William Cox* (19), son, gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;
- [5] *Sarah Cox* (16), daughter, nailor, born Cradley;
- [6] *Simeon Cox* (14), son, nailor, born Cradley;
- [7] *Emma Cox* (11), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] *Louisa Cox* (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] *Caleb Cox* (6), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [10] *Fanny Cox* (1), daughter, born Cradley;
- [11] *Charles Edmunds* (30), visitor, forgerman, born Cradley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“On Friday was the day appointed to hear applications for new licenses. The following persons applied....
Thomas Cox, Windmill Hill, Cradley, withdrawn.”

Thomas Cox was the father-in-law of Billy Edwards (captain and chairman of Old Hill CC).
Thomas Cox, beer retailer, Colley Gate. [1865], [1870], [1872]
He was a tenant.

1871 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *Thomas Cox* (32), publican and grocer, born Cradley;
- [2] *Jane E. Cox* (32), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Amey G. Cox* (9), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Walter Cox* (7), son, born Cradley;
- [5] *Anne Cox* (5), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] *Julia Cox* (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Herbert Cox* (2), son, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 24/6/1871 - Advert

“The Ancient Order Of Free Gardeners intend holding a Pic-Nic in Cradley Park, on the 26th of June Next, 1871....
Tickets, 6d each, may be had of the following persons *Thomas Cox*, ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill.”
[For full advert see NEW TWO GATES INN.]

County Advertiser 1/8/1874

“On Wednesday, no little excitement was occasioned in Cradley and the neighbourhood by a report that a woman had cut the throat of her child, and subsequently committed suicide by cutting her own throat....
The inquest on the body of the child was opened yesterday morning, by Mr. R. Docker, coroner, at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Cradley. The following evidence was given.
Eliza Banner: I am a single woman and the daughter of the accused, *Sarah Ann Liddell*. I reside with my mother and grandmother. The husband of the accused deserted her about eleven years ago, and she has not since heard of him. The deceased child, *Walter Liddell*, was two and a half years old, and was illegitimate. My mother (the accused) came to reside with her mother about Whitsuntide last. On Wednesday morning I left the house, but was sent for at three o'clock in the afternoon. When I left home in the morning there was nobody in the house but my mother and the deceased child. My grandmother had previously left home to go to work. On returning home I found a crowd around the house. The child's throat had been cut, and it was dead, but my mother had gone away.
Phoebe Banner deposed: I am the wife of *Edwin Banner*, and *Sarah Ann Liddell* is my sister-in-law. I saw the deceased child on the 28th, the day previous to it his death. The mother had brought the child to my house, and after remaining there about three hours left. I did not then perceive anything strange in her manner. She was very kind to the child, and in her usual spirits. The accused has had two legitimate children by her husband. About half-past two o'clock on Wednesday I went to Mrs. *Banner's* house, but I did not find her at home. Both the doors were locked, but I went to the back and found the key in a place it is usually kept when they leave the house. I entered the house, but did not find any one in. I found the deceased child's hat and jacket on the table, and his shoes under the table. I went to the bottom of the stairs, and called out three times, but I did not get any answer. I then went upstairs, and found the body of the child on the floor, covered with blood. It was lying on the left side, and its head only was on the bed. I made an alarm, and fetched my mother-in-law, Mrs. *Banner*, home. I then went upstairs again, and found a case knife and a pen-knife lying near to the child. I had seen the knives before, and knew they belonged to the house. The room I found the body in was the one in which the mother and child slept. I sent for Police-constable *Heath*, and he saw the body, and afterwards went in search of the mother. *Heath* captured her, and brought her back.
The Coroner: Have you ever heard the mother say anything which led you to suppose that she had any ill-feeling toward the

child? – No, sir. She was always very kind to the child.

By a Juryman: I found a piece of clothes line fastened to the railing of the stairs. It was two yards in length.

The Coroner: Was the rope broken? – Yes, sir; and the other part of it was put over the top of the railings.

What length was that part which was thrown over? I can't tell, sir. She told me when she left my house that she was going to the Bromsgrove Union on the following morning, and she should take the child with her.

A Juryman: Had she been told to leave? – I can't tell, she did not tell me anything about it.

Examination continued: The accused was engaged to be married to a man named Thomas Williams.

The Coroner: Had they been asked in church? – Yes, sir; they were asked in church last Sunday week for the last time, and he fetched her to his house on Saturday night last. She stayed there till Sunday, and remained all night. The accused returned to her mother's house the next night, but she was not married to Williams.

The Coroner: Why was that? – There was another woman who resided at Williams's house, and she ordered the accused to leave. She refused to go, but afterwards she thought she would leave. The woman, who was at Williams's house, set some boys on to stone her, and she was driven away by Williams and this woman, whose name is Sarah Ann Fletcher.

A Juryman: Did not Williams beat her himself on Sunday? – I have not heard so.

The Coroner: Did she say anything about Williams refusing to marry her on account of the child? – She did not say why Williams drove her away. I don't know whether she slept with him on Saturday night.

The Coroner: According to the statement you make I don't see that the woman took it much to heart. Is that so? – Yes, sir. She seemed to take it very much to heart.

Did she tell you she had been beaten by the woman? – Yes, sir.

The Coroner: Did you see any marks? – No, sir.

Did she say Williams had beaten her? – No, sir.

Examination resumed: The accused had been in the Union previous to going to reside at her mother's, and she formed the engagement with Williams after returning from the Union.

Mr. Hugh Richard Ker deposed: I am a surgeon practicing at Cradley Heath. I saw the body of the deceased about half-past four o'clock on Wednesday last, and it was a well nourished child. I found a wound about three inches long on the upper part of the windpipe, and below the jaws. The wound was deeper on the right side than on the left. The external branch of the carotid artery on the right was cut through. I examined the body very carefully, but I did not discover any other marks of violence. Before examining the child I examined the mother at the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, where she was in custody. She had two cuts in her throat, one of which was superficial and on the left side of the windpipe. The other wound was deeper, and went through into the cavity of the throat. I could not discover any other marks about the neck at all.

The Coroner said he should not proceed any further with the case, but would adjourn it as he understood there were other witnesses to call. Dr. Ker would make a post mortem examination of the body, and the enquiry would be adjourned until Monday next.

Yesterday the accused was brought before Colonels Fletcher and Barrows, on a charge of murdering Walter Liddell, her child.

The evidence of Police-constable Heath was to the effect that from information he received he went in search of the prisoner, and apprehended her near to Lutley. She was walking slowly along the road, and her neck was bleeding. She was brought in custody to the WOOD COLLIERS ARMS, Cradley, and thence removed to Stourbridge. The Bench remanded the prisoner till Tuesday." [At the Winter Assizes Sarah Ann Liddell was convicted of wilful murder and sentenced to death, a recommendation to mercy being made by the jury. The sentence was afterwards commuted to fifteen years penal servitude.]

1881 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *Thomas Cox* (41), gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;
- [2] *Jane E. Cox* (42), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Amy G. Cox* (19), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Walter E. Cox* (18), son, assistant grocer, born Cradley;
- [5] *Annie E. Cox* (15), daughter, dressmaker, born Cradley;
- [6] *Julia L. Cox* (13), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] *Herbert J. Cox* (12), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] *Thomas J. Cox* (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] *Florence S. Cox* (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [10] *Kate L. Cox* (7), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [11] *Harry V. Cox* (4), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [12] *Ralph E. Cox* (3), son, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 25/3/1882 - Advert

“Sale at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill, Cradley, of Household Furniture, comprising Cane-seated and Windsor Chairs, Toilet Glasses, Two Sets of Iron Bedsteads, Mattresses, Feather and Wool Beds, Night Chair, Toilet Stands, Hearth Rug, Carpets, Three Chests of Drawers, Two Sofas, in American leather; Easy Chair, Deal Tables, Fenders, Fire-irons, Pictures, Cut Glass, Earthenware Filter, Timepiece, and other useful Effects, removed for positive Sale.

By J. H. Detheridge, on Monday Next, March 27th, 1882.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock in the Morning.”

County Advertiser 22/11/1884

“On Monday last the members of the Rising Plant lodge of the United Order of Free Gardener were entertained to dinner at the

ROUND OF BEEF INN by the host. After dinner the chair was taken by William Pearshouse, and the vice-chair by Simeon Beaseley, and toast, song and sentiment, contributed to the general harmony of the evening.”

Dudley Mercury 18/5/1889 - Advert

“Freehold Building Land, Whitley, near Halesowen, and Windmill Hill, Cradley.

Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge are favoured with instructions from Ricard Brettell, Esq, the Proprietor, to Sell by Auction, at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill, Cradley, on Wednesday, June 12th, 1889, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

County Advertiser 17/5/1890 - Advert

“Windmill Hill Building Estate.

Messrs, Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge will Attend at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill, on Wednesday Next, May 21st, from Seven to Eight o’clock in the Evening, and Every Alternate Wednesday till further Notice, to receive the Names and Fees of those who wish to join the Building Society. Admittance Fee, 2s.”

1891 Census

Windmill Hill – ROUND OF BEEF INN

- [1] *Thomas Cox* (51), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] *Jane Ellen Cox* (52), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Herbert John Cox* (22), son, gun barrel grinder, born Cradley;
- [4] *Thomas Geoffrey Cox* (19), son, brewer, born Cradley;
- [5] *Florence Sophia Cox* (18), daughter, school teacher, born Cradley;
- [6] *Kate Louisa Cox* (17), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Harry Vernon Cox* (14), son, shoemaker’s apprentice, born Cradley;
- [8] *Ralph Ewart Cox* (13), son, scholar, born Cradley:

County Express 8/8/1891

“William Alfred Hughes, no fixed abode, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quite the licensed premises of *Thomas Cox*, ROUND OF BEEF INN, Cradley. He was further charged with breaking four panes of glass, value 12s, the property of *Thomas Cox*, who said the prisoner came into his house, drunk, and used filthy language. He ordered him to go out, but prisoner refused, and he had to put him out. Prisoner then broke four panes of glass.

Police-sergeant Clarke said he took prisoner to the station. In reply to the charge, prisoner said, ‘Yes; I did break the glass, and will do it again. Revenge is sweet.’

For being drunk he was fined 5s and costs, or fourteen days; and was ordered to pay 12s damage, or fourteen days.”

County Advertiser 20/2/1892 - Advert

“Horse and Shoeing Forge (Low Rental) to Let, with an excellent Business to it. A good practical workman can do well. Apply, *Thos. Cox*, ROUND OF BEEF, Windmill Hill, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 26/11/1892

“On Wednesday night a meeting of miners was held at the ROUND OF BEEF, Colley Gate, when a miner presided. Mr. B. Winwood addressed the meeting at length upon the wages question and organisation. Before separating the meeting passed a resolution unanimously in favour of organisation, and forming a miners’ lodge there on Saturday night in connection with Old Hill district. On Thursday evening a meeting was held at the SHOULDER OF MUTTON, Blackheath. Mr. Winwood was again the chief speaker, and similar resolutions were unanimously agreed to.”

County Advertiser 30/12/1893

“The directors of Whitley Colliery, near Halesowen, provided an excellent Christmas dinner of beef, mutton, &c, to those in their employ to the number of 318. The dinners were given at three centres, namely, at Mr. Edwin Marsden’s the UNION INN, Lye; Mr. *Thomas Cox*’s, ROUND OF BEEF, Colley Gate; Mr. Frank Oliver’s, TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate; and the whole of the arrangements were successfully carried out by Mr. H. H. Jackson, the manager. Mr. Thomas Pulley, on behalf of the men, writes to us kindly to express the thanks of the men for the directors’ kindness.”

County Advertiser 21/7/1894

“On Monday afternoon the twenty-fifth annual dinner of the members of the Rising Plant Lodge of Independent Gardeners was held at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill. The host, Mr. *Cox*, provided an excellent dinner. Bro. Simeon Beasley was voted to the chair, and Bro. George Partridge to the vice-chair. ‘Success to the Rising Plant Lodge’ was proposed and responded to by Bro. Joseph Tromans. The auditors’ report showed the worth of the lodge to be £670. Songs and recitations were given by Bros. S. Beasley, R. Forrest, J. Lloyd, J. Tromans, S. Rock, H. Bowen, and others, and the health of the host and hostess brought a very pleasant evening to a close.”

County Advertiser 6/10/1894 - Advert

“To Let, Four Houses. Rent 3s 6d to 5s.

Apply, *Thomas Cox*, ROUND OF BEEF INN, Colley Gate.”

County Advertiser 1/12/1894 - Advert

“To Let, Two Houses, situate at Highfield Road and Beecher Road, Colley Gate.
Apply, *Thos. Cox*, ROUND OF BEEF INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 22/9/1900 - Advert

“Important to Brewers, Maltsters, Licensed Victuallers, Parties Seeking Investment and Others.
Freehold Old-Licensed Premises (Perfectly Free from Trade Ties).

The ROUND OF BEEF, Windmill Hill, Cradley; the ROSE AND CROWN, in the Town of Cradley; the WHY NOT (Beerhouse), Two Gates, Cradley; Front Shops, Malthouse, 50 Dwelling Houses and Tenements, Chain and Anchor Factories, and Building Land in and about the Neighbourhood of Cradley and Quarry Bank, in the immediate vicinity of extensive Ironworks, Manufactories, and Collieries.

H. King and Son, in Conjunction with Thomas Pateshall, are instructed by the Trustees of the late Mr. Isaiah Hughes, to Offer for Sale by Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley, on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 9th and 10th, 1900, at Six o'clock each Evening, and subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, the following Licensed Premises and Other Properties.....

The Freehold, Well-accustomed, Fully-Licensed and Perfectly Free Inn, the ROUND OF BEEF, situate at Windmill Hill, Cradley, upon the summit of the Hill, on the Birmingham and Stourbridge Main Road, at the Junction of the Two Gates Road, to which roads it has a total frontage of 116 feet; and is now let to Mr. *Thomas Cox* upon an annual tenancy.

The Accommodation consists of Hall, Liquor Vaults, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Club Room, 35 by 15; Three Cellars with rolling way; Enclosed Yard, Stabling for Three Horses, Malt Room, Piggeries, &c.

The Clubs attached are Independent Order of Free Gardeners (about 90 Members) and a Woman's Club (about 80 Members).

The Property occupies a commanding position for the trade, in a rapidly increasing and busy neighbourhood, and is a well-known house of call, doing an extensive and profitable business.

The Mines and Minerals thereunder are reserved.”

County Advertiser 13/10/1900

“An important sale of freehold property, being the estate of the late Mr. Isaiah Hughes, was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, on Tuesday and Wednesday. A very large company attended each evening, and enabled the auctioneer, Mr. King (of the firm of H. King and Son), to dispose of every lot offered at highly satisfactory figures. Mr. Pateshall was jointly concerned, and Messrs. Perry and Travis, of Stourbridge were the solicitors. The following are the details.....

ROUND OF BEEF at Windmill Hill realised £3,200.”

County Express 23/2/1901

“Joseph Fellows, Two Gates, Cradley, was fined 15s and costs for leaving his horse and trap unattended for half-an-hour, at the ROUND OF BEEF INN.”

1901 Census

Windmill Hill – ROUND OF BEEF INN

- [1] *Thomas Cox* (62), widower, licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Harry Cox* (25), son, brewer (formerly shoemaker), born Cradley;
- [3] *Aimee L. Cox* (22), daughter-in-law, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Ralph Cox* (22), son, formerly fitter in anchor and pulley works, born Cradley;
- [5] *Martha Banner* (25), housemaid and barmaid, born Cradley;
- [6] *Clara Banner* (21), cook and barmaid, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 14/7/1902 - Advert

“Sales By Auction. Cotton and Chappell, established 1836.

Auctioneers and Appraisers, 99, High Street, Bromsgrove, and Temple Courts, Birmingham.

List of Sale Fixtures.....

June 14. Furniture at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Colley Gate, by order of the Exors. of Mr. *Thos. Cox*, deceased.”

County Advertiser 21/5/1903

“On Tuesday Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the ROUND OF BEEF, Windmill Hill, on the body of Elizabeth Adams (82) whose death was caused as related in the following evidence.

Charles Adams, a son of the deceased, said she lived alone in a house at Colley Gate. He (witness) was in the habit of calling early in the morning to make her fire, and on calling last Friday he did so as usual, and on calling upstairs received the answer that his mother was ‘all right.’ About ten o'clock he again called, and was startled to find his mother lying in a heap at the bottom of the stairs unconscious. Medical aid was summoned, but she died on Saturday evening. There were some bruises on her body, but not such injuries as might be expected had she fallen downstairs.

Dr. de Denne, who had been deceased's medical attendant for some years, said death was due to an attack of apoplexy, and was accelerated by the shock from a fall. A verdict was returned accordingly.”

County Advertiser 23/5/1903 - Notice

“Re Mr. *Thomas Cox*, Deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that all Persons having Claims against the Estate of *Thomas Cox*, late of the ROUND OF BEEF, INN, Windmill Hill, Cradley, in the County of Worcester, are hereby required forthwith to Send Particulars thereof to Mr. H. J. Cox, of Windmill Stores, Colley Gate, Cradley, one of the Executors.
Homfray, Holberton & Mellor, Brierley Hill, Solicitors to the Executors.”

County Advertiser 18/7/1903

“*Harry Vernon, Cox*, landlord of the ROUND OF BEEF, Cradley, was summoned for selling ale to a drunken person on the 8th inst. Mr. J. Walter Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Philip Baker, Birmingham, defended.

Mr. Clulow stated that on the 8th inst Police-constable Griffiths was on duty at Colley Gate, and saw a man named George Billingham in a state of drunkenness. He was refused liquors at the WHITE LION INN. About a quarter of an hour later the officer visited defendant’s house, where he saw Billingham seated at a table, with a glass of ale before him. Defendant came out of the back and said he did not know Billingham was in the house. Miss Watkins, the barmaid, replied, ‘I filled him a glass of ale.’ Griffiths told the defendant the man must leave, and defendant gave him his money back. Mrs. Hawkeswood, the landlady of another public-house at Overend, also refused to supply him. If the man was drunk, it was an offence to serve him even though the landlord did not know he was drunk, and even if his servants did not have an opportunity of knowing his state.

Police-constable Griffiths, Mrs. Sarah Hawkeswood, and Mrs. Ellen Roper, of the WHITE LION, gave evidence bearing out Mr. Clulow’s statement.

Mr. Baker said the question was whether Billingham was drunk. Billingham was an old man, and walked with an unsteady gait. There was nothing to indicate to anyone acquainted with Billingham that he was drunk, and the barmaid believed him to be sober. He should call witnesses to this effect. Defendant had acted perfectly straightforward, and it would be a serious thing for him if he was convicted.

Defendant, Alice Watkins, Caleb Knowles, Allan Beasley, and George Billingham gave evidence in support of defendant.

The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs.

George Billingham, Overend, Cradley, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk on the premises.”

County Advertiser 23/4/1904

“A smoking concert was held on Monday evening in the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Colley Gate, in connection with the Rising Plant Lodge of that house. The artistes were Messrs. A. Ashmore, B. Stanley, W. Holden, F. Chambers, F. Lacey, J. Careless, P. Jones, W. Insley (comic), Pearson (gramophone), J. Shivlock (accompanist). There was a good attendance.”

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies’ parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter’s Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher’s Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, ‘Onward Christian Soldiers,’ a solo from ‘Thus saeth the Lord,’ splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, ‘Rousseau’s dream,’ finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, ‘O, clap your hands,’ and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

County Express 26/12/1908

“Dividend Clubs.....

ROUND OF BEEF. At the annual meeting on Saturday a dividend of 16s 11d was declared, and considered very satisfactory.

After supper a musical programme was given, songs being rendered by Messrs. Head, Bowen, Worton, Parker, and Cox. Thanks to the host and hostess were accorded.”

County Express 27/2/1909

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill, Cradley, on Tuesday evening, touching the death of James Hy. Chambers, a shingler, of Colley Gate, who was found hanging on Saturday morning in a brewhouse by his son James Chambers. It appears that deceased was in the habit of calling his son early in the morning, but on Saturday he did not do so, and when his son got up at 7.15 he went into the yard, and there saw his father hanging. Deceased had been out of work for some time, and it is surmised that this had an effect upon his mind.

Mr. B. Barnsley was foreman of the jury.

The first witness was Mrs. Chambers, widow. She said her husband was 54 years of age, and he had been out of work for about

two years, and had been depressed in consequence of late. On Saturday deceased got up, as usual, at 5 o'clock. She and her husband had a greengrocery business.

The Deputy Coroner: Was that enough to keep you? – Witness: Well, it did keep us. We managed to live on it, but we could have done with more. We have a milk business as well.

The Deputy Coroner: Was there anything particular to upset him on Saturday morning? – Witness: Nothing more than usual.

The Deputy Coroner: Had he ever threatened to commit suicide? – Witness: No.

James Arthur Chambers, son of the deceased said he went to the brewhouse between 7 o'clock and 7.30 on Saturday morning, and saw the deceased hanging from the roof by a rope, which was tied round his neck.

The Deputy Coroner: Was there anything for him to have stood on? – Witness: Yes, a table and chair.

The Deputy Coroner: What did you do? – Witness: I told my mother, and I also went to get assistance.

The Deputy Coroner: How has he been of late? – Witness: His youngest daughter has been ill, and he has been depressed through having no work since Cradley Forge stopped.

Joseph Tate, Windmill Hill, said he had known the deceased for a number of years, but not intimately. Witness assisted others to cut the deceased down. The body was then warm, but deceased was quite dead. His feet were from six to nine inches from the ground. A table was about 18 inches from the body, and witness thought deceased must have put the cord round his neck, and then have reached to a hook in the roof. This he would just be able to do.

Dr. Bryan Townsend said he was called to see the deceased on Saturday morning, a little before eight o'clock. Life had been extinct, he thought, a little over an hour. Death, he thought, was due to strangulation.

The Coroner said having regard to the evidence, he did not think there could be any doubt that the deceased was of unsound mind at the time.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane, and the foreman said they desired to express their sympathy with the deceased's family."

Tipton Herald 20/3/1909

"One of the reporters of this journal made it his business last week to dill upon a number of Liberals and Unionists to ask their opinions on the speech made a fortnight ago by Mr. F. E. Cutler [ROSE AND CROWN], at a Unionist meeting at the ROUND OF BEEF, at Colley Gate, on the question of the statement by Mr. Wilson MP, that publicans forced drink down the throats of the people. Many, however, refused to express an opinion, whilst others declined to allow their names to be publicly mentioned. Now, I notice, Mr. Wilson has denied that he made the statement. What I should like to know, however, is this – If Mr. Wilson really did not use the words why did not the Liberal Club officials deny the accuracy of the reports when the newspapers containing the reports appeared? If they had known Mr. Wilson did not make the statement would they not have said so long before this? Mr. Campion ought to have something interesting to say on this topic when he next speaks in Cradley."

1911 Census

Windmill Hill – ROUND OF BEEF INN

- [1] *Harry Vernon Cox* (34), licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] *Amy Louise Cox* (32), wife, married 10 years, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Kathleen Florence Cox* (8), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Ethel Muriel Cox* (6), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] *George Thomas Cox* (5), son, born Cradley;
- [6] *Amy Louise Cox* (2), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Doreen Cox* (6 months), daughter, born Cradley;
- [8] *Agnes Turley* (18), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Express 21/10/1911

"In connection with the Cradley Friendly Societies Church Parade a supper was held at the ROUND OF BEEF yesterday week, the chief purpose of the gathering being the making of a presentation to Mr. A. Griffiths (chairman), and Mr. R. Forrest (hon. treasurer) by Mr. William Atwood on behalf of the committee...."

County Express 18/11/1911

"Under the auspices of the local Conservative and Unionist Association a smoking concert was held at the POUND [sic] OF BEEF, Colley Gate, Cradley, on Thursday...."

County Express 10/2/1917

"....a case against *Harry Vernon Cox*, ROUND OF BEEF, Cradley, for selling drink to a child under the age of 14 years in a less quantity than a reputed pint was dismissed...."

1939 Register

Windmill Hill – ROUND OF BEEF

- [1] *Harry Vernon Cox*, date of birth 24/9/1876, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Aimee Louise Cox*, dob 15/3/1879, housewife, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Harry V. Cox Jnr*, dob 13/9/1915, stamper (heavy work), single;
- [4] *Eileen Joan Cox*, dob 26/4/ 1918, barmaid, single;
- [5] *Bernard Norman Cox*, dob 31/8/1920, bread delivering, single:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/9/1946

“Mr. *Harry Cox*, licensee of the ROUND OF BEEF, Colley Gate, Cradley, cutting his birthday cake yesterday. He was born in the public house 70 years ago and has lived there ever since. His father held the license 40 years before him. He has nine children and 10 grandchildren. Some of his family, including his wife (left) are seen here. He is a bellringer and a chorister at a local church.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/3/1953

“Midland Wills.....

Mr. *Harry Vernon Cox*, of the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Windmill Hill, Colley Gate, Cradley, £2,050 (£1,270 net).”

Harry Cox played cricket (batsman) for Colley Gate.

He was also a chorister at St. Katherine’s Church.

Further details about him on p.38 of ‘A Cradley Album’.

Norman Cox worked as a salesman for William Price & Sons, bakers, before he took over the pub.

He married Mary Percivale.

He died in March 1985.

It was altered in 1957.

Birmingham Daily Post 25/2/1964

“Magistrates, the Mayor, and police at Halesowen joined in celebrating an unusual centenary yesterday at the ROUND OF BEEF INN, Colley Gate, Cradley. Earlier this month, the magistrates had granted the 100th consecutive license to the *Cox* family – through grandfather, father and son. Mr. *Norman Cox*, the present licensee, is chairman of the Rowley Regis Licensed Victuallers’ Association. He succeeded his father at the ROUND OF BEEF in 1953.

Mr. G. A. Thompson, chairman and managing director of the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, presented Mr. and Mrs. *Cox* with a chiming clock – and made a presentation also to Miss Joan *Cox*, Mr. *Cox*’s sister, who earlier this month foiled a would-be bandit as she was taking nearly £300 to a bank at Lye.

Mr. Thompson, too, had been reading up his history and was able to tell the gathering why Evensong at St. Katherine’s Church, Cradley, begins at 6pm instead of the usual time of 6.30pm. Mr. *Cox*’s father was a chorister there for about 60 years as well as being licensee and the choristers used to go back with him to the ROUND OF BEEF after the service. It was for their convenience that the service began at 6pm and when one incumbent wanted to alter the time to 6.30, they objected because they would be late arriving at the ROUND OF BEEF. This drew from the vicar the wry question: ‘Whose choir is it, St. Katherine’s or the ROUND OF BEEF’s?’ At any rate the choristers won.

Among the guests was the oldest customer, 85-year-old Mrs. Julie Beasley, a niece of Mr. *Thomas Cox*, the first licensee, and aunt of Mr. *Norman Cox*. She started going to the ROUND OF BEEF when she was ten – to collect twopenny-worth of whisky for her grandmother in a small jug. She still has the jug. She made the suit her nephew was wearing yesterday – ‘I bought the cloth,’ he said, ‘and she made it up for me when she was nearly 80.’”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/10/1967

“One answer to the breathalyser test was unwittingly discovered yesterday. Last night the aroma in the smoke-room of the ROUND OF BEEF public-house, Colley Gate, Cradley, was enough to knock a newcomer down. The aroma came not from beer, however, but from onions and leeks – a mixture perhaps likely to turn the breathalyser crystals.

Even if the ROUND OF BEEF’s second annual onion and leek show did happen to coincide with the first breathalyser Sunday, Mrs. Barbara Castle, the Minister of Transport, would surely have nodded approval. For has she not said that public-houses should be more than just drinking places?

The produce made a fine show, with some leeks 2ft long and onions weighing 2½lbs.

Mr. *Norman Cox*, mine host at the ROUND OF BEEF, thinks his pub might even benefit from the breathalysers. ‘We haven’t got a car park, anyway,’ he said, ‘I reckon those who have been going off in their cars will come here. We were chock-a-block this morning.

The judge, Mr. J. W. C. Southall, of Lye, praised the quality of the exhibits.

Proceeds were for the public-houses’ Old Folks Christmas Fund.

Prizewinners: Long white leeks: 1. H. Bradley; 2 and 3. E. Millward. Pot leeks: 1. R. Miller; 2. R. G. Currin; 3. H. Dimmock.

Large exhibition onions: 1. F. Brindley; 2. G. Cole; 3. D. Compson.”

Black Country Bugle (March 1973)

‘Three Generations At The Round Of Beef’

“.....*Norman’s [Cox]* grandfather, *Thomas Cox*, took out the pub’s first license at the ROUND OF BEEF in 1864 and it has remained in the family ever since. *Norman* has been licensee for the last twenty years, taking over from his father, *Harry Vernon Cox*, died in 1953 In his grandfather’s time the district was one where several farmers still survived, despite the steady encroachment of industry, with Fatherless Barn Farm close at hand with a steady supply of beef. Outbuildings at the rear of the pub were used to house pigs and livestock and beer was also brewed on the premises During his grandfather’s tenancy, the ROUND OF BEEF was a meeting place for strike leaders who fought a never ending battle with the nailmasters and foggors to try

and obtain a decent standard of living for their members.

For many years the ROUND OF BEEF served as Cradley's court room and coroner's office the last inquest to be held there in 1922....."

Sandwell Evening Mail 6/7/1992

"They're the pubs that YOU think are the best in the Midlands – and now they're all in the running for our prestigious Midland Town and Country Pub of the Year.....

The *Evening Mail* has teamed up for the contest with the Midland Counties Brewers' and Licensed Retailers' Association, to raise a toast to the very best of our region's pubs. Now it is up to the judges, who face a huge task choosing the two winners from the enormous entry. They'll be looking for service and standards of comfort demanded by today's discerning pub-goer. And they will be awarding marks for another important ingredient of a successful pub – the part it plays as a hub of social life in the community.....

ROUND OF BEEF, Colley Gate, Halesowen."

Daniel Harris was married to Tracey.

It reopened in October 2003 after a £100,000 refurbishment.

Halesowen News 4/2/2015

"Pubgoers across Halesowen and Cradley will be drowning their sorrows after it emerged more pubs are set to be bulldozed to make way for supermarkets. An explosive Dudley Council briefing document, leaked to the *News*, reveals New River Retail are planning to close the SUMMERHOUSE, the FIDDLERS ARMS and the ROUND OF BEEF. New River Retail is a retail estate investment company, who bought 202 Marstons pubs, which converts pubs into shops and work in partnership with Co-operative supermarkets.

Cradley councillor Richard Body is dismayed the pubs are under threat. He said, 'It is a tragedy so many of these pubs are going to be converted into supermarkets nobody wants. In Cradley we have lost the GATE and the CHAINMAKER in the last month and to find we could lose the ROUND OF BEEF, which is so well known and seemingly doing well, is awful news.' He added, 'These pubs are focal points of the community and once they close they are gone forever. We need to do everything we can to stop New River Retail and other developers calling time on a way of life in the Black Country.'

Patrons of the ROUND OF BEEF are furious their beloved boozer is set to be replaced by a supermarket and eight residential flats. Regular for 20 years Darren Pickett said, 'The ROUND OF BEEF is iconic and a real landmark in Colley Gate. Everyone knows where it is, people give directions based on the place as it has been here for generations.' He added, 'I am willing to join any campaign to keep this place open, it is important to the community of Colley Gate and Cradley.' Keith Upton, aged 64, added, 'There are already enough supermarkets around here and we do not need another one whereas we are losing pubs every week.' The briefing document reveals the HASBURY INN, Hagley Road will be converted into a supermarket whilst the MAYPOLE, Bassange Road, SUMMERHOUSE, Woodsetton, the ROUND OF BEEF, Windmill Hill, the BIRD IN HAND, Oldswinford and the FIDDLERS ARMS, Lower Gornal will be demolished to make way for shops. Supermarkets are set to be built on the car parks of the BRIDGE INN, Dawley Brook, the CROWN, Netherton, HARE AND HOUNDS, Wollescote and the OLD COURT HOUSE HOTEL, Kingswinford. No plans have yet been submitted to Dudley Council.

A spokesman for New River Retail said, 'We are in pre-application discussions with Dudley Council about a number of pub sites which were acquired at the end of 2013 from Marston's plc. The nature and timing of any planning applications have not yet been finalised, but when they are, we will be taking steps to inform the local community.'"

Halesowen News 25/5/2016

"A family fun day is being held at a Colley Gate pub on Sunday (May 29) in memory of a much-loved father of four who died of cancer aged 45. Hundreds of balloons were let off during the wake at the ROUND OF BEEF for Lee Crumpton, nicknamed Shrinks, and publicans *James Andrews* and *Dean Worton* were inspired to hold a fundraiser for Macmillan Cancer Support. Mr. *Andrews* said everyone was shocked by his illness, and his death on April 22 had 'left the community in heartache'. He added, 'He was the life and soul of the community, a much loved and respected man.' The fun day, from 1pm, will include donkey and fairground rides, entertainment from singer Sammy Jo, and a barbeque."

Halesowen News 24/9/2019

"A woman was held at knife-point by a gang of men during a terrifying robbery at a Colley Gate pub this morning. The gang burst into the ROUND OF BEEF on Windmill Hill at 3am and demanded money from the safe. A blade and crowbar were pointed at the victim in the shocking incident which saw the men escape with cash and jewellery. The robbers tried to steal the CCTV hard drive to cover their tracks, but dropped it as they fled. Police forensic officers have been at the scene....."

Halesowen News 14/1/2020

"A Colley Gate pub where a woman was held at knife-point in a robbery has been targeted again. The ROUND OF BEEF was broken into at around 4am this morning (Tuesday January 14). The pub on Windmill Hill shared a picture of one of the two suspected offenders on its Facebook page and appealed for anyone who recognises the man to get in touch with police. The pub stated, 'So this morning at 4am we were burgled for the 2nd time in 4 months. Luckily we had a good security system installed after the last break in.' It added, 'There have been many properties and businesses broken into over the past few weeks and we need to pull together to get these scumbags off our streets.'

A spokesman for West Midlands Police said, ‘We were notified about an alarm that had been activated at around 4.30am at the ROUND OF BEEF pub on Windmill Hill, Colley Gate. A door had been forced open and the offenders have escaped empty-handed.’”

[2020]

ROYAL OAK

73, Birmingham Street, (Birmingham Road), (Brook Road), (Cornbow), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Granger [1849]
Henry Granger [1850]
Hannah Granger [1851]
Edward Granger [1852]
Henry Granger [1860] – **1870**;
George Granger Etheridge* (**1870** – [1872]
George Etheridge* [1876]
George Granger [1881] – [1896]
Elizabeth Granger [1901]
Henry Granger [1911] – [1921]

NOTES

Cornbow [1849], [1852]
Brook Road [1861]
Birmingham Road [1865]
Birmingham Street [1851], [1870], [1871], [1872], [1884], [1888], [1891]

1851 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] Edward Granger (60), fruiterer &c, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Hannah Granger* (59), wife, publican, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Henry Granger* (30), son, fruiterer, born Halesowen;
- [4] Eliza Granger (30), daughter-in-law, fruiterer, born Halesowen;
- [5] *George Granger* (11), grand-son, scholar, born Halesowen:

Henry Granger = Henry Grainger

1861 Census

Brook Road – Beer House

- [1] *Henry Grainger* (41), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
 - [2] Eliza Grainger (40), wife, born Halesowen;
 - [3] Samuel Neal (16), lodger, farm labourer, born Halesowen;
 - [4] Maria Etheridge (7), visitor, scholar, born Halesowen:
- [Brook Road appears to be an extension of Birmingham Street.]

Henry Granger, beer retailer, Birmingham Road [1864], [1865]

* possibly the same person.

1871 Census

Birmingham Street – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *George Granger Etheridge* (31), greengrocer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Elizabeth Granger Etheridge (34), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] George Granger Etheridge (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;

- [4] William Granger Etheridge (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Elizabeth Granger Etheridge (3), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Edward Granger Etheridge (10 months), son, born Halesowen;
- [7] William Etheridge (20), lodger, agricultural labourer, born Halesowen;
- [8] Jane Bingham (19), lodger, born Cradley:

Stourbridge Observer 23/9/1871

“An inquest was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, on Monday last, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, on the body of an infant found dead on the previous day.

The father (Police-constable Rowberry) said on Saturday night he and his wife retired to rest, taking with them the child, which lay between them in bed. When he woke up in the morning, he found the poor little thing lying with his face downwards upon the pillow, quite dead.

The jury returned a verdict that deceased died from suffocation by lying on the pillow.

Mr. Dunn was called in, and made a post mortem examination.”

George Granger Etheridge, beer retailer, Birmingham Street. [1872]

George Granger = George Grainger

1881 Census

Birmingham Street, Brook Road – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *George Granger* (40), fruiterer and farmer of 57 acres 2 men, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Elizabeth Granger* (45), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Henry Granger* (20), son, fruiterer, born Halesowen;
- [4] William Granger (15), son, fruiterer, born Halesowen;
- [5] Elizabeth Granger (13), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Edward Granger (11), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Alfred Granger (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] Thomas Granger (6), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] William Pearson (30), boarder, fruiterer, born Halesowen:

George Granger, farmer and beer retailer, Birmingham Street. [1884], [1888], [1896]

Worcestershire Chronicle 12/4/1884

“Worcestershire Easter Quarter Sessions.

The following were sworn on the Grand Jury *George Granger*, innkeeper, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Mail 11/4/1890

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest yesterday at the ROYAL OAK INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, touching the death of Joseph Goddard, aged 7 weeks, son of William and Emma Goddard, who was found dead in bed on the 8th inst. The jury returned a verdict of accidentally suffocated.”

1891 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *George Granger* (50), farmer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Elisabeth Granger (56), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Elisabeth Granger (23), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Edward Granger (20), son, farmer’s assistant, born Halesowen;
- [5] Thomas Granger (16), son, farmer’s assistant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 28/7/1894

“On Monday night a meeting of miners, under the auspices of the Old Hill and District Miners’ Association, was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Halesowen. Mr. B. Winwood (agent) addressed the meeting with reference to the wages question and the Scotch strike. Resolutions were passed approving of the settlement effected between the employers and the representatives of the men in London, and also agreeing to pay a levy of 1s per week per man in support of the Scotch miners on strike.”

1901 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Elizabeth Granger* (66), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Thomas Granger (26), son, born Halesowen;
- [3] Edward Granger (12), grandson, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 28/9/1901 - Advert

“Monday, October 7th and Tuesday, October 8th, 1901.

Shenstone Road and Birmingham Street. Halesowen.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Trustees of the late Mr. *Grainger*, to Sell by Auction, without reserve the Household Furniture, &c, as follows.

First Day's Sale at Shenstone Road, comprising Mahogany Centre Table, Chiffonier, Chest of Drawers, Dining and other Tables, Sofa, Chairs, Excellent Cutlery, Clock in massive case, Pier Glass, Costly Mahogany Half-tester Bedstead and Hangings, Superior English Lever Watch, Prime Champagne, Brass Candlesticks, Feather and Down Beds, Horse-hair Mattresses, Culinary Requisites, Wheelbarrow, Garden and other Tools, Parsnip Drill, Gate and other Posts, 9in Boards, Socket Pipes, Ladders, Quantity of Timber and old Iron, and many other Lots as shown in Catalogues.

Second Day's Sale at ROYAL OAK INN, Birmingham Street, includes Bedstead, Feather Bed, Chest of Drawers, Pictures, Meat Jack, Chimney Glass, Clock, Carpets, Dressing and other Tables, Swing Glass, Dinner and other Ware, Saucepans, Weighing Machine and Weights, Stone Wine Barrels, Oven Doors and Frames, Quantity of old Iron, Planking, Ladders, Potato Mill, Pig Troughs, Fruiterer's Truck and Cart, Empty Sacks, Tools of various descriptions, Quantity of Fowls, and other Lots as detailed in Catalogues, which can be obtained from the Auctioneer, Halesowen.

Sale to commence each day at 11.30am."

Henry Granger = Henry Grainger

1911 Census

73, Birmingham Street

- [1] *Henry Granger* (50), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Mary Granger (45), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Harry Granger (15), son, tube labourer, born Halesowen;
- [4] Alice Granger (14), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] Lizzie Granger (13), daughter, button factory, born Halesowen;
- [6] Sydney Granger (11), son, school, born Halesowen;
- [7] Louie Granger (10), daughter, school, born Halesowen;
- [8] George Granger (6), son, school, born Halesowen:

Bromsgrove Messenger 8/3/1913

"Adjourned Licensing Sessions.

The licenses adjourned from the annual licensing meeting were all renewed, viz.....

Henry Grainger, ROYAL OAK.....

Superintendent Rudnick said all the alterations had been carried out satisfactorily."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/6/1929

"The Worcestershire County Licensing Committee, at a meeting yesterday, decided to refer, subject to compensation, the following licenses The following licenses were renewed.....

ROYAL OAK, Birmingham Street, Halesowen."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1935

"When the Halesowen Licensing Justices met yesterday.....

The ROYAL OAK, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was referred for compensation, no opposition being offered by the owners."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/9/1935

"Worcestershire County Licensing Committee yesterday considered claims with regard to the closing of five licensed houses.....

In the case of the ROYAL OAK INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, £1,386 15s was claimed, and £1,049 18s 9d approved. The licensee, *Henry Granger*, who is also life tenant, was awarded £599 18s 9d, and the trustee, A. Granger, Whitehall Road, Halesowen, £450."

ROYAL OAK

Manor Lane / Carters Lane, Lapal, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Penn Brewery Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1935], [1939]

Ember Inns [2005], [2013]

LICENSEES

James Williams [1841] – **1870**);
Henry Tomkins (**1870 – 1882**);
George Tomkins (**1882 – []**)
Samuel Hatfield [1886] – [1887]
John Wood [1888]
John Gollicker [1890] – [1894]
Harriet Lane [1894]
Alfred Henry Lane [1900] – [1901]
Charles Taylor [1907]
Mrs. Minnie F Barnes [1911] – **1912**);
Frederick Baker (**1912 – []**)
Henry Swann (**1913 – []**)
Matthew W P Matthews [1939]
Peter Brennan [1969]
Murray Keen [1981]
Lorraine Jones [2002] manager
Gary Brown [2004] – [2008] manager
Colette Sarjant [2011] manager
Claire Richardson [2023] manager

NOTES

It had a bowling green. [2009]

James Williams = William James

1841 Census

Carters Lane

- [1] *James Williams* (40), publican, born Shropshire;
- [2] Frances Williams (45), born Shropshire;
- [3] John Williams (20), hairdresser, born Shropshire;
- [4] Emma Williams (15), born Shropshire;
- [5] Eliza Williams (12), born Shropshire;
- [6] Elizabeth Williams (9), born Shropshire;
- [7] Leah Williams (6), born Shropshire;
- [8] Sarah Harris (75), widow:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 30/8/1841 - Advert

“Freehold Messuages and Building Land near Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Fallows, at the house of *James Williams*, known by the name of the ROYAL OAK, in Carters Lane, on Wednesday the 8th day of September next, at the hour of four in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be then and there produced.....”

County Advertiser 20/6/1857

“An inquest was held before R. Docker, Esq, on Saturday last, at the house of Mr. *James Williams*, Carters Lane, township of Lapal, on the body of Selina Mondon, a child two years old. The deceased, whose parents reside close to the towing path of the canal at Lapal, was left by her mother on the Thursday afternoon previous, in charge of a neighbour. The child was missed in the evening, and a search instituted, when the body was found at a distance of 200 yards in the Lapal tunnel. The body was immediately taken out of the water, but life appeared to have been extinct for upwards of half an hour. It is supposed that the child had accidentally fallen into the canal while playing, and had been drowned, and then carried by the flush of the superfluous water to the place mentioned. There being no evidence to show by what means the child got into the water the jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

1861 Census

Manor Lane – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *James Williams* (64), victualler and spade tree turner, employing 1 man 1 boy, born Halesowen;
- [2] Frances Williams (66), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Leonora Williams (26), daughter, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Journal 28/11/1863

“Shortly after the death of Mr. Thomas Darby, of Rowley Regis, which occurred on the 20th of last month, it was announced that in his will he had bequeathed the munificent sum of £10,000, to the funds of the General Hospital, in this town. Mr. Darby, who

died very suddenly, was interred on the 27th ult, in the churchyard at Quinton. Very shortly after his death several of his relatives, in consequence of the unexpected and sudden manner of his decease, got the opinion that death had resulted from some foul play, and poison was hinted at, but nothing was said openly before his interment, nor was the necessity of holding an inquest suggested. At the end of a month from his death the same subject was reopened and representations made to Mr. Docker, the Coroner for the division, which caused him to have the body disinterred for medical examination. In accordance with Mr. Docker's instructions the body was exhumed and placed under a tent erected for the purpose in the churchyard, at Quinton, on Thursday. Mr. Moore, surgeon of Halesowen, was called in, and he commenced an examination of the remains, which are in a shockingly decomposed state, yesterday, in the churchyard. Considerable excitement was occasioned in the neighbourhood of Quinton, and a large number of persons assembled in the vicinity of the churchyard. Mr. Docker summoned a Jury to meet at the ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane, yesterday afternoon, for the purpose of inquiring into the cause of Mr. Darby's death. A very respectable Jury was sworn, and after they had viewed the body they assembled in a large room at the inn to commence the enquiry. Mr. Holberton (firm, Homfray and Holberton) attended to watch the proceedings on behalf of the friends of the deceased; and Mr. Caldicott (firm, Caldicott and Canning) on behalf of the executors of the late Mr. Darby....."

[The inquest was adjourned and eventually a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/10/1869 - Deaths

"On the 6th inst, in his 74th year, *James Williams*, ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane Hales Owen; deeply regretted."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/1/1870 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Property, comprising the ROYAL OAK, Public-House, with Eight Dwelling Houses, Outbuildings, Gardens, and Premises, situate at Carters Lane, in the township of Lapal, in the parish of Hales Owen, in the County of Worcester. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Bateman, on Wednesday, the 19th day of January, 1870, at Six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. Amos Goode, the SHENSTONE INN, Hales Owen, subject to conditions then to be produced, and either in the following or such other lots as may be determined upon at the time of Sale – the following valuable Freehold Properties, viz. Lot 1. All that capital Old-licensed and well-known Road-Side Public-House, called the ROYAL OAK, with the Outbuildings, Gardens, and Premises, belonging thereto, for upwards of thirty years carried on by the late Mr. *James Williams*; together with the Three Cottages, Gardens and Premises adjoining, and situate at Carters Lane, Hales Owen aforesaid, now in the respective occupations of Guest, Parkes, and Bate; the whole of the aggregate annual value of £37 10s, and covering an area of 1,642 square yards....."

County Advertiser 19/3/1870 - Advert

"ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane, Lapal, near Halesowen.

Sale of Household and Public House Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Casks, and Sundry Other Effects.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Bateman, upon the premises of the ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane, Lapal, near Halesowen, on Tuesday, the 29th day of March, 1870, the Household and Chamber Furniture, Feather Beds, Brewing Utensils, Casks, and a variety of other Effects, of the late *James Williams*, particulars of which will be given in catalogues of Sale to be distributed, and which may be had at the place of Sale, from Mr. Absalom Hodgetts, Long Lane, and at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen; and from the Auctioneer, Dudley.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock."

Henry Tomkins = Henry Tonkins = Henry Tompkins

1871 Census

Manor Lane

[1] *Henry Tompkins* (46), agent timber trade, born Hagley;

[2] Leonora Tompkins (36), wife, born Carters Lane;

[3] Kate Tompkins (7), daughter, scholar, born Titford;

[4] Alice Tompkins (4), daughter, scholar, born Aston;

[5] Henry Tompkins (1), son, born Aston:

Stourbridge Observer 17/6/1871

"An inquest was held on Saturday last, at the ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, before R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, on the body of James Perry, an old man, 69 years of age.

It appears that deceased was knocked down by a horse that was ridden by a lad named Edward Guest, who, it seems, had no control over the animal.

After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

County Advertiser 19/9/1874

"At the Police Court, *Henry Tomkins*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Carters Lane, was charged with selling ale during prohibited hours on Sunday, the 6th inst. Police-constable Rudge visited the house at 4-40pm, and found two neighbours with ale before them. The defence was that one of the men had brought some grapes for the defendant's child, who was ill, and the ale had been given to him. As there was no previous complaint against the house defendant was allowed to pay the costs."

County Advertiser 12/5/1877

“*Henry Tompkins*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK INN, Manor Lane, was charged by the police with unlawfully keeping his house open for the sale of ale during prohibited hours. Mr. W. Hayes defended.

Police-constable Barley gave evidence to the effect that he visited the house at twenty minutes past ten on the night of the 28th ult, and found several men there. He called the attention of the landlord to this fact. Witness was positive about the time as he had heard the church clock strike ten while at Bell Vue, a place some distance from defendant’s house, and afterwards he walked from there to his own house, where he again saw what time it was.

For the defence, Mr. Hayes submitted that the officer was mistaken as to the time he visited the house. Defendant was in the habit of keeping the clock ten minutes faster than the proper time, and this was the reason that, when the constable entered the house, the clock showed ten minutes past ten. He called Alfred Field and Henry Hickton, who said they were in the defendant’s house when the constable came in. The clock in the room was at ten minutes past ten o’clock. The Bench considered the evidence of the officer most satisfactory, and as defendant had been previously summoned, they fined him 10s and costs, with the caution that on his next appearance his license would be endorsed.”

County Express 26/5/1877

“James Priddy, bricklayer, Alfred Field, carpenter, Henry Hickton, gun barrel maker, Thomas Jones, nailer, and George Bayford were charged with having been found on the premises of *Henry Tomkins*, the ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Halesowen, during prohibited hours, on the night of the 28th ult. Mr. Hayes defended.

Police-constable Barley said that he visited the defendant’s house at twenty minutes past 10 o’clock on the night of Sunday, the 28th ult, and in the front parlour found several men, viz, Priddy, Field, Bayford, and George Green, and in the taproom, Thomas Jones and Henry Hickton. Witness called the landlord’s attention to the time stating that it was twenty minutes past 10 o’clock, the time being by the defendant’s clock, twelve minutes past 10 o’clock. Defendant then addressing the men said it was past 10 o’clock, and they must leave; they accordingly did so.

Cross-examined: His station was near to defendant’s house, and he had, before entering the house, ascertained the time by his own clock. When on his beat, a distance of three-quarters of a mile from (and before he entered) defendant’s house he heard the church clock strike 10.

Mr. Hayes said that Mr. *Tomkins* had been fined by the Bench, but when the case was before them he called evidence to prove that his client was in the habit of keeping his clock ten minutes fast; and it was proved that it was but twelve minutes past closing time. He also urged that the church clock was fast. The evidence given on the previous occasion was read over. Mr. Smith thought the case should be dismissed, and referred to an occasion on which he knew the church clock to have been a quarter of an hour to fast. After a consultation between the magistrates, Mr. Gem said that if the case was dismissed he should be satisfied, although he was perfectly satisfied that it was after 10, and that these men were upon the premises during prohibited hours.

Case dismissed.”

1881 Census

Manor Lane – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Henry Tomkins* (56), timber agent, licensed victualler, born Hagley;
- [2] Leonoria Tomkins (46), wife, born Lapal;
- [3] Kate Tomkins (17), daughter, scholar, born Titford;
- [4] Harry Tomkins (11), son, scholar, born Aston;
- [5] Albert Tomkins (7), son, scholar, born Lapal;
- [6] Edith Tomkins (2), daughter, born Lapal;
- [7] Annie Shephard (17), domestic servant, born Rowley Regis:

London Gazette 7/4/1882

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement, or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Henry Tompkins*, residing at the ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane, Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victuallers’ Manager and Commission Agent.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above named person has been summoned to be held at the Queens Hotel, Stephenson Place, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, on the 20th day of April 1882.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/4/1882

“A meeting of the creditors of *Henry Tomkins*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane, Hales Owen, Worcestershire, licensed victualler, manager and commission agent, was held at the Queens Hotel, yesterday. Mr. W. Fisher presided, and Mr. Shakespeare appeared for the debtor. The liabilities were set down at £2,359 12s 6d, and net assets as £50 2s 8d. Mr. Shakespeare offered a composition of 1s in the pound, and after some discussion it was decided to adjourn the meeting for a week.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/5/1882

“A meeting of the creditors of *Henry Tompkins*, licensed victualler’s manager and commission agent, residing at the ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane, Hales Owen, was held yesterday, at the Queens Hotel, Birmingham. Mr. Fallows presided. The liabilities amounted to £2,359 12s 6d, and the assets to £50 2s 8d. A composition of 2s 6d in the pound, payable in two months, secured to the satisfaction of the chairman, was accepted.”

George Tomkins = George Tompkins

County Advertiser 11/7/1885

“David Reade, labourer, Quinton, was charged with stealing from the Icknield Works, Birmingham, 8lbs of cast steel, one trowel, one hacker, and an axe, the property of Richard Thomas. Reade was also charged with receiving the things knowing them to be stolen. Mr. W. Waldron defended.

On the 23rd ult, Police-constable Williams went to the ROYAL OAK, public-house, Manor Lane, and found the prisoner there, who had two pieces of steel on a seat, and two other two pieces in his pocket. When asked how he accounted for having the steel in his possession, prisoner replied that he had had it twelve months. Prisoner was taken into custody, and when charged said he had bought it from some chaps on the way from Sheffield and gave two quarts of fourpenny for it. Witness went to the premises of Edward Toy, who, had received a trowel from prisoner, and subsequently took the things to Mr. Thomas, of Birmingham, who identified them as his property. Prisoner was afterwards charged with receiving the things, knowing them to be stolen property, and adhered to his previous statement as to how they had come into his possession. Witness had since received the axe from William Grosvenor, and on the night of the 24th ult found the billhook at prisoner’s house.

Edward Toy, a bricklayer, of the Quinton, deposed to having the trowel from the prisoner on the 26th ult. Witness was out of work, and prisoner said it did not matter about the money then.

For the defence, Mr. Waldron did not dispute the articles belonged to Mr. Thomas, but submitted that it did not follow that they had been stolen.

The Bench considered the evidence conclusive, and said as prisoner had been previously convicted, the only question was whether they should send him to the Assizes. However, as he had elected to be tried by the Bench, they should deal with him. Prisoner would have to go to gaol for three months, with hard labour.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/12/1886

“*Samuel Hatfield*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Lappal, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 9th inst. Police-constable Etheridge said that on the day in question he visited the defendant’s house, and found a man named Hadley drunk there, with a glass of liquor before him.

Thomas Hadley, milkman, of Carters Lane, was charged with being drunk on the above licensed premises, the case being proved by Police-constable Etheridge.

Hatfield was fined 20s and costs and Hadley 5s and costs.”

County Express 19/3/1887

“John Church and Sarah Church, Langley Green Road, Causeway Green, were charged with being on the licensed premises of *Samuel Hatfield*, the ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, during prohibited hours on the 27th ult. Mr. Sharp defended.

Police-constable Williams said that at 11.45 on the morning of Sunday, the 27th ult, he visited the ROYAL OAK INN, and there found the defendants and several others with beer before them. Witness had measured the distance between defendants’ house and the ROYAL OAK, and found it to be about two miles and a half. In cross-examination the officer said the road he measured led through a number of fields.

For the defence it was stated that defendants had walked along the main road to the ROYAL OAK, and by this way the distance was three miles.

Mr. Goodman (magistrates’ clerk) said the Act said the distance should be measured by the nearest possible thoroughfare, and not the way defendants had travelled.

Mr. Sharp said he contended that the route measured by the officer was not a public thoroughfare.

A witness named Alfred Green said he had measured the distance by the horse road and found it to be three miles and 418 yards.

The road across the fields would be under three miles.

Defendants were each fined 1s and 10s costs. The Bench said it would be much cheaper for the defendants to attend church or chapel.”

John Gollicker = John Gallacher = John Gollacher

Birmingham Daily Post 2/7/1890

“At the Police Court, yesterday, Elizabeth Hall, charwoman, of Manor Lane, was charged with stealing 30s and a purse from the till of *John Gollicker*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, on the 21st ult. From the evidence it appeared that prisoner was employed at prosecutor’s house, and was seen behind the counter near the till, and afterwards some money was found strewn on the floor, and 30s, together with a purse, was missed from the till. The Bench sentenced prisoner, who pleaded not guilty, to two months’ hard labour.”

1891 Census

Manor Lane – ROYAL OAK INN

[1] *John Gollicker* (61), widower, licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] Florence A. Phelps (20), niece, barmaid, born Handsworth;

[3] Emma Robb (55), cousin, general servant, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/5/1893

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, Caroline *Gallacher*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Manor Lane, Hales Owen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of her husband on the 13th of May. Police-constable Bryant visited the inn, and found the defen-

dant helplessly drunk. She was fined 13s, including costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/7/1893

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, *John Gollacher*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK INN, Lapal, was charged with deserting his wife Catherine *Gollacher*. Prosecutrix stated that they were married on the 18th of December last. On the 30th June last defendant threw her downstairs, and she had not lived with him since. She was a certified nurse, and before marriage was employed at Birmingham. The Bench made an order for 7s 6d per week.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/1/1894

“*John Gollicker*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Carters Lane, Quinton, was summoned at the instance of Samuel Foster, trustee of the Grand Independent Order of Loyal Caledonian Corks Friendly Sick and Dividend Society (Lodge 115), held at the Watt Tavern, Soho Hill, for detaining certain moneys, amounting to £51 18s 2½d, belonging to the lodge. Mr. Matlow appeared for the defence, and Mr. J. S. Pritchett for the prosecution. The defendant did not appear on account of illness, and a doctor’s certificate was produced. The Bench decided to hear the case in his absence.

The plaintiff stated that the defendant was formerly landlord of the public house where the lodge was held. He also acted as treasurer. Since the 1st of December the witness had made several applications for the payment of the money owing by him to the society, but to no effect.

An order for the immediate payment was made, and the defendant was also ordered to pay the costs, amounting to £2 3s 6d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/1/1894 - Advert

“Short Notice Sale. This Day (Thursday), January 18.

ROYAL OAK INN, Carters Lane, Quinton (about two miles from Hales Owen, and five from Birmingham).

Mr. Joseph Smart is instructed to Sell by Auction, upon a distraint for rent, in the above-mentioned premises – the Household Furniture, Public House Requisites, &c, namely, Tables, Fenders, rail-back and other Chairs, Bedstead, quantity of Pictures, Ornaments, Chest of Drawers, Washstands and Dressing Tables, Swing Glasses, pewter and other Measures, four-pull Beer Machine and Piping, Carpeting, Oil Lamps, copper and other Kettles; Bagatelle Table, Balls, &c; mahogany Sofa in horse-hair, Decanters and other Glasses, Liquor Kegs, case Clock, Timepiece, Dinner Ware, and many other Lots.

Sale to commence at 11.30am.

Auctioneer’s address: Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/4/1894

“Staffordshire County Quarters Sessions.”

John Gollicker (64), publican, was arraigned for contemptuously refusing to comply with an order of two justices for the payment of £54 1s 8½d to Samuel Foster, for an on behalf of the Independent Order of Royal Caledonian Corks. Mr. Pearson, who defended, raised the objection that the Court had no jurisdiction, inasmuch as the Act required that ability to pay should be proved before imprisonment could be ordered. He also said that the prosecution had adopted a wrong method of procedure, and urged that they should have gone to the Court below.

The Chairman held that the Court had no jurisdiction, and prisoner was discharged.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1894

“Yesterday, the annual licensing session for Hales Owen division was held.....

With regard to the case of *Harriet Lane*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Quinton, Inspector Raybould stated that as soon as she obtained a permanent license she continued to keep her house open on Sundays to persons travelling on the omnibuses from Birmingham. Mr Reay said the magistrates had only decided to grant a renewal of the license on condition that she opened and closed her house in accordance with the Licensing Acts, which she promised to do.”

AND

County Advertiser 25/8/1894

“On Tuesday the annual licensing session for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held at the Police Court.....

Superintendent Chare in his annual report stated.....

The following licensed persons had ben proceeded against and dealt with as follows.....

Harriett Lane, ROYAL OAK INN, 20s and costs.....

The ‘black list’ was then taken.....

Harriet Lane, landlady of the ROYAL OAK INN, Halesowen, was next called upon. Inspector Raybould said he did not make any objection to the renewal of the license, but he thought it was his duty to inform the Bench that within the last six months applicant had obtained a permanent license. On the following Sunday she had her house open during prohibited hours. He visited the house the next Sunday and found a book in which there were addresses of people who came from Birmingham to refresh themselves. They (the police) did not oppose the license being made permanent, but when it was made permanent applicant opened the house.

Applicant said she admitted opening the house on the Sunday, but it was only to a few people whom she considered were bona fide travellers.

Mr. Reay said they should only renew the license on condition that the house was closed on Sundays during the hours that the law required.”

It underwent structural alterations in 1900.

Dudley Herald 1/9/1900

“The annual Brewster Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the Public office..... Superintendent Clare reported He has served notices of objection on the licenses held by..... *Alfred Henry Lane*, ROYAL OAK, Lapal on various grounds.”

County Express 1/9/1900

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions. The annual Licensing Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the new Police Court.....

The objection to the license of *Alfred Henry Lane*, of Lapal, was that owing to the construction of the house the police had not proper supervision, but Inspector Pitt said the necessary structural alterations had been carried out, and he had no objection to the renewal of the license. This was granted.”

1901 Census

Manor Lane – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Alfred Henry Lane* (37), mechanical engineer and licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Jessie Clarissa Lane (30), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Mark Lane (3), son, born Quinton;
- [4] Phoebe Pardoe (21), domestic servant, born Stourbridge;
- [5] Herbert Edwin Lane (31), brother, machine tool maker, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Emily Maria Lane (32), sister-in-law, born Birmingham:

1911 Census

Manor Lane – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *Minnie F. Barnes* (38), widow, licensed victualler, born Holdfast, Worcestershire;
- [2] Minnie E. Barnes (19), daughter, born Leeds, Lancashire;
- [3] Nellie Pierce (17), domestic general servant, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/2/1914 - Advert

“Airedale, grand young dog, 8 months; very smart, good companion and guard. Also splendid Spaniel Dog, 5 months. ROYAL OAK INN, Manor Lane, Quinton, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1935

“When the Halesowen Licensing Justices met yesterday.....

Permission was granted for the re-building of the ROYAL OAK at the junction of Carters Lane and Manor Lane, Halesowen, on condition that the brewers give up to the County Council a stretch of land for the purpose of road widening.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/4/1935

“The removal was sanctioned of the license of the ROYAL OAK INN, Lapal, Halesowen, to premises to be erected by the owners, Mitchells and Butlers, at the corner of Manor Lane and Carters Lane, Lapal, Halesowen.”

1939 Register

Manor Lane – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Matthew W. P. Matthews*, date of birth 7/7/1909, hotel manager, married;
- [2] Beatrice F. Matthews, dob 29/10/1911, hotel manageress, married;
- [4] Elizabeth F. Harvey, dob 9/10/1918, barmaid, single;
- [5] Winnie Harvey, dob 3/3/1916, barmaid, single:

Birmingham Mail 7/3/1939 - Advert

“Waiter, experienced only, M and B. ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Quinton.”

Birmingham Mail 4/7/1940 - Advert

“Bar-Helps evenings & week-ends experience not necessary. ROYAL OAK HOTEL, Manor Lane, Quinton.”

Birmingham Mail 13/1/1941 - Advert

“Bar-Helps evenings & weekends. ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Quinton.”

Birmingham Mail 23/6/1943 - Advert

“Charwoman Wanted at once, good job. ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Quinton.”

Evening Despatch 24/5/1945 - Advert

“Bar-Generals (2) and Waiter required for ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Quinton.
Apply Manager or Phone WOO 2735.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/1/1948

“A successful season with a steadily growing membership was reported at the annual prize-giving of the Halesowen Angling Club, at the ROYAL OAK HOTEL, Lapal, on Saturday night, when a silver cup, to be competed for annually and given by the president, Mr. L. Plummer, was presented to Mr. E. Baker, winner of the annual contest for a second year in succession.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/2/1954

“Even if the Liberal Party could not count on getting a single Member into the House of Commons – ‘putting it at its worst’ – it was a thousand times worth carrying on, Mr. Elliott Dodds, president of the Liberal Party in 1948-49 and editor and director of the *Huddersfield Examiner*, said last night at the annual dinner of the Oldbury and Halesowen Liberal Association, at the ROYAL OAK HOTEL, Lapal.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1958

“Halesowen Road Safety Committee is to ask the Automobile Association to put experimental notices at the STAG, Halesowen Road, Quinton, and at the ROYAL OAK HOTEL, Lapal, diverting Hagley-bound traffic along the new Halesowen by-pass.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/3/1968 - Advert

“Barmen or Barmaids Required, evenings, experience not essential.
The ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Quinton. Woo 2735.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/9/1968 - Advert

“Lady Required, part-time, evenings, for Cold Buffet bar at the ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Halesowen, able to assist at bar, all training given. 422 2735.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/1/1969

“The Halesowen Society of Artists has found a good way to take art to the people by holding regular exhibitions in the Manor Lounge of the ROYAL OAK HOTEL, at Manor Lane. With the approval of the licensee, Mr. *Peter Brennan*, the members redecorated the lounge to improve the background of the paintings. The society plans to change the exhibits every fortnight.”

Sports Argus 9/12/1978

“Sport-Inn Quiz. Sponsored by Mitchells & Butlers & Bass Worthington.
Here is the full list of entries for the *Sports Argus* Sport-Inn Quiz competition. The draw for the first round matches will take place on January 8 and will be published next week.....
ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Halesowen.”

News Telephone 28/5/1981

“Regulars at a Quinton pub have gone parachute potty in a bid to spread a little extra cheer in this International Year of Disabled People.
A staggering 25 customers at the ROYAL OAK Pub in Manor Lane have signed on the dotted line to jump out of an aeroplane on June 13 to raise cash for physically and mentally handicapped children at Lea Castle hospital.....”

Sandwell Evening Mail 11/10/1986

“With ten minutes to go, Jeff McGuire was fishless in the ROYAL OAK Halesowen AC President’s Cup event along Severn Stanley waters. Then he hooked a 4lb 3oz barbel and the trophy was his. Ray Williams was runner-up with a barbel of 2lb 14oz.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 21/2/1990

“Former goalkeeper John Osborne will be the guest speaker at the Albion Supporters Club meeting at the ROYAL OAK, Halesowen, on Thursday (8.0). The meeting is restricted to members only but supporters are welcome to join on the night.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 29/1/1991 - Advert

“Free Entertainment in M&B Pubs. Forthcoming Attractions – February.....
Wed 13th. Alikatz. ROYAL OAK, Halesowen.”

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.
With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We’ve a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....
Where to get your Free pint.....
ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, Halesowen.”

Halesowen News 30/9/1999

“A Halesowen sports club is jubilant after being bowled over by a £3,000 windfall from the National Lottery. Members of the ROYAL OAK Bowling Club heard news of their successful bid to the Millennium Festival Awards For All scheme.

And the club, which meets six days a week at the ROYAL OAK public house, Manor Lane, plans to buy essential equipment for matches and practice sessions with the cash.

Club secretary, Bill Hawkes, said, ‘We are absolutely over the moon about getting this grant. When I applied I didn’t really think we would be successful, so it has made my day.’

The club, which has 50 members, takes part in weekly league matches and enters male, female, and mixed teams of all age groups. The over 60’s players even scooped the cup in the Oldbury League last year.

Members submitted their application in May after hearing about the scheme.....”

Halesowen News 27/10/2010

“Pink champagne corks will be popping at a Halesowen pub tomorrow night (Friday) with a charity Wear it Pink fundraiser for the Breast Cancer Campaign. The event at the ROYAL OAK, Manor Lane, from 7pm, is being organised by breast cancer survivor Mandy Pirvin and will include a raffle, pink cup cakes and bubbly, with a £2 entry donation.”

Express & Star 14/4/2023

“The ROYAL OAK in Halesowen has welcomed back pub-goers after an extensive three-week refurbishment. The renovation has seen the pub undergo a complete transformation, and it now boasts a refreshed bar, new soft furnishings and an improved dining area. The pub, in Manor Lane, offers a fixed price lunch and dinner menu from midday Monday to Friday, and it will also offer freshly cooked dishes including posh fish and chips and roasts. It will also host a weekly curry night every Wednesday. General manager *Claire Richardson* said, ‘The level of transformation we’ve had is amazing and both myself and the whole team are incredibly excited to reveal the ROYAL OAK’s new look to our guests. Whether you’re looking for a get together with friends or somewhere to unwind by a crackling fireplace, our pub is ready to welcome guests, both new and old, to enjoy our brand-new look, but with the same cosiness it’s always had.’”

[2023]

ROYAL OAK

New Street, Spring Hill, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Penn Brewery Co. Ltd.

Burton Brewery Co. Ltd. [1901]

LICENSEES

Edward Sherrett [1870] – [1882]

William Henry James [1891] – [1895]

Alfred Hall [1896] – **1901**;

F Fisher (**1901** – []

Joseph Moore [] – **1904**);

William Smith Jnr. (**1904** – []

Samuel Roper Williams (**1907** – []

NOTES

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

Edward Sherrett = Edward Sherratt = Edward Sherrat = Edward Skerrett = Edward Sherrard

County Express 10/9/1870

“The Court on Wednesday was made special for the adjourned licensing day. Applications for spirit licenses were made by..... *Edward Sherratt*, ROYAL OAK, Spring Hill, which was supported by Mr. Hayes. Application refused.”

1871 Census

New Street

[1] *Edward Sherrat* (43), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Maria Sherrat* (44), wife, born Pedmore;

[3] *Sarah Bennett* (9), visitor, born Pedmore:

County Advertiser 5/12/1874 - Advert

“The largest and finest Store Pig in the Midland Counties, is to be seen alive, daily, at Mr. *Edward Skerrett*’s, ROYAL OAK INN, New Street, Spring Hill, Halesowen.”

County Express 1/4/1876

“John Hadley was charged with having been found drunk on licensed premises on the 18th ult. Mr. Waldron defended. Police-constable Smith stated that he visited the ROYAL OAK INN, Spring Hill, at twenty minutes past eight o’clock on the evening of the 18th, and saw several men there. The defendant was present in a state of drunkenness, and he asked the landlord how he accounted for the man being there in that state. The landlord replied that he had had no ale whilst in his house, and witness called his attention to the fact that the man had in his hand at that time a pint cup containing ale. Before leaving he told the landlord he should report the case.

Joseph Dingley was charged with a similar offence.

Smith stated after leaving the ROYAL OAK he saw Dingley drunk in the street, and a man assisting him home. At twenty minutes past ten o’clock he again visited the ROYAL OAK in company with Police-constable Knowles, and there saw the defendant in the tap room. He was drunk and had a pint cup in his hand containing ale. He said to the landlord that he thought he was determined to permit drunkenness, whereupon he denied that the man had been supplied with anything to drink.

Police-constable Knowles gave corroborative evidence.

Edward Sharratt, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Spring Hill, was then charged with having permitted drunkenness in his house, on the 18th ult, and Police-constables Smith and Knowles gave evidence in support of the charge.

Mr. Waldron addressed the Bench at some length, and contended in the first place that under the section of the Act it was necessary before a conviction could take place, to prove the landlord knowingly permitted drunkenness. He then contended that the evidence of the police-officers was of an unsatisfactory nature, and called *Sharratt*, who denied that the men were supplied with any ale during the time they were in his house. He also denied that they were drunk. The landlady also gave similar evidence. Dingley and Hadley were sworn and denied they were drunk, and their evidence was corroborated by other witnesses.

Defendant *Sharratt* was fined 10s and costs; Dingley and Hadley 2s 6d and costs each.”

County Express 30/9/1876

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. Hayes applied to the Bench to sanction certain alterations made by *Edward Sherratt*, at the ROYAL OAK, Spring Hill. The matter was taken into consideration at the licensing meeting, but adjourned to enable the applicant to make certain alterations suggested by the licensing justices, who had personally inspected the premises. Superintendent Kemp now stated these alterations had been made in the manner suggested, and the premises were in a satisfactory condition. The Bench granted the application.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/8/1877

“Last night a miners’ meeting was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen, with the object of testing the opinions of the men as to the proposals of the masters in respect of the increase of hours, and the discontinuance of the allowance for coal and beer. Mr. J. Clewitt occupied the chair, and held that eight hours were quite sufficient for a miners’ days work. In Cannock, Durham, and other places where there were seams of coal worked six and eight hours a day, and the masters asked no more, finding that they could get sufficient remuneration out of their men in that quantity of work. Yet the masters here said they must have an increase of 1½ hours a day in order to meet the demand made upon them. As to fire coal, no one could remember when it was not allowed to the men. He considered it to be a birth right and it would be invalidating and old and valued privilege to take it away – (hear hear). In regard to the question of beer, he thought it might, perhaps, be given up, and if the masters made a money recompense to the men they would be as well off as at present.

Mr. Breakwell (miners’ agent) said that after striving eleven years, and spending as many thousands of pounds in obtaining the eight hour system, it ought not to be given up without a struggle.

Afterwards, the Chairman put the question to the meeting, whether they were in favour of any alteration to the hours or in respect of the coal and beer, or whether they were determined to adhere to the present system.

It was unanimously resolved that there should be no alteration on either of these points.”

1881 Census

New Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Edward Sherrett* (56), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Maria A. Sherrett* (54), wife, born Pedmore:

County Express 3/6/1882

“John James, labourer, Spring Hill, was charged with unlawfully wounding Thomas Hill, well-sinker, on the 29th ult.

The complainant had been a member of the Modern Masons’ Lodge, held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Spring Hill, but was excluded through being in arrears with his subscriptions. Being advised by the Grand Master from Birmingham to attend the lodge as usual, he went there on the night of the above date, when the defendant entered the lodge room and demanded what right he had

there Complainant replied that the Grand Master had directed him to attend the lodge, and the defendant then said he had better pay all dues, and demands by the next lodge night, accompanying this with bad language. Defendant then quitted the house, and called complainant into the yard of the house. There he dealt complainant a blow which stretched him upon the ground, and the defendant caught up a brick, and administered several blows with it upon complainant's forehead.

Dr. Phillips said the complainant was brought to his surgery on Monday night, with wounds upon his head and face. The principal wound was irregular and jagged, more than an inch in length, and penetrating to the bone, on the left frontal eminence. There was a second wound of a less severe character on the bridge of the nose.

By Mr. Smith: The principal wound would not have been caused by a fall.

The charge was then reduced to one of common assault.

Defendant called Charles Brooks, treasurer of the lodge, who said he saw two men 'bundling one another about.' He did not see a blow being struck.

Mr. Smith told the defendant he had narrowly escaped being committed to the Sessions. As it was he would be fined 40s and costs, or one month, the costs to include the doctor's fee."

Dudley and District News 17/6/1882

"Joseph Poole, Waterfield Lane, Blackheath, was charged with stealing six pigeons at Oakham, Tividale, on the 2nd May, the property of Samuel Harris.

Prosecutor, a lime loader, said he had nine pigeons on May 2nd. He missed them about 5.30 the following morning, and found the brewhouse had been broken into. The three pigeons produced were his property, and worth 1s 6d each.

John Johnson, labourer, living near Oakham Colliery, said he saw the pigeons safe in the brewhouse on the 2nd May about 8.30pm, and locked them up. The next morning he found that the brewhouse had been broken into by means of removing the window. He found six of the pigeons missing.

Edward Sharratt, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Spring Hill, said he had kept a pigeon cage for 10 years, and on the 3rd May Thomas Siviter and the prisoner came to his house with three pigeons the first time. Siviter had the pigeons and witness gave him 9d each for them. This was about 11 o'clock, in an hour after they came again with six pigeons, five were alive, and a dead one in the prisoner's pocket. He bought the five, and gave 9d apiece for four and 8d for the other one. He had since sold all the pigeons he had (fifteen) to a man named Massey at Great Bridge.

In reply to the prisoner, the witness said Siviter said they were his pigeons, and that he was going into training for the Militia, and could not keep them, and hoped he would get them back again.

Thomas Massey, pigeon fancier, Horseley Heath, said on May 7th he bought 15 pigeons of *Sharratt*, and the three produced were some which he bought. The prosecutor claimed them and took them away.

PC Wickstead said he arrested the prisoner at 10.30pm on Wednesday, and brought him to the station and charged him with stealing six pigeons at Oakham, the property of Samuel Harris. In answer to the charge he said, 'I know nothing about it except what I saw coming down the lane. Siviter asked me to go a walk with him and sell some pigeons which he said he had bought. That is all I know, except that he paid for a pint of fourpenny for me. I gave him a two-shilling piece to pay for it, and Mr. *Sherratt* gave him the change. Siviter paid for two pints of fourpenny after he had sold the pigeons.'

I reply to the Bench, prisoner said he had nothing to say.

He was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions at Stafford.

Thomas Siviter was convicted last week and sentenced to one month's hard labour."

[Joseph Poole was acquitted.]

Birmingham Daily Post 11/8/1882 - Advert

"Beerhouse, Freehold property, good situation, to be Sold. A really good investment.

Apply to Mr. *Edward Sherratt*, ROYAL OAK INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen."

Dudley and District News 23/8/1884

"The Miners Strike....

On Tuesday night a largely-attended meeting of miners was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, New Street, Spring Hill, Halesowen.

A working miner presided, and Mr. Winwood addressed the company. The following resolutions were unanimously passed: (1)

'That this meeting thinks it very desirable that the present strike should be continued until the employers pay the old rate of wages.' (2) 'That we, the men who are at work at the old rate of wages, are willing to support our fellow-miners who are on strike.'"

County Advertiser 16/3/1889

"On Thursday night a meeting of miners was held at the ROYAL OAK INN, Spring Hill, under the presidency of a miner for the purpose of discussing the wages question....."

1891 Census

New Street – ROYAL OAK

[1] *Henry James* (30), nail caster and publican, born Old Hill;

[2] *Hannah James* (31), wife, born Springfield;

[3] *Simon Peter James* (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;

[4] *Jessie James* (5), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;

[5] *Beatrice Lily James* (3), daughter, born Halesowen;

[6] *Maud James* (10 months), daughter, born Halesowen;

[7] Rhoda Priddy (14) domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 14/12/1895

“*William Henry James*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness to take place upon his licensed premises on the 1st inst. Mr. J. Sharpe appeared to prosecute on behalf of the police, and Mr. Waldron defended.

Police-constable Etheridge said that about ten o’clock on Sunday night, the 1st inst, he was near the defendant’s house, and saw three men, Joseph Price, Edwin Harper, and Henry Jones leaving the premises. All the three men were drunk, and two of them – Harper and Jones – fell down, and had to be taken home. Defendant afterwards told Inspector Raybould that the men had come into the house at eight o’clock.

Cross-examined: Harper was a lame man. He could not tell how long the men had been in the public-house.

Arthur Portman gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. Waldron, for the defence, argued that the whole question had been begged from beginning to end. Knowledge on the part of the landlord, he submitted, had to be proved by the prosecution, and in this case there was no evidence showing this. There had been no evidence given, showing how long the men had been on the premises, and he submitted there was no case to answer.

These men had partaken of supper at defendant’s house, where there was a lodge held, after the funeral of a member of the lodge, and he should call evidence to show that the men were sober. As far as the defendant could judge, the men were sober, and he asked for the case to be dismissed if he established these facts.

William Henry James, the defendant, said he had kept the house for six years, and that was the first charge he had had against him.

Witness only supplied the men with a pint of ale, and they were sober when they left the house.

Cross-examined: He told the inspector that he could not tell how much they were supplied with.

Arthur Rudge corroborated.

Edwin Harper said he fell when he came out of the house, as he had a club foot. He did not fall because he was drunk.

Cross-examined: He was neither sober nor drunk.

Re-examined: He could walk in his ordinary way.

Henry Jones and Benjamin Portman said the men were sober.

The Bench considered the case proved, and fined defendant 10s and costs. The fine and costs amounted to £2 13s 6d.

Edwin Harper and Henry Jones were each fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk on the licensed premises, and the charge against Joseph Price was dismissed.”

County Advertiser 22/8/1896

“*Abel Partridge* and *Joseph Partridge*, labourers, Spring Hill, Halesowen, were charged with refusing to quit the ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury, on the 4th inst. Mr. *A. Hall*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, stated that when defendants came into his house on the date named they commenced to quarrel and haggle with the customers, and would not leave when requested to do so. The defendants had to be forcibly ejected. Defendants were each fined 1s and costs, or seven days.”

County Express 17/4/1897

“*Abel Partridge*, Grammar School Lane, Halesowen, was charged with assaulting *Alfred Hall*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK, Spring Hill, on the 6th inst.

Mr. Hayes represented complainant, and said some time ago defendant was summoned by the complainant for refusing to quit, and since then the defendant seemed to take every opportunity of showing his ill-will. On the day in question, his client was in Mr. Nock’s on business, and defendant was likewise there and commenced to annoy him, and eventually got up and hit him a violent blow on the ear, causing it to bleed. He asked for a heavy fine to prevent defendant molesting complainant again.

The complainant bore out his solicitor’s statement, and the Bench fined defendant 10s and costs, and said the next time they would bind him over.”

County Express 7/7/1900

“*Alfred Hall*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, was charged with permitting drunkenness, and also with selling liquor to a drunken person, on June 23rd. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

Inspector Pitt and Police-sergeant Pass gave evidence in support of the charge.

Mr. Waldron pleaded guilty to a technical offence on behalf of his client.

The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs in the first case, and allowed the second to be withdrawn on payment of costs. Solicitor’s fee was allowed.”

Dudley Herald 1/9/1900

“The annual Brewster Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the Public office.....

Superintendent Clare reported He has served notices of objection on the licenses held by.....

Alfred Hall, ROYAL OAK, Hasbury on various grounds.”

AND

County Express 1/9/1900

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions. The annual Licensing Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the new Police Court.....

Objection had been lodged with *Alfred Hall*, who was represented by Mr. Foster, of Wolverhampton and in each case

Inspector Pitt said the houses had been better conducted since, and that there had been no cause for complaint.

The Bench said that in view of the serious increase in drunkenness they would take more time to consider the question of renewals, and they would be deferred to the adjourned licensing sessions.”

County Express 29/9/1900

“Adjourned Licensing Session.....

The adjourned cases were next taken, these being *Alfred Hall*, of the ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury, represented by Mr. Foster, Wolverhampton The Bench renewed all the licenses, and said they expected the houses to be conducted in a better manner this year.”

County Express 19/1/1901

“*Alfred Hall*, landlord of the ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury, was charged with using abusive language to Police-constable Tennant likely to put him in fear, on the 27th ult. Mr. E. H. Grove defended. The case was adjourned.”

1901 Census

New Street

- [1] *Alfred Hall* (42), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ellen Hall (40), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Ann Dingley (70), mother-in-law, widow, born Halesowen;
- [4] Timothy Parish (35), cousin, postman and insurance agent, born Hasbury:

County Express 31/8/1901

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions.....

The objections in the case of the ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury, kept by *Alfred Hall*, were that he had been convicted for an offence against the county bye-laws for using abusive language to a police-constable while in the execution of his duty, that there was no necessity for the license, and that *Hall* was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a license. Mr. E. H. Groves appeared for the applicant.

Inspector Pitt gave evidence as to the conviction, and in reply to Mr. Grove he said the house had not been conducted to his satisfaction. *Hall* had a lodger who was practically in charge of the house, and this man was more antagonistic to the police than *Hall* was. He also made allegations as to certain women going to the house. He did not think *Hall* had done his duty as a license holder; he was not sufficiently particular in carrying out his business. He was also out of the house a part of the time, attending to another business. The lodger conducted a butcher's business on the premises. Mr. Grove said his client was at the house the essential part of his time, and he asked the Bench to give him another trial for twelve months. Inspector Pitt said he did not wish to appear vindictive but *Hall* was on the black list last year. The Bench said they would adjourn the matter to the adjourned licensing sessions in order to give the owners of the house an opportunity of doing something. They thought the public should work with the police. If they were antagonistic it meant mischief.”

Smethwick Weekly News 28/9/1901

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, the magistrates present being Messrs. J. G. Reay (chairman), W. Somers, and G. B. Hingley. The objection to the license of the ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury, kept by *Alfred Hall*, on the ground that he was not a fit and proper person to hold a license, was proceeded with. Mr. W. Waldron appeared for *Hall*, and Mr. Forster represented the Burton Brewery Company, the owners of the house. Superintendent Sherriff explained that a notice had been served upon *Hall* by the owners to quit the premises, and he should be satisfied if it was carried into effect. Mr. Forster mentioned that a three months' notice to terminate his agreement had been served upon *Hall* by the owners, and it would expire on the 19th November. At that time he would leave the house, and the owners would endeavour to provide a tenant that would be satisfactory to the police. Mr. Waldron submitted that *Hall* was a fit and proper person to hold the license. He had conducted the house well, and the only mark against him was that he had been convicted for using obscene language to a police officer. He called a witness named Pettifer in support of this statement, but the Bench refused to renew the license to *Hall*. On the application of Mr. Forster the license was transferred to Mr. *Fisher*.”

County Express 5/10/1901

“At the Police Courts on Saturday, Mr. Wiggins, on behalf of Mr. Waldron, gave notice he would appeal at the next Worcestershire Quarter Sessions against the refusal of the licensing justices to renew the license of the ROYAL OAK INN, Springhill, to *Alfred Hall*, on the ground that he failed to produce evidence of good character, having been convicted of an offence against the county bye-laws. The license has been transferred to Mr. *Fisher*, a representative of the Burton Brewery Company.”

County Express 12/10/1901

“ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury. Mr. Hayes made an application on behalf of *Alfred Hall* for a temporary permit for this house. Mr. Garratt said the application was refused at the Adjourned Licensing Sessions, and asked whether Mr. Hayes thought it was worth while renewing it.

Mr. Hayes asked for a permit pending the appeal, which was to be made at Worcester.

Mr. Garratt, speaking on behalf of the Bench, said Mr. Hayes' client had only one remedy, and that was at Worcester. He had better wait for that.

The application was refused.”

County Express 26/10/1901

“At the Worcester Quarter Sessions on Saturday, *Alfred Hall* of the ROYAL OAK INN, New Street, Spring Hill, Hasbury, appealed against the refusal of the Halesowen Justices to renew the license of that beerhouse.

Mr. Vachell (instructed by Mr. W. Waldron, Brierley Hill) was for the appellant; Mr. Marchant and Mr. Carmichael (instructed by Messrs. Homfray, Goodman, and Mellor, Halesowen) for the respondent Justices; and Mr. Morton Brown (instructed by Messrs. Fisher, Jesson, and Wilkins, Ashby-de-la-Zouch) for the owners of the house, the Burton Brewery Company Ltd.

Mr. Marchant said the house was a beerhouse, licensed before 1869, and the ground for refusal was that the applicant was not of good character. The onus lay on the appellant to prove his case.

Inspector Pitt, Halesowen, proved the refusal of the Justices to renew the license to *Hall*, and the grant to Mr. *F. Fisher*, the local agent for the Brewery Company.

Superintendent Sheriff gave evidence to the effect that he signed the notice of objection. One of the grounds was that the house was not necessary for the requirements of the district.

The Chairman said it was quite legal to insert such an objection in the case of a house licensed before 1869. There were only four grounds upon which objection could be taken, and the Superintendent knew that as well as he did.

Superintendent Sheriff said he believed that he was acting in the right. He did not say whether he could prove it.

The Chairman said he had a great objection to the police making objections which they could not substantiate, and one they knew was illegal.

Mr. Homfray, clerk to the Justices, proved that the appellant had been convicted for using abusive language to the police, for which he was fined 5s and £2 14s 6d costs.

Mr. Vachell protested that it would be monstrous to take away a man's means of livelihood on that account. Appellant was convicted in July 1900, for permitting drunkenness, but that was passed over as no objection was made to the renewal of the license at the following Licensing Sessions. The police did not rely upon that previous conviction as being evidence of the bad character of the appellant, but on the conviction under a bye-law for abusing a policeman. He pointed out that the magistrate had no power to refuse the license to one man and grant it to another. If the character of the applicant was so bad, all that they could do was to take away the license of the house altogether. If they had acted contrary to law the appellant ought not to suffer, but should benefit by the fact that the grant had been made, and he submitted he was entitled to have the renewal rectified by the grant to him, instead of Mr. *Fisher*.

The appellant gave evidence as to the refusal to renew the license. Nothing was said at the time by the police as to the number of licensed houses in the district. He had been in possession of the house ever since the refusal.

Mr. Marchant: Were you cautioned last year by the Justices? – Yes, they told me to be careful.

Appellant admitted that at the hearing before the Justices the only evidence as to character was given by a man named Pettifer, who had given himself up to the police on a charge of embezzlement. A Mr. Moore refused to give evidence, although there were plenty of witnesses in court who could have given evidence as to character, no one else was called.

Did the Justices tell you that they refused to renew the license on the ground that you failed to produce satisfactory evidence of good character? – Yes.

Mr. Marchant then proceeded to question witness about his previous convictions. He appeared to have some difficulty in recollecting what had occurred some years ago, but admitted that he had been convicted for rioting at an election at Halesowen about 20 years ago, and got nine months' hard labour. He had also been convicted, in the name of Bagley, for assault. He, however, denied that he was convicted for being drunk and disorderly at Halesowen on October 2nd, 1882, or that he had been cautioned about keeping his house open after hours.

As to this conviction in 1901, was there not a row outside the house? – There were a few men there, but they were singing hymns. Had not one man got a quart jug in his hand? – I don't know.

Mr. Samuel Duvver, New Street, Halesowen, saddler, and lay reader to the Church Mission, who had known the applicant from his childhood, gave him a 'tolerably good character'. He had conducted his house very well. He suggested that the conviction 20 years ago was a case of mistaken identity.

By Mr. Marchant: *Hall* was a customer of his.

James Fagg, clerk in the employment of the Midland Railway Company, who had known *Hall* for 15 or 16 years, gave him a good character.

Mr. Marchant: Witness was a friend and customer of the appellant, and his wife was a relation of the appellant.

William Shilbock, nut and bolt manufacturer, Halesowen, and Daniel Parsons, nail and chain manufacturer, gave evidence as to the appellant's good character.

Mr. Marchant re-called Mr. Homfray, who gave evidence as to the previous convictions against the appellant, and the proceedings before the Justices, as did Mr. D. W. Sluter, clerk to Mr. Homfray, Inspector Pitt, and Police-constable Tennant.

Mr. Vachell called attention to the witnesses he had called as to the appellant's good character, and pointed out that no evidence had been called to rebut that. He suggested that it was because the police had been touched in their dignity – appellant having spoken to one of them disrespectfully – that the Bench was asked to deprive the man of his license.

Mr. Marchant was about to address the Court, when the Chairman said that they need not trouble him. Knowing the facts now, which were not known to the Court below, they would not grant the appeal, which would be dismissed, with costs.”

Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

“A well-attended meeting of miners was held on Tuesday night at the ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury.

Mr. B. Winwood (agent) spoke upon the importance of better inspection of mines so as to minimise the terrible accidents which frequently occurred. They had been trying to persuade the Government for the last fifteen years to give better protection for the miners, but instead they had fewer inspectors in proportion to the area ground they had to traverse. There were times when such

accidents could be avoided, especially if better care was exercised by the management of different collieries, and there was less of the helter-skelter policy, and the miners were not urged to an impossible speed. These were some of the causes which were responsible for many of the accidents which occurred in the Black Country mines, and the Government ought to be urged upon to provide additional inspectors. He expressed satisfaction that the Eight Hours Act had been secured, and he advised the men to see that they derived all the benefit from it.

A resolution was passed calling upon the Government to appoint additional inspectors for the Black Country, and opposing any alteration in the constitution of the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire Mining Accident Fund.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/10/1913

“At the Shire Hall, Worcester, yesterday, the Worcester Licensing Committee held a meeting to consider the claims for compensation in respect of eleven houses.....

The amounts claimed and awarded respectively were.....

ROYAL OAK INN, New Street, Hasbury (£2,429), £1,348.....

Mr. Willis Bund said the claims were obviously inflated, and it was extremely difficult for the committee to know what to do, especially because the evidence was in many cases deficient. He was afraid the claimants would be disappointed with the awards, but he could not help it.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/2/1914

“The sessions for the Halesowen petty sessional division was held yesterday at the Police Court.....

Superintendent A. Pass stated there were 73 licenses in existence, giving an average of one license to every 265 of the population, and one on-license to every 334 of the population. Since the Licensing Act of 1904 came into force eight licensed houses had been closed with compensation – five alehouses and three beerhouses. Another beerhouse would soon be added to this list, as compensation had been awarded in the case of the ROYAL OAK INN, Hasbury.....”

SAMSON AND LION

189, Stourbridge Road, (Alexandra Road), (Gibbet Lane), Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Frederick William Baker, Stourbridge [1897]

Peter Walker

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Warr [1853] – **1883**)

Joseph Slater [1884]

James Slater [1885]

Fanny Maria Slater [1885]

Sydney Giles Smith [1888]

Caleb Price [1892]

William Henry Kendrick (**1895** – [1896]

William Bissell [1901] – [1904]

William Withers [1912]

Charles Henry Head [1914] – [1939]

Norman Fife [1959]

Pete Fleming []

William George Sharp [1969] – **1971**);

William Joseph Styzaker (**1971** – **1972**);

Anthony Leonard Williamson (**1972** – **1973**);

David William Bodenham (**1973** – **1975**);

Edward William Harris (**1975** – **1976**);

James ‘Jim’ Johnston (**1976** – [1994]

NOTES

Gibbet Lane [1861], [1871], [1880], [1881], [1885], [1864], [1865], [1901]

Alexandra Road [1912]
Stourbridge Road [1942], [1959], [1975], [1977], [2004]

“Worcestershire Chronicle 5/4/1854

Thomas Warr, of the township of Hasbury, beerhouse-keeper, was fined 2s 6d and costs, for keeping his house open for the sale of beer, &c, before five o'clock in the morning of Tuesday, the 14th inst.”

1861 Census

Gibbett Lane – SAMPSON AND LION

- [1] *Thomas Warr* (43), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Eliza Warr (43), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Sarah Warr (20), daughter, dressmaker, born Halesowen;
- [4] Fanny Warr (17), daughter, scholar, born Hasbury:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/3/1862 - Marriages

“On the 11th instant, at Halesowen, by the Rev. E. A. Kempson, Walter Cox, third son of Mr. Charles Birch, of Lutley, to Fanny, youngest daughter of Mr. *Thomas Warr*, of Halesowen.”

1871 Census

Gibbett Lane – SAMSON AND LION

- [1] *Thomas Warr* (53), victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Eliza Warr (53), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Fanny Birch (27), daughter, married, born Halesowen;
- [4] Charles Birch (8), grand-son, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 13/7/1872

“A labourer, named John Hollingshead, was charged with obtaining two bedsteads and other articles of furniture by false pretences.

James Tromans, New Town, Dudley Wood, deposed that on the 22nd ult defendant came to his place of business, and said he had been sent by Mr. *Warr*, of Gibbett Lane, for certain articles of furniture. Witness said he must have a note from Mr. *Warr* before he could execute the order. Defendant left, and shortly afterwards he returned with a note (produced) purporting to have been written by Mr. *Warr*. The defendant was then allowed to remove the goods in question, and he was handed a bill in Mr. *Warr*'s name. In about a week after that defendant called again, and tendered 3s in part payment for the goods. Witness noticed that defendant's name had been substituted on the bill for that of Mr. *Warr*. He should not have parted with the goods but for defendant's representation that he had been sent by Mr. *Warr*, whom he had known for thirty years.

Thomas Warr, licensed victualler, Gibbett's Lane, stated that the letter produced was not written by him, neither did he authorise anyone to write it for him. He had not sent the defendant to Mr. Tromans' house for goods.

In his defence, Hollingshead stated that he asked complainant to let him have the goods, and he promised to pay him 3s per week until the whole amount of the purchase was paid. Complainant said he would not comply with his request, but if he could get Mr. *Warr*'s consent to have his name on the bill, then he (defendant) should have what he liked. He went away for a little while, and, as he wanted to make his home comfortable – (a laugh) – he thought it no harm to mention Mr. *Warr*'s name. He was then permitted to take home the goods, and he was willing to pay for them. When apprehended by Sergeant Kennedy, prisoner admitted that he forged the name of Mr. *Warr*, and he pleaded guilty to the charge of obtaining goods by false pretences.

Committed for trial at the next Assizes.”

[At the Worcestershire Assizes, on 20th July 1872, John Hollingshead was found guilty and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.]

Thomas Warr was also a shopkeeper. [1873]

County Advertiser 22/5/1880 - Advert

“For Sale, a large quantity of very fine Window and Bedding-Out Plants.
Apply, SAMPSON AND LION, Gibbet Lane, near Halesowen.”

1881 Census

Gibbet Lane – SAMSON AND LION

- [1] *Thomas Warr* (63), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Eliza Warr (63), wife, born Halesowen:

Worcester Journal 28/4/1883

“On Saturday an inquest was held by Mr. R. Docker, at the SAMPSON AND LION INN, respecting the death of *Thomas Warr* (65), who committed suicide on the previous day. Deceased was landlord of the SAMSON AND LION, and about nine o'clock on Friday morning he went up the garden, procured a rope out of one of the greenhouses, and hung himself to a rafter in the tool shed. Charles Birch, grandson, said the deceased had appeared very strange in his manner recently, in consequence of pecuniary difficulties. A verdict to the effect that deceased hung himself whilst in a state of unsound mind was returned.”

County Advertiser 4/8/1883 - Advert

“Spring Trap to be Sold, cheap; had little wear. Suit cob 15 hands.
SAMPSON AND LION, Gibbet Lane, Halesowen.”

London Gazette 29/4/1884

“Pursuant to a Judgment of the High Court of Justice, made in the matter of the estate of *Thomas Warr*, deceased, and Bloomer and others against Vaughan and others, 1884, W. No.508, the creditors of *Thomas Warr*, late of Hasbury, in the parish of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler, who died on the 20th day of April, 1883, are, on or before the 26th day of May, 1884, to send by post, prepaid, to Mr. John Wright, jun, of Cradley Heath, in the county of Stafford, the Solicitor of the defendant, John White Vaughan, the executor of the deceased, their Christian and surnames addresses and descriptions, the full particulars of their claims, a statement of their accounts, and the nature of the securities (if any), held by them, or in default thereof they will be peremptorily excluded from the benefit of the said Judgment. Every creditor holding any security is to produce the same before his Lordship the Vice-Chancellor Sir James Bacon, at his chambers, the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, on Wednesday, the 4th day of June, 1884, at twelve of the clock in the forenoon, being the time appointed for adjudication on the claims.

Dated this 24th day of April, 1884.”

County Advertiser 21/2/1885

“James Timmins, Hasbury, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *James Slater*, SAMPSON AND LION INN, Short Cross, on the 31st ult. Police-constable Stevens proved the case, and defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Advertiser 7/3/1885

“*James Slater*, SAMPSON AND LION INN, Gibbet Lane, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 31st of January. At six o'clock on the night in question Police-constable Stevens heard a disturbance at defendant's house, and upon going there found a man named James Timmins drunk. On two subsequent occasions he again visited the house, and on each occasion found Timmins there drunk.

Defendant's wife pleaded that her husband was dangerously ill, and while she was attending to him Timmins got drunk.

Police-sergeant Raybould said he had received numerous complaints as to the manner in which the defendant's house was conducted.

Defendant was fined 20s and costs.”

County Advertiser 29/8/1885

“On Tuesday last the annual licensing meeting was held at the Public Office, Halesowen.....

The following licenses were held over till the adjourned licensing meeting.....

Fanny Maria Slater, SAMPSON AND LION, Hasbury.”

County Express 3/10/1885

“Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Session The publicans who had been convicted of offences against their licenses during the past year were called before the Bench and cautioned, after which their licenses were renewed.”

County Advertiser 1/12/1888 - Advert

“Notice. Rabbit Coursing on Monday, December 9th, and Every Monday until Further Notice, in a Field adjoining the SAMPSON AND LION, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, *S. G. Smith* Proprietor. Plenty of Rabbits and good goers, as usual.”

County Express 8/12/1888

“*Sidney Giles Smith*, landlord of the SAMPSON AND LION, Short Cross, was charged with assaulting John Blunt, Halesowen, on the 18th ult.

Complainant stated that he went to have a drink at the SAMPSON AND LION, defendant's house. After being there a time defendant struck him three times. Complainant sat down again, and defendant knocked him over the bench, and afterwards struck him whilst in a corner.

Annie Crumpton corroborated.

A cross-summons was heard against complainant, in which *Smith* charged Blunt with assaulting him on the same date.

Smith stated that defendant came to his house, ordered a pint of ale, and told the landlady to put it down to the old score. She refused to do so, and defendant used very filthy language towards her. Complainant went to eject defendant, and gave him a slap on the face. A scuffle ensued, and defendant struck him.

A witness corroborated.

The Bench considered the first case proved, and fined defendant 1s and costs, or seven days; and dismissed the second case.”

1901 Census

Gibbett Lane – SAMPSON AND LION INN

[1] *William Bissell* (55), widower, innkeeper, born Halesowen;

[2] *Mary Allen* (30), servant, housekeeper, born Halesowen;

[3] *Amy Withers* (17), boarder, horn button polisher, born Halesowen:

County Express 6/12/1902

“Mr. A. Herbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest, on Tuesday, at the SAMSON AND LION INN, Hasbury, near Halesowen, with respect to the death of Joseph Weston (70), labourer, Gibbett Lane, who had committed suicide by hanging.

Henry Weston, a son, stated that the deceased had recently been unwell, having suffered from a stroke, and he was greatly distressed in consequence of being unable to work. On the 22nd ult the deceased fell down in the road owing to his foot catching against a kerbstone, and sustained serious injury to his head. He was not excited, but very quiet in manner. On Sunday morning deceased was missing, and witness eventually found him hanging in a nail shop by means of a rope suspended from a beam. It was witness’s daughter’s skipping rope which deceased used to terminate his existence. He raised an alarm, and a neighbour cut the body down.

The Coroner: Has the deceased ever threatened to commit suicide? – Witness: Since he had the stroke he has been very funny and eccentric.

By the jury: Since the deceased met with the accident he had been peculiar in his manner, and he believed the injury unhinged his mind.

John Benjamin Dowding, a neighbour, stated he was awakened by the last witness, and he hastened into the nail shop and cut deceased down. Death had evidently taken place some time. In his opinion deceased had recently been very strange in his manner. Dr. Phillips said he was fetched to see deceased shortly before eight o’clock on Sunday morning. He found a large lacerated wound over the left eye. Death was due to strangulation. There was no dislocation.

The jury returned a verdict that the deceased committed Suicide when Temporarily Insane.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 6/12/1902

“Since three men have hanged themselves in Gibbet Lane, Halesowen, Worcestershire, it has been decided to change the name of the thoroughfare.”

County Advertiser 8/10/1904

“*William Bissell*, landlord of the SAMSON AND LION INN, Hasbury, was summoned for selling adulterated whiskey on the 22nd ult. Mr. H. Jeffries, who appeared to prosecute, explained that a sample of whiskey was taken from defendant’s house, and upon being analysed was found to contain 10.4 per cent of added water. Evidence was given by a servant named Mary Ann Ganner and Inspector Brazier. Defendant pleaded that the offence was caused by a mistake on the part of the servant. The Bench fined him 20s and costs, amounting in all to £3 11s 6d.”

County Express 14/10/1911

“The statue fair, or ‘Mop,’ was held at Halesowen on Monday, and sheep were roasted in the open air, close to the SAMSON AND LION INN, Stourbridge Road, and in Bromsgrove Road. The pleasure fair, which was held in a field at Hagley Road, was upon a more extensive scale than usual, and was visited by some thousands of people.”

Birmingham Mail 16/6/1914

“At Hales Owen Police Court today *Charles Head*, licensee of the SAMPSON AND LION INN, was summoned under the Lotteries Act 1823 for selling a ticket in a lottery for a pony on Whit Monday. Joseph Beasley was summoned for aiding and abetting in the offence.

Harry Guest Mace, of Alexandra Road, said he purchased a ticket from *Head* for a raffle for a pony for which he paid 6d. He attended the same day at the house of Mr. Hawkswood in Spring Street, Hales Owen, where the raffle took place. The raffle was fairly conducted, number 43 being the winner.

Replying to Mr. H. E. Grove, who appeared for the defence, witness said he did not think he was doing wrong. For the defence Mr. Grove pleaded guilty and said he understood Superintendent Pass had simply brought the prosecution as a warning to the public and that he would be satisfied with payment of costs. These lotteries were generally carried on in the district and the public were not aware they were illegal.

Superintendent Pass said as it was the first case of the kind he should be satisfied if the costs were paid. He, however, pointed out that the conditions of the lottery were for the putter-up to spend 7s 6d and the winner 5s. Though the lottery took place at a private house it was evident that the money would be spent in drink at a public house.

Mr. G. G. Poppleton (magistrate) said the drinking element was the worst aspect of the case.

Superintendent Pass explained that there was no allegation of fraud in connection with the raffle, but the conditions in regard to beer made it look worse.

The Chairman (Mr. R. T. Pearson) said the Bench had decided to allow the case to be withdrawn on payment of costs, but it was a proper case for Superintendent Pass to bring before them. They hoped it would serve as a warning to the public in future.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/9/1936

“Halesowen Cottage Hospital will benefit to the extent of about £25 as the result of a ‘harvest home’ held in connection with the local Conservative Club during the week-end. It was the most successful event of its kind ever held at the club. The gifts were mainly garden produce grown by members of the club, and the genuine desire to help the hospital was seen in the eagerness to buy back some of the gifts at the closing sale, which, conducted by Mr. D. Wellings, was well attended.

Mr. Wellings is chairman of the club committee and is organiser of the bowling competition and other efforts in aid of the Cottage Hospital, which up to the moment have raised about £70 this year. One of the subsidiary efforts was that of Councillor *C. Head*, licensee of the SAMSON AND LION, Hasbury, whose recent ‘harvest home’ sale raised £11.

Among the gifts to the club collection were five loaves and two 'fishes' (made of bread) symbolic to the feeding of the 5,000, and these with a piece of cheese several pounds in weight, after they had fetched their price 'under the hammer,' provided snacks for several attending, the Charter Mayor (Alderman J. B. Downing) entering into the spirit of the proceedings by cutting the cheese."

1939 Register

189, Stourbridge Road – Public House

[1] *Charles H. Head*, date of birth 25/4/1879, married, licensed victualler;

[2] Martha Head, dob 3/7/1878, married, unpaid domestic duties:

Evening Despatch 27/4/1942

"Probate of the will of Alderman *Charles Henry Head*, of SAMSON AND LION INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, former president and treasurer of the West Midland Miners Association, who left £2,908 (net £2,631), has been granted to his widow and his daughter, Mrs. Alice A. Partridge."

Birmingham Daily Post 31/12/1959

"The Black Country citizen takes his game of darts seriously, especially if league points are at stake. When a match is in progress he insists that there shall be 'order.' This is why the SAMSON AND LION darts team played its home match against Halesowen Labour Club last night at the NELSON INN, Spring Hill, instead of at the SAMSON AND LION, Stourbridge Road.

The team refuses to play at its headquarters because, it claims, it cannot get 'order' in the bar when a match is on. The trouble came to a head before Christmas when the team, having appealed for 'order,' said they were told to 'take the board on to the lawn' if they wanted quiet.

The Labour Club, which is at the top of the Halesowen League, beat the SAMSON 6-2.

Mr. *Norman Fife*, licensee of the SAMSON AND LION, said that on the night of the trouble the bar and smokeroom were crowded and the outdoor department was busy also. It was impossible to keep everyone quiet. 'As far as I am concerned the incident is over and done with' Mr. *Fife* said. 'The darts team are welcome to come back here if they care to.'

The brewery company which owns both the SAMSON AND LION and the NELSON yesterday issued a statement expressing confidence in Mr. and Mrs. *Fife*. The matter was 'a storm in a tankard.'"

Birmingham Daily Post 27/10/1975

"Dudley Council's move to ban a market on the car park of the SAMSON AND LION public house, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, was adjourned until tomorrow in the High Court in London on Friday."

Sports Argus 30/4/1977

"Halesowen Harriers v Olympic Star, at Lye Town ground, Lye, kick-off 10.30am, meet at SAMSON AND LION, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, 10.30am."

SAMSON AND LION sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

Sandwell Evening Mail 26/2/1994

"Down Your Local.

There is an interesting plate bracketed to the wall inside the SAMSON AND LION. Around the edge is printed 'There are no strangers here. Only friends we haven't met yet.' And so it is. Licensee *Jim Johnston* and his wife Ivy provide a warm welcome to regulars and strangers alike at their pub at Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.

Brummie *Jim* earned his living for three years as an apprentice jockey with Bob Ward at Hednesford after he left school. He then served for four years as a motor mechanic with the RAF, moving on to sell ice cream, vacuum cleaners and working with machine tools. Then, 32 years ago, he took the plunge and entered the pub trade. *Jim*, it should be said, never stuck to racing because he weighed eight stone when he was 18 and the other stable lads tended to be two stone lighter.

Our visit coincided with his birthday. Ivy solemnly presented him with a mini birthday cake, two inches square – not even a mouthful for *Jim*. Today he's receiving the real thing when she throws a party for family and friends.

The couple have kept the SAMSON AND LION for 17 years and do not look at regulars as just customers. 'They're all friends' said Ivy, the daughter of a licensee.

Their son Geoff also has a pub – the FIVE WAYS in Seagar Street, West Bromwich, recently featured in this column.

The real boss in the SAMSON AND LION seems to be King, the Staffordshire bull terrier belonging to their daughter Sharon.

Other dogs and cats are barred because King jealously guards his territory.

A crowd of young people at the bar seemed to be having a good time when I called. *Jim Aston* and his wife Kath both work at Cadbury's – and did someone call them Fruit and Nut? They were talking about another customer Clive Rose. He acts as auctioneer for pub charity events and, in *Jim Aston's* words, 'can sell snow to the Eskimos.' Apparently the whole gang dive in, scrounging prizes for raffles which have in the last few months raised £1,000 including £500 for the Hagley RC School. *Nick Hart* and his wife *Mandy* said of licensee *Jim* and Ivy, 'They are cracking.' To general laughter, the listener realises they were not implying *Jim* and Ivy were falling to pieces. Also in the school was *Mark Hibberd*, a company director and his girlfriend *Tarn Rollinson*. They actually met in the SAMSON AND LION five years ago. The bunch gestured to a man who, although accompanied by his wife, was 'travelling in ladies underclothing.' *Brian Pratt* laughed even though he's heard it before. He is home trade sales manager for *Newey Goodman*, the Tipton company which makes things like hooks and eyes for commodities like ladies' bras. Accompanied by his Singapore wife *Chew*, *Brian* was chuffed about his firm which seems to be an enormous success story,

employing 500 people and exporting 50 per cent of its production.
Price of a pint: Bass, £1.38; Courage best bitter, £1.19.”

Closed [2002], [2004]

Demolished

A Tesco store and houses were built on the site.

SAWYERS ARMS

45, New Street, (Spring Hill), (Crescent), Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

William Shuker

LICENSEES

John Osbourn [1844]

William Hodgkins [1855] – [1871]

Mrs. Obedience Hodgkins [1872] – [1876]

Edward Inston* [1881] – [1884]

Edward Hinton* [] – **1881**;

William Shuker (**1881 – 1915**)

William Smith [1916] – **1925**;

Joseph Whitehead (**1925 – []**)

NOTES

1861 Census

[1] *William Hodgkins* (54), publican, born Halesowen;

[2] *Obedience Hodgkins* (56), wife, born Halesowen:

Stourbridge Observer 14/10/1865

“An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Halesowen, before Mr. William Steele Hayes, the Deputy Coroner, respecting the death of Jane Franklin, the wife of a nailer, named Edward Franklin. Superintendent Overend attended to watch the case on behalf of the police authorities.

Hannah Hatley, the mother of the deceased, stated that her daughter was 26 years of age. On the 2nd instant she went to visit the deceased, and whilst there Franklin told her that he and his wife had been quarrelling about a quantity of nails. The deceased overheard the conversation, came to the shop door, asked him ‘how he could say so.’ Franklin said if she came there annoying him he would throw the punch at her. He did so, and struck the deceased on the side of the head. (The punch, which was produced, is about five inches long, and was hot at the time.) Witness ran to her daughter’s assistance, and carried her into the house. Deceased appeared faint, and complained of the pain in her head. Franklin also attended to the deceased, and appeared very much agitated. The deceased took the punch from her head without assistance, and a surgeon was sent for. The deceased became much worse on Friday, the 6th inst, and died on Saturday last, about 12 o’clock. Deceased had been married ten years, and had lived with her husband on good terms the whole of that time. Witness did not believe the blow was given on purpose. The deceased was about two yards from her husband.

Sarah Hackett, wife of Charles Hackett, nailer, and sister to the deceased, stated that she went into Franklin’s house and rubbed some oil into the wound, which she found on the left side of the deceased’s head. She afterwards put a bread poultice on, and whilst doing so Franklin sent for the surgeon. Deceased called to her husband and implored him not to cry, and requested that he would rub her hands. Witness attended her sister until she died. Deceased and her husband lived happily together.

Ann Jackson stated that she heard the deceased and Franklin quarrelling about twelve o’clock on the same morning, about a quantity of nails. After the affair had happened she assisted the last witness in her attendance on the deceased.

Mr. E. B. Phillips, surgeon, stated that about four o’clock on the afternoon of the day in question, he saw the deceased. She was suffering from a burnt lacerated wound on the left side of her head, about an inch above the ear. The wound was about one inch long. The punch had passed the bone, and penetrated to the brain, causing a slight oozing of blood. Witness attended her regularly up to the time of her death. There was no other mark of violence. He had since made a post mortem examination of the head, and found a large amount of congealed blood adhering to the skull cap, and an opening in it corresponding to the external mark. Underneath that, the brain was injured to the depth of half an inch, and contained a small portion of the bone, which had

been driven into the substance of the brain. The immediate cause of death was compound fracture of the skull, the wound in the substance of the brain, and extra-vacation of blood. The punch produced would cause these wounds. The body of the deceased was perfectly healthy.

Police-sergeant Kennedy stated that he apprehended the prisoner, who had since been admitted to bail.

The prisoner, who is a young man of about 30 years of age, declined to make any statement.

The Deputy Coroner having explained the difference between the crimes of murder and manslaughter, and shown the law upon the case, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Edward Franklin.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 7/3/1866

“Worcestershire Lent Assizes.

Edward Franklin pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of his wife Jane, at Halesowen, on the 2nd October. It appeared that prisoner was a quiet, inoffensive man, and had lived comfortably with deceased for some years. During some temporary disagreement he threw a piece of iron at her, which ultimately caused her death. He was strongly recommended to mercy by the prosecution, and the learned judge sentenced the prisoner to hard labour for a month.”

County Advertiser 15/5/1869

“On Monday last, an inquest was held at the house of Mr. *W. Hodgkins*, the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Spring Hill, before Mr. Ralph Docker, District Coroner, on the body of Edward Butterfield, an infant three weeks old. Elizabeth Butterfield deposed that she was the deceased’s mother. On Friday night week she and her son retired to bed at ten o’clock. The child appeared to be well then. Witness awoke at three o’clock on the Saturday morning, and found deceased quite dead. The father and aunt having given evidence to a similar effect, Mr. Dunn, surgeon, stated that he believed death resulted from Natural Causes. The Jury returned a verdict accordingly.”

1871 Census

New Street – SAWYERS ARMS

[1] *William Hodgkins* (64), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Obedience Hodgkins* (62), wife, born Hasbury:

Mrs. *Obedience Hodgkins*, beer retailer, Crescent. [1872]

* probably the same person

1881 Census

New Street – SAWYERS ARMS

[1] *Edward Inston* (22), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] Susan Inston (30), sister, housekeeper, born Smethwick:

Edward Inston, beer retailer, Crescent. [1884]

William Shuker was also a shopkeeper. [1888]

Birmingham Mail 7/1/1890

“Today Mr. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Spring Hill, Hales Owen, respecting the death of Arthur Smith (20), a stoker employed by the Corngreaves Ironworks, who resided at New Street, Spring Hill, who was killed by a truck falling on him on Saturday afternoon.

John Hurley, engine-driver, said that on Saturday he and the deceased were taking trucks to weigh them on the machine. The engine was behind the trucks, and deceased was walking in front of them to turn the points, when the axle of the first truck broke and fell upon the deceased. Witness immediately shut off steam and ran to the assistance of the deceased, who was lying between the rails on his back. With the assistance of a man named Walter Taylor, they got him out. A doctor was sent for, but before he arrived the deceased had expired. Deceased was cautioned several times by the officers at the works not to walk in front of the trucks, but to walk at the side. Dr. DeDenn and others gave evidence, after which the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/5/1890

“Mr. E. Docker held an inquest yesterday at the SAWYERS ARMS INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen, upon the body of James Hardwick (11), who died suddenly on the 19th inst. The evidence showed that whilst walking across a field on the way to school on the date named, the boy fell down and expired. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1891 Census

New Street – SAWYERS ARMS

[1] *William Shuker* (50), licensed victualler, born Kidderminster;

[2] *Obedience Shuker* (51), wife, grocer, born Halesowen;

[3] *Edward Shuker* (23), son, printer, born Halesowen;

[4] *William Shuker* (20), son, grocer, born Halesowen;

[5] *Martha Shuker* (19), daughter, barmaid, born Halesowen;

- [6] Mary Shuker (17), daughter, domestic servant, born Halesowen;
- [7] Walter Shuker (15), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] Henry Willmott Shuker (13), son, born Halesowen;
- [9] Charles Willmott Shuker (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [10] Edith Emma Shuker (8), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [11] John Hodgkins (28), visitor, shoemaker, born Halesowen:

William Shuker was also a shopkeeper of New Street and grocer, Spring Hill. [1896]

County Advertiser 8/1/1898

“William Grainger, of Mount Street, Spring Hill, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SAWYERS ARMS, and also with threatening the landlord, *William Shuker*, on the 30th ult. Prosecutor stated that on the date in question defendant came into his house and asked to be supplied with beer, but they declined to do so. Defendant was his son-in-law, and he had had to close his house for three days in consequence of his misconduct. Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs for refusing to quit, and bound over to keep the peace for six months for threatening the landlord.”

County Advertiser 11/6/1898

“Isaac James, of Blackberry Lane, Hasbury, was charged with assaulting a woman named Emma Cotton, on the 31st ult. Mr. E. H. Grove appeared to prosecute, and Mr. A. J. Hayes defended.

Mr. Grove explained that the parties in this case were neighbours, but from the evidence he thought they would be satisfied that this was not a neighbours’ quarrel but a most unprovoked and cowardly assault on the part of the defendant. It appeared that on the evening of Whit-Tuesday, complainant went to the back of her premises to draw some water from the tap. Whilst she was doing this, defendant came into the yard and struck her two violent blows in the chest. She was knocked down, and the jug was broken.

Evidence in support of this statement was given by the complainant and a girl named Fanny Withers.

For the defence, Mr. Hayes totally denied the assault, and said the circumstances were very different to what complainant had stated. On the 31st ult, defendant was in the SAWYERS ARMS when complainant commenced sneering at him. He took no notice and she afterwards threw a quantity of beer over him. Mr. Hayes called a witness named William Jones to prove that complainant was the aggressor at the public-house, but Mr. Lea Smith pointed out that he could call a hundred witnesses but it would make no difference to the assault.

The Bench inflicted a fine of 5s and costs or 14 days imprisonment.”

1901 Census

New Street

- [1] *William Shuker* (60), grocer and publican, born Hasbury;
- [2] Obedience Shuker (61), wife, born Hasbury;
- [3] Martha Shuker (27), daughter, barmaid, born Hasbury;
- [4] Walter Shuker (25), son, brewer, born Hasbury;
- [5] Charles Wilmott Shuker (20), son, grocer, born Hasbury;
- [6] Edith Emma Shuker (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Hasbury:

County Express 1/3/1902

“Benjamin Siviter and Jane Bissell, of Islington, Halesowen, were charged with assaulting Samuel Smith on February 17th. Mr. E. H. Grove prosecuted, and Mr. Hayes defended.

From the complainant’s evidence it would seem that he is a butcher, carrying on business in the Stourbridge Road, Halesowen. On February 17th about dinner time, he took a round of beef to the SAWYERS ARMS INN, and as he was returning from the public-house Mrs. Bissell called him and asked why he had been making statements about her son-in-law, Siviter, as to slaughtering pigs and sheep on his premises.

An altercation ensued, in which Smith said he thought it was rather hard he should be compelled to pay heavily for a licensed slaughter-house, while defendant, who only killed on a small scale, was not obliged to have a license. During the altercation Mrs. Bissell made some statements which drew from Smith the retort that she was a liar. As soon as he said that, he alleged that Bissell struck him in the mouth, cutting his lip, and before Smith could recover himself Siviter came from behind and struck him in the eye.

The defence was a denial of the assaults.

The Bench said it was one of those miserable squabbles between rival tradesmen and the case would be dismissed, the costs to be equally divided between the parties.”

1911 Census

New Street

- [1] *William Shuker* (70), widower, publican and brewer, born Chaddesley Corbett, Worcestershire;
- [2] Martha Shuker (39), daughter, house keeper, born Hasbury;
- [3] Edith Emma Shuker (28), daughter, barmaid, born Hasbury;
- [4] Nellie Parkes (19), servant, waitress, born Newport, Monmouthshire:

County Express 5/8/1911 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of Obedience, beloved wife of *William Shuker*, New Street, Hasbury, who died August 8th, 1902. Not forgotten by husband and family.”

William Shuker was also a grocer of 98, Spring Hill. [1912]

William Shuker died on 15th March 1915.

Birmingham Daily Post 17/3/1915

“The death took place at his residence, the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Hales Owen, of Mr. *William Shuker*, at the age of 74 years. He was the oldest grocer in Hales Owen, and was connected to the licensed trade for over forty years. Mr. *Shuker* was also identified with public work for many years, being a member of Stourbridge Board of Guardians and overseer of the parish of Hasbury.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/8/1915 - Advert

“Re the Estate of the late Mr. *William Shuker*, Hales Owen.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, on Monday, September 6, 1915, at 6.30pm, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, the Valuable Freehold Fully-Licensed Public House, the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Hasbury, and other Freehold Properties.

Further particulars in due course.

Messrs. Homfray, Goodman & Mellor, Solicitors to the Vendors.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/9/1915 - Advert

“Re the Estate of the late Mr. *William Shuker*, Hales Owen.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Mr *William Shuker* to Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, September 6, at the NEW INN, Hales Owen, at 6.30pm, subject to conditions to be produced at time of Sale.

The Valuable Freehold Full-Licensed Public House, the SAWYERS ARMS, No.45, New Street, Hasbury, Hales Owen.

The House comprises Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Long Room, Cellars, and good Bed Room Accommodation. There is a Yard at rear, with convenient Outbuildings, including a large Brewhouse, with boilers; also other Outbuildings. An Inventory of the Public House Fixtures, Fittings, and Utensils will be produced at time of Sale, with the amount to be paid for same.

Particulars of the Other Private Freehold Properties, &c, belonging to the Estate included in the Sale can be had from Messrs. Homfray, Goodman and Mellor, Solicitors; or the Auctioneer, all of Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/3/1937

“Halesowen licensing justices at their adjourned sessions yesterday granted an application by the Wolverhampton and Dudley Brewery Ltd. for a licence for an hotel to be erected in Fairfields Road, Hurst Green, Hill and Cakemore.

A similar application had twice previously been refused.

Yesterday’s application was for the transfer of the licence of the CROWN INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, to the new site, the applicant also offering to surrender the licence of the SAWYERS ARMS, New Street, Halesowen, and an off-license at Hurst Green.

Mr. R. H. Norris, for the brewery company, said there was need for the licence by reason of the development of the district, but

Mr. E. G. H. Beresford, on behalf of the proprietors of an existing hotel, situated 610 yards from the site of the proposed new premises, said that the development was not sufficient to justify another license and that the existing licensed premises were adequate for the requirements of the public.”

SHELL-TER

1a, Nimmings Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mike Whitmore [2017] – [2020]

NOTES

It opened in September 2017.

Mike Whitmore was married to Natalie.

Halesowen News 10/07/2018

“A community group led by the three Halesowen North councilors is having a bumper Black Country Day celebration on Saturday (July 14). Shell Corner Partnership’s day kicks off at 10am with a table top sale at St. Paul’s Church Hall in Vicarage Road to raise funds for this year’s Christmas lights.

The popular ‘Councillors’ Table’ will also be there, with all the funds raised by their table going into the work of the partnership. Later in the day, the community is invited to visit Shell Corner to sample the food and drink on offer in the area. The event will start at 2pm with Lapal Community Choir entertaining everyone at the SHEL-TER. A leaflet with the details of the businesses taking part will be available from the SHEL-TER and on Shell Corner Partnership Facebook page.

Rev. Mike Sermon, chairman of Shell Corner Partnership, who runs the group alongside councilors Karen Shakespeare, Hilary Bills, and Joe Roberts, said, ‘It’s great to see the three ward councilors working together for the good of the community and I hope everyone makes an effort to support them.’”

Halesowen News 3/11/2020

“A Halesowen micro-bar is reducing the price of beer to £1 a pint to empty the barrels before lockdown hits on Thursday. Landlord *Mike Whitmore* opened the SHEL-TER on Nimmings Road, Shell Corner, three years ago. He said the pub will be cutting the price of draft beer to a pound a pint from 10am tomorrow (Wednesday November 4) until 10pm or until stocks run out. The move is a bid to sell the remaining stock on the pumps.

Mike said, ‘We’ll be welcoming people in – I’m sure we’ll see some friendly faces. I’m eternally hopefully we will be reopening after a month, but we could be in Tier 3 then.

Free bacon sandwiches will be served in return for a donation to the Poppy appeal. Under Tier 2 regulations you can go to the pub but must not mix with anyone outside of your household, apart from those you have formed a support bubble with. This is the same for all indoor settings, including restaurants and cafes, as well as private homes. As long as you abide by the ‘rule of six’ you can meet in groups outside at venues which are following guidance. This includes pubs, restaurants, shops, leisure and entertainment venues and places of worship.”

[2020]

SHELTON

Belle Vale, (Stourbridge Road), (Shelton Vale), (Shelton Mill), (Drews Holloway), Hawne, (Hasbury), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Nathan Smith

J. Stevens, Lye (acquired on 27th April 1891 for £1,750)

George Batham (acquired on 29th February 1892 for £1,100)

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1896)

Twists Brewery Ltd. [1941]

Atkinsons Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Oakley [1861]

Nathan Smith [1865] – **1892**)

William Griffiths [1895] – [1921]

George Sturman [1939] – [1940]

Harold Dickens [c.1955]

W Robert Butler [1970] – [1989]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Stourbridge Road – SHELTON INN

[1] *John Oakley* (55), publican, born Tipton;

[2] *Ann Oakley* (57), wife, born Rowley:

Nathan Smith = Nathaniel Smith

County Advertiser 18/2/1865 - Advert

“Freehold Inn, Shelton Mill, Drews Holloway, near Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction by Sargent Witton, at the SHELTON INN, Drews Holloway, near Halesowen, on Monday, the 6th day of March, 1865, at Six o'clock in the Evening, all that desirable Freehold Public House, called SHELTON INN, occupied by *Nathaniel Smith*, as yearly tenant. The House contains Club Room, Bed Rooms, Front Parlour, Front and Back Kitchens, excellent Cellaring; Brewhouse, Pigsty, with good Outbuildings and Garden. The Premises are well supplied with Spring and Soft Water, and are now let at the low rent of £16 per annum. The House is newly erected, convenient, substantial, and well built; is very pleasantly situated, and within a short distance of the Corngreaves Works, and is doing an excellent Retail Business. The neighbourhood is daily increasing in wealth and population.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Rowland Price, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, both of Stourbridge.

S. Witton, Agent to the Phoenix Fire Office.”

County Express 4/7/1868 - Advert

“Notice Is Hereby Given that the Hawn Cherry Orchard is Now Open for the Sale of Cherries, and sold at retail by the proprietor only, Mr. *Nathan Smith*, at the SHELTON HOTEL, Corngreaves, near Halesowen.”

County Express 16/7/1870 - Advert

“Cherries! Cherries!

Mr. *Nathan Smith*, SHELTON INN, Corngreaves, begs respectfully to call the attention of the inhabitants of Halesowen, Cradley, Cradley Heath, and the surrounding districts, that Hawn Orchard will be opened on Monday next, July 18th, 1870, for the sale of its celebrated Cherries.

N.B. The Orchard will be open every day except Sundays.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 3/9/1870 - Advert

“Freehold Building Estate, at Bundle Hill, Hasbury, adjoining to the town of Hales Owen; Freehold Houses, in Hagley Street, Hales Owen; and House and Land, near to Shelton Mill, in the Road leading from Drew's Forge to Corngreaves.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Chesshire and Gibson, on Tuesday, the 20th day of September inst, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, at Five o'clock in the afternoon for Six precisely, the undermentioned Valuable Properties.....

Lot 3. All that roomy Messuage or Public-House, with the Out-buildings, Yard, Garden, and Appurtenances belonging thereto, occupying 580 yards of Land or thereabouts, adjoining to the Shelton Mill, and abutting upon the Brook Course, and fronting to the road leading from Corngreaves to Drew's Forge, and now in the occupation of *Nathan Smith*, at the low annual rent of £18.....”

Stourbridge Observer 19/11/1870

“On Friday, the 11th instant, at the Public Office, before Major Lee Smith, Francis Smith, of Cradley Heath, and William Layton, of Halesowen, were charged with stealing three bushels of malt, on the 8th instant, the property of *Nathan Smith*.

Prosecutor said he was a beerhouse keeper, of Bellevue, near Halesowen. On the 7th inst he had three bushels of malt in an out-house, adjoining his house. The same night the two prisoners were at his house till eleven o'clock, drinking. The next morning he missed the malt, and traced some footmarks and some malt spilt on the ground in the garden, to a bridge over the brook at the back of his house. He there lost it, and sent for Police-constable Smith. He (witness) was present on Wednesday, the 9th inst, when Police-constable Smith compared a pair of boots with the footmarks in the garden, and they corresponded.

Police-constable George Smith said he went with prosecutor and Additional-constable Fox, on the 8th instant, to the prisoner (Smith's) lodgings, at Cradley Heath, and searched the house, and in his bedroom they found a quantity of malt tied up in a sheet, which the prosecutor identified as being like that which he had lost. He (witness) then called the prisoner (Smith) and asked him how he accounted for the malt being there, and prisoner replied that he did not know. He then charged him with stealing it on the night of the 7th inst. Prisoner then replied, ‘I did not steal it. I know something about it. Layton stole it, and I helped to carry it.’ Whilst bringing the prisoner Smith to Halesowen, he (witness) went into a public house for assistance to carry the malt, and there met the prisoner Layton, and took him into custody, and charged him with being in company with Smith and stealing a bag of malt, the property of *Nathan Smith*. He replied, ‘Oh, I know nothing about it. I'm innocent. You can take me where you like. I did not see Smith after leaving the Holloway.’ The next day, the 9th inst, he (witness) compared the prisoner Smith's shoes with the footmarks found in prosecutor's garden, and they corresponded.

Additional-constable Fox corroborated.

Ann Hill, widow, of Cradley Heath, said she was the prisoner Smith's grandmother, and he lived with her. He was out on Monday night, the 7th inst, and did not return till four o'clock the following morning. She saw Layton with him at her house between four and five. She had no malt in the house of her own.

Cross-examined by Layton: You were with my grand-son at my house.

Moses Woodall, a lodger in the same house as the prisoner Smith, said he saw both the prisoners at his lodgings at about half past four on the morning of the 8th inst.

Thomas Parsons, a horse driver, said he met two men carrying two sacks, coming from the direction of prosecutor's, about four o'clock am, on the 8th inst. It was very foggy, so that he could not say who they were. They were going towards Cradley Heath.

In reply to the usual caution, Smith said he was drunk. Layton said he was not guilty. Committed to the Quarter Sessions, bail being accepted; themselves in £40, and two sureties, each in £20.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/1/1871

“Francis Smith and William Layton were indicted for having stolen three bushels of malt at Halesowen, on the 8th of November, the property of *Nathan Smith*. The prisoners were found guilty, and were each committed for six months with hard labour.”

1871 Census

SHELTON

- [1] *Nathan Smith* (40), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Eliza Smith (41), wife, born Northfield;
- [3] Fanny Smith (10), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Sarah A. Smith (8), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Stephen Smith (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Kate Smith (5), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

Stourbridge Observer 8/7/1871

“On the night of the 30th ult, an old man named Willetts called at one of the houses situate at Belle Vale, near Drews Holloway, and asked if he was out near the HORSE SHOE INN, Old Hill. Being informed of his mistake he departed, and soon afterwards a splash was heard in the pool, but it was not noticed. The poor old fellow was childish, and in his rambling approached the pool, and slipped in. His body was discovered on Saturday morning, and a dog was sent to fetch it to the side. When this was done it was conveyed to the SHILTON [sic] INN.”

AND

County Advertiser 8/7/1871

“Early on Saturday morning, the body of an old man, named Willetts, was found in one of the large pools situate at Drews Holloway. When discovered the top of his back was visible at the surface, his head being in the mud. A large dog was sent in, and it succeeded in dragging the body to the side of the pool, whence it was conveyed to the SHELTON INN, where an inquest was held. The deceased was shown to be at times of weak intellect. A verdict of Found Drowned was returned.”

County Advertiser 6/9/1873

“The annual licensing meeting for the division of Halesowen was held at the Public Office, on Tuesday There were two applications for new licenses, one by *Nathan Smith*, the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, for a spirit license, and by Thomas Marriott, of Hawne, for a beer license. Both applications were refused, the Bench being of opinion there were already sufficient licensed houses in the division, and an increase of the number was not desirable.”

County Advertiser 4/7/1874 - Advert

“Cherries! Cherries! Cherries! Hawne Cherries!

Mr. *Nathan Smith* again Offers to the public generally that fine Collection of Fruit. The Grounds will be Opened on Monday Next, July 6th, 1874, and during the Season (Sundays excepted). Parties may be Supplied on the Ground, or at the House of Mr. *N. Smith*, SHELTON INN, Corngreaves.”

County Advertiser 15/8/1874 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor, and the Superintendent of Police, of the Township of Hasbury, in the County of Worcester, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *Nathan Smith*, Retailer of Beer, now residing at Belle Vale, in the Township of Hasbury, in the Parish of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply, at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, for the division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office, at Halesowen, in the said County, on the 31st day of August, next ensuing, at the hour of Ten o’clock in the Forenoon of the same day, for a License to hold any Excise License or Licenses, to Sell by Retail, under The Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, 1828, and the Acts amending the same, all Intoxicating Liquors to be consumed either on or off the Premises, situate at Belle Vale, Hasbury, in the said Parish, and known by the sign of the SHELTON INN, which said Premises are duly rated for the relief of the Poor, as by law required, of which House and Premises I am the owner, and the same are now in my occupation.

Given under my hand this 1st day of August, 1874.

Nathan Smith.”

County Advertiser 5/9/1874

“The annual licensing meeting for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen was held at the Public Office, on Monday. . . . The whole of the existing licenses were renewed, and the magistrate then proceeded to hear the applications for new licenses. . . . The last application was by *Nathan Smith*, beerhouse-keeper, Belle Vale, who sought to obtain a victualler’s license. The applicant urged that his house was in the midst of several works of different descriptions, whilst there was no old-licensed public-house within half a mile Refused.”

County Express 2/10/1875

“The adjourned licensing session was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court. . . .

The only new application was by *Nathan Smith*, of the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, who asked for a spirit license. The applicant was represented by Mr. Hayes, who urged that a license was needed in the locality, as there were three large works and two coalpits within the immediate neighbourhood, and the population of the district was rapidly increasing, whilst there were only three old licensed houses within a mile radius of the applicant's house. The Bench stated that they saw no necessity for the license, and accordingly refused the application."

County Advertiser 28/7/1877

"On Saturday morning last, at about eleven o'clock, Isaac Smith, aged 60, of High Street, Brierley Hill, and William Haywood, aged 35, of Quarry Bank, pit sinkers, were killed while engaged in sinking that shaft at the Whitley colliery, near Halesowen. The shaft is not yet finished, but it is already of a considerable depth. It appears that the men were working at the bottom, and had occasion to put in a 'shot,' after firing the fuse of which they got into the 'bowk' to be drawn up the pit. Two other men were also in the bowk with them. As they were ascending, by some means (it is supposed from a plank they were carrying catching the side of the shaft) the bowk got over turned, and the two deceased were thrown out, falling to the bottom of the pit, about 16 yards. The other two men reached the pit bank in safety. It is supposed that Smith fell head foremost, as his head was found to be completely crushed in. Haywood was not dead when recovered from the shaft, but died two hours afterwards. Their bodies were conveyed to the SHELTON INN, where on Monday an inquest was opened by Mr. Docker, coroner, and adjourned for the attendance of the Government Inspector."

[At the adjourned inquest verdicts of Accidental Death were returned.]

County Advertiser 4/8/1877 - Advert

"Cherries! Cherries! Cherries!

Nathan Smith respectfully informs the inhabitants of Halesowen and the District that he had taken to the ancient grounds of the Hawne. The Orchard will be Open Daily, Sundays excepted, from This Day (Saturday), for the Sale of Cherries, and Walnuts for Pickling.

Nathan Smith, SHELTON INN, Bell Vale."

County Advertiser 15/3/1879 - Advert

"Lost, in the neighbourhood of Iverley Hill, on Wednesday, March 5th, an aged Brown Mare, 15 hands high, with white fetlocks and grey patch on forehead.

Reward given if returned to *Nathan Smith*, SHELTON INN, Halesowen."

County Express 4/9/1880

"Mr. Docker, coroner, opened an inquest at the SHELTON INN, Halesowen, on Monday, on the body of Edward Harding, aged 35, of Dudley Port. On Saturday deceased was working down the at the Whitley Colliery, when a piece of iron from the surface fell upon his back, killing him instantaneously.

The inquiry was adjourned for the attendance of the Government Inspector of Mines to visit the scene of the accident and report."

[At the adjourned inquest a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.]

Nathan Smith was also a fruiterer.

He was also described as a cattle and hay and corn dealer. [1884]

1881 Census

Shelton Lane – SHELTON INN

[1] *Nathan Smith* (50), beer retailer and farmer (40 acres), employing 2 labourers, born Halesowen;

[2] Eliza Smith (50), wife, born Northfield;

[3] Fanny Smith (20), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] Stephen Smith (17), son, born Halesowen;

[5] Kate Smith (15), daughter, born Halesowen:

Evening Express 1/11/1881

"*Nathan Smith*, of the SHELTON INN, Shelton, was summoned for that he being a brewer he did neglect to enter in the Excise book kept for the purpose, 16lbs weight of sugar used in the brewing of ale.

Mr. Powell, of Somerset House, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Excise authorities.

The evidence of several scientific witnesses showed that the ale brewed by the defendant on the 20th July contained one per cent of glucose which had not been entered in the book kept for that purpose.

The Bench fined defendant £20, including costs."

County Advertiser 13/5/1882 - Advert

"*Nathan Smith*, SHELTON INN, Halesowen, has for Sale, a few hundred bags of Magnum Bonum Potatoes; quantity of Skerry Blues and American Roses; all good for eating."

County Advertiser 7/4/1883 - Advert

"Potatoes For Sale. Myatt's Ashleaf Kidneys, 1s 6d 20lbs; Beauty of Herbon, 1d 1lb; White Elephants, 1½d 1lb. Magnum, Champion, Skerry Blue Seed at reasonable prices, at *Nathan Smith's*, SHELTON INN, Halesowen."

County Express 29/5/1886

“Stourbridge County Court.

Thomas Bennett, Terrace Street, Blackheath, claimed £2 9s from *Nathan Smith*, innkeeper, Bell Vale, for breach of warranty. Mr. S. Ward for the plaintiff.

On the 27th March last plaintiff bought two pigs from defendant, who warranted them ‘good, sound, healthy, Herefords.’ The pigs on getting home would not eat, and gradually got worse, one dying on the 11th of April. Mr. Blakeway, veterinary surgeon, made a post mortem examination, and found that the pig had died from swine fever, which must have been in the system a fortnight.

Defendant denied knowing anything about the disease, and said he had not warranted a pig for twenty years.

A verdict was found for plaintiff, with costs.”

County Express 2/10/1886

“Mr. J. L. Holberton, of Brierley Hill, made an application on behalf of a Mr. *Nathan Smith*, for a spirit license at the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale.

He stated that Mr. *Smith* was well known and had conducted a beerhouse for about twenty-five years. Owing to the increasing developments of the neighbourhood there was a necessity for a spirit license. The house was well adapted for the purpose required and had several times been used by the coroner for inquests. The applicant stated that there was no house with a spirit licenses within half-a-mile of his house and that within the last eight or nine years he had made two previous applications. He also stated that there were only thirty houses in the immediate neighbourhood of the house. The Bench considered there was no requirement of the house in the neighbourhood and could not grant it.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 1/10/1887

“*Nathan Smith* of Belle Vale, Old Hill, made an application for a spirit license. The application stated that he held a beer license at the SHELTON INN, and it was next to the British Iron Co.’s Work. There was no other full licensed house within a mile. There was a large demand for spirits, and many business men asked him why he did not apply for a license. The application was granted.”

County Express 15/10/1887

“The Worcestershire County Licensing Committee sat on Saturday at the Shire Hall, Worcester; Mr. G. W. Hastings, MP, presiding. Mr. Cooksey appeared in support of the confirmation of the full licensed granted to *Nathan Smith*, of the SHELTON INN, Halesowen. This was confirmed.”

County Express 28/4/1888

“Stourbridge County Court.

A claim was brought against *Nathan Smith*, Bell Vale, Halesowen, by John Weston, of Waterfall Lane, Old Hill, for the sum of £3 5s, for breach of warranty of a pig. Mr. Ward (Dudley) appeared for the claimant, and Mr. Clulow (Brierley Hill) for the defendant. Claimant said he bought a pig of the defendant on the 23rd January. The bargain was made in *Smith*’s house. *Smith* said the pig was in sound condition. He took the pig home, but it would not eat unless he put it to the trough, and died in nineteen days. Mr. J. Blakeway, Stourbridge, said he made a post mortem examination of the pig, and found it was affected with swine fever in an advanced stage. It might have had swine fever on the 23rd January.

Cross-examined: The pig must have had the fever more than a month.

Mr. Clulow, for the defence, said his client declined to warrant the pig.

After hearing other evidence, his Honour gave a verdict for the plaintiff, with costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/12/1889

“Yesterday, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the SHELTON INN, Halesowen, relative to the death of Alfred Shivlock (52), who formerly resided at Bell Vale, who died on the 23rd inst from the effects of injuries received whilst employed at the Corngreaves ironworks. The deceased, who worked for the New British Iron Company, was the driver of a horse and cart, and on the day mentioned stood near his horse reading a newspaper. Suddenly the horse was startled by the blowing of the whistle of one of the locomotives employed there, and ran away, knocking the deceased down. The wheel passed over his body, causing death. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

Lutley Lane – SHELTON INN

[1] *Nathan Smith* (62), widower, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] Kate Smith (25), daughter, born Halesowen;

[3] Stephen Smith (27), son, brewer, born Halesowen;

[4] Mary J. Bladen (21), servant, waitress, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 18/4/1891 - Advert

“SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, Hales Owen.

E. R. Cotton has received instructions from Mr. *Nathan Smith*, who is retiring from business, to Sell by Auction, as above, on Monday, April 27th, 1891, at Four for Five o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions then to be read, and in one lot.

All that very Valuable and Improving Full-Licensed Freehold Public-House, known as the SHELTON INN, with Fixtures,

Goodwill, and Possession, having a long Frontage to the Road, and containing Bar, Tap Room, Kitchen, Two large Club Rooms, (30ft by 19ft), Four Bed Rooms, small Shop, Brewhouse and Furnaces, good Malt Room, Three capital Cellars and Cider House; together with Slaughterhouse, Sausage-making Room, Boiling House, several Loose Boxes, Stabling, Yard, Three Pigstyes, and the usual Outbuildings.

The whole of the Property, which occupies an important position, is in the occupation of the owner, who will give immediate possession. The Building are in good repair, well supplied with water, and the House – for business purposes – being within 1½ Miles from Halesowen, Old Hill, and Cradley Stations, is well worthy the attention of Brewers and Capitalists, or of any person seeking to combine the Business of a Butcher and a Publican. The Inn is Fully-Licensed, and a capital trade, which may easily be doubled, is carried on upon the premises.

To view, apply on the spot, and for all further particulars to Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors, Brierley Hill; or the Auctioneer, Bromsgrove and Droitwich.”

County Express 2/5/1891

“On Monday evening Mr. Cotton, of Bromsgrove, submitted to public auction the SHELTON INN, Halesowen. There was a crowded attendance. The biddings started at £600, and after a very spirited competition the hammer fell to Mr. J. Stevens, of the Lye, at £1,750. Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, of Brierley Hill, were solicitors to the vendors.”

Nathan Smith died in the 4th quarter of 1891.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/2/1892 - Advert

“To Brewers, Innkeepers, and Investors.

Sale of one of the Most Important Old-Licensed Inns in the District, the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, Hales Owen.

Mr. Herbert Humphries, FAI, begs to announce instructions from the Administrator of the late *Nathan Smith*, to Sell by Auction, at the ANCHOR HOTEL, Cradley Heath, on Monday Next, February 29, at Six for Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

All that Splendidly-situated, Old-established, Full-Licensed, Freehold, Double-fronted Free Inn and Premises, known as the SHELTON INN, situate at Bell Vale, being the main road between Cradley Heath and Hales Owen, and country adjacent. For upwards of twenty years in the occupation of the deceased. This Inn practically possesses a monopoly of the trade, no other Inn being near, and is a necessity of the neighbourhood. In addition to the large casual trade, there are several important works near and a resident population. The Premises are very substantially built and conveniently arranged. The Property is well supplied with water and every facility for conducting a large and profitable business in addition to the retail trade of the shop. In energetic hands this Lot must, from its surroundings and freedom from competition, prove a very valuable investment. Early possession will be given.

Further particulars may be obtained from Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors; or the Auctioneer, Brierley Hill and Stourbridge.”

County Advertiser 5/3/1892

“On Monday evening last a sale was held at the ANCHOR HOTEL, Cradley Heath, in which a great deal of interest was created. The large assembly room was crowded with the principal owners and buyers in the district. The lot comprised the SHELTON INN at Belle Vale, for about thirty years in the occupation of the late *Nathan Smith*. The competition was keen and spirited throughout. The first offer was £700; the hammer falling for £1,100 to Mr. George Batham. Mr. Herbert Humphries, auctioneer, of Brierley Hill, conducted the sale, and Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, solicitors, Brierley Hill, acted for the vendor.”

County Advertiser 12/3/1892 - Advert

“SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, Halesowen. Unreserved Clear-Out Sale.

To Innkeepers, Farmers, Butchers, and Others.

Mr. Herbert Humphries, having disposed of the Freehold, is instructed to Sell by Auction, upon the Premises as above, on Monday, March 28th, 1892, at Eleven o’clock prompt.

The whole of the Household Furniture, Trade Effects, Brewing Plant, Ale and Cider Casks, Store Pigs, Butcher’s Utensils, &c, amongst which will be found a capital 180-gallon Copper Boiler, Iron Ditto, excellent Mash Tubs, Vats, Refrigerator, Hops, a large Quantity of Sound and Sweet Ale Casks, in various sizes; Strong Cider Barrels, Rail-backed Forms, Ale Machine, Patent Weighing Machine, by Avery, to weigh 4cwt, Dead-weight Machine, several Potato Schools, Sausage Chopping Machine and Filler, Beef Wheel, capital Spring Trap, strongly-built Tip Cart, with Thripples; an excellent and well-built Spring Cart, with Thripples, very suitable for Maltster or Corn Dealer; Harness, pair of Clay Bells and Gearing, little used; a capital Horse-power, with connections; Chaff Cutter and Shafting, Malt Crusher, Old Iron, Sheep Rack, about 30 capital Store Pigs, and other items, as per Catalogue, to be obtained from Place of Sale, Messrs. Homfray, Holberton, and Mellor, Solicitors; or the Auctioneer, Brierley Hill and Stourbridge.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/1/1893

“On Saturday afternoon Mr. E. Docker (coroner) held an inquest at the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, concerning the death of Richard Hay (64), who died suddenly on Thursday, whilst at work for Mr. William Bowater, at Dudley Wood. It appeared that Mr. Bowater was talking to deceased during the afternoon, and a few minutes later he was found dead in a field. Deceased had suffered from heart disease. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes. Deceased and his wife were to appear at the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions today, to answer a charge of stealing four £5 Bank of England notes, the property of Mr. W.

Walker.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/1/1895

“Yesterday Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the SHELTON INN, Bell Vale, near Halesowen, touching the deaths of Edward Smith (19), and Joseph Plant (21), who were found drowned in the Shelton Forge Pool on Sunday. Frederick James Round said he and a number of youths were playing hockey on the ice on Sunday afternoon, and Smith and Plant were skating independently. The hockey party ran to one spot in pursuit of the ball, when the ice gave way, Plant and Smith falling in with the rest. Smith clung to witness, and they both commenced to struggle. Eventually witness got out, but Smith failed to extricate himself. He did not know whether Smith could swim or not.

Mrs. Ann Plant, wife of Benjamin Plant, identified the body of Joseph Plant, her son. She said he left home about two o'clock on Sunday afternoon, and his father requested him not to go on to the pool. Deceased could swim, but she did not know whether he had been skating.

James Foster gave evidence as to the finding of the bodies, as did also Police-constable Price, of Hales Owen. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death in each case.”

County Advertiser 9/3/1895

“The following persons were granted interim authorities in respect of the houses set against their names.....

William Griffiths, SHELTON INN, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 1/6/1895 - Advert

“Fishing! Fishing! Fishing!

Good Fishing to be had at the Shelton Pool, Belle Vale, near Halesowen.

Well Stocked with Perch, Roach, Trout and Eels.

One Shilling per Day, by Ticket only. Season Tickets 10s 6d each.

Apply, Francis Griffiths, Shelton Cottage or SHELTON INN.

Tickets may be had at Mr. G. R. Chatham's, ANCHOR HOTEL, Cradley Heath.

Twenty Minutes' Walk from Cradley, Old Hill, and Halesowen Stations, per Great Western and Midland Railway.

Ales, Wines, and Spirits of the Best Quality.

Luncheon, Dinner, and Tea, at the Shortest Notice, at Moderate Rates.’

1901 Census

SHELTON INN

[1] *William Griffiths* (30), publican, born Cradley Heath;

[2] *Mary Griffiths* (30), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Florence Griffiths* (5), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] *Edith Griffiths* (3), daughter, born Halesowen;

[5] *Francis T. Griffiths* (2), son, born Halesowen:

County Express 4/1/1908

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen, William Read (33), miner, of Belle Vale, Hawne, was charged with assaulting George James, aged 73 years, on the 29th ult.

Prosecutor stated that on the date named they were drinking together in the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, when a dispute arose.

Defendant jumped up, and without provocation gave him a blow in the face, which blackened one of his eyes.

George Pearce and William Hackett gave corroborative evidence.

Defendant denied the assault but the Bench considered the case proved, and fined him £1 0s 6d, including costs, or a month's imprisonment.”

County Express 22/5/1909

“A miner named Francis North (30), resident at Belle Vale, Halesowen, committed suicide in a determined manner late on Saturday night at his home. North, it appears, suffered some time ago from a severe attack of influenza, which left him in a very depressed condition. He continued to follow his employment, but at intervals had been attended by Drs. T. B. Young and Griffin. He had been somewhat strange in his mind, and was last week certified to be suffering from a nervous debility. On Saturday night he went for a walk, and returned at 9pm. When Mrs. North saw him he appeared to be restless. At 10.30 Mrs. North went down the cellar, and when she returned deceased went down. Mrs. North became suspicious, and following him down the steps she was horrified to see him kneeling on the cellar floor and hacking at his throat with a razor. Mrs. North shouted for help, and a neighbour named Walter Ray rushed in. Deceased had inflicted a terrible gash in his throat, which had completely severed his wind-pipe. Dr. Griffin was summoned, but when he arrived life was extinct, death having been practically instantaneous.

Mr. A. A. Herbert (deputy coroner) held the inquest at the SHELTON HOTEL, Belle Vale, on Tuesday night.

The widow stated that some months ago deceased was seized with a severe attack of influenza, which left him very weak. He had also been very strange in his manner. On Saturday night he went out for a walk, but upon returning was very restless and had had some beer. Later on witness was bringing some coal up the cellar, when deceased passed her with something in his hand. Witness asked him where he was going, and he replied, ‘In the cellar for a few minutes.’ Witness put the coal on the fire, and as deceased did not return she went to the cellar head and shouted down the steps. She then found him on his knees and cutting his throat with a razor. Witness shouted for help, and William Ray came and summoned a doctor. Some months ago deceased had left a note on

the table for her, in which he said she had been a good wife to him, and asked her to be good to the children. Dr. Griffin said when he arrived life was extinct. Deceased had made a terrible gash in his throat. He was suffering from nervous debility, and would not be responsible for his actions. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind.”

County Express 3/7/1909

“On Monday a smoking concert for the benefit of the widow and children of the late Francis North, who met with his death under sad circumstances, was held at the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale. Mr. J. B. Downing presided over a large attendance. A capital programme was presented, the artists being Messrs. Wilkins and Grosvenor (comedians), J. Hill (bass), H. Griffiths (ventriloquist), C. Taylor, J. Careless (mandolinist), W. Hinchley (comedian), I. Grosvenor (elocutionist), B. Brettle (banjoist), H. Vernon (baritone). Gramophone selections were provided by Messrs. Grosvenor and Son. Mr. Foley was the accompanist. Mr. C. Head, secretary of the committee, said the appeal had met with a generous response. The Chairman also expressed his pleasure at being able to assist such a worthy object. Thanks were accorded to the artists and the chairman.”

County Express 7/5/1910

“On Saturday evening Mr. J. B. Downing, the representative on the Halesowen Rural District Council for the parish of Hawne, entertained the workers on his behalf at the recent election to dinner at the SHELTON HOTEL, Belle Vale, Halesowen. About 130 persons assembled to an excellent dinner, served by the host, Mr. *William Griffiths*.....”

1911 Census

Belle Vale – SHELTON INN

- [1] *William Griffiths* (41), widower, publican, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] Florence Griffiths (15), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [3] Thomas Griffiths (12), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] William Griffiths (9), son, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/5/1929

“A child’s extraordinary escape from drowning in a marlhole containing water to a depth of nearly 50 feet, has been reported to the Halesowen Police. It appears that Mrs. Alice Smith, who lives at 1, Victoria Street, Halesowen, accompanied by her son, Phoenix, aged 2½ years, went to attend to poultry belonging to her husband. The poultry are kept some 80 yards from the marl-hole, which is near Shelton Lane, Hawne. While attending to the poultry, the woman suddenly missed the child, and shouted out his name, then ran to the hole. She then saw the child floating on his back in the water, and quickly travelling towards the middle. She raised an alarm, and stopped two cyclists. One of them, Thomas Cross, aged 16, of 97, Butchers Lane, Cradley, threw off his coat, dived into the water, and swam to the child, bringing it to safely to the bank. The child was then taken to the SHELTON INN in an unconscious state. Artificial respiration was practiced, and eventually the child recovered, and it is understood that the boy is now the little the worse for his amazing experience

The conduct of the lad, Cross, was described by an eye-witness as being extremely plucky, and it is suggested that his bravery should be brought to the notice of the proper authorities. The fact that the child must have been floating about for considerably over five minutes, during a period of which its face was in the water, makes its escape all the more extraordinary.

It was suggested by a medical man to a *Gazette* representative that the reason the child did not sink was probably due to its clothing ballooning out. It was no uncommon thing for air to be imprisoned in clothing under such circumstances, but the child would probably have been suffocated if, having its face in the water, it had not been rescued when it was.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/7/1939 - Advert

“Hawne, in the Borough of Halesowen.

Notice of Sale by Public Auction of an Exceedingly Valuable Freehold Free Fully-Licensed House.

Alfred Hill has been instructed to Sell by Public Auction at the NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen, on Wednesday Next, 5th day of July, at 7.30 in the evening precisely, subject to conditions of sale to be then produced and read.

The exceedingly valuable well-known, Freehold, Free, Fully-Licensed House and Premises, situate and known as the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, Hawne, Halesowen.

The accommodation comprises Entrance and Side Halls with Vestibule, Bar, two Smoke Rooms, two large Club Rooms one with two bays, and three Cellars, together with three Bedrooms, Lounge, Living Kitchen, large Scullery and usual Conveniences in Yard with Car Park at side.

Special attention of the trade and others is called to this important sale. The house is well-known and undoubtedly one of the best in the borough of Halesowen.

For any further particulars, apply to E. H. Grove and Son, Solicitors, Halesowen (‘Phone 1016) or the Auctioneer, Halesowen (‘Phone 1063).”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/7/1939

“Mr. Alfred Hill, at an auction at Halesowen, sold the freehold, free, fully-licensed premises known as the SHELTON INN, at Belle Vale, Hawne, Halesowen, for £5,400.”

1939 Register

Belle Vale – SHELTON INN

- [1] *George Sturman*, date of birth 18/7/1901, licensee (public house), married;
[2] Doris Sturman, dob 2/3/1904, unpaid household duties and public house assistant, married;
[3] Patricia (Sturman) Spinks, dob 17/5/1930, at school, single;

Evening Despatch 19/3/1940

“Eight Cradley men who were found by police officers drinking beer in the SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, Halesowen at 10.20pm on 3 February, were each fined £1 at Halesowen today for consuming intoxicating liquors on licensed premises during non-permitted hours.

The licensee (*George Sturman*) was fined £10 for aiding and abetting, and was ordered to pay £3 11s costs.

All defendants pleaded guilty, and Mr. J. T. Higgs, prosecuting, said he did not desire to press the case unduly, because it was probably only due to a little slackness on the part of the licensee in not clearing the glasses off at 10 o'clock sharp.

When the police officers went into the bar, he said, there were 40 to 50 people there, and quite half of them were drinking.

There was no suggestion of serving after time, and, in fact, the cloths had been placed over the beer pulls to indicate that service had ceased.

Mr. M. S. P. Hathaway, defending, said there was a last minute rush for service, and apart from physical force it would have been impossible to get the customers out until they had drunk their beer. ‘You know what it is, when men come home from work, they like to listen in to the news, and there is a tendency to stay for a time to discuss it,’ he said.

One of the customer defendants explained in a letter to the magistrates that his brother had been married and he had just lifted his glass to his mouth to drink his health when the police-officers walked in and spotted him.

Those fined for consuming were Ethelbert Jeston Webb, 1, Drews Holloway; Llewellyn Woodward, 19, Beechers Road East; Howard Frances Thompson, 17, Beechers Road East; James Edwin Cartwright, Shelton Lane; Walter Major Griffiths, Corngreaves Road; Irvin Dennis Hipkiss, 5, Parkside Road; Frank Ronald Perry, 4, Banners Lane and Philip Jones, 4, Abbey Road.”

Walsall Observer 12/4/1941 - Advert

“Malt for Strength & Energy. Hops for The Appetite. Yeast for The Blood.

Twists The Best Beer for You.

You can Drink and Enjoy Twists Ale at any the of the following Licensed Houses.....

SHELTON INN, Belle Vale, Halesowen.....

And All The Best Clubs.

Proprietary Whiskies, Foreign Wines and Spirits, High-Class British Sherries and Ports.

Head Office & Brewery, Wolverhampton Street, Walsall.”

SHELTON INN sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

Belle Vale Lofts (pigeons) were at the rear. They were owned by *Bob* and *Simon Butler*. [1989]

It closed in 2007.

It was converted into housing. [2012]

SHENSTONE HOTEL

40, Whitehall Road, (37, Birmingham Road) / Bromsgrove Street, (Shenstone Street), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mr. White [1877], [1884]

Edgbaston Brewery Co. [1895]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Moses Rose [1855]

Robert Lane [] – **1859**;

Felix Briggs Granger (**1859** – [1865]

Amos Goode [1868] – [1876]

George Pearsall [1876] – [1881]

Miss Harriet Jones [1884]

Harriet Huggins [] – **1884**;

Daniel Brearley (**1884** – []

Samuel Deykes Gibson [1888]

James Sheldon [1891] – [1892]
Arthur Trott [1892] – [1893]
Edward Byrne [] – **1895**;
William Butler [1897]
Ellen Florence Butler [1898] – [1901]
George Arm [1903] – **1907**
John Hill [1911] – [1916]
Thomas G Jones [1921]
Frank Flannagan [1966]

NOTES

Shenstone Street [1861]
Birmingham Road [1870], [1891], [1911]
37, Birmingham Road [1911]
40, Whitehall Road [1912]

SHENSTONE ARMS, Birmingham Road [1864], [1865]

It was a posting house.

Tokens were issued for its Sick and Dividend Society.

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1859 - Advert

“SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.

F. B. Granger begs very gratefully to return his sincere thanks to the Clergy, Gentry, and Inhabitants of Hales Owen and the neighbourhood, as also to the Commercial Gentlemen who have for five years given him their support at the NEW INN, which he has now left, and has taken to the above Hotel, most pleasantly situated below, on the Birmingham Road, to which Establishment he has removed the whole of his Stock of choice old Wines, &c, and where he flatters himself he can offer them very superior accommodation; and under the extreme circumstances in which he is called upon to leave the NEW INN, he confidently appeals to his Friends for a continuation of their kind patronage.

N.B. Lock-Up Coach-Houses and good Stabling.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/10/1859

“Court Leet Dinner. On Monday last, the annual election of officers in connection with this ancient court took place at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen. G. Granger, Esq, was elected High Bailiff; R. Trewolla, Esq, Low Bailiff; Mr. John Williams, Ale Conner; Mr. T. Hackett, Overseer of the Swine; and W. Hayes, Esq, Foreman of the Jury. After the formalities of the elections had been disposed of, a large party sat down to a *recherché* dinner, provided by the host, Mr. *F. B. Granger*. In addition to the ordinary delicacies provided at first-class dinners there was a good-looking haunch of venison, and the entertainment as a whole was of a very creditable character. W. N. Marcy Esq (steward B. Lord Lyttleton) occupied the position of president, and to Trewolla, Esq, that of vice-president.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/3/1860 - Advert

“SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.

F. B. Granger most respectfully returns his grateful thanks to his numerous Friends for the kind support they have given him at this House since his Removal from the NEW INN, at Michaelmas last; he begs to assure them of his determination to do all he possibly can to merit their kind patronage. Commercial Gentlemen will find good accommodation, and their comforts in every way attended to. No demand allowed to be made for Portage.

Good Stabling and Coach Houses, Cars, Cabs, and Phaetons, without charge for Driving.

F. B. G. is prepared to supply Families with London and Dublin Stouts; also, Burton and other Ales, in Casks or Bottles.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/4/1860

“On Tuesday morning a shocking accident occurred at Muckley’s Hill, near Hales Owen, by which a man named James Berry, of Stourbridge, lost his life. Berry had been in the employ of Mr. Joscelyne, fishmonger, for the last five years, and on Tuesday went to Birmingham with a horse and spring cart, to fetch a load of fish. On his return, in descending the above hill – which is a very heavy one – the accident took place. The only person near the spot at the time, save the deceased, was a man who gave the following account of the affair. The horse appeared to become unmanageable in descending the hill. Berry was sitting on a basket of fish, and jumped off the cart into the road, where he fell down. The cart wheel passed over the whole length of Berry’s body, frightfully mutilating his chest. Death was of course instantaneous. The horse continued its pace till it reached the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, where it has been accustomed to stop. When deceased was taken up he had the whip in his hand. The body has been removed to the SHENSTONE HOTEL to await an inquest. Berry leaves an invalid wife and two children.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 26/5/1860 - Advert

“Hales Owen Parish Association For The Prosecution Of Felons.

Members Mr. *Felix B. Granger*.....

Notice is hereby given, that the Annual Meeting of the Members of the above Association will be held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, at Hales Owen, on Friday, the 1st day of June, 1860.

Hayes and Wright, Solicitors to the above Association.

Dinner on the Table at Three o'clock precisely.

Fine for non-attendance in person or by proxy, Five Shillings.

Hales Owen, 25th May, 1860.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 20/10/1860 - Advert

“Tolls To Be Let. Birmingham and Hagley Turnpike Road.

Notice is hereby given, that the Tolls arising at the several Toll Gates and Side Bars on the Turnpike Road from Blakedown Pool, in the parish of Hagley, in the county of Worcester, to Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, will be Let by Auction, to the best bidder, for one year, commencing on the 1st day of January next, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, in Hales Owen, on Friday, the 9th day of November next, between the hours of Twelve and Two, in the manner directed by the Act passed in the third year of the reign of his Majesty King George the Fourth, ‘For regulating Turnpike Roads;’ which Tolls produced the last year the sum of £1,155 above the expense of collecting the same, and will be put up at that sum.

Whoever happens to be the best bidder must have at the same time pay one month's rent in advance and give security, with two sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Trustees, for payment of the remainder of the rent at which the said Tolls may be let by monthly payments in advance.

Gems and Docker, Clerks to the Trustees.

Birmingham, Oct. 8, 1860.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/2/1861

“A ball took place at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Thursday evening last, and was attended by the élite of the neighbourhood. Among those attending were Major Smith, E. Moore, Esq, Captain Hunt, Lieutenant Homfray and party, Ensign Moore and party, C. W. Bloxham, Esq, F. A. Cole, Esq, L. H. Kenrick, Esq, H. F. Hodgson, Esq, N. W. Jones, Esq, Mrs. Clarke and party, Misses Hayes, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Joseph Leets and party, Mr. B. Wooldridge and party, Mr. W. Rose and party, Mr. and Mr. Wade, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Hands, Mr. D. and Miss Penney, Mr. W. H. Harris, Mr. and Miss Thompson, Mr. A. H. S. Hays and party, Mr. C. H. Hardiman, &c, &c. The ball was an exceedingly enjoyable one.”

1861 Census

Shenstone Street – SHENSTONE HOTEL

- [1] *Felix B. Granger* (40), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [2] Sarah Granger (32), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] William Granger (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Harriet Granger (8), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Harry Granger (6), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Letitia Ganger (4), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Sarah Granger (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [8] Ann Andrews (25), servant, born Halesowen;
- [9] Elizabeth Griffin (21), servant, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/12/1861 - Advert

“Tradesman's Annual Ball.

SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.

The above will take place on Tuesday Evening, January 21, 1862.

Further particulars will appear.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/2/1862 - Adverts

“Birmingham and Hagley Turnpike Road.

The General Annual Meeting of the Trustees of the Turnpike Road from Blakedown Pool, in the parish of Hagley, in the county of Worcester, to Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, will be held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, on Friday, the 14th day of March next, at Twelve o'clock at noon.

Gems and Docker, Clerk to the Trustees.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1862 - Advert

“Halesowen and Hagley Floral and Horticultural Society.

The Seventh Exhibition will be held, by the kind permission of William Mathews, Esq, at the Leasowes, on Tuesday, July 29, under distinguished patronage.

Prizes amounting to £100, and Two Silver Cups, will be awarded for Flowers, Plants, Vegetables, and Fruits.

Suitable Prizes will also be Distributed to Cottagers for Collections of Vegetables, Fruits, &c.

By the kind permission of Lieut.-Colonel Mason and Officers of the 1st Warwickshire Rifle Volunteers, the fine Band of the Regiment, under the direction of Mr. Synyer, with the Brass, and Drum and Fife Bands of the Sixth Worcestershire Volunteers, will be

in attendance.

Admission at Twelve o'clock, 2s 6d; at Two, 1s; at Five, 6d each.

Children under Twelve years of age, Half-price.

Omnibuses will run from Birmingham, Stourbridge and Dudley.

By Order of the Committee.

F. B. Grainger, Hon. Secretary.”

AND

“Hales Owen and Hagley Flower Show.

Persons willing to supply the Refreshments at the Leasowes, on Tuesday, July 29th next, are requested to Send Tenders on or before July 17th, addressed to the Secretary, Mr. *F. B. Grainger*, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/8/1862

“Volunteer Rifle Corps. The annual contest for the Beauchamp Cup, between the effective members of this corps, took place on Monday last, at the long range at Hagley Park. The firing was from the 200, 400 and 500 ranges – five rounds at each range. Twenty-one members contended, and after some excellent firing, Private Bond was declared the holder of the cup for the ensuing year, he having made 20 points. The officers and members of the corps afterwards dined together at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, and spent a most pleasant evening.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/4/1863

“The annual fair on Tuesday week received a considerable accession to its attractions by a demonstration which took place at the introduction of a fire-engine into the town – an event due to the zeal and activity of Mr. *Granger*, of the SHENSTONE HOTEL. The engine belongs to the Queen Fire Insurance Office, and will no doubt prove a great boon to the town and neighbourhood in case of fire. It was on Tuesday morning taken from the SHENSTONE HOTEL, and, accompanied by a Volunteer Fire Brigade, which has already been formed, and a large number of spectators, paraded through the streets of the town. The bells of the church meanwhile rang out merry peals.....”

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/6/1863

“On Wednesday last, Mr. Nathaniel Taylor, auctioneer, of Worcester, sold at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, a freehold estate, containing nearly 20 acres of meadow land, with cottage and outbuildings. There was an unusually large attendance, and the biddings were spirited. Mr. Thomas Withers, of Halesowen, was declared the purchaser, at £2,360, exclusive of timber.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/10/1863 - Advert

“A Public Dinner to commemorate the Coming of Age of the Honourable C. G. Lyttelton, will take place at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, on Thursday, the 29th, October.

F. D. Lea Smith, Esq, in the Chair. Edward Moore, Esq, Vice-Chairman.

Tickets, One Guinea each.

Dinner on Table at Six o'clock pm precisely.

As the number of tickets will be limited, an early application is requested to W. W. Oldershaw, Hon. Sec. Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Journal 31/10/1863

“A series of festivities have taken place during the week in Hagley and the neighbourhood, to celebrate the coming of age of the eldest son of Lord Lyttelton.....

On Thursday the inhabitants of Hales Owen gave a public banquet to the Right Hon. Lord Lyttelton. During the day the town presented a holiday appearance, and at night was illuminated. The front of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, where the banquet was given, was profusely decorated with flowers and evergreens, and when evening came on was brilliant with hundreds of variegated lamps. The Hales Owen drum and fife band paraded the streets at intervals, and cannon were fired during the day. At six o'clock the banquet was served up in the assembly room at the hotel, when some ninety or a hundred of the leading inhabitants of Hales Owen, Cradley, and the adjacent villages, together with not a few from the county of Stafford, and the remoter parts of Worcestershire, and the town of Birmingham, sat down. Amongst those present were Mr. E. D. L. Smith (in the chair), Lord Lyttelton, the Right Hon. E. W. Gladstone (Chancellor of the Exchequer).....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/1/1864 - Advert

“Sale This Day, at 6pm.

By Mr. Bateman, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen – Oak, Ash, Elm, Poplar, Beech, Sycamore and other Timber Trees, at Sutley, near Stourbridge and Hales Owen.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/4/1864 - Advert

“For this Season, the fastest Trotting Stallions in Great Britain, Brown Orville and Champion, the property of J. Yeomans and Brothers, Pennymore Hay, near the Four Ashes, Wolverhampton, will Serve Mares this Season. At £2 2s each mare, and 5s the groom. The groom's fee to be paid at the time of serving, the remainder to be paid on or before the 24th of June next, or 10s extra will be charged for collecting.....

Brown Orville is descended from the first blood and fastest trotters in the kingdom; and for strength, symmetry, action, and breeding as a nag there can be among judges but one opinion. He has proved himself a sure foal-getter.....

Thursday, April 14th, SHENSTONE INN, Hales Owen, for the night.....

Champion takes this round on Monday, April 18th.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/8/1864 - Advert

“Wanted, a strong, useful Servant Girl, accustomed to an Inn. Good character required.
Apply at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/2/1865

“Hales Owen and Bromsgrove Branch Railways Bill.

A Public Meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Bromsgrove on Friday Next, the 3rd day of February instant, at Eleven o'clock in the Forenoon, when the Plans of the above Railways (for which a Bill has been deposited, and is about to be presented to Parliament) will be laid before the Meeting, and fully explained.

A similar Meeting will be held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, on the same day, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon.

The Right Honourable Lord Lyttleton has kindly consented to take the Chair at both Meetings.

W. Rogers Penn, Secretary pro tem. Bromsgrove, 1st February, 1865.”

Stourbridge Observer 4/2/1865

“Halesowen and Netherton Railway. There seems at length, to be a prospect of a speedy completion of this branch line of railway. It is understood on the very good authority, that positive orders, have been issued for the purchase of lands and buildings, and the commencement of the works at once. This happy result is owing, no doubt, in some degree, to the resolutions passed at the meeting held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL on Friday week, and which were forwarded by the Chair, Lord Lyttleton, to the Director of the Great Western Railway Company.”

Stourbridge Observer 11/2/1865

“The annual Tradesmen’s Ball was held at Mr. *F. Granger*’s SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Tuesday evening last. Upwards of sixty ladies and gentlemen were present The refreshments served up for the occasion were of a first class character, and reflected the highest credit to the worthy host and hostess. Messrs. Fields of Stourbridge provided the music, and the merry dance was kept up until six o’clock, to the delightful strains of their band.”

County Advertiser 4/3/1865

“On Tuesday evening last a grand Masonic ball took place at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, for the purpose of celebrating the marriage of F. D. L. Smith, Esq, of the Grange. There were about one hundred ladies and gentlemen present, and altogether the ball was a great success. Mr. *Granger*’s arrangements were excellent, and gave to all present the greatest satisfaction. Messrs. Synyer’s band was in attendance.”

The Loyal Shenstone Lodge of the Ancient Order of Foresters met here. [1865]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/2/1866 - Advert

“Dog Cart for Sale, almost equal to new, light and easy running. Price £14.
Apply, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/5/1866 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady young Man (a light-weight), to attend to two horses, and make himself generally useful.
Address, B.C., SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

County Express 16/2/1867

“The usual Masonic Ball was held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Tuesday last. The attendance was large, numbering nearly 100.....”

Stourbridge Observer 23/2/1867

“Rifle Corps Dinner. On Tuesday evening last, a supper was given to the men of this company, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, by the officers. 64 men sat down, and did ample justice to the good things provided.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/3/1867

“On Friday evening last a complimentary dinner was given at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, to Lieutenant Moore, of the Hales Owen Rifles, and son of Dr. Moore, JP, Deputy-Lieutenant. The dinner was given as a compliment to the guest on his leaving the neighbourhood to take a medical practice at Brighton.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/12/1867 - Advert

“Brown Brougham Horse for Sale. Price 60 guineas.
Apply, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

County Express 21/12/1867

“Birmingham and Blakedown Turnpike Road. The letting of these tolls was held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, on Tuesday last. The trustees present were the Ven. Archdeacon Hone, E. Moore, Esq, D. Homfray, Esq, G. Granger, Esq, A. R. Barr,

Esq. &c. A large number of the gate-taking fraternity attended, and the tolls, after a spirited competition, were finally knocked down to Mr. Hicking at a decline of about £50 upon the last year's rent."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/12/1867 - Advert

"567 Capital Oak, Ash, Elm, Poplar, Birch, and Other Timber Trees, standing on the Moat Farm, Parish of Northfield and County of Worcester, two miles from Hales Owen.

To Be Sold By Auction, by W. Cotton, on Friday, the 17th day of January next, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, at Three o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read....."

County Advertiser 4/1/1868

"At the Public Office, yesterday week, Martin Andrews was charged with stealing, on the 23rd ult, four ducks, the property of *Felix Granger*, of the SHENSTONE HOTEL. The prisoner, who was apprehended by Sergeant Kennedy, pleaded not guilty, and was committed to the Sessions at Worcester. The result will be found in the account of the Quarter Sessions."

AND

"William Andrews, alias Martin, was indicted for stealing four live ducks the property of *Felix Briggs Granger*, at Halesowen on the 24th of December. Mr. Griffiths prosecuted, and Mr. Streeton defended. Guilty. Six months' hard labour."

Felix Briggs Granger – see also NEW INN.

County Advertiser 4/4/1868 - Advert

"SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.

Amos Goode takes this opportunity to thank his friends and the public for their kind support during his stay at the NEW INN, and to inform them that, Mr. *Granger* having retired from the business, he has taken the SHENSTONE HOTEL, where he hopes, by strict attention to the comfort and convenience of his guests, to continue to receive their patronage and support, and to retain that also of the late proprietor.

Ales, Wines, and Spirits of the First Quality.

SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, March 26th, 1868."

Stourbridge Observer 11/4/1868

"Halesowen and Hagley Flower Show. The first Committee Meeting of this society was held in the Committee Room at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Tuesday evening last, when arrangements were made to hold the next Flower Show at the Leasowes, on the last Tuesday in July."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/5/1868

"Memoranda – This Day.

Address to the Electors, by the Hon. C. G. Lyttleton, at the SHENSTONE INN, Hales Owen 5pm."

Stourbridge Observer 31/10/1868

"Lord Lyttleton's Court Leet was held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Tuesday last, when Mr. George Grainger was unanimously appointed High Bailiff, and Mr. J. P. Dunn, surgeon, Low Bailiff for the ensuing year."

Birmingham Journal 7/11/1868

"On Tuesday afternoon Messrs. Lyttelton and Martin, the Liberal candidates for East Worcestershire, addressed a large audience from the balcony of the SHENSTONE HOTEL....."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/1/1869

"Memoranda – This Day.

Pigeon Shooting at Mr. *Amos Goode's*, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, at 1pm."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/1/1869

"Pedestrianism and Pigeon Shooting in the District.

SHENSTONE INN, Hales Owen. The proprietor, Mr. *Goode*, having announced 20 sovereigns to be shot for, there was a very fair muster of trigger celebrities yesterday, and although proverbially late, as shooting men are in getting together, a fair afternoon's sport was enjoyed. The original conditions were – 40 subscribers at half-a-sovereign entrance, 3 pigeons each, 1½oz shot, 21 yards rise, single guns; ¼ shot, 19 yards, double guns. Experience teaches, however, that forty sportsmen are not always to be got together, especially in the face of a counter-attraction, and eight gentlemen were all that were forthcoming 'at the price.' The field selected for operations was anything but a good one from the presence of several trees, and, owing to the gate being thrown open pro bono publico, a perfect chaos reigned, anything like order being quite out of the question, from the mass of humanity congregated. Several practice birds were banged at, until something like system prevailed by Mr. Rose, a local gentleman (who took an immensity of trouble in the matter), calling the numbers over Messrs. Nock, of Oldbury, and Barnsley, tying at three birds each, dividing the 'browns.' A second sweep at 5s followed, by the same gentlemen, with an additional quartette, Messrs. Wilson, of Oldbury, and Jones, of Salop, dropping four each and 'collaring' first and second prizes, £2 10s and 10s. Mr. Edwards, referee. Betting 2 to 1 on the gun. Several birds gave rise to disputes, from falling in the trees, which was given as 'no bird.' On a future occasion Mr. *Goode* will doubtless have a better arrangement, as he did his best endeavours to please."

Stourbridge Observer 15/5/1869 - Advert

“A Sale of Fat and Store Stock will be held at *Amos Goode*'s, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, on Monday, the 7th June, 1869. Early Entries respectfully solicited.
T. Homer, Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/6/1869 - Advert

“Hales Owen. Sale of Fat and Store Stock, and Implements, &c.

Mr. T. Homer will Sell by Auction, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Monday Next, the 7th of June.

250 Fat Sheep and Lambs, two-year-old Shorthorn Bull, fat Calves, and Heifer Cows and Calves, Milking Cows, Barren Cows, fat Pigs, Sow and nine Pigs, Sow, in pig; and upwards of fifty Store Pigs; gray Mare, 15 hands high, useful for Saddle or Harness; splendid black Pony, three years old, 13 hands, nearly thoroughbred; handsome Roan Pony, 12 hands, fast goer; a quantity of Implements, two 6-inch wheel Timber Carriages, in good condition, &c. Luncheon at Eleven. Sale at Twelve o'clock.
Auctioneer's Offices, Cradley Heath.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/6/1869 - Advert

“By Joseph Whitehouse, To-Morrow (Wednesday), at Six, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen – Freehold Property and Mines, at Hales Owen.”

Stourbridge Observer 3/7/1869 - Advert

“Mr. Homer will hold his Next Sale of Fat and Store Stock, Implements, &c, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Monday, the 12th of July, 1869.

Further Entries respectfully solicited.

Office: Five Ways, Cradley Heath.”

Stourbridge Observer 2/10/1869 - Advert

“Halesowen. SHENSTONE HOTEL.

Mr. Homer will hold his Next Sale of Fat and Store Stock, Implements &c, in a Field opposite the above Hotel, on Monday, October 18th, 1869.

Entries are respectfully solicited.

Auctioneers Residence: Five Ways Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 2/10/1869 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant; one accustomed to public business.

Apply, Mrs. *A. Goode*, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 15/1/1870

“On Wednesday evening the Halesowen (6th Worcestershire) Rifle Corps, after having marched through and around the town, proceeded to the SHENSTONE HOTEL, where refreshments were provided for them at the expense of Mr. D. Dunn, surgeon to the corps. Captain Homfray afterwards presented each of the men with 2s 6d. The Drum and Fife Band, conducted by Mr. Oldershaw, was present, and performed some lively airs.”

Stourbridge Observer 7/5/1870 - Died

“On the 4th inst, the infant daughter of Mr. *Amos Goode*, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 20/8/1870

“On Thursday morning, about eight o'clock, a large hay rick, belonging to Mrs. Jones, in a field at Gibbett Lane, was discovered to be on fire. An alarm was raised, and hundreds rushed to the spot. The ‘Phoenix’ engine, kept at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, and the ‘Royal’ portable engine, kept at Mr. Neath's, were shortly afterwards brought to work. The supply of water at hand was very limited. The fire was not got under until something like £25 damage had been done. We hear the rick was not insured, and that the fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. Another rick, close by, narrowly escaped being ignited.”

County Express 3/9/1870

“Lodge of Perseverance, No.573. The installation of the WM of this Lodge took place on Tuesday last at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen. The ceremony was very efficiently performed by W. Bro. Mansfield, PPSGW, PGT, who installed Bro. Giles T. Bloomer into the chair of KS The usual business having been despatched the brethren sat down to a magnificent banquet. The usual masonic toasts were proposed and duly honoured, and a most agreeable evening was spent in harmony and brotherly love.”

County Advertiser 29/10/1870

“On Monday afternoon last a tea meeting was held in the large room of the SHENSTONE HOTEL. The tea was attended by about three hundred persons, and the profits derived from it were for the benefit of the widows and orphans fund of a lodge belonging to the Manchester Unity of Odd Fellows. A very pleasant evening was passed.”

Stourbridge Observer 29/10/1870

“The annual Court Leet was held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Monday last. Mr. W. Nicholson Mersey presided. Mr. W. Hayes was appointed high bailiff, and Mr. W. Steele Hayes low bailiff. S. Salt and Sons were appointed town criers. We understand that this will be the last Court Leet held in Halesowen, and those gentlemen who are now in office are elected perpetually.”

Stourbridge Observer 21/1/1871

“The annual ball took place on Thursday night last, at Mr. *A. Goode*’s, the SHENSTONE HOTEL. There was a large company present. The catering of the host and hostess was admirable, and dancing was kept up with spirit until a late hour.”

1871 Census

Birmingham Road – SHENSTONE HOTEL

- [1] *Amos Goode* (45), horse dealer, born Quinton;
- [2] Eliza Goode (42), innkeeper’s wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Kate Goode (21), daughter, barmaid, born Halesowen;
- [4] Frank Goode (16), son, born Halesowen;
- [5] Fanny Goode (14), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Sarah Goode (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Eliza Goode (7), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] Amy Goode (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [9] Mary Williams (24), general servant, born Pensnett;
- [10] John Vaughan (16), servant, groom, born Stourport:

Stourbridge Observer 12/8/1871

“Inspection of the 6th Worcestershire Volunteers. On Monday last, the volunteers were inspected by Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. W. H. Herbert. The Volunteers paraded on the drill ground at 1.30. Captain Dunn, Lieutenant Hayes, five sergeants, and 58 rank and file were present The Company was drawn up in line to receive the Inspector, then broke into column to the right and marched past in quick time. The corps was put through the manual and firing exercises by Lieutenant Hayes. The usual evolutions were then gone through and appeared to give general satisfaction. The Captain afterwards gave the men a supper at the SHENSTONE HOTEL.”

Stourbridge Observer 4/11/1871 - Advert

“SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.

A Sale of Fat and Store Stock, &c, will be held as above, on Monday, the 13th November, 1871.

Further Entries respectfully solicited.

T. Homer, Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

Worcester Journal 18/5/1872 - Marriages

“May 16, at the parish church, Halesowen, eldest son of W. Neath, of Halesowen, to Kate, daughter of *Amos Goode*, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.”

Worcester Journal 18/5/1872

“On Tuesday a public dinner was given at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, in celebration of the birth of a son and heir to Major F. D. L. Smith. The chair was taken by Mr. R. Paul Amphlett MP, and the vice-chair by Mr. J. Homfray.....”

Amos Goode was also a horse dealer. [1873]

County Advertiser 7/6/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant. Age about 18 or 20.

Apply, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 7/2/1874

“An application for an extension of time was granted to the landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, upon the occasion of an annual ball to be held at his house.”

County Express 6/2/1875

“Alfred Siviter charged Robert Smart with having, on the 29th ult, assaulted him. Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Complainant said that on the 29th ult he was at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, when the defendant threw a quantity of ashes over him. Previous to that the defendant blacked him with soot and rubbed some grease on his clothes.

The defendant denied that he had done as stated by the complainant, saying the latter was very drunk. The complainant blacked his own face.

Mr. Superintendent Kemp said that on the evening in question the complainant went to the police station in a state of insobriety. His face was blacked, and his clothes covered with ashes. He complained that the defendant had assaulted him at the SHENSTONE HOTEL. An officer was sent down to the Hotel to see what was going on, but the company was quiet then. The complainant had apparently been assaulted.

Frank *Goode*, son of the landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL was called for the defence and stated that although the complainant was covered with soot and ashes he (witness) did not see it done. The case was dismissed, the Bench telling complainant he had better not go to public houses again, then he would not suffer from practical joking.”

London Gazette 27/4/1875

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Amos Goode*, of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler and Horse Dealer.

The creditors of the above-named *Amos Goode* who have not already proved their debts, are required, on or before the 8th day of May, 1875, to send their claims to me, the undersigned, Charles Evers, of 21, Kidderminster-street, Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, Gentleman, the Trustee under the liquidation, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of the Dividend proposed to be declared.

Dated this 15th day of April, 1875.

C. Evers, Trustee.”

Amos Goode – see also NEW INN.

Post Office Directory 1876 - Advert

“*George Pearsall*, SHENSTONE Commercial And Family Hotel.

Good Beds and every Accommodation. Good Stabling, Loose Boxes for Horses, and Lock-up Coach Houses.

Ales, Wines & Spirits Of The Finest Quality. Foreign & British Cigars, &c. Cabs & Cars.

N.B. This Hotel is just opposite the New Railway Station, Birmingham Road.”

County Advertiser 27/5/1876

“*George Pearsall* landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, was charged by Police-sergeant Chapman with having kept open his house for the sale of intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours on the 13th inst. Mr. Hayes defended.

Police-sergeant Chapman said that he was on duty on the night in question, near to the defendant’s house, and saw two men near to the gate, apparently leaving the premises. Afterwards a servant of the defendant came and closed the gate, and fastened it.

Witness then went into the house and found in it William Bayley, of Spring Hill, another person named Rudge, and two other men whom he did not know. It was then twelve o’clock. There were several glasses on the table, but nothing in them. He questioned the landlord about the matter, and he said he could account for the persons being there. Mr. Bayley had come at his request to see a horse which he had got ill in the stable; Rudge had been waiting in the house that evening; and the other two men were lodgers. Bayley asked the landlord to be supplied with something, but defendant said, ‘No.’ Bayley then asked witness to have something to drink, but he refused. Witness then told defendant that he should report the affair, and afterwards left the house. About a quarter of an hour after that witness went to the window of the bar at the SHENSTONE, and heard a conversation between Mr. *Pearsall*, Mrs. *Pearsall*, and Mr. Bayley. Bayley asked for ‘drop of whiskey,’ and Mrs. *Pearsall* left the room. Mr. *Pearsall* called after her and said it could not be drawn. Mr. *Pearsall* then said to Bayley, ‘If you are found drinking here, and me taking money, it will not do; my character is worth more than half-a-crown.’ Bayley remained in the house three quarters of an hour after that.

Cross-examined: He left just a minute before the clock struck one. Witness knew that Rudge worked for *Pearsall*. Knew that there had been a dramatic entertainment at defendant’s house that evening

Mr. Hayes then addressed the Bench for the defence. He said that the SHENSTONE HOTEL had been kept by his client for a number of years in a very creditable manner, and it was obvious that he would not wilfully evade the law, as he told Chapman, ‘for half-a-crown.’ On the night spoken of there had been a dramatic entertainment at the hotel, and Mr. Frank Lowe, who was one of the persons found in the house by the sergeant, had been engaged in the management of the affair. He was lodging at Osbourne’s, opposite the hotel, but on this night, as he was engaged packing up the things, he stayed until nearly eleven o’clock, when young Osbourne came across and asked him if he was ready to go, because they (the Osbournes) wished to go to bed. He replied that if they wanted to go to bed he would stay at the hotel that night, as he was not ready to go. He then ordered a bed, and Rudge, who had been engaged as a waiter for the evening, and another man got it ready after the place was cleared. Rudge being at the time a servant of the defendant was entitled to be in the house; and the other man, who was in the employ of Mr. Marborough, a horse dealer, was lodging there. The other man – Bayley – who was found in the house by Sergeant Chapman, was a veterinary surgeon, and was sent for by Mr. *Pearsall* to see a horse, which his son informed him was dangerously ill, at his farm, at Cakemore. When Mr. Bayley came Mr. *Pearsall* was unable to attend to him, in the bustle of clearing up, and meanwhile Mr. Bayley went into the stable and examined another horse which was there, and to which he found it necessary to apply fomentations. Mr. Hayes submitted that Bayley had as much right to be in the house as a physician would. He afterwards called as witnesses defendant and Mr. Bayley, who gave evidence to the above effect.

The Bench then decided that there was no case.”

County Express 1/7/1876

“VIth Worcestershire Rifle Volunteers. Last night Lieutenant S. N. Thompson, who has recently joined this Corps, entertained the officers and members to dinner at the SHENSTONE HOTEL. There was a very good muster on the parade ground, and the Corps, headed by their band, proceeded to the hotel, where a good dinner awaited them.....”

County Advertiser 22/7/1876

“Mrs. *Pearsall*, landlady of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, was charged with having used provoking language to William Pyne, with intent to incite him to commit a breach of the peace. Mr. Hayes appeared for the defendant. Complainant said he was in the employ of the defendant’s husband. He was engaged in sweeping the yard, when Mrs. *Pearsall* came to him, and called him a ‘fat-headed Englishman,’ and a ‘lazy, drunkard scamp.’ This was the offence complained of. In cross-examination Pyne denied that he had been lying drunk in the defendant’s cellar previous to the occurrence, and that he had been discharged from his situation in consequence of this. At this juncture the Bench stopped the proceedings, and dismissed the case.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 23/12/1876

“William Pyne, brewer, pleaded not guilty to feloniously delivering to *George Pearsall*, on the 5th August, a certain letter demanding, with menaces and without any reasonable or probable cause, certain money. Mr. Selfe prosecuted; prisoner was undefended. Prosecutor, a farmer and licensed victualler, living near Halesowen, deposed to prisoner having been in his employ as a brewer. He discharged him for drunkenness, and on the 5th August prisoner handed him a letter threatening that if he did not give him money he would give information to the Excise that prosecutor put sugar in his beer, and also that he had a claim for injuries done to him by being pushed by prosecutor.

The prosecutor was the only witness called, and prisoner severely cross-examined him with a view to showing that prosecutor had assaulted him. He also addressed the Jury to the same effect.

His Lordship having summed up, the Jury returned a verdict of guilty. Prisoner was recommended to mercy by prosecutor, and was sentenced to six months’ hard labour.”

On 1st August 1877 an adjourned inquest was held here on Isaac Smith and William Hayward, who were killed whilst sinking a pit at the Whitley Colliery. Verdicts of Accidental Death were returned.

[The inquest appears under the SHELTON.]

County Express 29/9/1877

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

William Adams, greengrocer, the occupier of a house near the Shenstone, applied through Mr. Hayes for a license to sell ale and cider to be consumed off the premises.

The police officer, who deposed to the posting of the notices required by the Act of Parliament, said in answer to the Bench, that the notice of application was not fixed upon the Church door but upon a board placed in close proximity to it.

Mr. Howard: The Act says the notice must be fixed upon the door.

Mr. Hayes: Pardon me, that is only a technical point. Supposing we were to fix these notices upon the Church door and hammer nails into it, they would proceed against us for wilful damage. In such a case the burgess notices must be illegal. Mr. Hayes here read the section of the Act, and explained that if the defendant had a good character, and succeeded in proving that his house was a respectable one and of the requisite annual value, the Bench had no power to refuse the application.....

Mr. *Pearsall*, of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, opposed the application, but eventually Mr. Gem said the Bench could not help themselves, and the application would therefore be granted.”

County Advertiser 19/1/1878

“*George Pearsall*, landlord of the SHENSTONE ARMS HOTEL, Halesowen, was summoned by the police on a charge of keeping open his house at an illegal hour, on the night of the 31st ult.

Police-constable Bailey was called to prove the offence, and gave evidence that on the night of the 31st ult, he found the door of the defendant’s house open at half-past eleven o’clock. He entered, and found in the tap-room six men drinking.

Mr. W. J. Hayes, who appeared for the defence, pleaded that his client acted under the mistaken impression that the extension of time granted to the publicans by the magistrates on the nights of the 24th and 26th ult, also applied to that of the 31st – New Year’s Eve.

The Bench had a doubt, and decided to dismiss the case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/2/1878 - Advert

“Brewer and Hostler. Wanted, a respectable young Man, at a small hotel in the country.

Apply, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen.”

County Advertiser 6/7/1878

“On Wednesday afternoon a serious accident occurred at Mucklow’s Hill. A loaded fruiterer’s cart was being driven down the hill, when the breechband broke and caused the horse to run away. A young man named William Deeley, a painter, from the Lye, who was riding behind, attempted to jump off, but fell on his head, and fractured the base of his skull. Mr. Bloxham, surgeon, was in immediate attendance, and had him at once conveyed to the SHENSTONE HOTEL, where he lies in an almost hopeless condition. This is the second accident of the kind that has occurred at the same place within a week, the first one being fatal.”

County Express 17/8/1878

“Charles Glaze, nailer, Halesowen, was charged with having assaulted Thomas Rudge and Sarah Rudge, on the 29th June. Mr. Hayes appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Homer defended.

The complainant alleged that on the day mentioned in the summons he went to the SHENSTONE HOTEL to return a rake to Mr. *Pearsall*, the landlord. Defendant, who happened to be in the house at the time, commenced using abusive language towards him

and eventually got him down and assaulted him. His (complainant's) wife came up, and defendant also assaulted her. The Bench, after hearing several witnesses, dismissed the charge preferred by Mrs. Rudge, but fined defendant 1s and costs for the assault upon the husband."

County Express 31/8/1878

"Masonic Meeting. On Tuesday last the annual meeting of the lodge Perseverance, No.573 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of England, was held at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, at 3.30. The newly elected WM Bro. Amos Pearson having been installed into the chair of KS, appointed his officers....."

County Advertiser 13/9/1879

"Charles Cook, a jockey, Henley Street, Birmingham, was brought up on a charge of stealing a pony, the property of William Pearman. Mr. Hayes, who appeared for Mr. *Pearsall*, asked that the prisoner should be remanded for a week, in order that the prosecutor, who was at present away, might be present.

Detective-sergeant Bird said that on the 5th of June last prisoner was entrusted to take a horse from Birmingham to Stourport. Prisoner, however, took the horse to Halesowen, where he sold it to Mr. *Pearsall*, SHENSTONE HOTEL, who again resold it. Prisoner was afterwards arrested by Bird at Warwick Races on the 3rd inst. The magistrates granted the remand."

[At the next hearing the magistrates recommended *George Pearsall* 'to be more careful in future.'

Charles Cook appeared at the Worcester Sessions on 13th October 1879 charged with horse stealing and was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.]

George Pearsall was also a farmer. [1880]

County Express 20/3/1880

"County Court. An Auctioneer's Mistake. This was an action brought by Mr. Weston, auctioneer, of Halesowen, against Daniel Troth, of Halesowen. Mr. Hayes was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Stokes for the defendant.

The action arose under the following circumstances. A sale of implements was held in February last at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, and the plaintiff was advertised as auctioneer, but as he had not a license out at that time Mr. Wooldridge, of Stourbridge, sold for him. One of the conditions of sale was that no purchaser should take any advantage of any mistake that might be in the numbering of the lots of articles. Amongst the things advertised in the catalogue were 'No.37, a capital butcher's trap, nearly new,' and 'No.38, a market cart.' By some mistake the numbers got transposed, and the butcher's trap was numbered 38, and the market cart 37. Defendant bought lot 38 for the sum of £3 17s 6d, and was taking the butcher's trap away when he was stopped by Mr. Weston, who told him that there had been a mistake, and offered him his money back. The reserve price upon the trap was £7. Defendant, however, refused to take the money back and took the trap away.

On the suggestion of the Judge, Mr. Hayes decided to make Mr. Wooldridge a joint plaintiff.

Mr. Stokes for the defence said that there was something more in this mistake than the one spoken of in the conditions of sale.

The trap in this case had been sold and delivered.

The Judge held that the defendant had taken the trap away knowing it had been sold in a mistake. He therefore gave a verdict for the plaintiff for £3 2s 6d, the difference between the price paid for the trap, and its real value, with attorney's fee."

Birmingham Daily Post 2/6/1880 - Advert

"Butchers. Wanted, respectable Youth, used to slaughterhouse and shop.
Apply, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen."

On 24th September 1880 an adjourned inquest was held here on Edward Harding, who was killed whilst sinking a pit at the Whitley Colliery. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.

1881 Census

Shenstone Street

[1] *George Pearsall* (51), hotel keeper, born England;

[2] Christina Pearsall (40) wife, born Germany;

[3] Lucy Holden (23), servant, born England;

[4] Edith Hill (14), servant, born England;

[5] William Walters (26), servant, born England;

[6] Edward Rodnay (41), boarder, revenue officer, born England:

County Express 21/5/1881 - Advert

"SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.

Mr. J. A. Weston will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, May 31st, at One, 5,000 Greenhouse and Bedding Plants, by direction of Mr. James Hayes.

Catalogues of the Auctioneer, Halesowen."

County Advertiser 16/7/1881

"*George Pearsall*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, was charged with keeping open his house for the sale of intoxicating liquors, on the 3rd inst, during prohibited hours.

Police-constable Roper visited defendant's house about seven o'clock on Sunday morning, the 3rd inst, and found there a man named James Basterfield, who admitted having had a glass of rum, which was supplied him by a girl twelve years of age. It appeared defendant was not up when the rum was supplied by the girl, and Mr. Phillips recommended defendant not to trust the key of the bar to a girl of that age. Defendant said he should not have done so only he had a new servant at the house. The Bench fined him 5s and costs.

James Basterfield was then ordered to pay the costs for being found upon the premises. Mr. Gem remarked to Basterfield that it was a dear two-penny-worth of rum."

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/9/1881

"On Wednesday Sir Herbert Croft, Bart., held a Court at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, for the purpose of revising the lists of voters for the parishes in that polling district."

West Bromwich Weekly News 17/12/1881

"An inquest was held on Tuesday at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, before Mr. R. Docker, respecting the death of James Rankle (45), imbecile, of Gibbet Lane, who was drowned in the Manor Wharf on Friday. Deceased was heard to fall into the water, and was not got out for half an hour.

Verdict Accidentally Drowned."

Dudley and District News 25/2/1882

"The members of the 1st Worcestershire Volunteers held their annual dinner and distribution of prizes on Monday night at the SHENSTONE HOTEL. The chair was occupied by Captain Thompson, who was supported by the Rev. Canon Pelham, Dr. Ker, Mr. Homfray Holberton, Lieutenant Docker, Mr. E. Ray, &c.

The Chairman spoke of the satisfactory and efficient state of the corps.

Upwards of twenty-five prizes were presented by Canon Pelham to members of the corps for proficiency and good attendance. Dr. Ker, Lieutenant Docker, and other gentlemen also spoke."

Dudley and District News 5/3/1882

"On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Ralph Docker (District Coroner) held an inquest at the SHENSTONE HOTEL respecting the death of David White (16), who had died from the effects of injuries received at Messrs. Colbourn and Summer's Ironworks, on Friday. It was shown that the deceased was employed as a craneman at the works, and whilst working at the forge hammer was fatally injured by a piece of iron striking him in the stomach. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

County Express 24/2/1883

"The annual dinner and distribution of prizes of the 'F' (Halesowen) Company of the 1st Worcestershire Rifle Volunteers took place at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, on Monday evening last. There was a large muster of men."

Dudley and District News 23/6/1883

"On Monday afternoon Mr. Ralph Docker (East Worcestershire Coroner) resumed the enquiry at the SHENSTONE HOTEL respecting the death of Thomas Weston (20), of Gibbett Lane, Short Cross, who was killed at the Manor Colliery, belonging to Messrs. J. and G. Dunn. The deceased was knocked down on an incline by some tubs which had broken loose, and six which were loaded passed over his body, killing him instantly. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1883

"The Opening of the New Railway to Hales Owen.

A public luncheon, to celebrate the opening of the new line from Hales Owen to Northfield, took place yesterday morning in the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen. The chair was occupied by Lord Lyttelton."

County Express 15/3/1884

"Sir Richard Temple addressed an enthusiastic and very orderly meeting at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, on Monday evening. In a speech of about an hour and a quarter he touched upon many topics of great political, social and domestic interest, and gave a complete exposition of the principles which should guide the Conservative party if returned to power at the next general election. The address was another instance, if any were wanting, of the thorough grasp Sir Richard has obtained of the wants of the people of England, and of his fitness to take a place among the legislators of the country."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/4/1884 - Advert

"Inn. To Let, with immediate possession, that old-established well-frequented respectable Inn, known as the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, with every public and domestic arrangement. Large yard, stabling, and store rooms, situate near the railway station on the corner of four important roads, in a healthy and rapidly improving district. The custom of the house is highly respectable, and a good and profitable trade is being done. A Masonic lodge is held at the hotel. Book open to inspection. The present tenant is leaving on account of having taken the Bell Inn, Philip Street, Birmingham.

Apply to Hawkins and Son, Trade Valuers and Auctioneers, 26, Temple Street, Birmingham, Great Bridge and Brierley Hill."

County Express 23/8/1884

"An inquest was held before Mr. R. Docker, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on Saturday, respecting the death of Thomas Roberts

(35), labourer, who was found dead in the Orchard Meadow, at the Grange, on the 14th instant. Deceased, who was in the employ of Mr. F. D. Lea Smith, was seen alive, near the Osier-bed, by Police Constable Hardwicke, about 4.30pm on the day named; and at six o'clock Mr. Hingley found him dead. Dr. Young was of opinion that death resulted from heart disease. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

County Express 1/11/1884

"*Harriet Huggins*, an attractive young woman, landlady of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, was summoned on three charges, first of keeping open during prohibited hours; second, of permitting drunkenness; and thirdly of neglecting to affix a sign to the front of the licensed premises, with the name painted in legible characters, and a description of the license held by her. Mr. Shakespeare appeared to defend.

Police-constable Hinde went to the house at twenty minutes past eight on the night of the 23rd ult, to serve a summons on defendant for neglecting to have the sign. On going through the passage he noticed a man named George Moseley, a butcher of Hagley Street, Halesowen, drunk on a sofa, and in the act of drinking a glass of spirits. At 11.25 he again went to the house with Police-constable Stevens, and found Moseley there still drunk. Witness asked Mrs. *Huggins* how she accounted for it, when Moseley said, 'I have a right to be in my own house I should think.' Mrs. *Huggins* produced a check with a view of showing that Moseley paid the rent for the house, which witness refused to look at. Defendant further said that Mr. Moseley was going to stay there. George Moseley was then charged on two counts with being found on the premises after licensed hours, and further with being drunk.

The evidence in this case was the same, but Police-constable Hinde said that Moseley met him the next morning and said that Mrs. *Huggins* had a separation order from her husband, and they were only waiting for the trustees to settle the affairs before putting up the sign in his name, as Mrs. *Huggins* did not wish to see it in her name.

For the defence Mr. Shakespeare said that Moseley was not drunk. Mrs. *Huggins* was married nine years ago, and in three months her husband sold the things and turned her adrift. Two gentlemen of Birmingham had settled a sum of money upon her, and placed her in the SHENSTONE HOTEL. Divorce proceedings had been instituted, and Mr. Moseley intended to marry Mrs. *Huggins*. For the past three months Moseley had lived and slept at the house, and had also paid the rent but no improprieties had taken place between him and Mrs. *Huggins*. He has therefore a perfect right to be on the premises.

Marion White, the barmaid at the Hotel, said Mr. Moseley was unwell on the night in question, and went to bed shortly after six, perfectly sober. Later on the landlord of the house, Mr. White, came and enquired for him, and Mr. Moseley got up, but had nothing to drink. Mr. Moseley had lived at the Hotel for three months, and occupied the same bedroom as Mrs. *Huggins*.

Arthur Lucas, servant at the Hotel, said that Moseley was sober on the night in question.

Mrs. *Huggins* was called and said Moseley was ill, and had nothing but a glass of claret the whole of the evening. He was perfectly sober when the policeman came. She told the officers he had a perfect right to be there, as he lived there, paid the rent, and had the management of the house.

Mr. Shakespeare admitted that Mrs. *Huggins* was technically wrong with regard to the sign.

The Bench said they were of opinion that the conduct of Mr. Moseley was not quite so correct as it ought to have been, but there was considerable doubt about his being drunk, and they dismissed the four charges under that head. The case respecting the sign would be reserved for future consideration.

Mr. *Huggins*, the husband of the female defendant, was in Court during the hearing of the case."

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/4/1886

"The members of the Perseverance Lodge, No.572, of the Ancient Order of Free and accepted Masons, held their annual festival and the installation of the WM at the SHENSTONE HOTEL on Tuesday evening....."

County Advertiser 19/3/1887

"George Clarke, Birmingham Street, was charged with being drunk at the SHENSTONE INN, on the 6th inst.

Police-sergeant Raybould saw the defendant go into the SHENSTONE HOTEL at about ten o'clock, where he was supplied with a glass of ale by a man. He used filthy language, and when told by the officer to go home he went. Defendant was fined 1s and costs."

Dudley Mercury 18/5/1889

"On Thursday, at a special petty session, Joseph O'Brien, described as a groom, of Birmingham, was charged with obtaining a glass of whiskey by false pretences, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, on Monday. It was alleged that defendant represented that a police-constable had instructed him to obtain a glass of whiskey, and that he (the officer) would pay for it. Subsequently the officer in question denied that he had authorised prisoner to get the whiskey, and the latter was taken into custody. He was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/5/1889

"Henry Corbett Price, of SHENSTONE HOTEL, Hales Owen, until lately assistant surveyor to the Kings Norton Highway Board, was summoned for fraud, embezzlement, and forgery. Mr. Parfitt (instructed by Mr. Burman, clerk to the Board) prosecuted, and Mr. O'Connor defended.

There were four summonses against the defendant. The first charged him with embezzling £19 17s 3d belonging to the Board; the second with making false entries in his wages-books; the third with forging a banker's cheque for the payment of £15; and the other with forging and uttering a receipt for £28.

Mr. O'Connor applied for a remand extending over a week. He said the charges against the defendant were of a very serious

character, and the summonses had only lately been served upon him. He wished, therefore, to have a fair opportunity of preparing his defence. None of the acts alleged were of recent date, and most of them extended as far back as six months. Defendant had been in the employ of the Board for two or three years, and in February last he resigned his position. There appeared to have been some hesitancy on the part of the Board in taking proceedings against him, and they had now issued summonses against him, not a warrant. He had a complete answer to the charges.

Mr. Parfitt agreed that the charges were serious, but as regarded hesitancy on the part of the Board, he had to say that they had over and over again asked the defendant for an explanation, but had received none. The Board had acted very leniently in not taking out a warrant. If an adjournment were granted, he asked that conditions should be imposed.

Mr. O'Connor said there had not been the slightest intention on the part of the defendant to commit a felony.

Mr. Parfitt stated that the Board gave authority to their clerk to take out a warrant against the defendant.

An adjournment for a week was granted, and bail was allowed, the defendant being bound in £50, and two sureties in £25 each."

[Henry Corbett Price was subsequently committed to the Worcestershire Summer Assizes, and appeared on 29th June 1889, charged with embezzling several sums of money from the Kings Norton Highway Board, he was eventually found guilty and sentenced to ten months' hard labour.

In April 1911 he was found at New Street Station, suffering from the effects of an apoplectic seizure. He died in hospital without having regained consciousness.]

1891 Census

Birmingham Road

[1] *James Sheldon* (28), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] Ann F. Sheldon (30), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Beatrice A. T. Sheldon (7), daughter, born Birmingham;

[4] Flora S. S. Sheldon (5), daughter, born Birmingham;

[5] Constance Sheldon (4), daughter, born Birmingham;

[6] Alice M. Sheldon (3), daughter, born Birmingham;

[7] Elarily Sheldon (4 months), daughter, born Birmingham;

[8] William H. Dean (25), servant, waggoner, born Lincolnshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/4/1891

"Yesterday, at the Police Court, *James Sheldon*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Birmingham Road, Hales Owen, was summoned for keeping his house open at midnight on the 25th. Witnesses were called for the defence to show that the husband had invited some friends to his house on the occasion of the christening of his child, and that a gentleman and his wife were leaving the hotel at midnight when the police put in an appearance. The case was dismissed."

County Express 11/4/1891 - Advert

"Wanted, General for Public Business.

Apply, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen."

The Era 23/5/1891 - Advert

"Wanted, Entire Company for 'Hamlet,' 'Othello,' 'Macbeth,' 'Richard III.' Nine Nights near Manchester, June 4th. Address with cartes, references, height, and lowest terms, James Guiver, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen."

County Advertiser 3/12/1892

"John Bevington, ostler, of Hunnington, was charged with stealing a shilling, the money of *Arthur Trott*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on July 14th last. Mr. Waldron defended.

The evidence of the prosecutor showed that on the evening of the 14th July, there was a large meeting held in the Drill Hall, Halesowen, at which Mr. Chamberlain, MP, was present. About nineteen carriages were left at the hotel, and after the meeting Mr. George Dunn came for his carriage. Defendant was in the yard at the time, though not employed by complainant, and when getting into his carriage Mr. Dunn said he wanted a man to go up to Mr. Somers. Bevington volunteered to go with him, and before leaving Mr. Dunn said he would pay Bevington for going with him, and the stabling. The stabling was one shilling; but Bevington did not come back that night with the money. Prosecutor saw defendant a day or two afterwards, and he then denied having received any money, but admitted afterwards having received some. Defendant soon afterwards left the district.

The prosecutor had not got his witnesses, and the case was, therefore, adjourned for fourteen days."

Birmingham Daily Post 14/12/1892

"Yesterday, at the Hales Owen Police Court, John Bryant, Norman Street, Birmingham, was charged with stealing a silver teaspoon, of the value of 1s, the property of *Arthur Trott*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, on the 3rd instant. Mr. Waldron defended.

Prosecutor said defendant, in company with about ten other young men, visited his house about 7.40pm on Saturday, the 3rd instant. After being served with drinks they all left about five minutes to eight, and afterwards he missed the spoon, together with another one which had not been found. Witness followed them to the railway station. All the men denied having the spoon, and then he accosted defendant in the waiting-room, who also denied having it. Subsequently the spoon dropped from under defendant's coat to the floor. Defendant having refused his name and address, witness gave him into custody. In reply to Mr. Waldron, witness said he believed there had been a football match played between Hales Owen and a club from Birmingham. For the

defence Mr. Waldron submitted that the charge against defendant was not proved. Defendant had been playing football on behalf of the Hales Owen club against Soho Villa, and after the match a number of them went to the prosecutor's house, but defendant denied that he took the spoon. The Bench considered the case proved, and fined defendant 10s and costs, in all £1 14s 6d."

County Advertiser 17/12/1892

"Emily Pratt, of Cakemore, was charged with stealing a glass, value 4½d, the property of *Arthur Trott*, on the 29th ult. It seemed that defendant, who was accompanied by another woman and a young man, went into the tap room. They asked for a quart of ale, with which they were supplied, together with a glass. Shortly afterwards they left, going to the railway station, and then prosecutor saw that the quart cup had been left on the table, but the glass, which was marked with his name, had been taken away. Prosecutor went after the party, and caught them near the station. Upon charging them with taking away the glass, defendant dropped a glass which prosecutor identified as his own. Defendant was fined 5s and costs, or 14 days."

County Advertiser 2/9/1893

"Robert Swayne, labourer, Carters Lane, was charged with stealing two pint cups, the property of *Arthur Trott*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL on the 26th inst. It appeared that prisoner was seen with the jugs in his possession at the Leasowes on the day named, when a fete was being held. Police-constable Harrison asked him where he got the jugs from and he could not give a satisfactory explanation. The jugs were afterwards identified by *Trott* as his property. Inspector Raybould asked a remand till Tuesday week, and this was granted."

AND

County Advertiser 9/9/1893

"Robert Swain, labourer, Spier's Hill, Halesowen, was charged with stealing two pint cups, the property of *Arthur Trott*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL on the 26th inst. It appears that on the day named there was a fete at the Leasowes, at which complainant had a refreshment booth. While the fete was in progress prisoner took away the jugs, which were afterwards found in his possession. The Bench determined to give prisoner another chance, and fined him 5s and costs, or 21 days."

Edward Byrne = Edward Beirne

Renewal to *Edward Byrne* was refused in August 1895.

County Advertiser 28/9/1895

"The adjourned annual Licensing Sessions for the Halesowen Division were held on Tuesday..... Inspector Raybould objected to the renewal of the license of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, to *Edward Byrne*, on the ground that he was not a suitable person. He pointed out that Mr. *Byrne* was granted the transfer of the SHENSTONE HOTEL in February last. Everything went well until Easter last, when he commenced to open his premises on Sundays, and since then there had been no distinction between Sundays and week days, despite the cautions from himself and the Superintendent. He offered a further objection on account of the structure of the house, but on condition that the landlord carried out certain promised alterations he was willing to withdraw it. Evidence was given by Police-constable Walton showing the on some occasions Mr. *Byrne* had kept his house open back and front during prohibited hours. Witness had seen him under the influence of drink. On behalf of the landlord, Mr. McCardie submitted that although serious allegations had been made against his client, yet no criminal proceedings had been taken against him. It was exceedingly unfair to Mr. *Byrne* for the police to bring allegations at the Licensing Sessions instead of proceeding against him when the offences alleged were committed. The landlord gave evidence and denied that anyone excepting bona fide travellers had been served at his house on Sundays. In answer to Mr. Garratt, witness said he was quite willing to close his house on Sundays except to proper bona fide travellers. After a short deliberation in private the magistrates renewed the license on condition that the landlord closed his house during prohibited hours, and also subject to certain structural alterations."

County Advertiser 2/5/1896

"On Tuesday, Mr. E. Docker (coroner) held an inquest at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, relating to the death of David Lewis (70), boatman, Cox's Lane, Old Hill, who was found drowned in the canal near Haywood's Wharf on Sunday morning. The evidence showed that the deceased left home on Saturday morning, at about eight o'clock, for the purpose of getting orders. He was last seen alive at seven o'clock at night by Mrs. Wardell, and on Sunday morning he was seen by a man named Thomas Rose, of Lapal, in the canal. Information was conveyed to the police, and Police-constable Price arrived and removed the body to the SHENSTONE HOTEL. The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned."

County Express 17/4/1897

"*William Butler*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, was charged with keeping his house open for the sale of intoxicants during prohibited hours on the 25th March. Mr. Arthur Smith appeared for the police, and Mr. A. E. Guy Pritchard defended. Mr. Smith said about 1.10 or 1.15 on the morning of the 25th ult Police-constable Lyes and other officers had their attention drawn to a light in the bar of the hotel. They approached the window, and on looking through saw the landlord and his wife, Mr. John Wright and Mr. George Dakin. They had before them two glasses charged with liquid. This was drunk, and the glasses were

replenished, and subsequently the party moved from the room and entered the smoke room. Police-constable Tennant approached the front of the house, and the other officers were placed to watch the back of the premises. Strange to say, the front door was not fastened. On seeing the landlady, Police-constable Tennant asked who the gentlemen were that were talking in the bar, and she said it was only her and her husband. To this Police-constable Tennant said there were others, and he proceeded towards the smoke room, which was dark, and on turning on his lantern he saw Mr. Dakin and Mr. Wright. In reply to the officer's questions as to why they were there, the officer was told Mr. Wright was there owing to the landlord having received a notice to quit, and Mr. Dakin was there with him. Mr. Wright said to the officer, 'It's all right; I'm here on business,' and Mrs. *Butler* said Mr. Wright had taken a bed there so as to catch an early train in the morning.

Police-constable Tennant said he was on duty at about two o'clock on the 25th ult, and his attention was called to the SHENSTONE by Police-constable Lyes, Police-constable New, and Police-constable Chamberlain. He saw Mr. and Mrs. *Butler* and Mr. Dakin and Mr. John Wright in the bar drinking something out of glasses which looked like whiskey. Mrs. *Butler* took the glasses and the party went away towards the smoke room where he afterwards saw them. Mrs. *Butler* said Mr. Wright was there on business and Mr. Dakin was in his company. Mr. Wright, in reply to a question, said, 'It's all right; I'm here on business.' Mrs. *Butler* said Mr. Wright had a bed there so that he might catch an early train in the morning.

Cross-examined: Neither Mr. or Mrs. *Butler* said Mr. Dakin was staying there for the night and they did not invite him to go and see the bed that had been prepared for him. She did tell him about a Mr. Holland having a bed there. During the time Mr. *Butler* had kept the house it had been conducted to the satisfaction of the police.

Police-constable Lyes gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. Pritchard said after the evidence he had taken upon himself to plead guilty to having certain persons on the premises. No doubt Mr. *Butler* had committed a technical offence, but he asked the Bench to bear in mind the circumstances. There was no doubt on this occasion both Mr. and Mrs. *Butler* were very much upset by the receipt of a notice to quit (which was handed in), and they had sent for Mr. Wright about it, from a business point of view, and in the excitement and agitation about the matter they seemed to be oblivious to the fact that time was quickly going. He would like to urge upon the Bench that the door was unfastened, and submitted it was strong proof of the genuineness of what was said in explanation. He submitted that the officer misunderstood what Mrs. *Butler* said about Mr. Dakin that he was stopping there for the night, as he had done before. During the whole of the time Mr. *Butler* had kept a public-house in the Halesowen district, his conduct had been all that could be desired, as not only had there been no summons against him, but there had been no complaint, and under those circumstances he thought a nominal fine would meet the case.

The Bench retired to consider their verdict, and on returning into Court, said they had decided to fine Mr. *Butler* 40s and costs, and endorse his license; solicitor's fee would be allowed, the total amount being £4 11s."

County Express 19/6/1897

"At Worcester Quarter Sessions, on Wednesday, *William Butler*, of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, was the appellant, and the Justices of the Halesowen Division the respondents, in an appeal against a conviction for permitting the consumption of intoxicating liquor on licensed premises during prohibited hours. The Hon. Alfred Lyttelton, MP, and Mr. C. F. Vachell were for the appellant, and Mr. E. Gibbons and Mr. J. R. V. Marchant for the respondents.

Mr. Lyttelton said he agreed that upon the merits the magistrates had no course open to them but to convict, as appellant's solicitor entered a plea of guilty. The license was endorsed, but in drawing up the conviction it was left ambiguous whether the conviction was for selling or consuming intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours. A conviction so drawn up was undoubtedly bad, and he contended he was entitled to ask the Court to quash the conviction upon these grounds. The appellant felt, however, that, having led the magistrates into the error, they ought not to take advantage of a technicality, and would be quite satisfied if the endorsement were removed from the license.

Mr. Gibbons agreed that justice would be met if the conviction were allowed to stand and the endorsement removed; and the Bench decided to remove the endorsement, appellant paying the costs of the appeal."

County Express 4/9/1897

"The annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Police Division were held on Tuesday.....

The Clerk read the following report of Superintendent Chare.....

In the year ending 24th August, 1897, the following licensed persons have been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as under.....

William Butler, SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, open during prohibited hours, fined 40s and costs, 51s.....

The three landlords who, as mentioned in the report, had been proceeded against during the year, appeared before the Court to ask for the renewal of their licenses.....

The question of renewing the license of the SHENSTONE HOTEL would be deferred for consideration at the adjourned licensing sessions."

County Express 2/10/1897

"Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Session.....

Mr. Shakespeare, Oldbury, applied for the renewal of the license to *William Butler*, of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, he having been convicted for having persons on his licensed premises during prohibited hours. Mr. Shakespeare said the Bench would remember there was a conviction against the house and that the license was endorsed. Subsequently, on appeal to Worcester, although the endorsement was withdrawn from the license, the conviction was upheld. Under these proceedings his client was involved in heavy costs. Of course there was the conviction against the house, but he asked the Bench to bear in mind the good character of the applicant, and that the license was not endorsed. He had the applicant there, who would tell the Bench that he would see the

house was properly conducted in the future.

Mr. Garratt: Mr. Chare, the superintendent, can't be here today, but he offers no serious objection to the renewal of the license. He, however, would like the applicant to give a promise as to closing during prohibited hours on Sunday. If he will give that promise, I don't see any objection.

Mr. Shakespeare said his client would meet that wish.

Mr. *Butler*: I'll promise you that.

Mr. Garratt: Then the application is granted."

County Advertiser 6/8/1898

"On the application of *Ellen Florence Butler*, a temporary authority was granted to her for the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen."

County Advertiser 23/9/1899

"Revision Court.....

The Liberals lodged an objection to the vote of Mrs. *Florence Butler*, of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, inasmuch as her husband died on July 28th, 1898, which was during the qualifying period. It was pointed out by the Barrister it was only twelve days short of the requisite period, and he thought Mrs. *Butler* ought to have the vote.

Mr. Waite said if the Revising Barrister thought so he would not offer any further objection.

The Revising Barrister allowed the vote, and Mrs. *Butler* applied for expenses.

The Revising Barrister, however, advised her not to press for costs, remarking that legally she was not entitled to the vote.

Mrs. *Butler* said she would accept the advice of the Revising Barrister."

County Advertiser 12/5/1900

"William Clarke, of no fixed abode, was charged with stealing a table knife, value 6d, the property of *Ellen Florence Butler*, at Halesowen, on the 24th ult.

Elizabeth Ann Butler stated that on the 24th ult defendant came into the SHENSTONE HOTEL, which was occupied by complainant, and asked if he could borrow a small table knife. As soon as defendant had the knife he ran out of the house with it. Witness followed him and asked him where he had put the knife. Defendant said he had left it on the floor. Witness went back, but could not find it.

William Robinson stated that at 1.45pm on the 24th ult he went into an outhouse in the yard belonging to the SHENSTONE HOTEL, where he found the knife produced, in a crack covered over with paper. He handed it to the police.

Police-constable Harley stated that on the 24th ult he received the knife produced from the last witness, and took it down to the kitchen of the SHENSTONE HOTEL. He there charged defendant with stealing it. Defendant said he had not taken it from the premises.

Defendant was sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment with hard labour."

County Express 22/12/1900

"Elizabeth Maddock, of no fixed abode, was charged with begging at Halesowen on the 11th, and also with assaulting Police-constable Emms. He saw the woman in the Birmingham Road, near the SHENSTONE INN, and arrested her on the charge of begging. She kicked him on the knee, and he called Mr. Rolinson to his assistance. Prisoner also kicked him.

She was sentenced to seven days' hard labour for begging, and fined £1 and costs, or a month, for the assault."

1901 Census

Shenstone Street – SHENSTONE HOTEL

[1] *Ellen Florence Butler* (43), widow, licensed victualler, born Oldbury;

[2] Frederic H. Butler (17), son, junior clerk iron works, born Selly Oak, Worcestershire;

[3] Elizabeth A. Butler (20), step-daughter, born St. Helens, Lancashire;

[4] Robert Butler (19), step-son, traveller, born St. Helens, Lancashire:

Smethwick Weekly News 5/10/1901

"On Thursday M. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, respecting the death of William Henry Shermer (37), farmer and dealer, formerly residing at Bullo, near Newnham, in Gloucestershire, whose dead body was found in a field at Whitehall, on Thursday afternoon, with a gash in his throat.

Henry Terris, brother-in-law of Newnham, identified the body, and said deceased had been very strange in his manner for some time past. On the 25th of September he suddenly left his farm, and later on witness received a letter stating that he had obtained work in Bromsgrove, and would pay all the debts he owed. He believed he was in difficulties with his farm, which he deserted, and sold his things without giving notice. Deceased appeared to have worried over magisterial proceedings in which two men were charged with assaulting him, and he was summoned for assaulting them. Deceased left a widow and six children.

According to the evidence of a man named Alfred Collins, deceased commenced to work on the Woodcross Manor Farm, Bromsgrove, on Saturday last. He appeared to be strange in his manner. On Sunday evening he appeared to be suffering from delusions, for he came into the house and alleged that two policemen had been after him.

A lad named William Henry White deposed to seeing the deceased cut his throat with a knife whilst lying in a field at Whitehall, and PC Harley, who was called, endeavoured to stop the bleeding, but was unable to do so, and deceased expired whilst attempting to speak.

The Coroner said there was no doubt the deceased's mind was unhinged. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind."

County Express 13/12/1902

"On Thursday morning Mr. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, concerning the death of William Hubble (36), blacksmith, formerly residing at Bromsgrove Street, Halesowen, who was killed whilst following his employment at Messrs. Rose Brothers' tube and gun barrel works at Prospect Hill, Halesowen, on Monday. Mr. E. V. Clark, Inspector of factories, was present at the enquiry. Mr. E. H. Grove represented the firm, and Mr. R. A. Willcox, of Wolverhampton, watched the case on behalf of the relatives of the deceased. The evidence of an engine driver named Albert Drayton showed that on Monday afternoon deceased ascended the shaft of a drilling machine to clear a water pipe which had got stopped up. He was seen by Drayton standing on a girder, but immediately afterwards witness noticed that deceased by some means had been drawn into the machinery, and was being whirled round by the shaft, which gave 120 revolutions a minute, his legs coming into contact with the girder. The mill had stopped entirely a short time before the accident occurred, and deceased could have ascended the shaft during this period and cleaned the pipe. Deceased was an expert workman, and had been used to machinery all his life. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and added to it a recommendation that the water barrel alluded to should be removed to a safer place; that the company should employ a permanent engine driver to devote the whole of his time to the work; that an alarm bell should be placed in the works and attached to the engine, so that in case of accident the engine driver's attention might be called at once. Mr. Clark intimated that he would see the wishes of the jury were carried out, and Mr. Grove on behalf of the company, also promised that the recommendations should as far as possible, be complied with."

George Arm = George Aims

County Advertiser 3/10/1903

"Two men, named Jake Barker and George Bayliss, both living at Dudley Road, Halesowen, were summoned for threatening *George Aims*, landlord of the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Birmingham Road, Halesowen on the 19th ult. Mr. J. W. Clulow, who appeared to prosecute, explained that the defendants formerly lived close to complainant. They had for some time been behaving themselves in a very disorderly manner, and the police had to be called in on numerous occasions on the night of the date named. Bayliss was heard to say that if he did not murder complainant within a fortnight he would be hung. The other defendant also threatened the prosecutor, who was afraid to go out of his house. Evidence was given in support of this statement by complainant and his wife. Defendants both denied using threats, but they were both bound over in their own recognisances of £10 to keep the peace for a period of six months, and to pay the costs, 10s each."

George Arm was born in Handsworth in 1868.
He died in 1959 aged 92.
See also DOG, and OLD NAVIGATION, Smethwick.

Coventry Evening Telegraph 5/9/1959

"Mr. *George Arm*, one of the oldest licensees in the country has died at the age of 92. He was licensee of the OLD NAVIGATION INN, Smethwick. Mr. *Arm* had kept the OLD NAVIGATION for more than 50 years. He used to rise at 7.30am and did not go to bed until after midnight. Born in Bloxwich, he took over 54 years ago, the DOG INN, Hagley Road West. Later he managed the SHENSTONE INN, Halesowen."

County Express 31/10/1908

"On Monday Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, concerning the death of Wm. Wood (73), formerly a miner, of Oldbury Road, Blackheath, who met with his death under mysterious circumstances on Saturday. Frederick Thomas Wood, son of the deceased, said his father had not worked in the mine for about 15 years. He had done odd jobs. He continued to live with his youngest daughter until about a fortnight ago, when he left. Witness could not say why. Sarah Daniels, daughter of deceased, said her husband had a few words with her father, as a result of which he left. He went to live in Union Street, Blackheath, and refused to come back. Witness knew he was sleeping in stables several nights, but he said he was comfortable. They left the door open for him some nights, but he did not come back. He had never threatened to take his life. Frederick Wilson, Forge Lane, Halesowen, said that on Saturday at 7.15am he was at work with Arthur Connop on the roof of Halesowen Steel Works when he noticed a man lying in the shallow portion of the River Stour. He was on his right side, and stretched out. Part of his body was in about six inches of water, and another part in three inches. They went and pulled him out of the stream. Witness called PC Berry, and the man died almost immediately afterwards. PC Berry stated that Wood only lived a few minutes after he was called to the spot. In order to get there deceased would have to go through private property. Dr. McKay said deceased's neck was slightly dislocated on the right side. He had also injuries, and had probably been in that position for several hours. The Deputy Coroner said there was no evidence to show how deceased met with his death. He had probably wandered in an aimless fashion and walked over the wall into the river, a fall of sixteen to twenty feet. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1911 Census

37, Birmingham Road – SHENSTONE HOTEL

- [1] *John Hill* (35), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Edith Hill (29), wife, married 10 years, born Langley Green;
- [3] Edith Hill (9), daughter, school, born Langley Green;
- [4] John Hill (4), son, born Warley, Worcestershire;
- [5] George Hill (1), son, born Harborne;
- [6] Emily Davies (31), general servant, born Langley Green:

Birmingham Mail 31/10/1940

“Bar-General top wages liberal outings country area.
The SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/7/1966

“A seven-ton unladen lorry ran away down Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, yesterday, and crashed into the SHENSTONE INN at the foot of the hill, completely wrecking the bar. It also severely damaged the private quarters, where the licensee, Mr. *Frank Flannagan*, and his twin sons, aged five, were at the time. They were taken to hospital with shock but allowed home after treatment. The driver, Mr. Joseph Murray, aged 58, of Kingston Road, Teddington, Middlesex, was trapped in his shattered cab until firemen and ambulancemen released him by pulling his feet out of his shoes. He was taken to the Birmingham Accident Hospital. Later a hospital spokesman said that he was comfortable and would soon be allowed home.

Mr. Howells was conscious throughout and a fire brigade spokesman said, ‘He showed great courage in staying in the lorry until it crashed.’

Mr. *Flannagan* said, ‘There was a noise like an express train then the whole ceiling came in.’

The SHENSTONE INN will not be used any more as a public house. It was due to come down to allow for road widening. A spokesman for the Halesowen Borough Surveyor’s Department said, ‘We cannot take the lorry out tonight. If we did the whole building would be in danger of collapsing into the road. With a bit of luck we shall be able to save half the building.’

Last night Mr. and Mrs. *Flannagan* and their children stayed with relatives.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/7/1966

“Directors of Bass, Mitchells and Butlers (Midlands) Ltd. are believed to be meeting today to discuss the future of the SHENSTONE INN, Halesowen, part of which was demolished when an eight-ton lorry embedded itself in the bar on Friday. Building experts say the 100-year-old inn at the foot of Mucklow Hill can be restored. The owners will have to decide whether it is worth the expense since the inn must come down in due course for road widening. The lorry, loaded with 12 tons of scrap metal, was removed yesterday and the roof was propped up.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/7/1966

“After three accidents on the one-in-11 Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, in 24 hours residents yesterday were demanding that signs be placed at the top warning motorists to change into a lower gear....

The latest accidents – one lorry crashed into the SHENSTONE INN, another partly demolished a wall, and a car turned a complete somersault – added to the long list of Mucklow’s victims over the years.

Twice previously the SHENSTONE INN had been slightly damaged by runaway cars. Friday’s crash wrecked the bar.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/7/1966

“The SHENSTONE INN, badly damaged when a runaway lorry crashed into it a fortnight ago is to be repaired. Damage is less serious than was feared at first. The work is expected to take two or three months.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1966

“Halesowen Trades Council does not approve of the rebuilding of the SHENSTONE INN at the bottom of Mucklow Hill, which was partly destroyed when a lorry crashed into it several weeks ago. Last night the trades council agreed to ask the borough council why money was being spent to repair the building, which is due to be demolished when improvements are carried out at the Shenstone cross-roads.”

Closed.

Demolished c.1970.

SMITHS ARMS

Meres Road / Compton Grove, Fatherless Barn Estate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1967]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

D Vanden [1958]
Spencer Edmonds [1974] – [1976]
Ratcliffe [1986]
Julie Foster [2000]

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Post 9/12/1957

“The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is an extract from the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....

The policy of dealing with uneconomic licensed houses has been continued during the year. In all, sixteen have been closed, twelve of those being in respect of the following new houses opened during the year.....

SMITHS ARMS, Halesowen.

These have played their part well in the increased sales of draught beer and wines and spirits.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/8/1967

“The opening day of the soccer season had a rival at Cradley on Saturday when five-a-side football was introduced to the town. This turned out to be the major attraction at the annual sports day of the 2nd Cradley St. Peter’s Scout Group. Many of the 1,500 crowd saw the final in which the SMITHS ARMS beat Cradley Labour Club 4-2. Among the visitors were the Mayor and Mayor-ess of Halesowen Ald. and Mrs. N. Garner.”

A team from here took part in the Dudley and Cradley Heath Soccer League. [1986]

Sandwell Evening Mail 9/1/1986

“Aremco Celtic lead division eight, thanks mainly to an impressive unbeaten away record. Their single defeat to date was on their own ground at the hands of Tuborg, one of the chasing group, but second-placed High Acres are lurking menacingly. Acres are a point behind Aremco with a game in hand, having gone 13 matches without defeat and scored 50 goals in eight consecutive home wins. And all this after they lost their opening game of the season to SMITH ARMS, who led the table early on but have recently hit a bad patch, losing four of their last six fixtures.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 29/7/1986

“Obsessed lover Arthur Allan tracked down his ex-girlfriend to a Cradley Heath pub and scratched her name on a cartridge he kept in a loaded, sawn-off shotgun. He had brooded over her in prison – where he was serving a sentence for kidnapping her – and found her with her landlord husband where they lived at the SMITHS ARMS pub.

At Stafford Crown Court Allan (51), unemployed, of no fixed address, was jailed for life.

Judge Clive Tayler QC said there was ‘clear evidence’ he intended to kill the woman and commit suicide.

Allan pleaded guilty to possessing a sawn-off shotgun with intent to endanger life and admitted being a prohibited person possessing a firearm after serving a prison sentence.

Mr. Roger Smith, prosecuting, said after Allan was arrested detectives found a shotgun, cartridges, and a knife in a holdall and taped to his leg, was a surgical scalpel. ‘The shotgun was cocked and loaded and a cartridge in the gun was marked with the girl’s name, ‘Jackie,’ he said.

Mr. Smith said detectives found an entry in his diary for February 3 this year, when Allan had finally tracked down the 41-year-old Mrs. Jaqueline *Ratcliffe* at the SMITHS ARMS public house in Cradley Heath. It read, ‘RIP. I am planning to kill her. Deep in my mind since 1981 I knew I would finish it. I gave all for her but a slut is a slut. She must have known one day I would catch up.’

Mr. Smith said that Allan and Mrs. *Ratcliffe* had lived together in 1979, before she married, but she left him in 1981. Mr. Smith went on, ‘Three months after she left, this defendant kidnapped her, imprisoned her and wounded her and, at Shrewsbury Crown Court, was jailed for three years.’

In 1983 Allan was jailed for four years for setting fire to a flat in Devon.

Mr. Smith said, ‘It is quite clear that between 1981 and 1985 he brooded over her and, after he was released, found out where she lived.’

Mr. John Cavell, defending, said, ‘Allan is quite sure the obsession has ended.’

Judge Tayler told Allan, ‘This court must give its consideration to the protection of this lady. I do not feel I can safely pass a sentence which would permit you to be released on a fixed date in the future.’”

Julie Foster was married to Andrew.

It was damaged by fire in the early morning of 19th April 2007.

Halesowen News 19/4/2007

“A Colley Gate pub has been set ablaze in a suspected arson attack. Firefighters tackled the ‘severe fire’ at the SMITH ARMS, Meres Road, which is thought to have broken out at 5.04am this morning (Thursday). Crews are in the process of dampening down and ventilating the area of the blaze, on the ground floor. Police are set to attend and a fire investigation team is on site. Fire crews from Stourbridge and Halesowen attended.”

It closed in 2008.

Halesowen News 28/10/2009

“The old SMITHS ARMS pub in Cradley is set to be demolished and replaced by housing, if Dudley Council pass a new planning application. Martin Ward Developments have applied to build six two bedroom and three three bedroom houses on the Meres Road site. A similar application was withdrawn in May after council officers pointed out problems with parking and security. However, this time Dudley Council planning officers have recommended the application be passed at the Development Control Committee meeting on Monday November 2.

A council spokesman said, ‘The proposal makes efficient and effective use of land within the urban area for residential development. The proposed dwellings are acceptable in terms of position, scale and design and would not have an adverse impact upon the character and appearance of the area.’

However, the developer will have to agree to stump up £22,661 for a 106 agreement before the application gets passed. The cash will be used for the ‘provision, maintenance and enhancement of, offsite public open space and play provision, libraries, public realm enhancements’ in the area.”

It was demolished in December 2010.

STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES

78, Halesowen Road, (Birmingham Road), (Long Lane), (Mucklow’s Hill) / Kent Road, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Benjamin Darby
Cheshire Brewery Co.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1936]
Toby Inns [1988], [1994]
Sizzling Pub Co. [2004]

LICENSEES

George Farmer [1835]
William Garrett [1845] – [1846]
William Green [1858] – **1863**
Mrs. Ann Green [1870] – [1896]
James Albert Leonard Woolven [1898]
Benjamin Darby [1899] – **1904**;
Albert Anson (**1904** – [1905]
Samuel Parkes [1907]
Robert Anson [1910] – [1912]
George Smith (**1912** – []
John Silvester (**1914** – [1916]
Solomon Westwood [1939] – [1940]
Laurence Nicholls [1987]
Ron Boniface [2001]
Leanne Dukes [2005]
Emma Challoner [2017] general manager

NOTES

Mucklows Hill [1912]

THREE HORSESHOES [1835], [1845], [1846], [1847], [1862], [1890]

HORSESHOE [1858], [1889]

ROEBUCK [1861], [1871]

STAG AND HORSESHOE [1862], [1870], [1880], [1893], [1904], [1905], [1909]

REINDEER AND HORSESHOES [1873]

STAG AND HORSESHOES [1863], [1878], [1881], [1885], [1891], [1903], [1910], [1907]

STAG [1883], [1901], [1902], [1911], [1940], [1958]

The No. 1 Lodge of the Reformed Order of Masons met here.

In October 1844 George Holden of Walsall trained here for a fight with Paddy Gill of Coventry, for £50 a-side. The fight lasted 22 rounds (33 minutes and two seconds) and Gill won.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/6/1847

“An inquest was held on Wednesday last, at the THREE HORSE SHOES, Long Lane, Halesowen, before George Hinchliffe, Esq, coroner, on the body of Edward Round, aged two years, the son of a wheelwright, who, while playing near a small pool of water in front of his father’s premises, fell in and drowned. Verdict in accordance with the evidence.”

William Green was also a cattle dealer.

County Advertiser 2/1/1858

“The following persons were charged, through the information of Mr. Miles Overend, Inspector of Weights and Measures, with having in their possession unjust measures.....

William Green, HORSE SHOE INN, Halesowen, 3 quarts and 1 pint. Fined 1s with costs.”

1861 Census

Top of Long Lane – ROE BUCK

[1] *William Green* (30), victualler, born Northfield;

[2] *Ann Green* (32), wife, born Cakemore;

[3] Sarah Green (7), daughter, scholar, born Lappal;

[4] Mary Ann Green (3), daughter, born Hill;

[5] Sarah Jones (18), general servant, born Bellbroughton:

Worcester Journal 1/3/1862

“Adjourned Epiphany Sessions.

Job Whatmore, a labourer, was indicted for having, on the 5th of January last, at Halesowen, violently assaulted Peter Knowles, a police constable, in the execution of his duty. Mr. Griffiths was for the prosecution, and Mr. Best for the defence.

The prosecutor said he was stationed at Halesowen, and that at about half-past two on the morning of Sunday, the 5th of January last, he was on duty at Honnington, when he heard some noise in Mr. Potter’s farm yard. He turned his light on, and saw three men standing in the yard. He then said, ‘Holloa! What brings you here?’ He received no answer, but almost immediately afterwards received a heavy blow from the prisoner (whom he knew by sight very well) with the stake now produced (a heavy cudgel). Prosecutor closed with him and they rolled to the ground together, and as they were struggling prosecutor endeavoured to get the handcuffs on him. Upon that the prisoner made a violent attack on him (prosecutor), hitting him over the head and knocking one of his teeth out.

The prisoner and his companions then made their escape.

Mr. Darby and Mr. Potter, farmers, having spoken as to the severe nature of the injuries received by the prosecutor, Mr. Griffiths replied for the defence, and called Mr. *Green*, landlord of the THREE HORSE SHOES, Upper Long Lane, and William Taylor, a grocer (brother-in-law of the prisoner), in order to prove an alibi; and Mr. Frederick Howard, a tailor, as a witness to character. Nevertheless the jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to twelve months’ imprisonment with hard labour. The Chairman complimented the constable on the way he had acted in the case, and said the Bench would be very happy to make him some reward.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 31/12/1862

“R. Docker, Esq, coroner, held two inquests at the STAG AND HORSE SHOE, on Friday, one on the body of William Milton, four years of age, who died from burns he had received. Verdict, Accidental Death. The other was on the body of William Reece, who was killed by a fall of coal in the Pump Pit, and a verdict in accordance was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/3/1863 - Died

“On the 22nd ult, at the STAG AND HORSESHOES, Long Lane, near Hales Owen, in his 32nd year, *William Green*, cattle dealer; deeply regretted.”

County Advertiser 18/3/1865

“On Tuesday, at the Police Court, John Williams, Thomas Lloyd, and Josiah Weston were charged with having, on the 13th inst, feloniously assaulted, with intent to murder him, William Raybould; and they were at the same charged with stealing from Raybould a German-silver watch and one shilling. Mr. Shakespeare defended the prisoners.

On Sunday night last the prosecutor, who is a chainmaker belonging to Cradley, was coming home from Birmingham, accompanied by a man named Bate, and his son, a boy about ten years of age. Between twelve and one o’clock, according to his statement, they went into the STAG AND HORSESHOES public house, at the top of Long Lane, for some refreshment. The three prisoners were there, and Bate and Weston had some conversation respecting a fight between a bull-dog the prosecutor had with him, and a greyhound belonging to Weston. They had some high words, and the landlady told the prosecutor and his companions to go away, as it was time for her to close the house. They went away, and they had not been long out before the prisoners came after them, and set upon them. Bate ran away; prosecutor was knocked down, kicked while on the ground, and robbed of his German-silver watch and 1s. Prosecutor admitted that he was ‘fresh.’

The prosecutor’s son when sworn gave evidence in some points contradictory to that of his father, and described with great minuteness of detail how his father was knocked down by Lloyd, kicked by Weston, and robbed by Williams, who is a parish constable.

Mr. Shakespeare commented upon the contradictory and unsatisfactory character of the testimony, and then called the landlady of the house. She stated that the prosecutor, his son, and Bate came to the house between ten and eleven o’clock. The prosecutor had a ferocious bull-dog with him, and wanted to fight with it a greyhound belonging to Weston. Weston declined to have anything to do with such an affair, and the prosecutor then challenged any man present to fight. Witness told him to leave the house; and he and his companions did so. She then fastened the door, and the prosecutor began to curse and swear at the door, and to demand re-admittance. The three prisoners went out for the purpose of going home, and prosecutor’s bull-dog ran at one of them. Prosecutor himself attacked Lloyd, and they fought. Prosecutor was knocked down, and Williams assisted him to get up, and told him to go home or he would be obliged to take him into custody.

The Bench dismissed the case.”

County Advertiser 13/7/1867

“On Thursday afternoon last an inquest was held by Mr. Ralph Docker, coroner, at the house of Mrs. *Ann Green*, the STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Long Lane, on the body of Charles Haycock, aged eleven years, the son of Richard Haycock, of Crock Street, Birmingham Road, who met with his death on the previous day under the following circumstances.

Maria Haycock, aged seventeen, and sister to the deceased, stated that they were both working in the shop on Wednesday morning making nails. About half-past ten the deceased said he wanted some water, and left the place where he was at work with the intention of leaving the shop. As he passed witness’s block she was welding two pieces of iron together, and one of them fled out of her hand, and the point of the iron caught the deceased on the left side of the neck, and then fell to the ground. Blood flowed from the wound in abundance, and the poor boy ran out of the shop and was falling down, when he was assisted by William Toy, a neighbour, and carried into his father’s house. Mr. Bloxham, surgeon, of Halesowen, was sent for at once, and every effort was made to staunch the wound, but all in vain, as the deceased died in a quarter of an hour after the event occurred.

Mr. Bloxham deposed to examining the body on his arrival, and stated in his opinion the boy died from loss of blood from a wound which might have been caused by the piece of iron which was produced by Police-constable Roe.

After hearing the evidence the Coroner briefly addressed the jury, who immediately returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Stourbridge Observer 18/6/1870

“John Williams, a Parish-constable, was charged by George Hill with assaulting him on the 8th inst.

From the evidence of complainant it appears they were at the STAG AND HORSE SHOE, bowling. A dispute arose, when the defendant struck her [sic] on the mouth. A witness corroborated the assault.

The defence was that complainant called him bad names, and had been gambling with his son, and got 1s 6d from him, and he was annoyed and struck him on the face.

Fined 6d and costs.”

Stourbridge Observer 2/7/1870

“*Ann Green*, a licensed victualler, residing at Mucklow’s Hill, was charged by Superintendent Overend with allowing gambling in her house, to wit, playing skittles, on the 8th ult. Mr. W. Hayes, jun. appeared for defendant.

George Hill said: I was playing at skittles at defendant’s house on the above date, with a man named Richard Russell. We played for a pint of ale. Russell lost, and we went into the house and had the drink.

Cross-examined: The bowling alley is situated at the back of the house. Did not see Mrs. *Green* there. I saw a servant.

There was no evidence to show that defendant knew of the gambling, and the Bench cautioned her, and dismissed the case.”

1871 Census

Long Lane – ROEBUCK INN

[1] *Ann Green* (41), widow, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] Sarah Green (17), daughter, born Halesowen;

[3] Mary Ann Green (13), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] Emily Green (8), daughter, born Halesowen;

[5] Keziah Taylor (15), general servant, born Halesowen:

Dudley Herald 27/9/1873

“To be sold by auction, the REINDEER AND HORSESHOES public house, fronting the turnpike road from Birmingham to Halesowen with butcher’s shop, slaughterhouse, outbuildings and gardens adjoining in the occupation of *Ann Green*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/4/1874 - Advert

“Worcestershire. Freehold Properties and Land, with the Mines and Minerals thereunder, at Cakemore, New England, and Long Lane, in the parish of Hales Owen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Hawkins and Son, on Thursday Next, the 28th day of April, at the house of Mrs. *Green*, the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES INN; Long Lane, at 6 o’clock in the evening, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/5/1878 - Advert

“Lost on Wednesday afternoon, a chestnut Horse, aged, long tail. Whoever will give information or bring him to Mrs. *Green* STAG AND HORSE SHOES, Long Lane, Hales Owen, shall be rewarded.”

County Advertiser 18/9/1880

“A meeting of the ratepayers was held on Tuesday evening last, at the house of Mrs. *Green*, STAG AND HORSE SHOE INN, Long lane, in the township of Hill, to carry out a resolution passed at the National School, Halesowen, on Tuesday evening, August 31st, to the effect that two ratepayers should be chosen from every township to form a committee to discuss what would be done respecting the want of accommodation for the children attending school in the different townships. The Rev. V. Keatch, Vicar of Blackheath, occupied the chair. After discussing several matters relating to the want of education in the borough of Halesowen, the following gentleman were unanimously elected to act on the committee as representatives for the township of Hill: The Rev. F. Keatch and Mr. Joseph Hawkes. A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.”

1881 Census

STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES

- [1] *Ann Green* (50), widow, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Mary A. Cooper (23), daughter, married, born Halesowen;
- [3] Emily Green (18), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Henry Cooper (24), son-in-law, cattle dealer, born Halesowen;
- [5] William G. Hollies (9), grand-son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] William J. Cooper (1), grand-son, born Halesowen:

Evening Express 21/5/1881

“On Friday an inquest was held before Mr. Miller Corbet, deputy coroner, at the STAG AND HORSE SHOES INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, on the body of Eliza Clay (34), wife of William Clay, quarryman, residing in Birmingham Road, Quinton. On the 20th ult, deceased was confined, and Dr. Phillips, of Halesowen, attended her, but on the 2nd inst, he refused to go on with the case, because the deceased was not receiving sufficient care and nourishment. On two occasions the deceased complained that she had only received a drop of cold tea since his last visit, twenty four hours previously. He told the husband she wanted more nourishment, and suggested that he should seek parochial relief. Clay pleaded poverty, and said he was unable either to pay the doctor or buy any food. The jury returned a verdict that deceased died from Natural Causes, and expressed an opinion that the husband was greatly to blame for not obtaining further assistance when Mr. Phillips told him of the dangerous condition of the deceased. The Coroner reprimanded the husband, and said he might consider himself very fortunate that the jury had not sent him to take his trial on a very serious charge.”

Birmingham Mail 9/5/1883

“A number of persons were summoned for removing or causing to be removed certain pigs and sheep from the county of Worcester to the county of Stafford, between the 14th and 18th ult, and were fined as follows..... James Cooper, cattle dealer, STAG INN, Long Lane, Blackhouse, £5 and costs.”

County Express 14/3/1885

“Conservative Association. On Wednesday a meeting of Conservatives was held in connection with the above association at the STAG AND HORSESHOES INN, Long Lane, for the purpose of electing representatives from the Quinton polling district to serve on the newly-formed Conservative Divisional Committee for the Oldbury Division. Mr. Melley presided, and in the course of his remarks, said it was most essential that they should do something in order to get a good Government to replace the one which now existed. Ultimately it was resolved to elect Mr. G. Melley and Mr. Marriott to serve upon the Divisional Committee.”

County Advertiser 7/5/1887

“On Tuesday, at the County Court, Dudley, before the Registrar, Mr. T. Walker, James Bennett, saddler, Oldbury Road, Blackheath, was examined by the Official Receiver (Mr. S. P. Jobson). He denied that he had often spent considerable sums of money in drink or gambling, or that he had been showing ‘handfuls of sovereigns’ since his bankruptcy. Some drink he had had at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES he had ‘on the strap.’ He knew nothing of certain jockey whips having been clandestinely

removed from his shop. Further examined about his visits to the STAG AND HORSESHOES, he admitted paying for beer with gold, but it was not his money. He couldn't think now whose money it was. He had been bond to the extent of £50 for a friend named Bache, and had to pay the money. He never had any return from his kindness except a drink and a dinner in Birmingham. He had taken steps to obtain an administration order, but before he got it the bailiffs were put in, and he filed his petition to prevent one creditor getting everything.

The Official Receiver: There was nothing for anybody.

The Bankrupt: I never had much.

The examination was adjourned sine die. The liabilities were £112, and assets £8."

Dudley Mercury 5/1/1889

"William Parsons, Aston, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *Ann Green*, the HORSE SHOE INN, Long Lane, on the 25th ult, and also with being drunk whilst in charge of a horse and gig, on the 25th ult. Defendant went into the house drunk, and asked for some ale, which was refused him. When asked to leave the house he refused. In the first case defendant was fined 5s and costs, and in the second 10s and costs."

County Advertiser 30/8/1890

"Joseph Bloomfield, Long Lane, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *Anne Greenway* [sic], on the 18th inst. Police-constable Williams said that he visited the THREE HORSE SHOES in Long Lane, and found the defendant in the kitchen drunk. He called the landlady's attention to him, and she ordered him out, but it was only after a good deal of persuasion that he was induced to go. Defendant said he had lived 43 years in this country, and had never been brought up at a police court before. He was fined 2s 6d and costs."

Anne Green was also a brewer. [1884], [1888], [1892]

1891 Census

Birmingham Road – STAG AND HORSE SHOES

[1] *Ann Green* (60), widow, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Emily Green* (28), daughter, born Halesowen;

[3] *William G. Hollies* (19), grand-son, born Halesowen;

[4] *Ernest Cooper* (8), grand-son, scholar, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/10/1891 - Advert

"Shoeing and Jobbing Smith. Improver Wanted.

Apply, STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Hales Owen."

Birmingham Daily Post 6/5/1893

"On Thursday evening *Ernest Cooper*, of the STAG AND HORSE SHOE INN, Hagley Road, Quinton, was killed by being run over by a roller. It appears that the deceased was riding on the frame of a roller, which his brother was using in a clover field, when he accidentally fell under the roller, death resulting from a fracture of the skull."

County Advertiser 12/5/1894

"A meeting of the Oldbury, Halesowen, Blackheath and District Licensed Victuallers' Association was held on Wednesday night, at the STAG INN, Long Lane, Halesowen....

The Chairman proposed the following resolution. 'That this Association emphatically protests against the Budget proposals for increasing the duty on beer and spirits.' The Government talked about bringing in a bill to close public houses, yet every time they were short of money they went to the publicans for it. (Hear, hear.) Carried unanimously. It was decided to send the resolution to *Sir Benjamin Hingley*, the member for the Division."

County Advertiser 10/12/1898

"*James Rock* (24), of Waterfall Lane, Old Hill, was charged with stealing 2s 6d belonging to *James Albert Leonard Woolven*, of the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES INN, Long Lane, on the 19th ult. Evidence was given to the effect that on the night in question defendant called at his house, and was served with beer. Whilst the barmaid was in another room she heard the jingling of money in the till, and upon going back she missed the 2s 6d. Upon being accused of the theft he returned the money.

He was afterwards arrested by Police-constable Holtom.

The Bench sent defendant to gaol for 21 days with hard labour."

County Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing meeting of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held on Tuesday last....

Benjamin Darby applied for the permission of the Bench to alter his licensed premises at the STAG AND HORSE SHOES, at the top of Mucklow's Hill. The application was adjourned."

County Advertiser 30/9/1899

"Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions....

Mr. Hayes said he applied for the renewal of the license of the STAG AND HORSESHOE INN, the property of *Mr. Benjamin*

Darby, to the owner. Some alterations were proposed to be carried out, and it was adjourned from the Licensing Sessions in order that the justices might view the premises. This had been done, and he now asked for the license to be granted.”

1901 Census

Halesowen Road – STAG INN

- [1] *Benjamin Darby* (45), publican, born Old Hill;
- [2] Lucy Darby (50), wife, born Old Hill;
- [3] Benjamin W. Darby (20), son, born Haden, Staffordshire;
- [4] William W. Darby (19), son, born Haden, Staffordshire;
- [5] Harry W. Darby (17), son, born Haden, Staffordshire;
- [6] Ann Cole (70), visitor, widow, retired publican, born Cinderbank, Worcestershire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1902

“At Halesowen, today, the magistrates had to decide a complicated case under the Licensing Act. In July a farmer, named Jesse Smith, when driving home, after having had drink at the STAG HOTEL, knocked down a child named Ernest Goode, who sustained fatal injuries. Subsequently, at the Staffordshire Assizes, Smith was charged with manslaughter, it being alleged that he was drunk when the accident happened, but the jury acquitted him. *Benjamin Darby*, landlord of the STAG HOTEL, was today charged with permitting Smith to get drunk. Upwards of 20 witnesses were called, the majority of whom stated that Smith was not sober. The justices decided to fine *Darby* £10, including costs, holding that Smith was not sober when he left the hotel.”

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

“On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report

During the past year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows

Benjamin Darby, STAG AND HORSE SHOES INN, Long Lane, permitting drunkenness, fined 20s and costs, £9 5s

He had given notice of his intention to oppose the renewal of the following licenses upon these grounds

Benjamin Darby, STAG AND HORSE SHOES INN, Long Lane, (1) that on the 5th of September, 1902, he was fined £1 and costs for permitting drunkenness on the premises; (2) that there is no necessity for a license for the premises, the requirements of the district being otherwise amply provided for; (3) that he was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with a licence

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the ‘black list’

STAG AND HORSE SHOES INN, Long Lane, kept by *Benjamin Darby*, for whom Mr. E. H. Grove appeared.

Superintendent Sheriff said *Darby* had conducted the house very well since the conviction. He had opened his house to bona fide travellers, but he was careful who he opened it to. No complaints had been made.

Mr. Grove, in asking the Bench to renew the license, said Mr. *Darby* had kept public houses in the locality for over twenty years with only the present complaint against him.

The Bench granted the renewal of the license.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population”

County Advertiser 30/1/1904

“Mr. Thomas Cooksey applied on behalf of the Cheshire Brewery Company for the transfer of the license of the STAG AND HORSE SHOE INN, Long Lane, from *Benjamin Darby* to *Albert Anson*. He submitted agreements to the Bench, and mentioned that the persons were managers of houses, and the agreements provided that a month’s notice should be given on each side.

Mr. Reay remarked that it was customary in that Court to have three months’ notice.

Mr. Cooksey urged that it would be hard upon the owners of the house in the event of getting a bad manager in the house.

Mr. Reay replied that it would be equally hard upon a good manager, and thought the brewery firms ought to run the risk.

Mr. Cooksey said it placed a great deal of power in the hands of managers. He also mentioned that the agreement had been approved by the justices in many other divisions.

Mr. Reay said the Bench could not deviate from their rule, and on Mr. Cooksey promising to alter the agreements to three months’ notice the applications were granted.”

County Advertiser 11/2/1905 - Advert

“STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES (Top Long Lane) Birmingham Road, Halesowen.

Alfred Hill has been instructed by Mr. *Albert Anson* to Sell by Public Auction, on the Premises as above, on Wednesday, the 15th day of February, 1905, the whole of the Live and Dead Stock”

County Advertiser 10/6/1905

“William Whitehouse, landlord of the VINE INN, Whiteheath, and *Albert Anson*, landlord of the STAG AND HORSESHOE HOTEL, Long Lane, applied for extensions of one hour on the 10th, 12th, and 13th insts. The applications were granted.”

Tipton Herald 13/2/1909

“The annual licensing sessions were, on Tuesday, held in the Court House at Halesowen.

Mr. T. Cooksey Jnr asked for the sanction of the Bench to plans for proposed alteration to the STAG AND HORSESHOE, Long Lane, Halesowen.

The Chairman said that as the plans now stood people could not be served with drink in front of the house. Applicants could make that addition and the plans would be passed.”

County Express 3/12/1910

“On Tuesday, at the Police Court, *Robert Anson*, landlord of the STAG AND HORSE SHOES INN, Long Lane, Hill, was charged with assaulting Alfred Astley, of Long Lane, on the 25th ult. Mr. E. B. Beckley (Birmingham) defended.

Complainant stated that whilst he was standing at his door on the night in question defendant came across to him and asked if was going to write to the Brewery Company about him. Witness replied that he was, whereupon defendant said, ‘Take that,’ and struck him a blow in the face, knocking him down. Defendant struck him because he had asked him not to serve a woman named Evans on several occasions.

Replying to Mr. Beckley, witness said it was not true that defendant would not serve him in the house. He denied that he had had a row with the woman before he saw the defendant.

Corroborative evidence was given by Emmie Evans.

Mr. Beckley, on behalf of the defendant, denied the assault, and said defendant had had some trouble with complainant owing to his violent language, and had been compelled to refuse to serve him. On the night in question the woman Evans came into the house, and complained that Astley had assaulted her and knocked her down. Defendant refused to serve her, and hearing some remarks made by the complainant he went over the road to ask him what he meant, when complainant attempted to assault him. Defendant acted in self-defence, and did not use any more force than was necessary for his own protection. Defendant had been a licensed victualler without any complaint, and he asked the Bench to say that what he did was in self-defence.

Evidence in support of this contention was given by defendant and the potman.

The Chairman (the Rev. G. F. Burr) said the Bench agreed that the case must be dismissed.”

A team from here took part in the Langley and District Bowling League. [1912], [1915]

They were winners in 1912 and runners-up in 1915.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/10/1912

“Langley Bowling League. Annual Meeting & Presentation of Prizes.

Representatives of all the teams in connection with the Langley and District Bowling League gathered at the headquarters, QUEENS HOTEL, Londonderry, Oldbury, last evening, the occasion being the presentation of the cup and medals to the successful competitors for the past year. Mr. Howard Kingstone, of the Summit Brewery, Smethwick (president of the league), presided over a large gathering.

The STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES (Quinton) received the cup and medals, whilst the second honours were taken by the VICTORIA (Blackheath), and the spoon winners were the PLOUGH (West Smethwick).”

Birmingham Mail 28/11/1914 - Advert

“General wanted, at once, to live in; good references; between 22-23; no bar work.

Mrs. *Silvester*, STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES, Quinton.”

County Express 10/9/1921

“At the Police Court on Tuesday, Samuel Moseley, of Fennall Road, Harbourne, was fined 20/- for using obscene language on the 22nd ult. PC Wilmot said the offence was committed outside the STAG INN.”

Dudley Herald 9/5/1931

“There were about 50 people present at a cold collation, which celebrated the opening of the bowling green at the STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Cakemore, last Saturday. Mr. W. Cummings (representing Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers) presided, and the officials were elected as follows: President, Mr. Joseph Edwards; treasurer, Mr. J. Wood; captain, Mr. Albert Jones; vice-captain and secretary, Mr. W. Slater. Afterwards Mr. Cummings opened the green and bowled the first ‘wood’ and the members enjoyed a couple of hours play.”

Dudley Herald 18/7/1931

“Albert Frank Harber, 52, Malt Mill Lane, Cakemore (tube worker) was summoned for being drunk and disorderly on July 11th. Sergeant Inight said that at 9.47pm he received a telephone call from the manager of the STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES INN, Hill and Cakemore, to the effect that a disturbance was being caused. He went to the inn with PCs Bradbury and Griffiths. He heard a lot of shouting as he approached, and on entering found the defendant leaning on the bar in a drunken condition. Defendant said, ‘Sergeant! Fourteen men have gone out drunk. I am the only sober one. What do you want?’ Witness asked him to leave the premises and he refused, saying, ‘When I am ready.’ The policemen removed him and when they released him he made a dash to re-enter and witness prevented him from doing so and asked him his name and address. This he refused to give so he arrested the man. On the way to the Police Station he threatened to murder PC Bradbury.

Defendant: If I was drunk, why did the landlord allow me to have a pint of beer? – Sergeant Inight: I can’t answer that.

PCs Bradbury and Griffiths gave corroborative evidence.

Defendant said, ‘When a man pays six pence he should have his beer from the tap and not from a glass of drippings.’ He would

like to know if that was cause enough for a disturbance. He called for a pint and the landlord poured half of it from a glass of drippings and filled it up from the tap. He complained that he would not have it so the landlord and the landlady created about it. He told them he should write to the brewery about such treatment. A fine of 20s was imposed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/2/1936

“Spt. P. Mobbs reported at Halesowen Licensing Sessions yesterday that there had only been one person (a non-resident) convicted of drunkenness during the year, and one man convicted of being in charge of a motor-lorry whilst under the influence of drink. The Chairman (Alderman T. W. Quinney) said he thought that the restriction of hours was one of the greatest influences. He hoped that that would be borne in mind when applications were made for an extension of hours. ‘It speaks for the very high state of the social life here that with a population of 25,000 there was only one case of drunkenness and that of a minor character,’ he added.

Permission was given for rebuilding the STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Hill and Cakemore (Mitchells and Butlers).”

Demolished

Rebuilt

The new building was opened in 1937.

1939 Register

78, Halesowen Road

[1] *Solomon Westwood*, date of birth 29/1/1891, manager licensed house, married;

[2] Edith M. Westwood, dob 7/5/1899, manageress licensed house, married;

[4] Frederick J. Westwood, dob 5/8/1924, assistant, ladies and gents hairdresser, single;

[5] Gertrude Jasper, dob 17/4/1893, bar-general, widowed:

Birmingham Mail 9/2/1940 - Advert

“Bar-General, live in.

Apply or write, STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Hill, Halesowen.”

Evening Despatch 1/10/1940

“Fined £20 at Halesowen today for failing to screen lights at the STAG INN, Halesowen Road, Lapal, of which he is licensee, *Solomon Westwood* was stated by Supt. George to have been given every consideration in the past and had been warned several times, but he was ‘not nice to the officer.’”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/10/1946 - Advert

“Monday, 29th October 1946, at 7pm.

Freehold Modern Residences, with Vacant Possession.

To be offered by Auction by Jack Bowen and Co., at the STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Halesowen Road, Birmingham 32, as above.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/1/1950 - Advert

“Barmaid, full or part-time; also Barman, evenings.

Apply, manager, STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES, Quinton.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/7/1951

“Police enquiries into the murder of seven-year-old Brenda Goddard, who was found strangled in a copse behind her home at Bath on Sunday, switched to the Birmingham area yesterday. Hotels were circulated with the description of a man similar to a person the police wish to interview, after he had been reported in a Quinton public house. Hoteliers were asked to get in touch with the police if a man answering the description applied for accommodation.

Two women passengers on a bus started the CID on a search which led them to a house in Quinton. The women said they had spoken to a tall, young passenger who tallied with a description they had read in the newspapers. He told them he was seeking accommodation and was on his way to the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES at Quinton. Detectives interviewed a barmaid at the hotel and then visited a house at Scrublands Avenue, Quinton. Mrs. Betty Jones, barmaid at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES told the *Birmingham Gazette*.”

[The suspect was not traced.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/7/1952 - Advert

“Bar Help, male required; good refs (evenings only).

Apply STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Quinton.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1958

“Halesowen Road Safety Committee is to ask the Automobile Association to put experimental notices at the STAG, Halesowen Road, Quinton, and at the ROYAL OAK HOTEL, Lapal, diverting Hagley-bound traffic along the new Halesowen by-pass.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/4/1965 - Advert

“Cleaner required six mornings per week, 8am – 11am.
Apply STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Quinton.”

Sports Argus 3/6/1967 - Advert

“An Invitation from the N.C.B. and Bown & Clarke of Kings Heath at Halesowen June 5th to 16th.

Visit the Travelling Showroom and see Solid Fuel in action.

Daily Demonstrations include: Three room heaters of attractive, modern design, all under fire; Various types of smokeless solid fuel; A solid fuel cooker.

Free Offer 10cwt of Sunbrite given with every central heating installation ordered within a month from this exhibition.

Trained staff will be in attendance at all times to give Free advice on the N.C.B. No-Deposit Housewarming Plan and special offers for Fixed Price Packaged Deals Home Heating schemes, at prices to suit your own pocket.

Visit the Travelling Showroom situated at the STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, Halesowen Road, Halesowen.

Open from Monday 5th June, to Friday 16th June. 11.30am – 9pm (Not Saturday and Sunday).”

STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

Sandwell Evening Mail 23/6/1986

“Margaret Nicholas, late of STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES.

Nick and family wish to thank all friends, family and neighbours of Worcester Road, staff, customers, brewers, staff Queen Elizabeth Hospital, nurses and everyone for the most beautiful floral tributes and letters of sympathy in our very sad and tragic loss of Margaret. A very special thank you to all who attended her service.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 17/5/1988

“A Halesowen pub was the setting for a ton-up party as Toby Restaurants celebrated the opening of their 100th Toby Carving Room. The STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES in Halesowen Road, which closed in October, has reopened after undergoing a complete transformation at a cost of over £500,000.

The impressive pub, a well-known landmark on the main A456 into Birmingham, now comprises a traditional bar and lounge as well as an 86-seater Carving Room. There is also a conference room on the first floor which can host meetings of up to 100 delegates.

The original building has been extended at the side and rear and the Carving Room has been designed on a fruit and flower theme. Toby Restaurants, the national chain of Bass which has its head office in Birmingham, have created 40 new jobs with their investment in the STAG. Mr. Martin Gentle, marketing co-ordinator for Toby Restaurants, said that Toby Carving Rooms offered traditional food, excellent quality and outstanding value for money.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 22/7/1988 - Advert

“STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES, part time bar staff wanted. M/F, evenings/weekends, no experience necessary. Contact the Manager. Tel. 422 2176.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 28/1/1993 - Advert

“2 for a Tenner at Toby Restaurants.

For a limited period only you can enjoy two great offers at your local Toby Restaurant.

At Toby Carving Rooms we are offering two Soup and Carvery meals for only £10! A selection of roasts are available, and you can help yourself to a wide variety of freshly cooked seasonal vegetables.

At Toby Grills you can choose two 2 course meals, to include a main course plus a starter or dessert from the menu (see below) for only £10!

There's never been a better time to visit your local Toby. Simply cut out the vouchers below and make your reservation now!

Offers available at Carving Rooms STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES, Halesowen Road, Halesowen.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 16/5/1994

“Fruit machine bandits raided two pubs in Halesowen early today. They took £500 from the BLACK HORSE and an unknown amount from the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES.”

Daily Mirror 4/6/1998

“Free Pint of Carling.

With just six days to go before the World Cup kick-off your soccer-loving *Mirror* is buying you a drink. We've a Free pint of Carling to get you into the mood for the great Vive Le Football pub opening parties across the nation. Our friends at Bass Leisure Retail are offering every reader over 18 a free pint of Carling to get things off to a flying start today.....

Where to get your Free pint.....

STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES, Halesowen Road, Halesowen.”

Halesowen News 16/8/2007

“A popular Halesowen pub is set to host a weekend of celebrations to toast its 70th birthday. The STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES pub on Halesowen Road has been serving the local community since the 1930s. To celebrate, the pub will host a Buggy

Malone themed evening on Friday August 17. On Saturday August 18, a pool tournament will be held, with a gallon of beer for the winner. Also a free drink or pudding will be available at lunchtime for those born in the 1930s. The celebrations culminate on Sunday August 19 with an 'old fete' themed day with stalls and games, a balloon race, coconut shy, beat the goalie and a barbecue. The U14's football team, Halesowen Stags, will be washing cars on Sunday to raise funds to score a place at the David Beckham Academy in London."

Halesowen News 30/7/2009

"Former Leasowes High pupils met up for a reunion at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES in Halesowen. Around 50 people who left the school in Kent Road, Halesowen, in 1989 met up. Attendee Andrea Boyt said, 'A fantastic evening was had by all, with many old faces and lots of memories shared.' Another reunion will be held next year at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES on Saturday September 11. A group has been set up on Facebook called Leasowes high school-leavers year 1989 contact group."

Halesowen News 9/9/2010

"Pub worker Caroline Evans from Halesowen's the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES in Halesowen has been voted regional winner of The Sizzle Factor, a nationwide contest to find Sizzling Pub Co team members who go the extra mile. With more than 10,000 votes cast nationwide, Caroline has been named one of 13 regional winners and awarded £100 in Red Letter Day vouchers. She will now be entered into a national final to win £1,000. The Sizzle Factor is a competition open to all Sizzling team members, with customers voting for sizzling service and an excellent customer experience.

Caroline said, 'I'm so proud to be chosen as winner of The Sizzle Factor for our area. It means a lot that customers at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES value my service; it makes my job so much more worthwhile. I'm really looking forward to the national final and just hope that everyone keeps voting.'"

Halesowen News 30/3/2013

"A reunion is being organised for former apprentices of a Quinton company who worked there during the 1950s. It is hoped the get-together at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES pub, Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, later this month will attract up to 60 ex Birmetals trainees. Organiser Jim Harris said several small scale reunions had been held over the years of the apprentices from the well-known Woodgate factory. There will be a lunch at the event on Monday April 29."

Halesowen News 12/10/2017

"A three-year-old Leukaemia fighter was honoured at the reopening of a Halesowen pub which has undergone an extensive remodel. The STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES had intended to announce its reopening by having Josh Layton to officially cut the ceremonial ribbon at the new look pub. However, the youngster was unable to attend due to illness, so the Halesowen Road pub dedicated the opening ceremony to him, with general manager *Emma Challoner* cutting the ribbon in his place.

Emma said, 'We're so pleased at how brilliant the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES looks following the refurbishment, and it was a shame Josh couldn't come to cut the ceremonial ribbon for us. Josh is the nephew of Tracy, one of our team members here at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES, and we couldn't think of anyone better to have the honour of reopening the pub. His positive attitude is such an inspiration and he has the most lovely, heart-warming smile, so naturally we wanted him to have his special day.'

The pub and its staff are already planning a host of fundraising events and activities in the upcoming months, aiming to raise money and awareness in support of Joshua. *Emma* added, 'Although he couldn't attend this time we're sure he'll be back for one of our upcoming fundraising events. We've been fundraising to support Josh and Birmingham Children's Hospital, where he receives his treatment, since he was diagnosed last Christmas. So far, we've raised in the region of around £1,500 from various events and activities, and with more in the pipeline we're committed to doing our bit to support this cause that is close to everyone here at the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES.'"

Halesowen News 10/11/2020

"Two men have been jailed for a total of more than six years after causing 'heartache' for under-pressure businesses by burgling a number of shops and pubs including two in Halesowen and Oldbury. Noel Lacey, of West Heath, and David Hodges, from Selly Park, struck at several firms in a two-month crime spree from July to September. The pair were found guilty of burglaries at the BULLS HEAD pub in Oldbury on August 27 and The Toby Jug in Rubery on September 24. They also robbed the Phantom Coach pub in Coventry on September 28 and the Castle pub in Droitwich a day later. Additionally, Hodges was charged with three other burglaries – at Travis Perkins in Bromsgrove on July 21, Jewsons in Bromsgrove and the STAG AND THREE HORSESHOES pub in Halesowen, both on August 12. Both were also charged with taking a vehicle without consent while Hodges was also charged with other motoring offences. Lacey received 32 months in custody and Hodges four years.

Detective Inspector Dave Knight of West Mercia Police said, 'This series of burglaries in the Midlands area has brought heartache and serious disruption to a number of businesses. This has been exacerbated by the pressure these businesses are already feeling at the minute due to Covid. I hope these charges reinforce how seriously we take these sorts of offences and serve as a message to those that would bring crime to the Worcestershire area. Don't bother.'"

STAR

44, Little Cornbow, (Great Cornbow), (Peckingham Street), (Bull Ring), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Grove [1850]
George Graham [1855] – **1859**;
Benjamin Grove (**1859** – [1892]
Albert Henry Flavell [1896]
William Grainger [1897] – [1912]
George Grainger [1916] – [1921]
Joseph Arthur G Turner [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

Cornbow [1871], [1896]
Cornbow Street [1873]
Bull Ring [1873], [1907], [1909]
Peckingham Street [1874], [1891], [1897], [1898], [1901], [1902], [1903], [1904], [1905], [1907], [1915], [1940]
Little Cornbow [1881], [1901], [1938], [1939]
44, Little Cornbow [1911], [1912]
Great Cornbow [1966]

STAR AND GARTER [1867], [1871], [1880]
STAR [1884], [1888], [1896], [1912]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/5/1853

“Groves of Hales Owen, is willing to make a match at 400 yards for £20 a side, with Hill, of Lye Waste. The match can be made any time on application to the former, at the STAR, Hales Owen.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/5/1859

“J. Garratt and J. Stokes have staked £1 each to run 300 yards, on a fair turnpike road (place not yet mentioned), for £10 a side, on Whit Tuesday. They meet at *Ben Grove's*, STAR INN, Hales Owen, to make it £3 a side tomorrow (Monday) evening.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/11/1860

“On Tuesday week J. White of Halesowen and E. Harrison of Dudley met and contended on a well-known spot about 15 miles from Halesowen, for £10 a side. On assuming the defensive it was at once seen that both were well accustomed to the use of their mawleys. White was most active on his pins. Harrison showed most science. After fighting 103 rounds in two hours and five minutes, Harrison was obliged to give in, and White was hailed the winner. The money is to be sent to J. White, at *B. Grove's*, STAR INN, Halesowen.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/7/1861

“White of Halesowen and Parkenson of Oldbury.

These men, it will be recollected, contended at catch weight for £15 a side, near Solly Oak, within a short distance of Birmingham, on the 10th July last, and whilst the fight was progressing the police made a sudden appearance, and captured both men, who were bound over for twelve months to keep the peace. Under these circumstances the men have waited upon our correspondent at Birmingham, and stated that they wish to draw the battle money in our hands, as there is no chance of bringing it to a satisfactory conclusion. White's money is to be sent to *Ben Groves*, STAR INN, Halesowen, and Parkenson's to J. Arnold, the WELCOME STRANGER, Oldbury Lane, Westbromwich.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 14/7/1866

“Young Bowers of Halesowen will run Devons of the Fiveways, Cradley Heath, from 120 to 150 yards, for £5 or £10 a side; or Foxall of Quarry Bank 150 yards, for the same amount. Money ready at *B. Groves's*, STAR INN, Halesowen, any night next week.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/5/1867

“J. Withers of Halesowen, not being satisfied with his late defeat with W. Parsons of Halesowen, will fight him again, for from £5 up to £25 a side, at his own time; or he will fight Cock Homer of Cradley Heath, for from £10 to £25 a side, Parson preferred.

Money ready any time at *Ben Grove's*, STAR AND GARTER INN, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 16/10/1869 - Advert

“STAR INN, Halesowen.

To be Let, the above well-known, Old-licensed Public House, now doing a good in and out-door trade. The house has been in the hands of the present occupier for eleven years. May be entered upon immediately. Fixtures to be taken to at valuation. Coming-in low.

Apply to *Benjamin Grove*, at the above Inn.”

1871 Census

Cornbow – STAR AND GARTER

- [1] *Benjamin Grove* (42), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Eliza Grove (50), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] Eliza Hipkiss (15), general servant, domestic, born Halesowen;
- [4] Eliza M. Grove (4), grand-daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 30/8/1873

“On Monday, at a meeting of Essex hurdle, woolding, and cooler nailmakers, held at Mr. *Benjamin Grove's*, STAR INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, it was unanimously resolved to give notice to the nail-masters for an advance of 10 per cent on all sizes of Essex hurdle, woolding (woolding to be made at the same price as the Essex hurdle) and cooler. The advance to take place on the 6th of September, 1873. If not paid on that date a strike will take place on the 8th for a 23 per cent advance. The yield to be as follows: all of the above kinds of nails under the size of 20 to be 50; all above 51lbs to the bundle.”

County Express 24/1/1874 - Advert

“East Worcestershire Election. Halesowen Polling District.

Mr. Allsopp's Committee will meet at *Benjamin Grove's*, STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, on Monday evening next, at 7 o'clock.

All Electors supporting Mr. Allsopp are invited to attend.”

County Advertiser 8/12/1877

“On Monday, Mr. R. Docker, coroner, held an inquest at the STAR INN, Halesowen, touching the death of a child named Sarah Ann Perry (3), whose parents live in Birmingham Street. From the evidence given, it appeared that on the previous Tuesday night the girl was put to bed, and her mother left a lamp burning outside the door of her room, as she was apt to be nervous when left in the dark. Her mother had occasion to leave the house for a few minutes, and during her absence a neighbour heard the child screaming. She ran into the house and found the deceased wrapped in flames. She was badly burned on the body and head, and notwithstanding the attendance of Mr. Phillips, surgeon, death resulted.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Advertiser 12/4/1879

“On Monday Mr. R. Docker opened at the STAR INN, Halesowen, an inquest touching the death of Alfred Rudge, aged 2 years, the illegitimate child of Helen Rudge and John Wood, labourer, Birmingham Street. It appeared that last week the child's mother gave it a fever powder in order to allay feverish symptoms, and as it became much worse on Wednesday afternoon she purchased from a local chemist a pennyworth of a liquid known as 'brown mixture,' a portion of which sent the child to sleep apparently easier. Shortly afterwards, however, it was taken with convulsions, and though Mr. Philips's assistant was called in and applied restoration, it died about eight o'clock the same night.

Evidence was given by the mother, and the Coroner then adjourned the inquiry till Friday next, in order that a post mortem examination might be made.”

County Express 26/4/1879

“The adjourned inquest on the body of Alfred Rudge, an infant, whose parents live in Birmingham Street, was held at the STAR INN, Halesowen, on Wednesday morning last. It will be remembered that at the last inquiry it was stated that the child being ill its mother had purchased a pennyworth of brown mixture from the shop of Mrs. Adams, chemist. The child shortly after taking the mixture was seized with convulsions and died.

Dr. Swete, of Worcester, county analyst, now attended, and stated that he had analysed the contents of the stomach of the deceased and other parts of his body, and found traces of opium poisoning. He also stated that the immediate cause of the death was consistent with poisoning by opium.

Mary Elizabeth Adams, chemist, was the woman who supplied the brown mixture.

The Coroner summed up, pointing out that Mrs. Adams had admitted in her evidence that she had misunderstood the mother when she applied for the medicine. She understood that she applied for a quantity for an adult person instead of a child, but on finding out the mistake she did all she could to remedy it by administering castor oil. The point for the jury to consider was whether Mrs. Adams brought herself under the criminal law.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the child Alfred Rudge's death was inadvertently caused by medicine supplied by Mrs. Adams, of Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/12/1880

“At Bromsgrove Petty Sessions yesterday.....

George Read and Edward Moore, navvies, on remand, were charged with uttering a counterfeit half-crown at the STAR INN, Hales Owen, on the 11th, and a counterfeit florin at the CROSS INN, Hales Owen, on the same day; and with uttering a counterfeit florin at the Cross Inn, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove, on the 13th; and Read was further charged with being in possession of forty-eight half-crowns and forty florins, all counterfeit, at Bromsgrove, on the 19th.

The charges were proved by a number of witnesses, and the prisoners were remanded to Worcester gaol for a week for the Mint authorities to be communicated with. They were also remanded upon a charge of stealing a coat, the property of *John White*, of the CROSS INN, Hales Owen, on the 11th inst.”

Worcester Journal 1/1/1881

“George Read and Edward Moore were committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions, on the charges heard last week, of uttering counterfeit coin at Halesowen and Bromsgrove; the charge of stealing a coat at Halesowen being withdrawn.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 8/1/1881

“Worcestershire Epiphany Quarter Sessions.

George Read (30) labourer, and Edward Moore (26), labourer, were indicted for uttering counterfeit coin, and having in their possession eighty-eight pieces of counterfeit coin. Mr. Graham Wells prosecuted. Read pleaded guilty. On December 11th, Read went to the STAR INN, Halesowen, and tendered a half-crown. The two prisoners were afterwards seen together. Late in the same day Moore went to the CROSS INN, Halesowen, called for ale, and offered a florin in payment. Moore went in again with Read about a quarter of an hour afterwards. On December 13th Read went to the Golden Cross Inn, Marlbrook, Bromsgrove, and offered a bad florin in payment for beer. Moore was with him. Mr. Howard, the landlord, went after the prisoners, and found them together near the Hop Pole Inn, Bromsgrove. PC Beardsmore went with Mr. Howard and apprehended Read. Moore got away, but was afterwards captured. In Read's pocket the constable found 48 bad half-crowns, and 48 bad florins. Read told PC Beale that he gave 4s for 20s (full value) for the bad money. Moore told the court that he had been led away by Read. They were each sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.”

1881 Census

Little Cornbow – STAR INN

[1] *Benjamin Grove* (52), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Eliza Grove* (60), wife, born Harborne;

[3] *Mary Ann Davis* (23), general servant, born Quarry Bank:

Dudley and District News 20/8/1881

“A meeting of nailers' delegates was held on Monday, at the STAR INN, Halesowen, Mr. John Price presiding. The following districts were represented: Rolwey, Oldswinford, Bromsgrove, Lye Waste, Blackheath, Old Hill, Gorsty Hill, Halesowen. The chairman stated that he had ascertained that some of the masters in the Rowley, Netherton, and Darby End districts were quite willing to pay the price demanded; but he still advised the operatives to wait until a masters' meeting was called for the settlement of the wages question upon a permanent basis. He regretted to find that some of the men in the Halesowen district who went in on Saturday, when they came to weigh their nails, were offered by some of the masters 10 per cent less than the list promised. (Shame.)

He was afraid this course would be adopted by many of the employers if the operatives were allowed to return to work before all the masters had agreed to pay the January 1879 list.....”

Dudley and District News 3/9/1881

“A meeting of nailers' delegates was held on Monday afternoon, at the STAR INN, Halesowen, to consider the advisability of forming a union to embrace all the districts of East Worcestershire and Staffordshire. The following districts were represented: Bromsgrove, Sedgley, Gornal, Halesowen, Old Hill, Netherton, Windmill End, Rowley, Old Swinford, Blackheath, Gorsty Hill, Darby End, Haysich, Lye Waste, and Long Lane. The Rev. Arthur O'Neill, of Birmingham, was present.

Mr. John Price presided, and stated that he was grieved to find that after the wages question had been settled at the meeting of masters in Birmingham, one of the masters in the Halesowen district objected to pay the list price. He recommended that the people in the employ of this master should be put on strike until he agreed to pay the proper price for his work. (Hear, hear.) The Lye Waste Delegate moved a vote of thanks to the employers, coupling with it the name of Mr. George Green. This was carried unanimously.....”

Evening Express 26/10/1881

“A meeting of nailers was held at the STAR INN, Halesowen, on Monday, Mr. Price presiding.

Delegates were present from Halesowen, Lye Waste, Oldswinford, Old Hill, Rowley, Blackheath, Long Lane, Haysich, Netherton, &c. Addresses were delivered by Councillor Davis, of Birmingham, and others, pointing out the benefits of unionism, and that the efforts of all well-regulated organisations were devoted to the extinction and not creation of those unhappy conflicts they had so painfully experienced. All present were favourable to a general amalgamation.

After a long debate, it was moved by Mr. Hackett (Halesowen), and seconded by Mr. Edward Hadley (Blackheath), ‘That the meeting be adjourned until that day fortnight, at Mr. Chapman's, Halesowen Street, Blackheath, the delegates in the meantime to report to their districts.’”

1891 Census

Old Cross – STAR HOTEL

- [1] *Benjamin Grove* (62), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Ellen Grove* (48), wife, born Madeley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Emily Grove* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Florence Grove* (9), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *William Grove* (7), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Charles Grove* (5), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Maria Cross* (20), general servant, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Mail 17/8/1891

“This morning a meeting of nailers’ delegates was held at the STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Hales Owen, to consider the wages question.”

County Advertiser 5/11/1892 - Advert

“The STAR INN, Halesowen.

On Sale, by Private Contract, the above-mentioned very Old-Established and Fully-Licensed Inn, most centrally situated in Peckingham Street, Halesowen, in the occupation of Mr. *Benjamin Grove*. The Present Tenant has carried on a most Respectable and Profitable Business for nearly a Quarter of a Century. Possession may be had at Michaelmas, 1893.

Also the adjoining House and Furniture Shop fronting to Peckingham Street and the Bull Ring, in the occupation of Mr. Frederick Oliver. Possession can be had at Christmas, 1893.

For particulars apply to Holbeche and Addenbrooks, Solicitors, Sutton Coldfield; or William Corbett, Painter, New Street, Cradley.”

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *Albert Henry Flavell*, STAR INN, Cornbow, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for.

In the cases of *Albert Flavell* the objections of the police remained good, and these were postponed until the 20th inst, when the adjourned Sessions will be held.”

County Advertiser 3/10/1896

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held on Tuesday.

Inspector Raybould said that in the cases of *Alfred [sic] Flavell* the structural alterations required had been carried out, and he, therefore, withdrew his objections to the renewal of the licenses.

The licenses were renewed to the applicants.”

County Express 2/10/1897

“On the application of Mr. Hayes an interim authority was granted to *William Grainger*, for the STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen.”

London Gazette 17/6/1898

“*Albert Henry Flavell*, formerly carrying on business at the STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, now residing at Queen Street, Halesowen aforesaid, formerly innkeeper, now insurance agent.”

William Grainger = William Granger

1901 Census

Little Cornbow – STAR INN

- [1] *William Grainger* (35), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phoebe Grainger* (36), wife, born Lye;
- [3] *George Grainger* (17), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Clifford Grainger* (13), son, lathe minder in steel tube works, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Captain Grainger* (10), son, born Halesowen:

Worcestershire Chronicle 29/6/1901 - Advert

“Good General Servant, one used to Public-house preferred.

Mrs. *Grainger*, STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 7/9/1901 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale of Dutch Flowering Bulbs, including Tulips, Crocuses, Narcissus, &c.

Messrs. Cooper and Hill will hold their Annual sales as follows:

ANCHOR HOTEL, Cradley Heath. Tuesday, 17th September, 1901.

STAR HOTEL, Halesowen. Wednesday 18th September, 1901.

HANDEL HOTEL, Blackheath. Friday, 20th September, 1901.

Sale to commence at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

Catalogues may be obtained from the Offices of the Auctioneers, Halesowen, Cradley Heath, and Blackheath.”

County Express 5/10/1901

“Henry Hampton, of Romsley, was charged with leaving his horse and trap an unreasonable time on September 30th.

Police-constable Owen said the horse and trap was unattended outside the STAR HOTEL for 30 minutes.

Defendant was ordered to pay the costs, 6s 6d.”

County Advertiser 1/2/1902

“Clifford *Grainger* (14), of the STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with assaulting Abel Partridge, an elderly man, of Birmingham Street, Halesowen, on the 12th inst. Mr. Hayes defended.

Complainant said that at 10-20pm on the 12th inst, he was going along Peckingham Street in the direction of home when he saw four men fighting in the road. He went up towards them to see what was the matter, when the defendant rushed at him twice with a poker, each blow knocking him to the ground.

Cross-examined: Witness admitted having been many times convicted in that Court, but he contended that did not affect the case.

Mr. Hayes, for the defence, called the defendant, who denied having assaulted the complainant in the manner described. He was not closer than six yards to the complainant the whole of the time the quarrel was on.

The Bench dismissed the case.”

County Advertiser 1/3/1902

“The following persons were fined for being drunk and disorderly in the highway.

William Grainger, STAR INN, Halesowen (Police-constable Owen), 20s and costs.”

[The other four persons were fined either 2s 6d and costs or 5s and costs.]

County Advertiser 20/12/1902

“On Thursday morning Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, touching the death of Joseph Coley (76), labourer, of Little Cornbow, who died from injuries received by being knocked down by a horse.

The evidence showed that on Monday deceased, accompanied by Joseph Lowe, walked from Halesowen to Lapal. When close to the Lapal canal tunnel, a horse, ridden by William Hodgetts, a youth living at Birmingham, was startled by a rush of water from the canal, took fright, and ran away. The rider, having lost control of the animal, the deceased attempted to stop it as it passed. He failed to do so, however, was knocked down, and killed almost instantly, his skull being fractured. The animal galloped on for nearly a mile before it was pulled up.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and handed their fees to the family of the deceased, the Foreman remarking that they considered the old man sacrificed his life in attempting to save that of the youth, whom he imagined to be in danger. It was also stated that the owner of the horse had given a donation towards the funeral expenses.”

County Advertiser 7/2/1903

“*William Grainger*, landlord of the STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was summoned under the Child Messenger Act with supplying a lad under the age of fourteen with less than a pint of beer on the 25th of January. Mr. A. G. Hayes appeared to defend.

Police-sergeant Price stated that at 9-20 on the night in question, he saw a lad named Harry Andrews leaving the defendant's premises with a bottle of beer which was properly sealed. Witness stopped the lad, and found that it contained half-a-pint of beer. He took the lad back to the house and asked defendant how he accounted for serving him. Defendant denied having supplied the lad, but upon asking the servant she admitted that she had served him. In reply to Mr. Hayes witness said the bottle was properly sealed. *Grainger* appeared to know nothing of the affair until he called the servant in.

Mr. Hayes said his instructions were that on the night in question defendant was serving in the tap room, and knew nothing about the offence until the officer called his attention to it. The servant girl had been in defendant's employ for about three months, and he could not deny that she served the lad with half-a-pint of beer, but the bottle was properly sealed. Defendant had kept the house for six years, and there was no previous conviction against him. As this was the first case under a new Act, and the offence was only of a trivial nature, he urged the Bench to dismiss the case on payment of costs. Under the new Licensing Act the convictions had to be registered, and he urged the Bench not to impose such a penalty upon the defendant. The police had no previous complaint against the defendant.

Grainger gave evidence to the effect that he knew nothing of the matter until the officer brought the lad back to the house.

Sir Benjamin Hingley said the Bench must convict, and fine the defendant, although a small penalty would be imposed.

Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs, amounting in all to 11s.

William Andrews, of Little Cornbow, Halesowen, grandfather of Harry Andrews, was summoned for sending the lad to obtain

the intoxicant. Defendant pleaded guilty, and after evidence had been given by Police-sergeant Price, he was fined 2s 6d and the costs, amounting in all to 6s 6d.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 26/9/1903 - Advert

“General Servant (good); one used to public-house preferred.

Mrs. *Grainger*, STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 13/2/1904

“On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.

During the year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows.

3rd of January, 1903, *William Grainger*, STAR INN, Halesowen, Child Messenger Act, fined 2s 6d and 8s 6d costs.”

County Advertiser 19/3/1904

“On Monday night, a smoking concert in connection with the Trafalgar Wreath Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners, was held at the STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, for the purpose of initiating Mr. R. T. Pearson as an honorary member of the order.”

County Advertiser 8/10/1904

“James Allen, of Cornbow, Halesowen, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, on the 17th ult.

William Grainger, the landlord, stated that on the night in question defendant came into his house, and had only been in a few minutes when he commenced to quarrel with some of the other customers. Witness then requested him to leave, but he refused to go for some time.

Defendant urged that he left the house as soon as he was requested.

The Bench decided to dismiss the case.”

County Advertiser 29/7/1905

“*William Grainger*, landlord of the STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness upon his premises on the 13th inst, and Louisa Withers, a married woman, of Summer Hill, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk whilst upon the premises. Mr. J. S. Sharpe appeared to prosecute on behalf of the chief constable, whilst Mr. A. G. Hayes defended *Grainger* and Mr. E. H. Grove defended Withers.

It appeared from the evidence for the prosecution that the proceedings were taken under singular circumstances. It was alleged that on the date named Annie Howard, a servant girl employed by Mrs. *Grainger*, having heard that she was suspected of having marked money in her possession, left the hotel in order to tell a friend named Eliza Davies of the allegation made against her. Subsequently both women paid a visit to the house, where it was alleged they found Mrs. Withers drunk in one of the rooms. Mrs. Davies left the hotel, and meeting Police-constable Payne informed him of what she had seen. The officer at once proceeded to the house and upon entering found Mrs. Withers very drunk and sitting upon the knee of a married man. The officer drew the attention of Mrs. *Grainger* to the fact that Mrs. Withers was drunk, but Mrs. *Grainger* denied that she was, although she told the woman to leave the premises.

Evidence in support of the charges was given by Police-constable Payne, Annie Howard, Eliza Davies, and Inspector Brazier. The defence was a denial that Mrs. Withers was drunk, or that she was permitted to remain upon the premises. It was also urged that there was animosity on the part of the two police witnesses against defendant’s wife, and that they had told lies in order to have revenge upon Mrs. *Grainger*. Defendants gave evidence denying the charges.

Mrs. Withers denied that she was upon the premises between twelve o’clock and four o’clock on the date in question.

Joseph Parsons, a fishmonger, who said that he traded as Williams, stated that Mrs. Withers was not drunk. He denied that Mrs. Withers was sitting upon his knee when the policeman entered. He did not like heavy women to sit upon his knee.

Other witnesses supported the contention for the defence, and the case lasted about five hours.

After deliberating in private, Mr. Reay said the Bench had given considerable attention to the case, which was a very important one. There had been some very awful hard swearing, and it was difficult to know which was telling the truth. They would give both defendants the benefit of the doubt, but the Bench considered that the police were perfectly justified in bringing the case before the Court.”

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday.

Superintendent Hill, in his annual report to the justices, stated that.

The following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as stated.

On the 25th July, 1905, *William Grainger*, STAR INN, Halesowen, was summoned for permitting drunkenness, the case being dismissed.”

County Advertiser 13/4/1907

“An application was made by *William Grainger*, landlord of the STAR INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, for permission to make structural alterations at the premises.

Mr. Howard said the Bench had considered the plans, but were opposed to an entrance at the back of the house. He asked whether

a guarantee would be given to brick this up. The owner of the house declined to do this, remarking that quite as much business was done at the back as at the front. Mr. Howard replied that this was just what the Bench did not approve of. Ultimately the application was granted on condition that the back entrance was used only for domestic purposes.”

County Advertiser 15/6/1907

“*William Grainger*, landlord of the STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was summoned for cruelly ill-treating a horse by beating it with a stick on the 5th inst. Mr. A. G. Hayes defended.

Police-constable Hughes stated he saw defendant driving a horse and vehicle at Dog Kennel Lane. When about half way down the road the horse jibbed and refused to go on. Defendant then commenced to beat it with a stick. After some persuasion the horse was induced to go another short distance. Again defendant struck the animal with a stick. Witness spoke to defendant, and told him that he must not beat the horse in that manner. Defendant then took the horse home. Witness and Inspector Brazier afterwards visited the defendant’s premises to examine the horse. They found the animal in poor condition, and marked by eight wheals.

Mr. Hayes submitted that there was no case for him to answer, but the Bench were against him on that point.

Mr. Hayes then contended that there was no evidence to show that his client had treated the animal badly.

Several witnesses were called for the defence, but the Bench considered the case was proved, and fined defendant 10s and costs, £1 0s 6d.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter’s Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

County Express 8/8/1908

“A dinner in connection with the Trafalgar Wreath lodge of the Lye District of the National Order of Free Gardeners was held on Monday, at the Lodge house, the STAR HOTEL, Halesowen. A large number of members sat down to an excellent dinner provided by the host, Mr. *W. Grainger*. After the cloth was drawn Br. T. Hartshorne presided.....”

Tipton Herald 13/2/1909

“The annual licensing sessions were, on Tuesday, held in the Court House at Halesowen.....

Superintendent Hill presented his annual report.....

An order of the Court made in respect of the STAR INN, Bull Ring, had not been complied with. A door that ought only to have been used for domestic purposes had been used by the public.....

William Grainger, of the STAR INN, Bull Ring, Halesowen, applied for a renewal of his license.

Mr. J. Wright (solicitor) explained that *Grainger* had no intention of disregarding the order of the Court. He had posted a notice in the house respecting the door, and done all he could to keep it for private use.

Mr. *Grainger* said that he had had the door bolted, and so far as he knew it had been used only for domestic purposes. His trade had considerably reduced in consequence of the order. Still, if the Bench desired, he was prepared to have a lock put on the door.

The Chairman: The plans were passed subject to the door not being used by the public.

Mr. *Grainger*: It has not been used, sir.

The Chairman: The police say it has. The order of the court must be obeyed. If you keep using the door it is highly probable your license will be refused.

Applicant: It has not been used to my knowledge by the customers. It has been used for domestic purposes only.

The Chairman: Obviously it has been used by the customers. What steps can you take to ensure the order being carried out in the future?

Applicant: I will try to comply with the order.

Mr. Wright: I think, sir, there has been some misapprehension respecting the order.

The Chairman: You will take this as a caution.”

County Express 8/1/1910 - Advert

“Wanted for the New Year, Thousands to call and see ‘Kelly’; he won’t lie down.

Grainger, STAR HOTEL, Halesowen.”

County Express 10/9/1910 - Advert

“General (good); about 20.

Grainger, STAR HOTEL, Halesowen.”

1911 Census

44, Little Cornbow

- [1] *W. Granger* (48), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *P. Granger* (48), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Captain Granger* (20), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Bertha Bannfith* (22), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Express 6/5/1911 - Advert

“General, assist at bar.

Mrs. Grainger, STAR HOTEL, Halesowen.”

County Express 16/12/1911 - Advert

“Pigs (fat, 21) 4 to 7 scores, hand or weight; also 7 Horses, from £4 to £30; owner giving up.

Grainger, STAR HOTEL, Halesowen.”

George Grainger was also a brewer. [1912], [1916]

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1915

“At the licensing sessions at Hales Owen, yesterday, Superintendent A. Pass reported an increase of 11 persons convicted for drunkenness during the past year, six of whom were non-residents of the vagrant type.....

The renewal of the FORGE INN, Dudley Road, and STAR HOTEL, Peckingham Street, objected to on the ground of previous convictions, and the PLOUGH AND HARROW, Rumbow, on the ground of redundancy, were deferred until the adjourned sessions.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/3/1938

“Halesowen Licensing Justices yesterday.....

The license of the STAR INN, Little Cornbow, Halesowen, was also renewed.”

1939 Register

Little Cornbow – STAR INN

- [1] *Joseph A. G. Turner*, date of birth 21/7/1893, manager of licensed house, married;
- [2] *May D. (Turner) Jordan*, dob 19/3/1905, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Geoffrey A. Turner*, dob 28/4/1925, junior draftsman, aluminium rolling mill, single;

Evening Despatch 29/10/1940

“Stated to have been previously warned by the police *Joseph Arthur Turner*, licensee of the STAR INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was fined £10 with £2 2s special costs at Halesowen today for aiding and abetting in the consumption of beer on his premises during non-permitted hours.

On this occasion, *Herbert Tolley*, of 60, Bromfield Street, Hawne, was seen by police officers in the lounge of the inn at 10.15pm drinking from a glass of beer.

Tolley was fined £1 with £1 1s costs for consuming.

The defence was that the beer was served before 10 o'clock and the licensee was not aware that it had not been consumed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/7/1965

“A Halesowen solicitor, *Mr. H. B. Keight*, is looking for premises to turn into a coffee bar for young people, and tonight the borough council is being recommended to ask him if the STAR INN, a disused public-house at Cornbow, would be suitable.

The council is buying the premises which will not need to be demolished for several years.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/12/1965

“On January 6 the old STAR INN, Halesowen, is to open its doors again to the public, but to sell coffee, tea, and soft drinks.

It has been taken over by a volunteer committee, and last night a group went to start cleaning it up, to be met on the doorstep by teenagers offering to help.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/10/1966

“Idleness and a lack of purpose are among the accusations often levelled at teenagers. Yet Halesowen's unique coffee-bar experiment has shown that young people are willing and eager to work hard and accept responsibility.

Naturally, when a committee of local business people took over the derelict STAR INN, at Great Cornbow, Halesowen, nine months ago to turn it into a coffee-bar for teenagers, they wondered with some trepidation what the outcome would be.

The intervening months have shown that the Star Coffee-Bar is meeting a demand; the young people who collect there four nights a week have shown such enthusiasm and resourcefulness that today they virtually run the place, with the adult committee keeping a parental eye on things at a discreet distance.

Undoubtedly the piece-de-resistance is the cellar which has been adapted as a special clubroom, to be called The Club-a-Go-Go.

It is being officially opened by the Mayor, *Coun. R. J. Bird*, on November 4.

Further modernisation is planned. The upstairs assembly room may be turned into a dance hall – but more money is needed.”

STAR AND GARTER

82, Birmingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Joseph Rudge (acquired in 1901 for £1,550)

LICENSEES

Stephen Bullock [1846] – [1850]
Joseph Willetts [1851] – [1860]
William Partridge [] – **1870**;
Henry Hall (**1870** – [1876])
Charles Loynes [1875] – [1877]
Joab Hipkiss [1880] – [1888]
Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Hipkiss [1891] – [1896]
Joab Hipkiss [1896] – [1897]
George Smith (**1900** – [1912])
Misses Annie and Lily Smith (**1915** – [1916])
Horace Harrold [1921]

NOTES

STAR [1852], [1855], [1864], [1865], [1876]

Birmingham Street [1865]
Cornbow Street [1873]

Worcester Journal 23/7/1846

“Summer Assizes.

Samuel Attwood, 59, nailor was first placed at the bar on a charge of uttering three counterfeit shillings, at Halesowen, on the 16th of March last, to one Jane Bullock; the indictment further charged him with having previously being convicted at the Stafford Assizes of a similar offence. Mr. F. V. Lee, and Mr. Selfe conducted the prosecution; the prisoner was undefended.

The record of the prisoner’s previous conviction was handed in by Mr. James Powell, assistant solicitor to the Mint, who was called by Mr. Lee, for that purpose, after which Alice Hall was called and examined by Mr. Lee. She deposed that on the 16th March last, the prisoner came to her master’s house, the STAR AND GARTER public-house, Halesowen, and in payment for a quart of ale tendered a counterfeit shilling which she took to her mistress, who told prisoner it was a bad one, and he gave her another which was also a bad one, and she said to him, ‘Why, my man, you have got none but bad ones.’ He then gave her another, which was also bad; all these he took from a piece of blue paper in which he had seven or eight more. He then endeavoured to conceal the lot, but dropped them on a man’s lap near him, and policeman Robinson was sent for; the prisoner then left the house. Jane *Bullock*, the prosecutrix, examined by Mr. Selfe, corroborated the statement of last witness, and said that on biting the first shilling she detected it was a spurious one.

John Hall, nailor, of Halesowen, picked up the shillings which were dropped by the prisoner into his lap; these he gave to policeman Robinson, who was sent for to apprehend him.

Policeman Robinson produced the bad money, and said he apprehended the prisoner, when he told the officer he had never been to Bullock’s, but had come from Birmingham that night, witness received nine counterfeit shillings altogether which had been taken and received from the prisoner.

Mr. Powell, the first witness examined, was re-called, and having inspected the coins, said they were all spurious and struck from the same die.

Guilty: seven years’ transportation.”

1851 Census

Birmingham Street – STAR INN

- [1] *Joseph Willetts* (25), maltster and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Matilda Willetts* (25), wife, born Carters Lane;
- [3] *Jane Flint* (30), visitor, Hawkins’ wife, born Ryde, Isle of Wight;
- [4] *Henry Flint* (4), visitor, born Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire;

[5] Edward Flint (1 month), visitor, born Halesowen;
[6] Sophia Florence (16), house servant, born Halesowen:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/7/1852

“Benjamin Grove of Halesowen states in answer to Jaffer of Birmingham that if he will allow two yards start in 200 yards he will run him; or Williams of Dudley 200 yards level, for from £10 to £25 a side, or any man in Worcestershire on the same terms, in a month from the first deposit, which, if sent to us, and articles to Grove, at *Joseph Willett's* STAR INN, Halesowen, a match can be made.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/5/1853

“B. Grove of Halesowen, hearing that Hill of Lye Waste wished to run him 400 yards, states he cannot run that distance, but will run 300 yards, for £10 or £15 a side; or Buck Barlow, of Birmingham, 280 yards on the same terms, in a month from the first deposit, which, if sent to us, and articles to Grove, at *Joseph Willetts*, STAR INN, Halesowen, a match can be made.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/7/1853

“Ellis of Halesowen will run J. Evans of Westbromwich five score yards if he will give two yards, or take 15 yards in a quarter of a mile, for £5 or £10 a side.

The money is ready at *Willett's*, STAR AND GARTER, Halesowen.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/4/1854

“Samuel Bache of Netherton will run Billcock of Oldbury, providing he will give two yards start in seven score yards. A match can be made at *Joseph Willett's* STAR INN, Halesowen, any night next week.”

County Advertiser 25/2/1871

“*Henry Hall*, landlord of the STAR AND GARTER public house, Birmingham Street, was summoned for entertaining a police officer at the time he was on duty. The case was a very paltry one. Police-constable Parkes called at the house, and asked to be supplied with a glass of ale. Defendant's family were at supper, of which the officer was invited to partake, but he only stayed in the house a few minutes. The case was dismissed, on the defendant agreeing to pay the costs.”

1871 Census

Birmingham Street – STAR AND GARTER

- [1] *Henry Hall* (33), licensed victualler and greengrocer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ellen Hall (32), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Martha Hall (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Henry Hall (9), son, scholar, born Halesowen:

Stourbridge Observer 26/10/1872

“A meeting of the Licensed Victuallers and others comprising the Committee for conducting the Statute Fair and Ox Roasting, was held on Tuesday evening, at the house of Mr. *Henry Hall*, the STAR AND GARTER INN. The Collector reported the amount collected, and stated that the agitation among the teetotallers, instead of doing them any harm, had gained them more friends – gentlemen of influence and tradesmen – to subscribe to the funds, and the book now contained a great many more names of subscribers than heretofore.

Mr. Grove said although they had great opposition to contend with this year, the Fair had been well attended by visitors and servants for hire, who were soon engaged at good wages. They could all bear witness to the quiet and peaceable character of those attending the fair, and every publican and tradesman was satisfied they had had a good fair; and although compelled to close so early not one case of infringement of the Act of Parliament could be brought against them.

Messrs. Wade, Cooper, Beach, Hodgetts, Withers, and others addressed the meeting.

After paying all expenses, which were very heavy, owing to the high price of meat, bricks and coal, the Committee had a very favourable balance to hand over to the treasurer.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Andrews for supplying such a fine beast for the spit. A vote of thanks to Mr. Wade for his services as chairman, for the last 18 years, to Mr. Charles Cooper for his services as collector, and to Mr. David Slater for his services as honorary secretary to the Committee, closed the proceedings.”

County Advertiser 6/9/1873

“Eliza Rudge and Elizabeth Goddard were charged with damaging three cups, two jugs, two panes of glass, and a vase, the property of *Henry Hall*. It appeared that on the 19th ult the defendants entered a licensed house kept by the complainant, and whilst there began to use foul language. Upon being remonstrated with for their conduct, the defendants commenced breaking and damaging jugs and glasses. It was proved by Sergeant Cowell that the defendants made a great disturbance in the house. They were each fined 5s, damages 2s 6d, and costs, or 14 days.”

Stourbridge Observer 5/9/1874

“Ebor Rudge, alias Peggy, and James Hall, alias Badley, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the STAR AND GARTER INN. Superintendent Kemp said from information received he went to the above house and found a large number of persons there. Among them were the two defendants, who were drunk and disorderly. Visited the house again an hour

later and found Rudge very drunk. Police sergeant Cowell corroborated. They were both fined 5s each and costs.”
AND

“*Henry Hall*, alias Musco, landlord of the STAR AND GARTER, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on the night of the 17th ult. Supt. Kemp proved the case and said that he found a man named Parsons in the house drunk. He requested Parsons to leave the house when he pushed him on the fire. On appealing to the defendant, he said he did not wish Parsons to leave. Pleading guilty. Fined 10s and costs.”

Charles Loynes = Charles Lines

County Express 18/12/1875 - Advert

“Freehold Old-Licensed Inn, Two Front Houses, and Four Back Cottages, Birmingham Street, Halesowen.

Mr. Samuel Leonard will Sell by Auction, at the NEW INN, Halesowen, kept by Mr. Melly, on Wednesday, 12th January, 1876, at Six o'clock pm, subject to usual conditions, in one Lot.

The STAR INN, now in the occupation of Mr. *Charles Lines*, as yearly tenant.

A House adjoining, occupied by Mr. Thomas Priest.

A House adjoining, occupied by Mr. Thomas Beattie together with

Four Tenements at the back, with Yard and Outbuildings.

The population of Halesowen is rapidly increasing, and two Railways are being constructed to it. No more licenses are likely to be granted. The premises now offered lie in a block, and can be readily adapted to the requirements of the trade.

Further particulars may be obtained from Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors, Brierley Hill; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Express 15/1/1876

“Mr. Samuel Leonard offered for sale at the NEW INN, on Wednesday last, the old-licensed STAR INN, Halesowen, and the houses adjoining. The biddings were very brisk, and ultimately the property was knocked down for £760. Messrs. Homfray and Holberton were the solicitor in the matter.”

County Advertiser 8/12/1877 - Advert

“STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen.

Mr. E. Smart is instructed by Mr. *Charles Loynes* (who is leaving the above) to Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, the 12th day December, 1877, a quantity of Household Furniture and Effects, viz, Two Eight-day Clocks, Four-pull Beer Machine and Piping, Nine capital Half-hogshead Casks, Three Coolers, Six Pewter Measures, Deal and Painted Tables, Chimney Glass, Pictures, Jars, about 14cwt of 1½in by 1in Bar Iron, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock prompt.”

Joab Hipkiss = Job Hipkiss

1881 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Joab Hipkiss* (37), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hipkiss* (37), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Sarah A. Hipkiss (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Elizabeth Hipkiss (11), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Lily Hipkiss (9), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Jemimah Hipkiss (7), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Joab Hipkiss* (6), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] Herbert Hipkiss (5), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] John Hipkiss (1), son, born Halesowen;
- [10] Nancy Hipkiss (4 months), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [11] Elizabeth Bate (18), domestic servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 11/7/1885

“*Job Hipkiss*, landlord of the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk and disorderly.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/2/1886

“William Davies (34), who described himself as a fruiterer, of London, was charged with obtaining 2s from Frederick Heath, fruiterer, of Hales Owen, and 6d from John Bevington, also of Hales Owen, by falsely representing that he had obtained a situation, and would repay the money on a certain day. There were other charges against the prisoner of stealing an overcoat, the property of William Moseley, landlord of the GEORGE INN; an overcoat, the property of *Joab Hipkiss*, STAR AND GARTER INN, Hales Owen; and of stealing 2s 6d, the property of Thomas Knowles, nailmaker, of Hales Owen.

On the charge of obtaining money by false pretences and stealing a coat, the property of William Moseley, defendant was committed to the Sessions for trial, and in each of the other cases was sentenced to one month's imprisonment.”

[At the Worcester Quarter Sessions William Davis pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two months' hard labour.]

County Advertiser 1/10/1887

“On Tuesday morning, Mr. E. Docker, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the STAR INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, touching the death of Ann Hackett, aged two years, who died on Monday last from scalds received on the previous Saturday. The parents of deceased live in Birmingham Street. It appeared she was sitting at the table on Saturday afternoon last, and accidentally upset a cup of tea down her chest. The child was horribly scalded, and died on Monday. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Joab Hipkiss died on 21st October 1890.

1891 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Ann E. Hipkiss* (47), widow, licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Elisabeth Hipkiss* (21), daughter, dress maker, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Lilly Hipkiss* (19), daughter, general servant, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Jemima Hipkiss* (17), daughter, general servant, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Joab Hipkiss* (16), son, horse driver, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Herbert Hipkiss* (15), son, horse driver, born Halesowen;
- [7] *John Hipkiss* (11), son, scholar, born Halesowen:

Ann Elizabeth Hipkiss died in the 2nd quarter of 1894.

County Advertiser 22/6/1895

“An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, by Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) touching the death of Jane Stewart, aged 30, a tramp who died suddenly at Batty’s lodging house on the 15th inst. Thomas Molloy, a tramp, stated that he had known the deceased for about two years, she having been tramping about the country with him and his wife during the greater part of that time. They came to Halesowen on Friday last from Oldbury. The deceased had not been well for some time, and had been in the West Bromwich hospital three times. She always seemed to have something the matter with her throat. On Saturday, about seven pm, the deceased was sitting on a chair in the yard at the rear of the lodging house, when she suddenly fell, and expired before any medical assistance could be procured.

Bridget Molloy corroborated.

Inspector Raybould said he found in deceased’s pocket a letter from Alexander Stewart of Otley, Yorkshire, who, in reply to the Inspector’s communication, stated that he was the uncle of the deceased, and she had no relatives beside himself, and he was too poor to come to see her.

Dr. Arkwright deposed that he made a post mortem examination of the body, and found an abscess in the windpipe, which had considerably narrowed the air passage. The deceased died from suffocation, caused by the abscess in the windpipe.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *Joab Hipkiss*, STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for.....

In the cases of *Joab Hipkiss* the objections of the police remained good, and these were postponed until the 20th inst, when the adjourned Sessions will be held.”

County Advertiser 3/10/1896

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Petty Sessional Division of Halesowen were held on Tuesday.....

Inspector Raybould said that in the cases of *Job Hipkiss* the structural alterations required had been carried out, and he, therefore, withdrew his objections to the renewal of the licenses.

The licenses were renewed to the applicants.”

County Express 3/4/1897

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the Crown Inn, Fairfields, on Monday, upon David Andrews (83) who died the previous Thursday as a result of being knocked down by a passing cart on Sunday evening, the 21st ult. The trap, which contained seven men, was driven by John Adams, a fruiterer, of Halesowen.....

The Coroner, in summing up the case, said the witnesses had told them that the deceased was infirm and deaf, and one witness had said he was childish. A cart was coming up behind him, but the witnesses could not say whether the driver shouted or not.

The driver said he did, but at any rate the old man did not seem to have taken any heed, probably because he was deaf, and he

was knocked down, receiving injuries from which he died. The question that the jury had to decide was whether there was any negligence upon the part of the driver. After reviewing the evidence, the Coroner said as far as he could see the cart seemed to have been going at a moderate rate. If they found there was any negligence they would find so in their verdict, but he could not find any evidence of any.

The Jury, after deliberating a time, returned a verdict that death resulted from an accident, adding a rider that it would have been more humane and shown a little more feeling if those in the cart had pulled up.

The Coroner: I quite agree with you, Mr. Foreman.

Adams was called into the room and the coroner, addressing him, said the jury had returned a verdict of Accidental Death, which exonerated him from blame, but at the same time they could not help thinking that the proper course for him to have adopted was to have stopped to see what had happened because it was beyond dispute that some in the trap saw what had happened, and it would have shown more feeling if they had stopped to see what could have been done. The family happened to be in very poor circumstances, and the jury had expressed a hope to him that they would see their way towards assisting them. They did not hold them responsible, but merely suggested it.

Adams and his solicitor having conferred, Mr Wright said they would much rather the jury suggest an amount. The jury eventually suggested £2 and payment of the doctor's bill, thinking the seven men could easily afford that.

This was agreed to be paid, and the enquiry closed."

[*Joab Hipkins*, of the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen gave evidence as one of the party of seven in the cart.]

County Express 1/9/1900

"Halesowen Licensing Sessions. The annual Licensing Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the new Police Court.....

Mr. E. H. Grove asked for the transfer of the license of the STAR AND GARTER, Birmingham Street, Halesowen to *George Smith*. At the commencement of July an application was made for the same man, and an objection was made by the police that the man was deaf, and it was thought that might interfere with his proper conduct of business, and at that time an interim authority was granted. It had been found since the applicant had managed the house to the perfect satisfaction of the police. Inspector Pitt said the house had been conducted satisfactorily, and the application was granted."

County Express 29/9/1900

"Adjourned Licensing Sessions. Mr. E. H. Grove asked for the approval of the Bench to certain improvements proposed to be made to the STAR AND GARTER INN, Halesowen. The proposition was to throw part of a cottage into the licensed premises, and give up using the kitchen for drinking purposes altogether. The present bar was a very small and inconvenient place and the alteration would be a great benefit to the tenant, and would make the police supervision easier. It did not increase the licensed area. Inspector Pitt said there were six public houses within 100 yards on either side of the house, and there was more than sufficient drinking facilities for the neighbourhood. The application was refused....."

1901 Census

Birmingham Street

[1] *George Smith* (42), publican, born Hasbury;

[2] *Alice Smith* (45), wife, born Hagley;

[3] *Annie Smith* (21), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] *Liley Smith* (19), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 25/5/1901

"Robert Dunicliffe (42), navy, of no fixed abode, was brought up in custody, charged with unlawfully wounding Edward Morgan, also a navy, by stabbing him on the head on the 17th inst.

Complainant's evidence was to the effect that he was with the prisoner and his wife and a man named Davies in the STAR AND GARTER INN, Halesowen. A dispute arose between Davies and prisoner's wife, and though witness took no part in it in the quarrel, prisoner called him a — scamp, and struck him two violent blows on the head with his pocket knife, inflicting two large wounds.

In cross-examination witness denied insulting prisoner's wife.

Dr. Arkwright deposed that he dressed the wounds on complainant's head. They were such as would be caused by a knife, and were an inch or an inch and a half in length. He put several stitches in them, and dressed them.

Alice Smith, landlady of the STAR AND GARTER INN, and her daughter, *Elizabeth Smith*, corroborated complainant's story.

Police-sergeant Pass arrested the prisoner, who, when charged, replied, 'This row started over my wife, and Morgan challenged me out to fight. I could not fight because my knuckles were sore, so I put my knife into him.'

To the Bench prisoner declared he cautioned Morgan that if he touched him he should know how to defend himself. Morgan struck him and blacked his eye, and he put his knife into him on the head.

The Bench committed the prisoner to take his trial at the next Worcester Sessions."

Alcester Chronicle 22/6/1901

"Summer Quarter Sessions.

Robert Dunicliffe (42), labourer, was indicted for maliciously wounding Edward Morgan on May 17th. Mr. E. M. G. Carmichael prosecuted.

The prosecutor and prisoner quarrelled in the STAR AND GARTER INN, Hales Owen. Morgan struck prisoner in the eye, and Dunicliffe retaliated by stabbing Morgan in the back of the head with a pocket knife, making two wounds an inch and a half long.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, and reminded the Court of the great provocation. Sentence of one month's hard labour was passed."

County Express 30/8/1902

"Abel Partridge, nailmaker, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was summoned by Joseph Rudge, nail manufacturer, Hasbury, who claimed £1 16s 7d, money overdrawn on the account of work on March 15th, July 19th, and 26th. Mr. Grove defended, and admitted owing 9s 6d, but it was in respect of neither of those dates. Plaintiff stated defendant was a nailmaker, and drew money on account of work in advance. The defendant did not work on the dates named, and in consequence one of the witness's customers cancelled an order, and claimed 10s damages for non-execution of the order. Mr. Grove, for the defence, stated the defendant had a blood-poisoned hand, and had not been able to work. He was willing, as soon as he could, to finish the work. An order was made for the amount claimed, payable at the rate of 5s per week, together with the costs.

Partridge was also charged with using violence and abusive language towards Alice *Smith*, and further with using threatening language on the 20th inst. Mr. Hayes prosecuted, and Mr. E. H. Grove defended. From the evidence it appeared that Mrs. *Smith* is the landlady of the STAR AND GARTER INN, and also of the yard adjoining the defendant's house. In the afternoon of the date in question Mrs. *Smith* heard a row outside, and upon going to see what was the matter, saw the defendant, who immediately began to use vile and filthy language to her. He included several threats in the language, saying he would lay her straight, that he would cut her into mince meat, and would batter her brains out. He accused her of getting him discharged from work, but she knew nothing of this. The defence was that the row going on was between defendant and his wife, and did not concern Mrs. *Smith* at all. Evidence to support this was given by defendant, who stated he did not see Mrs. *Smith* at all that day, and his wife. Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs in the first case, and bound over to keep the peace for three months and ordered to pay costs in the second case."

County Advertiser 24/1/1903

"Mr. *George Smith* applied for an occasional license for the 22nd inst, on the occasion of the Volunteer Ball, at the Drill Hall. He had given the necessary notice. In reply to a question from the Bench, the applicant said last year he had a similar license granted from eight o'clock till four o'clock. The Bench granted a license for the same hours."

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

"The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday....

Mr. Cave (instructed by Mr. G. Green) supported an application for the renewal of the license of the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street. He urged that the house was of substantial character, and some six or seven years ago the owner gave a considerable sum of money for it, whilst within the last three or four years something like £300 had been spent in altering the premises. During the whole of the existence of the license there had not been a single complaint against it.

Superintendent Hill gave evidence, and in reply to Mr. Cave said other licensees in the street had been warned to attend the sessions personally to apply for the renewal of their licenses.

The Justices decided to defer this matter until the adjourned sessions, and directed the superintendent to serve fresh notices of objection upon the license holder."

County Advertiser 3/3/1906

"Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions....

The justices then proceeded to hear the objection to the license of the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen. Superintendent Hill said he objected to the renewal of the license on the ground that it was not required, that the number of houses in the area was excessive, and that in the general interests of the public the renewal was not desirable. There were eleven licensed houses within a distance of about 200 yards, or one license to about every eighteen yards. The house was badly adapted for licensed premises and for police supervision. They had to mount steps into the front room, and the back premises opened into a yard in which were situated private houses and a common lodging-house. The nearest house was the QUEENS HEAD INN, eleven yards away.

Mr. Cave (instructed by Mr. George Green, who represented the owner) said that on the last occasion they heard from Superintendent Hill that things were getting better instead of worse. Halesowen had not an unenviable notoriety for drunkenness or for having too many licenses. If the magistrates decided to report this house to the Quarter Sessions it would deal very harshly with the owner, whose sole investment it was. Mr. Joseph Rudge, the owner, purchased the house five years ago for £1,550, and since that time he had spent a considerable sum in altering and improving it. The house was not in a bad position structurally, and was quite as good a condition as others in the locality, to which no objection had been made. There had been no complaint or conviction against the house for 70 years. He urged the Bench not to take the extreme action, but to renew the license, and suggested that the license holders in the town should meet together to see what licenses should be given up.

Evidence was given by the landlord, owner, and other witnesses....

The magistrates renewed all the licenses objected to, but they wished to point out that as the number was small they did not care to take action this year. They, however, felt that there were much too many houses in the division, and they thought that the suggestion of Mr. Cave should be adopted, and that those connected with the trade should meet and arrange a scheme for surrender of some licenses, to prevent the magistrates taking extreme action."

County Advertiser 27/10/1906

“Mr. G. Green made an application for sanction to alterations at the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen. He explained that it was desired to make certain alterations to the back of the premises, which possibly required the consent of the magistrates. The owner of the house had recently spent about £50 in renovating the top, painting, and general repairs. They proposed to include in the house a cottage, in order that better accommodation could be provided for a friendly society which contained about 300 members. The alterations would provide better domestic convenience and also enable the police to have better supervision over the house.

Inspector Brazier did not oppose the application, but admitted it would be a great improvement.

Mr. Pearson said the Bench would adjourn the question of taking in the cottage until the licensing sessions in February. The owners could carry out the structural alterations at the back of the premises upon their own responsibility.”

County Advertiser 2/3/1907

“On Tuesday, the adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the police court. . . . Mr. G. Green applied for sanction to carry out alterations at the STAR AND GARTER, in Birmingham Street. The owner had spent a considerable sum of money, and desired to improve the front of the premises and provide a club room for the use of a large friendly society. Mr. Howard asked if the cottages at the back of the house had been closed. Mr. Green said they had not yet been closed, but the owner was willing to close them if another entrance to them could not be found. Upon an undertaking to this effect the plans were approved.”

1911 Census

Birmingham Street – STAR AND GARTER

- [1] *George Smith* (52), licensed vicrualler, born Hasbury;
- [2] *Alice Smith* (53), wife, married 34 years, born Hagley;
- [3] *Annie Smith* (30), daughter, born Hasbury;
- [4] *Lily Smith* (29), daughter, born Hasbury;
- [5] *Harold Rudge* (6), adopted son, school, born Hasbury:

Dudley Chronicle 20/7/1912

“The annual district meeting of the Honourable Order of Modern Masons was held at the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, on Saturday evening. . . .”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/3/1938

“Halesowen Licensing Justices yesterday. . . .

An application to remove the license of the STAR AND GARTER INN, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, to premises proposed to be erected on land off Springfield Road, Hill and Cakemore was refused, but the license of the existing premises was renewed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/2/1939

“At Halesowen Sessions An application for a new license in respect of premises proposed to be erected in Springfield Road, Cakemore, to replace the STAR AND GARTER, Birmingham Street, Halesowen, was refused.”

STORES

117, Malt Mill Lane, Hill and Cakemore, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Target [1870]

Henry Hill (1907 – [1924])

NOTES

It had a six-day license.

County Advertiser 19/2/1870

“*Henry Target*, beerhouse-keeper and grocer, Blackheath, was charged with selling ale after legal hours, on the 5th inst. Police-constable Taylor proved the case. Defendant was ordered to pay costs.”

County Express 27/8/1870

“The annual licensing meeting for the Rowley Regis Petty Sessional Division was held yesterday at COOKSEYS HOTEL..... Wm. Wilson, BUILDERS ARMS, Blackheath; John Playdon, BARLEY MOW, Tividale; *Henry Target*, THE STORES, Blackheath; Tobias Hingley, HEATH TAVERN, Cradley Heath, and Wm. Laister, HANDEL HOTEL, were all cautioned in reference to the future conduct of their houses.”

Henry Hill, beer retailer, 117, Malt Mill Lane. [1912], [1916], [1924]

SUN

Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Stourbridge Observer 18/10/1873

“An inquest was held on Saturday last, at the SUN INN, Hasbury, before R. Docker, Esq, touching the death of Philip Lashford 57, whose body was found in the Hawne Pool, on the previous Wednesday. After hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/10/1895

“John Byng (on bail) was charged with wounding Alfred Deely with a gun on July 23. Mr. Haskey prosecuted, and Mr. Stanbutry defended.

Prosecutor and defendant had been out for the day, and returning called at the SUN INN, Hales Owen. Prisoner was the worse for drink, and was ordered out of the house. In the road he had a quarrel with a man named Hill, whom he struck with the butt-end of a gun he had in his hands. Prosecutor went to Hill's assistance, and was struck by the prisoner over the head with the barrel of the gun and knocked down. He also received several other blows.

Medical evidence showed that a very serious wound had been inflicted on prosecutor's head.

The jury found the prisoner guilty of an aggravated assault, and he was sentenced to six months' hard labour.”

SWAN

282, Long Lane, Hill and Cakemore, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Penn Brewery Co. Ltd.

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1932]

Punch Taverns

Black Country Ales Plc (acquired in 2014)

LICENSEES

Thomas Cooper [1842] – [1845]

James Dimock [1849]

Alfred Cox [1855]

John Morgan [] – 1860;

Thomas Rudge (1860 – 1869);

Joseph Davis (1869 – []

John Stickley [] – 1870);

Joseph Swain (1870 – []

George Swain [1870] – [1876]
William Lowe [1874] – [1884]
David Cooke [1888]
Mrs. Harriet Cooke [1892] – [1897]
James Winfield [1901]
James Robert Sutton (1903 – []
Benjamin Chambers (1905 – [1907]
John Brown (1907);
John Howell (1907 – [1908]
Arthur West [1911] – [1924]
Harry Fletcher [1939]
Bill Fradgley [1991]
Lorraine Mather (2014 – [2015]
Paul Hicks and Liz Rogers (2015 – [2019];
Simon and Marie Hutchinson [2020]
Phil and Eva Hardingham (2021 – [2023]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/12/1842 - Advert

“Freehold. The SWAN Public House and Other Property, situate in Long Lane, in the parish of Hales Owen, near the town of Rowley Regis.

To be Sold by Auction by E. and C. Robins and Co. on Monday the 23rd day of January next, at four o'clock in the afternoon, at the Hotel in Dudley, in one lot, subject to conditions then and there to be produced.

All that substantial and well-built Public House and Premises, known by the sign of the SWAN, situate in Long Lane, leading from the Birmingham and Hales Owen Turnpike road and the Quinton to Rowley, now occupied by Mr. *Thomas Cooper*, tenant from year to year, at £20 per annum; also the Cottage and Nail Shop adjoining, tenanted by Hannah Rose at £4 a year.

The Tenants will show the property, and any further information may be had of Mr. Hinchliffe, Solicitor, or Mr. R. Miller, both of West Bromwich; Mr. Thomas Jones, Rowley; Mr. W. B. Collis, Solicitor, Stourbridge, or the Auctioneers, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Journal 29/12/1849 - Advert

“On Sale by Private Treaty, that old-established Public House, the SWAN INN, Long Lane, near Rowley Regis, one quarter of a mile from the Hagley Road, with immediate possession. Coming-in not to exceed £40.

Application to be made to *James Dimock*, on the Premises.

N.B. There is Stable and a Warehouse attached to the Inn. Rent low.”

Hoof marks reported on the roof in 1855.

County Advertiser 3/12/1859 - Advert

“A Sheep was Found at Long Lane, Blackheath, on the 29th ult. The owner may have the same by applying to John Rose, near to the SWAN INN, Long Lane, on payment of expenses.”

1861 Census

Long Lane – Beer Seller

- [1] *Thomas Rudge* (46), sawyer, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phoebe Rudge* (46), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Samuel Rudge* (24), son, brick maker, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Joseph Rudge* (20), son, labourer, born Rowley;
- [5] *Hannah Adams* (17), general servant, born Rowley:

County Advertiser 13/8/1866 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale, at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Near Halesowen.

To Brokers, Parties Furnishing and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Hawkins, on Monday, October 22nd, 1866, a large quantity of Public House Fixtures and Effects, comprising Chairs, Drinking Tables, Seats, large and small Casks, Brewing Plant, and several other Effects, which will appear in future advertisements, belonging to Mr. *Thomas Rudge*, who is giving up the business.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock

Auctioneer's Offices: TOWN ARMS, Brierley Hill.”

Stourbridge Observer 23/4/1870

“*George Swain*, landlord of the SWAN INN, Long Lane, was charged with having two unjust quart jugs in his possession.

Superintendent Overend proved that the jugs were half a gill short.

Defendant said he had them of a very religious man, and he thought they were right, as he had placed great confidence in him

because he was a religious man. As they turned out wrong, he should like to have a summons for him. – Laughter. Ordered to pay costs.”

1871 Census

Long Lane – SWAN INN

- [1] *George Swain* (33), rivet maker, born Long Lane;
- [2] Susan Swain (21), wife, born Long Lane;
- [3] John Swain (4 months), son, born Long Lane;
- [4] William Lees (16), general servant, born Long Lane:

County Advertiser 7/11/1874 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, situate in Long Lane, Halesowen, comprising that Old Licensed Public House, called the SWAN INN, with Four Dwelling Houses, Outbuildings, Gardens, and Premises adjoining.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Bateman, on Monday, the 9th day of November, 1874, at Six o’clock in the Evening, upon the Premises, the SWAN INN, Long Lane, subject to conditions then to be produced, and in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of Sale, the undermentioned Freehold Properties, viz.

Lot 1. All that Old-Licensed Public-House, called the SWAN INN, with the Outbuildings, Gardens, and Premises held therewith, now in the occupation of Mr. *William Lowe*, together with Two Dwelling-Houses, Gardens and Premises adjoining, and now held by Ann Partridge and John Rose, situate in Long Lane aforesaid, between Rowley and Halesowen, the whole now producing a rental of £18 18s a year.

Lot 2. Two Freehold Dwelling-Houses, Nail Shops, Gardens and Premises adjoining lot 1, and now in the occupation of William Partridge and William Clift, at the aggregate yearly rent of £10 8s.

Lot 3. A Strip of Freehold Building Land, adjoining lot 1, having an extensive frontage to Long Lane, and abutting at the back to lands of Mr. Yardley.

The Property is a very short distance from Rowley Station, on the Stourbridge Extension Railway to Birmingham. The Mines will be sold with each lot.

Plans of the Property will be prepared, and may be inspected at the SWAN INN seven days before the sale, and also, where any further information may be obtained, at the respective offices of Messrs. Robinson and Watts, Solicitors, or the Auctioneer, all of Dudley.”

County Express 4/8/1877

“A Foresters’ Court was recently opened at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, by Bro. Holyoake, PDCR, supported by members of Court Bold Robin Hood (5595). After the formal opening, twenty members were enrolled, and the brethren afterwards sat down to a substantial repast. The evening was spent in an enjoyable manner.”

County Express 21/9/1878

“Cricket. Coombs Wood Tube Works v Powke Lane Brick Works.

On Monday last this match was played at the ground of the former and ended in a victory for the home team. The Old Hill brass band was in attendance under the leadership of William Sidaway and performed some good music during the afternoon. On the wickets being drawn the teams retired to the SWAN INN, Long Lane, where they partook of a good repast, provided by the host, Mr. *W. Lowe*.”

1881 Census

Long Lane – SWAN

- [1] *William Lowe* (38), licensed victualler, born Rowley;
- [2] Emily Lowe (33), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Harry Lowe (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Ernest Lowe (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] William Lowe (6), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Laurie Lowe (4), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Frederick Lowe (1), son, born Halesowen:

County Express 7/10/1882

“Forestry. The Quarterly Meeting of the Dudley and Cradley Heath District was held on Monday last, at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, near Halesowen. Bro. H. Dunn, DCR, in the chair. The usual business was gone through satisfactorily. Several cases deserving sympathy were entertained and adjudicated upon. The auditors’ report showed the District to be in a good condition, financially and numerically, having a fund of £1,857 5s 8d, and financial members to the number of 3,631.....”

County Advertiser 29/9/1888

“SWAN INN, Long Lane, Halesowen.

Mr. T. Pateshall will Sell by Auction, as above, on Wednesday Next, October 3rd, 1888, a quantity of Building Materials and Tools, consisting of Ladders, Yard Door, Register Grate with Chimney Piece, Two Carpenters’ Benches, 6ft Cramp, Floor Dogs, quantity of Sash Cord, Grindstone and Frame, Three 1½in Panelled Doors, lot of Paint, Six Dozen Suffolk Latches, lot of Carpenter’s Tools, Eight Scaffold Poles and Chains, &c, &c.

Sale at One o'clock.”

County Express 29/9/1888

“Stourbridge County Court. Action for Personal Injuries.

This was an action tried by a jury and brought to recover £21 damages for an assault alleged to have been committed by the defendant, *David Cook*, SWAN INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, upon the plaintiff, Arthur Bache, wheelwright, Oldbury Road, Blackheath. Mr. Waldron appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. Homer defended.

In opening the case, Mr. Waldron said the defendant was the owner of some small property close to Halesowen, and the plaintiff, on the 19th of March last, took from him a house with a shop adjoining. It appeared that at that time the defendant had an apprentice who was using the shop, and therefore possession could not be given to plaintiff according to the contract for a considerable period. The plaintiff, becoming dissatisfied, gave notice to end his tenancy and on the 7th July went to the defendant's house to pay him all the rent that was then due, at the same time informing him that on the following Monday he would leave the house and remove the furniture early in the morning. In accordance with that notice about four o'clock on the Monday morning the plaintiff commenced to get his goods together for the purpose of removing them. Upon going down stairs and opening the door he found the defendant there. A conversation took place, in the course of which defendant said the plaintiff should not leave as he owed two or three weeks' rent. The plaintiff denied this, and said he only owed a week's rent, which became due on the Monday. The week's rent was refused by the defendant, and the plaintiff went into the house for the purpose of bringing the furniture out. The defendant thereupon took off his coat, rushed at the plaintiff, knocked him down, fell upon him, and dislocated his shoulder. That was the cause of action. The plaintiff, for a period of four or five weeks, was unable to follow his employment, his earning, when at work, amounting to 32s a week. The doctor's bill was one guinea, to which had been added in the claim damages for loss of work, and that which he submitted was a very important factor in the case, a solatium for the pain suffered during the time his arm was dislocated. After hearing the evidence the jury would have to assess the damages.

The plaintiff was called, and gave evidence bearing out Mr. Waldron's statement, and in addition said he only owed 4s, one week's rent. He gave fourteen days' notice to leave the house, and the notice expired on the Monday morning when the assault was committed. The notice was not in writing. He formerly lived with his father, and was not turned out for fighting with his brother. On the morning of the assault he offered defendant a week's rent, but he refused to take it. He had his shoulder dislocated about twelve months ago. He took to the house on the 19th of March.

Mrs. Bache and Frank James, who resided with the plaintiff, corroborated.

Mr. J. G. Beasley, surgeon, said that about five o'clock on the morning in question the plaintiff came to his house. His shoulder was dislocated, and he suffered great pain. It would be quite three weeks before he would be able to commence work again.

Mr. Homer, for the defence, said no notice was given to leave the house, and plaintiff wanted to get away without paying his rent. Plaintiff had previously said that if defendant went after the money he would knock his face off.

The defendant said the plaintiff took the house on the 6th March and not on the 19th, and when he left he owed three weeks' rent. Finding the plaintiff removing his furniture at twenty minutes to three in the morning he reminded him that he owed money for rent. Plaintiff got angry, and pulled his coat off to fight. Witness also took off his coat, and in the scuffle which followed they fell together. Plaintiff was under witness, and received his injuries in this manner.

Elizabeth Bradford said the plaintiff entered the house on the 6th of March. A day or two before he left she heard him tell the neighbours that if could get his goods away he would laugh at the defendant.

His Honour, in summing up, said that if the jury believed that the assault was committed it was only right that they should consider whether the defendant received any provocation from the plaintiff.

The Jury retired, and upon returning into Court gave a verdict for plaintiff for £10 10s. His Honour also allowed costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/11/1888

“The Bankruptcy Act 1883. Receiving Orders.

David Cooke, residing at Long Lane, lately trading at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Hales Owen, bricklayer, lately licensed victualler and builder.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/11/1888

“*Re David Cooke*, Long Lane, Hales Owen, bricklayer and publican.

This debtor came up for his public examination yesterday, at the Stourbridge Courthouse, before Mr. Registrar Collis. His liabilities were £121 5s 11½d, and his assets £58 3s 3d.

Debtor was closely examined with regard to mortgages upon property he had erected, and of which the mortgagee had taken possession. He emphatically denied that there had been any collusion in the matter. At one time he had been in partnership with Reuben Harris, who left him in 1886 to better himself; but, as the Official Receiver put it, Harris had only bettered himself by landing himself in a prosecution at Worcester Assizes.

Debtor gave an account of how he had disposed of materials he had at the time of the dissolution of partnership, and said the remainder was disposed of a few weeks ago by auction. The auctioneer had not rendered him an account, but had informed him he had received an order from the Dudley County Court to retain possession of the money.

The debtor was allowed to pass.”

County Advertiser 30/8/1890

“Albert Muckton and William Rose, both of Rowley, were charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of *Harriet Cook*, and with refusing to quit on the 17th inst. Albert Cook said that on the date named the two defendants came into the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, and asked for some ale. As they were drunk he refused to supply them, and told them to go; but as they

would not be turned out, after some trouble, with the assistance of Police-constable Williams. Muckton was fined 10s and costs, and Rose 40s and costs, or 21 days.”

1891 Census

Long Lane – SWAN INN

- [1] *David Cooke* (32), bricklayer, born Cockshead;
- [2] *Harriet Cooke* (33), wife, born Gorsty Hill;
- [3] *Mary Cooke* (11), daughter, scholar, born Cockshead;
- [4] *Rose Cooke* (10), daughter, scholar, born Long Lane;
- [5] *Annie Cooke* (8), daughter, scholar, born Long Lane;
- [6] *Richard Cooke* (6), son, scholar, born Cockshead;
- [7] *Sarah Cooke* (4), daughter, scholar, born Cockshead:

Birmingham Daily Post 16/4/1892

“Mr. A. H. Hibbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, on Thursday evening, concerning the death of Elizabeth Allen (73), wife of Thomas Allen, of Long Lane, who died on the 12th inst from the effects of burns received on the previous day. It appeared that deceased was lying upon a sofa on the hearth about half-past nine o’clock on Monday night, and during the temporary absence of her husband a quantity of fire fell out of the grate on to her dress, the result being that when her husband returned he found her in flames. Assistance was obtained, and the burning garments were stripped off the old woman; but she was burnt in a shocking manner, and died from the effects on the following day, as stated. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/2/1893

At the Police Court, yesterday – before Messrs. F. D. Lea Smith, H. Howard, and J. G. Reay – *Harriet Cooke*, landlady of the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Hales Owen, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 26th November. Mr. J. S. Sharpe defended.

Police-constable Williams said he found a man named Latham sitting in a chair in the kitchen very drunk. He asked the defendant how she accounted for the man being drunk, when she denied having served him with any beer.

In reply to Mr. Sharpe, witness admitted that whilst on duty he was treated to drink in an inn.

Robert Moore deposed to seeing the defendant supply the man Latham, who was drunk, with a pint of fourpenny.

For the defence, Mr. Sharpe denied that any beer was supplied to Latham in the house, but contended that he got drunk in other public-houses.

The Bench considered the case was not proved, and dismissed it.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/7/1894 - Advert

“Wanted to Purchase, a modern Brewing Plant, capable of mashing from 1½ to 2 quarters.
Address, *D. Cooke*, SWAN INN, Long Lane, near Halesowen.”

Mrs. *Harriet Cooke* was also a brewer. [1896]

County Express 20/2/1897

“Samuel Mucklow, aged 16, of Halesowen, was charged with embezzling two sums of 5s each, the property of his employers, H. Cook and Son.

David Cook, SWAN INN, Long Lane, said he was a partner in the firm of H. Cook and Co., in whose employ the defendant had been about seven months. His employ was to help generally and to help him to brew and to deliver ale, and on several occasions he had been sent to collect cash. On the 6th of January he received the sum of 5s from a man named Hill, but made no entry of it in his book, and from Henry Edmunds, Bloomfields Street, on the 16th of January.

George Hill and Henry Edmunds deposed to this, and Police-constable Sherwood said that when he arrested prisoner he acknowledged having had the money.

Prisoner was further charged with stealing a watch, the property of Joseph Carrington, Romsley.

Priscilla Hancox said she saw prisoner at Joseph Carrington’s house, and saw the watch hanging in the house. It was afterwards missed. It belonged to her son-in-law, Joseph Carrington.

Joseph Carrington said the watch belonged to him, and was worth about 5s or 6s.

Richard Adams, watchmaker, Long Lane, Blackheath, said the prisoner called at his shop about the first week of January and brought the watch to be repaired. He could not repair it satisfactorily and sold him another one.

Police-constable Pegg said prisoner told him he did steal it, and swapped it with a man named Adams.

Mr. E. H. Grove, Halesowen, who appeared for the prisoner, asked the Bench to be as lenient as possible in consequence of the youth of the prisoner.

The Bench fined prisoner 15s in each case, with an alternative of fourteen days in each case.”

County Express 26/5/1900

“Charles Haywood, Long Lane, Halesowen, was charged with assaulting Harry Williams at the Hill, on the 5th inst.

Mr. Hayes prosecuted, and said it was a most cruel and unprovoked assault.

The complainant said he was at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, and he had a dispute with the defendant’s brother over some old

grievance. A short time after witness was at home when the defendant went 'sparring' round witness, and afterwards gave witness a violent blow on the eye which knocked witness senseless. Witness had to go to a doctor, who gave him a note to go to the hospital, and he went there four times to have the wound attended to. It had to have some stitches in it.

John Horton deposed to witnessing the assault.

Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 10s, including costs."

1901 Census

Long Lane – SWAN INN

- [1] *James Winfield* (52), publican, born Stafford;
- [2] *Mary Winfield* (51), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Robert Winfield* (17), son, carter, born Tividale;
- [4] *Ada Taylor* (17), niece, domestic servant, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Mary Winfield* (20), daughter, barmaid, born Tividale:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/7/1901

"The heavy thunderstorm last evening resulted in two men being killed at Cakemore and six other persons injured. It appears that eight men and a girl went into a shed at Cakemore to shelter from the storm about five o'clock, when they were all struck by the lightning. John Patrick, a labourer, of Malt Mill Lane, and George Tildesley, a bricklayer, of Spring Hill, Halesowen, were instantaneously killed. Elizabeth Tildesley (16), of Malt Mill Lane was seriously injured, and after being attended to by Dr. Freer was conveyed home. The other persons in the shed were all slightly injured, their names being James Mucklow, Marlow Street, Blackheath; William Brettell, Long Lane; Thomas Southall, High Street, Blackheath; Frank Tildesley, Malt Mill Lane; and Joseph Whitehall, Halesowen Street, Blackheath. The body of John Patrick was conveyed to his home, and that of George Tildesley to the SWAN HOTEL, Long Lane."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/7/1901

"On Saturday afternoon Mr. A. H. Hebbert held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Cakemore, concerning the deaths of George Tildesley (19), bricklayer, Mount Street, Halesowen, and John Patrick (26), labourer, Mill Lane, near Halesowen, who had been killed by lightning.

The evidence showed that when a number of men and boys engaged in the building trade were leaving a building in the course of erection at Beaumont Road, Cakemore, they were overtaken by a thunderstorm. Nine of them went into a shed to shelter about five o'clock, and almost immediately afterwards the shed was struck by lightning.

James Mucklow stated that the shock must have rendered them all unconscious, for when he regained consciousness he found all lying in a heap, and he was lying on top of the deceased man, Patrick.

The Coroner: What sensation did you experience when you were struck? – Witness: I have no recollection of being struck. When I regained consciousness I was in great agony, and for a long time I was unable to walk, and I now have a pain in my side.

Frank Tildesley said he was outside the shed, and although he did not see the lightning, he remembered being struck on the legs and rendered helpless. He was wearing a watch at the time, and it stopped at one minute past five o'clock. He was struck on the back, and the had told him that the mark resembled that of a butterfly.

Joseph Parker, a tradesman, said that hearing a boy shout that some men had been killed, he ran into the shed, and found it full of what he thought was sulphur. He found George Tildesley and John Patrick both dead, and seven other persons more or less injured. Having rendered them some aid, he procured the assistance of Police-constable Banks and Dr. Freer. The latter stated that when he visited the shed he found distinctive marks on Patrick's and Tildeley's chests, and it was apparent that the electric current penetrated the chest, passed through the bodies, and made its exit through the boots, the leather in both instance being badly torn. The marks on the chests of the men resembled the branch of a tree, but so far as he had been able to ascertain there was no tree near to the shed.

The Coroner said it was singular that the tall buildings were not struck and that a small building attracted the lightning.

Inspector Pitt said he had made an inspection of the shed, and was surprised to find that it had not been in any way damaged.

In reply to the Coroner, Dr. Freer said the whole of the injured persons were now making satisfactory progress towards recovery, although some were suffering badly from shock.

The jury returned a verdict of Died from Shock as the result of being Struck by Lightning.

County Advertiser 16/7/1904

"On Wednesday night, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, respecting the death of Lizzie Pennington (33), wife of George Pennington, foreman, of Station Lane, Cakemore, who committed suicide in a determined manner on Tuesday morning. It appeared from the evidence that deceased had complained for some time past of pains in the head, and had also been attended by Dr. Freer for nervous debility. During the recent hot weather her head had been very bad, but on Tuesday morning, when her husband left to go to work, she told him she felt much better. Subsequently Mrs. Yates, the deceased's mother, called at the house, but was unable to find her daughter. Her suspicions were aroused in consequence of the brewhouse door being locked from the inside, and she obtained the assistance of a youth named Roland Knight, who effected an entrance to the brewhouse by means of the window. Knight obtained a rake, and on pushing it down the small cistern in the brewhouse, discovered the body of Mrs. Pennington in the water. The body was subsequently recovered from the water by Police-constable Banks and a man named John Price. Dr. Freer, upon making an examination of the body, discovered that the woman's neck was dislocated, and this, it was supposed, was caused when she jumped down the cistern. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide during Temporary Insanity, and expressed their sympathy with the husband."

County Advertiser 29/6/1907

“Another Suicide at Halesowen.

Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest on Tuesday night at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, on the death of William Haywood (58), nut and bolt forger, Long Lane, Halesowen, who had committed suicide under tragic circumstances on the previous day.

Mary Haywood, widow of the deceased, stated that her husband had of late been depressed owing to an attack of influenza and also trouble at his work. On one occasion he said to her that he did not wonder at Hipkiss committing suicide if his head was as bad as his own. He did not threaten to take his own life. On the 24th inst deceased returned home and seemed very depressed. He left the sitting room, and subsequently witness found him lying upstairs in a pool of blood with a deep gash in his throat. Deceased earned 13s 9d on the previous week, and when he gave it to her he said, ‘I don’t know what you will do with it.’

Police-constable Clinton stated deceased expired soon after witness was called to the house. Near to the body he found a razor and a pocket knife, both of which were covered with blood. The razor had been used with such force as to break it in several places.

A son of the deceased stated that his father had given his employer notice to terminate his engagement, but he refused to receive it, and the written notice was found in his possession at the time he took his life.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind.”

Bromsgrove Messenger 15/2/1908

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. *Jno. Howell*, of the SWAN INN, Long Lane, applied for the renewal of his license.

Superintendent Hill said *Howell* had been convicted for permitting drunkenness, but since then there had been no complaint.

The Bench granted the renewal.”

County Express 9/5/1908

“At Halesowen, on Tuesday, Henry Chatwin, striker, Halesowen Street, Blackheath, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, on the 25th ult.

Mrs. *Howell*, wife of the licensee, stated that that night defendant, whilst in the house, became very disorderly and quarrelsome. Witness requested him to leave, but he declined to do so.

Defendant, who expressed regret, was fined 5s and costs 5s 6d.”

County Express 19/9/1908

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen, Frederick Powiss (36), tube worker, of New John Street, Hill, was charged with stealing seven fowls, of the value of £1 10s, belonging to *John Howell*, landlord of the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, on the 9th inst.

The evidence showed that on the date in question defendant paid a visit to the public house, when he was perfectly sober and rational. At eleven o’clock the same night prosecutor discovered that an entry had been effected in to the fowl pen, and that seven birds were missing. A man named Isaac Haden saw the defendant return home about midnight with something bulky under his coat. He went into the house of George Bateman, and subsequently the latter found five fowls in a bag deposited there, two of them being dead. Haden admitted that a fowl had passed him close to defendant’s home, but he could not tell where it came from. PS Pegg made enquiries, as a result of which he arrested the defendant, and subsequently recovered seven fowls. When charged with the theft defendant replied ‘I did not steal them; I know nothing about them.’

Defendant informed the Bench that he could not remember anything of the occurrence. He had been away at a convalescent home, and the first he could recollect was when he found himself in prison.

Defendant’s wife, in reply to questions, said her husband had been rather strange in his manner for some time since his illness. He was raving mad for eight weeks. He had suffered from debility, following pneumonia. He had not been drinking.

Mr. Reay said when he saw the defendant on the 11th inst he had the appearance of a man who had been attacked with delirium tremens.

Inspector Brazier remarked that during the time defendant had been under his observations he was led to believe that his condition was due to excessive drinking. He was quite a different man since being locked up.

Mr. Reay said the Bench considered defendant took the fowls, but they were doubtful at the time whether he was in a proper state of mind, and he would be remanded until later in the day for a medical examination to be made.

Subsequently Powiss was examined by Dr. Thompson, and the magistrates, after receiving the medical report, bound him over to be of good behaviour for a period of six months.”

County Express 24/10/1908

“On Tuesday, at Halesowen, Thomas Yates (33), labourer, Malt Mill Lane, Halesowen, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SWAN INN, Long Lane, and for assaulting *John Howell*, the landlord, on the 12th inst.

Prosecutor said on this afternoon he spoke to a quarrelsome customer in the house, and whilst he was endeavouring to get him out defendant intervened and assumed a fighting attitude. Witness requested defendant to sit down, but he persisted in his conduct, and then he ejected him from the premises. In doing so a window was smashed. Defendant returned to the house, refused to leave, and struck witness several blows in the face, causing his mouth to bleed.

Yates stated that he was drinking his beer when the prosecutor collided with him whilst ejecting the other man. He simply spoke to *Howell* who flew at his throat and then he put up his hand to defend himself. There had been a disturbance in the house prior to this.

The Bench dismissed both cases.”

Tipton Herald 6/11/1909

“A benefit concert was given at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Blackheath, on behalf of William Cooper, on the 28th ult. The following artistes took part in the programme, and gave their services: Messrs. J. H. Hughes, W. Perry, W. Davis, Pat Tyrone, T. Plant, B. Rooker (vocalists), the Halesowen Temperance Prize Band Quartette Party; Mr. S. Johnson (ventriloquist), Mr. R. Williams (violinist), Mr. A. James (elocutionist). All the artistes acquitted themselves well, but special mention might be made of Mr. S. Johnson (ventriloquist) and Mr. Pat Tyrone (descriptive vocalist). Mr. T. Whittall was a capable accompanist and soloist. The clubroom was packed to excess, and Mr. Cooper will receive a substantial benefit.”

1911 Census

282, Long Lane

- [1] *Arthur West* (47), manager hotel, born Downham, Norfolk;
- [2] *Maria West* (49), wife, married 18 years, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Arthur West* (16), son, assistant to father, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Beatrice West* (14), daughter, born Smethwick:

Birmingham Mail 31/8/1911 - Advert

“Plasterer (good) Wanted.

Apply, SWAN, Long Lane, Black Heath.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/9/1929 - Advert

“By Order of Messrs. Atkinsons Brewery Limited and Messrs. Peter Walker & Co. Limited.

In The Black Country Industrial Area, and Embracing Properties in Staffordshire and Worcestershire.

Important Sale In Separate Lots, of 45 Freehold Licensed Houses, some with adjoining properties, and including 36 Fully-licensed Houses, 8 On-Beer Houses and 1 Off-License, situate in.....

West Bromwich and District.....

SWAN INN and Land adjoining, Blackheath.....

Boswell & Tomlins, FAI, in conjunction with William Fowler, Bewlay & Co., Will submit the above for Sale by Public Auction, in 45 Lots (subject to Conditions of Sale), at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Monday, October 14, 1929, Commencing at 3.30pm Promptly.

Printed particulars may be obtained from the Solicitors, Messrs. Redfern and Co., 25, Colmore Row, Birmingham; or from the Auctioneers, Messrs. Boswell and Tomlins, FIA, 88 and 89, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton (Tel. No.1116 (two lines), Telegrams ‘Auctions’), and Messrs. William Fowler, Bewlay and Co., 59, Temple Row, Birmingham (Tel. Midland 6120).”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/10/1929

“An important sale of freehold licensed premises in the Black Country was held at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, yesterday, when Messrs. Boswell and Tomlins, Wolverhampton, and Messrs. William Fowler, Bewlay and Co., Birmingham, offered 45 lots, the vendors of which were Messrs. Atkinsons Brewery Ltd, and Messrs. Peter Walker and Co. Ltd.

Of the 45 lots which were situate at West Bromwich, Tipton, Dudley, Brierley Hill, Old Hill, and Stourbridge, 32 were sold at the sale, and these realised over £80,000.

The highest price obtained was £7,000 for the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Blackheath.....”

It was sold at auction on 14th October 1929 for £7,223.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/9/1931

“An association with the entertainment world of 50 years ago has been revived by the recent inquiry of a *Gazette* reader as to when Parker’s Ghost Show, which was one of the sensations at that time, was last opened at Grove Lane, Smethwick. The letter came to the notice of Mrs. M. *West*, Glencroft, Beaumont Road, Blackheath, who was the late Mr. Parker’s wife, and she was able to state that their final show on the ground was staged in July, 1892.

A *Gazette* reporter yesterday visited Mrs. *West* at her home, but she said she had almost forgotten all about their old-time show.

‘When I saw the letter of inquiry in the paper,’ she said, ‘it came as a bit of a surprise. My late husband died early in life as the result of an illness, and the show was disposed of, but I don’t think it ran for very long afterwards. Later I destroyed all my material associations with it, and said I would not go to a fair ground again. That promise I have kept.’

Mrs. *West* reached an old family album in which there were portraits of her late husband and ‘show’ friends of half a century ago, and as she turned over the leaves she became reminiscent.

‘I first met John Parker,’ she said, ‘at West Bromwich. He was a native of Birmingham and his parents had been show people for many years. I think they had a shooting gallery or something like that at a fair which was held in Spon Lane. When we got married Parker purchased a ghost show from a man named Lawrence, who had been on the road with it for a considerable period. My late husband made the show such a success that he decided to secure one of the more modern and up-to-date type. He was fully repaid for his enterprise, and for several years we were booked up all over the country. Most people, and especially the residents of the Black Country, knew of Parker’s Ghost Show, and we invariably drew crowded houses.’

In response to the *Gazette* man’s query as to how the illusions were worked, Mrs. *West* said it was agreed amongst them not to reveal the secret. ‘But I can tell you this,’ she added, ‘We had one huge mirror and needed the assistance of gas, and several of

us lay on a sloping velvet-covered board beneath the mirror. The various visions which we produced were generally admitted to be the high water mark of perfection. We used to stage scenes, which, in the old days were always popular, such as 'Little Jim, the Collier's Dying Child.' The boy was shown lying in bed covered with a patchwork quilt, and a recitation in keeping with the subject was given. Perhaps there are many people who can still remember that. Our ghostly portrayals never failed to arouse the greatest interest, but I wonder how such a show would fare today. I think people would look upon it as a big joke, but in the old days it was a recognised form of entertainment.'

Until recently, Mr. and Mrs. *West* were mine hosts at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, Blackheath, where they had been for 20 years."

1939 Register

Long Lane – SWAN INN

[1] *Harry Fletcher*, date of birth 31/3/1895, married, manager licensed premises;

[2] Elizabeth Fletcher, dob 14/11/1893, married, unpaid domestic duties;

[3] William H. Fletcher, dob 28/7/1920, single, carpenter;

[4] Nora (Fletcher) Hadley, dob 13/1/1923, single, induction motor connector electrical engineering;

Sandwell Evening Mail 18/10/1991

"Traders in Halesowen are planning a bumper street party – to celebrate the end of roadworks which they claim have cost them thousands of pounds. Shopkeepers at Shell Corner have had trade disrupted for six months because of a £1.5m sewer replacement programme. Now barriers diverting and restricting traffic in the Long Lane area are being removed, and the road is set to be officially re-opened on Monday.

Traders will put up bunting and banners to celebrate the lifting of the 'blight' on trade *Bill Fradgley*, licensee at the SWAN INN, Long Lane, said it was hoped to get world speedway champion Jan Pedersen along to a party at the pub on Monday. 'The effect of these roadworks on traders in the Shell Corner area has been disastrous,' he said."

[2012]

Closed [2013]

Halesowen News 31/7/2013

"Campaigners fighting to save a landmark Halesowen pub have been dealt a hammer blow just weeks after claiming victory. Residents, councillors and shopkeepers were delighted when a controversial planning application to bulldoze the SWAN, Long Lane, and build a supermarket was withdrawn in June. However, this week an identical planning has been lodged with Dudley Council along with a solicitor's letter demanding the application be approved. Halesowen North Councillor Jeff Hill promised to fight the new application to the bitter end.

He said, 'The applicants appear to be trying to browbeat the council into accepting the proposals. I am satisfied that there are numerous grounds on which the application should be refused, and will continue to fight it vigorously through the Council's planning process, and to the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol if necessary.' He added, 'We have also been contacting the residents most affected by the plans and I will be feeding their views into my response to the application. Although we collected 676 signatures in the petition against the original application we have set up a new petition, as the old one can't be accepted as a submission to the new planning application. The petition is available to sign in local shops.' He added, 'The plans include deliveries of bread and milk as early as 4am, which is not acceptable in a residential area.'

Halesowen North councillor Hilary Bills is also disappointed with the new planning application. She said, 'I'm upset for the Long Lane residents and businesses that this new application has been put in again. My opposition remains the same it's bad news for Shell Corner, it'll require major road traffic changes to make it safe, it'll cause long term noise and nuisance for the neighbours and to top it all we'll lose a well known pub.' She added, 'I had hoped the pub owners would come up with some good ideas to make the pub pay its way such as a real ale pub or even a gastro pub but apparently not.'

Yorkshire outfit HTC Architects submitted the application and a spokesman said, 'Due to the high levels of residential properties in the area the construction of a small convenience store would be of great benefit for the community.'"

Halesowen News 30/4/2014

"The SWAN pub, Long Lane, which was in danger of being bulldozed to make way for a supermarket last year, has been taken over by a popular brewery. Black Country Ales, which also runs the WHITLEY, Stourbridge Road and 30 real ale pubs across the West Midlands, have announced they have saved the SWAN. BCA announced the news on its Twitter and Facebook pages to the relief of patrons who were uncertain about the future of the pub.

A BCA spokesman said, 'We are delighted to announce our intention to refurbish and reopen the SWAN in Long Lane. This lovely local was under threat of redevelopment into a convenience store, but Halesowen and Stourbridge ale lovers, including local CAMRA chairman Simon Hanson, and Councillor Jeff Hill, launched a vigorous campaign to stop the pub from disappearing.' He added, 'Following our completed purchase, we look forward to launching the SWAN in late summer as a traditional real ale house which serves its community with our customary passion and attention to detail.'

Halesowen North Councillor Jeff Hill is delighted the SWAN was kept out of the hands of developers. He said, 'The campaign to stop this pub being knocked down and replaced by another supermarket was an important one to win. Local people or businesses did not want another supermarket so it is wonderful the future of the pub has been secured by Black Country Ales.'

Kay Churchill wrote on the Black Country Ales Facebook page, 'Lets hope the SWAN now gets back to a decent pub as there are not many left round here. I worked there for a few years in the late 1980s and the early 90s, it was fab place then, lots of great

memories.””

It reopened as a Black Country Ales house on 24th September 2014.

It was Stourbridge & Halesowen branch of CAMRA's Pub of the Year 2016.

Paul Hicks and Liz Rogers – see also SEVEN STARS, Brook Road, Stourbridge.

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town's In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

Halesowen News 13/1/2021

“An appeal to raise £1.7k to kick off a bid to install life-saving defibrillators across Halesowen North has been started. The SWAN pub on Long Lane has agreed to have a defib after being contacted by campaigner and fireman Stuart Henley, who has started the appeal. Defibrillators are put on the outside of buildings. To use the defib people must call 999 when they are given a code to open it and instructions on how to use it. The code changes each time it is used.....”

Express & Star 6/8/2022

“A Halesowen pub has won a title for its eye-catching floral displays. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin Pub in this year's Halesowen in Bloom awards.....

The judges also awarded highly commended to the LOYAL LODGE, HAWNE TAVERN, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the SWAN and previous winner, EDWARD VII.

Eve O'Connor, chair of Halesowen in Bloom said, ‘Halesowen in Bloom wants to thank all the pubs in Halesowen who make that extra effort to make their pubs look so inviting with great floral displays.”

Halesowen News 20/9/2023

“Three Halesowen pubs have won awards for their eye-catching floral displays. The SWAN on Long Lane in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin' Pub in this year's Halesowen in Bloom awards. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road won the Best Kerb Appeal title and the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road was deemed to have the Best Hanging Baskets.....”

Phil and Eva Hardingham – see also VINE, Lichfield Road, Wednesfield.

[2023]

SWAN

Peckingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Robinson [1849]

Amos Dagger [1873]

NOTES

William Robinson was also a butcher. [1849]

Amos Dagger was also a shopkeeper. [1873]

TALBOT

43, Islington, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Price [1851] – [1896]
Thomas Perry [1901]
Frederick Byng [1906] – **1907**;
Frank Gower (**1907** – [])
Herbert ‘Tom’ Cresswell [1911] – [1916]
Henry Mundon [1921]

NOTES

OLD TALBOT [1887]

1851 Census

Islington

- [1] *Samuel Price* (22), nail maker, born Halesowen;
- [2] Frances Price (19), wife, nail maker, born Atherstone, Warwickshire;
- [3] George Price (2 months), son, born Worcester:

1861 Census

Islington Street

- [1] *Samuel Price* (33), nailer and victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Fanny Price (28), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] John Price (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] George Price (16), boarder, nailer, born Halesowen:

1871 Census

Islington – Public House

- [1] *Samuel Price* (42), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Frances Price (38), wife, born Atherstone, Warwickshire;
- [3] John Price (18), son, horsenail maker, born Halesowen;
- [4] Charles Baker (19), apprentice, born Gloster [Gloucester];
- [5] Thomas Scull (14), apprentice, born Kington, Herefordshire;
- [6] Samuel Bellfield (34), lodger, horsenail maker, born Belper, Derbyshire;
- [7] William Freeman (20), lodger, horsenail maker, born Lye:

County Advertiser 18/11/1871

“Francis Knowles and Enoch Homer were each fined 1s and costs, or fourteen days, for being drunk and refusing to leave the TALBOT public-house, Islington, when requested to do so.”

1881 Census

Islington

- [1] *Samuel Price* (51), publican and nail master, born Halesowen;
- [2] Frances Price (47), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] John Price (28), son, nail forger, born Halesowen;
- [4] Mary Ann Price (36), daughter-in-law, born Reddall Hill:

County Advertiser 26/11/1887

“James Faulkner, nailer, Islington, was charged with being disorderly upon the licensed premises of *Samuel Price*, OLD TALBOT INN, and refusing to quit when requested to do so, on the 12th inst, and he was further charged with being drunk and disorderly on the highway, on the 13th inst. Defendant was fined 5s and costs in each case.”

Samuel Price, beer retailer, Islington. [1888]

1891 Census

Islington – TALBOT INN

- [1] *Samuel Price* (62), publican and nail master, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Elizabeth Price* (53), wife, born Holly Green, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Elizabeth Hingley* (19), step-daughter, born Holly Green, Worcestershire;
- [4] *Frank Knowles* (16), boarder, spike maker, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Florrie Hingley* (5), grand-daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 2/9/1893

“On Wednesday, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the TALBOT INN, Islington, Halesowen, concerning the death of Sarah Price, aged one year and nine months, daughter of Stephen Price, nailmaker.

On Sunday the child was found dead in a tub under a pump in the yard near her home, and it was supposed that deceased, whilst playing, fell backward in the tub, which contained only about three inches of water. When found, however, the child was lying on its face in the water.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Advertiser 9/2/1895

“An inquest was held on Wednesday afternoon at the TALBOT INN, Islington, Halesowen, before A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner), respecting the death of Mary Smart, aged 45 years, the wife of Charles Smart, of Islington, bricklayer, who died in child-bed on Monday last. Dr. Arkwright was in attendance upon the deceased, but notwithstanding this Inspector Raybould deemed it advisable to report the death to the coroner on account of the strong public feeling which prevailed respecting the treatment of deceased by her husband.

The first witness called was the husband, who said he had been in constant employment until the frost compelled him to cease. The coroner interrogated him as to the amount of his earnings, and witness fenced the question, but reluctantly admitted that he had been earning 9d per hour, and had been working 54 hours per week. Out of his earnings he gave his wife to maintain herself and a family of nine children 15s and sometimes £1 per week. There was, he said, no fire in the house nor food, but he considered there was sufficient bed clothing. He went to fetch the midwife on the morning in question by deceased’s direction, and did not see her alive again, as he thought he was best out of the road, and walked about the streets.

By a Jurymen: Were you at the RAILWAY INN drinking? – Witness: I went there to get warm.

Did you have anything to drink? – One half pint.

The witness afterwards admitted that he had three half pints, and that he returned home about half-past eight, two hours after his wife’s death. Witness also admitted that he had left his wife previously for eighteen months, but had sent her 15s per week when he could.

Hannah Lewis said she was a midwife and attended the deceased. When she arrived at the house at three a.m. on Monday morning she found that the deceased had been delivered of a child. She found the deceased very cold and weak. No fire was in the room, and deceased complained of being very cold. There were no blankets on the bed, and what covering there was seemed very thin. She wrapped deceased in her own shawl, but could not restore warmth. She sent for Dr. Arkwright, who quickly attended, and remained with deceased for two hours, and then left for a short time. Shortly after six a.m. she sent for him again as deceased got worse, and was nearly dead when he arrived.

Dr. Arkwright stated that he found deceased very weak from loss of blood, and she was also very cold. The bed clothing was insufficient. In his opinion death was due to debility prior to confinement, which may have been brought about from a lack of proper nourishment and exhaustion from labour.

The Coroner summed up to the jury, and commented strongly upon the husband’s neglect to provide sufficient nourishment and clothing for deceased in her confinement, and added that if he (Smart) was unable himself to do so he could have applied to the relieving officer. He also commented upon the admission of the husband as to drinking whilst his wife was in such a dangerous state. He said the jury would have no difficulty in finding a verdict that death was due to natural causes, but it was competent for them to add a rider if they thought fit.

After a short deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes, and requested the coroner to censure the husband for his inhuman conduct towards his wife.

The Coroner called Smart before him, and said that he was requested by the jury to censure him for his inhuman conduct. In his opinion the word inhuman was not strong enough, as a man who could leave his wife in such a dangerous condition and go drinking at such an early hour was worse than inhuman. No words he could use would be strong enough to express his censure. Providence would mete out a punishment to him, and he would doubtless have to suffer more than he expected for his gross and wicked conduct.”

County Advertiser 1/1/1898

“On Friday morning, the 24th ult, Mr. E. Docker, coroner, held an inquest at the TALBOT INN, Islington Street, Halesowen, concerning the death of Walter Smart (16), whose parents reside in Islington Street, Halesowen, and who committed suicide by hanging himself on the 21st ult.

Eliza Smart, sister of deceased, stated that for several months past deceased had suffered from severe pains in his head. Deceased worked at Messrs. Hackett’s factory, and on Tuesday morning the 21st ult, he came back from work and said his masters would not allow him to follow his employment.

Annie Hackett, daughter of Samuel Hackett, farmer, of Yew Tree Farm, Hasbury, stated that she was passing through a field at Bundle Hill on the afternoon of the 21st ult, when she saw deceased hanging from a tree.

Samuel Hackett, brother of the last witness, deposed to cutting down the body.

Inspector Raybould was called, and Dr. Arthur Arkwright pronounced deceased to be dead.

Edward Hackett, deceased's employer, stated that he was engaged in July last as a bolt forger. On the 16th ult witness received information of deceased stealing a quantity of scrap iron. He accused deceased of it, and he admitted it. Witness told him he should have to speak to his father, and he resumed work. He did not threaten to prosecute or dismiss him, and on the 21st ult deceased left work of his own accord.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind."

1901 Census

Islington

[1] *Thomas Perry* (34), publican, born Old Hill;

[2] *Sarah J. Perry* (34), wife, born Dudley Wood;

[3] *Kezia Jones* (17), general servant, born Blackheath:

County Advertiser 25/8/1906

"On Tuesday, at Halesowen Police Court – before Messrs. H. M. Hingley, R. T. Pearson, W. Somers, and W. Green – Frederick Holloway, nailmaker, of Islington, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the TALBOT INN, Islington, Halesowen, kept by *Frederick Byng*, when requested to do so on the 17th inst.

Police-constable Taylor gave evidence with regard to the charge of drunkenness. He stated that he was called to the locality on the night in question, when he saw the defendant, who was in a very drunken state. Witness locked him up.

Inspector Brazier said when he saw the defendant he had got his coat and vest off, and he was besmeared with blood. There was a disgraceful disturbance in the street, and witness directed Police-constable Taylor to take defendant into custody.

The landlord stated that defendant was drinking in his house on the night in question, when a disturbance arose. Witness requested the whole of the customers in the house to leave, and they all proceeded to do so with the exception of defendant. Holloway picked up a cup, which he threw amongst the customers. He then attacked witness in a savage manner, knocking him down. With considerable difficulty witness got defendant into the passage, with a view to ejecting him, but he again became violent. Witness was knocked down, and defendant punched and kicked him, whilst his ears were bitten.

In reply to Inspector Brazier, witness said he was the landlord of the public house, but most of the business was conducted by his wife. He was not in the house that night until the disturbance; he was engaged in the rear of the premises. He did not depend upon the business for a livelihood.

Inspector Brazier remarked that witness had accepted the responsibility of the house, and he should see that he conducted it properly.

Evidence in support of the landlord's statement was given by George Nock.

Defendant strongly denied being drunk, and also that he declined to leave the premises. He alleged that he was assaulted by a number of persons using the house, who threw him to the ground and jumped upon him. He was unable to leave the premises even had he desired to. Witness had used the house for over nine months, and he had never seen the landlord until he appeared in the witness box at the Court that morning.

Thomas Burley, a witness for the defence, said the disturbance took place after the landlady had brought in two quarts of beer, which was a free distribution upon Friday nights to the customers.

The Bench imposed a fine of 10s and costs for refusing to quit, and 2s 6d and costs for being drunk and disorderly.

Another case arising out of the previous one was heard, in which five men named George Cox, John Cox, James Cox, William Flatt, and Edward Brettell, all living at Islington, Halesowen, were charged with assaulting Richard Holloway on the 18th inst.

Flatt was also summoned for assaulting William Burley on the same date.

Holloway alleged that the quarrel arose between George Cox and himself, and they were both going out to fight when the whole of the defendants rushed upon him and assaulted him badly.

Burley alleged that Flatt struck him.

A number of witnesses were called upon both sides, and ultimately the magistrates discharged the defendants."

County Advertiser 23/3/1907

"*Frederick Byng*, licensee of the TALBOT INN, Halesowen, was summoned by Mr. G. Rudge (assistant overseer) for the non-payment of his poor and general district rates, amounting to £4 8s 10d.

Defendant said he had lost all his money in the business, and had been out of employment for six months.

A representative of the Brewery Company paid the rates and costs, and the case was withdrawn.

The license of the public house was subsequently transferred from *Byng* to *Frank Gower*."

Birmingham Mail 21/2/1911

"Today, at Hales Owen Police Court, John Partridge, spike maker, of Gaunt's Yard, Hales Owen, was summoned for being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the TALBOT INN, Islington. The landlord, *Tom Cresswell*, stated that he found defendant in the tap-room stripped of his jacket and vest, and challenging other customers to fight. Defendant refused to go, and he was ejected. Defendant denied the landlord asked him to leave, and said the other customers commenced the disturbance by throwing his clothes on the stove. The Bench fined defendant £1 5s 6d, including costs, or a month's imprisonment."

1911 Census

43, Islington – TALBOT INN

- [1] *Tom Cresswell* (51), publican, born Blakeney, Gloucestershire;
[2] *Sophia Cresswell* (53), wife, married 29 years, born Chaceley, Gloucestershire;
[3] *Herbert Cresswell* (22), son, brewer, born Rotherham, Yorkshire;
[4] *Harry Cresswell* (17), son, articled to sanitary inspector at Halesowen, Rural District Sanitary Inspector, born Rotherham, Yorkshire;
[5] *Sarah Ball* (24), general servant, born Hanley Castle, Worcestershire:

County Express 25/11/1911

“Yesterday morning, at 8.30, the smoke room of the TALBOT INN, Islington, Halesowen, kept by Mr. *Thomas Cresswell*, was found to be on fire, the floor being alight. The fire brigade, in charge of Capt. Binfield, speedily subdued the outbreak. Damage estimated at £35 was done.”

Bromsgrove Messenger 5/12/1914

“*Tom Creswell*, of the TALBOT INN, Islington, was summoned for being drunk on his licensed premises. Mr. Sharpe prosecuted and Mr. Willison defended.

From the evidence of Police-constable Keyte it appeared that he saw *Creswell* near the BULLS HEAD INN on November 25th about seven o'clock. He noticed he was drunk, and two men were supporting him. He saw him go into the BULLS HEAD, but witness followed him in by another door, and cautioned the landlord not to serve him. In company with Police-sergeant Haden he visited defendant's house later on in the evening, and found defendant in the bar room sitting on a bench. He was then drunk, and used bad language. He threatened to report Keyte to Worcester.

Police-sergeant Haden corroborated Keyte as to the visit to defendant's house.

Thomas Clews, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, said he refused to serve *Creswell* before Keyte came in. He saw he was under the influence of drink.

Mr. Willison, for the defence, denied the charge, and said that his client had been to Hagley that day, and had only three brandies at the Lyttelton Arms, as he felt ill. He then called at the Spencers Arms, where he had half a glass of beer.

Defendant bore out Mr. Willison's statement, and said he was sober.

The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs.”

County Express 5/3/1921

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

Supt. J. Walters objected to the renewal of the license of the TALBOT INN, Islington, Halesowen, on the ground of redundancy. He explained that the two nearest licensed houses were the OLD ROYAL OAK INN, an alehouse, 74 yards away, and the WAGON AND HORSES, a fully licensed house 118 yards away.

The Clerk (Mr. A. Homfrey), gave particulars regarding the ownership of the house and the licensee, *Harry Mundon*, raised no objection to the application.

The Bench decided to refer the license to the Compensation Committee.”

TALBOT

Peckingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Grove [1896]
Thomas Joseph Johnson []
Frank Bolus [1902] – [1904]
Sarah Ann Wills (1907 – []
Thomas Cresswell [1908]

NOTES

Smethwick Weekly News 13/7/1901

“On Wednesday a meeting of the creditors of *Thomas Joseph Johnson*, licensed victualler's manager, 20, Huson Street, Birmingham, lately of the TALBOT, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, was held at the Board of Trade office. The statement of affairs showed debts £550, and assets £16. The failure was attributed to heavy expenses and robbery. The case is a summary one, and the Official Receiver is trustee.”

County Express 1/3/1902

“William Allbutt, a baker, Hagley Road, Halesowen, pleaded guilty to a charge of being disorderly on the licensed premises of the TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, on February 11th, and with refusing to quit when requested. Mr. Green appeared for the complainant (Mr. *Frank Bolus*), who gave evidence. Fined 20s and costs, or a month.”

Bromsgrove Messenger 5/12/1903

“*Frank Bolus*, of the TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on the 17th inst. Mr. J. W. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

Police-constable King stated that on the date named, about 10 o'clock, he left the police station and proceeded to the bottom of Peckingham Street, where he remained. At 10.30 he saw a man named George Field come out of defendant's house, and when in the street Field fell down. He went to him and found him helplessly drunk, and he locked him up. The man pleaded guilty to being drunk, and was fined the next morning. Witness afterwards went with Police-sergeant Pass to the defendant's, and there saw the defendant, and asked him how he accounted for Field leaving the house in that condition. Defendant said Field left the house at ten minutes past ten, and if he went anywhere else he could not help it. In reply to Mr. Waldron witness said he could see the house the whole of the time he was standing down the street. Field did not call at the GOLDEN CROSS. He could not say what time he went in. It was half-past ten when he left, and the church clock struck at that time. He did not leave at ten minutes past ten.

Police-sergeant Pass deposed to meeting the defendant the same night at ten minutes to eleven in company with Police-constable King. Defendant then said Field left at ten minutes past ten; he stated the man had been drinking there some time, and he saw he had had enough, and he asked him to leave.

Mr. Waldron, for the defence, said if the evidence he was going to call was going to be believed the Bench should dismiss the case.

The defendant was sworn, and said on that night they were celebrating the victory of the air gun shooting club held at his house, which had won the cup. At ten minutes past ten he saw Field in the smoke room, and noticing that he was drunk he ordered him to leave. He was sitting down, and he got up, opened the door, and went out. Witness could not say if he went into the street. The door was half way in the passage.

Two witnesses for the defendant also bore out his statement.

The Bench said they considered the case proved, and fined defendant 40s and costs. If it had not been for his good character they would have inflicted a heavier penalty.”

County Advertiser 13/2/1904

“On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court. Superintendent E. Sherriff presented his annual report.

I beg to inform you that I have given notice of objection to the following licensed person to oppose the renewal of his license on one or more of the following grounds (that is to say) *Frank Bolus*, TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen: (1) That on the 1st of December, 1903, you were convicted at Halesowen Petty Sessional Court for an offence against the Licensing Act, 1872, to wit, permitting drunkenness, for which offence you were fined £2 and costs £2 7s 6d; (2) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of a shop adjoining, in the occupation of Mr. Frank Allen, having a right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (3) that your said licensed premises are so constructed as to prevent the police exercising proper supervision over the same.

The justices proceeded to hear the objection against the renewal of the license of the TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street. Mr. S. Vernon (who represented the landlord) explained that the owners were prepared to carry out alterations to the premises which would meet the sanitary requirements of the house, and also facilitate the proper supervision by the police. The magistrates decided to defer their decision in this case until the adjourned sessions, in order that the owners may submit plans showing the proposed alterations to the premises.”

Birmingham Mail 1/3/1904

“Today the adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Hales Owen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court. Mr. S. Vernon, of Oldbury, applied for the renewal of the license of the TALBOT HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Hales Owen, to Mr. *Frank Bolus*. He explained that at the annual licensing sessions the police lodged an objection to the renewal of the license on the ground that the house was difficult to supervise. Plans had since been prepared for structural alterations to the premises, which had been approved by the police.

Superintendent Sheriff, in reply to the Bench, said the owners of the house intended to make great improvements.

The Justices renewed the license, and also approved the plans for the alterations.”

County Express 27/6/1908

“At Halesowen, on Tuesday, Richard Hill (50), bricklayer, Hagley Street, Halesowen, was summoned for behaving in a disorderly manner and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the TALBOT HOTEL, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, on the 20th. *Thomas Cresswell*, landlord of the public-house, was summoned for assaulting Hill at the same time.

Mr. A. G. Hayes, who appeared for Hill, said on the night in question, Hill went into the public-house and commenced playing a whistle. The landlord gave him a pint of beer, and shortly afterwards Hill demanded another one, which *Cresswell* refused. Hill used abusive language and refused to leave the premises when requested to do so. *Cresswell* caught hold of him to eject him, but the latter struggled violently, attempted to bite the landlord, and was with difficulty put out of the house. The landlord and three other witnesses – Mary Maria Ingram, Jane Corfield, and David Whyley – bore out this statement.

Hill, whose left arm was in a sling, alleged that he had worked for *Cresswell* during the day, and when he asked him for payment he swore at him, and then threw him to the ground and jumped upon him. His wrist was badly sprained, and he had been under the treatment of Dr. Young. He denied that the landlord ordered him to leave, and said that when he picked himself up he was glad to walk out of the house.

Mr. Hayes urged that *Cresswell* did not use more force than was necessary in ejecting Hill, who sustained his injury during the struggle.

The Bench ultimately dismissed the case, ordering both parties to pay their own costs.”

[1911]

County Express 12/2/1910

“On Tuesday morning the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen petty sessional division were held at the Police Court..... Supt. Hill intimated that he proposed to object to the renewal of the license of the TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, the RED LION, Birmingham Street, and the FOX INN, Cornbow. On his application these licenses were deferred for consideration at the adjourned sessions in order that the police could serve notices stating the grounds of objection. The whole of the other licenses were renewed.”

Alcester Chronicle 9/7/1910

“Worcestershire Licencing Committee sat at the Guildhall, Worcester, on Saturday, to consider the fourteen houses referred to them as compensation authority by the several local benches.....

Of the houses reported, the following did not oppose extinction of their licenses.....

TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen.”

Evesham Standard 10/12/1910

“Worcestershire Licensing Committee. Determining Compensation Claims.

A supplemental meeting of this Committee was held on Saturday at the Shirehall.....

The special purpose of the meeting was for the purpose of determining the amount of compensation to be paid for the extinction of licenses. Fourteen such licenses had been reported by the justices to the Committee, and the Committee had already decided to renew one. The amounts claimed in respect of the other thirteen were.....

TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, £1,608 2s 6d.

The Committee took evidence in support of the claims calculated on the capitalized loss of trade, the capitalized loss in the value of the premises by the extinction of the license, and the loss on the sale of fittings.....

In the case of the TALBOT, the property was said to have been sold in 1907 for £730, and the outlay for repairs and alterations made an inclusive outlay of £1,000.

The committee decided to award £926 in the case of the TALBOT.”

County Express 14/1/1911

“A number of local licenses were under review at the adjourned meeting of Worcestershire Licensing Committee which was held on Saturday, Mr. J. W. Willis Bund presiding.

In the case of the two Halesowen houses which have been referred for compensation the committee settled the shares to be paid to the various parties as follows.....

TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, £926 awarded; £10 to the licensee, £426 to registered owner, £90 to the tenant, £400 to the mortgagee.”

Bromsgrove Messenger 9/3/1912

“A meeting of the Worcestershire County Licensing Committee was held at the Shirehall, Worcester, on Saturday afternoon.....

The following amounts, which had previously been awarded, were now ordered to be paid on March 29th.....

TALBOT INN, Peckingham Street, Halesowen, £994 (including £10 for licensee).”

TALBOT

Spring Hill, Hagley Road, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Perry [1868] – [1870]

William Bailey [1871] – [1874]

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 8/5/1868 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant. Good character indispensable.
Apply, Mr. *Perry*, TALBOT INN, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/3/1869 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale, at the TALBOT INN, Spring Hill, Hales Owen.
By E. H. Barton, This Day (Tuesday), at Twelve o'clock, upon the Premises as above.
The whole of the excellent Public House Furniture, Fixtures, Brewing Plant and Effects.
Catalogues at the Auctioneer's Offices, 11, Union Street.”

County Advertiser 4/12/1869 - Advert

“To be Let, the TALBOT INN, Spring Hill, Halesowen.
Apply to Mr. E. Moore, Townsend, Halesowen.”

1871 Census

Spring Hill – TALBOT

- [1] *William Bailey* (33), veterinerary surgeon, licensed victualler, born Hasbury;
- [2] Naomi Bailey (29), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] Joseph Bailey (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Florence Lea Bailey (6), daughter, scholar, born Wombourn;
- [5] Mary A. Bailey (5), daughter, scholar, born Wombourn;
- [6] William Bailey (3), son, scholar, born Wombourn;
- [7] Adelina M. Bailey (1), daughter, born Hasbury;
- [8] Sarah A. Hardy (16), sister-in-law, unmarried, born Kingwinford;
- [9] Ellen Hall (19), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 4/7/1874

“On Thursday last an inquest was held at the house of Mr. *Bailey*, TALBOT INN, Spring Hill, before Mr. R. Docker, district coroner, on the body of an infant, James Wilden, son of William Wilden, of Spring Hill. It appeared that on Tuesday last, the mother had been washing some clothes in a milkpan. She went out of the house for a few minutes on an errand, leaving the child playing on the floor. When she returned she found it in the milkpan, its face in the water. She instantly lifted it out, but it was apparently dead. Mr. Phillips, surgeon, was sent for, and on arrival stated that the child had died from suffocation, the result of drowning. It did not appear that anyone was to blame. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned.”

County Express 1/8/1874

“The members of the Free Gardeners Friendly Society held at the house of Mr. *William Bailey*, TALBOT INN, Spring Hill, held their annual feast on Monday afternoon last, when to the number of 39 sat down to a most substantial dinner, provided in the best possible style by the worthy host and hostess. After the withdrawal of the cloth, the members drank health to the officers and success to the Society. Toasts and songs were given with great zest, Mr. *Bailey* ably assisting on the pianoforte, and taken as a whole the lodge anniversary was so highly successful that that fact may be considered a good augury of its future prosperity.”

Check NELSON.

THREE DIAMONDS BAR AND GRILL

1, Horner Way, BLACKHEATH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Halesowen News 27/6/2017

“A dedicated Rowley Regis fundraiser is helping to raise thousands in aid of a young girl who has terminal brain cancer. Rasham Singh Dulai is to take part in a sponsored five mile walk around Sandwell Valley on Sunday, July 9 at 2pm, which will be followed

by a charity event in Rowley Regis in August. He is aiming to raise £5,000 for seven-year-old West Bromwich girl Maddison Seeney, who was diagnosed with Glioblastoma Multiforme – a cancer rare in children and more commonly found in adults aged over 50. Her mum Cherrie, who has arranged the walk, is looking to raise money to make Maddison's last few months as happy as possible through short trips and weekends away. Mr Dulai has so far raised more than £2,300 of his target. As well as taking part in the walk, he has organised a fundraising evening at the THREE DIAMONDS BAR AND GRILL in Rowley Regis. The evening, on August 12 from 7pm to 1am, will feature a DJ, Indian food and a raffle with a host of prizes. Mr Dulai added he was still looking for more donations of prizes for the event. Tickets cost £1 or six for £5."

[2020]

TOWNSEND

Church Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Walter Showell and Co. Ltd. [1904]

LICENSEES

Esther Timmins [1901] – [1904]

Mrs. Underwood [] – **1905**;

Arthur Edward Mumford (**1905 – 1906**);

Charles Whitcombe (**1906 – []**)

Mrs. Mary Ann Whitcombe (**1907 – [1909]**)

Edwin E Hands [1911]

William Amor [1912] – [1921]

NOTES

NEW TOWNSEND STORES [1901]

TOWNSEND VAULTS [1904]

TOWNSEND STORES [1907], [1909], [1911]

1901 Census

Church Street

[1] *Esther Timmins* (42), widow, ale and wine and spirit merchant, born West Bromwich;

[2] Sarah Johnson (20), general servant, born West Bromwich:

County Express 8/6/1901

"Mr. Vernon made an application for the Bench's approval of some plans of proposed alterations to the NEW TOWNSEND STORES. He explained the present premises were very small, and the excise authorities had a very serious objection to the business being carried on, on the present premises, and they required that certain alterations should be made. Mr. Vernon then went into details as to the proposed alterations.

Inspector Pitt, replying to the Bench, said the police did not object to the proposed alterations; in fact, they thought they would be an improvement.

The Bench approved the plans."

County Advertiser 23/1/1904 - Notice

"To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish of Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the Division of Halesowen, in the said County, and to the Clerk of the Licensing Justices of the said Division.

I, *Esther Timmins*, now residing at TOWNSEND VAULTS, Townsend, in the Parish of Halesowen, in the said County, Do Hereby Give You Notice that it is my intention to Apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Court House, Halesowen, in the Division aforesaid, in the said County, on the 9th day of February, 1904, for a License authorising me to Apply for and Hold any of the Excise Licenses that may be held by a Publican, for the Sale by Retail at a House situated at Townsend, in the Parish of Halesowen, in the said County, known by the sign of the TOWNSEND VAULTS, of Intoxicating Liquor to be Consumed either on or off the Premises.

The Owners of the Premises in respect of which the License is sought are Showells Brewery Company Limited, of 157, Great Charles Street, Birmingham.

Given under my hand, this 15th day of January, 1904.

Esther Timmins.”

County Advertiser 13/2/1904

“On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court. . . . Proceeding with the applications for new licenses, *Esther Timmins*, landlady of the TOWNSEND VAULTS, applied for a full license. Mr. Vernon, in supporting the application, said the house had been licensed for fifty years, and during the last ten years had been kept by the applicant without any complaint. About two years ago he (Mr. Vernon) made an application for permission to rebuild the premises at a cost of £2,000. The house had been rebuilt, and was now up-to-date in every respect. He urged that the full license should be granted, because it was one of the few houses in the district where dinners were served for commercial travellers and others having business in Halesowen.

Mr. Clulow opposed the application on behalf of neighbouring licensed holders.

Superintendent Sherriff also opposed it. The latter remarked that he considered there were already too many licenses in the district, and that it was amply provided for. The Bench refused the application.”

Arthur Edward Mumford was the youngest son of William Mumford, brewer of Kidderminster.

He married Mary Florence Hobson on the 24th September 1893.

County Advertiser 6/5/1905

“*Arthur Edward Mumford*, licensee of the TOWNSEND STORES, Church Street, Halesowen, was charged under the Child Messenger Act, with supplying a girl, seven years of age, with a bottle of beer which was not properly corked or sealed on the 16th ult. Mr. Waldron defended.

Police-constable Haden stated that on the date in question he was on duty close to the defendant’s house, with Police-sergeant Brown and Police-constable King, when he saw a girl named Dolly Leasham, aged seven years, come out of the house carrying a bottle containing beer. Witness stopped the girl, and found the bottle was neither corked nor sealed. The child was taken back to the public-house when defendant said the bottle had been corked and sealed but must have fled out.

Inspector Brazier stated that soon after the matter was reported to him, defendant visited the police-station bringing with him a cork and seal which he said he had found in the entry of his house. Witness, however, considered that the cork had not been put into the bottle, and neither had the seal been attached to it.

Mr. Waldron contended that defendant corked and sealed the bottle and had done everything in accordance with the Act.

Mr. Reay, however, said the Bench were of opinion that the cork had not been properly placed in the bottle, and defendant would be fined 5s and costs. He also urged Mr. Waldron to inform Messrs. Showell, the owners of the house, that the labels were not strong enough and that defendant should be requested not to serve children of such tender age.”

County Advertiser 10/2/1906

“The annual general licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday. . . .

Superintendent Hill, in his annual report to the justices, stated that. . . .

The following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as stated. . . .

On the 2nd May, 1905, *Arthur Edward Mumford*, TOWN END STORES, Halesowen, was convicted for selling intoxicating liquor to a person under the age of fourteen years, and fined 5s and costs. . . .

Mr. J. S. Sharpe applied on behalf of Messrs. Showells Brewery Company, the owners of the TOWNSEND STORES, Halesowen, for the grant of two certificates under singular circumstances. He explained that there was a slight difficulty with the Inland Revenue authorities, because one portion of the premises was licensed for the sale of beer ‘on’ and the other part for the sale of wines and spirits ‘off.’ The two trades were separately conducted, but both were comprised in the certificate granted by the Bench for several years past. The Excise authorities said that they must have two separate licenses, and the company was obliged to come to the Bench and ask for their ruling upon the matter. The company only desired to comply with the wishes of the Inland Revenue authorities.

In reply to the Chairman of the Bench, Mr. Sharpe said it appeared that sometimes the Excise authorities did over-ride Acts of Parliament.

Mr. Howard pointed out that by granting two licenses it would be making a restriction upon the trade.

Superintendent Hill opposed the application because it would show an additional license when the police made up their returns, and he had already drawn attention to the increase in the licenses.

Eventually Mr. Howard said the Bench would grant the two certificates on the understanding that the firm would look upon it as one license.”

County Advertiser 17/11/1906

“On Saturday the death occurred at the TOWNSEND STORES, Halesowen, of Mr. *Charles Whitcombe*, from pneumonia, after an illness extending over a fortnight. The deceased gentleman came from Birmingham about twelve months ago to take charge of the TOWNSEND STORES. He had been married twice, and was wedded to his present widow less than twelve months ago. He leaves four children, two sons and two daughters. Deceased was formerly a trooper in the 10th Hussars, and on Wednesday afternoon he was buried with military honours at the parish churchyard, where the service was conducted by the Rev. W. Davis-Winstone (curate). A detachment from the Halesowen Company of Volunteers attended with the band and a firing party. The coffin was covered with the Union Jack, and on the way to the church the band played the Dead March. Afterwards the firing party fired three volleys over the grave, and Bugler Byng sounded The Last Post. The relatives of the deceased gentleman followed, these

including his son, a trooper in the 1st Life Guards. The Volunteers were in charge of Colour-sergeant Instructor Maybury. The service was an impressive one, and was witnessed by a large crowd of people.”

Mary Ann Whitcombe = Mary Ann Witcombe = Mary Ann Witcomb

County Advertiser 2/3/1907

“On Tuesday, the adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the police court. . . . Mr. J. S. Sharpe applied on behalf of *Mary Ann Witcombe* for a full license in respect of the TOWNSEND STORES, Halesowen. There were two licenses in existence for the house, viz, a beer ‘on’ and a wine and spirit ‘off’ and if the application were granted it would extinguish one of them. The owners had spent over £2,000 on improvements, and desired to turn the house into a restaurant or hotel. If the Bench granted the application the owners would surrender a full licensed house in the heart of Halesowen. Mr. T. Cooksey opposed the application on behalf of the owner and licensee of the GEORGE HOTEL. The application was refused.”

Tipton Herald 26/6/1909

“At the Halesowen Police Court on Tuesday, before Messrs. J. G. Reay, R. T. Pearson, and J. Bloomer, a man named Charles Witherford, of no settled abode, was charged with stealing 3s from the till at the TOWNSEND STORES, the property of *Mary Ann Whitcombe*.

Edith *Whitcombe*, daughter of the lady of the house, was the first witness. She said that on Tuesday 18th June, at 4pm, she was in the smoke-room, when she heard someone go into the bar. She went in and saw the prisoner, who asked for a pint of beer. She served him, and he paid for it. There was no one else in the bar. She then went upstairs. Ten minutes after her mother called her and she came downstairs and counted the money in the till, which she found about 3s short. When she came downstairs the prisoner had gone.

The Clerk: Do you want to ask any questions?

Prisoner: No; I had a pint of beer, but I did not touch the till.

Mary Ann Whitcombe, widow, of the TOWNSEND STORES, said that on the day in question when she was in the smoke-room she heard someone at the till. She rushed into the bar and saw the prisoner, who was just going to sit down, with a paper in his hand. Prisoner left the house without drinking his beer.

Prisoner: I drank my beer, sir.

Proceeding, witness said she then examined the till and went to the front door to see if the prisoner was about, but he was nowhere to be seen. She then called her daughter.

PC Dwyer said that on Friday he received information of the theft, and he went to look for the prisoner. He arrested him at the lodging house in Birmingham Street the same night. In reply to the charge, the prisoner said, ‘I have been there, but I took no money.’

Prisoner said he had not taken any money. He did not, however, wish to give evidence on oath.

He was committed to the sessions to take his trial.”

County Express 3/7/1909

“At the Worcestershire Quarter Sessions on Monday, Charles Witherford (39), labourer, was charged with stealing 3s, belonging to *Mary Ann Witcomb*, of the TOWNSEND STORES INN, Halesowen. Mr. Marchant prosecuted. Mrs. *Whitcomb*, who was in the smoke room of the inn, heard the rattle of the bar till, went into the bar, where prisoner was alone. He left hurriedly. Afterwards the money was missed from the till, and there was a mark on the counter as if someone had leaned over to reach the till. When arrested he had 1s 6d in his possession, and he said he had earned 5s on the previous day. He was found guilty. He was said by the police to have a bad character, and was sentenced to six months’ hard labour.”

County Express 4/3/1911 - Advert

“Bar-General, Wanted at once; good references essential.

Apply TOWNSEND STORES, Halesowen.”

1911 Census

TOWNSEND STORES

[1] *Edwin E. Hands* (30), licensed victualler, born Redditch;

[2] *Harriet Hands* (25), wife, married 2½ years, born Tamworth:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/4/1916

“The Old Hill justices had before them yesterday a number of munition workers charged with defrauding the Great Western Railway Company by travelling without tickets. Mr. J. D. Harward, who prosecuted, said the fines imposed by the justices in recent cases had not stopped the practice amongst munition workers, who, though earning excessively high wages, tried to defraud the company for the sake of a penny or twopence, and he appealed to the bench to inflict far heavier fines. William Williams, a Stourbridge mechanic, who hid in the luggage body of the motor train at Hales Owen, in order to evade the conductor, but who was detected at Old Hill, was fined 40s. A similar penalty was imposed on *William Amor*, a publican, of Hales Owen, charged with aiding and abetting in the commission of an offence. It was stated that *Amor* told the conductor that his friend had only travelled from Old Hill, and that he, having boarded the train at Langley Green, attempted to bolster up the fraud committed by his friend.”

Birmingham Mail 7/11/1945 - Advert

“Wolseley 12.6 ’32 gd. clean car Offers.

TOWNSEND STORES, Church Street, Halesowen.”

TRAVELLERS REST

392, Long Lane, (Cakemore), (Cocksheds), Hill, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Thomas Smith [1867]

Edward Sturman Snr.

Sturmans Ltd. [1938]

Darby’s Brewery Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Premier Midland Ales (acquired in January 1991)

LICENSEES

Thomas Smith [1861]

Mrs. Wakefield [1864]

Thomas Smith [1864] – [1873]

Josiah Rollinson [1872]

James Cockin [1880]

Edward Sturman Snr. [1881] – **1900**)

John Sturman [1900]

Edward Sturman Jr. [1904] – [1924]

Isaac Tromans [1939]

George Alexander Brown [1966]

Geoff Gennard [1982]

D Turner [1983]

Pat Evans [1994]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Long Lane

[1] *Thomas Smith* (49), victualler, born Blackheath;

[2] *Eliza Smith* (40), wife, born Dudley;

[3] *David Smith* (26) son, rivet maker, born Blackheath;

[4] *Joseph Smith* (19), son, rivet maker, born Blackheath;

[5] *Jesse Smith* (12), son, nailer, born Blackheath;

[6] *Joseph Powell* (11), son-in-law, nailer, born West Bromwich;

[7] *Thomas Powell* (9), son-in-law, scholar, born Oldbury;

[8] *Mary Ann Smith* (2), daughter, born Blackheath;

[9] *Hannah Smith* (11), daughter, born Blackheath:

County Advertiser 30/4/1864 - Advert

“To be Let, at Halesowen, a capital Beerhouse, the TRAVELLERS REST, with Retail Shop, now doing a good business. Coming-in will be very low.

Application to be made to Mrs. *Wakefield*, on the premises.”

Thomas Smith was also a rivet manufacturer. [1864], [1865], [1872], [1873]

Stourbridge Observer 1/2/1868

“The adjourned inquest on the body of *John Convin*, who died on January 17th, was held at the house of Mr. *Thomas Smith*, TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane. On Monday last.

From the evidence adduced it appeared that the deceased was employed by Mr. Charles Nicholls, of Blackheath, to manage a shooting gallery, and on the night of December 30th he went into the shop kept by his employer and demanded 5s which he said was coming to him. Deceased was rather the worse for liquor at the time, and Nicholls refused to pay him. An altercation ensued between the parties, and eventually Nicholls ejected the deceased from the shop. He fell very heavily on the pavement, and his wife, who was present, had great difficulty in getting him home. From that time he became seriously ill, and although medical aid was procured he never recovered his usual health, but, as stated above, died on January 17th.

Mr. Moore, surgeon, of Halesowen, deposed that he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and after describing its external and internal appearances, stated that in his opinion deceased died from Natural Causes accelerated by excessive drinking, his right lung being completely gone.

The Coroner briefly addressed the jury, who after a short deliberation returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony. Deceased leaves a wife and three children utterly unprovided for."

Stourbridge Observer 13/8/1870

"Eliza Smith, residing at the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, was charged with unlawfully detaining a gold ring, the property of Henry Oliver. Mr. Shakespeare defended.

Complainant said that about nine months ago he went with another man into the defendant's house, and asked her what she would allow on a gold ring.

Defendant lent 4s. She stated at the time when the 4s was paid, she would give up the ring. About a month since he took the 4s and offered them to the defendant. She refused to give up the ring, and he took out the summons.

Mr. Shakespeare said it was a case for the County Court, and the Bench dismissed the summons."

1871 Census

Long Lane

- [1] *Thomas Smith* (61), rivet maker, born Blackheath;
- [2] *Eliza Smith* (60), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Lydia Wellings* (86), grandmother, born Netherton;
- [4] *Thomas Powell* (20), step-son, rivet maker, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Mary Ann Smith* (13), daughter, scholar, born Blackheath;
- [6] *Arthur Smith* (10), son, scholar, born Long Lane;
- [7] *Louisia Smith* (8), daughter, scholar, born Long Lane;
- [8] *Charles Smith* (4), son, scholar, born Long Lane;

Stourbridge Observer 27/1/1872

"At the Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday last, before Major Smith and Messrs. E. Moore and E. Gem, Zachariah Smith, a Parish-constable, was charged with being drunk and refusing to leave the TRAVELLERS REST beerhouse, Cock Sheds, Halesowen, when requested to do so by the landlord, *Josiah Rollinson*. Complainant said the defendant went into his house on the 20th inst, at five minutes to eleven by his clock, which was five minutes fast by the policeman's watch. Defendant said it was time to close the house, and complainant ordered him out, and he said he should not go until he had a mind. He was quite fresh at the time.

Complainant's daughter, Mabel, and John Jones, corroborated him.

Defendant said he went into the house at ten minutes past eleven and told complainant to close the house, and complainant caught hold of him and would not let him go out.

Mr. Gem said he did not believe a word any of the witnesses had spoken.

Police-constable Dannant was called, and said during the last 18 months, complainant had conducted his house remarkably well.

The house was always shut a little before closing time, and on Saturday last he passed it at 10 minutes past eleven at night, and it was shut up then.

The case was adjourned for 14 days to enable defendant to bring witnesses to prove as to the time when he entered complainant's house."

County Advertiser 10/2/1872

"Zachariah Smith, a parish-constable, was charged, on remand, with being drunk and disorderly, and refusing to quit the TRAVELLERS REST public house, at the Cocksheds, when requested by the landlord, *Josiah Rollinson*, to do so. The facts of the case have been published, and it will be remembered that the adjournment was granted on the understanding that Smith would produce independent witnesses. Today he said he had not brought further evidence, as *Rollinson* had asked him to settle the matter, but he would do so if the Bench would allow another adjournment. Mr. Jackson, who was engaged by *Rollinson*, said that so far from his client ever having made an order to settle the case, he could prove that Smith himself had several times sent to *Rollinson*, beseeching him to do so. His client, however, had refused to have anything to do with him. Samuel Lowe was called, and he confirmed Mr. Jackson's statement. Smith was then ordered to pay costs."

James Cockin issued tokens from here.

Dudley Herald 28/8/1880 - Advert

"Sale at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, Rowley Regis.

To Publicans, Housekeepers, and Others.

Mr. John G. Wright, by order of the Trustees of the late Mr. *Thomas Smith*, on Tuesday, September the 7th, 1880, all the Household

Furniture, and Public-House Effects, upon the premises, sign of the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, Rowley Regis, comprising Beer Machine, Ale Casks, Vats and Brewing Utensils, Tables, Chairs, Eight-day Clocks, Timepieces, Half-tester and Iron Bedsteads, Feather Beds, Bed Clothing, Chests of Drawers, Night Commodes, Dressing Glasses, Easy Chairs, and other Chamber Requisites.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock."

Edward Sturman Snr. was born in the 1st quarter of 1844.

He married Jane Fletcher on 1st February 1863.

He was described as also being a shopkeeper and beer retailer of Maltmill Lane. [1884]

He was also a brewer. [1884]

He was the father of *Edward Jnr.*

1881 Census

Long Lane – TRAVELLERS REST

[1] *Edward Sturman* (37), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] Jane Sturman (36), wife, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 2/7/1881

"William Robinson, rivetmaker, Long Lane, and Henry Skipp, rivetmaker, Blackheath, were ordered to pay 1s and costs for refusing to quit the licensed premises of *Edward Sturman*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane."

Birmingham Daily Post 21/9/1882

"The adjourned licensing sessions for Hales Owen division was held on Tuesday, at the Public Office, before Messrs. F. D. Lea, H. T. Hickman, and E. B. Phillips, magistrates.

Mr. William Shakespeare applied on behalf of *Edward Sturman*, grocer and beer retailer, of Malt Mill Lane, Hales Owen, for a six days' license to sell ale for consumption on the premises. Mr. Shakespeare said his client had made three previous applications, all of which had been refused. The house for which the license was desired was 213 yards away from the nearest public-house. A memorial signed by 76 persons residing in Malt Mill Lane was presented to the Bench in favour of the application.

In reply to Police-superintendent Hardman, the applicant said he kept the TRAVELLERS REST in Long Lane.

The application was refused."

County Advertiser 7/7/1883

"An inquest was held on Saturday afternoon, at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, before Mr. R. Docker, coroner, touching the death of Titus Bowater (4), son of Samuel Bowater, residing in Long Lane, who was drowned on Thursday week under distressing circumstances. It appears the deceased was playing near the top of a well near his father's residence, when he accidentally fell in. A brother of the deceased, who witnessed the occurrence, immediately called his parents to the spot, but the boy was drowned before he could be got out. The body was recovered about ten minutes afterwards by means of a drag.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

County Advertiser 25/8/1883

"Halesowen Annual Licensing Session.....

An objection was made to the renewal of a license held by *Edward Sturman*, of Malt Mill Lane. It appeared that *Sturman* had two houses, one a full licensed and the other a beerhouse, and the objection was now taken that he did not reside on the beerhouse premises at all, but lived at the full-licensed house.

Mr. Shakespeare urged that *Sturman* sometimes lived on the one premises and sometimes on the other premises, but within the past fortnight had permanently gone to reside at the TRAVELLERS REST, which was the full-licensed house. The renewal of the license was granted."

County Express 27/10/1883

"An inquest was held on Monday, by Mr. R. Docker, at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, relative to the death of Thomas Yates (53), miner, who died on the 13th ult, from the effect of injuries received whilst at work in the Yew Tree Pit, Blackheath, on the 10th ult. The evidence was to the effect that on the day named deceased, who was a bandsman, was engaged loading a tub in a road eight feet wide, when a piece of coal weighing about ¾cwt fell from the roof, and, striking him on the leg, caused him to fall heavily, and his back was injured. It was stated that the place where the accident occurred was well timbered up to the face, and that the workings were examined about two hours before, when everything appeared to be safe.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Dudley and District News 14/6/1884

"On Monday evening, Mr. Ralph Docker (East Worcestershire coroner) held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, touching the death of Maria Harris (54), the wife of Samuel Harris, nailer, of the Cocksheds, who was killed by lightning on Friday afternoon.

The husband of the deceased stated that on the previous Friday afternoon a violent thunderstorm passed over the district. The lightning was very vivid. During the storm the deceased took a grandchild, three months old, into her arms, and when in the act of giving it cow's milk from a bottle she was struck by lightning, and hurled a yard from the place where she was sitting. After

she fell she did not appear to breathe, and he concluded that death must have been instantaneous. The child was not in any way injured by the lightning, but was by the fall. He (witness) had a miraculous escape, for, at the time deceased was struck with the electric fluid, he lay on a bench at the side of her. The front of the house was greatly damaged; the window frames were broken, and many bricks were removed. The roof was also damaged.

Mr. Beasley, surgeon, said he saw the deceased immediately after the occurrence, and found life to be extinct. He was of opinion that death must have been instantaneous. The deceased was a fine, healthy-looking woman.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Dudley Mercury 31/12/1887 - Advert

“Preliminary Announcement.

Valuable Freehold Full-Licensed Inn and Building Land.

Mr. Joseph Hackett has received instructions from the Executor of the Will of the late Mr. *Thomas Smith*, to Sell by Auction, at the ROYAL OAK INN, Blackheath, on a day to be named in future advertisements.

All that Valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Premises, known as the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, in the occupation of Mr. *Edward Sturman*. Also all that Valuable Freehold Building Land, situate in and having a frontage to the main road leading from Long Lane to the Rowley Regis Station (G.W.R.).

For particulars, see future advertisements, and in the meantime, apply to Thomas Cooksey, Esq, Solicitor, Blackheath, and Old Hill; or the Auctioneer, Blackheath, and 30, Priory Street, Dudley.”

County Express 7/1/1888 - Advert

“To Brewers, Publicans, Capitalists and Others.

Valuable Freehold Full-Licensed Inn and Building Land.

Mr. Joseph Hackett has received instructions from the Executor of the Will of Mr. *Thomas Smith*, to Sell by Auction, at the ROYAL OAK INN, Blackheath, on Tuesday, the 17th day of January, 1888, at Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions to be then produced and read.

Lot 1. All that Valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Premises, known as the TRAVELLERS REST INN, in the occupation of Mr. *Edward Sturman*, having a frontage of 11 yards to Long Lane, Blackheath, and containing 550 square yards or thereabouts, comprising Three Bed Rooms, spacious Club Room, Spirit Vaults, Tap Room, Kitchen, Passage, Two Cellars, with gangway entrance, Brewhouse, Coach-house, Stable, with loft over, Store Room, Piggeries, large Yard, and other Appurtenances thereto belonging, producing the annual low Rental of £32.

Lot 2. All that Valuable Freehold Building Land, having 37 yards frontage to the Main Road leading from Long Lane to the Rowley Regis Station (G.W.R.), and containing 530 square yards or thereabouts.

For particulars, apply to Thomas Cooksey, Esq, Solicitor, Blackheath, and Old Hill; or the Auctioneer, Blackheath, and 30, Priory Street, Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/12/1889

“Last night Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, Cakemore, relative to the death of William Crump (54), rivet-maker.

Mrs. Crump said that her husband was proceeding downstairs on Sunday, when he fell head foremost from the top to the bottom. He sustained concussion of the brain, from which he died the same day.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

Long Lane – TRAVELLERS REST

[1] *Edward Sturman* (47), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] Jane Sturman (47), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] Mary A. Parkes (16), general servant, born Rowley:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/11/1892

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Blackheath, respecting the death of William Taylor (61), labourer, of Hackett Street, Blackheath, who was found dead in a field on the 18th inst.

Phoebe Taylor stated that deceased had been a widower for eighteen years, and had lived at her house for the last two years. On Thursday evening deceased, who had been out all day drinking, returned the worse for beer, and afterwards went out again, stating that he was going to have another pint. He did not return home.

Thomas Webster deposed to finding the body of deceased on Friday morning in a field adjoining the vicar of Blackheath's garden. Deceased had no clothes on.

Dr. Beasley said he had made a post-mortem examination, and found no marks of violence. Death was due to exposure.

George Edwards said deceased had been in the habit of keeping his shoes unlaced when he was drinking, as if he fell down he could get them off. He had also undressed himself several times, but not lately.

Police-constable Edmunds said he found deceased's clothes about ten yards away from the body.

The jury returned a verdict that deceased died from Exposure whilst under the Influence of Drink.”

County Advertiser 28/12/1895

“Jane *Sturman*, landlady of the TRAVELERS REST, Long Lane, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk upon the licensed

premises of *Edward Sturman*, on the 2nd inst.

The evidence showed that upon the house being visited by two police officers, the landlady was found lying drunk upon the floor of the kitchen.

Defendant pleaded in extenuation that she had kept the house for a number of years without any complaint.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs.”

County Advertiser 6/2/1897

“Mr. J. S. Sharpe mentioned the case where Jane *Sturman* summoned her husband, a Blackheath publican, for assault and persistent cruelty. He pointed out that before the summonses were issued an agreement was prepared under which the defendant was to make his wife a weekly allowance. That arrangement would preclude him from suing the husband for maintenance, and all he could do was to ask for a withdrawal of the summons. There were other summonses for assault in connection with the matter which he thought in the interests of all parties should also be withdrawn.

Messrs. Ward and Hayes who appeared in the cases agreed to this course, and the Bench ultimately allowed the summonses to be withdrawn.”

County Advertiser 3/4/1897

“Jane *Sturman*, of Long Lane, Halesowen, was charged with assaulting Sarah Hill, on the 24th inst. Mr. Nicklin, of Walsall, defended.

Complainant alleged that the defendant came into the TRAVELLERS REST on the date named, and commenced to create a disturbance. Her son came into the room and told her to be quiet. After some further words defendant struck her on the back of the head with her fist.

Cross-examined: Witness did not take defendant’s chair on which she had been sitting.

Mr. Nicklin, for the defence, said that in this case defendant was the wife of a man in whose house complainant was servant. They had been separated for some time, and ever since the deed of separation had been drawn up the husband had never paid her any money for her maintenance, and she had to depend on the charity of friends. She had gone to the house for her clothes and money occasionally, and went there on this day. Defendant was treated badly. Defendant did not create any disturbance, nor assault the complainant, who took away the chair upon which defendant sat down.

The case was dismissed.”

County Advertiser 24/7/1897

“*Edward Sturman*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, Cakemore, was summoned for allowing his dog to be at large unmuzzled on the 2nd inst. Defendant said the muzzles were taken off by the children, and he had lost about a dozen since the order was made. He knew he had to pay, and they might tell him at once what it was so that he could pay it. (Laughter.) He was fined 2s 6d including costs.

Police-constable Bryan proved the case.”

County Advertiser 4/9/1897

“Halesowen District Council.

Medical Officer’s Report ... On August 16th he visited and inspected the premises of Mr. *Edward Sturman*, of Long Lane, Hill, where a complaint informed him that at times there were as many as fifty to a hundred pigs kept on the premises. At the time of his visit there were fifteen. The sties with one exception were well kept and clean. The instance to the contrary to which he referred was that of a sty adjoining a warehouse belonging to Mr. Joseph Bird, and constituted a nuisance. A neighbour complained of a bad smell from a drain grating in Long Lane opposite his cottage, and attributed it to the sewage from Mr. *Sturman*’s pigsties finding its way into the drain. He (the doctor) could not satisfy himself as to the accuracy of this. He suggested that Mr. *Sturman* be requested to do away with the pigstye adjoining Mr. Bird’s warehouse, as it was an undoubted nuisance.....”

Edward Sturman Snr. died on 15th March 1900.

County Advertiser 31/3/1900 - Advert

“TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, Blackheath (Two Minutes’ Walk from Rowley Regis and Blackheath Stations, G. W. R.) E. H. Boilstone has received instructions from the Exors. of the late Mr. *Edward Sturman*, to Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 2nd Day of April, 1900, at the above address, the Whole of the Household Furniture and Effects, comprising Wood and Iron Bedsteads, Feather and Wool Beds, Mattresses, Mahogany and other Chests of Drawers, Cane-seated and other Chairs, Mahogany Wash-hand Stands and Dressing Tables, Clocks, Corner and other Cupboards (Mahogany), Pier and Swing Glasses, Sofas, Whatnots, Towel Rails, Carpeting, Lamps, Iron Safe, Tables, Wringing Machine, Copper and other Kettles, Singer’s Sewing Machine, and all Culinary Requisites; also a Capital Bay Horse, 14 hands, five years old, quiet and good worker, capital Bay Pony, quiet, and good worker, eight years old, 13-1, very fast; Dog Cart, with Lamps and Cushions complete; Square-bodied Business Carts, Single and Double Harness, Odd Harness, Quantity of Timber, Copper Boiler (200 gallons), with tap, complete; Scrap Iron, and numerous other Effects.

(By other Directions.)

Bay Horse 15½ hands, 6 years, quiet to ride and drive; very fast.

Great Mare 14½ hands, aged, quiet to ride and drive.

Two Sets of Harness.

Spring Trap.

Fruiterer's Truck.

Brake, to carry 16, in good condition, with Lamps and Cushions complete.

Set of Caledonian Corks' Regalia, suitable for any Friendly Society, complete.

New Strong Tip Cart, with Brake and Side Boards, complete.

Trap, Gig, and Low Wagon.

Bagatelle Board, complete.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.

Auctioneer's Offices: Old Hill, Staffs."

West Bromwich Weekly News 14/4/1900

"At the Halesowen Police Court, on Wednesday, Samuel *Sturman* and *John Sturman*, executors of *Edward Sturman*, late of the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, were summoned for permitting drunkenness on the licensed premises, and also for selling intoxicating drink to drunken persons on the 25th ult.

Edward Sturman Jnr., son of the late owner of the public house, was also summoned for aiding and abetting, and for selling on licensed premises intoxicating liquors which at the time he was not licensed to sell.

Evidence was given that two youths went to the house and got drunk, but the point arose as to who was responsible for serving them. One of the youths was unconscious and had to be carried home.

The executors were fined 40s and costs on the summons for permitting drunkenness, and all the other summonses were withdrawn."

AND

County Express 14/4/1900

"At Halesowen Police Court on Tuesday, Samuel *Sturman* and *John Sturman*, executors of *Edward Sturman*, deceased, were charged with selling intoxicating liquor to persons who were drunk upon the licensed premises of the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane; and also with permitting drunkenness. *Edward Sturman jun.* was also charged with aiding and abetting the other defendants, and also with himself unlawfully selling intoxicating liquor. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Cooksey defended.

In his opening statement, Mr. Clulow said Mr. *Edward Sturman* died on March 15th, and by his will devised this house to his eldest son, Samuel *Sturman* and *John Sturman* being the executors. With their consent the devisee remained in possession and carried on the business from the death of his father on the 15th March. On the 25th March and before any opportunity had arisen for anyone to obtain a temporary permit, about 8pm, two youths, James Cutler, aged 16, and William James, aged 18, went to this house where James spent 3s in liquor for himself and Cutler. They had three glasses of whisky, and one glass of rum and aniseed, one glass of port wine and one glass of brandy each. Soon after that PC Banks found Cutler in a drunken and helpless state, and he did not regain consciousness until next day. The other lad, James, was also taken home and ultimately both of them were taken before the Oldbury justices, and were fined for being drunk. Enquiry was made as to where these youths got into the condition in which they were found. The result of the enquiry was that the present proceedings were taken. It was agreed that the decision of the Bench in the executors' case should govern the cases against *Edward Sturman, junior.*

PC Banks, stationed at Causeway Green, then gave evidence that Cutler was helplessly drunk on the 25th ult. He looked more like one dead than anything else, and was as cold as marble. Two men carried him home, and, except that they could see his breathing, he was like one dead. Witness deposed that William James was very drunk, although walking behind the two men carrying Cutler. He took James home, and served the summons on them a few days after. He went to Oldbury Police Court subsequently and gave evidence, and they were fined for being drunk.

James Cutler, living in Clay Lane, Langley, said he went with William James to the TRAVELLERS REST on the night in question, and James paid for all they had to drink. They had two glasses of whisky each and then they went out and bought a pennyworth of sweets. Returning, they had another glass of whisky each. Then they had a glass of rum and aniseed each, then a glass of port wine each, and then a glass of brandy each. Witness only drank half his glass of brandy, but James finished it for witness. He had not had anything to drink at any other house than the TRAVELLERS REST.

Cross-examined: He had been unwell on the Sunday in question, and was in bed up till five o'clock in the afternoon and only had some tea. On leaving the house he was not drunk, but it 'came upon him sudden at Cakemore.'

William James, Clay Lane, Langley, deposed to going to the TRAVELLERS REST with Cutler, and corroborated his statement. Whatever happened to him was in consequence of what they had at the TRAVELLERS REST.

Mr. Cooksey, for the defence, asked the Bench to put aside the question that the men were convicted in another court of drunkenness. In a case of permitting drunkenness there must be one of three things necessary before the charge could be established. The offender must be shown to have some knowledge of the drunken state of the person, or it must be shown that he was conniving at the drunkenness, or it must be shown there was negligence on his part. As to the evidence before them that day, they had nothing but the evidence of the persons who were supplied with liquor, and apart from those two witnesses there was no evidence of what took place in the inn. They should call an independent witness as to what actually took place. They had it from Cutler that when he was leaving the house there was nothing to show he was intoxicated when he left the house, and the other said he was not staggering in the house, but when he got some distance away he felt the effects of what he had had. There was no evidence that the persons were in a drunken state in the house, but it was a case which undoubtedly ought to have been enquired into. He submitted it was hardly possible, or probable, that in the time the youths could have consumed the liquor alleged.

Edward Sturman, son of the late *Edward Sturman*, said the 25th ult was the Sunday following the funeral of his father, and there were more than the usual number of people in the house, and there were four rooms in use. Samuel Basterfield, whom the youths called Dick, was looking after the long room, or club room, and witness was looking after the bar. Witness went into the club room about eight o'clock, and the youths were there, but witness did not know what was supplied to them. There was no drunkenness in the house.

Thomas Houghton and William Preece, of Lagley, gave evidence, and Samuel Basterfield, alias Dick, deposed to what he had supplied James and Cutler. He took them a glass of whisky each, next a glass of port each, and then a rum and aniseed each. Witness did not supply them that night with anything else, and there was nothing to indicate that the youths were other than perfectly sober while in the house.

The Bench fined executors 40s, and costs on the charge or permitting drunkenness, and all other summonses were withdrawn. Solicitor's fee was allowed."

West Bromwich Weekly News 19/5/1900

"On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Blackheath, respecting the death of Frederick Smith (14), Station Road, Blackheath, who died on Saturday from the effects of injuries sustained on the previous night.

It appeared that deceased, who was employed by Mr. H. Gadd, grocer, of High Street, Blackheath, was driving a horse and trap on Friday night, and when near the top of Station Road the backboard broke. The horse took fright and dashed into a brewer's dray which happened to be passing, the result being that Smith was thrown out of the trap with great violence and sustained shocking injuries to his head.

Deceased, it transpired, did not blame anyone for the accident.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Dudley Herald 1/9/1900

"The annual Brewster Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the Public office.....

Superintendent Clare reported He has served notices of objection on the licenses held by.....

Edward Sturman, of the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane on various grounds."

County Express 1/9/1900

"Halesowen Licensing Sessions. The annual Licensing Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the new Police Court.....

Inspector Pitt gave evidence in regard to the objections, and stated with regard to that against *Edward Sturman*, the objection was for a rather bad case, inasmuch as two youths were supplied with drink and became almost insensible. Since the conviction there had been no cause for complaint. Mr. T. Cooksey, who appeared for Mr. *Sturman*, promised every care should be taken in the conduct of the house in future, and asked for the renewal of the license. The decision of the Bench was reserved until the other cases had been heard....."

County Express 29/9/1900

"Adjourned Licensing Session.....

The adjourned cases were next taken, these being *Edward Sturman*, of the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, represented by Mr. T. Cooksey The Bench renewed all the licenses, and said they expected the houses to be conducted in a better manner this year."

1901 Census

Long Lane – TRAVELLERS REST

- [1] *Edward Sturman* (34), publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Catherine Sturman (32), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] Thomas Edward Sturman (9), son, born Oldbury;
- [4] Lottie Sturman (7), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] Ethel Sturman (4), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [6] Florence Sturman (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] Agnes Sturman (18), domestic servant, born Blackheath:

Edward Sturman Jnr. was the son of *Edward* and Jane.

County Advertiser 5/3/1904

"On Tuesday the adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court.....

Mr. S. Vernon supported an application by *Edward Sturman*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, Blackheath, for permission to make structural alterations at his premises. He explained that the proposed alterations would give better police supervision of the house. They proposed to turn the kitchen used for drinking into domestic accommodation, and this would decrease the dinking area of the house. It was proposed to erect more bed rooms. The Bench approved the plans of the alterations."

County Advertiser 16/9/1905

"On Thursday evening Mr. A. H. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Long Lane, Blackheath, respecting the death of John Henry Parsons (38), oliverman, of Park Street, Blackheath, who committed suicide by hanging himself on the 12th inst.

Daniel Worrall, brother-in-law, stated that he last saw the deceased alive about ten minutes before the occurrence. Deceased had been in a depressed state of mind during the last few days, and had also been short of work. Sometime ago he purchased some tools from a man at Dudley and he was repaying the money by instalments. He had, however, been pressed for money, and, after

paying the two men who were in his employ, deceased had not been able to obtain a living wage. Some days witness had known that he had only lived on dry bread and water. On the night in question deceased was missed by his wife from home, and witness went to the shop, but found that it was locked from the inside. He effected an entrance through a window, and then found deceased hanging from a beam in the roof, his body being suspended by means of steel wire, which was placed around his neck. He was cut down with great difficulty and Dr. Freer called in; but he pronounced life to be extinct. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind.”

County Express 26/12/1908

“At Halesowen, on Tuesday, May Ann Haynes (53), married, Coombs Wood, was charged with stealing 10s belonging to Jos. Wm. Curran, Avenue Road, Cakemore, on the 19th inst.

Joseph Leslie Curran, aged 12, said he was sent to the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, for two bottles of stout. Defendant was in the passage drinking some beer when he gave the order. Witness put the half-sovereign on the counter in payment for the stout, when his attention was attracted to defendant, who had dropped a penny of her change in his bag. Witness picked it out, and handed it to defendant, who said ‘Thank you, my darling.’ Defendant then went out, and immediately witness missed his half-sovereign. He followed defendant, and told her she had picked up his money. She replied ‘No, my darling, you must have dropped it.’ PS Page deposed to arresting the defendant who admitted the theft.

Defendant’s daughter said her mother had one failing, drink, and this caused all the trouble in her father’s home.

Mr. Reay (chairman) said it was a mean theft, but the Bench were disposed to deal leniently. She would be placed under the supervision of the probation officer for six months on condition she signed the pledge, and she would have to pay the costs, 30s.

Defendant promised to sign the pledge.”

1911 Census

392, Long Lane

[1] *Edward Sturman* (44), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;

[2] *Kathren Sturman* (43), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Thomas Sturman* (19), son, assistant, born Halesowen;

[4] *Lottie Sturman* (17), daughter, assistant, born Halesowen;

[5] *Ethel Sturman* (14), daughter, born Halesowen;

[6] *Florrie Sturman* (12), daughter, school, born Halesowen;

[7] *George Sturman* (9), son, school, born Halesowen;

[8] *Sarah Evans* (19), general servant, born Blackheath:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/4/1934

“The funeral took place at Blackheath yesterday, of Mrs. Catherine *Sturman*, aged 69, wife of Mr. *Edward Sturman*, for 35 years licensee of the TRAVELLERS REST, Blackheath.”

Edward Sturman Jnr. died in the 2nd quarter of 1936.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/4/1936

“Mr. *Edward Sturman*, licensee of the TRAVELLERS REST, Blackheath, for 36 years, has died aged 69, after a long illness. He was the owner of other licensed premises in the district, and of a private brewery previously managed by his father. He was well-known in sporting circles throughout the Midlands and was vice-president of the Blackheath Conservative Club. The funeral is on Friday.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/7/1936

“The under-mentioned particulars are taken from the daily register of new companies recently registered compiled by Jordan and Sons, Ltd, company registration agents, 116, Chancery Lane, London WC2.....

Sturmans Ltd, the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Blackheath, Worcestershire. To carry on the business of public-house keepers, etc. Capital £9,000. Permanent directors: Major Rose, Tenterfield House, Comham Road, Halesowen; A Pittaway, The Hayes, Blackheath, Worcestershire.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/1/1938

“A Ministry of Health inquiry was held at Halesowen yesterday into a decision of the Worcestershire County Council that an inn which the owners desired to improve at a cost of £3,500, should be entirely rebuilt – entailing, it was stated, a cost of £10,000.

The inn is the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, Hill and Cakemore, and Mr. H. Eaden, Birmingham, for the owners, *Sturman’s Ltd*, described the county authority’s proposal as ‘extravagant and wickedly wasteful.’

The authority, he said, refused to pass the plan for alterations, and said the property must be entirely rebuilt and set back to a line 60 feet from the centre of the highway.

The reason given for this was that there should be provision for a car park in front of the house. Even were the owners willing to carry out the proposal, the owners of the land at the rear would not sell.

Mr. C. H. Bird, clerk to the County Council, said his council contemplated a road-widening scheme in Long Lane, which was a main artery and carried an increasing volume of traffic.

The inquiry was closed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/5/1938

“Two pint bottles of beer figured as evidence for the defence, at Halesowen yesterday when a firm of local brewers were summoned under the Inland Revenue Act, 1880, for mixing sugar with beer so as to increase the gravity.

The beer was of identical brew, but the contents of one bottle was described by Mr. A. E. Longhorne, defending solicitor, as ‘cloudy,’ and that of the other as ‘bright and sparkling.’ Each of the magistrates held the bottles to the light, and were apparently satisfied with the comparison.

‘That and that alone was the reason for the addition of sugar – to make it a more palatable and more presentable article,’ said the solicitor, adding that there was no intention to increase the specific gravity or to defraud the revenue.

Defendants were Sturman’s Ltd, of the TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, Cakemore, two summonses being preferred in respect of two offences in November last year, and they were fined £10 for each offence and ordered to pay £5 5s costs.

For the prosecution, Mr. L. Pocock said the allegation against Sturmans was that samples of their beer taken on two dates last year showed that in one case the equivalent of 2lb of cane sugar per barrel had been added, the corresponding increase of gravity being 2.3 degrees, and in the second case the equivalent of 1.7lb of sugar and increased gravity of 1.9 degrees. This meant a loss to the Revenue of about 4s a barrel.

Mr. A. Longhorne said the sugar had been added by the brewer in complete ignorance that he was committing an offence.”

Isaac Troman was also a brewer. [1939]

Birmingham Mail 26/1/1939

“Darts Teams Title. Fifth Round Draw for Lord Lonsdale Trophy.

The draw for some of the fifth round matches in the county section of *The People* National Darts Teams Championship has now take place. Matches must be played by February 11. The winning team in the county finals will take part in an area final, winners of which will play in the national contest at Earl’s Court, London, on May 27.....

Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire Section E.

TALBOT HOTEL, Wolverhampton v TRAVELLERS REST Dart Club, Rowley Regis.”

1939 Register

392, Long Lane – TRAVELERS REST

[1] *Isaac Tromans*, date of birth 6/5/1882, licensee, married;

[2] Blanche M. Tromans, dob 7/1/1894, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Edith G. (Hughes) Gooth, dob 16/1/1898, paid barmaid, married;

Birmingham Mail 9/7/1941 - Advert

“To Let at West Hagley a new 4-berth Caravan beautifully fitted for weekends or long periods.

For terms apply TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, Black Heath.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/10/1954 - Advert

“Sales Today. By direction of the Owners.

The Modern Detached Freehold Residence known as Homestead House.....

Sports Argus 11/3/1978

“Sports-Inn Quiz. Sponsored by Mitchells & Butlers & Bass Worthington.....

The following teams received a bye to the next round.....

TRAVELLERS REST, Long Lane, Blackheath, West Midlands.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 15/3/1988

“Fifteen men have appeared at Warley magistrates court accused of conspiracy to cause violent disorder after being arrested by police who stopped a van in Whiteheath, Rowley Regis, on Saturday night.

They were all bailed to appear before magistrates at Smethwick on March 23 on condition that they did not visit four public houses in the Whiteheath and Blackheath areas – the MANCHESTER, the TRAVELLERS REST, the ROWLEY RAG, and the GATE INN. Thirteen of the defendants who appeared were from Rowley Regis.....”

Birmingham Mail 26/1/1939

“Darts Teams Title. Fifth Round Draw for Lord Lonsdale Trophy.

The draw for some of the fifth round matches in the county section of *The People* National Darts Teams Championship has now take place. Matches must be played by February 11. The winning team in the county finals will take part in an area final, winners of which will play in the national contest at Earl’s Court, London, on May 27.....

Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire Section E.

TALBOT HOTEL, Wolverhampton v TRAVELLERS REST Dart Club, Rowley Regis.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 19/3/1994

“Down Your Local.

The sign above the doorway leading from the lounge to the bar reads ‘You are now leaving the Twilight Zone.’ And some customers and staff may well feel the bar is the Twilight Zone. For there are strange goings-on at the TRAVELLERS REST in Long

Lane.

It is not only licensee *Pat Evans* who has seen the ghost. So have many of the customers. One evening, just as the pub was decanting its jovial clientele into the streets, someone reminded *Pat's* husband Colin, 'Col, there's someone in the bar.' Colin, 46, knew there wasn't – and said so. But the customer was adamant and insisted a woman in a draped gown had walked across the room. There was a rush to investigate. Sitting on a stool in the lounge was regular Ronnie Radford – and his normally close-cropped hair was literally standing on end. 'It was unbelievable,' says *Pat*. 'We ran our hands through Ronnie's hair and it was standing upright as if it were made of wire. I have seen the apparition myself. It walked through a wall. It's a young girl. And there's part of the bar that always feels cold. What's going on, we don't know.' She could be a thirsty spirit, too. Recently Colin and *Pat* have noticed that the mild pulls have developed a habit of coming on, and pouring beer of their own accord.

Colin and *Pat*, who's 43, have been in the pub trade for most of their working lives. Langley-born Colin has a strong local accent, but his surname confirms who he's supporting at Twickenham this afternoon. His dad, a former miner, made his way from Tylorstown in the Rhondda Valley to the Black Country just before the war and pride in the Red Dragon is very much a part of Colin's upbringing.

They have quite a bit of fun at the TRAVELLERS REST. Wednesday and Sunday are karaoke nights run by a chap called Roger. A popular singer at the karaokes is Sid Cole, whose correct Christian name is Simon. Sid more than impresses the locals with his take-offs of Kate Bush in numbers such as Wuthering Heights. In fact, they reckon his pitch can reach higher notes than Kate. On Monday, the first meeting of a Laurel and Hardy Club is being held at the pub with the showing of three films. It's organised by regular Nick Booth and a couple of bowler hats are already in evidence.

At the corner of the room leans Winston Clarke, a Brummie with a liking for cricket. Winston likes a bottle after a day's hard graft repairing cars at a local garage. He looks as if he ought to be a fast bowler and, when asked, replies, 'I couldn't get away from cricket. When I was a kid, dad always had cricket on the box on Sunday afternoons, so I'm quite keen, although I don't play now.'

Another regular visitor is Tony Blakeway who has a regular routine. He pops in, loaded down with shopping, dumps his purchases on the floor by a table, has a sip of scrumpy and then walks out – returning from the bookies half an hour later. 'It's such a routine that all the boys keep an eye on Tony's shopping,' says Colin, who then admits that he has another interest – collecting clocks and watches.

Other than the *Evans's* daughter Samantha (aged 24), and son Marcus (23), there's another member of the family who should be mentioned – Rocky. He was adopted as an eight-week-old pup and, now at the age of six, has developed into a monster 12 stone, powerfully-built Rottweiler. Outside licensing hours Rocky is not too keen on visitors. But during opening times, a bag of scratchings, which Rocky can open himself, makes those who dare Rocky's friend for life.

Price of a pint: Theakston's bitter, £1.25; Theakston's mild, £1.15; Bass Special, £1.25."

It closed in 1997.

It was demolished in 1997.

VICTORIA

Victoria Street, (Lumbans Bank), (Bedcoat or New Street), Little Hill, CRADLEY

OWNERS

John Rolinson and Son Ltd.

Thomas Plant and Co. Ltd. (leased)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Hereford and Tredegar Brewery Company (leased)

LICENSEES

Stephen Meredith [1857]

Elijah Robinson [1858] – [1861]

G Attwood [1870]

Stephen Kirk (1870 – 1871);

William Bennett (1871 – 1890)

Elizabeth Bennett [1890]

Hezekiah Walker [1891] – [1898]

William E Bate [1901]

William Craddock [1903] – 1904);

Howard Walker (1904 – 1905);

Hezekiah Walker (1905 – 1908);

Ezra Crampton (1908 – 1910);

William Rowland Priest (1910 – 1911);
William Henry Davis (1911 – 1913);
Joseph Billingham (1913 – 1916);
Edward Morris (1916 – 1922);
James Wesley White (1922 – 1923):

NOTES

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

County Advertiser 25/7/1857 - Advert

“The VICTORIA Club, Cradley.

A Woman’s Club is just formed at the VICTORIA INN, the new, comfortable, and well-known house of *Stephen Meredith*. The unparalleled success of this club (over forty members having joined the first night) attests the benefits to be derived from joining early. Besides the comforts of the house and the quality of the fare to recommend it, this club has the important advantage of being the only club in the neighbourhood with a resident surgeon.

S. M. returns his most sincere thanks to the Inhabitants of Cradley for their liberal support hitherto, and begs to remind them that the next club night will be on Monday, August 3, at seven o’clock in the evening.”

County Advertiser 15/8/1857

“At the public office yesterday (before W. Trow, J. H. Foley, C. E. Swindell, and J. A. Scott, Esqrs) a beerhouse keeper named *Stephen Meredith*, of the VICTORIA INN, Cradley, was summoned at the instance of Superintendent Freeman, for having his house open for the sale of beer, during the hours of divine service, on Sunday morning last. Police-constable Wilkins said he visited the house at half-past ten o’clock, and, in one of the rooms, found a man with a cup half-full of porter on the table before him. The man at first endeavoured to prevent him seeing what was in the cup, but afterwards said, ‘I hope you won’t say anything about it; it’s all right.’

Mr. Burbury, for the defence, called three witnesses, who stated that the porter had been given to the man; also that the policeman had brought the charge forward in consequence of the niece of the defendant having attended, on Monday, to make an application for a summons against him.

The Bench gave no credit to these assertions, and fined defendant 2s 6d and costs.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 10/10/1860

“Joseph Hampton was brought up on remand charged with stealing a watch from the person of *Elijah Robinson* on the night of Brierley Hill wake. Mr. Perry attended to press the charge, and Mr. Burbury to defend.

Prosecutor, who keeps the VICTORIA INN, at Cradley, returned from the wake, on the 24th ult, very fresh, and was accompanied by prisoner and some others. He treated them to a gallon of ale when he arrived at home, and while they were drinking he went to an outbuilding, where he fell asleep, and when he awoke his watch and chain were gone. A man named Alport, engaged at the inn, deposed to seeing the prisoner go to the outhouse while the prosecutor was there. Mrs. *Robinson* also stated that having occasion to go to the same place she met the prisoner coming away from it. Her husband was asleep and his watch was missing. There were some doubts on the matter, and the case was dismissed.”

1861 Census

Bedcoat or New Street – VICTORIA INN

- [1] *Elijah Robinson* (35), clay miner and publican, born Oldswinford;
- [2] Charlotte Robinson (34), wife, born Oldswinford;
- [3] *Elijah Robinson* (7), son, scholar, born Forestry Devon, Gloucestershire;
- [4] Anna Maria Robinson (4), daughter, born Forestry Devon, Gloucestershire;
- [5] Madonna Robinson (2), daughter, born Cradley;
- [6] Jane Andrews (15), house servant, born Oldswinford:

County Advertiser 22/9/1866 - Advert

“VICTORIA INN, Cradley.

To be Let, with immediate possession, the above good house of Business. From its proximity to extensive iron and other works, it can always command a good trade, and is worthy the attention of a business person. Coming-in about £20. Rent low. Engagements at a distance is the cause of leaving.

Apply to Mr. Chandler, Publicans’ Valuer, &c, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 29/9/1866 - Advert

“VICTORIA INN, Cradley.

Mr. Chandler will Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, October 1st, 1866, at Eleven o’clock, a portion of the useful Household Furniture, Eight-day, Spring, and Thirty-hour Clocks, quantity of Filecutters’ Tools, Pair of 36in Smiths’ Bellows, useful Donkey and Cart, capital Malt Crusher, Four strong Store Pigs, and other Effects, at the VICTORIA INN, Cradley, by direction of Mr. H. Carr, who had disposed of the business and is leaving the neighbourhood.”

County Express 22/8/1868 - Advert

“VICTORIA INN, Cradley.

To be Let, with immediate possession, the above well-accustomed Inn. Coming-in low.

Apply to Mr. Chandler, Publicans' Valuer, &c, Cradley Heath.”

[This advert appeared for five months.]

County Express 13/8/1870 - Advert

“VICTORIA INN, Cradley. To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

Mr. S. Leonard will Sell by Auction, on Monday, August 15th, 1870, part of the Household Furniture and Effects, comprising Five Half-hogshead Casks, Four-pull Beer Machine, with piping complete; Set of Ale Measures, 140-gallon Cast-iron Boiler, large Mashing Tub, Gathering Tub, Copper-bottom Sieve, Two large Wort Vats, Wort Troughs, Painted One-leaf and other Tables, Eight-day American Clock, Windsor Chairs, Fenders, Spittoons, Half-hogshead of Old Ale, Half-hogshead of Cherry Beer, Lots of Cups and Jugs, Capital Malt Crusher, Four Fat Pigs, Eight Small Pigs, and numerous other Effects, belonging to Mr. *G. Attwood*, who is giving up the business.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock in the Afternoon.”

1871 Census

Lumbans Bank – VICTORIA INN

[1] *Stephen Kirk* (41), beerhouse keeper, British subject;

[2] Ann Kirk (40), wife, British subject;

[3] Ann E. Stevens (4), niece, British subject:

County Advertiser 12/12/1874 - Advert

“VICTORIA INN, Cradley.

To be Sold by Auction, on Tuesday Next, December 15th, by Mr. T. Homer, Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, 90-Gallon Boiler, 5 Store Pigs, 40 Gallons of good Cider, &c, &c, &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.”

County Express 3/8/1878

“Conservative Association. A meeting of this flourishing Association was held on Wednesday evening last at the house of Mr. James Hingley, ROBIN HOOD INN, High Street, Cradley.....

It was resolved to have the next meeting at Mr. *Bennett's*, VICTORIA INN, Cradley, at eight o'clock on Tuesday evening, 13th inst, when all members and Conservative friends are requested to attend, as important matters will be discussed.”

County Express 3/5/1890 - Notice

“*William Bennett*, Deceased.

Notice Is Hereby Given that all Persons having any Debt or Claim upon, or affecting the Estate of the said *William Bennett*, late of the VICTORIA INN, Little Hill, Cradley, in the County of Worcester, who died on the 2nd April, 1890, are requested to Send in Particulars in writing of the same to me, the undersigned Solicitor acting for, and on behalf of, George Cookson and William Edward Bate, the Executors under the will of the said *William Bennett*, Deceased, on or before the 15th instant, at the expiration of which time the said George Cookson and William Edward Bate will proceed to Distribute the Assets of the said *William Bennett*, the Testator, among the Persons entitled thereto, having regard to the Debts and Claims only of which they shall have had notice, and the said George Cookson and William Edward Bate will not be liable for the Assets so distributed to any Person of whose Debt they shall not have had notice at the time of such distribution.

Dated the 3rd day of May, 1890.

William Bloomer, Cradley Heath and Lye, Solicitor for the Executors.”

County Express 23/8/1890

“Annual Licensing Day.....

The following licensed victuallers comprised the black list.....

Elizabeth Bennett, VICTORIA INN, Cradley, for being drunk on her own licensed premises.....

These renewals were adjourned until the adjourned licensing meeting on 26th September.”

County Express 23/8/1890 - Advert

“Important Sale of Valuable Freehold Public House at Cradley, Family Residence and Dwelling Houses at Cradley Heath.

Mr. A. H. Sidaway has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. B. Westwood, the JOLLY COLLIER INN, Cradley, on Wednesday, the 10th day of September, 1890.

All that truly Valuable Freehold Public House, known as the VICTORIA INN, Little Hill, Cradley, with Yard and Outbuildings thereto.....”

1891 Census

Victoria Terrace – VICTORIA INN

[1] *Hezekiah Walker* (36), block chain maker and innkeeper, born Cradley;

- [2] Amelia Walker (30), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] Howard Walker (10), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Laura Walker (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] Beatrice Walker (6), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Daisy Walker (2), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] Eli Hussey (23), boarder, (chain) maker, born Cradley;
- [8] Leah Buffrey (18), domestic servant, born Cradley:

County Express 27/6/1891

“*Hezekiah Walker*, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Cradley, was charged with supplying drink to a drunken person on the 15th inst, and also with allowing disorderly conduct in his house. Mr. Waldron prosecuted for the police, and Mr. Homer defended. The evidence for the prosecution was that on the evening in question he visited the VICTORIA INN, and found the house in an uproar, and heard talking as though betting was going on. He found a man named Joseph Harris drunk, and called the defendant’s attention to his state, and witness left. Upon returning at 9.30 Harris was still drinking on the premises. Police-constables Collins, Taylor, and Wood also gave evidence. Witnesses were called for the defence, but none of them would swear that the man was quite sober. A fine of £2 and costs was imposed, and solicitor’s fee allowed.”

County Advertiser 7/10/1893

“On Friday evening last week a supper was given at the VICTORIA INN to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Edward S. Walker, son of Mr. Edward T. Walker, of Lower High Street, to Miss Olive Hughes, daughter of Mr. Isaiah Hughes, of the Mill House. Mr. Benjamin Hingley presided, and Mr. David Priest was vice-chairman. Mr. Stephen Dunn proposed ‘Health, happiness, and long life to the newly-married couple,’ and the toast was drunk with all the honours. Other toasts were given and responded to, and music was supplied by Mr. and Mrs. H. Walker, Mr. E. Massey, Mr. W. J. Bate, and Master H. Walker, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent by all present.”

County Advertiser 14/3/1896

“On Monday evening, in the Church Schools, Cradley, a parish meeting was held for the purpose of nominating and electing parish councillors for the ensuing year. The number of candidates to be elected was fifteen. The names of those nominated and the number of votes recorded for each candidate, are as follows.....
Hezekiah Walker (publican), Victoria Street, 90.”
[He was elected.]

County Advertiser 27/6/1896

“On Saturday evening last the band of the Halesowen Company of Volunteers, under the conductorship of Bandmaster Cornock, gave a concert in the spacious yard of Mr. *H. Walker*, VICTORIA INN, Cradley. There was a varied programme, and the concert was greatly enjoyed and applauded. Special mention should be made of the sacred hymn, ‘Lead kindly light,’ and also the selection, ‘Red, White, and Blue,’ which comprised such well known airs as ‘Hearts of Oak,’ ‘Rule Britannia,’ ‘Death of Nelson,’ ‘Bay of Biscay,’ &c. A hope was expressed that Mr. Cornock would soon be able to pay another visit to his native village.”

County Advertiser 19/12/1896

“On Wednesday evening last an interesting re-union took place at the house of Mr. *H. Walker*, the VICTORIA INN, Cradley, the occasion being the hanging of a portrait of the late Mr. B. Hingley, which a few of his friends have placed in this hostelry as a small token of the respect in which he was held by them. A goodly company assembled, and an excellent supper was served by the host and hostess, after which the picture was hung, and all agreed that it was an excellent likeness. Mr. S. Dunn presided, and the company passed a most enjoyable evening.”

County Express 12/6/1897

“A quarterly meeting of the Stourbridge, Lye, Cradley and District Licensed Victuallers and Beer Retailers Protection and Benevolent Society was held at the house of Mr. *H. Walker*, VICTORIA INN, Cradley, on Thursday, Mr. F. E. Cutler (president) presiding.....”

County Advertiser 7/8/1897

“On Monday last several customers of Mr. *H. Walker*, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Cradley, had a very enjoyable outing to the Dog Inn, Dunley, near Stourport. The party travelled thither by brakes, and rambled about the beautiful neighbourhood before dinner. A capital repast was served by the host and hostess, ex-Police-sergeant Haynes and Mrs. Haynes, and toasts were given after dinner, including that of the Queen, proposed by Mr. *H. Walker*, and that of the host and hostess. The party enjoyed themselves according to their inclinations until evening, when an impromptu concert was given. Mr. D. Allan, of Stourport, and others contributed songs. The return journey was made in good time, and on all hands it was agreed that a most enjoyable time had been spent.”

County Advertiser 1/1/1898

“The VICTORIA Sick and Draw Club, Cradley, held its annual meeting and dinner on Christmas Eve at Brother *Walker*’s, VICTORIA INN, when an excellent repast was provided by the host and hostess. The auditors’ report and balance sheet showed

the extraordinary dividend of 18s 1d per member. A balance of 14s 10d was carried forward to next year. Votes of thanks were passed to the host and hostess for their kindness, and to the auditors and officers for their efficient services. The rest of the evening was spent convivially.”

Hezekiah Walker – see also FISH.

1901 Census

Victoria Terrace – VICTORIA INN

- [1] *William E. Bate* (32), publican, born Cradley;
- [2] Sarah Bate (34), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] George Bate (7), son, born Cradley;
- [4] Walter Bate (4), son, born Cradley;
- [5] Leah Bate (9 months), daughter, born Cradley:

1911 Census

VICTORIA INN

- [1] *William Rowland Priest* (32), late miner now brewing, licensed victualler, born Cradley;
- [2] Mary Ann Priest (31), wife, married 13 years, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] William Bert Priest (11), son, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] May Priest (10), daughter, born Cradley Heath:

Dudley Chronicle 12/10/1922

“On Monday, Worcestershire Licensing Committee sat to assess compensation in respect of nine houses which they had decided to extinguish. The houses and the total amounts claimed were as follows VICTORIA, Cradley, £1,315.”

Evesham Standard 5/5/1923

“The Worcestershire County Licensing Committee had to consider eight awards made by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue determining the sums to be paid as compensation to the persons interested on the non-renewal of eight licensed premises in the County. The Committee had finally to settle the division of the compensation money between the interested parties in each case.....

The amount awarded by the Commissioners in respect of the VICTORIA, Cradley, was £950, compared with the £802 12s awarded by the Committee. This was divided between *Edward Morris*, licensee, £20; Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd, registered owners, £725; Hereford and Tredegar brewery Company, lessees, £205.”

It closed on 30th May 1923.

It was converted into two houses.

VICTORIA

19, (61), Maltmill Lane, Cocksheds, Hill and Cakemore, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

William Parsons [1890], [1894]
Showells Brewery Company Limited [1911]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Parsons [1882] – **1907**
Mrs. Mary Ann Parsons (**1907 – 1908**);
Edward Carpenter (**1908** – [1910]
Samuel Parkes [] – **1911**);
Charles ‘Charley’ Wilson (**1911** – [1912]
Charles Enoch Coley [1916] – [1939]
Thomas [1990]
Malcolm Burrows [2005]
Ms. P Clarke [2005]

NOTES

61, Maltmill Lane [1911]

19, Maltmill Lane [1939]

It had a six-day license.

County Express 26/8/1882

“There was one application for a new license. The application was made by Mr. Homfray (Messrs. Homfray and Holberton) and it was on behalf of *William Parsons*, of Maltmill Lane, Halesowen, for a six days’ license to sell on the premises. Mr. Homfray said the nearest public house to the premises was 130 yards. In answer to Superintendent Hardman the applicant said there were 95 houses in Maltmill Lane, and there were already three public houses. It appeared, however, that two of these houses only had beer licenses to sell off the premises. The application was granted.”

County Adviser 27/9/1890

“Joseph Mullett, Maltmill Lane, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on the licensed premises of *William Parsons*, of the VICTORIA INN, on the 13th inst.

Complainant said that defendant came into his house drunk, and he refused to supply him, whereupon defendant became very disorderly, and was ejected after a good deal of trouble.

Fined 5s and costs.”

County Express 6/9/1890 - Notice

“To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or Township of Hill, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District or Division of Halesowen, in the said County, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *William Parsons*, Beer Retailer, now residing at the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, in the Parish or Township of Hill, in the County of Worcester, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply at the Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting, for the Division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office, at Halesowen, in the said County, on the 30th day of September, 1890, for the grant of a License or Certificate authorising me to apply for and hold an Excise License for the Sale by Retail, at a House and Premises situate at Malt Mill Lane, in the Parish or Township of Hill aforesaid, of Wine and Spirits, to be consumed either on or off the premises, in pursuance of the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, 1828, and Acts amending the same, of which said Premises I am the Owner, and the same are of the annual value by law required, and are now in my own occupation.

Given under my hand this 27th day of August, 1890.

William Parsons.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/10/1890

“Halesowen. The adjourned licensing sessions was held yesterday.....

Mr. Cooksey applied on behalf of *William Parsons*, of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, for a spirit license, which was refused.”

County Advertiser 22/11/1890

“Mr. A. Hebbert (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, on Tuesday, respecting the death of Noah Barnsley, blacking manufacturer, Malt Mill Lane.

The widow stated that a month ago the deceased went into a warehouse to reach a jug containing vitriol off a shelf, and in doing so he upset a portion of the liquid down his face and arms. He was subsequently taken to the Eye Infirmary at Birmingham, where remedies were applied which proved beneficial. On the 13th inst he complained of violent pains in the stomach, and died on the 15th inst. Witness and deceased had not lived on good terms owing to people making mischief; they had fought several times, but had not hurt each other. She had been sometimes in fault. She had not thrown crockeryware and other articles at him.

Dr. Beasley, Rowley Regis, said he had made a post mortem examination, and found the lips and mouth quite blanched, and the tongue blackened, and a large ulcer on the stomach, probably caused by a perforation of the stomach, followed by acute peritonitis. It was quite possible the deceased swallowed some of the vitriol.

The coroner said that no doubt some of the vitriol went down the deceased’s throat.

The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from an ulcer, which they believed was caused by a corrosive irritant, the result of an accident.”

County Express 21/2/1891

“On Saturday evening the annual dinner at Howard Lodge of the National Conservative League was held at Mr. *Parsons*’s, the VICTORIA INN, Maltmill Lane, Cocksedge. Prior to the dinner a Lodge meeting was held.....”

1891 Census

Malt Mill Lane

[1] *William Parsons* (48), rivet factor, born Rowley;

[2] *Mary A. Parsons* (44), wife, born Stourport;

[3] Ernest A. Parsons (20), son, swage work, bedstead and studs, born Rowley;

[4] Florence E. Parsons (18), daughter, born Rowley;

- [5] Frederick W. D. Parsons (13), son, scholar, born Rowley;
- [6] Catherine Parsons (11), daughter, scholar, born Rowley;
- [7] George A. Parsons (9), son, scholar, born Rowley;
- [8] Josiah E. Parsons (6), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] John J. Parsons (4), son, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Express 29/8/1891

“Annual Halesowen Licensing Sessions.

Mr. A. G. Buller (Birmingham) made an application on behalf of Mr. *William Parsons*, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, for a wine and spirit license. Mr. J. Hebbert and Mr. Arthur Smith (Birmingham) opposed the application on behalf of several publicans.

Mr. Buller, in opening the case, said that Mr. *Parsons* has held an out-door license for some time, and was now applying for a full license. In putting the application before the Court he thought it was the most deserving case that had ever come before the Bench. The applicant had been twenty-six years in the Yeomanry, and for nine years had kept his house without a fine conviction being recorded against him. It would also be his duty to read a letter from Lord Dudley as to his general character, which would have weight with the Bench. This house was not brought up as a brewer's speculation, but one that had been occupied and would be occupied, if the Bench thought fit to grant the license, for many years to come. The nearest full-licensed house in the parish was a distance of 730 yards, whilst the nearest in the adjoining parish of Rowley was 540 yards.

The applicant was put into the witness box, and in reply to Mr. Hebbert said he had advertised in the *Birmingham Daily Gazette* on the 1st and 8th inst of his intention to make the application.

Mr. Hebbert: But you are required to advertise in a local paper? – Applicant: The *Gazette* is a local newspaper, and has a large circulation in the district in which I live, and I thought it was the most suitable paper for me to advertise in.

In reply to Mr. A. Smith the applicant said he made a similar application last year, which was, however, refused.

Mr. Hebbert contended that the applicant had not complied with the Licensing Act by advertising his notice in a Birmingham newspaper instead of in a local weekly newspaper.

Mr. Buller submitted that Mr. Hebbert's contention could not be considered. The *Daily Gazette* was a newspaper circulating in the district, and the requirements of the Act had been met.

The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Goodman) said the magistrates had no power to order applicants to advertise in any particular newspaper. There was no necessity for the word local to be used.

Mr. Hickman said the magistrates were unanimously of opinion that the applicant had met the requirements of the Act by advertising his notice in the *Daily Gazette*.

Mr. Hebbert afterwards urged that no necessity had been shown for a spirit license to be granted to the applicant.

Mr. Smith said the magistrates last year did not deem it necessary to grant the application, and submitted that nothing new had been advanced to warrant them in altering the opinion then formed.

Mr. Hickman said the applicant was a very respectable man, and as his house was used by the Yeomanry, and in a district where the population was increasing, the magistrates had decided to grant the application.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/10/1891

“Worcestershire County Licensing Committee.

Mr. Buller (of Messrs. Buller, Bickley and Cross) applied on behalf of Mr. *W. Parsons*, of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, for the confirmation of a full license. Mr. Arthur Smith, of Birmingham, opposed on behalf of Mr. Eades, a property-owner, and Mrs. Cook and Mrs. Rollison, licensed victualler. The full license was confirmed.”

County Express 7/11/1891

“A large and enthusiastic meeting of Conservatives was held at the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, on Monday night, in connection with the National Conservative League. This was the first event of the winter season, and its success had induced the committee of the League to promise a repetition at an early date.”

County Advertiser 26/8/1893

“The annual licensing session for the petty sessional division of Halesowen was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.

Superintendent Chare presented the following report. I have also to report to your Worships that there are several licensed persons who are carrying on other businesses on their licensed premises, viz, one that of a butcher, and the others grocers and a greengrocer. I have given notice to three of them to appear before your Worships. *William Parsons*, of VICTORIA INN, Maltmill Lane, who carries on the business of a butcher. I consider the premises not large enough for the business for which they are licensed. I respectfully ask for an expression of opinion in the matter, and shall be glad to carry out anything you may suggest.

With respect to those persons who carried on other businesses, Mr. Howard said the Bench could not allow licensed premises to be of such a character as would open the door to breaches of the law, and it was necessary for these persons to make such alterations in the re-arrangement of their businesses as would satisfy the police, otherwise the Bench could not renew the licenses.

Mr. *Parsons* (Blackheath), one of the persons interested, said he had already complied with the instructions given by the police.

Inspector Raybould said that was so, and the Bench thereupon renewed the license.”

County Advertiser 28/7/1894

“The members and friends of Court Village Pride, No.6378 of the A.O.F., assembled at their court house, VICTORIA INN, Malt

Mill Lane, Blackheath, on Saturday last, to celebrate their anniversary. The host (Mr. *W. Parsons*) provided an excellent dinner. Bro. W. Fletcher, DASCR, presided, and Bro. R. Cookley, PDCR, was in the vice-chair. Letters of apology were received from Bro. E. Lewis, PHCJB, and Bro. T. H. Smith, PDCR, and Bro. T. Homer, district secretary. After the usual loyal toasts Mr. T. Standish, the former surgeon, who was unable to attend personally, introduced by letter Mr. T. M. Tibbetts, of Cradley Heath, who will in future manage the practice. Mr. Tibbetts was subsequently elected surgeon to the court. 'Success to Court Village Pride' having been drunk, Bro. John Owen, PDCR, reported a substantial gain in each fund, and a total worth of £208 2s, with forty-nine members. The reading of the report was followed by a presentation to the secretary of an excellent easy chair, with a silver plate attached to it, bearing the following inscription: 'This chair was presented by Court Village Pride, No.6378, of the A.O.F., on July 21st, 1894, to our honourable and esteemed friend Bro. John Owen, for his past services to the court as secretary.' Bro. Cole made the presentation, and the recipient suitably responded. The chairman, vice-chairman, and Bro. J. Boot, PCR, all spoke of the services Bro. Owen had rendered both to the court and the district in the course of his career as a Forester for thirty years."

County Advertiser 28/7/1894 - Notice

"To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or Township of Hill, in the County of Worcester, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District in which the house hereinafter mentioned is situate, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *William Parsons*, Licensed Victualler, the holder of a Six Days' Victualler's License, now residing at the VICTORIA INN, Maltmill Lane, in the Parish or Township of Hill, in the County of Worcester, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting for the Division of Halesowen, to be holden at the Public Office, at Halesowen, in the said County, on Tuesday, the 21st day of August, 1894, for the grant of a Seven Days' License or Certificate authorising me to Apply for and Hold an Excise License for the Sale, by retail, at a House and Premises known as the VICTORIA INN, and situate in Maltmill Lane, in the Parish or Township of Hill, aforesaid, of all Intoxicating Liquors, to be Consumed either on or off the Premises, in pursuance of the Act 9, George IV, Cap.61, and Acts amending the same, of which said Premises I am the Owner, and the same are of the annual value and are otherwise qualified as required by law, and are now in my own occupation.

Given under my hand this 21st day of July, 1894.

William Parsons."

County Advertiser 25/8/1894

"On Tuesday the annual licensing session for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held at the Police Court.....

Mr. Buller (Birmingham) applied on behalf of *William Parsons*, the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Halesowen, for an extension of his six days' license into a seven days' license.

Mr. Arthur Smith (Birmingham) opposed the application on behalf of other publicans.

Mr. Buller said his client had kept the house for fourteen years, and it was his own freehold property. His client was the only publican who had a six days' license, and he did not think it right that he should be debarred from having the same privilege as his competitors. Applicant was also frequently asked for spirits in cases of sickness. The neighbourhood had considerably increased during the past months, and he had a largely signed and influential requisition in favour of applicant. There was, he submitted, a real need for the house.

Applicant gave evidence in keeping with this statement.

In cross-examination he said there was not so many applications before for spirits in cases of sickness. He had had seven or eight cases during the year.

Mr. Mason and Mr. Eades opposed on the ground that there was no need for the house.

Mr. Smith said that a license, though technically granted to the man, was really granted to the house, and he submitted that in the interests of the neighbourhood the license should not be granted. The question before the Court was whether the license was required. The requisition mentioned by his friend was a certificate of applicant's sobriety and trustworthiness, but that was not the question. He also had a memorial, which he would put in. The applicant had not made out that the license required to be extended, and it should be refused. Refused."

County Advertiser 29/12/1894

"An inquest was held on Wednesday last at the VICTORIA INN, Maltmill Lane, before Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner), touching the death of Maria Daniels, aged 59, of Maltmill Lane, widow, who died suddenly on the 22nd inst. The deceased was seized with illness on the above date, and complained of severe pains in her head. A neighbour was called in, and before medical aid could be procured the deceased expired. Dr. Beasley made a post-mortem examination, and gave evidence to the effect that the cause of death was apoplexy. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned."

County Advertiser 28/9/1895

"The adjourned annual Licensing Sessions for the Halesowen Division were held on Tuesday.....

William Parsons, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, made an application for his license to be increased from six to seven days. The application was refused, as was a similar one on behalf of George Turner, landlord of the HAWNE TAVERN INN."

William Parsons was also a rivet maker and butcher. [1896]

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

"The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed

persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *William Parsons*, VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Halesowen on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for..... I have received notice that it is the intention of *William Parsons* to apply for a seven days' license to a house and premises, situate at Malt Mill Lane, in the parish of Hill, and known by the sign of the VICTORIA INN, which is at present a six days' alehouse license.....

Inspector Raybould said owing to the structural alterations having been carried out he wished to withdraw the objections to the renewal of the licenses of *William Parsons*.

All those licenses were accordingly renewed, and the Chairman of the Bench, Mr. Lea Smith, said he hoped all license holders in the division would keep their houses closed during prohibited hours on Sundays.....

Mr. Ward applied on behalf of *William Parsons*, landlord of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, for the conversion of his six days' into a seven days' license. He pointed out that two very similar applications had been made by *Parsons*, who considered there was a great need for the sale of spirits on the Sabbath day. The nearest fully-licensed house was 500 yards from his client's house, and his house was situated in the midst of a locality which had a population of about 1,500 people. There was a great demand for intoxicating liquors, and he mentioned that there was a Foresters' Club held at applicant's house, and the members were greatly inconvenienced when they had to attend Sunday funerals, through the house not being open when they went for their regalia. He urged the Bench to grant the application, and thus place the whole of the license holders in that district upon an equality. Mr. A. Smith opposed the application on behalf of the next door neighbour, named Eades, and also Mrs. Rollason, landlady of the ACORN INN, on the ground that there was no need to increase drinking facilities of the district. He handed in a petition against the application.

Mr. Ward here handed in a petition signed by 135 inhabitants, and four medical men in favour of the application.

Mr. Lea Smith remarked that they knew how the memorials were drawn up.

Inspector Raybould said the district was amply supplied with intoxicating drink.

After a few minutes deliberation in private Mr. Lea Smith said the Bench had unanimously decided to refuse the application."

County Advertiser 13/5/1899

"On Monday, Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, concerning the death of John Crumpton, aged six months, son of John and Ellen Crumpton, who reside in Malt Mill Lane. The evidence showed that the child was put to bed at one o'clock on the 7th inst, in good health, and when the mother woke up the same morning, at 7.30, she found it dead. The right arm and cheek were very much discoloured as though it had been lain upon. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Suffocation."

County Advertiser 2/9/1899

"The annual licensing meeting of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division was held on Tuesday last.....

Mr. *William Parsons*, of the VICTORIA INN, Maltmill Lane, the Hill, applied for the alteration of his license from a six days' to a seven days' license. Mr. W. Waldron appeared on behalf of the applicant, and Mr. A. Smith opposed.

Mr. Waldron pointed out that the report of the Superintendent showed a most healthy condition of the district as far as the licensed victuallers were concerned. There were 64 licensed houses, and of this number only one had a six days' license. He hoped that the fact argued well for his application. He had no doubt that they would have the objection that the justices should not alter their previous decision. The usual argument on such an occasion was that of the requirements, but he thought that was misconceived, as the Bench had conceded the point when the license was granted. The only question was whether there should be a restriction preventing his client from exercising the same privileges which every other licensed victualler exercised. The only arguments to be urged against the granting of the application were those of sentiment and of objection to Sunday trading. The Bench were evidently satisfied with the first, and as to the second 63 houses had seven days' licenses. He made the application on the ground that that his client ought to have the same privilege as the other licensed victuallers. If the opposition came from other the licensed victuallers it was interested in opposition, and should not weigh with the Bench. He pointed out that the house was in every way adapted for carrying on the trade, and that the customers were compelled to go elsewhere on Sunday for their refreshments. The nearest fully-licensed house was half a mile away. His client had held the license for over seven years, and the superintendent did not oppose the extension, but left it to the discretion of the Bench.

William Parsons supported the statement of his solicitor.

Cross-examined: He gave an undertaking in 1891, when the six days' license was granted that he would not ask for a seven days' license. There was only a beer license held by Mrs. Rollinson, only 100 yards away. The population had grown, and there were 300 houses in the district.

George Cox, labourer, and Thomas Parkes, gave evidence of cases of emergency in which brandy had been asked for at the house on Sunday, and it could not be supplied.

Mr. Smith stated that he appeared on behalf of the Rev. J. S. Stanwell, Primitive Methodist Minister, the Rev. William Hall, Methodist New Connection Minister, and Mrs. Hannah Rollinson, the holder of the neighbouring license. He submitted that the question of requirements was the gist of any such application, and the evidence of the applicant on a former occasion was to the effect that there were 300 houses in the district, so his evidence showed there was no increase in requirements. When the license was granted it was a compromise, as the Bench refused to assist in Sunday trading. The application was refused."

1901 Census

Malt Mill Lane – VICTORIA HOTEL

- [1] *William Parsons* (54), bedstead manufacturer, licensed victualler and brewer, born Rowley;
- [2] *Mary A. Parsons* (54), wife, born Stourport;
- [3] Florrie E. Parsons (28), daughter, born Rowley;
- [4] Frederick W. D. Parsons (23), son, brewer, born Rowley;
- [5] Catherine Parsons (21), daughter, born Rowley;
- [6] George H. Parsons (19), son, peg forger, born Rowley;
- [7] Josiah E. Parsons (16), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] John J. Parsons (14), son, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 18/2/1905

“Unionism in North Worcestershire.

A meeting of the Hill, Cakemore, and Coombs Wood Wards of the Parliamentary Division of North Worcestershire was held on Thursday evening last week, at the County Restaurant, Blackheath, in connection with the North Worcestershire Unionist Association. Mr. F. T. Hill presided. The main object of the meeting was to organise workers for each of the three wards named, as was being done in other parts of the division, so that the register could be carefully gone through and all necessary arrangements made in preparation for the next election, it being hinted that when the organisation of the Unionist forces throughout the division has been accomplished a candidate will probably come forward to oppose the present Radical member, Mr. J. W. Wilson. The proceedings were very enthusiastic, and it was decided that ward meetings should be held on the following Wednesday evening for the purpose of thoroughly investigating the register, and that a further joint meeting of the three wards should take place at the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, on Wednesday, 22nd inst, at 7.30.”

County Advertiser 4/3/1905

“The adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division.

Mr. E. H. Grove applied on behalf of *William Parsons*, of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Blackheath, for a full license, the present one being only a six days' license. The application was opposed by Mr. S. Vernon for Hannah Rollason, of the ACORN INN, and Mr. George Eades, of Malt Mill Lane, also opposed it. The Revs. J. S. Jones, D. J. Price, and Mr. S. H. Bate opposed on behalf of the Blackheath and District Free Church Council. Mr. Grove explained that it was in deference to the wishes of the population that the license of the house should be extended to seven days. The applicant had kept the house for the last ten or eleven years, and had had licenses for twenty years, and had always kept them in a satisfactory manner. There was a drinking population of 1,000 in the neighbourhood, and new streets were being erected. It was the only six days' license in the division. Evidence in support of the application was given, and a petition signed by 120 of the inhabitants was put in in favour of the extension of the license.

Mr. Eades opposed because his property adjoined the public house, and he was afraid it would create a nuisance. The Rev. J. S. Jones said the Methodist New Connexion Chapel was close to the house. On Sunday they put a resolution to the congregation, and in the afternoon there were 50 adults present, and at night 86 adults. The resolution of opposition to the application was carried. Mr. S. H. Bate also contended that as the Primitive Methodist Chapel was in close proximity to the house it would be bad for the children who were going to school. Eventually the Bench decided to refuse the application.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/2/1907

“The death occurred on Monday evening of Mr. *William Parsons*, of the VICTORIA HOTEL, Cakemore. At the time of his decease he was chairman of the Hill Parish Council, and also a prominent officer of the Cakemore and Hill Conservative Association. He was 64 years of age.”

County Advertiser 30/3/1907

“Stourbridge, Lye and District Licensed Victualler's Association.

Mr. H. Billingham presided at the meeting of this association, held on Thursday evening, at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Lye. The secretary said that Mr. *W. Parsons*, of the VICTORIA INN, Maltmill Lane, Blackheath, and Mr. Jos. Kendrick, ROYAL OAK, Lye, two members, had recently died, and the association would send letters of condolence. This was agreed to.”

County Express 30/5/1908

“Bowling. I have this week received a report of the doings at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Blackheath, and although they went under to the THORNS HOTEL, Quarry Bank, by 18 points, it is evident the club possesses some capable exponents. T. Yates gained an easy victory over Z. Alport, and proved easily the best winner for the VICTORIA.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“MALT SHOVEL (Hart's Hill) were in good form against the VICTORIA (Blackheath), winning by a good margin, but I hear the visitors' side was far from representative, as several of their best men were away.”

County Express 1/8/1908

“Bowling. THORN HOTEL (Quarry Bank) vanquished the VICTORIA HOTEL (Blackheath). G. White gave the homesters a good send-off with a victory of 11-0.”

County Express 5/9/1908

“Bowling. The VICTORIA INN, Blackheath, have done surprisingly well of late, and have secured victories in their last three engagements, although one match was away from home. Against the EAGLE INN they had something to recover, as the former won well at the Delph. The result was a good win for the VICTORIA, for whom I notice Captain Yates performed finely. Other worthy of comment are G. Mullet, J. T. Parsons, and D. Harris.”

County Express 19/2/1910 - In Memoriam

“In ever loving memory of *William Parsons*, late of the VICTORIA INN, Blackheath, who passed away peacefully February 18th, 1907.”

County Express 12/2/1910

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions.

Supt. T. W. Hill presented his annual report, which stated according to the census in 1901 there was a population of 17,759, and the number of licenses in the division was 78. This gave an average of one license to every 227 of the population, being a decrease of four alehouses, two beerhouses ‘on’ and one beerhouse ‘off’ as compared with the previous year.

Her had received notice from *Ed. Carpenter*, of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Hill, of his intention to apply for a seven days’ license instead of six. The superintendent was of opinion that it was not required; the district was amply provided for, there being three alehouses within a very reasonable distance of the premises.

The Justices’ Clerk (Mr. A. Homfray) informed the Bench that *Carpenter* had withdrawn his application for his license to be extended from six to seven days.”

County Express 16/7/1910

“On Tuesday, at the Police Court, Levi Wolfendale, drayman, of Rabone Lane, Smethwick, was charged with obstructing the highway by leaving his horse and cart unattended for an unreasonable space of time on the 29th ult.

PC Whittingham said he watched defendant’s horse and cart for half an hour, and then he found him in the bar at the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane.

Defendant, who pleaded that he was doing business, was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

1911 Census

61, Maltmill Lane

[1] *Samuel Parkes* (37), licensed victualler, born Hackett Street, Blackheath,

[2] Amy Parkes (35), wife, married 14 years, born Gorsty Hill;

[3] Elizabeth Parkes (13), daughter, born Gorsty Hill;

[4] Annie Parkes (12), daughter, school, born Halesowen Street, Blackheath;

[5] Doris May Parkes (10), daughter, born Halesowen Street, Blackheath:

Bromsgrove Messenger 9/9/1911

“Halesowen Petty Sessions.

In connection with an application for the transfer of the license of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, from *Samuel Parkes* to *Charles Wilson*, the Chairman pointed out that upon looking through the register he found the house had frequently changed hands.

Mr. Dingley (who represented the brewers, Messrs. Showells Limited) stated that the last manager did not like the trade.

Replying to the Chairman, Inspector Pass said there were several outdoor licenses situated in the same street and one full license in an adjoining street. He did not think the house did much business.

The Chairman remarked that if these houses were continually changing there did not appear to be any necessity for them, and they would have to take steps to reduce them. The transfer would be granted.”

County Express 28/10/1911

“Yesterday week a concert for the benefit of Mr. J. Richards, who was injured whilst following his employment at a colliery, was held at the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Mr. J. V. Bricknell presiding. The artists were Messrs. James Singleton, Jack Brown, T. White, J. Perry, J. Witton, W. Mountford, J. Foster, J. Ellin, J. Welch, T. Jones, S. Lowe, and C. Wilson. Messrs. H. Dudley, and J. Jones were the accompanists.”

County Express 10/8/1912

“The Bowling Green.

The VICTORIA (Blackheath) achieved a smart performance by defeating the BARREL INN, Causeway Green, by nearly 100 points. Only one of the homesters lost, which speaks well for the home team’s ability.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/10/1912

“Langley Bowling League. Annual Meeting & Presentation of Prizes.

Representatives of all the teams in connection with the Langley and District Bowling League gathered at the headquarters, QUEENS HOTEL, Londonderry, Oldbury, last evening, the occasion being the presentation of the cup and medals to the successful competitors for the past year. Mr. Howard Kingstone, of the Summit Brewery, Smethwick (president of the league), presided over a large gathering.

The STAG AND THREE HORSE SHOES (Quinton) received the cup and medals, whilst the second honours were taken by the VICTORIA (Blackheath), and the spoon winners were the PLOUGH (West Smethwick).....”

Evening Despatch 18/4/1914

“A verdict of Accidental Death was returned at an inquest held at the VICTORIA INN, Cakemore, last night, on the body of a boy named Joseph Baker, the son of Benjamin Baker, a miner, of Malt Mill Lane, Cakemore, who was drowned in a marl hole at Hurst Green on Thursday evening. Evidence showed that the lad had gone to play with some companions near the marl hole, and slipped into the water. A lad ran for his father, who on arrival at once plunged into the water and got him out. Artificial respiration was resorted to by Inspector Jones, without avail, and, on Dr. Freer’s arrival, he pronounced life extinct.”

Evening Despatch 7/2/1939

“There was only one conviction for drunkenness in Halesowen last year, and in congratulating the borough on its sobriety, Alderman T. W. Quinney, presiding at the annual licensing sessions today, said there was a prospect of the number being reduced to vanishing point next year with a continuance of the high moral tone which characterised life in the borough.

Insp. George, who presented the report, said the conduct of the licensed victuallers during the year had been excellent. All existing licenses were renewed.

The justices granted an application for the removal of the license of the VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Hill and Cakemore, from the present premises to new premises to be built on the same site, when it will become a seven day license.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/4/1939

“Mr. E. Guy Bigwood, who has succeeded the late Alderman Frank Smith as chairman of Worcestershire County Licensing Committee, presided at the annual meeting for the confirmation of new licences at Worcester yesterday.....

The following applications were granted.....

Charles Coley, VICTORIA INN, Malt Mill Lane, Hill and Cakemore. New licence in premises to be erected at Malt Mill Lane.”

1939 Register

19, Maltmill Lane

[1] *Charles Enoch Coley*, date of birth 10/6/1880, publican, married;

[2] Phoebe Elizabeth Coley, dob 19/5/1881, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Florence May Coley-Smith, dob 9/10/1903, pen maker (steel pen works), married:

Demolished

Rebuilt

A team from here competed in the Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derby division of The People National Darts Teams Championship of England and Wales in 1952/3.

Sandwell Evening Mail 2/2/1990

“Veteran Bill Taylor was the toast of his local when he popped in for a drink to celebrate his 90th birthday. Regulars at the VICTORIA INN in Maltmill Lane, Halesowen, toasted his birthday at the pub he has used nearly all his adult life.

Mrs. Sheila Thomas, who runs the pub with husband Joe, said Bill, who lives in an old person’s bungalow nearby, was a great character. ‘He always sits in the same place and comes in every night. He has his own armchair and has also started popping in at lunchtimes. We couldn’t let his 90th birthday go by without doing something so I had the pub decorated with a banner and also had a cake made. Bill really enjoyed himself.”

Halesowen News 9/5/2013

“A reunion of a Blackheath school class is set to attract old pupils from across Europe as well as the Black Country. The Class of 1983 at Britannia High School are getting together on Friday, June 28 at the VICTORIA, Malt Mill Lane. Martin Clee, who is organising the reunion, said, ‘We already have had a fantastic response from far and wide, we have someone driving up from Exeter and another flying in from Amsterdam. And ex-professional footballer Phil Priest has announced he will be attending too.”

It closed in 2014.

It became housing.

VINE

51, (49), Lyde Green, (Light Green), CRADLEY

OWNERS

Frederick Warren, Plough Brewery, Brierley Hill (leased from 1911 to 1919)

Thomas Sidaway
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1931]
Bass Ltd.
Enterprise Inns (acquired in September 1991)
Whitehouse Taverns Ltd.

LICENSEES

Benjamin Attwood [1864] – **1872**);
Mrs. Eliza Attwood (**1872** – [1892]
Saunders* [1896]
John Saunders* [1903] – **1912**);
David Male (**1912** – **1917**);
Mrs. Ada Male (**1917** – **1919**);
William ‘Will’ Saunders (**1919** – **1931**);
Benjamin Garrett [1939]
Norman Garrett [] – **1953**);
Arthur Harold Garrett (**1953** – **1971**);
Annie Garrett (**1971** – **1976**);
Robert Male Garrett (**1976** – **1982**);
David James Hart (**1982** – **1987**);
Robert Joseph ‘Pat’ Corcoran (**1987** – [1988]
Brian Sutcliffe and Gail Oliver [2000]
Brian Sutcliffe [2000] – [2009]

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1863

“The Stourbridge annual general licensing meeting for the division was held yesterday.....

The following were the applications for licences, all of which were refused.....

Benjamin Attwood, Light Green, Cradley.”

Benjamin Attwood, beer retailer and manufacturer of hames, chain and traces, Cradley. [1864]

Benjamin Attwood, beer retailer, Cradley. [1870]

1871 Census

Lyde Green – VINE INN

[1] *Eliza Attwood* (43), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Cradley;

[2] Lavinia Attwood (20), daughter, born Rowley;

[3] Alexander Attwood (16), son, hame maker, born Rowley;

[4] Henry F. Attwood (7), son, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 12/10/1872

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, the following transfers were made.....

VINE INN, Cradley, from *Benjamin Attwood* (deceased) to *Eliza Attwood*.”

1881 Census

Lyde Green – VINE INN

[1] *Eliza Attwood* (52), widow, publican, born Cradley;

[2] Alexander Attwood (25), son, cart hames maker, born Rowley;

[3] Henry F. Attwood (17), son, cart hames maker, born Cradley:

Mrs. *Eliza Attwood*, beer retailer and hamemaker, Lyde Green. [1888], [1892]

1891 Census

Lyde Green

[1] *Eliza Attwood* (66), licensed victualler, born Cradley;

[2] Alexander Attwood (35), son, harness maker, born Cradley Heath;

[3] Emily E. Saunders (15), grand-daughter, born Lyde Green:

* possibly the same person

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/10/1896

“Albert Saunders (28), alias ‘Tipster,’ fitter, was indicted for obtaining 3s from Mrs. Agnes Brettle by false pretences at Cradley on August 15. Mr. Harrison prosecuted, and Mr. Cranstoun defended.

Mrs. Brettle, wife of the landlord of the FISH INN, Cradley, said that prisoner went to her and told her that Mr. Watts, of the BRIDGE INN, had sent him to tell her to back two horses named Emsworth and United, and on this representation she gave him 3s. He said that Mr. Watts had backed the horses heavily and mentioned Mr. Woodhall of the BLUE BELL [sic] INN, who, he said, had laid 12s 6d. He said he was going to take the money to Mr. Cutter, of Cradley Heath. In cross-examination witness said that she was not aware that prisoner had given information to the police of the betting that went on in the public houses in Cradley. Mr. Watts was called, and denied that he backed the horses, or authorised prisoner to use his name. He did not know the prisoner, but he had heard of his rendering assistance to the police in betting prosecutions.

Mr. Woodhall said that prisoner asked him to back the horses on a similar representation, but he declined.

Mr. G. A. Glinn, landlord of the HOLLY BUSH INN, and Mrs. Lavina *Saunders*, VINE INN, Cradley, gave similar evidence.

Mr. Cranstoun raised the defence of mistaken identity. The jury, however, found prisoner guilty, and he admitted a previous conviction. A second count was not gone into, and prisoner was sentenced to four months’ hard labour.”

Enoch Cox, who murdered Caroline Pearson in 1906, was a customer here.

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies’ parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter’s Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher’s Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, ‘Onward Christian Soldiers,’ a solo from ‘Thus saeth the Lord,’ splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, ‘Rousseau’s dream,’ finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, ‘O, clap your hands,’ and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

County Express 25/7/1908

“It was announced this week that the praise-worthy efforts of the Cradley Friendly Societies’ Parade Committee to raise a sum of money towards the expense of an X-ray apparatus for the Guest Hospital, resulted in £5 5s 6d being sent to the institution. In a letter to Mr. Josiah Bloomer, the secretary of the committee, Mr. Arthur Bird, the secretary of the Hospital Committee, acknowledges the donation and states that he desires to thank all who responded so willingly to the appeal, and that the contribution was a splendid one, it only being exceeded by one of the large works. The following is a list of contributions received by the parade Committee:— The combined Bible classes of Cradley St. Peter’s Sunday School, £2; Court Lily of the Valley Lodge (A.O.F.), 10s 6d; STAR INN Sick and Draw Club, 6s 6d; Rising Plant Lodge, Talbot Lodge, BRIDGE INN Sick and Draw Club, and HORSE AND JOCKEY, 5s each; Moss Rose Lodge, 4s; DUKE WILLIAM INN, 3s 6d; Star Lodge (A.O.F.), 3s 6d; BLACK HORSE INN, LODGE FORGE INN, VINE INN, Lyde Green, SUN INN, OLD MOGUL, and Mr. J. Tate, 2s 6d each; WHITE LION INN, 2s; and Mr. Billingham, 6d.”

1911 Census

Lyde Green

- [1] *John Saunders* (64), licensed victualler, born Lye;
- [2] *Emily Saunders* (35), daughter, assisting in trade, born Cradley;
- [3] *Louisa Saunders* (20), daughter, assisting in trade, born Cradley;
- [4] *Mabel Hill* (13), visitor, not employed, born Cradley;
- [5] *Phoebe Crimpton* (58), visitor, not employed, born Cradley:

Black Country Bugle

‘Recollections Of The Old Vine etc.’

“The old VINE was owned by the *Saunders* family. At the rear of the premises there was a cowshed which housed a few cows, a horse, and a few other odds and ends The pub was little more than a beerhouse equipped with spittoons and oil lamps for lighting In 1911, Mr. *Saunders* leased the house to Warrens of Brierley Hill, for a period of seven years. In the latter part of 1911, Warrens installed Mr. *David Male*, who originated from Silver End, Brierley Hill, as licensee. With the aid of the fine home-brewed ales supplied by Warrens, he soon turned the house into a thriving little business which, with the innovation of gas lighting, quickly became a pleasant and homely port of call for the locals. It had its own Homing Pigeon Club, whose secretary

was Jim Parsons When everything seemed to be running smoothly at the VINE, tragedy occurred when *David Male* passed away suddenly in September 1917, leaving a widow and three children. Their world of contentment was at an end but the license was transferred to the widow, Mrs. *Ada Male*, and she managed to carry on the business with the kind help of friends until the lease expired.

Early in 1919, *Will Saunders* took the license over and later the premises were sold to Mr. Sidaway who built a new public house on the site with the agreement that *Will Saunders* would become the tenant of the new VINE.....”

John Saunders, beer retailer, 49, Lyde Green. [1912]

1939 Register

Lyde Green – VINE INN

[1] *Benjamin Garratt*, date of birth 12/1/1889, innkeeper, married;

[2] *Alice M. Garratt*, dob 28/3/1891, home duties, married;

[3] *Norman Garratt*, dob 24/1/1917, builder, single:

Norman Garrett was the son of *Benjamin*.

He was married to *Ethel*.

Harold Garrett was the brother of *Norman*, and the father of *Robert*.

He died in 1975.

Birmingham Daily Post 4/11/1975

“Locals in a Midlands public house had to drink up early yesterday lunchtime to make way for the landlord’s funeral service.

The service took place in the public bar of the VINE in Lyde Green Road, Cradley. After finishing their drinks, customers were allowed to stay late to join friends and relatives of the landlord, Mr. *Harold Garratt*, in paying their last respects.

Mr. *Garratt* died last week at the age of 63. His son-in-law, Mr. *Graham Edwards*, who has helped run the VINE for the last three years, said after the service, ‘The pub was fuller than it ever is during opening hours.’ He added, ‘Hundreds of people turned up. After prayers in the bar, we all went to the crematorium and then back to the pub for the reception. We had to open the lounge as well for that, there were so many people. My father-in-law was very popular round here. He helped everyone.’

Some of those who attended the service continued their mourning until closing time in the pub yesterday evening.

Mr. *Garratt* had been licensee for 25 years. A funeral service was also held in the public bar after the death of his father, Mr. *Benjamin Garratt*, the previous tenant, 13 years ago.”

Pat Corcorran was married to *Kath*.

Halesowen News 22/7/1999

“A charity football match ended in tragedy when one of the players, a much loved Cradley father of two, died of a heart attack.

Mick Gould, of Long Innage, collapsed after the match in the clubhouse at the Old Halesonians Rugby Club, Wassell Grove, last Saturday. He was due to celebrate his 48th birthday this Sunday, July 25.

Landlord *Brian Sutcliffe* of the VINE pub, Cradley, organised the match and other fundraising events in aid of the Air Ambulance.....”

Halesowen News 2/9/1999

“A Cradley pub has raised £1,000 for charity in memory of a regular who collapsed and died after a charity football match

The money raised from the match, charity raffles and an auction was presented to the Air Ambulance on Bank Holiday Monday.....”

A sponsored walk by staff and customers raised £1,700 for Sandwell and Dudley Macmillan Nurses appeal in June 2000.

Halesowen News 20/8/2008

“A charity evening at a Cradley pub raised more than £350 for the Encephalitis Society which helps a local nine-year-old boy and his family. The event, which featured a darts match and raffles, was held at the VINE in Lyde Green, after staff heard of the fundraising efforts of *Sam Bullen*’s mum *Mandy Bullen*. *Sam*, of Lyde Green, was left with a string of devastating effects after contracting encephalitis – a swelling of the brain often caused by infections – when he was a baby. *Sam*, who attends *Colley Lane Primary*, can’t swallow food properly and also suffers from asthma and dyspraxia – a condition which affects co-ordination, balance and language. Mum *Mandy* is fighting to raise awareness of Encephalitis and is raising funds for the Encephalitis Society which has proved a lifeline for the family. She thanked staff and customers at the VINE for making the event, which raised £375, such a success. The fundraising total now stands at more than £700. *Mandy* is organising a fundraiser at *Quarry Bank Labour Club* on October 10 and is appealing for items to auction off. She already has a signed *Paul Gascoigne* England shirt and a bottle of wine signed by former *Wolves* chairman *Jack Hayward*.”

Halesowen News 14/12/2016

“Black Country rock band *The Shambolics* are performing at Halesowen’s WAGGON AND HORSES, Stourbridge Road, on Thursday. *Shambolics* founder *Dominic Horton* said, ‘The band is essentially a pub rock band that was formed about a year ago.

We play 70s rock, blues, country and soul and play every fortnight at the VINE in Lyde Green, Cradley at the jam night there, which we host.”

[2019]

VINE

Park Road, (Park Row), (3, Park Side), Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

William Oliver and Sons Ltd. [1905]

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Jones [1834] – [1849]

William Oliver [1857] – [1871]

Allen Beasley [1880] – [1892]

Mrs. Susannah Beasley [1893]

Edward Guest [1896]

John Homer [1906] – **1910**;

NOTES

OLD VINE [1865], [1909], [1910]

It had a beerhouse license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 14/4/1834 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Dwelling House and Building Land, near Colley Gate, Cradley.

To be Sold by Jesse Wright, at the house of Mrs. *Mary Jones*, the VINE INN, Park Row, Cradley, on Monday, the 28th day of April, 1834, at five o'clock in the afternoon.....”

County Advertiser 14/11/1857

“The following persons were charged, through information laid by the Inspector of Weights and Measures, Mr. W. Freeman, Superintendent, of the police, Stourbridge with having in their possession deficient weights, scales, and measures.....

William Oliver, beerhouse-keeper, Cradley, 2 pints, fined 1s with costs.”

1861 Census

Park Row

[1] *William Oliver* (35), married, engineer, born Lye Waste;

[2] Frank Oliver (12), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[3] William Oliver (6), son, scholar, born Cradley;

[4] Sarah Hancox (27), house keeper, born Rock, Worcestershire:

County Express 28/9/1867 - Advert

“To be Sold by Private Contract, All those Three Freehold Dwelling Houses with the outbuildings thereto, situate near to Stamber Mill and fronting the Stourbridge turnpike road, and adjoining on one side the RED LION INN and on the other property belonging to Mr. Phillip Drewry, producing a rental of £18 4s 0d. Part of the money may remain as a mortgage upon the property. For further particulars apply to Mr. *William Oliver*, publican, Colley Gate, Cradley.”

William Oliver, beer retailer, Colley Gate. [1870]

1871 Census

Park Row – VINE INN

[1] *William Oliver* (45), married, mechanic, born Lye Waste;

[2] Frank Oliver (22), son, mechanic, born Cradley;

[3] William Oliver (16), son, mechanic, born Cradley;

[4] Sarah Hancox (38), housekeeper, born Clews Top, Worcestershire:

County Advertiser 24/6/1871 - Advert

“The Ancient Order Of Free Gardeners intend holding a Pic-Nic in Cradley Park, on the 26th of June Next, 1871..... Tickets, 6d each, may be had of the following persons *W. Oliver*, VINE INN, Colley Gate.”
[For full advert see NEW TWO GATES INN.]

William Oliver – see also CHAINMAKER

1881 Census

3, Park Side

- [1] *Allen Beasley* (39), chain maker, born Cradley;
- [2] *Susannah Beasley* (32), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Emily Beasley* (10), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] *Selina Beasley* (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Beasley* (6), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] *Caroline Beasley* (3), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Frank Beasley* (6 months), son, born Cradley:

County Express 1/12/1883

“*Allen Beasley*, landlord of the VINE INN, Colley Gate, Cradley, was charged with being drunk on his own premises on the 21st inst, and on the evidence of Police-constable Chare was fined 5s and costs.”

Allen Beasley was also a chain maker, Colley Orchard. [1884]
He was described as a chain maker of Colley Gate. [1888]

1891 Census

Park Row

- [1] *Allen Beasley* (49), chainmaker and publican, born Cradley;
- [2] *Susannah Beasley* (42), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] *Selena Beasley* (18), daughter, born Cradley;
- [4] *Elizabeth Beasley* (16), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] *Caroline Beasley* (13), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] *Frank Beasley* (11), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] *Sarah Beasley* (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] *Ellen Beasley* (5), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [9] *Frederick Beasley* (2), son, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 1/4/1893 - Advert

“OLD VINE INN, Colley Gate, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall will Sell by Auction, as above, on Tuesday Next, April 4th, 1893, the Capital Brewing Plant, Casks, &c, comprising 200-gallon Iron Boiler, Vat and Lead Piping, Fermenting Vats, 6-bushel Mash Tub, Copper Sieve, Lot of 60-gallon and 70-gallon English Oak Casks, Cup and Jug Frame, Cups and Jugs, Ale Measures; quantity of Household Furniture, and other Effects, belonging to Mrs. *Allen Beasley*, who is leaving the Premises.
Sale at Twelve o'clock.”

Lichfield Mercury 22/10/1909

“The ROCK TAVERN, Worcester Street, Stourbridge (beerhouse, ante 69); the LODGE FORGE, Cradley, (beerhouse, ante 69); and the OLD VINE INN, Cradley, (beerhouse, ante 69), were referred for compensation by the Worcestershire Licensing Committee on Saturday.”

County Express 18/6/1910

“At Saturday’s meeting of Worcestershire Licensing Committee, Mr. J. W. Willis Bund presiding, several cases in which the enquiry into claims for compensation in respect of various houses was adjourned from last December now came on for consideration.....

OLD VINE, Cradley. In this case £450 was the sum agreed upon for compensation by the parties concerned. Mr. Elcock again appeared for the applicant, and called evidence which showed that the value of the house with a license was £850, and without £125. Award £450.....

In announcing the Committee’s approval, the Chairman said they had considerable difficulty with the cases, for the houses were stated to be worth a great deal more than the claims showed them to be. He read an authority on the question of reporting public houses, and said that these matters had to be investigated very carefully in order to see that the reductions made were really bona fides. The committee, however, thought they could approve of these cases.”

It closed on 5th August 1910.

County Express 11/2/1911

“At the annual licensing session for the Stourbridge petty sessional division, held at Stourbridge yesterday The Clerk (Mr. Wickham King) read the report of Supt. Hinde.....

Since the last Brewster Sessions three houses, LODGE FORGE INN (Cradley), OLD VINE INN (Cradley), and ROCK TAVERN (Stourbridge) had been closed by compensation.”

Black Country Bugle

Letter from J. Taylor

“.....Opposite to the MALT SHOVEL was the VINE, called also the MARE AND COLT and kept by a lady called ‘Umbrella Jane’. On the site of the VINE they British Legion which was opened on Saturday 26th February 1949.”

VINE

88, Two Gates, Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

Harper and Moore Ltd

William Oliver and Sons Ltd. [1890]

J. F. C. Jackson Ltd.

Darby’s Brewery Ltd. (acquired on 4th May 1937)

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1951]

John Gilbert (acquired in 1986)

LICENSEES

Clement Bennett [1891] – [1911]

Harry Taylor [1927] – **1936**;

John Newey **(1936 – 1937)**;

William Taylor **(1937 – 1939)**;

William Thomas Woodall **(1939 – 1952)**;

Reginald Thomas Wood **(1952 – 1957)**;

Horace Wynn **(1957 – 1960)**;

John Henry Homer **(1960 – 1962)**;

Norman Johnson **(1962 – 1963)**;

Bryan James Cox **(1963)**;

Desmond Joseph Edwards **(1963 – 1964)**;

Edward Arthur French **(1964 – 1968)**;

Peter Whalley **(1968 – 1972)**;

Ethel Annie Jordan **(1972 – 1979)**;

Anthony George Raybould **(1979 – 1983)**;

Arthur John Slater **(1983 – 1985)**;

Anne Walter **(1985 – 1986)**;

John Grove-Gilbert **(1986 – 1992)**;

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

County Advertiser 13/9/1890 - Advert

“TALBOT HOTEL, Cradley.

Mr. T. Pateshall is instructed by Messrs. Oliver and Sons, to Sell by Auction as above on Monday Next, September 15th, 1890, the capital Brewing Plants, from the VINE INN, Two Gates, and the BRITISH ARMS INN, Colley Gate, comprising Fermenting Vats, Mash Tub, Collecting Tubs, Sieves, Tunpails, Gauls, Wrought and Cast Iron Boilers, English Oak 120gal. Hogshead and Half-hogshead Casks; Malt Crusher, Potato Masher, Reaping Machine by Samuelson, Barrel Roll, Chain and Wood Harrows, Dark Brown Horse, 17 hands; Whitechapel Dog Cart, and other Effects, removed from the above Inns for convenience of Sale. Sale at Eleven o’clock.”

1891 Census

Two Gates – VINE INN

- [1] *Clement Bennett* (49), publican, born Nanton, Gloucestershire;
- [2] Ann Bennett (40), wife, born Old Hill;
- [3] Hannah Bennett (19), daughter, born Old Hill;
- [4] Hannah Davies (64), mother, living on her own means, born Old Hill:

1901 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *Clement Bennett* (58), beer retailer, born Gloucestershire;
- [2] Ann Bennett (50), wife, born Old Hill:

County Express 2/5/1908

“The 12th annual friendly societies’ parade was held on Sunday at Cradley. Fine weather favoured the event, and a large number of people witnessed the procession. The proceeds were in aid of the Corbett, Guest, Ear and Throat, and Eye Hospitals, Stourbridge and Dudley Dispensaries, and Dudley Eye Infirmary. The members of the following societies took part, and joined the procession: PARK TAVERN, Lilly Lodge, BRITISH ARMS (lodge and sick and draw), TALBOT HOTEL, DUKE WILLIAM, ROSE AND CROWN, ROUND OF BEEF (lodge and sick and draw), VINE INN (Lyde Green), HORSE AND JOCKEY, MOSS ROSE, VINE INN (Two Gates), St. Peter’s Church, and the OLD MOGUL. Two processions were formed. The band of F Company, 7th Batt. Worcestershire Regiment, by kind permission of Capt. G. H. Green, headed the first, and the Quarry Bank Silver Band the second. The regimental band started from the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, and the Quarry Bank band from Lyde Green, proceeding through High Street, Butcher’s Lane, Overend, and Furlong Lane, meeting the first named at the TALBOT HOTEL, and proceeding by Cradley Park, Netherend, Lyde Green, and High Street to Cradley Church, where a service was held. There was a very large attendance. The service opened with the hymn, ‘Onward Christian Soldiers,’ a solo from ‘Thus saeth the Lord,’ splendidly given by Mr. Y. Morgan, a solo and air varie, ‘Rousseau’s dream,’ finely rendered by the regimental band. The choir sang the anthem, ‘O, clap your hands,’ and the sermon was preached by the vicar (the Rev. R. H. Edmonson) from the text, ‘What shall I do to inherit eternal life?’ He said that the work the friendly societies were doing was valuable work. Everyone ought to be a member of a friendly society. A well-known vicar had said that the brotherhood of man was impossible without the fatherhood of God, and he (the vicar) was sure no man could love God and neglect his brother. What the friendly societies in Cradley had done, would be recorded as a good deed. The collection amounted to £9 1s 5d.”

1911 Census

Two Gates

- [1] *Clement Bennett* (67), licensed victualler, born Nanton, Gloucestershire;
- [2] Ann Bennett (60), wife, married 40 years, born Old Hill;
- [3] Alice Taylor (19), grand-daughter, dressmaker, born Cradley;
- [4] Florence B. Taylor (17), grand-daughter, domestic servant, born Cradley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/1/1933

“Nine licensed houses, the property of Messrs. William Oliver and Sons, of Cradley – a firm which has been established for nearly a century – were sold by auction at the TALBOT HOTEL, Stourbridge, yesterday. The houses, which are situated within a three mile radius, including Dudley, Stourbridge, Amblecote, Brierley Hill, Cradley Heath, Lye, and Cradley, fetched £14,925. The houses and amounts were VINE INN, Cradley, £1,125.”

1939 Register

Two Gates – VINE INN

- [1] *William T. Woodall*, date of birth 20/5/1901, beerhouse keeper, manager, married;
- [2] Lily M. (Woodall) (Haywood) (Ashman) Woodall, dob 16/4/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Two Gates (Ragged School) FC changed here before matches at Foxcote Lane. [1947/8]

A full license was granted on 1st February 1949.

It closed on 30th March 1992.

Demolished

Housing was built on the site.

VINE

Blackheath Road, Cakemore, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Hadley [1849]
Thomas Goode [] – 1921;
Douglas George Young (1921 – [])

NOTES

County Express 4/8/1900

“On Thursday, Mr. H. A. Pearson (South Staffordshire Coroner), held an inquest at the VINE INN, Blackheath Road, Rowley Regis, touching on the death of Norman Hutton (14), of Cakemore, who had died under singular circumstance. On the 31st ult., the deceased swallowed the stopper belonging to a ginger beer bottle, and the mother and neighbours tried to remove the obstruction by putting their fingers into the child’s throat. He was, however, suffocated before the services of a surgeon could be obtained. Dr. Walsh said it was a mistake to use one’s fingers to remove an obstruction. The child should have been held head downwards and struck on the back, in all probability he would himself have spat out the stopper, and his life would have been saved. The Coroner said it was unfortunate that was not done. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

VINE

128, Great Cornbow, (Vine Lane), HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Bridge [1896] – [1901]
Albert E V Coley [1939]

NOTES

County Express 24/7/1875

“Henry Knight was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit on the 4th inst. Ann Smith stated that she was the daughter of the landlady of the VINE INN. On the day in question the defendant came to the house drunk, and asked for some beer. She refused it and ordered him to leave and he refused and also assaulted her by kicking her. John Walker gave corroborative evidence. There was another charge against defendant, in conjunction with Thomas Hill, for having been drunk on the same date. Police-constable Knowles proved the offence. Hill was fined 2s 6d and costs, or in default seven days. There was a cross-summons against John Walker, one of the witnesses in the first case, charging him with assaulting Henry Knight on the 4th inst. The charge against Walker was dismissed. Knight was fined 10s and costs or fourteen days for being drunk, and was sentenced to fourteen days’ hard labour for being drunk and refusing to quit.”

1901 Census

Cornbow – VINE INN

- [1] James Bridge (28), licensed victualler, brewer, born Dudley Wood;
- [2] Sarah Ellen Bridge (28), wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] Leonora Gertrude Bridge (4), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Elsie Maud Bridge (2), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] James Bridge (1), son, born Halesowen:

County Express 2/7/1921 - Advert

“VINE INN, Halesowen. (Adjoining the Gas Works).

Alfred Hill has been instructed by Mr. Alfred Mynett (who has disposed of the house) to Sell by Public Auction, on the premises above, on Tuesday, the 12th day of July 1921, the Excellent and Antique and Modern Household Furniture and Effects, together

with a Small Home-Brewing Plant, including Two Capital C.I. Boilers, 100 and 70 Galls, respectively, large Oak Mash Tub, Copper Sieve, Cooler, etc, the whole detailed in a catalogue, and which may be had from the Auctioneer.

Sale to commence at 11.30am prompt.

Auctioneer: Halesowen. 'Phone 63."

Birmingham Mail 1/7/1939 - Advert

"Wanted. Morgan Super Sports; state year, lowest price, cash.

Call or Write, VINE INN, Halesowen."

1939 Register

128, Great Cornbow – VINE INN

[1] *Albert E. V. Coley*, date of birth 8/7/1896, licensee tenant, married;

[2] Florence E. Coley, dob 25/11/1904, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Birmingham Mail 30/10/1941 - Advert

"65 Note Pianola Rolls Wtd. State Price about 8 dozen.

VINE INN, Halesowen."

Birmingham Mail 28/7/1942 - Advert

"Gentleman's Cycle 3-speed good cond. £5 12s 6d.

VINE INN, Halesowen."

Birmingham Mail 2/6/1943 - Advert

"Lady's Stone Marten Necklet. Fur good condition £35.

The VINE INN, Halesowen."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/10/1943 - Advert

"Typewriter Royal full universal keyboard perfect cond. No dealers 25gns.

VINE INN, Halesowen."

Birmingham Mail 9/12/1943 - Advert

"Colt Revolver 2.5 flat automatic 6-chamber with ammunition £8 or offer F.A. certificate necessary.

VINE INN, Halesowen."

Birmingham Mail 24/7/1944 - Advert

"Sunbeam Lady's 3-speed oilbath £15.

VINE INN, Halesowen."

It was demolished for road widening in 1978.

WAGGON AND HORSES

166, Long Lane / New England, Hill, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Absalom Hodgetts, St. Pauls Road, Smethwick [1881], [1893]

Benjamin Golding, Long Lane [1896]

T. W. Whitehouse [1901]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1903]

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1911)

LICENSEES

Thomas Smart Sen. [1846] – [1860]

Thomas Smart Jun. [1861]

Joseph Butler [] – **1863**)

Absalom Hodgetts [1871] – [1884]

James Darby [1888]

John Pepper [1889]

Silas Whitehouse [1891] – [1898]
 Mrs. Mary Ann Whitehouse [1900] – **1904**;
 William Whitehouse [1901]
 John Fletcher (**1904 – 1910**);
 Arthur Thomas Morgan (**1910 – 1913**);
 William Henry Field (**1913** – [1924]
 John Owen [1930]
 Samuel Richard Darby [1931]
 William Cole [] – **1938**);
 Norman Stanley Round (**1938 – 1939**);
 James Patrick Cunningham (**1939** – []
 Harry Law [1946]
 Elsie Law [1949]
 Harold Biddle [1950] – **1951**);
 Thomas Siviter (**1951 – 1956**);
 Thomas Henry Richards (**1956 – 1962**);
 Charles Clifford ‘Cliff’ Southall (**1962 – 1966**);
 Ethel Annie Jordan (**1966 – 1970**);
 Philip David Hughes (**1970**);
 John Joseph Green (**1970 – 1978**);
 Charles Andrew Rhodes (**1978**);
 Michael John Dickinson (**1978 – 1983**);
 John Alan Boucher (**1983**);
 Reginald Stanley Haywood (**1983 – 1984**);
 Reginald James Thomas (**1984 – 1985**);
 Harold Keith Darby (**1985 – 1986**);
 Alan John Swaine (**1986 – 1989**);
 Christopher Geoffrey Hill (**1989**);
 Ian Cope (**1989 – 1990**);
 Brian Wood (**1990 – 1991**);
 Gerald McRoberts (**1991** – []
 Bob ‘The Gob’ Nash (**2010** – [] manager

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 27/3/1847

“On Saturday evening last, a man about sixty-eight years of age, named William Hall, was found dead in a pool, under circumstances which leave little doubt that the unfortunate man put a period to his own existence. It appears that he had been working during the day in Mr. Farmer’s garden, at Long lane, but in consequence of his not returning to his residence at his accustomed hour, some uneasiness was excited, and his two sons went out to see if they could find him. On passing the shallow part of the Spring Pool, one of them thought he perceived something hanging on a stump by the bank, and on going to the spot, found it to be a hat, which they recognised as their father’s. Alarmed, they hurried off to the WAGGON ANDHORSES, at Long Lane, about half a mile from the spot, where they procured the assistance of Mr. *Smart* the landlord. This was about eleven o’clock, and the night being somewhat dark, Mr. *Smart* procured lanterns, and went to the pool. Here their worst fears were realised. At the shallow part of the pool, near to the spot where the hat was found, the body of the unfortunate man was discovered, lying on his back, with his feet to the bank, in a spot where the water was not more than eighteen inches deep. He was immediately taken out of the water, but he was quite stiff and dead, having evidently been in the water for some hours. Mr. Edward Moore, surgeon, of Halesowen, was sent for, but the poor man was long past all human aid. On Tuesday, an inquest was held at the WAGGON AND HORSES, before George Hincliffe, Esq, when it was stated that the deceased had lived very unhappily for some time past; his wife had been dead for twenty-eight years, but he had subsequently cohabited with a woman whose husband was alive, and with her, he used to observe, he had no comfort. It is supposed that circumstances arising from the matter had affected his mind, and induced the perpetration of the act. The Jury returned a verdict of Fund Drowned.”

1851 Census

Long Lane – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Thomas Smart* (48), victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Mary Smart* (45), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Samuel Smart* (17), son, coal dealer, born Halesowen;
- [4] *John Smart* (14), son, compass point maker, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Phoebe Smart* (12), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Joseph Smart* (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Mary Busby* (18), house servant, born Tipton;

Thomas Smart was also a shopkeeper. [1855]

Birmingham Daily Post 8/5/1860 - Advert

“Furniture, Brewing Utensils, &c.

By Mr. Bateman, To-Morrow (Wednesday), at Twelve o’clock, at the WAGGON AND HORSES Public House, at the upper end of Long Lane, near Hales Owen – the Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, &c.”

London Gazette 20/7/1860

“Whereas a Petition of *Thomas Smart* the elder, now and for seven weeks or thereabouts last past residing at Long-lane, near Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, in lodgings, Labourer, previously and for eighteen years residing at the WAGGON AND HORSES, in Long-lane, Halesowen aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, Coal Dealer, and General Provision Dealer, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, at Stourbridge, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Thomas Smart* the elder, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Thomas Smart* the elder is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 24th day of July instant, at ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Thomas Smart* the elder, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. John Harward, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at Stourbridge, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/12/1860

“Yesterday afternoon, at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, near Hales Owen, R. Docker, Esq, Coroner, held an adjourned inquest upon the body of William Parsons, a nailer, aged 22, who met with his death through injuries received while fighting with William Underhill, another nailer, at Gosty Hill, on Monday, the 7th instant.

The facts of the case have already been inserted in these columns, and it is only necessary now to remark that the two men had arranged to fight upon the day in question, and accordingly they met, shook hands, entered into the ring, and fought till Parsons was carried home insensible, dying in the course of the same evening.

Jesse Rollason acted as second to the deceased, and a man named George Cook seconded Underhill. The two latter were brought up in custody, but Rollason had absconded.

The first witness called was Rebecca Dingley, a widow, residing at Coxheads, who stated that she knew the deceased, who was a single man, residing with his mother, near her (witness’s) residence. He was twenty-two last birthday, and was a nailer by trade. On the day of the fight witness went to deceased’s residence, and saw him in bed. He ‘knewed nothing’ to all appearances, and could not speak. His face appeared as though he had been struck, and there were bruises upon it. Witness saw him die. No surgeon was present at the time.

Joseph Parsons, brother of deceased, was next called. He said that he went by arrangement on the day in question with his brother, the deceased, to meet William Underhill, who was to engage in a fight with him. The two had been at variance for two or three years, and they agreed to meet at Gosty Hill, on Monday, the 17th instant. They arrived there about half-past one o’clock, and having stripped and shaken hands, the two began to fight. Deceased’s seconds were Jesse Rollason and others, and George Cook seconded Underhill. There were a great many people present, and the fight lasted about an hour and a quarter. During the fight deceased was frequently struck and knocked down. Witness tried several times to induce his brother to give over, but he refused. In the last round deceased was knocked down, and he appeared insensible, lying on the ground till he was picked up by his second, Jesse Rollason. There was no timekeeper. Witness saw no unfair play during the fight. It was Parsons who challenged Underhill.

The next witness examined was E. Moore, Esq, surgeon, of Hales Owen. He stated that deceased was a fine, stout, and rather fleshy man. The face presented six bruises over the forehead, and several in other places, and they appeared to have been inflicted by a man’s fist. The hands presented the appearance of having struck blows. There was also a bruise on the left side of the back of the head. Witness made a post mortem examination, and under the bruise at the back of the head witness found ecchymosis; but the skull was not fractured. There was a quantity of extravasated blood upon the surface of the brain, but in other respects the brain was healthy. The extravasation of blood was caused by the rupture of a blood vessel, and the effect of it would be inconsistent with prolonged life. There was a fracture of the fifth rib on the left side. The cause of death was the effusion of blood upon the brain.

No other witnesses were called, and after a short deliberation, the Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Underhill as a principal, and Rollason and Cook as accessories.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 13/3/1861

“Worcestershire Lent Assizes,

William Underhill, 24, George Cooke, 30, and Jesse Rollason, 31, miners, were charged with the manslaughter of another miner named William Parsons, on the 17th of December.....

His lordship having summed up, the jury found the prisoners guilty, with a recommendation to mercy.

In passing sentence his lordship said there was evidently no intention on the part of the prisoners to injure the deceased seriously, and he did not wish their offence to be considered a disgraceful crime, and would therefore not include hard labour in his sentence. As Underhill had been imprisoned for a length of time, and the other prisoners had not, he would sentence all alike – namely, to three weeks imprisonment without hard labour.”

1861 Census

Long Lane – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Thomas Smart* (30), whitesmith and victualler, born Hill;
- [2] *Ann Smart* (29), wife, born Hill;
- [3] *Thomas Smart* (10), son, scholar, born Hill;
- [4] *Mary Smart* (8), daughter, scholar, born Hill;
- [5] *Timothy Smart* (5), son, scholar, born Rowley;
- [6] *Eliza Smart* (1), daughter, born Rowley;
- [7] *Mary Fletcher* (12), general servant, born Rowley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/12/1862 - Advert

“Peremptory Sale at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, near the Quinton, on the Hales Owen Turnpike Road. Mr. H. Court will Sell by Auction, To-Morrow (Thursday), December 18th, at Eleven o’clock prompt. The Public House Furniture and Fixtures, together with the Licenses and Goodwill, and Possession of the above old-established Roadside House. Auctioneer’s Offices, 26, Union Passage, Bull Street, Birmingham.”

London Gazette 26/5/1863

“In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge. In the Matter of *Joseph Butler* the younger, known as *Joseph Butler*, residing in lodgings at the house of Mr. Joseph Butler the elder, in Aberdeen-street, Winson-green, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, Gun Smith, previously of the WAGGON AND HORSES, Long-lane, near Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Licensed Victualler and Gun Smith, previously of Fris-ton-street, Lady Wood, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, Gun Smith. Whereas at a public sitting of the Court, held this day, the Court granted an Order of Discharge to the said bankrupt. Notice is hereby given that the Order of Discharge will be drawn up and delivered to the said bankrupt after the expiration of thirty days from this date, unless, in the meantime, an appeal be duly entered against the judgment of the said Court. Dated this 31st day of May, 1863.”

Stourbridge Observer 22/10/1864

“Charles Smart was sued by William Milton under the following circumstances. The defendant, it appears, had been a surety for a person named *Joseph Butler*, innkeeper, WAGGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, the secretary of No.1 Lodge of the Reformed Order of Masons, held at the HORSE SHOE, Long Lane. While secretary the sum of £6 was placed in the hands of *Butler* for the purpose of distribution, and of this sum he had defalcated [embezzled] to extent of 12s 6d. This sum, therefore, was sought to be removed by plaintiff in this action, from Smart, one of *Butler*’s trustees, the man *Butler* having become a bankrupt. Paid.”

1871 Census

Hill

- [1] *Absalom Hodgetts* (43), publican, born Long Lane;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hodgetts* (39), wife, born Carters Lane;
- [3] *Frederick Hodgetts* (18), son, painter, born Halesowen;
- [4] *William Hodgetts* (16), son, pupil teacher, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Owen Hodgetts* (14), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Stephen Hodgetts* (12), son, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Frank Hodgetts* (7), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] *Minni Hodgetts* (3), daughter, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 13/2/1875

“On Saturday, an inquest was held by Mr. R. Docker, district coroner, at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, on the body of Aden Hipkiss, aged eighteen, who was found drowned on Wednesday morning last. From the evidence, it appears that the deceased was subject to fits, and it is supposed that while passing by a pool near his house a fit came on, and he fell in. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 12/2/1881 - Advert

“Old-Licensed Inn, and 12 Cottages adjoining, for Sale. In present hands 18 years. Possession at Lady-day. For particulars apply, WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, Halesowen.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 19/2/1881

“.....Messrs. Hawkins and Son on Wednesday, the 9th day of March, 1881, at the house of Mr. William Darby, the ROYAL OAK INN, Blackheath at six o’clock in the Evening..... All that Old-licensed Public House, known as the WAGON AND HORSES INN, situate at Long Lane, comprising Tap Room, Bar, Parlour, Cooking Kitchen, Club Room, four Bedrooms, two Cellars, Brewhouse, Stable, Piggeries, and necessary Outbuildings, together with twelve other Messuages or Dwelling Houses thereto adjoining, four of which front Long Lane, and eight are in the rear thereof, but front a Street or Road called New England with Ten Nail Shops with the necessary Outbuildings thereto belonging; and which said Public House and Messuages are in the respective occupations of the owner *Absalom Hodgetts*.....”

1881 Census

New England – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Absalom Hodgetts* (53), licensed victualler, born Halesowen;
- [2] Elizabeth Hodgetts (49), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] William Hodgetts (26), son, school board officer, born Halesowen;
- [4] Stephen Hodgetts (22), son, grocer's assistant, born Halesowen;
- [5] Alice Hodgetts (19), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [6] Minnie Hodgetts (13), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] Harry Hodgetts (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen:

Absalom Hodgetts was also a brewer. [1884]

1891 Census

Long Lane, Hill – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Silas Whitehouse* (40), innkeeper, born Halesowen;
- [1] *Mary Whitehouse* (35), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Elizabeth Whitehouse (15), daughter, born Rowley;
- [4] *William Whitehouse* (13), son, born Rowley;
- [5] Mary Whitehouse (11), daughter, born Rowley;
- [6] Barry Whitehouse (9), son, born Rowley;
- [7] Henry Whitehouse (5), son, born Quarry Bank;
- [8] Fanny Whitehouse (2), daughter, born Hurst Green:

In March 1898 *Silas Whitehouse* was elected to Hill Parish Council.

Silas Whitehouse died in the 3rd quarter of 1900.

County Express 1/9/1900

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions. The annual Licensing Sessions for Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held on Tuesday, at the new Police Court.....

An interim authority was granted Mrs. *Whitehouse* for the WAGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, Halesowen, on the application of Mr. E. H. Grove.”

County Express 10/11/1900 - Notice

“Re *Silas Whitehouse* (Deceased).

All Persons having any Claim against the Estate of *Silas Whitehouse*, formerly of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, but late of the Hawthorns, Quinton, in the said County, Licensed Victualler, are requested to forthwith send particulars to the under-signed. And all persons Indebted to the deceased are required to at once pay to me the amount owing.

E. H. Grove, Halesowen, Solicitor to the Executors.”

1901 Census

Long Lane – WAGON AND HORSES

- [1] *William Whitehouse* (24), unmarried, publican, born Oakham, Rutland:

County Express 9/11/1901

“A very serious fire broke out about 3.30 on Wednesday morning on the premises of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, Halesowen, belonging to Mr. T. W. Whitehouse. Unfortunately the Halesowen District Council have not provided adequate appliances for extinguishing fire, and in the district there is no telephone communication except to the private residence of Mr. Walter Somers, JP, and the police do not appear to have thought of that. It was with great difficulty that the inmates of the public-house were aroused, and they were only just in time to make their escape in their night dresses. Messengers were dispatched on horse back to the fire station at Oldbury, and also to the fire station at Stourbridge, these being the two nearest brigades upon whom Halesowen people are apparently content to rely. Meantime the fire raged furiously, and was spreading to the cottages on either side. The scenes were heartrending as the people made their escape with little children in their arms, and then attempt to rescue what furniture they could. Two houses adjoining the public-house were soon in flames. The Oldbury brigade did not receive their call until 5.25am, when Captain Shipton and his men turned out, but could not travel at a very fast rate on account of the fog. It was 6.10 before they arrived, just in time to see the roofs of the public-house and the two houses on either side fall in. The neighbourhood was then in a terrible state of alarm, and the people in all the houses near were busily removing furniture to places of safety. The brigade soon got two jets at work from the hydrant to prevent the flames from spreading, and shortly afterwards the large steamer was pouring volumes of water on to the burning buildings. The Stourbridge brigade arrived shortly before seven o'clock, but they were three miles further away than the Oldbury brigade, and both continued working until 10.30 in the morning, when the houses were completely gutted, leaving only the outside walls standing. The homeless inmates were taken in by the neighbours and looked after. No-one appears to have been injured although the inmates of the WAGON AND HORSES

had very narrow escapes. The loss to property alone must be over £1,000, to say nothing of the goods which could not be rescued.”

County Express 23/11/1901

“Mr. J. W. Clulow, Brierley Hill, made an application to the Bench for a temporary license for the WAGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, Hill, belonging to Mrs. *Whitehouse*, which was recently burnt to the ground. He explained there was a provision made under the Licensing Act of 1828, section 14, whereby in cases of fire the justices had power to grant a license authorising a person to sell until the following 5th April at some convenient premises. He found, however, that such applications could only be made at a licensing session, and that day was only an ordinary session. Under the circumstances he was debarred from making an application of this character, but which would be made at the next licensing sessions on December 3rd. He now applied for a temporary permit to sell in an erection which it was proposed to place on the present premises. He understood there was no objection by the police. The application was granted.”

County Express 7/12/1901

“Mr. Clulow made a somewhat unusual application under Section 14 of the Licensing Act of 1828, which provides that when a house had been burnt a license may be granted for the business to be carried on in some other fit and convenient house. In this application, which was on behalf of Mrs. *Whitehouse*, Mr. Clulow explained on November 5th the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, was burnt down, and he asked for a license to be granted that the business might be carried on at some adjoining cottages. The application was granted.”

County Express 25/10/1902

“*Mary Whitehouse*, landlady of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, Blackheath was fined £3 16s for permitting drunkenness. It was alleged that a man named Neil was allowed to remain drunk on licensed premises. The defence was that Neil was kicked by a horse, and being rendered ill, was forced to rest at the licensed house for two hours.”

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

“On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report.....

During the past year the following licensed persons had been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and dealt with as follows.....

Mary Whitehouse, WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, permitting drunkenness, fined 20s and costs, 48s 6d.....

He had given notice of his intention to oppose the renewal of the following licenses upon these grounds.....

Mary Whitehouse, WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, (1) that on the 21st of October, 1902, she was fined £1 and costs for permitting drunkenness; (2) that there was no necessity for a license for the premises, the requirements of the district being amply provided for; (3) that she was not a fit and proper person to be entrusted with the licence.....

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the ‘black list’.....

Upon the consideration of the renewal of the license of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, Superintendent Sheriff pointed out that Mrs. *Whitehouse* had held the license for a considerable period, and the house had been properly conducted. The license was renewed by the magistrates.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population.....”

Tipton Herald 24/10/1903

“John Adams, of Greens Lane, Cakemore, was fined 5s and costs, for being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, kept by *Mary Whitehouse*, on the 27th ult.”

Birmingham Mail 3/5/1904

“Today, at Hales Owen Police Court, *Mary Whitehouse*, licensee of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Long Lane, was summoned for suffering a police-constable to remain on her premises for an unreasonable space of time whilst on duty, on the 17th of April.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe explained that Inspector Griffin was concealed in the vicinity of the defendant’s house, when he saw Police-constable Banks, who was on duty at the time, enter the premises. After waiting for over twenty minutes, Inspector Griffin left his hiding place for the purpose of following Banks, who still remained on the premises. A man standing close to the house noticed the inspector rushed into the premises, and immediately afterwards Police-constable Banks slipped out of a side door. Inspector Griffin, however, called the officer back, and, when charged with the offence, defendant’s son said Banks had been there a quarter of an hour, but had not been served with any drink. He was having a discussion about a religious service with another man.

The Bench eventually dismissed the case on payment of the costs, £2 7s 6d.”

County Advertiser 20/8/1904

“On Friday last week, an inquest was held at the WAGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, Halesowen, respecting the death of William Gould (46), builder’s labourer, formerly residing at Long Lane, Halesowen, who died on the 10th inst, under circumstances reported in last week’s *Advertiser*. It was stated that the deceased was employed on some houses in the course of erection near

his home, when he complained of feeling unwell, and said to a fellow workman, 'I feel bad; my end has come.' He was assisted in the direction of his home, but fell down in the road and died before medical help could be obtained. Death was due to heart disease, and the jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

County Advertiser 11/2/1905

"On Tuesday the annual licensing sessions for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division were held at the Police Court. Superintendent Hill's report was as follows the following licensed persons have been proceeded against for offences under the licensing laws, and have been dealt with as follows.....
On the 3rd of May, 1904, *Mary Whitehouse*, of the WAGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, for suffering a police-constable to remain on licensed premises. Ordered to pay costs £3 7s 6d.....
The license of the WAGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, has changed hands since the licensee was proceeded against."

1911 Census

166, Long Lane – WAGON AND HORSES INN

- [1] *Arthur Thomas Morgan* (33), licensed victualler, born Vauxhall;
- [2] *Ada F. Morgan* (29), wife, married 8½ years, assistant in business, born Handsworth;
- [3] *Mabel Morgan* (7), daughter, school, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Ida Morgan* (4), daughter, born Balsall Heath;
- [5] *Arthur Morgan* (3), son, born Balsall Heath;
- [6] *Sarah Weston* (34), general servant, born Bilston:

Arthur Thomas Morgan – see also BUSH, Dudley.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/11/1930

"Pit Disaster Fund. More Contributions.

The following contributions were received yesterday for the *Birmingham Gazette* and *Evening Despatch* fund for the relief of the dependants of the victims of the Grove Pit disaster.

Previously acknowledged. £2,459 11s 11d.

Customers, WAGGON AND HORSES, Blackheath. £1 10s 0d."

Birmingham Daily Post 28/2/1957

"Mrs. *Elsie Richards* gave birth to a 7lb son in an ambulance taking her to a Stourbridge maternity hospital, at Halesowen, last night. Her husband *Thomas*, licensee of the WAGON AND HORSES, Cakemore, acted as midwife. Mr. *Richards* was alone in the ambulance with his wife when the birth occurred, as it was impossible to obtain a nurse at the time. He said later, 'About a mile from the hospital I realised that the birth was imminent. I asked the ambulance driver to stop, and then I helped to deliver the child. It's not an experience I would like to go through again.' Both mother and son are doing well. Mr. and Mrs. *Richards* have a son aged 12 and a daughter aged eight."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/3/1957

"Mrs. *Elsie Richards* (36), wife of Mr. *Thomas Richards*, licensee of the WAGON AND HORSES, Long Lane, Blackheath, and the 7lb baby son to whom she gave birth in an ambulance on Wednesday evening are both doing well in a Stourbridge maternity home."

Demolished

Rebuilt

Ethel Annie Jordan – see also HOPE AND ANCHOR, Amblecote.

Birmingham Daily Post 21/11/1975 - Advert

"WAGGON & HORSES, Long Lane, Blackheath.

John and *Pauline Green* ask you to join them for your Christmas Lunch as from December 15th.

Reservations Telephone: 021 422 0509."

[2013]

It was demolished in December 2014.

Housing was built on the site.

WAGGON AND HORSES

21, (11), Stourbridge Road / Islington, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Ann Smith, carrier, Halesowen
Caroline Jones [1858]
William Jones
Richard Withers (acquired in December 1870 for £420)
Mrs. Sarah Withers
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1903) [1904]
Peter Whittaker (acquired on 31st January 1985)
Bob and Brian Dummons (acquired in 1987)
Bob Dummons [2009]
Black Country Ales (acquired in December 2015)

LICENSEES

Ann Smith [1835]
William Jones [1841] – **1870**;
Eliza Jones (**1870** – [])
Thomas Rudge (**1871** – [1881])
Mrs. Sarah Withers (**1884** – **1897**);
Thomas Siviter Moseley (**1897** – [])
William Emms [1899] – **1903**;
Thomas Joseph White (**1903** – **1906**);
John Beasley (**1906** – **1909**);
Minnie Beasley (**1909** – **1911**);
Herbert Sperring (**1911** – [1921])
Mrs. Elizabeth Sperring [1939] – [1940]
Gordon Brown (**1959** – **1984**);
Dibajh Singh (**1984**);
Peter Alan Whittaker (**1984** – **1987**);
Brian Keith Dummons (**1987** – [])
Don Dykes (**1992** – **2008**); manager
Bob Dummons (**2008** – **2015**);
Dawn O' Neill (**2016** – [2021]);
Dave Randle [2022]
Emma and Drew (**2023** – [])

NOTES

It was originally the CART AND HORSES
WAGGON AND HORSES [1860]
OLD WAGGON AND HORSES [1876]

It had a beerhouse license.

1841 Census

Islington

- [1] *William Jones* (30), publican;
- [2] *Caroline Jones* (30), born Worcestershire;
- [3] *Ann Smith* (60), born Worcestershire

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/8/1847 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Building Land, Rowley Regis.

To be Sold by Auction, by F. Lea, on Tuesday the 31st of August inst (unless previously disposed of by private treaty, of which notice will be given), at the house of Mr. Joseph Bowater, the BULLS HEAD INN, Rowley Regis, at the hour of five in the afternoon, and subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced.....

Mr. Bowater, BULLS HEAD INN, Rowley Regis, will show the property; and for further particulars apply to Mrs. *Smith*, WAGGON AND HORSES, Hales Owen; Mrs. *Smith*, Powick's Lane, Worcester; or to Mr. Lea, Auctioneer, Cradley.”

1851 Census

Islington – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *William Jones* (41), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Caroline Jones* (41), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Anne Smith* (75), mother-in-law, retired carrier, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Rhoda Smith* (11), niece, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Samuel Bushel* (25), lodger, boatman, born West Bromwich:

Ann Smith was also a carriage proprietor.
She died on 27th February 1858, aged 77.

1861 Census

Islington Street – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *William Jones* (51), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Caroline Jones* (51), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Francis Smith* (50), brother-in-law, unmarried, horn button presser, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Rhoda Smith* (22), niece, no profession, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Caroline Twyning* (9), niece, scholar, born Worcester:

Worcestershire Chronicle 11//9/1861

“On Friday last, an inquest was held at the WAGGON AND HORSES, near Halesowen, by R. Docker, Esq, on the body of James Hutton, aged 74 years, who died suddenly on the road on Wednesday last. Verdict, Died from Natural Causes.”

William Jones, beer retailer, Stourbridge Road. [1864], [1865]

He was the son-in-law of Ann Smith.

He was also a farmer and maltster, Hagley Street.

He married *Caroline Smith*. She died on 6th June 1863.

County Express 29/1/1870 - Deaths

“On the 21st inst, at his residence, Mr. *W. Jones*, of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Islington Road, Halesowen, at the age of sixty.”

County Express 3/12/1870 - Advert

“WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Halesowen.

Modern and Genteel Household Furniture, Brewing Plant and Effects.

Mr. Samuel Leonard has received instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. *William Jones*, to Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, the 13th day of December, 1870, the whole of the Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, and Effects, comprising Windsor and other Chairs, Mahogany and other Tables, Oak and other Corner Cupboards, Birch four-post Bedsteads and Furniture, Mattresses, Feather Beds, Washing Stands and Ware, Dressing Tables, Oak Chest of Drawers, Eight-day Clock in Oak Case, Swing Glasses, Four-pull Beer Machine and Piping, Two-hogshead Cask, Nine and a-half hogshead Casks, Mash Tub, Wort Vats, lot of Tubs, and numerous other articles.

Sale to commence at Ten o'clock in the morning.

Catalogues may be had from the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

AND

“Valuable Freehold Property, in the Borough of Halesowen, and the County of Worcester.

Mr. S. Leonard, will Sell by Auction, at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Halesowen, on Monday the 12th day of December, 1870, at six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions then to be read.

Lot 1. All that valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Premises, known as the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, situate in the Borough of Halesowen, and fronting the Stourbridge and Birmingham Turnpike Road, late in the occupation of Mr. *William Jones*; and also all those Two Messuages or Dwelling Houses adjoining the last mentioned Premises, in the occupations of George Field and Reuben Florence, at the annual rental of £10 8s.

Lot 2. All that Freehold Dwelling House and Premises, adjoining the Islington Ragged School, and fronting the said Turnpike Road, with Nail Shop, Pigsty, Party Pump, Garden, and other Appurtenances thereto, in the occupation of Benjamin Hackett, at the annual rental of £6 14s 4d.

For further particulars, apply to William Hayes, Esq, Solicitor, Halesowen; Thomas Homer, Esq, Solicitor, Brierley Hill and Colley Gate; or the Auctioneer, Cradley Heath.”

County Advertiser 25/3/1871

“The license of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, at Islington, Halesowen, was transferred from the Executors of the late *W. Jones* to *Thomas Rudge*.”

1871 Census

Islington

- [1] *Thomas Rudge* (55), publican and sawyer, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Phoebe Rudge* (55), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Edward Rudge* (8), grand-son, born Halesowen;

[4] Harriet Bennet (22), general servant, born Tunstall, Staffordshire:

It was granted a full license in 1871.

County Express 31/10/1874

“Edward Lowe was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Islington, on the night of the 14th inst, when requested to do so. The Bench imposed a fine of 5s and costs, or in default fourteen days. *Thomas Rudge*, the landlord, proved the case.”

Stourbridge Observer 31/10/1874

“George Lowe was charged with refusing to leave the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, on the 17th inst. *Thomas Rudge*, the landlord, proved the case and defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 2/8/1879

“*Thomas Rudge*, WAGON AND HORSES INN, Islington, was summoned for keeping his house open on the 12th ult, and selling intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours.

Police-constable Raybould stated that he was in the Stourbridge Road in company with Police-constable Webb at ten minutes past eleven o'clock on the night in question. Defendant's house was then open. Some people shouted, ‘The bobbies are here.’ They entered the house, where they found three men drinking. Webb said to defendant *Rudge*, ‘This game won't do,’ and defendant repeated that his clock was five minutes fast. Webb went and looked at the clock and told defendant it was 11.10 by it. A young woman was drawing some ale when they entered, but on seeing them she put it down. Police-constable Webb gave corroborative evidence and defendant was fined 5s and costs or fourteen days.”

1881 Census

Islington – WAGGON AND HORSES

[1] *Thomas Rudge* (65), widower, publican and sawyer, born Halesowen;

[2] Anna Maria Phillips (20), housekeeper, born Knowle, Worcestershire:

County Express 3/3/1888

“William Turberville, labourer, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, was charged with damaging a window, the property of *Sarah Withers*, landlady of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Halesowen, on the 14th ult. The evidence in the case was not sufficiently clear to convict, and the case was dismissed.

Defendant was further charged with assaulting his wife on the 14th ult.

Complainant stated that on the night in question the defendant became very violent, and ran after her with a knife and struck her several times on the head with his fist.

Police-sergeant Raybould said he saw the defendant's wife in the street, and she then complained to him that her husband had assaulted her. Witness went into the house and saw there defendant shouting and running all about the house. Defendant was ordered to pay 7s 6d a week towards the support of his wife and two children.”

County Express 8/6/1889

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Halesowen, on Tuesday morning, on the body of Ellen Corbett (14), of Queen Street, Halesowen, who was drowned in the Waxland Brook on Sunday afternoon last. During the heavy storm which passed over the district the brook was swollen, and the deceased, while passing over an eleven inch plank which crosses the stream, fell in and was carried away by the current. John Corbett, father of the deceased, identified the body, and stated that he last saw his daughter, who was a servant girl, when she came home to sleep on Sunday evening at about six o'clock. He saw the body when it was dragged from the stream. Obedience Jackson, a factory girl, deposed that deceased went to her home some time before five o'clock on Sunday afternoon. On deceased's suggestion they both went for a walk round Waxland. When they reached the plank deceased ventured on. Witness called to deceased to get off, simultaneously expressing a fear that she would fall in. Deceased, however, went on a second time. Witness had occasion to turn her back on the deceased to pick something up, and on turning round again, she had disappeared. Noticing deceased's head, and hearing the cry of ‘Oh, Bid-dy,’ witness was on the point of jumping into the brook after her companion, when a farmer's lad arriving on the scene pulled her back. There was no one else on the plank. Deceased was carried round the edge of the stream at a great speed and disappeared over the waterfall. Witness tried to reach her drowning companion, but failed in her endeavor. There was no one near at the time to render any assistance, only a few children being on the opposite side of the stream. Witness was of opinion that deceased was dead before she reached the waterfall. She did not see who got deceased out.

William Parsons, a lad of twelve years, deposed to going round Waxland for a walk on the afternoon in question, and saw deceased walking across the plank over the water, which had swollen. She appeared to be frightened, and pitched forward into the water. She screamed, and whilst trying to reach her witness slipped, but stopped himself from going into the water by holding on to a bush. Deceased was got out about one hundred yards below the plank.

Arthur Portman, nailer, Spring Hill, said he heard of the calamity at about six o'clock, and went to the place, and with a rake succeeded in bringing the dead body to the surface, but her feet being entangled in the reeds of the stream he could not at first get her out. However, with assistance he succeeded in landing the body at about 7.30. Deceased had apparently been in the water about an hour or two, and the body had, he thought, been carried about 150 yards.

The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

Stourbridge Road – WAGGON AND HORSES INN

- [1] *Sarah Withers* (63), widow, publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] John Spittle (27), son-in-law, foreman of brickworks, born Darby End;
- [3] Annie Spittle (25), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Harry Spittle (4), grand-son, born Halesowen;
- [5] Fred Mosley (7), grand-son, scholar, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/9/1892

“At the Police Court, yesterday, William Jones, of Spring Hill, was charged with stealing two fowls, the property of Alfred Deeley, on the 24th inst. George Andrews, of Little Cornbow, was also charged with receiving the fowls, knowing them to have been stolen. Prosecutor visited the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Stourbridge Road, for the purpose of selling the fowls, but no one would buy them, and he placed them on a table. It was alleged that Jones picked them up and went out with them, on the pretence that he was going to show them to his mother, but he did not return them or the money. They were subsequently found in the possession of Andrews. Prisoners were committed for trial at the quarter sessions.”

Worcester Journal 22/10/1892

“Worcestershire Quarter Sessions.

William Jones and Joseph Andrews, young men, surrendered to their bail, charged with stealing two live tame hen fowls, belonging to Alfred Deeley, at Halesowen, on September 24. Mr. Hickey prosecuted. Mr. Cranstoun defended Jones, and Mr. Marshall Todd appeared for Andrews.

The prosecutor stated that he went to the WAGGON AND HORSES, Islington, with a couple of fowls, which he offered for sale at 4s 5d each. Jones bid him 3s 6d each for them, but he said he could not afford to sell them for that price, and he put them under the table. Shortly afterwards Jones picked them up and said that he would show them to the ‘missus’ purporting to mean that he would consult his wife about the price. He never reappeared with the fowls.

Prosecutor was corroborated by his brother and other witnesses.

One witness for the prosecution said that the fowls were placed near the door and not under the table. A further witness said he saw Andrews carrying the fowls away. His explanation was that he bought them from prosecutor’s brother. George Deeley denied that he sold them.

Mr. Cranstoun’s theory of defence was that some other man than Jones took the fowls away. The evidence was unreliable; and it was not clear that Jones took them.

Mr. Todd urged the feasibility of prisoner Andrews’ plea that he bought them.

The jury found both prisoners guilty, and recommended Andrews to mercy. Jones had been previously convicted.

The Court regarded Jones as an old offender, and sentenced him to 12 months’ hard labour. Andrews had a good character and was sentenced to three months’ imprisonment.”

County Express 31/3/1894

“On Tuesday night a young woman named Emma Johnson, the daughter of an engineer at the Hawne Colliery, died suddenly at the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Islington. She was employed at the public house, and between 10 and 11 o’clock was outside talking to a young man to whom she was said to be engaged to be married. She was suddenly seized with a fainting fit and died before medical aid could be obtained. Death is supposed to have been caused by heart disease.

Mr. A. H. Hebbert (deputy coroner) held the inquest on Thursday, at the WAGON AND HORSES INN. Joseph Johnson stated that he was the father of the deceased, and that some years ago she suffered from an attack of rheumatic fever, but she appeared to have outgrown the effects of it. Sarah Withers, the deceased’s witness stated she frequently complained of her heart and shortness of breath when she had been hurrying.

John Portman said that on Tuesday night he was waiting for deceased in the entry, where she joined him at 11.15pm. When she came to him she was singing. They stood talking for some minutes, and then she suddenly ceased talking and reeled and fell against the wall. He asked what was the matter with her, but getting no reply he gently placed her on the ground, and summoned Mrs. *Withers*, who

assisted to carry the deceased into the house, where restoratives were tried until Dr. Arkwright arrived, and pronounced life extinct. Dr. Arkwright, who made a post mortem examination, said that the deceased’s heart was unusually large and the bowels diseased. He attributed death to heart disease and syncope. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

County Express 13/3/1897 - Notice

“Re *Sarah Withers* (Deceased).

Notice Is Hereby Given that all Creditors and other Persons having any Debts, Claims, or Demands against the Estate of *Sarah Withers*, late of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, in the County of Worcester, who died on the 7th day of February last, are hereby required to send full particulars in writing of such claims and demands to us, the undersigned, Solicitors to the Executors, on or before the 16th day of April next, after which date the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased amongst the persons entitled thereto.

Dated this 10th day of March, 1897.

Homfray, Goodman & Mellor, Halesowen, Solicitors for the Executors.”

Sarah Withers – see also WHITE LION.

Thomas Siviter Moseley – see also WHITE LION.

William Emms = William Hems

Bromsgrove Messenger 2/9/1899

“Mr. *Hems*, of the WAGON AND HORSES, applied for an occasional license to sell intoxicants on the Halesowen Football Ground, on the occasion of a football match. Superintendent Chare opposed the application, which the Bench declined to grant.”

County Express 3/2/1900

“James Hadley, Mucklows Hill, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on the premises of the WAGGON AND HORSES, on the 21st January.

Police-constable Chamberlain said he found the man worse for beer in the kitchen. He heard *Emms*, the landlord, order the man out.

Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

AND

Bromsgrove Messenger 3/2/1900

“James Hurley, of Mucklow Hill, was summoned for being drunk on the premises of the WAGON AND HORSES INN. Police-constable Chamberlain said that on Sunday night, the 21st ulto, he found defendant in the house drunk. The landlord had refused to serve him. Defendant said the landlord asked him to go inside.

Inspector Pitt informed the Bench that Mr. Emus [sic], the landlord, had got his horse and trap outside his house on that morning ready to go out when defendant and a man named Joseph Hackett (who was summoned that day) drove off with the trap and did not return until night when they were both drunk.

Joseph Hackett, of Stourbride Road, was summoned for being drunk whilst driving the horse and cart. Police-constable Chamberlain said he saw the defendants return with the horse and trap. Hackett was driving.

Both defendants were fined 5s and costs.”

1901 Census

Stourbridge Road

[1] *William Hems* (32), licensed victualler, born Northfield;

[2] Minnie G. Hems (32), wife, born Leeds;

[3] Gwendoline M. Hems (2), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] William H. A. Hems (1), son, born Halesowen;

[5] Sarah Edge (42), general servant, born Old Hill:

County Advertiser 11/4/1903

“*Thomas Joseph White* applied for an interim authority for the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Halesowen, from *William Emms*.”

County Advertiser 19/11/1904

“Much sympathy will be extended to Mr. *T. White*, landlord of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, and treasurer of the Halesowen Football Club, in his recent accident whilst dealing with an unruly customer. Mr. *White* sustained a fracture of his right wrist.”

Birmingham Mail 22/11/1904

“At Halesowen Police Court, today, James Bailey, described as a horse doctor, of Spring Hill, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, with doing wilful damage to a table, doors, and glasses to the extent of 10s, and also with assaulting the landlord, *Thomas Joseph White*, on the 12th inst.

Mr. T. Clulow, who prosecuted on behalf of Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers, explained that defendant went into the smoke-room and commenced a disturbance with a rival tradesman named Ball. The landlord’s attention was called to defendant, who was drunk, and he ordered him to leave. Defendant refused to go, whereupon the landlord attempted to eject him. Bailey became very violent, knocked over a table, broke a large number of glasses and damaged one of the doors. He pulled off a brass bar on the door, and struck Mr. *White* with such violence on the arm as to break a small bone close to the wrist. Defendant was eventually removed from the house, but he again returned a little later and behaved in a disorderly manner.

Defendant expressed regret for his conduct, and asked the magistrates what he had to pay, as he was anxious to get away.

For refusing to quit and doing damage he was fined £1 17s, including costs, and the magistrates dismissed the case of assault.”

County Advertiser 25/11/1905

“On Monday night a very successful smoking concert in connection with Halesowen Football Club was held at the headquarters, the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Stourbridge Road. A capital programme was gone through, the chair being occupied by the President of the club (Mr. Wm. Jackson).”

County Express 22/8/1908

“The annual meeting of Halesowen Football Club was held on Monday evening, at the WAGON AND HORSES HOTEL, Halesowen. Mr. W. Jackson presided, and there was a large attendance.....”

Tipton Herald 17/4/1909

“His large circle of friends will regret to hear of the death of Mr. *John Beasley*, landlord of the WAGON AND HORSES, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, which took place on Saturday. The deceased gentleman, who was 39 years of age, had resided in Halesowen a number of years and made a goodly number of friends. He took a great interest in the doings of the Halesowen Football Club, whose headquarters were held at his house. Mr. *Beasley* was also an enthusiastic supporter of the Swimming Club. He was well known in Oldbury, where previous to going to Halesowen he kept a public house. The interment took place on Thursday; the football and swimming clubs sent representatives.”

County Express 9/4/1910 - In Memoriam

“In loving memory of *John Beasley*, of the WAGON AND HORSES, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, who fell asleep April 10th 1909. Dearly loved and sadly missed by his loving wife, *Minnie*.

If love and care could death prevent,

Thy days on earth would not so soon be spent,

Life was desired, but God did see

Eternal rest was best for thee.”

County Express 17/12/1910

“On Thursday a concert was held at the WAGON AND HORSES, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, for the benefit of Harry Gaunt, who has been unable to follow his employment for some time owing to illness. Mr. S. G. Bailey presided, and the programme, which was provided by local artists, was an excellent one. Mr. Squires was the accompanist.”

County Express 25/3/1911

“On Tuesday, at the Police Court, on the application of Mr. T. Clulow, the license of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Stourbridge Road, was transferred from *Mary Beasley* to *Herbert Sperrin*.”

1911 Census

11, Stourbridge Road – WAGON AND HORSES

[1] *Herbert Sperring* (34), traveller, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Sperring* (31), wife, married 7 years, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Leslie Herbert Sperring* (6), son, school, born West Bromwich;

[4] *Nellie Smart* (18), general servant, born Halesowen:

County Express 6/5/1911 - Deaths

“On April 27th, *Leslie Herbert*, only child of *Herbert* and *Elizabeth Sperring*, of Stourbridge Road, Halesowen; aged 6 years.

He's gone, the one we loved so dear;

To his eternal rest,

He's gone to heaven, we have no fear;

To be for ever blest.”

Dudley Chronicle 26/8/1911

“The annual meeting of the Halesowen Football Club was held at the headquarters, the WAGON AND HORSES INN, on Monday evening, Mr. W. E. Shilvock presiding.

the Secretary said he was unable to prepare a statement, but he gave a draft of the accounts. The gate receipts amounted to £300 2s 3d, the cup-ties brought in £74 2s 6d, and the hon. members' subscriptions amounted to £53 15s 7d. The players' wages totalled £315 15s, travelling expenses £60 1s, and the total deficit was £130. Last year it was £121 7s 9d, but Mr. S. G. Bailey gave £10, thus reducing it to £110.

Mr. Walter Somers was re-elected president; Mr. Percy Rose secretary, and Mr. H. Speerin treasurer.

Votes of thanks were passed to the gentlemen who had guaranteed the money last year to give the club a fresh start, to the president and the other officers.

It was decided to agree to the suggestion to ‘pool’ the gates with Cradley Heath and Coombs Wood, and to issue season tickets for the ground in addition to those of the stand.”

Dudley Herald 7/2/1931

“On Monday night the members of the Athletic Club were entertained to dinner at the WAGON AND HORSES HOTEL, by Messrs. G. Green and J. B. Downing, the refreshments being provided by Mr. W. Carter (president of the club).”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/6/1936

“.....a meeting of the Halesowen Town FC Supporters' Club, which takes place at the WAGON AND HORSES, Stourbridge Road takes place tomorrow night.”

1939 Register

21, Stourbridge Road

[1] *Elizabeth Sperring*, date of birth 12/6/1880, licensed victualler, widowed;

[A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn-Quiz. \[1973/74\]](#)

It became a free house in 1985.

Sandwell Evening Mail 15/1/1994

“Down Your Local.

What an eye opener! A dozen different hand pulls, all dispensing different brews, is enough to bring a gleam into the eyes of beer lovers everywhere. At the WAGGON AND HORSES in Stourbridge Road, you're spoiled for choice. As electronics engineer Ken Langstone puts it, ‘Tell me of another pub in the Black Country which sells more different beers. I don't know of any.’ Regular Ken, who was sitting with his fiancé, Smethwick teacher Dawn Edmonds, said, ‘It's like a permanent beer festival.’

At the other end of the bar were the Joneses. Alan Jones, who's 36 and claims to be a total illiterate, is anything but. The father of two recently took redundancy from Dudley Council's Parks Department and is now looking for a job. ‘I quite liked working in the parks in the old days, but things have changed now,’ he said. ‘Now you seem to spend your time permanently picking up litter.’

There was a mutter from one of his mates. ‘Alan is a bit modest,’ he said. ‘He spends some of his time writing poetry. Don't tell him I said so, but it's terrific. We take the mickey a bit, but all the lads like his poetry, some of which has been published.’

Another Jones at the bar was Dave Jones, aged 33, and no relation to Alan. Dave, an amateur counsellor, who's amassing a collection of tattoos on his back and arms, said, ‘I've heard so many difficult or sob stories, particularly from youngsters, that I'm now taking a college course. It's sponsored by the charity Values for Life, who specialise in dealing with young people.’ It turns out that he does quite a bit of voluntary work, particularly for the What? Centre in Stourbridge. He's also a biker. But what of those tattoos? ‘I've been collecting them for years,’ he said. ‘I consider them to be a statement of me, if you like.’

Chatting was interrupted by a moist lick from a beautifully-kept Golden Labrador called Glenn. Aged only 19 months, Glenn is a guide dog and provides an admirable companion and guide for Michael Willis who's had him since October. ‘He's still a bit lively, but he'll clam down,’ said Michael, who works as a bicycle mechanic at the Birmingham Institute for the Blind at Harborne.

There was plenty of banter around the table. Clive Tyrell, who is partially sighted and one of the instructors at Harborne, was being ribbed by student Michael Elliott. ‘At least the dog is house trained,’ said Mike.

On the other side of the bar stood licensee *Don Dykes*, a man who knows his beer. *Don*, from Bournemouth, has been at Halesowen for 18 months, after 12 years running the Bournemouth FC Supporters Club. Before that, he worked as a dustman. He also founded the South East Dorset branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, in the 1970s. At the moment his wife Lesley is back at his home town because, as *Don* put it with a wry grin, ‘Try selling a house in Bournemouth at the moment.’

Red-head barmaid Caroline Wesley has also worked at the pub for 18 months and is always happy to have a natter with beer enthusiasts who visit the 163-year-old hostelry. Your columnist, recovering from flu, spotted Enville Gothic Ale and, perhaps wisely, decided to opt for something less strong. Caroline pulled a few fluid ounces into a small glass saying, ‘Have a taste anyway. We like the customers to have an idea of our different beers.’

Price of a pint: Enville Bitter, £1.44. Up to 11 draught beers change often.”

It was Stourbridge & Halesowen branch of CAMRA's Pub of the Year 2006.

It went on to become CAMRA West Midlands County Pub of the Year 2006.

[Bob Dummons was married to Maria.](#)

[They had a daughter, Alice, born 1992.](#)

Halesowen News 10/1/2008

“A Halesowen landlord is raising a glass to celebrate 20 years behind the bar at one of the town's most popular watering holes. *Bob Dummons* has run the WAGGON AND HORSES on Stourbridge Road since moving to the Midlands from his native Southampton in 1987. The former telephone engineer decided to buy the pub after regularly travelling to the area on holiday and revealed it was the number of real ale pubs nearby which first attracted him. The married father-of-three said, ‘I have always had an interest in traditional beer and real ale and it was always the intention to serve these when we bought the pub. The area has a number of good real ale venues so this seemed the logical place to set up. It's been an enjoyable few years and I would like to think I have done my bit. I don't know if I will keep going for another 20 years but I will certainly be carrying on for a few more at least!’

Under *Bob's* tenure the pub has gained a reputation for the variety of real ales served and has become a popular venue for members of the Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA). A regular in the Good Beer Guide, the pub has recently been included in the Dudley Real Ale Trail Guide – a new guide from the Dudley and Stourbridge CAMRA which charts the best pubs in the borough. The HAWNE TAVERN, on nearby Attwood Street, is also featured.”

Don Dykes was from Bournemouth.

He had previously run the AFC Bournemouth supporters' club bar.

He founded the East Dorset Branch of CAMRA.

He died on 14th May 2008.

Halesowen News 19/5/2008

“Tributes have been paid to a popular Halesowen pub manager who died suddenly last week. *Don Dykes* was a familiar face to hundreds of drinkers after 16 years pulling pints at the WAGGON AND HORSES on Stourbridge Road. The 54-year-old died last Wednesday after suffering a stroke.

Friend and colleague *Bob Dummons*, landlord at the pub, said his death had left staff and many regulars stunned.

Bob said, ‘*Don* collapsed while he was at the pub. It was that quick. It is obviously a great shock to everyone who knew him, I am not sure if it has really sunk in yet. He was really well-liked by everyone and had a very sharp wit. I still keep expecting him to come round the corner and swear at me!’

Born in Bournemouth, *Don* was a keen football supporter and first met *Bob* when he delivered beer for Bournemouth FC’s supporters club more than 30 years ago. The former council worker moved to Halesowen in 1992 to become manager of the pub and *Bob* believes he played a significant part in the success which has seen it become a regular feature in the Good Beer Guide and receive numerous awards.

Bob said, ‘He was a superb cellar man – a lot of the ales which were brought to the pub were because of him. He was a real stickler for work and getting the pub open early. I told the staff the biggest honour we can do him is to get the pub running as usual.’

Don is also set to be honoured by members of the Stourbridge & Halesowen Campaign for Real Ale, who have announced this weekend’s Stourbridge Beer Festival will be dedicated to his memory.”

It was Stourbridge & Halesowen branch of CAMRA’s Pub of the Year 2008.

Halesowen News 10/7/2012

“A Cradley microbrewery has scooped an award for a beer created as a tribute to a popular local landlord. Angel Ales brew BOB61 was named ‘beer of the festival’ at Stourbridge Beer Festival – an accolade voted for by drinkers attending the event. The six and a half per cent stout was created as a tribute to WAGGON AND HORSES landlord *Bob Dummons* as he celebrated his 61st birthday. *Bob* has been behind the bar of the popular watering hole in Stourbridge Road for 24 years. The award was presented to Angel Ales founders Nik Pritchard and Andy Kirk by CAMRA at the WAGGON.

Nik and Andy, who met whilst working for a civil engineering company in Birmingham, set up Angel Ales, in Furlong Lane, Cradley, in 2011. The pair bought and gutted then renovated their premises – a pre-1900 chapel of rest and coffin makers. They run the brewery as a hobby and both still work full-time in civil engineering.

Nik said, ‘What’s great about this award is it is not voted for by a committee – it’s being voted for by the general public and I’ve only got so many friends who go!’

Bob said the beer being named after him was a ‘very nice gesture.’

It is the second time the brewery has won beer of the festival at Stourbridge Beer Festival – last year it won with Angel Ale – a four per cent pale ale. CAMRA also presented *Bob* with an award for the Stourbridge & Halesowen Branch’s Cider Pub Of The Year for 2012.

Angel Ale is available at the WAGGON AND HORSES and GRAHAM’S PLACE in Wollaston. BOB61 has sold out.”

Halesowen News 23/12/2015

“Historic Halesowen pub the WAGGON AND HORSES has been sold.

The popular Stourbridge Road pub, which was selling real ale before it became fashionable, has been bought by Black Country Ales. A spokesman for the company said, ‘Christmas came early for us when Black Country Ales took possession of the WAGGON AND HORSES in Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.’ He added, ‘We are very pleased to be able to continue the long tradition of real ale service in this historic pub. It’s trade as usual over the festive period then there will be a short closure for refurbishment in our traditional styling which will bring the building back to full glory.’ He added, ‘We look forward to welcoming you to the pub, which locals say puts the ales in Halesowen.’

The pub dates back to 1830 when *William Jones* applied for a license to sell beer and cider in accordance with the 1830 Duke Of Wellington Beer House Act.”

It closed for refurbishment.

It reopened on 24th April 2016.

Halesowen News 14/12/2016

“Black Country rock band The Shambolics are performing at Halesowen’s WAGGON AND HORSES, Stourbridge Road, on Thursday. Shambolics founder Dominic Horton said, ‘The band is essentially a pub rock band that was formed about a year ago. We play 70s rock, blues, country and soul and play every fortnight at the VINE in Lyde Green, Cradley at the jam night there, which we host.’”

It was Stourbridge & Halesowen branch of CAMRA’s Pub of the Year 2017, 2018 and 2019.

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but

all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

Dawn O'Neill was married to Mick.

See also COURT HOUSE, Dudley, and RED COW, Coseley.

Express & Star 6/8/2022

“A Halesowen pub has won a title for its eye-catching floral displays. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards....

The judges also awarded highly commended to the LOYAL LODGE, HAWNE TAVERN, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the SWAN and previous winner, EDWARD VII.

Eve O’Connor, chair of Halesowen in Bloom said, ‘Halesowen in Bloom wants to thank all the pubs in Halesowen who make that extra effort to make their pubs look so inviting with great floral displays.’”

[2022]

WELCOME TAVERN

Love Lane, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Emmanuel Hobbis [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Love Lane – WELCOME TAVERN

[1] *Emmanuel Hobbis* (50), publican, born Northfield;

[2] Honor Hobbis (50), wife, born Rowley;

[3] Charles Parrish (4), grand-son, scholar, born Birmingham:

WHEATSHEAF

Cornbow, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Perry [1852] – [1860]

NOTES

Worcester Journal 22/7/1854

“Worcestershire Summer Assizes.

Highway Robbery at Halesowen.

Joseph Rudge, 23, nailor, a ferocious looking fellow, was charged with having assaulted and robbed Philip Plant, of 3s 5d, near the above place on the 4th of June. Mr. Carrington prosecuted, and Mr. Byrne defended the prisoner.

The prosecutor, a simple young fellow, deposed that he had been drinking at the WHEAT SHEAF, at Halesowen, and was going home about eleven o’clock, when he passed the prisoner and another man near the Free School, and in Homes Lane they pushed him down against the bank. The other held him while the prisoner took the money out of his right-hand trowsers pocket. Witness

then went home, and on the Tuesday following he went before the Magistrates. Was quite sure the prisoner was the man. It appeared that the prisoner went by the cognomen of 'Scratchem,' and two others of the same neighbourhood indulged in the titles of 'Paul' and 'Spot,' and Mr. Byrne cross-examined to endeavour to show that the prisoner had told parties that the said Paul and Spot were the parties who robbed him, but that he had sworn to Scratchem and would stick to him; but prosecutor denied it, and his unsophisticated replies caused great laughter. He was sure it was Rudge and the other man who pushed him down. PC Hemmings proved taking the prisoner into custody. He told him the charge, and the prisoner said he could prove where he was the same night. He was at Hall's drinking from half-past six till half-past ten. He then went to Williams's, BRICKLAYERS ARMS, and stayed there till twelve o'clock.

William Williams, landlord of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, deposed to the prisoner coming to his house between eight and nine, and left the house soon after the latter hour. The house was closed at eleven o'clock.

Mr. Byrne having addressed the Jury for the defence, called James Basterfield, of Islington, Halesowen, who said he was in the prisoner's company until half-past eleven o'clock on the night in question.

Mr. Carrington then replied on behalf of the prosecution, and on remarking upon the attempt to prove an alibi, said it reminded him of the difference between the English method of proving an alibi and the Irish method, as stated by the late Counsellor Philips. In the former two witnesses were brought to prove that a person was in a certain place at such an hour. In the latter they brought one witness to prove that a man was in two places at the same time. (Great laughter.) It was an old saying that 'fools and little children always told the truth,' – (Renewed laughter) – and although his client was not a very bright man still he had told a plain and straightforward tale. The prisoner was such a remarkable looking man that there was no mistaking him.

His Lordship in summing up said the cross-examination of Mr. Byrne was certainly very cleverly done, but he must say with regard to the evidence of the prosecutor, he never recollected so strong a case of simplicity beating acuteness. (Great laughter.) The Jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to four years' penal servitude."

WHITE HORSE

70, (29), High Street, (Colley Lane), CRADLEY

OWNERS

John Attwood

Daniel Batham

Hezekiah Dunn (acquired on 8th November 1922 for £3,455)

Amy Dunn (acquired in 1937)

Arthur Joseph Batham (leased from 2nd February 1937)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in October 1949)

LICENSEES

Joseph Attwood [pre 1842]

Henry Humphrey [1855]

William Attwood [1861] – [1871]

Henry Forrest [] – **1873**;

Edward Bishop (**1873** – [])

Daniel Batham Snr. [1878] – **1922**);

Hezekiah Dunn (**1922** – **1935**);

John Thomas Webb (**1935** – [])

Alfred Green [] – **1937**);

John Rhodes (**1937** – **1938**);

Frederick Webster (**1938** – **1940**);

Frederick William Cobourne (**1940** – **1948**);

William Ashley Jasper (**1948** – **1949**);

Arthur Joseph Batham (**1949**);

William Ashley Jasper (**1949** – **1951**);

Herbert Wallace (**1951** – **1952**);

Geoffrey Smith (**1952** – **1954**);

John 'Jack' Cartwright (**1954** – **1957**);

John Rendall Hill (**1957** – **1959**);

Edward Sidney Allen (**1959** – **1961**);

Stanley Cole (**1961**);

William Henry Bradley (**1961** – **1962**);

Graham Hadley (**1962**);

Joan Billingham (1962 – 1968);
Mary Edwards (1968 – 1970);
Dorcas May Comley (1970 – 1971):

NOTES

29, High Street [1881]
70, High Street [1896], [1900], [1912], [1916], [1921], [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

'The History Of Bathams' by John Richards

“*Joseph [Attwood]* turned his butcher’s shop into a beerhouse, selling ale and meat *Joseph Attwood* died in 1842 The WHITE HORSE was double fronted with two entrances, one at the side and one in the centre – this one was later blocked off when central heating was installed in the 1930s. The basic brewery was at the rear in the yard. Above the old centre entrance, engraved in stone was the legend ‘Who would have thought it’ which was inscribed after a successful court case over a boundary dispute with the owner of the adjoining property who made the remark as judgement went against him.”

Worcestershire Gazette 17/1/1855

“On Wednesday, the coroner, Mr. William Robinson, Esq, held an inquest at the house of Mr. *Henry Humphrey*, the WHITE HORSE, Cradley, on the body of Jeremiah Thomings, a lad 13 years of age, who was killed at the New Iron Works, at Cradley, belonging to Messrs. Hingley and Son, on Tuesday morning, Jan 9. The deceased was employed as a straightener of guide iron, and on the morning of Tuesday the mill was about to be stopped, for the purpose of changing the rolls. While waiting for the engine to be stopped, the deceased went to do something at the boxes, when one of the pegs caught his clothes, and he was drawn into them. The engine was stopped quickly. A witness named Henry Talbot, who was present at the accident, stated that it was not usual to place any protection to the boxes in the guide mills, one objection being the necessity of frequently removing them.”

1861 Census

East side of village – WHITE HORSE INN
[1] *William Attwood* (48), grocer and publican, born Ledbury, Herefordshire;
[2] Elizabeth Attwood (47), wife, born Portsmouth:

Stourbridge Observer 4/2/1871

“On Saturday last, a boy 11 years of age, name John Putton, was sliding on Cradley Pool when the ice suddenly gave way, and he was immersed in the water, and before assistance could be obtained he was drowned. The body was recovered some time afterwards, and taken home.
An inquest was held at the WHITE HORSE, on Monday, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, and after hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

High Street – WHITE HORSE
[1] *William Attwood* (57), widower, grocer and innkeeper, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 8/11/1873 - Advert

“To Let, the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley. Rent and Incoming low.”

County Advertiser 15/11/1873 - Advert

“WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley.
To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Leonard, at the above Inn, on Monday Next, November 17th, 1873, the whole of the Brewing Plant, Quantity of Household Furniture, &c, consisting of Cross-leg Ale Table, Deal Table, Oak Chest of Drawers, capital Four-pull Beer Machine, with taps and piping (complete); Pewter Measures, Lot of Jugs, Cups, and Glasses; Cup Shelves, large Mash Tub, Wort Vats, Sieves, Cooler, Eighty-gallon Cask, Two Half-hogshead Casks, Sign, and numerous other Effects, belonging to Mr. *E. Bishop*, who is declining the business.
Sale to commence at 12 o’clock at Noon.”

Daniel Batham Snr. married Charlotte Billingham.

County Advertiser 20/7/1878 - Advert

“To be Sold, by Private Treaty, the WHITE HORSE INN, in the occupation of *Daniel Batham*, with the Dwelling House thereto adjoining, with the said Out-buildings and Premises thereto belonging, situate at Cradley.
For further particulars, apply to Mr. S. H. Forrest, Solicitor, 19, Church Street, Oldbury.”

1881 Census

29, High Street

- [1] *David [sic] Batham* (35), coal miner unemployed, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] Charlotte Batham (33), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Daniel Batham (14), son, tinsplate worker, born Cradley;
- [4] Amy Batham (3), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] Ida Batham (2), daughter, born Cradley:

County Express 3/2/1883

“James Slater, horse-slaughterer, and John Jeffs, ironworker, both of Bridge Street, Cradley, were charged with stealing three fowls, the property of John Clark, on the 19th inst.

Prosecutor said he saw the fowls safe on the evening of the 18th. He afterwards missed them, and on the 27th went to the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, and there saw the fowls.

Charlotte *Batham*, wife of the landlord of the WHITE HORSE INN, said that on the 19th the prisoner Slater came to their house and asked her to buy two fowls. She bought them, giving him 4s and a pint of ale. He told her he had reared them from half-a-crown a piece.

Slater, when charged with the theft, said there was another in it, and told the policeman it was John Jeffs. Jeffs was afterwards arrested. Police-constable Himan said that he heard Jeffs say to Slater, ‘Have they got the b— fowls?’ Slater replied they had. Slater was sentenced to six weeks, and Jeffs to twenty-one days’ hard labour.”

Daniel Batham, beer retailer, High Street. [1884], [1888]

County Express 1/1/1887

“Local Events In 1886. (Compiled from the file of the *County Express*). . . .

July 5th. *Daniel Batham*, WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, fined £20, for concealing glucose.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/11/1888

“Worcestershire Assizes. . . .

Charles Wooldridge (19), labourer, was indicted for obtaining a pint of ale and an ounce of tobacco by false pretences from Charlotte *Batham*, at the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, near Stourbridge, on October 3rd. Mr. J. Amphlett was for the prosecution. Prisoner was convicted and his Lordship said that taking into consideration the fact that he had already been in gaol a month, he would only sentence him to three weeks’ hard labour. He advised the prisoner ‘not to be a fool and play these tricks again.’”

1891 Census

High Street – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *Daniel Batham* (49), innkeeper, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] Charlotte Batham (47), wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] Daniel Batham (24), son, brewer, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] Amy Batham (13), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [5] Ida Batham (12), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Caleb B. Batham (9), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] Dora Batham (3), daughter, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 30/12/1893

“The WHITE HORSE Sick and Dividend Society, Cradley, numbering upwards of 40, met to celebrate their second anniversary at the house of Mr. *Daniel Batham*, on Saturday evening last. Messrs. Palmer and Rawlings, auditors, read their report, showing an exceptionally good year of sickness, £13 having been paid under that head. Three deaths had occurred, but after paying all necessary expenses, and leaving £1 17s to the reserve fund, a dividend of 8s was declared. Afterwards an excellent repast was provided by the host, and with toast and song a very enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Advertiser 29/6/1895 - Advert

“Cradley. Sale of Freehold Properties, High Street, and Butcher’s Lane. (By direction of the Mortgagees.)

Mr. Herbert Humphries will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, July 9th, 1895, at the ROBIN HOOD INN, Cradley, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions.

Lot 1. All those Three Cottages, situate between the WHITE HORSE INN and the ROBIN HOOD INN, High Street, Cradley, to which street it has an important frontage. . . .”

Daniel Batham, beer retailer, 70, High Street. [1896], [1900], [1916], [1921]

County Advertiser 22/2/1896

“Yesterday, at Stourbridge Police Court, before Messrs. J. B. Cochrane and W. Jones, *Daniel Batham*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness to take place on his licensed premises, on the 19th inst. Mr. Clulow prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. Waldron defended.

The case for the prosecution was that between half-past ten and eleven at night Police-constable Allen was on duty in the High Street, opposite the public-house. Upon looking through the bar window he saw a man named Roland Perry inside the room in a

bestly state of drunkenness. Allen saw him drink out of a cup, and he was very unsteady. Perry was leaning on the counter, and Allen called Police-constable Jenkins, who was standing lower down the street, and they both went into the house together. The landlord was spoken to by Jenkins, and said Perry had no drink there.

In cross-examination, Allen said he did not see Perry supplied with drink.

Mr. Waldron for the defence, said he knew of no question so difficult of solution as that of when a man was or was not drunk.

This case was different to ordinary cases, inasmuch as Perry was seen by the police officer through a window, and he (Mr. Waldron) contended that the condition of a man could not be clearly judged by this means, and the officer had made a mistake. There was no evidence of permitting drunkenness, and he submitted that the case was not proved.

Defendant was called, and said that Perry was sober, and that he had not been supplied with anything in the house. He had been away at Darby that day, and got back soon after tea.

Amy *Batham*, Daniel *Batham*, jun, Ishmael Palmer, Samuel Raybould, Davide Rollings, and Jane Perry were called, and swore that Perry was sober when he came into the house, and when he left.

Roland Perry also stated that he was sober.

The Bench found that the case was proved, and fined defendant £5 and costs, and endorsed the license.

Mr. Waldron said they should appeal, and addressed the Court with the object of inducing the Bench not to endorse the license, but without success.

A charge of drunkenness against Perry was adjourned for fourteen days.”

Birmingham Mail 9/4/1896

“At Worcestershire Quarter Sessions yesterday, before Mr. Willis Bund, *Daniel Batham*, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, appealed against a conviction by the justices of the Stourbridge Division for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. Mr. Vachell and Mr. Godfrey Millward were for the respondents, and Mr. A. Young and Mr. C. Young for the appellant.

It appeared that on the night of February 19, Police-constable Allen, looking through the window of the taproom of the WHITE HORSE, saw Rowland Perry leaning against the counter, apparently the worse for drink. He saw Perry drink several times, and, calling the attention of Police-constable Jenkins to the condition of the man, they both went into the house and pointed his condition to the landlord. The landlord said that the man had had no drink in the house.

Several witnesses were called to support the officers’ statement.

During the hearing of the case there was a rather warm altercation between the chairman (Mr. Willis Bund) and Mr. Alfred Young as to Mr. Vachell’s right to put certain questions. Mr. Young protested that Mr. Vachell was wrong, but was overruled by the chairman. Mr. Young still protested Mr. Vachell was wrong because he had been wrong in the first instance when the Court had overruled him. The Chairman said that two wrongs did not make a right. Mr. Young said he was not such a fool as to urge that they did, but when there were six or more witnesses on one side and only two on the other he must insist — The Chairman (warmly): Please don’t make a speech, but proceed with your cross-examination. Mr. Young (equally as warmly) said he should go on with his speech, but the Chairman had no right to address him in that way. The Chairman said he had a perfect right, and so each kept contending for a few seconds, until the Chairman said, ‘Will you go on?’

Mr. Young: ‘I will; but I hope you will learn to address me in a different tone of voice.’

The Chairman (firmly): ‘Will you go on?’

Mr. Young: ‘Not until you address me properly,’ and so the contention was kept up for some time; but at length the warmth subsided, and the case proceeded.

For the appellant it was urged that the drunkenness was not permitted, that the conviction was bad in law, that the evidence was insufficient to support a conviction, and that the weight of evidence was in favour of the appellant. Mr. Young pointed out that that the appellant had kept his house for nineteen years, and throughout that period there had been no charge against him, with the exception of one fourteen years ago, when a fine of 10s was imposed.

A number of witnesses were called for the appellant, and they stated that Perry visited the house to pay his contribution to a sick club, for which, however, he was too late. The witnesses said he was quite sober, and was in the same condition when he left.

Mr. Robinson, surveyor, said it would be quite impossible for the constable standing where he had stated he was to see into the taproom.

The Bench, after hearing Mr. Vachell, decided by a majority that the appeal should be allowed.”

Worcester Journal 20/6/1896

“Worcestershire Midsummer Quarter Sessions.

James Morgan, alias Northall and Francis (46), clerk, was charged with being found at the hour of 5.15 in the night of May 3 in the possession of offensive weapons, to wit a steel chisel, a screwdriver, and a bradawl, with intent to break and enter the dwelling house of *Daniel Batham*, WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley. To this he pleaded guilty, and there was a further charge against him of burglariously entering the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Cradley, and of stealing three glass beer-bottles and a jam jar belonging to William Stevens. There was a number of other offences recorded against him, and the Court passed a sentence of three years’ penal servitude, which involved also the serving of an uncompleted term of imprisonment.”

County Advertiser 20/3/1897

“Upwards of sixty of the aged poor of Cradley were recently entertained to dinner at the WHITE HORSE INN, at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. *Batham*, the host and hostess, in honour of the latter’s birthday. The average age of the guests was about 75 years, and it was very pleasing to see them do justice to the fare provided, which consisted of roast beef, plum pudding, and ale. During the evening some excellent songs and violin solos were given, and the whole company passed a most enjoyable evening.”

County Express 9/10/1898

“The second annual parade of Foresters in the Cradley, Cradley Heath, Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood District, for the benefit of the home at Clent, took place on Sunday afternoon, with every element of success attending it – the day was fine, the crowd was large, and the collections were very satisfactory. A pleasing feature about the parade was the number of members who turned out, and the number of courts. The following courts were represented.....

William, WHITE HORSE, Cradley.”

County Express 5/1/1901

“Annual Meetings Of Sick And Draw Clubs WHITE HORSE (Cradley).

The eighth annual meeting of this club took place at the WHITE HORSE INN, when over 30 members partook of the good fare provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *D. Batham*). The auditors (Messrs. Cox and Rawlings) gave their report which showed a balance of 12s per head, and this was accepted as satisfactory.

After the usual toasts and votes of thanks were given, a capital programme was gone through. A very enjoyable evening was spent.”

1901 Census

High Street – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *Daniel Batham* (60), beer retailer, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] *Charlotte Batham* (57), wife, born Cradley Heath;
- [3] *Amy Batham* (23), daughter, born Cradley Heath;
- [4] *Ida Batham* (22), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] *Caleb Burton Batham* (19), son, iron worker, born Cradley;
- [6] *Dora Batham* (13), daughter, born Cradley;
- [7] *Charlotte E. Batham* (2), grand-daughter, born Cradley:

County Express 15/6/1901

“Stourbridge County Court. Before His Honour Sir Richard Harrington, Bart.....

Mrs. *Charlotte Batham*, the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, sued the Royal Counties Insurance Friendly Society for £18 9s, money due on a policy dated 2nd May, 1898, and effected by the plaintiff with the defendant society on the life of Mrs. A. Maria Hardy, of the HOPE AND ANCHOR INN, Wollaston, who died on 3rd April, 1900; or in alternative, the plaintiff claimed the return of 13s 3d, money received by the society in premiums, and this amount the defendant paid into Court. Mr. Waldron appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. J. Parfitt (instructed by Mr. Ward, Dudley) appeared for the defendants, who pleaded that the plaintiff had no insurable interest in the person insured, and that it was a mere gamble, and the policy was void.

Mr. Waldron said it was quite clear that at the time of the insurance the plaintiff and the defendant company both knew that the former had no insurable interest in the life of Mrs. Hardy, but the defendants were perfectly ready and willing to enter into the contract. The Judge asked how Mr. Waldron was going to get over the defence of ‘no insurable interest’ if the facts he had stated were correct.

Mr. Parfitt: My contention will be that the contract was in fact illegal.

The Judge asked Mr. Waldron to confine himself to this point.

Mr. Waldron said the contract was a civil one, and if the defendants did not take advantage of their statutory rights, such a contract was good in law. Surely, he said, insurance companies were not to be in a position to enter into contracts like that by the hundred and thousand as they did, and then be able to turn round to the policy holder and refuse to pay because the latter had no ‘insurable interest’ in the lives insured. Plaintiff was the wife of an innkeeper, who lived at Cradley, and the defendant society was represented in this district by Mr. R. Colley, of Moor Street, Brierley Hill.

Mr. Parfitt (interposing): We have paid the premium into Court.

Mr. Waldron: In this particular case. You have a number of others which you stick to.

The Judge said it would be a waste of time for Mr. Waldron to argue more than the question of law.

Mr. Waldron contended a defendant could not take advantage of his own wrong, and secondly, that the circumstances of the case were sufficient to waive the statutory right.

The Judge intimated there must be judgment for the defendant company.

Mr. Parfitt: I have spoken to my friend, Mr. Waldron, on the question of costs; he spoke with the enthusiasm of an advocate when he referred to ‘fraud’ in connection with the society. I understand he wishes to withdraw that word, and, upon that understanding, the society will not press for costs.

The Judge said the object of the statute of George III, which had been quoted, was not to protect insurance companies, but to protect the public. Therefore, it declared that for one person to insure the life of another person with whom he had no interest was a ‘mischievous kind of gambling,’ which was illegal. There would be judgment for the defendants, and as Mr. Parfitt did not ask for costs (upon Mr. Waldron withdrawing words which had been complained of), he would make no order as to costs.

Mr. Parfitt: The reason I withdraw my application for costs is because Mr. Waldron withdraws his charges.

Mr. Waldron: That is so.”

County Express 18/1/1902

“Before His Honour Sir Richard Harrington, Bart....

Charlotte Batham, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, brought an action against the Royal Counties Insurance Friendly Society for £26 13s 4d being premiums paid by her on policies of insurance effected on the society wherein she had, with the full knowl-

edge of the defendant company, no insurable interest. Mr. Waldron was for the plaintiff, and Mr. J. J. Parfitt (instructed by Mr. S. Ward) for the company.

Mr. Parfitt said the defence was that the premiums sought to be recovered in the action were in respect of policies that were null and void. There was a contract between the parties that if a member should not have insurable interest in the life of the person assured the premium should be forfeited.

Mr. Waldron stated his case, and after considerable discussion, Mr. Parfitt said he had spoken to Mr. Waldron, and they had decided to settle the action on reasonable terms, both paying their own costs. He, however, thought it should be made known that the company, some three years ago, made very strict regulations that their agents should have nothing to do with speculative business at all, and one or two agents found doing it had been dismissed, the result being that the company did nothing of a speculative character.

His Honour agreed to the course proposed, and added that where a policy was effected, where there was no insurable interest, and the policy was repudiated whilst the life existed, he thought the company would be bound to return the premium, but if it was allowed to mature, and death occurred, it would be too late.

Mr. Waldron remarked that in one of these cases death had taken place since the policy was taken out.”

County Express 8/2/1902

“Messrs. J. G. Reay, A. W. Worthington, and H. T. Williams, sitting at Stourbridge Police Court yesterday, were occupied in hearing two cases under the new Licensing Act, which requires publicans to ‘seal’ bottles of intoxicating liquor delivered to children under 14 years of age.

In the first case *Daniel Batham*, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, was summoned for insufficiently sealing a certain bottle of beer which he delivered to a child. PS Clarke deposed to intercepting the child after its visit to the house and removing intact the paper label with which the bottle was ‘sealed.’

Mr. Waldron, who defended, asked for an authoritative decision as to whether paper labels were legal.

Mr. Wickham King (magistrates clerk) agreed that paper seals might be used but they must be effective.

Mr. Waldron replied that in that case a publican’s responsibility should end when he had damped the seal and affixed it over the mouth of the bottle.

Mr. Wickham King said the magistrates were of opinion that the publican should allow the label to dry to such an extent that it was impossible to remove it without its destruction. He had been asked by the secretary and president of the local Licensed Victuallers’ Association to express an opinion upon this matter, and he had replied that if they wanted to take every precaution, he advised them to use sealing wax. He did not say that paper seals were illegal, but if they were used it must be so that they could not be removed without their destruction.

Mr. Waldron submitted then that his client tried to comply with the law, and suggested that paying the costs would meet the case. The bench ordered defendant to pay costs.

In the second case, *James Brettell*, of OLD BELL, High Street, Lye, was summoned under similar circumstances on the 28th ult.

Mr. C. Herbert Collis appeared for the defence, and PS Danks gave evidence.

Mr. Collis said after the decision in the previous case, he should plead guilty. He hoped the Bench would think that the payment of costs would meet the case, and that the Superintendent would not put the house on the black list.

The Bench said it was a fair request to make, and ordered defendant to pay costs, and no convictions to be recorded.

During the hearing of the cases some amusement was caused by a solicitor labeling a bottle in Court, and defying anyone to remove the label unbroken. Supt Pugh accepted the challenge, and triumphantly removed the label intact.”

Charlotte *Batham* died on 18th September 1906.

County Express 6/3/1909

“At Brierley Hill, on Monday, William Mallen, a native of Quarry Bank, stated to be of no fixed abode, was charged with obtaining 10s by false pretences from Percy Ronald Frost Handsaker, landlord of the CHURCH TAVERN, High Street, Quarry Bank, on the evening of the 14th ult.

Prosecutor said defendant entered his house accompanied by a Dalmatian dog, which he offered to sell for a sovereign. He said the dog was 21 months old, and that it had taken him £20 to rear it. Witness offered half-a-sovereign, and defendant accepted this, and signed ‘W. Woodhouse’ to a paper on which was written ‘This is to certify that I have sold Percy Handsaker a Dalmation dog for 10s, and that I am the legal owner.’ After defendant’s departure witness examined the dog’s collar and found the name plate torn off. On the next day the dog was owned by a person named *Batham*. Two days after the sale witness saw defendant, who offered to return him the money the next Saturday, and added that the dog followed him. During the conversation respecting the buying of the dog Mallen said he could not afford to take a license out for the dog. Referring to its good qualities, he said that on one occasion when he (Mallen) was drunk and was locked up the dog tore the seat out a policeman’s trousers.

Caleb *Batham*, brewer, the WHITE HORSE, Cradley, said his dog was missed from home at mid-day on the 14th. It was worth £10.

PC Maisey also gave evidence.

Two previous convictions for felony were recorded against Mallen, who was now sent for a month with hard labour.”

1911 Census

High Street

[1] *Daniel Batham* (72), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Quarry Bank;

[2] Annie Bills (16), general servant, born Cradley:

County Express 8/7/1911

“At the kind invitation of Mr. *Daniel Batham*, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley, the customers sat down to a dinner on the occasion of the Coronation. After the cloth was drawn Mr. Harry Cox presided over a splendid entertainment of songs, etc, given by the following: Messrs. W. Rawlings, S. Worton, S. Bate, J. Shaw, W. Harbach, F. Moore, W. Evans, and A. Dunn. After the usual votes of thanks the toast of ‘The King and Queen’ was drunk.”

Daniel Batham, beer retailer, 70, High Street. [1912]

Daniel Batham Snr. died on 15th July 1922.

Catalogue for Auction on 8/11/1922

“*Daniel Batham*, Deceased.

Cradley, Cradley Heath and Quarry Bank.

Notice of Sale by Auction of a Highly Valuable Licensed Freehold, Free Home Brewing House and Premises with Possession on Completion, Dwelling Houses with Retail Shops, Workshops and Ripe Building Land. To Brewers, Licensed Victuallers, Investors and Others.....

Lot 1. All that Highly Valuable Freehold Free Home Brewing Licensed House and Premises, situate and known as the WHITE HORSE INN, High Street, Cradley, with Possession on completion, now in the occupation of Mr. *Hezekiah Dunn*, together with the Capital Dwelling House with Retail Shop attached, being No.86, High Street, Cradley, now in the occupation of Mr. George Bate, also a Small Plot of Land adjoining the WHITE HORSE INN, now let to Mr. Phillip Boxley, the whole having a frontage of twenty-five yards and one foot or thereabouts.

The accommodation at the WHITE HORSE INN, comprises Entrance Hall, with Out-door Department, Side Hall, Large Well-fitted Front Bar, 26ft x 16ft, Two Smoke Rooms, Large Club Room, Three Large Cellars, Two Wine Cellars with Rolling Way, One Bed-sitting Room, Three Bedrooms, Clothes Closet, Living Room and Scullery. The Outbuildings comprise Two-storied Brewery, Large Malt and Hop Room, Coach House, Two-stall Stable with Loft over all, Piggeries, and usual conveniences and Garden with a Cartway Entrance from High Street, right through to New Street at the rear.

The Dwelling House, 68, High Street, Cradley, adjoining, contains Large Retail Shop, Living Room, Bed-sitting Room, Bedroom, Large Attic over all, W.C., Cellarette with Brewhouse at rear.

Special attention of the Trade and others is called to this Valuable Freehold Licensed House being situated in the business centre of Cradley has always done, and is now doing, a good trade, being entirely free and Home Brewing with possession on completion, offers an opportunity to those interested, seldom to be met with.”

Dudley Herald 3/1/1931

“Mr. S. Sewell, the secretary to the WHITE HORSE Sick and Draw Club, distributed 17s 4d to each of the 36 members.”

H. Dunn was the chairman of Brierley Hill and District (Free Home Breweries) [1934], [1935]

1939 Register

70, High Street – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *Frederick Webster*, date of birth 24/5/1884, engineer fitter, married;
- [2] Clara Ellen Webster, dob 27/6/1887, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Fred G. H. Webster, dob 4/10/1916, motor transport driver, single:

Letter 3/9/1943

[To Messrs. Bernard, King & Sons, Solicitors, Stourbridge.

From George Green, Solicitor, 180, High Street, Cradley Heath.]

“Dear Sirs, re WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley.

I have now seen my client on the notice served on them exercising the option for a renewal of the Lease. They instruct me to give formal notice that your Client has not carried out paragraphs (c) and (g) of clause 2 of the Lease and in particular

- (1) The Gable end of the brewery and the roof needs repair
- (2) The painting &c of the exterior and interior of the premises has not been done.

I shall be glad to know whether you will require a detailed specification of these defects and wants of repair to be served or whether your client himself will submit a proposal.

Has your client insured the license? If so I shall be glad if you will send me the policy and also the last renewal receipt.

Subject to your client carrying out his obligations I will send you Draft Lease for approval in due course.”

Letter 4/9/1943

[To *A. J. Batham*, Esq, Delph Brewery, Brierley Hill.

From Bernard, King & Sons, Solicitors, 4, Foster Street, Stourbridge.]

“Dear Mr. *Batham*, re WHITE HORSE, Cradley.

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter which I received today from the solicitor to the Executors of Mr. *Hezekiah Dunn*, and should be glad of your instructions on the matter.

Clause 2c provides that you shall keep the exterior of the demised premises and all additions thereto and the boundary walls and

fence thereof etc in good and substantial repair and condition.

Clause 2g provides that you shall paint with two coats at least of good oil paint or with a proper coating of creosote or tar or varnish and in a proper and workmanlike manner all the wood iron and other work in and about the premises previously or usually painted tarred or varnished as to the outside work during the fifth year of the said term, and as to the inside work during the sixth year of the term, and at the same time with every inside painting to whitewash and colour such parts of the inside of the premises as are usually whitewashed and coloured, and paper with paper of suitable quality such parts thereof as are usually papered.

The only relief which you have from either provisions is that the lessor must at his own cost carry out any structural alterations to the demised premises which may be required by the local authority or the licensing justices to be done.

Would you let me have the policy of insurance insuring the license, and also the receipt for the last premium, as under clause 2(o) you are liable to produce these for inspection on demand.”

Valuation 6/1/1948

“The WHITE HORSE INN, Cradley.

Valuation of Cups, Jugs, and Glasses, Stock-in-Trade, Curtains, Stoves and Sundries settled at the sum of £50 4s 5d.

Messrs. Daniel Batham and Sons Ltd to Mr. *Jasper*.

Valuers as between the Parties, Alfred W. Dando & Co, Dudley.”

[There were a total of 183 cups and glasses, 2 jugs (one cracked). The curtains were green.

The Fixtures, Fittings, &c, remaining the property of the landlords, Messrs. Daniel Batham and Sons Ltd, were then listed. These included lighting, shelving, tables, stools, benches, chairs, clocks, cash register, piano, paintings, mirror.]

A full license was granted on 1st February 1949.

Jack Cartwright was married to Nancy.

He died in 1985. She died in 1987.

See also BIRD IN HAND, Cradley Heath.

Black Country Bugle 10/9/2009

Letter from Mrs. Betty Griffin, Halesowen

“.....*Jack* and Nancy *Cartwright* hired my father Joe Parsons to be their pub pianist on Friday and Saturday nights The bar was large in size, bare boarded floor, a cast iron stove in the centre provided the central heating. At the hatch in the passage, Nancy would serve the outdoor sales, and children from the children’s room at the rear of the pub.....”

It was subject to a Compulsory Purchase Order.

It closed at 10.30pm on 31st January 1971.

Demolished

WHITE LION

Hagley Road, Spring Hill, Hasbury, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Joseph Withers

Edward Rutland

LICENSEES

William Ganner [1844]

Edward Withers [1851] – [1861]

Richard Withers [1869] – **1878**;

Mrs. Sarah Withers (**1878** – [1881])

Thomas Siviter Moseley [1888] – **1906**;

Thomas Frederick Moseley (**1906** – [1909])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Spring Hill – WHITE LION

- [1] *Edward Withers* (55), sawyer, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Sarah Withers* (49), wife, born Hagley;
- [3] *Thomas Withers* (18), son, sawyer, born Hasbury;
- [4] *William Hutton* (12), visitor, scholar, born Hasbury;
- [5] *Sarah Withers* (3), grand-daughter, scholar, born Hasbury:

Richard Withers, beer retailer, Spring Hill. [1864], [1865], [1870], [1872]

Stourbridge Observer 4/12/1869

“At the Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, before E. Moore and E. Gem, Esqrs, *Richard Withers*, landlord of the WHITE LION INN, Hasbury, was summoned for keeping his house open for the sale of drink during prohibited hours, on Sunday, the 21st inst. Police-constable Smith said he visited a nailshop belonging to defendant which is situated at the back of his house, about five minutes to four o’clock, and found five men drinking. There was a half gallon can, containing about one pint of ale, in the shop. Saw a man take the ale from defendant’s house to the nailshop. Called the defendant’s attention to it, and he said he was very sorry. Defendant said the drink had been fetched from his house before three o’clock. The Bench considered the case proved, and fined the defendant 10s and costs.”

1871 Census

Hagley Road

- [1] *Richard Withers* (47), timber merchant and beerhouse keeper, born Dudley;
- [2] *Sarah Withers* (44), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Mary Withers* (14), daughter, scholar, born Rowley;
- [4] *Harriet Withers* (11), daughter, scholar, born Rowley;
- [5] *Ann Withers* (5), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 19/1/1878 - Deaths

“On the 11th inst, in his 54th year *Richard Withers*, of the WHITE LION, Spring Hill.”

County Advertiser 17/8/1878

“The magistrates allowed the following transfers of licenses.....

WHITE LION INN, Hasbury, from *Richard Withers*, deceased, to *Sarah Withers*.”

1881 Census

Spring Hill – WHITE LION

- [1] *Sarah Withers* (54), widow, publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Thomas Moseley* (20), son-in-law, butcher, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Harriet Moseley* (21), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Annie Withers* (15), daughter, assistant teacher ladies’ school, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Arthur G. Moseley* (4 months), grand-son, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Post 14/1/1884 - Advert

“Pianist (Female) wanted, for Free-and-Easy.
Withers, WHITE LION, Hales Owen.”

Sarah Withers – see also WAGGON AND HORSES.

West Bromwich Weekly News 14/5/1887

“A man named *David Parish*, of Spring Hill, Halesowen, met with a shocking death on Friday evening while working at Whitley Colliery. When he was walking up a gate-road a piece of rock, weighing about 5cwt, slipped from the roof and buried *Parish*. His son witnessed the occurrence and speedily removed the fallen rock, when he discovered that his father’s back was broken. The poor fellow lingered half an hour and died.

An inquest was held on Monday, before Mr. E. Docker (deputy coroner), at the WHITE LION INN, Spring Hill, and after hearing evidence to the above effect, the Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 8/12/1888

“*Thomas Moseley*, landlord of the WHITE LION, Hasbury, was charged with selling liquors during prohibited hours on the 8th ult. At fifteen minutes past twelve Police-sergeant *Raybould* and Police-constable *Etheridge* visited the house, and found a man named *Tandy* there. The sergeant asked the man what he wanted there at that time, and he said that he was doing business. In a glass on the table near the man was a quantity of liquor.

Charles Tandy said that he went to the defendant’s house soon after eleven o’clock on business. He had some whiskey with the defendant, but did not pay for it.

The Bench said the case was very suspicious, but they should give defendant the benefit of the doubt and dismiss it.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 22/11/1890

“The Worcestershire Autumn Assizes.

George Greaves (26), carriage builder, was indicted for the manslaughter of Edward Lowe, a collier, on July 27th. My. Lyttleton prosecuted, and Mr. Amphlett defended.

Mr. Lyttleton in opening the case, said that on the day in question a large number of men were drinking at the WHITE LION, Halesowen, amongst whom were the prisoner and deceased. They remained there from between one or two in the afternoon until a quarter to nine at night. It was fair to say that that the deceased man appeared during part of the time, and in fact it was true of him generally, he was quarrelsome, and on the occasion in question was the provoking party. There seemed to have been some quarrelling in the public-house, and some fighting, but there was no doubt that the deceased provoked the prisoner who did not strike a blow until he himself had been struck. A tussle did take place in the house, and in that tussle deceased fell heavily against an iron bar behind the till. The fight then subsided, but shortly afterwards the deceased man challenged the prisoner to fight outside, and although the prisoner as very reluctant to do so, he at last consented. They went to a place called Hexland’s Lane, and both stripped off their coats, waistcoats, and shirts. They fought for a considerable time. At the spot where the fight took place were some stones, and both men appeared to have fallen upon them several times. A witness looking on, who was steadier than the other men, did all he could to stop the fight, or, he said, something serious would happen. The deceased man, however, would not take the advice, and he said he was not going to be a coward and would die game. Unfortunately, that was what really happened. After fighting for some time the deceased fell back on the stones in a state of partial insensibility; but he and the prisoner afterwards shook hands. The deceased was afterwards taken to his home, but his wife was a poor woman and therefore a doctor was not sent for, no doubt the poor woman erroneously thinking that a doctor would not attend unless she sent the money. The deceased died the same night. A doctor who afterwards attended said the external injuries were not severe, very little more than bruised ribs, a swollen nose, and cut lips. But, on a post mortem examination, it was found there was haemorrhage upon the brain, which was the cause of death.

Evidence was given in support of the prosecution by Joseph Parkin, George Price, Thomas Hadley, and the Widow of the deceased and Inspector Raybould also gave evidence.

Mr. Amphlett, in addressing the jury for the prisoner, said that all along the fight was forced upon the prisoner by the deceased, who, he contended, was to blame for what happened.

In summing up, the Judge said that if two men agreed to go out and fight together or assault another and one was killed in consequence, the other was guilty of manslaughter. It was no excuse to say that it was a fair fight. It was quite a different matter, however, when a man defended himself against an assailant; they must not trifle with the law, they must not encourage a lax application of the law. If they thought that the deceased died in consequence of the blows received from the prisoner, then they must find the prisoner guilty.

The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty, and prisoner was discharged.”

1891 Census

Hagley Road – WHITE LION

- [1] *Thomas Siviter Moseley* (30), butcher and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Harriet Moseley (31), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Arthur George Moseley (10), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Charles Richard Moseley (5), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [5] Lilian Moseley (3), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] Annie Moseley (2), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] William Henry Moseley (10 months), son, born Halesowen;
- [8] Mary Hale (25), domestic servant, born Halesowen;
- [9] John White (50), lodger, drover, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 5/9/1896

“The annual licensing meeting for the Halesowen Petty Sessional division was held on Tuesday, at the Police Court.....

The annual report of John Chare, Superintendent I beg to inform you that I have given notice to the following licensed persons that it is my intention to oppose the renewal of their licenses *Thomas Moseley*, WHITE LION INN, Hasbury on one or more of the following grounds, that is to say, (1) that the house and premises in respect of which your license is granted are so constructed as to facilitate the commission of offences against the licensing laws, the inmates of several private dwelling-houses having the right of entry upon your said licensed premises at will; (2) that your premises are so constructed as to prevent the police from exercising proper supervision over the same; (3) that there is no necessity for a license for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be granted to the said house and premises, requirements of the district being amply provided for.....

Inspector Raybould said owing to the structural alterations having been carried out he wished to withdraw the objections to the renewal of the licenses of *Thomas Moseley*.

All those licenses were accordingly renewed, and the Chairman of the Bench, Mr. Lea Smith, said he hoped all license holders in the division would keep their houses closed during prohibited hours on Sundays.”

County Advertiser 11/3/1899

“Hasbury. Mr. C. Parrish presided over the annual parish meeting held at the National Schools, Hasbury, on Monday evening. Twenty-two candidates were nominated The result of the voting was as follows *Thomas Siviter Moseley* elected.”

1901 Census

Spring Hill

- [1] *Thomas S. Moseley* (40), butcher and publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Harriett Moseley (40), wife, born Old Hill;
- [3] Arthur G. Moseley (20), son, father's help, born Halesowen;
- [4] Frederick Moseley (16), son, fitter (ironworks), born Halesowen;
- [5] Charles R. Moseley (15), son, father's help, born Halesowen;
- [6] Lilian Moseley (13), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [7] Annie Moseley (12), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [8] William H. Moseley (10), son, born Halesowen;
- [9] Florrie Moseley (8), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [10] Pollie Moseley (6), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [11] Harry Bason Moseley (3), son, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 18/7/1903 - Advert

"Halesowen. Large and Important Sale of Freehold Licensed and Other Properties.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, on Monday, July 27th, subject to Conditions then to be produced, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, at 6.30pm, as above, the following Valuable Freehold Properties (by order of the Trustees of the late Mr. Joseph Withers).

Lot 1. All that well-known Licensed Premises, the WHITE LION, with Yard and Outbuildings thereto belonging, together with Butcher's Premises, now in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Moseley*, and Two Dwelling Houses, in the respective occupations of Messrs. Cockin and Bingham, all being situate and having a frontage of 25yds 2ft 10in to the Hagley Road, Hasbury, comprising in area 1,334 square yards or thereabouts. This Lot has a good draw-in to the rear, as shown on Plan, coloured blue, and is now let at exceedingly low rentals, amounting to £33 18s per annum.

Lot 2. Two Dwelling Houses, adjoining Lot1, with Nailshops, Yard, &c. This Lot has a total frontage of 31ft 4in to the before-mentioned Hagley Road, comprising in area 438 square yards or thereabouts, and is in the occupation of Messrs. Webster and Holloway, at annual rentals equal to £15 12s. Coloured red on Plan....."

County Advertiser 1/8/1903

"On Monday night Mr. Joseph Smart conducted a successful sale by public auction at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, of freehold licensed and other properties. The well-known licensed premises, the WHITE LION INN, and two freehold houses in Hagley Road, Halesowen, let at £33 18s per annum, were disposed of for £960. Two houses adjoining the last lot, with nailshops, yard, &c, producing £15 12s per annum, realised £267....."

County Advertiser 12/11/1904

"*Thomas Moseley*, a butcher, and also landlord of the WHITE LION INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, was summoned for being drunk in charge of a horse and trap on the 4th inst.

Police-constable Banks stated that on the date named he met the defendant driving a horse and trap in the Halesowen Road, Hill. He was in a very drunken condition, and witness locked him up.

Defendant, who had nothing to say for himself, was fined 5s and costs."

County Advertiser 4/3/1905

"Samuel Tether, of Spring Hill, Halesowen, was charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the WHITE LION INN, Spring Hill, on the 20th inst. The landlady (Mrs. *Moseley*) stated that defendant came into the house on the date in question and commenced to create a disturbance. Witness ordered him to leave, but he refused to go. Defendant pleaded that he did not hear Mrs. *Moseley* order him to leave. He was fined 2s 6d and costs."

Thomas Siviter Moseley – see also WAGGON AND HORSES.

County Advertiser 1/9/1906

"A question arose on an application for the transfer of the license of the WHITE LION INN, Hasbury, to *Thomas Frederick Moseley* from his father, with regard to the youth of the applicant, who said he was 25 years of age, and had been reared in the business. Mr. Reay remarked that applicant was very young, and the Bench thought he should take extra care in the management of the house."

Bromsgrove Messenger 7/9/1907

"George Powell, a farmer, of Romsley, was summoned for being drunk and refusing to quit the WHITE LION INN, Hasbury. *Thomas Frederick Moseley* said that on the 19th of August defendant came to his house and asked to be supplied. As he was drunk, witness refused to do so, and requested him to leave. He declined, and ultimately he was ejected.

Defendant admitted having too much to drink.

The Bench said complainant had done quite right in bringing defendant into Court. It was that kind of person who got publicans into trouble.

Fined 10s and costs."

Bromsgrove Messenger 15/2/1908

“Halesowen Licensing Sessions.....

Superintendent Hill objected to three licenses on the ground of redundancy WHITE LION INN, Hasbury, kept by *Thomas F. Moseley*.

Superintendent Hill explained that in the case of the WHITE LION the rooms were very small, there was no stabling accommodation on the premises, and a butcher’s business was carried on on the licensed premises. In his opinion the house was not required and was inferior to the other licensed houses in the district. The BEEHIVE INN a few yards away was a far superior house.

Mr. Mobberley, for *Moseley*, said the house had been in *Moseley*’s family for over 40 years. An extensive outdoor trade was carried on. The weekly takings were from £10 to £15. There were several new houses erected recently in that district. He was willing to dispense with the butcher’s business if the Bench thought fit to renew the license.

The Bench decided to refer the three licenses to the Compensation Authority.”

Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

“At the adjourned licensing sessions on Tuesday for the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division.....

Superintendent Hill opposed the renewal of the license of the WHITE LION INN, Hasbury.

Mr. Mobberley, of Stourbridge, who represented the owner, reminded the magistrates that last year the license was referred to the compensation authority, but owing, he supposed, to the fact that there was not sufficient money in hand no action was taken. His client was prepared to surrender the license providing adequate compensation was paid.

The magistrates decided to hear the evidence.

Superintendent Hill said the license was not required, as at present there was one license to every 193 of the population.

The magistrates decided not to renew the license, but to refer it again to the compensation authority.”

Evesham Standard 10/7/1909

“The Worcestershire Licensing Committee sat on Saturday to continue consideration of the 25 licenses which had been referred to them as the compensation authority by the local justices.....

In the case of the WHITE LION INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, to which Superintendent Hill objected on the ground of redundancy, Mr. Mobberley (Stourbridge), on behalf of the owners and occupiers, offered no objection to the refusal to renew the license. Mr. Homfrey appeared for the Halesowen justices. The Bench refused the renewal of the license.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/12/1909

“Mr. J. Willis Bund presided on Saturday at a meeting of the Worcestershire Licensing Committee which was held to consider claims in respect of licences which have been refused.....

For the WHITE LION INN, Spring Hill, Hasbury, £2,685 was claimed, and the Committee awarded £809; and it was intimated that the parties were not content and that there would be an **appeal to the Inland Revenue.**”

Bromsgrove Messenger 20/5/1911

“Walter Tolley, of Spring Hill, described as a pugilist, was summoned for refusing to leave the WHITE LION INN, Hasbury, also with damaging the door of the house and with assaulting the landlord, *Thomas Frederick Moseley*, on the 11th September, 1909.

Complainant stated that on the date named defendant came into his house the worse for beer, and he refused to serve him. He was ejected, and defendant became very violent, struck him, and smashed the front door, doing damage to the amount of £1.

Summonses were taken out at the time, but defendant absconded, and last week returned to the parish and apologised to complainant. He did not now wish to press the charges.

The Bench fined defendant 10s and costs for the assault, and 10s and costs for refusing to quit, and ordered him to pay the costs in the damage case.”

WHITE SWAN

Hagley Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Partridge [1870]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 3/9/1870 - Advert

“Freehold Building Estate, at Bundle Hill, Hasbury, adjoining the Town of Halesowen, Freehold Houses, in Hagley Street, Halesowen; and House and Land, near to Shelton Mill, in the Road leading from Drew’s Forge to Corngreaves.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Chesshire and Gibson, on Tuesday, the 20th day of September inst, at the SHENSTONE HOTEL, Halesowen, at Five o’clock in the Afternoon for Six precisely, the undermentioned valuable Properties.....

Lot 2. An improving Property, situate in Hagley Street, in the Borough of Halesowen, opposite Cornbow Street, consisting of the House, Retail Shop, and Premises, occupied by Mr. Grove, Confectioner; the House, Retail Shop, and Premises, occupied by Mr. White, Greengrocer; and the WHITE SWAN Beerhouse, occupied by *Joseph Partridge*, with various Buildings and Garden Land at the back, let to the different tenants.

This Property is now let at very moderate rents, amounting to £36 per annum; it possesses an important frontage to the main street, and is capable of great improvement.....”

County Advertiser 29/10/1870 - Advert

“Hagley Street, Halesowen.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. T. Homer, on Tuesday Next, November 1st, 1870, upon the Premises of Mr. *Joseph Partridge*, who is removing, Four-pull Beer Machine, with Piping and under Taps, complete; Counter, 12 feet long; Rail-back Seat, 9 feet long; Seat, with elbow, 8 feet long; range of Shelving, 14 feet long; Door and Partitions, with Window; Quantity of Jugs, Cups, and Glasses; Set of Pewter Measures; Gas Piping, and two Brass Pedestals; large Sign; High-pressure Beam Engine, one-horse power; large Wood Turner’s Lathe, 6 feet 6 inches long; Two Cast Iron Lathes; Set of Lathe Patterns, complete; Small Slide Rest; Four Wood Screw Taps and Boxes, &c.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.

Auctioneer’s Residence: Five Ways, Cradley Heath.”

WHITLEY HOTEL

211, Stourbridge Road, Short Cross, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

Mrs. Laura Ellen Roper [1932]

Dares Brewery Ltd.

Davenport’s Brewery Ltd.

Greenall Whitley

Punch Taverns

Black and White Pub Co. [2006] until December 2007

Black Country Traditional Inns [2011]

LICENSEES

Joseph Hickton [1865] – [1880]

Mrs. Betsy Hickton [1881] – [1901]

George Knight [1911]

Thomas Henry Roper (1931 – 1932);

Mrs. Laura Ellen Roper (1932 – []

Charles H Pritchett [1939]

Frederick J Cooke [] – 1942);

Mrs. Cooke (1942 – 1946)

Adolphus William Whitehead [1964] – 1975);

Gordon George Richards (1975 – 1978);

Leonard Timmins (1978 – 1981);

Eric Lawson Wakeman (1981 – 1984);

Geoffrey Charles Curtis (1984 – []

Trevor and Ann [1998]

Liz and Brett Heaton [2006]

Kerry Henderson [2011]

Mark Chiltern and Alison Marsden [2019]

NOTES

WITLEY HOTEL [1867], [1875], [1881], [1902]

WHITLEY HOTEL [1884]

Black Country Bugle (March 1983) - Pub of the Month

“.....We have been unable to discover the date when the WHITLEY first opened its doors to the public but would guess that it was around the time the Witley Pit was sunk, in 1874, when coal and clay mining brought many changes to what had been a sparsely populated rural area.....”

Joseph Hickton, beer retailer, Stourbridge Road. [1865]

Joseph Hickton, beer retailer, Whitley. [1870], [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 29/7/1867

“Suspected Child Murder.

On Wednesday afternoon, the 17th of July instant, a little girl named Annie Maud Mary Hickton, aged one year and six months, daughter of Mr. John Hickton, of the firm Homes and Hickton, nail manufacturers, was found drowned in an open cistern at the back of her father’s house.

An inquest was held on the 19th and 24th July instant, but was adjourned until the 26th July; and, in consequence of the Coroner having met with an accident, was again adjourned until Friday, the 2nd day of August next, at 10am, at the WITLEY HOTEL, on the Stourbridge Road.

Fanny Brown, a nurse girl, 13 years of age, and lately in the service of Mrs. Hickton, has been apprehended on the charge of murdering the child.

The case was heard on Friday, before Mr. F. D. Lea Smith.

Mr. John Hickton, father of the deceased, stated that the prisoner entered his service on the 28th of June. Her duty was to take care of the child. On the day in question, his wife was at Netherton, and in the afternoon he was at his warehouse. At a quarter-past four, his other servant, Martha Millward, came to him, and said the child was missing. He went home, and after searching some time, found it floating in the cistern. Mr. Moore, surgeon, was sent for, and every means used to effect restoration without avail. Martha Millward, the other servant, said that when she missed the child, she asked the prisoner where it was, and not receiving a satisfactory answer, went for her master. Prisoner said to her at first, that while she had the baby on her arm, brushing her hair, it fell into the water. On the following morning, prisoner and she were at work together, when the former said, ‘Martha, I feel so bad.’ Witness replied, ‘What’s the matter Fanny?’ Prisoner then replied, ‘Will they hurt me if I tell the truth?’ Witness replied, ‘No,’ and prisoner then said, ‘I picked baby up, and put her in head first.’ She added afterwards, ‘It’s the truth, and nothing but the truth.’ She heard prisoner make a similar statement to Mrs. Lacy.

Mrs. Lacy was called, and said that prisoner had said she put the child, and thought she would go to the bottom, and she thought she would never be seen more.

Elizabeth Jeune, Witley Villas, said that prisoner had assigned as a reason for drowning the child that it had spoiled her dress when she was going to the Forester’s Fête!

Mr. Homfray addressed the Bench in defence of the prisoner, after which she made a long statement denying that she had drowned the child. She told Martha Millward that she had put it in because Martha frightened her into saying so, and said they would not do anything to her if she owned to it. Martha told her all about Worcester, and said she would be put into a dark place, made of iron, with chains to her hands and chains to her feet.

Prisoner was committed to take her trial at the next Worcester Assizes, bail being refused.”

[On 17th August 1867, at the adjourned inquest at the WITLEY HOTEL, the jury returned a verdict that the deceased, Anne Maud Mary Hickton, had been found drowned, but how it was caused there was no evidence to show.]

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/12/1867

“The Winter Assizes.

Fanny Brown, 12, nurse, was indicted for feloniously and with malice aforethought killing Ann Mary Maud Hickton, on the 17th of July, at Halesowen.....

After a few minutes deliberation the Jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was discharged.”

1871 Census

Stourbridge Road

[1] *Joseph Hickton* (38), innkeeper, born Cradley Heath;

[2] *Betsy Hickton* (28), wife, born Halesowen;

[3] *Annie L. Hickton* (3), daughter, born Halesowen;

[4] *William H. Hickton* (1), son, born Halesowen;

[5] *Emma Sawyer* (17), general servant, born Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/8/1875

“An inquest was held at the WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, on Saturday evening, by Mr. Ralph Docker, coroner, upon the body of Elizabeth Hawkeswood (15) who was found dead in a midden at the back of her parents’ residence, in Gibbet Lane, at seven o’clock in the morning of the 21st instant. The evidence showed that the deceased was subject to fits, and that she was found by a neighbour lying upon her face in the midden, which was unprotected by a wall or fence of any kind. Mr. G. P. Dunn, surgeon, was called in, but life was quite extinct, and in his opinion death resulted from suffocation. The jury returned a verdict of Found Dead.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/12/1875

“Mr. Ralph Docker, coroner, held an inquest at the WITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, on Monday evening, on the body of John Crumpton (36), wagoner, Witley Terrace, who died from injuries received in falling from a wagon at Kinver, on Wednesday last. Deceased was loading a timber wagon, and fell from it on to his head and spine. He was conveyed to his home, where he was attended by Mr. G. O. Dunn, surgeon, and lingered in great agony until Friday morning. Mr. Dunn stated that his death was caused by injuries to the spine and brain, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1881 Census

Stourbridge Road – WITLEY HOTEL

- [1] *Betsy Hickton* (39), widow, publican, born Halesowen;
- [2] Harry Hickton (11), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [3] Albert Hickton (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [4] Sarah Skidmore (19), domestic servant, born Halesowen;
- [5] Phoebe Gilbert (66), widow, mother, born Halesowen:

County Express 7/5/1881 - Advert

“Freehold Property, Butchers Lane, Cradley.

Mr. E. Smart is instructed by the Mortgagee to Offer for Sale by Auction, May 23rd, 1881, at the house of Mrs. *Hickton*, WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

County Advertiser 14/7/1883 - Advert

“To be Sold One Acre of Laxton's Supreme Peas, situate on the Turnpike Road, Whitley, Halesowen, near Birmingham. Ready for picking in about a fortnight.

Apply, Mrs. *E. Hickton*, WHITLEY HOTEL, Halesowen.”

County Advertiser 13/12/1884 - Advert

“Wanted, a good General Servant, about 18 or 20.

Apply, Mrs. *Hickton*, WHITLEY HOTEL, Halesowen.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/12/1884

“An inquest was held on Saturday, at the WHITLEY HOTEL, before Mr. R. Docker, relative to the death of Henry Bachellor (64), horsedriver at Corngreaves Ironworks, who died on the 22nd instant, from the effects of injuries caused by a horse kicking him and trampling upon him on the 20th inst.

Henry Andrews and James Farmer gave evidence to the effect that, on the day named, deceased was in charge of three horses in traces, was kicked by the middle horse, which afterwards became restive, and pulled the hind horse on to him.

Dr. Ker stated that several of deceased ribs on the left side were fractured, and these had penetrated to the left lung and torn it.

Death had resulted from inflammation of the lung caused by the injuries.

The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 24/1/1885

“Ephraim Hill, Gibbet Lane, Halesowen, was charged with assaulting George Williams on the 26th December last.

Complainant stated that he was at the WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road with the defendant, and asked for 6d which he owed him. Defendant said he would give him something else, and struck him on the eye, cutting it open.

William Harper and John Price were called in support of this statement. The latter said complainant had had some beer, but ‘was not far gone.’

Defendant said all he did was in self-defence, as complainant, who was drunk, struck at him several times. He was also knocked down by the persons with Williams, and now he added, ‘It took me all my time to pick up my legs again.’

Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

County Advertiser 20/6/1885 - Advert

“New Milk for Sale.

Apply to Mrs. *Hickton*, WHITLEY HOTEL, near Halesowen.”

Mrs. Betsy Hickton, beer retailer, Stourbridge Road. [1888], [1896]

Birmingham Mail 31/3/1890

“On Saturday afternoon Mr. Edwin Docker (coroner) held an inquest at the WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Hales Owen, respecting the death of William Greaves, aged twelve months, whose parents reside in Bloomfield Street, Hales Owen, and who died suddenly on the 28th inst.

Ann Greaves, mother of the deceased, said the child had been ailing for about six months, and whilst they were living in Birmingham she called on Dr. Barratt, who said the child was ill through teething. About three weeks ago witness and her husband came to reside in Hales Owen. She took the child to Dr. Ker, and as she was leaving his surgery she met a woman who recommended her to Mr. Adam Lawton, chemist, Hagley Road, Hales Owen. She accordingly took the deceased to Mr. Lawton, who examined

him, and said the child was suffering from consumption of the bowels. He gave witness some medicine for the child, and she paid him for it. Mr. Lawton afterwards gave her some more medicine, which she continued to give deceased until Friday morning last, when he died.

Dr. Ord stated that he found the body in a very emaciated condition.

The Coroner pointed out that it was quite unusual for a chemist to take such a course. Mr. Lawton should have advised the mother of the deceased to take the child to a medical man.

Mr. Lawton said he had been in practice for thirty-five years, and had on some occasions acted in the absence of medical men.

The Coroner pointed out that Mr. Lawton had no right to treat a case of that kind, as it was dangerous, and in doing so he took upon himself a grave responsibility.

Mr. Lawton said it was the first case of death under his treatment.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes, and also expressed the opinion that Mr. Lawton had acted improperly in treating the case of the deceased, and that he should have advised the mother to take the child to a medical man."

1891 Census

Stourbridge Road

[1] *Betsy Hickton* (46), widow, publican, born Halesowen;

[2] Henry Hickton (21), son, butcher's assistant, born Halesowen;

[3] Albert J. Hickton (18), son, brewer, born Halesowen;

[4] Jane Barratt (17), general servant, born Hasbury:

County Advertiser 24/10/1891 - Advert

"Wanted a Girl.

Apply to Mrs. *Hickton*, WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen."

County Advertiser 12/12/1896 - Advert

"Wanted, a General Servant.

Apply to Mrs. *Hickton*, WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen."

County Advertiser 3/4/1897

"Thomas Hepworth, Corngreaves Road, Cradley Heath, was charged with stealing a coat and gloves, value 25s, the property of Joseph Andrews, on the 20th inst.

On the date in question prosecutor was engaged in delivering meat in the Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, and called at the WHITLEY HOTEL. He left the cart outside while he did his business in the house, and inside the cart was the coat, containing a pair of gloves in one of the pockets. Prosecutor was in the house for about half an hour, and did not see prisoner or anyone about. When he went to the cart he found that the coat was gone, and gave information to Police-constable Chamberlain about the theft of the coat.

Prisoner worked for a bricklayer named Grainger, of Cradley Heath, and it appears that on Saturday he left work at one o'clock, with a fellow-workman named Porter. They then visited one public-house, and afterwards went into the WHITLEY HOTEL, where Porter left the prisoner. Porter, on the Wednesday following, acting upon the directions of Mr. Grainger, his employer, went to prisoner's house and found the coat, which prosecutor afterwards identified as his property.

Prisoner was arrested in Belle Vale on the 25th by Police-constable Chamberlain, and when charged with the theft replied that he picked up the coat and had no intention of stealing it.

Prisoner denied the theft, and repeated his story that he had picked up the coat, and had returned it.

Prisoner was fined 10s and costs, or fourteen days."

County Advertiser 12/11/1898 - Advert

"Splendid Cob for Sale, coming five,

Apply, *Betsy Hickton*, WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen."

1901 Census

Stourbridge Road – Public House

[1] *Betsy Hickton* (58), widow, publican, born Halesowen;

[2] Albert J. Hickton (28), son, assistant in public house, born Halesowen:

County Advertiser 19/4/1902 - Advert

"Important Sale of a Freehold Public-House, at Short Cross, near Halesowen.

Cotton and Chappell have received instructions from the Trustees of the late Mr. *Joseph Hickton* to Sell by Auction, at the NEW INNS HOTEL, Halesowen, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions then to be read, incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

Lot 1. All that Substantially-built Freehold Beer-House, known as the WITLEY HOTEL, situate at Short Cross, near Halesowen, containing Tap Room, Sitting Room, Smoke Room, Kitchen, Small Bar, Cellar, Four Bed Rooms, and Dressing Room, together with Brewhouse, w.c., Urinal, Small Malt Room, Two Pigsties, Galvanized Iron Trap House, Two-stall Stable, Large Garden, with ample room, for an additional House, the whole containing 1,214 square yards or thereabouts.

The Inn, which is in good repair, occupies a most important position on the main road leading from Stourbridge to Halesowen. It

is capable of doing a most lucrative trade, is one of the few remaining free housing in the district, and is well worthy the special attention of Brewers, Publicans, and others.

Lot 2. All that convenient and Well-built Freehold Dwelling House adjoining, containing Four Bed Rooms, Clothes Closet, Entrance Hall, Sitting Room, Kitchen, Cellar, Brewhouse, and Garden, the whole containing 488 square yards or thereabouts.

This lot is approached at the back by a separate entry, and is bounded by property belonging to Messrs. Holmes and Hickton, and T. Homer.

Further particulars and plans may be had on application to Mr. Thomas Cooksey, Solicitor, Old Hill, or the Auctioneers, Bromsgrove and Birmingham.”

County Express 24/5/1902 - Advert

“WITLEY HOTEL, Short Cross, near Halesowen.

Cotton & Chappell have received instructions from the Representatives of the late Mrs. *Betsy Hickton*, deceased, to Sell By Auction, on the Premises as above, on Friday, June 6th, 1902, the whole of the Household Furniture, comprising Sets of Iron and Wood Bedsteads, Mahogany Stands and Dressing Tables, Toilet Glasses and Ware, Night Chair, Oak Linen Chests, Carpeting and Linoleum, Mahogany Centre and other Tables, Mahogany-framed Arm Chairs, Mahogany-framed Windsor, cane-seated, and other Chairs, Gilt-framed Chimney Glass, Sofas, capital 8-day Clock, Smoking Chairs, Glass Ware, Earthenware, Fenders and Fire-irons, Pictures; together with the whole of the Kitchen and Scullery Requisites, Brewing Utensils, including 100 gallon Copper Furnace, Mash Tuns, Casks, the whole of the Trade Utensils and Miscellaneous Effects, fully described in the catalogue.

Sale at 11.30 o'clock prompt.

Catalogues post free from the place of Sale, or the Auctioneer's Offices, Bromsgrove and Birmingham.”

County Express 31/5/1902 - Notice

“Re *Betsy Hickton* (Deceased).

All persons having any Claims or Demands against the Estate of *Betsy Hickton*, late of the WITLEY HOTEL, Halesowen, Beerhouse-keeper (deceased), who died on the 29th day of February, 1902, are required to send particulars thereof to me, the undersigned, on or before the 9th day of June, 1902.

Dated this 28th day of May, 1902.

Thomas Cooksey, Old Hill, Staffs, Solicitor for the Executors.”

County Express 22/5/1909 - Advert

“To Brewers, Publicans, & Others.

Joseph Smart is favoured with instructions from Mr. E. Tibbetts, to Sell By Auction, on Monday, May 24th, 1909, at 7pm, subject to Conditions to be produced at the time of sale, at the NEW INN, Halesowen, the Valuable Licensed Freehold Beerhouse, known as the WHITLEY HOTEL, situate and fronting to the Stourbridge Road, near Halesowen, and now in the occupation of the vendor, who is retiring from business in consequence of ill-health, and will give up possession upon completion.

The above Premises has a frontage to the said Stourbridge Road, of 64½ft, and comprises an area of 1,214 square yards or thereabouts, having Stabling Accommodation and large Garden, is one of the few remaining Free Houses in the district, being in an excellent state of repair, the present owner having recently spent a large amount in improvements.

For further particulars apply to Messrs Thomas Cooksey and Co, Solicitors, Old Hill; or the Auctioneer, Halesowen.”

County Express 29/5/1909

“On Monday, at the NEW INNS, Halesowen, Mr. Joseph Smart offered for sale the beerhouse known as the WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, but it was not disposed.”

1911 Census

Stourbridge Road – WHITLEY HOTEL

[1] *George Knight* (28), sett maker, quarry work, born Perrys Lake, Dudley;

[2] *Sarah Knight* (31), wife, married 7 years, born Hasbury;

[3] *Doris Knight* (3), daughter, born Rowley;

[4] daughter (under 1 month), born Halesowen;

[5] *Alice Brettell* (16), servant, born Hawne, Halesowen:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/5/1932

“An application for a protection order under the Licensing Act was made at Halesowen yesterday by Mr. F. T. Goodman on behalf of *Laura Ellen Roper*, owner of the WHITLEY HOTEL, Halesowen.

It was explained that the woman's former husband died in December 1926, and from that time until February of last year the license was in her name and she carried on the business. Then she married Mr. *Roper* and the license was transferred to him, but as a result of domestic differences she did not desire him to live with her.

Mr. Goodman said notice had been given to the husband of the woman's intended application for a protection order that day, but he had failed to attend the court.

In answer to Mr. Goodman the applicant said that the whole of the furniture in the premises belonged to her, and her husband had been acting as manager.

Pointing out that the husband was the license-holder the clerk (Mr. A. Homfray) asked if he was still living on the premises. Witness said that he was, and added, ‘But I don't intend him to live with me any more.’

The Clerk: Who is going to stop him if he walks in?

Witness: I don't know.

Inspector Dainty said that in the circumstances the police objected to the application. He did not see how they could proceed with the matter until the husband was present in order to agree to the transfer. Eventually the application was adjourned for a week."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/5/1932

"Reference was made at Halesowen Police Court yesterday to the application made last week by Mrs. *Roper*, owner of the WHITLEY HOTEL, Halesowen, for a protection order in respect of the premises, of which her husband was the licensee.

Mr. J. T. Higgs (for Mr. *Roper*) said he understood that the application would not now be proceeded with. He was able to state that matters had been settled, and so far as Mr. *Roper's* treatment of his wife was concerned no aspersions were made against his character.

Mr. Goodman (for Mrs. *Roper*) endorsed Mr. Higgs's statement, and the application was withdrawn."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/8/1932

"A further application was made to Halesowen magistrates yesterday by *Laura Ellen Roper* for a protection order in respect of the WHITLEY HOTEL, Stourbridge Road, of which her husband, *Thomas Henry Roper*, was licensee.

A short time ago Mrs. *Roper* made a similar application at the court, but afterwards it was withdrawn, it being intimated that the parties had settled their differences.

The magistrates were told that another dispute had arisen, and as a result Mr. *Roper* left the premises on Monday night and his wife did not anticipate his return unless it was to fetch the things belonging to him.

The house at the moment was locked up, and if Mrs. *Roper* sold intoxicants she would be committing an offence which would place the license in jeopardy.

A temporary transfer of the license to the woman was asked for until the full licensing session in September.

Inspector R. Dainty: Why did he leave last night?

Mrs. *Roper*: Because we had been arguing the point.

Did he leave with a black eye? – Yes.

Who gave it to him? – I did, with my fist.

Mrs. *Roper* added that after her husband had left she locked the door.

The magistrates eventually granted the protection order asked for."

1939 Register

211, Stourbridge Road – WHITLEY HOTEL

[1] *Charles H. Pritchett*, date of birth 10/2/1904, licensed victualler, married;

[3] *Harriet A. Littlewood*, dob 12/9/1911, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] *Frank F. Littlewood*, dob 30/6/1903, assistant manager, paper manufacturer and merchant, married;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/5/1946

"Dares Brewery Ltd. were ordered to reinstate *Frederick J. Cooke*, of 59, Sherwood Road, Hall Green, on 27th May as manager of the WHITLEY INN, Halesowen. His wife, who had been appointed in his place while he was in the RAF from August 1942, to March last, was dismissed a few days before he was demobilised, and a new manager appointed.

A representative of the firm said *Cooke* would have been discharged had he not joined the Forces.

Notice of appeal was given."

Birmingham Daily Post 11/8/1975

"Two men and a 15-year-old girl were remanded in custody at a special court at Halesowen on Saturday charged in connection with a burglary at the WHITLEY public house on Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, early on Friday.

John Patrick Hogan, aged 23, of Ridge Court, Riddings Mound Estate, Old Hill, was charged with burglary, and with robbing the licensee, 72-year-old Mr. *Adolphus William Whitehead*, of £2,000.

David Edward Watson, aged 35, of Ridge Court, faced a charge of receiving £5 of the stolen cash.

The girl was accused of handling stolen property. All three were remanded until tomorrow."

Birmingham Daily Post 26/11/1975

"Four Midland witnesses in a robbery trial are still being protected by the police after threats were made against them and one was beaten up and had his car set on fire. At the trial, at Stafford Crown Court, three men were each jailed for six years for robbery with violence at a Halesowen public house. They had pleaded guilty.

They are Michael Hogan (31), of Hingley Street, Cradley Heath; John Patrick Hogan (24), of Codsall Road, Cradley Heath; and Anthony Murray (28), of Stockwell Park, Brixton, London.

Sentencing Judge W. A. K. Allardice said, 'Anyone found terrorising witnesses will be worthy of more serious sentences.'

A spokesman for Halesowen police said that he was hoping the warning would have its effect.

The witnesses were Mr. David Edward Watson, of Old Hill; Mr. *Adolphus William Whitehead*, who now lives at an undisclosed address; a 16-year-old schoolgirl from Cradley Heath; and Mr. Hamed Hussain, of Old Hill.

The schoolgirl was moved to three addresses during the trial – including a women's prison – for safety. Mr. Hussain was beaten up and on one occasion his car exploded when he switched it on."

Black Country Bugle 24/12/1998 - Advert

“Greenalls. WHITLEY HOTEL, 211 Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.

Trevor and Ann wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Good Selection of Traditional Beers always on Tap.

Food served every day except Sundays from 12-2pm lunchtimes and 6-9.30pm evenings.

Special Offer.

16oz Beef Steak (Australian), £7.50p. Buy one get one free.

Mighty Mixed Grill, £7.00p. Buy one get one free.

Pensioners Special 2 meals for the price of one.

All meals cooked by our Cordon Bleu Chef. Please phone for availability.

Darts • Cards • Dominoes Coming Soon – Quiz Night.”

Halesowen News 1/3/2011

“The WHITLEY pub has been saved and is reopening helping cement Halesowen’s reputation as real ale heaven. Black Country brewery Real Ale Taverns bought the Stourbridge Road pub and paid for an extensive refurbishment and the doors open this week. Angus McMeeking, Real Ale Taverns director, believes the close proximity of other real ale pubs will help bring in trade. He said, ‘With the HAWNE TAVERN and the WAGON AND HORSES Halesowen has got a great reputation with real ale drinkers and we think reopening the WHITLEY will be great for the town. The pub has been on sale for a while and when the price was right we decided to give it a go.’ And the company hopes the pub will return to be a focal point of the community. Mr. McMeeking added, ‘The hope is to major on real ales and a traditional public house atmosphere with bar games and no loud music. There will be ten real ales at any one time some brewed locally as well as guest ones.’

Roberto Ross, chairman of Stourbridge & Halesowen Campaign for Real Ale, welcomed the reopening of the WHITLEY. He said, ‘It is wonderful news that Real Ale Taverns are investing into Halesowen and reopening the WHITLEY as a real ale pub. Especially at a time when pubs are closing throughout the country this shows that Halesowen and the surrounding areas are bucking the trend. The emergence of more real ale pub selling local brewed beers is obviously popular because the DUKE WILLIAM in Stourbridge reopened as a real ale pub now the WHITELY.’

The pub is reopening its doors on Thursday, March 3.”

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

Express & Star 6/8/2022

“A Halesowen pub has won a title for its eye-catching floral displays. The CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road in Shell Corner has been named The Best Bloomin Pub in this year’s Halesowen in Bloom awards....

The judges also awarded highly commended to the LOYAL LODGE, HAWNE TAVERN, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the SWAN and previous winner, EDWARD VII.

Eve O’Connor, chair of Halesowen in Bloom said, ‘Halesowen in Bloom wants to thank all the pubs in Halesowen who make that extra effort to make their pubs look so inviting with great floral displays.”’

[2022]

WHY NOT

Why Not Street, (Stocking Street), Two Gates, (High Park), CRADLEY

OWNERS

George Billingham (acquired in 1870)

Isaiah Hughes [1873], [1900]

William Henry Bangham

Hereford and Tredgar

Thomas Plant and Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1916)

Ansells Ltd.

County Inns
Juliet Trimble (acquired in 1995)
Punch Taverns [2005]
Black and White Pub Co.

LICENSEES

George Partridge [1872] – [1879]
Samuel Bennett [1884] – [1888]
Samuel Gill [1891] – 1902;
Henry Bailey (1902 – 1906);
Mark Owen Baugh (1906);
Samuel Taylor (1906 – 1910);
William Henry Bangham (1910 – 1925);
William White (1925 – 1927);
Alfred Crompton (1927 – 1928);
John Smith (1928 – 1930);
George Henry Knight (1930 – 1935);
George James (1935 – 1951);
Z___ James (1951);
Noah Dunn (1951 – 1956);
William George Newman (1956);
Albert Edward Taylor (1956 – 1957);
Emily Little (1957 – 1960);
Phyllis Hingley (1960);
Cynthia Davies (1960 – 1963);
Howard Douglas Hart (1963 – 1968);
Doreen Winifred Metmapon (1968);
Anthony Edward Bishop (1968 – 1970);
John Scott Paton (1970 – 1971);
Stanley Horace Russell (1971 – 1976);
William Scott (1976);
John Frederick Jeavons (1976 – 1980);
John Harold Norris Lees (1980 – 1985);
John Thomas Hughes (1985 – 1986);
James Nicholas Carr (1986 – 1987);
Gloria Lesley Mansell (1987);
David Michael Martin (1987 – 1988);
Brian Harold Holliday (1988 – 1989);
Peter Charles Coleman (1989 – 1992);
June Moreton (1992 – 1993);
Juliet Trimble (1993 – [1998])
James P Dunphy []
Sally Priest [2005]
Helen Jayne Payne (2006 – [2009])
David Cooper [2010] – 2022);
Lisa Vincze (2022 – []

NOTES

Stocking Street [1912]

WHY NOT CALL AND SEE [1876]

It had a beerhouse license.

Stourbridge Observer 25/5/1872

“At the Pettty Sessions yesterday, before R. L. Freer, Esq, Henry Brettle, William Brettle, and Benjamin Hodgetts were charged with being drunk and disorderly in the house of *George Partridge*, of Cradley, on the 21st, and refusing to quit when requested. Complainant, landlord of the WHY NOT, Two Gates, said the defendants came into his house, with two others. They called for a quart of ale. They were not sober. He refused to fill it, and ordered them out of the house. *Partridge* caught him by the throat and struck him in the eye.

William Dunn and Police-constable Roe gave corroborative evidence.
The defendants were fined 5s each and costs, in default 10 days.”

Stourbridge Observer 4/1/1873

“On Wednesday, about one o’clock, a chain shop in the occupation of *George Partridge*, of the WHY NOT INN Public House, fell in with a tremendous crash, pushing out the walls and windows, and burying one youth in the ruins. Two others saw indications of the fall, and rushed out of the shop. The other youth was rescued as soon as possible. The beam falling crossway saved his life.”

County Advertiser 13/9/1873 - Notice

“The Licensing Act, 1872.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Township of Cradley, and to the Superintendent of Police of the District of Stourbridge, in the County of Worcester, and to all whom it may concern.

I, *George Partridge*, Beerseller, now residing at Two Gates, in the Township of Cradley, in the county of Worcester, and for six months last past having resided at Two Gates, in the Township of Cradley aforesaid, do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to Apply at the Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting to be holden at the Public Office, in the Township of Stourbridge, in the said County, on the 30th day of September instant, for a License to Sell Excisable Liquors by Retail, to be drunk or consumed in the House or Premises thereunto belonging, situate at Two Gates aforesaid, rented by me of Isaiah Hughes, of the Township of Cradley, and now in my own occupation, and which said house and premises are kept by me as a Beerhouse, known by the sign of the WHY NOT INN.

Given under my hand this 4th day of September, 1873.

George Partridge.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1873

“The adjourned annual licensing session for the Stourbridge district was held on Tuesday at the Public Offices It will be remembered that at the annual licensing meeting held August 29th, the whole of the applications were adjourned on the ground that sufficient notice had not been given in the papers.....

George Partridge applied for a full license to the WHY NOT beerhouse, Cradley. Mr. Collis supported, and Mr. Perry opposed, on behalf of Mr. Simeon Finch, the TWO GATES INN. The application was refused.”

County Advertiser 11/4/1874 - Advert

“To be Sold, a Light-coloured Donkey. Warranted either to carry or draw.

Apply to *G. Partridge*, the WHY NOT INN, High Park, Cradley.”

County Express 29/8/1874

“The annual licensing meeting for the division of Stourbridge was held at the Police Court yesterday.....

George Partridge, landlord of the WHY NOT INN, Cradley, applied for a spirit license. He said that a new colliery had commenced working near his house, and he was applied to for spirits. This was the second application he had made.

Mr. Perry opposed and the application was refused.”

Worcester Journal 24/11/1877

“Cradley Conservative Association. A largely attended meeting of this association was held at the WHITE LION INN, on Tuesday evening last.....

It was decided to hold the next meeting at the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, on December 4th.”

County Express 27/4/1878 - Advert

“A Curiosity. To be seen at Mr. *George Partridge*’s, WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, Cradley, the Largest Black Spanish Hen Egg in the world, weighs over 10½ ounces. Must be seen to be believed.”

County Express 8/6/1878

“Conservative Association. A meeting of this Association was held at Mr. *G. Partridge*’s, WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, on Tuesday evening.....”

London Gazette 23/8/1878

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Stourbridge.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *George Partridge*, of Two Gates, Cradley, in the county of Worcester, Innkeeper and Chain Manufacturer.

Notice is hereby given, that a General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at No.87, High-street, Brierley Hill, in the county of Stafford, on the 3rd day of September, 1878, at two o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 19th day of August, 1878.

Thos. Homer, Brierley Hill, Solicitor for the Debtor.”

County Advertiser 7/9/1878 - Advert

“In Liquidation. Two Gates, Cradley. Unreserved Sale.

Mr. Homer has received instructions from the Trustees to Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, September 17th, 1878, the Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, Chainmakers' Tools, &c, upon the Premises, known as the WHY NOT INN, belonging to Mr. *George Partridge*.

Further particulars in next week's advertisement."

County Advertiser 14/9/1878 - Advert

"In Liquidation. Re *George Partridge*, the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, Cradley.
To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

Mr. T. Homer has received instructions from the Trustee, to Offer for Sale by Auction, on Tuesday Next, September 17th, 1878, the whole of the Stock-in-Trade, Household Furniture, &c, consisting of Seven Pairs of Smiths' Bellows, Seven Sets of Chainmakers' Tools, Smith's Anvil, Scales and Weights, Horse, Cart, Spring Trap, Harness, Brewing Plant, Four-pull Beer Machine, Chairs, Tables, Feather Beds, Iron Bedsteads, Mattresses, Bed Linen, capital Piano, &c.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.

Catalogues may be had of the Auctioneer, Five Ways, Cradley Heath."

County Advertiser 26/4/1879 - Advert

"I Hereby Give Notice that I will Not Be Responsible for Iron Orders transacted by John Partridge after this date.
George Partridge. WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, Cradley. April 21st, 1879."

County Express 21/8/1880 - Advert

"To be Let, a Licensed Public-House, known as the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, Cradley, with Large Chain Shops, Stabling, &c.
Immediate possession.

Apply, Isaiah Hughes, HOLLY BUSH INN, Cradley."

County Advertiser 5/11/1881

"On Thursday evening, October 27th, a supper was provided by the friends of James, Samuel, and William Wyatt, at the WHY NOT INN, High Park, Cradley, on the occasion of their leaving the neighbourhood for the Unites States of America. After supper the chair was taken by Mr. D. Millward. Songs and recitations were given, and a very enjoyable evening was spent."

Samuel Bennett, beer retailer, Two Gates. [1884], [1888]

Birmingham Daily Post 13/2/1886

"Mr. R. Docker held an inquest yesterday, at the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, on the body of Thomas Bayless (13), who was drowned on Monday in a pool in Farmhouse Lane. Deceased and a boy named Pearson were on the pool in question, when the ice broke and they got into deep water. A man named Tromans ran a considerable distance on hearing an alarm raised, and at some peril to himself rescued Pearson, but he was unable to get the other boy out. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

Samuel Gill held the pub on an annual tenancy.

1891 Census

Two Gates – WHY NOT INN

[1] *Samuel Gill* (38), beerhouse keeper, born Cradley Heath;

[2] Maria Gill (34), wife, born Cradley;

[3] Ida Gill (9), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[4] May Gill (8), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;

[5] Sissy Gill (3), daughter, born Cradley;

[6] Hughes Gill (1), son, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 16/3/1897 - Advert

"A Large Quantity of Plants for Sale, in large or small quantities.

Apply, *S. Gill*, WHY NOT INN, Colley Gate, Cradley."

County Advertiser 30/12/1899

"The members of the sick and draw club held at the house of Mr. *Samuel Gill*, WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, held their annual feast recently, and a good number of members attended and spent a convivial evening."

County Advertiser 22/9/1900 - Advert

"Important to Brewers, Maltsters, Licensed Victuallers, Parties Seeking Investment and Others.

Freehold Old-Licensed Premises (Perfectly Free from Trade Ties).

The ROUND OF BEEF, Windmill Hill, Cradley; the ROSE AND CROWN, in the Town of Cradley; the WHY NOT (Beerhouse), Two Gates, Cradley; Front Shops, Malthouse, 50 Dwelling Houses and Tenements, Chain and Anchor Factories, and Building Land in and about the Neighbourhood of Cradley and Quarry Bank, in the immediate vicinity of extensive Ironworks, Manufactories, and Collieries.

H. King and Son, in Conjunction with Thomas Pateshall, are instructed by the Trustees of the late Mr. Isaiah Hughes, to Offer for

Sale by Auction, at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, Cradley, on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 9th and 10th, 1900, at Six o'clock each Evening, and subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, the following Licensed Premises and Other Properties.....

The Freehold and perfectly Free Beerhouse and Premises, the WHY NOT, situate at the Two Gates, Cradley, with the newly-built and convenient Brewhouse and Back Kitchen, Coalhouse, Cart Shed, Stabling for three horses, with Loft over; enclosed Yard, and the Six-hearth Chainshop, Drive Way into yard, capital Pump of well water, and soft water Cistern, the whole in the occupation of Mr. *Samuel Gill*, upon an annual tenancy.

The Property is in a thriving neighbourhood, near to collieries, and large brick and other manufactories, and the House is doing an excellent trade. The mines and minerals thereunder are reserved, but with compensation for damage."

County Advertiser 13/10/1900

"An important sale of freehold property, being the estate of the late Mr. Isaiah Hughes, was held at the TALBOT HOTEL, Colley Gate, on Tuesday and Wednesday. A very large company attended each evening, and enabled the auctioneer, Mr. King (of the firm of H. King and Son), to dispose of every lot offered at highly satisfactory figures. Mr. Pateshall was jointly concerned, and Messrs. Perry and Travis, of Stourbridge were the solicitors. The following are the details.....

WHY NOT beerhouse at Two Gates realised £950."

1901 Census

Why Not Street – WHY NOT INN

- [1] *Samuel Gill* (48), innkeeper and farmer, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] Maria Gill (43), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] Florence Gill (24), deaf and dumb from childhood, born Rowley Regis;
- [4] Ida Gill (19), daughter, born Cradley;
- [5] May Gill (18), daughter, assistant school teacher, born Cradley;
- [6] Siskey Gill (13), daughter, born Cradley:

County Advertiser 15/8/1903

"Samuel Foxall, Two Gates, Cradley, was charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the WHY NOT INN, Cradley, on the 8th inst. It was alleged that the landlord refused to supply defendant, who thereupon became disorderly. Defendant had to be forcibly ejected, and when outside he broke two panes of glass. Fined 21s, or one month."

County Advertiser 10/3/1906

"At Stourbridge County Court, on Wednesday – before Judge Harington – a dispute in reference to the lease of the WHY NOT INN, Two Gates, Cradley, was heard.

William Henry Bangham, COTTAGE IN THE BOWER, Quarry Bank, sued Enoch Baugh, Holly Lodge, Norton, for £22 balance of premium on the taking of a lease of the house, and there was a counter claim for £60 for misrepresentation. Mr. Cave (instructed by Mr. Geo. Green, Cradley Heath) appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. Graham Millward (instructed by Mr. William Waldron, Brierley Hill) for the defence.

Mr. Cave briefly opened the case.

Mr. Graham Millward asked for leave to amend the particulars so as to give as an alternative issue breach of warranty. He said that plaintiff represented the takings as £13 or £14 weekly and guaranteed there should be no trouble at all about the water for brewing. The agreement between the parties was signed on August 19th last year, and on plaintiff's taking possession he found the takings averaged only about £5, and there was not enough water in the pump for washing the utensils. The house had to rely on spring water from the neighbourhood, and as it was situated on very high ground at the end of a pudding-bag-street, the Water Works Company would not guarantee a continuous supply.

The defendant stated that he saw plaintiff on the 19th August last at the GREYHOUND INN, Norton, and *Bangham* then informed him that he had just purchased the WHY NOT, and was about to let it to his landlord, a brewer named Nock. Defendant expressed a doubt as to whether brewery ale would sell in that neighbourhood, and said he would try and negotiate the lease, but he should want it as a home-brewing house. Plaintiff said he had it in writing from the vendor that the takings were £13 to £14 per week, and he thought a lease for seven years would be worth £200 premium and a rental of £25 per annum with rates. Defendant went and saw the place, and afterwards negotiated a lease, with a premium of £100, and a rental of £30 a year. At the interview plaintiff said he would guarantee there should be a sufficient supply of water for brewing purposes. He paid £32 8s 9d for the fixtures on a valuation, and went into possession on October 31st. He put his brother into the house, and in consequence of complaints, went over and found that not a bucket of water could be got from the pump. He informed plaintiff of this, and the reply was that he could not understand it; the vendor told him there was enough of water. Defendant then stopped a post-dated cheque by which he had partly paid the premium. He should not have paid any premium had he known the house was taking only £5 weekly.

Mark Owen Baugh, licensee of the WHY NOT, said when he wanted to brew he got a sufficient amount of water from the pump to wash the utensils, and then it failed. He had to get water from a spring about a quarter of a mile away, and it cost a shilling a journey

Joseph Fellows, haulier, of Two Gates, and Thomas Crampton, who has been a neighbour for 45 years, corroborated. The former said they could not brew more than a week with the water from the pump, and he had seen the water like blood when they were drawing it.

An inspector of South Staffordshire Water Works Company said water could only be supplied to the house by special agreement,

and then they could only guarantee an intermittent supply. There would be a covering charge of £5 per year, which would not include the storage tank.

Mr. Cave submitted that there was no case to go on, as there was not a rag of evidence that the takings were not £13 or £14 per week before the sale, nor to show that the plaintiff knew that there was a shortage of water. As to the proposed amendment on question of warranty, he was not prepared for such a proposal, and asked that the defence might go to a new trial if they thought there was sufficient reason.

Mr. Millward contended that plaintiff had not gone to any trouble to verify the statements of the vendor before transmitting them to the defendant, and should be held responsible.

The Judge refused to allow the amendment. He was of opinion that there was not sufficient evidence of fraudulent misrepresentation either as to takings or the water, and gave judgement for the plaintiff on the claim and counterclaim.”

1911 Census

Two Gates – WHY NOT INN

- [1] *William Henry Bangham* (40), publican, beerhouse, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] *Lavinia Bangham* (42), wife, married 23 years, born Dudley Wood;
- [3] *William Nelson Bangham* (19), son, coal miner (loader), born Halesowen;
- [4] *Henry Barling Bangham* (12), son, born Quarry Bank:

1939 Register

Two Gates – WHY NOT INN

- [1] *George James*, date of birth 5/2/1890, master blacksmith, heavy worker, married;
- [2] *Zeruiah James*, dob 18/9/1889, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Ralph James*, dob 11/3/1917, general labourer, brickworks, single;
- [4] *Ada (James) Roper*, dob 30/10/1923, operator, tailoring, single;

A full license was granted on 1st February 1949.

A team from here competed in the Shropshire, Staffordshire and Derby division of The People National Darts Teams Championship of England and Wales in 1952/3.

William White died in 1961 aged 74.

It had a Cork Club, with meetings held on Sunday mornings. [1960s]

Phyllis Hingley was married to Ray (of ROBIN HOOD, Quarry Bank).

Peter Charles Coleman was married to Pamela Ann.

Juliet Trimble was born in London.

[Express & Star 29/3/2010](#)

“Regulars at a Halesowen pub swapped booze for walking boots when they put their best foot forward for a one-mile charity walk. Twelve customers from the WHY NOT INN, in Colley Gate, took part in the trek in memory of friend and former regular Bob Howell. Landlord *Dave Cooper* said the trek raised £450.”

[Dudley News 31/3/2020](#)

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

[Stourbridge News 1/8/2020](#)

“A new Eat Out to Help Out postcode checker has been launched by the government that allows you to find out which business in Stourbridge and the surrounding areas are taking part in the scheme.

Eat Out to Help Out officially begins on Monday, August 3. Customers will be able to get a 50 per cent discount on food or non-alcoholic drinks (up to a £10 discount per diner) at participating establishments. The scheme will run every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday until Monday, August 31. Establishments will claim a reimbursement from the government for the discount they’ve given. Participating establishments may include restaurants, cafés, bars or pubs, work and school canteens and food halls. Here are the establishments so far registered to take part in the scheme within five miles of Stourbridge town centre.....

WHY NOT INN.”

Halesowen News 9/8/2022

“A new landlady has taken the helm at a popular Cradley pub. *Lisa Vincze* took over the reins at the WHY NOT INN in Whynot Street on Tuesday August 2 after previous landlord *David Cooper* retired. She said people were queuing to get in on Tuesday and has been delighted with the response from customers. *Lisa*, who is married with a 5-year-old son, has never worked in the pub trade before having been a manager for a construction tool hire firm for 31 years. She said, ‘It’s all new to me. I live near the pub, within walking distance, so when the previous landlord decided to retire and put the lease up I thought I’m 50 now I’ve worked all my life for other people, now it’s time to do something for myself and my family. I love being around people and talking to people. The pub’s got a good reputation and I’m hoping that I can continue that and bring in more customers.’

Lisa has taken on two new chefs including head chef Adam Dowdswell and has introduced a new menu, but is keeping the old favourites including the Sunday carvery. She has put new finishing touches to the pub, saying, ‘I just wanted to put my stamp on it.’ Previous landlord *David Cooper* retired after 16 years at the pub.”

[2022]

WILLIAM SHENSTONE

1-5, Queensway, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

J. D. Wetherspoon

LICENSEES

Craig Rose (2000 – [2006]

Richard Tandy []

NOTES

It opened in 2000.

Halesowen News 8/9/2008

“Wine lovers can tickle their tastebuds with a selection of award-winning wines at three local pubs taking part in a 19-day wine festival. The MOON UNDER WATER in Cradley Heath, the BRITANNIA in Rowley Regis and the WILLIAM SHENSTONE in Halesowen are all taking part in the wine festival which runs from September 17 until October 5.

Six new wines will be on offer, including a Cabernet Sauvignon Shiraz 2006 from South Australia and a German Naked Grape Riesling 2006, none of which have previously been served in the pubs. The wines will be sold at £2.20 for a 175ml glass, at £2.95 for a 250ml glass and at £7.69 for a bottle.

The MOON UNDER WATER manager Maxine Tolley said, ‘The wine festival will give people the opportunity to sample a range of award-winning wines at affordable prices.’”

Halesowen News 19/5/2010

“A World Cup-themed wine festival kicks off at three pubs on Monday (May 24) to mark the run up to the biggest football tournament. Cradley Heath’s the MOON UNDER WATER, High Street, the BRITANNIA, Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis and the WILLIAM SHENSTONE, Queensway, Halesowen, will be serving five wines from World Cup winning countries, as well as the official FIFA wine from host nation South Africa. The festival runs until Thursday June 10 – the day before the opening game in the World Cup. The six wines from Argentina, Italy, Brazil, Germany, England and South Africa have not previously been served at the pubs and complement up to 16 additional wines available during the festival.

The MOON UNDER WATER manager, Gabrielle Livesey, said, ‘I am sure our customers will enjoy the six festival wines, which have all been sourced with the World Cup in mind.’”

Halesowen News 17/3/2014

“International beers will be gracing the pumps of pubs in Halesowen, Cradley Heath, Rowley Regis and Oldbury during 17 day festival. The WILLIAM SHENSTONE, MOON UNDER THE WATER, the BRITANNIA and the COURT OF REQUESTS will have beers from South Africa, New Zealand, Sweden, Canada, USA, Belgium, Australia, Germany, Spain and Norway. The Wetherspoons beer festival runs from Friday, March 28 to Sunday, April 13 with all beers priced from £1.99 to £2.15 a pint.... Many of the beers are available in the pubs for the first time, having been brewed exclusively for the festival. Customers will be able to sample any three of the real ales in special third of a pint glasses for the price of a pint.”

Halesowen News 20/9/2014

“Four Wetherspoon pubs across Halesowen and Sandwell are dropping their prices by 7.5 per cent on Wednesday as part of the company’s ongoing tax battle with the Government. The MOON UNDER WATER, Cradley Heath, the BRITANNIA, Rowley Regis, the WILLIAM SHENSTONE, Halesowen, and the COURT OF REQUESTS, Oldbury are joining in national Tax Equality Day which is highlighting the benefit of a VAT reduction in the hospitality industry.....”

Richard Tandy – see also WATERFRONT, Brierley Hill.

Halesowen News 8/9/2017

“A trio of Black Country boozers are cutting prices to protest against tax rules they say are unfair. On Wednesday September 20 the MOON UNDER WATER in High Street, Cradley Heath, the BRITANNIA in Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis and the WILLIAM SHENSTONE in Queensway, Halesowen, will drop the cost of all food and drink by 7.5 per cent. The pubs are taking the action, which will last one day only, to support national Tax Equality Day, aimed at highlighting the benefit of a VAT reduction in the hospitality industry. All food and drink in pubs is subject to 20 per cent VAT while supermarkets have a zero VAT rate on all food. Publicans say the big retailers use that saving to sell alcohol at a discounted rate.

Gabrielle Tandy, manager of the MOON UNDER WATER, said, ‘We are keen to highlight the amount customers would save if VAT in pubs was lowered permanently. So, for example, the total price of a meal and drinks for an individual would be reduced from £10 to £9.25 on Tax Equality Day. A reduction in the level of VAT on a long-term basis will generate growth and create jobs in the important leisure and hospitality sector and help the high street of which pubs are an integral part.’”

Dudley News 25/11/2017

“Loos at five borough Wetherspoon pubs have been rated among the best in the country. The FULL MOON in Dudley, the ABRAHAM DARBY at intu Merry Hill, the CLIFTON in Sedgley were all given a platinum star rating in the Loo of the Year Awards 2017.

Inspectors also gave the top rating to the MOON UNDER WATER in Cradley Heath and the BRITANNIA in Rowley Regis. Meanwhile, gold ratings were given to the WATERFRONT INN in Brierley Hill and the WILLIAM SHENSTONE in Halesowen. The awards, celebrating their 30th anniversary this year, aim to highlight and improve standards of ‘away from home’ toilet provision across the UK. Loo of the Year Awards inspectors made unannounced visits to thousands of toilets at sites across the UK, in order to judge them. All of the toilets were graded from bronze to platinum – unacceptable toilets were not graded at all. The platinum rating was only given to outlets which offered ‘exceptional toilets.’

Toilets were judged against numerous criteria, including décor and maintenance, cleanliness, accessibility, hand washing and drying equipment and overall management.

Nichola Munslow, manager at the ABRAHAM DARBY, said, ‘We are delighted with the award. Staff at the pub ensure the toilets are in first-class condition at all times.’

The BRITANNIA manager, Siobhan Rustom, said it was ‘great’ that efforts to keep the toilets in tip top condition had been recognised by inspectors.

Mike Bone, managing director of the awards scheme, added, ‘The toilets at all seven pubs have been designed and fitted out to a very high standard and are both clean and well maintained. The pubs richly deserve their awards.’”

Dudley News 2/8/2018

“Wetherspoon’s pubs to host gin festival. An 11-day gin festival is coming to Black Country pubs later this month.

The MOON UNDER WATER in High Street, Cradley Heath, the BRITANNIA in Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis, and the WILLIAM SHENSTONE in Queensway, Halesowen, will have numerous award-winning and flavoured gins on offer throughout. The FULL MOON in High Street, Dudley, the ABRAHAM DARBY at intu Merry Hill, the CLIFTON in Bull Ring, Sedgley and the WATERFRONT INN in Level Street, Brierley Hill, will also be involved in the festival, which will run from Friday, August 17 to Monday, August 27.”

Halesowen News 1/2/2019

“It will be gin o’clock at several pubs across the Black Country thanks to an 18-day festival paying homage to the tippie this month. Wetherspoons pubs in the area will each be serving up to 15 gins not previously available in the establishments. The MOON UNDER WATER in High Street, Cradley Heath, the BRITANNIA in Halesowen Street, Rowley Regis and the WILLIAM SHENSTONE in Queensway, Halesowen are among those taking part. Also genning up on their gin are the FULL MOON in Dudley High Street and the ABRAHAM DARBY at Merry Hill, the CLIFTON in Sedgley and the WATERFRONT INN in Level Street, Brierley Hill. The gin festival will run from Thursday, February 14 to Sunday, March 3 inclusive. There will be a number of flavoured gins among the selection including heather, dandelion, juniper, raspberries, vanilla, damsons, blackberries and rose petal. The festival gins include Aber Falls Orange Marmalade Gin, Adnams Copper House Pink Gin, Didsbury Gin Raspberry & Elderflower, Eden Mill Love Gin Liqueur, Greenall’s Wild Berry Gin and The Lakes Damson Gin Liqueur.

The MOON UNDER WATER manager Gabrielle Tandy said, ‘The festival will showcase some wonderful gins from across Britain.’

The FULL MOON manager Lee Cartwright added, ‘They have not previously been available in the pub and I am sure that our customers will enjoy drinking them.’

Tasting notes on all of the gins plus guidance on the best mixers – which are included free during the festival – for each gin will be available in the pubs. During the festival, the pubs will continue to serve their regular range of up to 12 gins.”

Dudley News 31/3/2020

“A Halesowen pub has been recognised for having the best floral displays as part of the town’s In Bloom awards. Halesowen In Bloom has just announced it selected the EDWARD VII on Stourbridge Road to be the winner of its 2019 awards. The WHY NOT INN, in Whynot Street, was given a Champion of Champions Award as recognition of its blooming lovely displays every year. The best hanging basket was won by the LOYAL LODGE, Furnace Hill with the CLOCK INN on Nimmings Road runner up.

Secretary of Halesowen In Bloom (HIB) Hilary Bills said, ‘The most improved was the HAWNE TAVERN on Attwood Street but all the competing pubs, the SWAN, the SHENSTONE, the GEORGE, the WHITLEY, the WAGGON AND HORSES, the ROSE AND CROWN, the FAIRFIELD INN and the LUTLEY OAK should be congratulated for their high floral standards.....”

[2019]

WINDMILL

Windmill Hill, Colley Gate, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Isaac Parkes [1829]
Henry Bowen Adams [1839] – [1841]
Joseph Daw [] – **1851**);
William Daynes (**1851** – []
Joseph Daw [1861] – **1862**);
Thomas Webbe (**1862** – []
Richard Stephens [1871] – [1876]

NOTES

Kentish Gazette 12/7/1783

“There seems lately to have been an almost universal perturbation in nature. All Europe has been shaken by some uncommon convulsions; and it will appear, from the following relation of the effects of the recent thunder-storms, received from various correspondents in different parts of the country, that this island has not escaped a participation (though, thanks to God, comparatively a small one) in the general calamity.....

Birmingham, July 7..... On Wednesday last a storm of rain, attended with the most vivid lightning, and more dreadful and tremendous thunder than has ever been remembered, did considerable damage in this and the adjacent counties The windmill in Cradley field, belonging to Mr. Eaton, was greatly shivered, and the woodwork scattered to a considerable distance. Two young men being in the mill at the time this happened, one of them was struck down, and remained some time apparently without life; the other was forcibly thrown for several yards, and for a few moments was insensible, but received no material hurt. It is supposed the lightning was conducted to the inside of the mill by the horizontal shaft to which the sails are fixed, as the wall and windows on the opposite side were much damaged and displaced; some of the bricks were driven quite out, and part of the lead in the windows melted. A perpendicular shaft in the lower room was greatly splintered.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 27/4/1829 - Advert

“Public House and Windmill.

To be Sold by Auction, on the premises, by Francis Lea, on Tuesday the 12th day of May, 1829, at four o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot I. All that old established and well accustomed freehold Public House, the sign of the WINDMILL, situate at Cradley Fields, in the township of Cradley, in the county of Worcester, many years in the occupation of the late proprietor, Mr. *Isaac Parkes*, deceased, with a Garden, Piece of Land, Barn, and other outbuildings adjoining.

Lot II. A powerful freehold, brick-built Windmill, adjoining the aforesaid premises, and containing two pairs of French Stones, a Dressing Machine, and other Machinery, with a Garden and Piece of Land adjoining.

The aforesaid premises are delightfully situated on an eminence, commanding extensive views, in a populous manufacturing district, and adjoin the turnpike road from Stourbridge to Hales Owen and Birmingham, about three miles from Stourbridge.

For particulars apply on the premises.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 23/12/1839 - Notice

“Notice is hereby given, that by Indenture of Assignment, bearing date the 20th of December, 1839, *Henry Bowen Adams*, of Cradley, in the county of Worcester, Carpenter and Publican, assigned all his Estate and Effects unto John Chambers, of the parish of Rowley Regis, in the county of Stafford, Timber Merchant, upon the trusts therein expressed, for the benefit of himself and all other Creditors of the said *Henry Bowen Adams* who shall execute the same within two calendar months from the date thereof; and Notice is hereby further given, that the said Indenture was duly executed by the said *Henry Bowen Adams* and the said John Chambers respectively on the day of the date thereof, in the presence of and attested by George Hayes, of Hales Owen, in the county of Salop, Solicitor. And Notice is hereby further given, that the said indenture of assignment now lies for execution by the Creditors of the said *Henry Bowen Adams*, or such of them who may feel disposed to execute the same, at the office of Messrs. Hayes and Son, Solicitors, in Hales Owen aforesaid; and that such of the said Creditors who shall refuse or otherwise neglect to sign the same within the time aforesaid will be excluded all benefit and advantage arising therefrom. Hayes and Son, Solicitors, Hales Owen.”

Birmingham Journal 14/3/1840 - Advert

“Petitions of Insolvent Debtors to be heard at the Court House, Oldbury, in the county of Salop on the fourth day of April next, at the hour of Ten in the morning precisely.....

Henry Bowen Adams, formerly of Colley Gate, in the township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, carpenter and builder; then of the same place, carpenter and victualler. Sued as *Henry Adams*.”

1841 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *Henry Adams* (40), carpenter;
- [2] Elizabeth Adams (36), born Worcestershire;
- [3] Henry Adams (10), born Worcestershire;
- [4] Joseph Adams (7), born Worcestershire;
- [5] Lydia Adams (4), born Worcestershire;
- [6] Martha Adams (2), born Worcestershire:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 4/10/1841 - Advert

“Freehold Building Land, at Colley Gate, Cradley, in the County of Worcester.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. Fallows, at the house of *Henry Adams*, known by the sign of the WINDMILL, at Colley Gate, in the township of Cradley, on Monday the 11th day of October inst at the hour of four in the afternoon, subject to conditions then and there to be produced.....”

1861 Census

End Turnpike Road – WINDMILL INN

- [1] *Joseph Daw* (47), publican and charcoal finer, born Plankmoor, Warwickshire;
- [2] Sarah Daw (45), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] Selina H. Daw (15), daughter, born Kingswinford;
- [4] Joseph Daw (14), son, engine fitter, born Cradley;
- [5] Milinder Daw (5), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Joshua Daw (4), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] Sarah J. Barmesley (1), grand-daughter, boarder, born Cradley:

1871 Census

Windmill Hill

- [1] *Richard Stephens* (36), publican, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] Emily Stephens (34), wife, born Cradley;
- [3] William Stephens (13), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [4] Leah Stephens (12), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [5] Isadora Stephens (10), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [6] Ann Stephens (6), daughter, scholar, born Cradley;
- [7] John Stephens (4), son, scholar, born Cradley;
- [8] Ruth Stephens (2), daughter, born Cradley:

Richard Stevens, beer retailer, Windmill Hill. [1872]

Black Country Bugle

‘Old Cradley’

“.....The *Stevens* were a well known and respected family. Many generations have lived in Cradley and we find a *Richard Stevens* as landlord of the WINDMILL INN, Colley Gate. Apart from being mine host, *Richard* was a well sinker and he sank many pit shafts in the district. Before the coming of the water mains, the only water supply was from wells and local springs. The WINDMILL INN was situated near an old windmill which stood high on a hill near Two Gates Lane and faced part of the Birmingham and Stourbridge main road. Hence the name Windmill Hill. From what I have been told it would appear that *Richard* was a rare old English character, he was known locally as ‘Old Dick’. It was he who gave his name to Dick’s Hill, an old

pathway that runs from near the bus stop in Windmill Hill to Two Gates Lane. Even today the old pathway is still used and is still called Dick's Hill.

In the 1870s the old inn had to go, and its license with another inn and licenses were given up to build the more modern and commodious premises now known as the TALBOT HOTEL. After the old inn was closed Old Dick took to farming and became tenant of the Fatherless Barn Farm where he died at a ripe old age....."

County Advertiser 12/3/1904

"A movement has been recently set on foot for the building of a new place of worship for the Methodist New Connexion Society at Colley Gate, Cradley. The trustees have now succeeded in securing an excellent site for the proposed new building. This is at the top of Windmill Hill, where the WINDMILL INN at one time stood, and where it is said the old windmill stood before it. The society at Colley gate is now one of the most flourishing Non-conformist societies in the district. The work of the Connexion was commenced in a stable at the back of the WHITE LION INN. Subsequently it was removed to a malthouse belonging to Mr. Thomas Lester. About half-a-century ago an unpretentious chapel was built, and the work was so flourishing that this was enlarged in 1876, when the late Mr. Noah Hingley laid the stone. Then a schoolroom was built which in a comparatively short time underwent a similar process of expansion. Now both chapel and school are too straitened for the growing spiritual needs of the neighbourhood, and it is proposed to build a new chapel on the most modern principles at an early date, and to utilise the present building for Sunday school work. The site, which will have access both from Windmill Hill side and the Two Gates side, is one of the very finest in the parish, and the outward and visible manifestation of spiritual work there will be one 'set on a hill, which cannot be hid.'"

WINE STORES

HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Letts [1867]

NOTES

County Express 21/12/1867

"Hales Owen. Desirable Corner Property.

Messrs. Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge are favoured with instructions from the Proprietor to Sell by Auction, at the SHENSTONE INN, Hales Owen, on Monday, the 6th day of January, 1868, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions, the undermentioned desirable Freehold Corner, Property, in the centre of the town of Halesowen.

Lot 1. All that Freehold Public House, known as the WINE STORES, together with the Grocer's Shop and Premises, occupied by Mr. *William Letts*."

Lot 2. Three recently-erected Market Shops, adjoining to Lot1, and occupied by Messrs. Smith, *Letts*, and Sault.

Lot 3. Three recently-erected Market Shops, adjoining to Lot 2, and occupied by Messrs. Hall, Hollies, and Godfrey.

Lot 4. A Freehold House, fronting to Peckingham Street, now occupied by Mr. Joseph William as a Warehouse, together with the Out-buildings at the back, and the Stable occupied by Mr. *W. Letts*.

A plan of the lots may be seen at Mr. *Letts*'s, the occupier of lot 1.

For further information apply to Messrs. Homfray and Holberton, Solicitors, Brierley Hill; or to Messrs. Oates, Perrens, and Wooldridge, Land Agents, Stourbridge."

WOODMAN

Bromsgrove Road, (21, Grange Road), Hunnington, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

John Withers
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Withers [1860] – [1876]
Jane Withers [1879]
John Withers [1881] – [1903]
Major G Cox [1912] – [1913]
Joseph Marlow (1914 – []
Thomas Alexander [1916] – [1921]
Ethel May Layton [1929]
Arthur James [1934] – 1935);
John Henry Hanson (1935 – []
Edward Lowe [1939]
Mrs. Susan Williamson []
Tim Wilson (1979 – 1984)
Kully Toor (2010 – 2022):

NOTES

Thomas Withers was also a hoop maker, timber merchant and farmer.
Thomas Withers, beer retailer, Bromsgrove Road. [1864]

Worcestershire Chronicle 8/11/1865

“Two men, giving the names of Thomas Edwards and Thomas Williams, both of Birmingham, have been committed for trial, on the charge of having, on the 24th October last, burglariously entered the dwelling house of Mr. *Thomas Withers*, of the WOOD-MAN INN, Halesowen, and stolen therefrom £1,350 in gold.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 13/12/1865

“Worcester Winter Assizes.....

Thomas Edwards, 23, labourer, and Thomas Williams, 29, shoe-maker, were charged with having stolen £1,350 from the dwelling house of *Thomas Withers*, at Halesowen, on the 24th October. Mr. Motteram conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Griffith the defence. Edwards pleaded guilty.

In opening the case, Mr. Motteram said Mr. *Thomas Withers*, the prosecutor, was a man of rather eccentric habits, and was an innkeeper and timber-merchant of Halesowen, and not having much confidence in the banks of the neighbourhood was in the habit of keeping large sums of money in his house, and in the month of October had £1,400 or £1,500 in gold, £1,000 in one bag and £350 in another, and about £100 in another drawer. The fact of the prosecutor keeping so large a sum in his house became known in the neighbourhood and soon spread to Birmingham, which was only about seven miles off. The prisoners, about an hour before the robbery was committed, were seen on the road between Birmingham and Halesowen, and shortly after that time again on their return to Birmingham. Having detailed the circumstances of the case, Mr. Motteram said the prosecutor was too ill to attend, and this having been proved by Mr. Griffiths, a surgeon of Halesowen, his deposition taken before the magistrate was read, which spoke to the fact of the money being safe in the house between three and four o'clock, while the robbery must have been committed between five and six o'clock.

Mary Ann *Withers*, grand-daughter of the prosecutor, spoke to finding the robbery had been committed and telling her grandfather.

Wm. Powell, a striker, saw the prisoners at the bar on the road between Halesowen and Birmingham near the Beech Tree on the evening in question with other men. Could swear the prisoners were the men.

Samuel Dingley, a nail factor, of Quinton, a place between Birmingham and Halesowen, said he saw Edwards and Williams about half-past seven o'clock at Quinton on the way to Birmingham. He had a particular reason for looking at them, because they were all dressed differently, and the gamblers who used to be on the road when the railway was being made, always dressed in different coloured dresses (laughter).

PC Abbott, of Birmingham, said he went in search of the prisoners and met them about ten o'clock on Friday, the 27th of October, in Snow Hill. Had known Edwards before. He stopped them and said he wanted to know what they had in their possession, and Edwards said, ‘Nothing but what belongs to me, if you have any more rights to it than me, you had better take it.’ Williams who was present at the time said he had nothing. He then put his hand in Edwards breast pocket, and pulled £296 16s 6d out of his pocket handkerchief. Witness asked him to account for it, and he said he could not. He afterwards took the money to the prosecutor, who identified a sovereign of it.

PC Oliver heard a conversation between the prisoners when in the cells. Williams said, ‘I will never sleep another night in these cells,’ and Edwards said, ‘You’re a fool to talk like that.’ Williams said, ‘I will swear before the magistrates that the Inspector offered me £10 to split.’ Edwards said, ‘If you do you’ll be licked, as the police will swear you out of it.’ The prisoner said, ‘If I get ‘fullied’ I’ll have the old b—— by the neck and shake all the breath out of him,’ and said to Edwards, ‘Will you help me mate?’ Edwards said, ‘Oh yes, I’ll help you.’ Williams then said, ‘I will write a letter to Birmingham and say the Inspector has been writing all about the country to ask people to swear to us, but I can bring four-and-twenty witnesses to swear I was at Holder’s.’ He added, ‘But you know what women are.’ Williams then said, ‘What did you think of their bringing Dollar White to swear against

us; some of our chaps have him a b—— good hiding in Park Street on Wednesday week; there was him and another bloke together, and I'll pitch into some of the b—— when I get to Worcester if they don't behave themselves, some of them wanted me to stand in and take your money off you.' Edwards said, 'Oh, and what did you say?' Williams said, 'I said it would be a d—— shame after you stood the chance of being lagged, to be picked up of your cash, but I wish they had now.' Edwards said, 'And so do I.' Williams said, 'It was too dark a night for the man at the gate to swear to us.' Edwards said, 'Perhaps he'll swear to your stride or to your face.' Williams said, 'All the better,' and afterwards, 'Tom. You're a b—— fool.' Edwards replied, 'I know that.' Williams said, 'You ought to have went the same night.' Edwards said, 'Mind what you're saying,' and added, 'I wonder what became of my shirts, I gave 15 bob for one of them.' Edwards said, 'I know; the woman said she was not going to stand all the risk for nothing.' Williams said, 'If I get 'fullied' it will be the worse for all of you.' Edwards said, 'How's that, if you kill anybody, I shan't get hanged for it, shall I?'

For the defence, Mr. Griffiths contended that Williams had not been identified, and that he was at Holder's at the time the robbery was committed, and called witnesses who swore to that effect, but they were persons whose appearance or character was not likely to strengthen belief in their credibility.

His lordship having summed up, the jury returned a verdict of guilty, and they were sentenced, Edwards to ten, and Williams to fifteen years' penal servitude."

Birmingham Daily Post 14/8/1869

"Several meetings of the nailers on strike have been held in the course of the week, both in the Rowley and Hales Owen districts The kindness of the inhabitants in rendering such substantial help appears to have given encouragement to the nailers, and they emphatically declare their intention of standing out. The farmers of the district are just beginning to get in the wheat and oat crops, and consequently a large number of those on strike will have out-door employment for a few days Mr. *Withers*, of the WOODMAN INN, has given away about eighty loaves this week, to as many poor old people....."

1871 Census

Hunnington – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *Thomas Withers* (49), timber merchant, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Jane Withers* (50), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Fanny Withers* (24), daughter, household duties, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Ellen Withers* (22), daughter, household duties, born Halesowen;
- [5] *John Withers* (17), son, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Sarah Jane Withers* (15), daughter, scholar, born Romsley;
- [7] *Thomas Withers* (13), son, scholar, born Romsley;
- [8] *Alice Maria Withers* (8), daughter, scholar, born Romsley;
- [9] *Samuel Lewis* (38), servant, timber hauling, born Enville;
- [10] *Joseph Wright* (40), servant, timber hauling, born Hereford:

County Express 19/7/1879

"*Jane Withers*, WOODMAN INN, Halesowen, paid costs for allowing her horse to stray on the 2nd inst."

1881 Census

Bromsgrove Road – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *John Withers* (27), publican and farmer of 14 acres, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Ann Maria Withers* (26), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Annie E. Withers* (3), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Alice S. Withers* (1), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Mary Jane Rudge* (14), domestic servant, born Old Hill;
- [6] *John Caradine* (16), domestic servant, born Cradley:

John Withers, farmer and beer retailer, Bromsgrove Road. [1884]

1891 Census

Back Lane – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *John Withers* (37), innkeeper, born Hunnington;
- [2] *Ann M. Withers* (36), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Thomas Withers* (14), son, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Annie E. Withers* (13), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Alice S. Withers* (11), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [6] *Maud A. Withers* (9), daughter, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [7] *John B. Withers* (8), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [8] *Samuel H. Withers* (7), son, scholar, born Halesowen;
- [9] *Charles S. Withers* (1), son, born Halesowen:

John Withers, beer retailer, Bromsgrove Road. [1896]

County Advertiser 28/11/1896

“*John Withers*, landlord of the WOODMAN INN, Halesowen, was charged with using abusive language to Police-constable Bryan on the 13th inst.

Police-constable Bryan said he went to levy a distress warrant for £11 15s 9d for poor rates on defendant, and took possession of his horse and cart. Defendant was not at home, and his wife sent for him. When defendant came on the scene he cursed and swore at the constable, and said if he took his horse and cart off the ground he would break his — arm. Witness asked him to pay, and have no bother, but he refused.

Inspector Raybould said if defendant would pay the costs he would withdraw the case.

Defendant promised to do this.”

County Advertiser 30/4/1898

“The following defendants were dealt with as under for keeping dogs without licenses.....

John Withers, of the WOODMAN INN, near Halesowen, 2s and 8s costs.”

County Advertiser 25/11/1899

“*John Withers*, of the WOODMANS ARMS, Halesowen, was charged with allowing his horse to stray in the public highway on the 13th inst.

Police-constable Taylor said that he found a horse belonging to defendant in the public highway at Halesowen on the 13th inst.

Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs.”

County Express 7/7/1900

“As Mr. *John Withers*, of the WOODMAN INN, was driving down Cornbow on Thursday morning his horse suddenly swerved, bursting through the large doors of Mr. Knight’s entry, and fell down, and in less than ten minutes he expired. As he swerved Mr. *Withers* jumped from the vehicle, a small wagonette, and so escaped injury.”

1901 Census

Mill Lane – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *John Withers* (47), publican and farmer, born Hunnington;
- [2] Ann M. Withers (47), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] Annie E. Withers (23), daughter, born Hunnington;
- [4] Alice S. Withers (21), daughter, born Hunnington;
- [5] John B. Withers (18), son, general labourer, born Hunnington;
- [6] Samuel H. Withers (16), son, carter in tube works, born Hunnington;
- [7] Charles S. Withers (11), son, born Hunnington;
- [8] Arthur C. Withers (9), son, born Hunnington:

County Express 21/12/1901

“Sitting at the Halesowen Police Court, on Tuesday, Messrs. J. G. Reay, and A. J. Grove were occupied some hours hearing cases under the Licensing Acts.....

In the second case *John Withers*, landlord of the WOODMAN INN, Halesowen, was charged with permitting drunkenness on December 6th. Mr. Clulow prosecuted, and Mr. Hayes defended.

According to the evidence by the police, PC Owen visited this house, and in the tap room saw *Withers* standing by Mr. John Wright, who was sitting in the recess by the window. Mr. Wright was drunk, and Owen drew the landlord’s attention to it. *Withers* said he knew he was drunk; Mr. Wright went in there and asked him to let him sit down, and he (the landlord) did so. He further said he did not like to turn Mr. Wright out. PC Owen then left, and reported the matter to Inspector Pitt, who went into the house, saw Wright was there drunk, and had a conversation about it with the landlord.

The defence was that while *Withers* was in the stable attending to his horses Mr. Wright went into the house. *Withers*’ daughter told her father Mr. Wright had come in, and *Withers* immediately went to Mr. Wright and asked him to leave the house as he was endangering his license. He used every persuasion to get him to leave, and when the officer (Owen) got in he was trying to get Mr. Wright out.

Mr. Hayes informed the Bench this house had been in his client’s family for 50 years, and had been kept by the defendant for 22 years without complaint. He had done everything in his power to carry out the licensing laws.

Defendant and his daughter gave evidence.

He was fined 40s and costs, including solicitor’s fee.”

AND

“John Wright, Halesowen, was charged with being drunk on licensed premises on the 6th and 7th inst respectively. Inspector Pitt gave evidence in both cases. Mr. Hayes, who appeared for Mr. Wright, apologised on his behalf. A fine of 10s and costs was imposed in each case.

Defendant was further charged with being drunk and disorderly on December 12th. PC Price said on that date he found defendant lying helplessly drunk in the Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen. Fined 10s and costs.”

County Advertiser 14/2/1903

“On Tuesday the first licensing sessions of the Halesowen Petty Sessional Division, under the new Licensing Act, were held Superintendent Sheriff submitted his annual report.....

He had served notices of objection to the following persons who were convicted for permitting drunkenness in 1901 and after the last Brewster Sessions.....

John Withers, WOODMAN INN, Hunnington, fined 40s and costs.

The justices proceeded to consider the licenses on the 'black list'.....

Mr. A. G. Hayes represented *John Withers*, landlord of the WOODMAN INN, Hunnington, whose license was objected to by the police. Superintendent Sheriff said he considered there was no need for the license, very little trade was done at the house, which required considerable repair, whilst the sign could scarcely be recognised. He thought the district was amply provided for. Mr. Hayes urged that the license had been held by the family of *Withers* for fifty years, and the present tenant had held it for twenty-four years without a single complaint against him. The license was granted.

The Chairman remarked that next year it was quite possible that the Bench would have to take into consideration the question of whether some of these houses were required or not. The new Licensing Act had just come into operation, but he did not think it was wise to make rapid changes. There could be no doubt that in a district where there was one house to every 218 persons there was need for a reasonable reduction of the licenses according to the population.....”

County Advertiser 3/3/1906

“Halesowen Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

An application was made by *John Withers*, the licensee of the WOODMAN INN, Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen, for permission to make alterations. Mr. Luther Adams, architect, submitted plans of the building. It was proposed to divide the private property from the licensed area and to extend the bar.

In reply to Mr. Howard, witness said he had satisfied the police as to the height of a wall, which would be 6ft 6in.

The application was granted.”

1911 Census

Hunnington

- [1] *John Withers* (57), farmer, born Halesowen;
- [2] Ann Maria Withers (57), wife, married 35 years, born Halesowen;
- [3] Annie Elizabeth Withers (33), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] Henry Samuel Withers (26), son, driver of brakes, born Halesowen;
- [5] Charles Stuart Withers (21), son, tube screwer, born Halesowen;
- [6] Arthur Clifford Withers (19), son, tube screwer, born Halesowen;
- [7] Maud Amy Parkes (10), grand-daughter, school, born Halesowen:

Bromsgrove Messenger 23/8/1913

“An extra hour was granted to *Major Cox*, of the WOODMAN HOTEL, from 10.00 till 11.00 pm, on the occasion of the Unionist fetes.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/11/1929

“Should a woman whose husband lives with her on the premises be granted the licence of a public house? This was the question put before Halesowen magistrates yesterday.

It arose out of an application made by Mr. George Green for a second interim authority on behalf of *Ethel May Layton* in respect of the WOODMAN INN, Bromsgrove Street, Halesowen. He explained that the husband had a good position with a motor manufacturing firm and he considered that by taking the licence himself his employment would be jeopardised. Rather than that he declined to become the licensee. He understood there was no personal objection to the *Laytons*, and the only point was whether the Bench felt that a licence ought to be held by the wife.

Superintendent Gray said he objected to a wife holding a licence. His contention was that if a husband and wife were living on licensed premises the man should be responsible for the licence.

The chairman (Mr. A. H. Wiggin) said the justices were willing to grant the interim authority but at the same time they did not view with favour the holding of a licence by a woman when her husband was living in the house.

Mr. Green promised to acquaint the brewery company with the magistrates' expressions.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/11/1934

“*Arthur James*, licensee of the WOODMAN INN, Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen, was fined two guineas and 10s costs at the local court yesterday for having knowingly permitted his premises to be the habitual resort of women of a certain class between 12 September and 7 October last. Mr. H. Willison, who defended, intimated that he would advise an appeal.

Mr. J. T. Higgs, prosecuting, said that on 12 September Detective Constable Saul (Oldbury) and Mr. R. Gritton, of Titford Road, Langley, went to the house as ordinary customers. They were spoken to by several women, one of whom, named Ivy, was distributing quite indiscriminately invitations to her 21st birthday party.

Each time the men went to the inn women were there drinking with men, and there was also a second party to which they were invited, at which the conversation was as filthy as it could be although the licensee and his wife and child were in the room.

The officer and his colleagues, Mr. Higgs added, saw women from time to time go away from the inn with men in motor-cars or on the backs of motor-cycles.

DC Saul said that girls whom he met at the house besides Ivy were known as Bunty, Lily, Winnie and Maggie. At the second supper Ivy had plenty to drink at the men's expense, and she was still there when witness left at ten o'clock.

Supt. McDonough said he had had a complaint about a girl under age frequenting the house with a woman of bad character.

Supt. Mobbs, Inspector George and Police Sergeants Moody and Stucky deposed to having warned defendant in the past concerning the women frequenting his house. To the Superintendent he was stated to have said that if they did not go to his house they would go to other licensed premises.

In cross-examination by Mr. H. Willison, for the defence, it was admitted that none of the girls had been proceeded against as prostitutes.

Mr. Willison submitted that there was no evidence before the Court that would justify the Bench in holding that the charge called for an answer. In the first place, it had not been proved that the women were prostitutes. Secondly, it had not been shown that the licensee had knowingly permitted prostitutes to frequent the house.

The defendant denied that he knew the women had the reputation alleged against them by the police.

With regard to the birthday party, defendant admitted that he had not sent an account for the service. 'Ivy' provided the food, he said, and the guests paid for the refreshments.

Mrs. *James*, the licensee's wife; Edwin Ingram, a waiter; Norah Parkes, a maid; Arthur Wood, Joseph Jones and Caroline Jones, customers, declared that the WOODMAN was a well-conducted house and that they had seen nothing wrong on the part of the girls.

The magistrates, however, decided to convict."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/12/1934

"*Arthur James*, licensee of the WOODMAN INN, Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen, who was fined two guineas at the local court last week for the alleged offence of having knowingly permitted his premises to be the habitual resort of women of a certain class between 12 September and 7 October, has lodged an appeal.

At a special court yesterday the recognisances were fixed at £100 – himself in £50 and his father and brother (Joseph and Alfred James) in £25 each.

James, who was represented at the hearing of the case by Mr. H. Willison (Birmingham), denied that he knew that certain women using his house had the reputation alleged against them by the police, and Mr. Willison held that the prosecution had failed to prove that women mentioned in the case were of that class. His submission that there was no case to answer was not upheld by the magistrates, who decided to convict after a hearing which lasted six hours.

Mr. J. T. Higgs (Brierly Hill) was the prosecuting solicitor."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/1/1935

"The appeal by *Arthur James*, landlord of the WOODMAN INN, Halesowen, against a conviction by the Halesowen Justices for permitting his house to be used as the habitual resort of women said to be of a certain character, was dismissed with costs at Worcester Quarter Sessions yesterday."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1935

"When the Halesowen Licensing Justices met yesterday they considered an application for the renewal of the license of the WOODMAN INN, Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen.

Supt. Mobbs objected to the renewal on the grounds of redundancy; that the house had been ill-conducted; that the licensee had been convicted for permitting the premises to be used as the habitual resort of a certain class of women, and that the licensee was not a fit and proper person to hold the license.

Mr. A. R. Churchill, barrister, of Birmingham, representing the licensee (*Arthur James*), said with regard to the prosecution his client had done nothing reprehensible, although he was responsible under the circumstances.

Supt. Mobbs agreed, in reply to Mr. Churchill, that apart from his conviction there was nothing against the character of *James*. The license was renewed on *James* agreeing to the immediate transfer of the license from himself to *John Henry Hanson*. This was done."

1939 Register

21, Grange Road – WOODMAN INN

[1] *Edward Lowe*, date of birth 1/10/1873, licensed victualler;

[2] *Edith Lowe*, dob 20/9/1880, married, unpaid domestic duties;

[3] *Jack Lowe*, dob 31/8/1922, apprentice;

[4] *Daisy E. (Jones) Lee*, dob 23/11/1914, domestic servant:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/3/1975

".....This mural at the WOODMAN public house, Halesowen, illustrates the way Mr. Merilion uses stylisations of subjects appropriate to the setting. The sinuous lines of the mural are cunningly contrasted with the rectilinear pattern of the brick wall....."

WOODMAN sponsored Halesowen Town Football Club. [1985/6]

Sandwell Evening Mail 23/12/1988

"'How safe are we on the streets?' asks Birmingham private hire driver Jamil Ahmed, aged 23.

'We try to help people, take them home and get them there safely and look what happens. We know there are drunks – we accept that, but this is too much.'

When Mr. Ahmed turned up for a fare at the WOODMAN pub in Halesowen at closing time recently he was prepared for a few drunks or good-natured rowdies.

He did not expect to be severely beaten, kicked and then abandoned in the street.

Mr. Ahmed of Bankes Road, Small Heath, who works part-time for Star Taxis in Colley Gate, Halesowen, answered a call for a fare and was confronted by five men aged 20 to 23.

As he is licensed to carry only four passengers, he refused to take any more. Then one of the men swore at him and yanked off the car aerial.

When Mr. Ahmed got out of the car to ask what they were doing, the group set upon him and beat him up.

He radioed for help, but by the time colleagues came to the rescue his attackers had fled.

His face was so badly swollen and bruised he could hardly speak and he still has to go back to hospital to have a head X-ray."

Sandwell Evening Mail 18/3/1991

"A Halesowen pub will re-open on Wednesday following an extensive £50,000 improvement project.

The WOODMAN, Bromsgrove Road, has been closed since March 11 for workmen to put in new seating, carpets, decorations and bar fittings."

[2004]

It was renamed PULL. [2007]

It closed in Spring 2010.

It reopened in December 2010 as the WOODMAN.

Dudley News 4/1/2011

"A Halesowen pub has been saved from oblivion after being taken over by a landlord from Oldbury. The WOODMAN, Bromsgrove Road, had been closed since last Spring before *Kully Toor* decided to resurrect the local pub. After spending months refurbishing the pub inside and out as well as installing new kitchen equipment the WOODMAN is now open to the public.

Mr *Toor*, aged 37, said, 'The WOODMAN is in such a great position for a pub and restaurant as it is near the town centre and Grange island. I knew if the pub was going to stand idle for much longer it probably would be snapped up by developers for housing and it would be gone forever. We opened in the run up to Christmas and I have been overwhelmed how friendly the regulars have been, I think they are all happy that their pub has been saved and they can now get a nice curry here too.'

Mr *Toor* recruited Derby based chef Bobby Mahey, aged 35, to run the kitchen in a bid to attract more diners. He said, 'The kitchen is running really well now and we serve both English and Indian cuisine both in the pub and as a take away.'"

It closed in 2011.

It became a shop in December 2011.

YEW TREE

CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Hawkeswood [1855] – [1864]

Bexley [1864]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Hawkeswood was a beer retailer and shopkeeper. [1855]

1861 Census

Cradley – east side of village

[1] *Joseph Hawkeswood* (56), widower, publican and farmer, born Cradley;

[2] Sarah Hawkeswood (26), daughter, born Cradley;

[3] Kezia Hawkeswood (25), daughter, dress maker, born Cradley;

[4] Joseph Hawkeswood (24), son, clerk at nail factor, Birmingham, born Cradley;

[5] Lydia Hawkeswood (22), daughter, dress maker, born Cradley;

[6] Ann Hawkeswood (13), daughter, scholar, born Cradley:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/1/1864

“George Stevens of Bingham will run Dumpling of Cradley 120 or 130 yards with two yards start; or will give Derry of the same place one yard in 120; or will run Webb of Kates Hill 120 yards level; or Campbell of Wednesbury the like distance level; or he will give Robertson of Halesowen five yards in 120, either match for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at Mr. *Bexley's*, the YEW TREE INN, Cradley.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/7/1864

“D. Harper of Cradley will fight J. Wooton at catch weight, for £5 or £10. Money ready at Mr. *Bexley's*, YEW TREE INN, Cradley.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Park Row, CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Hadley [1841] – [1848]

NOTES

1841 Census

Park Row, Cradley

[1] *William Hadley* (25), publican;

[2] Marian Hadley (25);

[3] George Hadley (6);

[4] William Hadley (4);

[5] Marian Hadley (2) born Worcestershire;

[6] Sarah Hadley (1) born Worcestershire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 31/1/1849 - Notice

“In the County Court of Worcestershire holden at Stourbridge.

Whereas a Petition of *William Hadley*, at present and for nine months or thereabouts last past residing in lodgings in Park-row, Cradley, in the Township of Cradley, in the County of Worcester, out of business, and for three months or thereabouts previously thereto residing at Park-row, Cradley aforesaid, and being a Beerhouse Keeper, and four years previously thereto residing at Park-row, Cradley aforesaid, and being a Beerhouse Keeper and Farmer, an Insolvent Debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Worcestershire at Stourbridge, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *William Hadley*, under the provisions of the statutes in that case made and provided, the said *William Hadley* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the nineteenth day of February next, at ten o'clock, in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his Debts, Estate, and Effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said statutes. And Notice is hereby given that the choice of the Assignees is to take place at the time so appointed.

All Persons indebted to the said *William Hadley*, or who have any of his Effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to John Harward, the Official Assignee, and Clerk of the said Court
James Tudor, Attorney at Law, Kidderminster.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/2/1849

“Examinations of Insolvents.....

Feb 19. *William Hadley*, Cradley, Worcestershire, late a beerhouse keeper, but now out of business, County Court, Stourbridge.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 18/4/1849

“Small Debts Court. At this Court, on Monday, there were upwards of eighty cases for hearing, but they were generally of the most uninteresting character, and important alone to the parties concerned. *William Hadley*, an insolvent debtor, passed his final examination, supported by Mr. Tudor.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

CRADLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Homer [1835] – [1846]

NOTES

1841 Census

Cradley

- [1] *Thomas Homer* (45), publican, born Worcestershire;
- [2] *Mary Homer* (45), born Worcestershire;
- [3] *Thomas Homer* (10), born Worcestershire;
- [4] *Benjamin Homer* (10), born Worcestershire;
- [5] *Ann Homer* (5), born Worcestershire;
- [6] *Elen Homer* (5), born Worcestershire;
- [7] *Absalom Homer* (4), born Worcestershire;

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Birmingham Street, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas White [1841] – [1846]

NOTES

1841 Census

Birmingham Street

- [1] *Thomas White* (50), publican, born Worcestershire;
- [2] *Sarah White* (50), born Worcestershire;
- [3] *Jane White* (25), born Worcestershire;
- [4] *Henry White* (3), born Worcestershire;
- [5] *Ann White* (15), born Worcestershire;
- [6] *Thomas White* (17), born Worcestershire;
- [7] *William Rudge* (15), born Worcestershire;

Beerhouse - Unnamed

The Furnace, The Hill, HALESOWEN

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Zephaniah Knowles [1849] – [1851]

NOTES

Zephaniah Knowles, beer retailer, Furnace [1849]

1851 Census

The Furnace, The Hill

- [1] *Zephaniah Knowles* (40), collier and beer seller, born Dudley;
- [2] Olive Knowles (38), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] Elizabeth Knowles (16), daughter, born Dudley;
- [4] Sarah A. Knowles (12), daughter, born Dudley;
- [5] *Zephaniah Knowles* (12), son, barrel roller, born Rowley;
- [6] Jonah Knowles (10), son, scholar, born Rowley;
- [7] Charles Knowles (8), son, scholar, born Rowley;
- [8] Job Knowles (4), son, born Rowley;
- [9] Paitence Knowles (2), daughter, born The Hill;
- [10] Joseph Knowles (2 months), son, born The Hill:

London Gazette 13/3/1855

“Whereas a Petition of *Zephaniah Knowles*, now and for the last four years past residing at Titford, in the township of Oldbury, in the parish of Halesowen, in the county of Worcester, Miner and Collier, and for four years previously thereto residing at Halesowen aforesaid, carrying on business as a Beer Seller, and Lodging-house Keeper, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, at the Court-house, Oldbury, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Zephaniah Knowles*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Zephaniah Knowles* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 24th of March instant, at ten in the forenoon precisely, for his first examination touching his debts, estate, and effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Zephaniah Knowles*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Joseph Heapy Watson, Clerk of the said Court, at the Court-house, in Oldbury, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 31/3/1855

“*Zephaniah Knowles*, miner, beerseller, and lodging-house keeper, passed his first examination, supported by Mr. Smith. The 28th of April was named for granting the final order, unless cause be shown to the contrary. Opposition was reserved for one of the creditors.”

Birmingham Journal 14/4/1855 - Notice

“In the County Court of Staffordshire, at Oldbury. 24th day of March, 1855.

In the Matter of the Petition of *Zephaniah Knowles*, now and for the last four years past residing at Titford, in the township of Oldbury, in the parish of Hales Owen, in the county of Worcester, Miner and Collier, and for fourteen [sic] years previously thereto residing at Hales Owen aforesaid, carrying on business as a Beerseller and Lodging-house Keeper.

Notice is hereby given that the Judge of the County Court of Staffordshire at Oldbury, acting in the matter of the said Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 28th day of April, 1855, at Ten o’clock in the forenoon, precisely, at the Court House at Oldbury aforesaid, unless cause be then and there shown to the contrary.

J. B. Smith, Attorney, Horsley Heath.”