

ANCHOR

6, (11), Anchor Road, Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

Edward Jones, bucket maker, Woodcross, Sedgley
William Foster, colliery proprietor, Wood Cross, Sedgley
Joseph Maloney, 5 Fairview Terrace, Moxley Road, Darlaston
Isaac Millard, BOAT INN, Deepfields (acquired on 8th July 1927)
Truman, Hanbury, Buxton and Co. Ltd. (acquired on 26th October 1928)

LICENSEES

Benjamin Collins [1828] – [1842]
William Collins [1841] – 1845);
Edward Jones (1845 – 1850);
Thomas Willetts (1850 – 1879);
Joseph Reed (1879 – 1891);
Benjamin Clarke (1891 – 1892);
William Alfred Whitehouse (1892 – 1893);
Sarah Williams (1893 – 1895);
Mrs. Sarah Jane Agnes Rice (1895 – 1907);
Alfred Thomas Clark (1907 – 1911);
Jemima Jane Clark (1911 – 1912);
Joseph Smith (1912 – 1918);
Bert Wilson (1918 – 1920);
Joseph Maloney (1920 – 1927);
Isaac Millard (1927 – 1928);
George Barnbrook (1928 – 1935);
Mrs. Harriet Barnbrook (1935 – [1940])

NOTES

11, Anchor Road [1871], [1881], [1891]
6, Anchor Road [1939]

CROWN AND ANCHOR [1845]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/9/1844 - Advert

“An Excellent Canal Boat.

To Be Sold By Auction, By Richard Corbett, By Direction of the committee of management of the Bilston Boat Society (in consequence of one of the members being in arrears in his payments), on Monday, the 16th day of September, 1844, at Mr. *William Collins*, the ANCHOR public house, Deepfields, in the County of Stafford, at three o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read.

An excellent Oak Open Boat, in a very substantial state of repair. May be viewed in the forenoon of the day of sale, by applying at the ANCHOR public house aforesaid.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/8/1845 - Advert

“ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, Coseley.

Edward Jones respectfully informs his friends that he has taken the above old established Inn and hopes to receive a share of their patronage and support.

N.B. All persons having any claim upon the late Mr. *Benjamin Collins*, or upon Mr. *William Collins*, in respect of the business carried on by them at the said inn, are requested forthwith to send the same to Mr. *Jones*, to be examined and discharged; and all persons indebted must pay the same to Mr. *Jones*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/5/1846

“An inquest was held on Monday last, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, on the body of John Bentley, a child between one and two years old, who fell into a pool of water, while playing near the house of his father, at Three-score Bridge. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/6/1846

“An inquest was held on Tuesday last, at the ANCHOR INN, in Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, on the body of Sarah Griffiths, about five years of age, who was found drowned in the canal, near Ten Score Bridge, on Monday last. The child was last seen alive at the door of a neighbour about eight o'clock, on Monday evening. She had blacked her face, and said to another girl that she would go to the river to wash it. She went in the direction of the canal. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/8/1846

“The following inquests have been held before Thomas Moss Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Tuesday the 28th ult. at the ANCHOR DEEPFIELDS, on the body of John Rogers, an engineer, who died from scalds in consequence of having neglected ‘to pack’ the engine. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/4/1847

“On Friday last an inquest was held at the ANCHOR public house, the Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, on the body of Thomas Harper, six years of age (son of Thomas Harper, of Ettingshall, brickmaker), whose clothes caught fire in his father’s house, on the previous Wednesday morning. The boy immediately ran out of the house, and was met by William Potter, a brickmaker, who instantly took him up and extinguished the flames by putting him in the canal, which runs within about ten yards of his parents’ house. He was most dreadfully burnt upon various parts of his body, and died on Thursday forenoon. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Edward Jones was also listed as a sheet ironworker in general. [1849], [1850]

Thomas Willetts = Thomas Willitts = Thomas Williams

Birmingham Journal 3/11/1855 - Advert

“Malt Crushers.

Parties requiring Malt Crushers would do well before purchasing to inspect those made by Richard Thompson, Pot House Bridge Foundry, Bilston, Staffordshire.

They can be seen at work at the following places.....

Mr. *Willetts*’s, ANCHOR INN, Deepfields.”

Birmingham Journal 5/4/1856 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Houses and Land, at Cinder Hill, in the parish of Sedgley.

By Wm. England, on Monday Next, the 7th day of April at Mr. *Willetts*’s, the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, near the Railway Station, at Five o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

1861 Census

Deepfields

[1] *Thomas Willetts* (43), unmarried, victualler, born Dudley;

[2] Catherine E. Willetts (70), mother, born Tipton;

[3] Hannah Willetts (31), sister, born Tipton;

[4] James Ball (22), domestic servant, born Dudley:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1863

“An inquiry was made yesterday, at Mr. *Willetts*’s, the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, touching the sad and lamented death of Mr. J. J. Williams, of this place, whose demise we briefly recorded in Saturday’s *Post*. Mr. T. M. Phillips was the Coroner, and the Jury was a respectable one.

David Jeavons deposed to the deceased being a maltster, about 23 years of age. On Tuesday last, the deceased called on witness, at Mamble Square, about six in the evening, and was then rather the worse for drink. He had a glass of ale and a share of two pints of ale at my father’s house, at Mamble Square. After staying about half-an-hour, deceased proposed to go to a benefit concert at the Bilston Theatre, I consented. Before going, deceased said, ‘I will make you a present,’ and, taking a gold ring off his finger, gave it to me. We then proceeded to Bilston, and, having had some tripe there, went to the Theatre. Before the performance we came out and had a glass of brandy and water each. During the evening, we had several glasses of brandy at intervals, during the performance. When at the SHAKESPEARE INN, at one of the intervals, the deceased pulled a percussion cap out of his pocket, and told me to throw it into the fire. I put it into my pocket instead. He then took a pistol out of his inside pocket and showed it to me, and told me it was loaded with a bullet, remarking it would warm someone up, if he were molested on the way home. We returned to the theatre, and saw a person by the name of Joseph Tart. Deceased, Tart, and myself went out and had a brandy at the VINE INN, and returned to the theatre at about nine o’clock. Deceased left about ten o’clock. He appeared drunk, and I did not see him again alive. When he left he looked wild about the eyes, and I told him so. I had never had a present from him before.

Joseph Tart, licensed victualler, of Moxley, deposed to meeting deceased at Bilston, about eight o’clock, on Thursday last, at the theatre. Deceased said, ‘David (meaning the last witness) has a ring; get it from him and stick to it.’ (Witness here corroborated last witness as to going out to drink several times.) When out of the theatre deceased asked me to lend him some ‘sugar’ and I lent him 25s. Afterwards deceased gave me his gold Albert chain, and said, ‘Keep this for my sake, and let no one have it.’ I believe he was not right in his head, as he looked like a ghost. Did not see him after he finally left the theatre.

Thomas Willetts deposed that at a little past twelve on Thursday night last, while upstairs, I heard a report of fire-arms apparent-

ly at the back of my house, rushed out of doors and went to the side of the canal which fronts deceased's house. Saw deceased sitting on the stone step with a pistol in his right hand. The house door was open and a quantity of blood was running in and out of doors. I immediately fetched Constable Blewitt, who was in my house at the time, and taking the pistol out of the hand of deceased, Blewitt and others carried him into his house, where he expired in a few minutes. His wife and servant girl were in the house. I found no bullet or shot marks. Deceased was thrown from a trap about three weeks ago and he had been drinking ever since.

This was corroborated by Parish Constable Blewitt.

Martha Smith, domestic servant, stated that the deceased and her mistress lived happily together and never quarrelled. Knew no reason for committing such a rash act. Mistress and herself were up when he returned home and hearing his footstep opened the door. He, however, sat on the door step, and suddenly they heard the report of a pistol. Deceased gave a parcel to his wife containing some percussion caps a few nights before, and when asked what they were made for made no answer. Had complained of his head being nearly turned.

It was afterwards proved that he had been indulging in drink very freely for some time, and that he was in good circumstances. A verdict of Died from Temporary Insanity, brought about by excessive drinking, was returned."

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/1/1864

"Thomas Welch, who had been previously committed from the Borough Police Court, and who had made an attempt to escape from the lock-up, as reported in last week's *Advertiser*, was committed for trial on two charges of stealing coats, one the property of Joseph Millmere, from Millmere Furnaces, Bilston; the other the property of Benjamin Jeavons, from the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields. Both coats were pawned on the 8th and the tickets were taken from the prisoner the same day at the lock-up."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

"The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *Thos. Willetts*, ANCHOR, Deepfields, to pay costs."

1871 Census

11, Anchor Road

[1] *Thomas Willetts* (52), unmarried, victualler, born Netherton;

[2] *Jemima Willetts* (46), sister, housekeeper, born Tipton;

[3] *Hannah M. Washington* (20), cousin, born Netherton;

[4] *Louisa Evans* (20), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 12/8/1874 - Advert

"Wanted, a Situation as Gardener, Head or Single hand, by a thoroughly practical married man. Understands his profession in all its branches. Excellent character.

Apply personally to *T. Willetts*, ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, Bilston."

Dudley Herald 6/12/1879 - Advert

"Old-Licensed & Other Houses, Deepfields. Residence &c, Woodcross, Sedgley

Messrs. Sollom and Barnett, are instructed to include in their sale of properties, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, December 11, 1879, at Six for 6.30 in the Evening, subject to conditions of Sale, the following Valuable Properties.....

Deepfields and Woodcross, Sedgley. Freehold Old-Licensed Public-House, Cottages, and Residence.

Lot 3. The desirable Old-Licensed House and Premises, known as the ANCHOR INN, situate at Deepfields, adjoining the Birmingham Canal, and now in the occupation of Mr. John Harper or his under-tenant. The house contains bar, two parlours, taproom, pantry, clubroom, four bedrooms, brewhouse with maltroom over, and cellar. Outside are stables for seven horses, with loft over, pigstye, yard, &c; also a House with Shop on the canal side, now occupied by William Attwood. Annul rental £45. The land, inclusive of buildings, contains 583 square yards or thereabouts....."

Joseph Reed = Joseph Reid

1881 Census

11, Anchor Road

[1] *Joseph Reed* (49), licensed victualler, born Manchester;

[2] *Elizabeth Reed* (55), wife, born Banbury;

[3] *William Sargent* (16), stepson, assistant, born Wolverhampton:

Evening Express 23/8/1881

"*Joseph Reed*, landlord of the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, was charged with being drunk on his own premises, on Wednesday night last. Defendant was found by Police-constable Jackson in a drunken condition, cursing his wife, and violently conducting himself. He was fined 10s and costs."

Evening Express 22/12/1881

“On Wednesday W. H. Phillips, Esq, coroner, made an inquiry at the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, touching the death of Phoebe Hill (77), who was found lying dead in the Anchor Lane on Sunday morning last.

A number of witnesses were examined, and, from their evidence, it appeared that the deceased, who was a pauper, went on Saturday morning for her relief, but did not return to her home, at Ettingshall. She was, however, seen about ten o'clock on Saturday night by a young woman named Elizabeth Simner, at which time she appeared ill, and was sitting down in the road, and, when spoken to, threw away a bottle which was by her side. Deceased, being found to be drunk, was left to herself. The next morning, about eight o'clock, a blacksmith, named George Crumpton, found the deceased quite dead in the same road surrounded by a little snow. She had a bag with her containing bread, cheese, and bacon, and a purse having 2s 0½d in it. There were no marks of violence on her. It was stated deceased had been drinking at a public house in the neighbourhood.

The jury returned a verdict that Deceased died from Exposure to the Wind.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/1/1884

“Yesterday, a shocking discovery was made near Deepfields Station. About 8.15am, Thomas Lewis, postman, Coseley, whilst passing along the canal side, had his attention arrested by groans which proceeded from the direction of a neighbouring cinder-mound. On examination he found a young woman named Eliza Cartwright (21), lying in a pool of blood. The police were instantly communicated with, as was also Dr. Clendinnen, of Coseley, who found that Cartwright, who was unconscious, had been dreadfully maltreated. She had no less than a dozen wounds, most of which were about the head, and penetrated to the bone. The largest was at the back of her right ear, and measured 3in by 3½in. There were numerous indications of a desperate struggle having taken place, and the poor creature had been dragged a distance of thirty yards from where she had been first attacked. Blood, hair, and flesh were found on several cinders, with which it is surmised she was attacked. A short distance away, and wrapped in an apron, were found a large cinder. She was removed to the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, and in the afternoon was conveyed to the South Staffordshire General Hospital, Wolverhampton. But faint hopes are entertained of her recovery. It appears Cartwright worked at the brickyard of Mr. James Turner, Deepfields, and left her home at Daisy Bank at seven o'clock yesterday morning. She then had her breakfast with her, and this was found a few yards from the spot where she was discovered. So far as is known she had no male acquaintance, and no motive can be conjectured for the crime.”

[Eliza Cartwright died later on 3rd January. At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder by Some Person Unknown.]

Hampshire Telegraph 26/1/1884

“One hundred pounds reward has been offered by the Government for the discovery of the murderer or murderers of the girl Eliza Cartwright, at Deepfields, on the 3rd inst.”

[No-one appears to have been tried for the murder.]

Dudley and District News 22/3/1884

“*Joseph Reed*, landlord of the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. On Thursday, the 28th ult, at 12.40pm, PS Ellis visited defendant's and found in the taproom a man named Thomas Bunn, boatman, drunk and asleep, the landlord sitting at the same table. He afterwards went into a front room and found there a man and his wife, named Keen, boat people, both drunk and using bad language.

The Stipendiary asked defendant to produce his license, but he replied he had left it at home, upon which the Stipendiary informed him that he was liable to a penalty of not exceeding £10. Defendant had been fined several times for various offences.

For not producing his license he was now fined 10s and costs, or 14 days' imprisonment, and for permitting drunkenness 20s and costs, or 14 days with hard labour, total £2 0s 6d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1884

“The Bilston annual Brewster Sessions took place yesterday.....

After consulting for a short time, the Bench decided to renew all the old licenses, with the exception of the following, whose holders have been fined during the past year, and who will have to apply again at the adjourned meeting on the 26th prox.....

ANCHOR, Coseley.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1884

“Yesterday Bilston adjourned Brewster Sessions was held.....

Chief Superintendent Longden presented the list of publicans who had been convicted during the year. The Bench, after severely cautioning the persons in question, agreed to renew the licenses.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/11/1890

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, yesterday afternoon, relative to the death of Mary Ann Stanley (59), boatwoman, who met with her death by drowning on Friday night. Thomas Stanley, husband of the deceased, said the boat was going to Scunnerhill. He put it up to stop at the ANCHOR while he transacted some business. After a lapse of twenty minutes he heard that a woman had been drowned in the canal, and found that it was his wife. He had told her not to leave the boat. There was a bright light opposite. John Walters said he saw some boys throwing into the canal at something which floated in the water. He recovered it, and found it to be the body of a woman. The jury returned a verdict of Found Dead.”

1891 Census

11, Anchor Square – ANCHOR INN

- [1] *Joseph Reed* (59), publican, born Manchester;
[2] Elizabeth Reed (65), wife, born Banbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/5/1891

“At Wolverhampton Police Court, yesterday – before the Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. Neville) – *Joseph Reid*, landlord of the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, appeared to charges of being drunk on his own licensed premises and permitting drunkenness; and William Sargeant, of Deepfields, was summoned for being drunk on *Reid's* premises. On the 9th inst, Police-constable Pallett visited *Reid's* house, and found him and Sargeant drunk and asleep in the taproom. On *Reid* being aroused by a boatman who entered, he got up and fell against the bar. The officer visited the house later on, and found the two men still under the influence of drink. *Reid* denied that he was drunk, though he admitted he had had a drop too much. He was fined 10s and costs for being drunk on his premises, this being the second conviction for a like offence; and for permitting drunkenness a fine of £5 and costs was imposed. Sargeant was fined 1s and costs.”

Benjamin Clarke = Benjamin Clark

Birmingham Daily Post 6/11/1895

“At Bilston Police Court, yesterday, a rough-looking man, named George Porter, of Bradley, was charged with doing wilful damage to glasses and jugs, the property of *Agnes Rice*, landlady of the ANCHOR INN, Deepfields, refusing to quit the premises, and assaulting PC Ward. On the previous night the prisoner entered the public house and drank the beer of several customers. He was remonstrated with, whereupon he bit pieces out of the glasses. As he refused to leave PC Ward was sent for. The officer was violently assaulted by the prisoner, who kicked him in the side and face. A sentence of four months' hard labour was passed.”

1901 Census

Anchor Road

- [1] *Sarah J. A. Rice* (41), married, licensed victualler, born Hurst Hill;
[2] Lucy H. Rice (17), daughter, born Deepfields;
[3] Joel A. Rice (11), son, born Deepfields;
[4] Dan A. Rice (14), son, apprentice to cabinet maker, born Deepfields:

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions ANCHOR, Deepfields.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required and the house difficult of police supervision.

Mr. W. A. Foster said a wall had been built to the satisfaction of the police, and he took it that the objection was withdrawn.

Superintendent Walters said the work was not quite finished. He withdrew the objection.

The license was renewed.”

1911 Census

Deepfields – ANCHOR INN

- [1] *Jemima Jane Clark* (55), widow, licensed victualler, born Coseley;
[2] Annie Lockley (17), general servant, born Coseley:

Alfred Thomas Clark and *Jemima Jane Clark* – see also FORGE HAMMER, Bilston.

Isaac Millard was born in 1877, the son of David and Ruth Millard.

See also BOAT.

1939 Register

6, Anchor Road

- [1] *Harriet Barnbrook*, date of birth 10/1/1877, public house licensee, widowed;

The license was transferred in 1957.

It was demolished c.1960.

APPLE TREE

38, Castle Street, COSELEY

OWNERS

Moses Stanley, licensed victualler, Ettingshall Road, Coseley

Mrs. Jane Grainger, Deepfields
James Baker, medical practitioner, Hurst Hill, and Alfred Sherwin, rate collector
John Arthur Grange
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Onions [1871]
Thomas Banks [1873] – 1877);
Richard Mills (1877 – 1878);
Thomas Darby (1878 – 1879);
Francis Evans (1879 – 1882);
Rosanna Evans (1882 – 1886);
John Poulton (1886 – 1887);
Rosannah Poulton (1887 – 1894);
Francis 'Frank' Evans (1894 – 1906);
Thomas Millard (1906 – 1913);
John Arthur Grange (1913 – [1940])
James Sidney Mitton Turley [] – 1941)
Bill Nicholls [] – 1961):

NOTES

It was originally the MINERS ARMS.

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

38, Castle Street

- [1] *James Onions* (41), MINERS ARMS, born Tipton;
- [2] *Eliza Onions* (44), wife, born Kidderminster;
- [3] *Emma Onions* (18), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Betsy Onions* (14), daughter, birthplace not specified;
- [5] *Joseph Onions* (12), son, born Tipton;
- [6] *Alice Onions* (9), daughter, born Tipton;
- [7] *Sarah Ann Onions* (7), daughter, born Tipton;
- [8] *James Onions* (5), son, born Tipton;
- [9] *George Onions* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Maria Haughton* (10), visitor, born Brierley Hill;
- [11] *Jeann Wright* (21), visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [12] *Sarah Wright* (8 days), born Sedgley:

1881 Census

38, Castle Street

- [1] *Francis Evans* (35), blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Rosana M(?) B. Evans* (37), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Rosana Evans* (16), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Francis Evans* (12), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William Evans* (5), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Samuel E. Evans* (3), son, scholar, born Wednesbury;
- [7] *George Evans* (11 months), son, born Wednesbury:

Francis Evans was married to *Rosanna*.

He died on 24th February 1882.

Rosanna Evans married *John Poulton* in the 2nd quarter of 1886.

1891 Census

Castle Street

- [1] *Rosannah Poulton* (47), married, public house, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Francis Evans* (22), son, brewer, born Harborne;
- [3] *William Evans* (15), son, moulder, born Wednesbury;

- [4] Samuel E. Evans (13), painter's apprentice, born Wednesbury;
- [5] George Evans (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Alice M. Evans (8), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Caroline Norton (19), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Rosannah Poulton died on 22nd September 1894.

1901 Census

38, Castle Street

- [1] *Frank Evans* (32), beer retailer, born Harborne;
- [2] Louisa Evans (33), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Francis H. K. Evans (5), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Alice M. Evans (18), sister, born Sedgley;
- [5] Ada Mills (9), visitor, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions APPLE TREE, Coseley.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required and that the house was difficult of police supervision.

Superintendent Walters said he was satisfied with the alterations, and would withdraw the objection.

The license was renewed.”

Francis Evans, beer retailer, Castle Street. [1904]

1911 Census

38, Castle Street – APPLE TREE INN

- [1] *Thomas Millard* (53), licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] Rebecca Millard (54), wife, married 10 years, born Coseley;
- [3] Lizzie Fellows (26), widow, domestic servant, born Gornal:

Thomas Millard, beer retailer, Castle Street. [1912]

John A. Grange, beer retailer, Castle Street. [1916], [1921]

He was a J.P. [1935]

He was a councillor.

1939 Register

3, Wilson Road

- [1] *John A. Grange*, date of birth 14/9/1881, licensed victualler, brewer, married;
- [2] Ellen Grange, dob 12/10/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Evening Despatch 12/4/1940

“Four Midland Men Aggregate. 150 Years as Licensees. 100 Years as Councillors.

Black Country licensed victuallers have always taken their full responsibility in municipal administration, and particularly is this true in the area round Dudley.

Tipton, Sedgley, and Coseley Councils are ‘fathered’ by ‘mine hosts’ and the last named authority has another member of the trade with a long record of public usefulness.

The four are: Ald. W. J. W. George, of the JOLLY BREWER INN, Burnt Tree, Tipton; Councillor George Mills, C.C., of the SWAN INN, Sedgley; Councillor *J. Grange*, of the APPLE TREE INN, Coseley; and Councillor H. Griffiths, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Woodsetton.

Their aggregated service to the community exceeds a hundred years, and as licensed victuallers they total nearly a hundred and fifty years.

Ald. George had held the license of the JOLLY BREWER for just 50 years, and has continuously served on Tipton Council for 41 years.

Councillor Mills has taken out 39 licenses, and his membership of Sedgley Council covers an unbroken period of 26 years, and Councillors *Grange* and Griffiths, who have been licensees for more than 25 years, have between them nearly 40 years service on Coseley Council.

Many years ago the first three named were the chairmen of the respective councils during the same year.

These interesting facts were revealed to the *Evening Despatch* reporter by Ald. George, who is shortly retiring from business.....”

James Sidney Mitton Turley died here in 1941.

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

It closed in 1961.

It was demolished.
The site was occupied by Trident Centre.

See also Central Drive.

APPLE TREE

5, Central Drive, COSELEY

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Marstons plc

LICENSEES

Bill Nicholls (1961 – []
Ian Stenner []
James John Timmins (1987 – 2001)
Mrs. Lynne Morley [2003]
Kerry Banner [2006]
Lisa Mayall [2012]
Paul Davies [2023] manager

NOTES

It opened in September 1961.

Ian Stenner was a former wrestler (billed as Pat Patton).
He was married to Susan.
He died on 2nd April 2015, aged 64.

James Timmins was born in Bilston.
He married Beryl on 18th September 1963.
He was Chairman of Coseley Pub Watch.
See also PAINTERS ARMS.

London Gazette 20/5/1991

“*Timmins, James John*, Public House Manager, of The APPLE TREE, Central Drive lately carrying on business as a Licensed Victualler, at the PAINTERS ARMS Court – High Court of Justice. Date of filing Petition – 31st October 1990 Date of Bankruptcy Order – 15th May 1991.....”

Express & Star 22/4/2018

“Residents have vowed to conduct their own contamination checks on a controversial site where a travellers camp is planned. Around 50 people gathered at the APPLE TREE INN in Coseley to voice their concerns over Dudley Council’s plan to create a temporary travellers transit site in the borough to halt unauthorised camps. Proposals for the site in Budden Road were approved by the council’s cabinet last month and now a public consultation is being carried out before a decision is made on the planning application.
Local resident Tony Sheldon, 70, said, ‘We are going to do our own test on the site to check for contamination. We’re prepared to do anything to stop it. We will fund it ourselves if we have to.’
Protestors have previously raised concerns over the safety of the site for residential use owing to the level of contamination they claim is present. The site has been recorded as containing foundry and construction waste. Mr. Sheldon said, ‘When you stop and look at the sites that were suggested, how they came up with this as the preferred site I have no idea. There are more appropriate and cheaper sites to convert. What really gets me is the fact that they couldn’t afford to refurbish the site a few years ago.’
The issue was discussed for more than two hours among residents on the night.
Mr. Sheldon added, ‘It’s been said the site must not be near residents’ properties, but it’s right at the back of people’s houses. There will be a 10 per cent depreciation in house prices because of the site and house insurance will also be higher. People can’t afford that kind of money. But you can’t object on that basis – it’s ridiculous.’
Councillor Susan Ridley, the councillor for Coseley East where the site is located, said, ‘If that’s what they want to do, that’s

fine. This site is contaminated. We have raised this at every meeting we've been to about this site. The environmental report on the council's website supports that argument. There may be children and toddlers on the land and that's not safe. Whatever your opinion on travellers is, it's not safe to put anyone on that site in its present condition.'

However, Councillor Patrick Harley, leader of the council, said the site had been made safe and that there would be no unacceptable risk to human health at the site. 'The issue of contamination is not new – it has been raised by residents several times throughout the consultation period,' Councillor Harley said. 'While we understand their concerns, we have reassured them on a number of occasions that the site has been made safe. Moreover, as part of meeting planning regulations, the council will have to demonstrate that in developing a travellers transit site there will be no unacceptable risk to human health. We are very confident we will be able to do that, and would not be proceeding with it otherwise. We would be more than happy to share relevant reports regarding contamination with residents if requested. For obvious reasons, we would be uncomfortable with allowing intrusive investigations by third parties without firm reassurance the site would be restored to its original condition afterwards.'

The public consultation runs until March 24."

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.....
APPLE TREE, Central Drive, Coseley."

[2021]

BEACON HOTEL

129, (47), Bilston Street, (129, Bilston Road), (Cinderhill), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Abraham Carter
Nancy Carter (otherwise Ann)
John Baker, SWAN INN, Dark House Lane
Ellen Baker, widow of John
Joseph Richards, Gorge Road, Hurst Hill
James Fellows
Sarah Hughes (acquired in 1921)
Alfred Hughes [1970]
John Hughes [1984], [2018]

LICENSEES

Abraham Carter [1866] – **1882**);
Mrs. Nancy 'Ann' Carter (**1882 – 1890**);
Joseph Richards (**1890 – 1902**);
John Baker (**1902 – 1910**);
James Fellows (**1910 – 1921**);
Mrs. Sarah Hughes (**1921 – 1951**);
Alfred Hughes (**1951 – 1970**);
Elsie Adelaide Hughes (**1970 – 1975**);
John Hughes (**1975** – [2018])
William Mundon [] – **2003**);
Andy Brough (**2003** – [] general manager
Sue Powell [2007] – [2009] general manager
Alex Marchant [2010] – [2018] general manager

NOTES

47, Bilston Street [1871], [1874], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1921]

129, Bilston Road [1900], [1940], [1996], [2003]
129, Bilston Street [1939]

It was a home brew house.

It had a six day license.

It is listed in 'The CAMRA National Inventory' of pub interiors of outstanding historic interest.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

"The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. Thurstans made an application on behalf of *Abraham Carter*, an innkeeper, of Bilston Street. The house had been built at an outlay of about £600 for the express purpose of a licensed house, and there was every requisite accommodation. Mr. Young opposed on behalf of Mr. Evans, keeper of the WHITE LION INN, and it was refused."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1867

"Yesterday the annual Bilston Licensing Meeting was held at the Public Office.....

Mr. Young applied on behalf of *Abraham Carter*, of the BEACON INN, Sedgley. Mr. Young stated that the applicant had built the house in 1864. No license had been granted for any house within a mile of applicant for thirty years. He handed in a memorial signed by a number of ratepayers. Mr. Stokes opposed on the ground that the place where the house stood was very desolate, had but few houses, and did not require another licensed house, as there was one within 100 yards of the house. Refused."

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 31/8/1867

"Yesterday, the annual meeting of Magistrates for the granting of victuallers licenses, in the Bilston Police Division, was held at the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Young, Wolverhampton (of the Oxford Circuit), instructed by Mr. J. C. Blene, applied on behalf of Mr. *Carter*, for a license to the BEACON INN, Sedgley. As to his client's character, he believed that he had kept another licensed house for something like twelve years, and not a single complaint had been made against him. Since that time he had bought some land, and built the house, the subject of the application. The nearest public houses were two, which were 500 yards from the BEACON, the landlords of which had signed the testimonial to the character of Mr. *Carter*. The house was situated on the road from Sedgley to Bilston. No license had been granted to a house in that locality for about thirty years. The immediate neighbourhood of the BEACON contained about 120 houses, and he believed twenty of those houses had been built within the last three years. A second testimonial was presented, signed by a number of commercial travellers, testifying to the inconvenience they had experienced, in travelling in that locality, through the insufficient accommodation for the stabling of horses and the putting-up of vehicles afforded by the two other public houses.

Mr. Stokes, of Dudley, opposed for the landlord and occupier of the WHITE LION, contending that additional accommodation was unnecessary, the house being upon a country road, 500 yards from two others, and only 70 yards from another public house..... Refused."

Abraham Carter, beer retailer, Bilston Street. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1868

"Bilston. The annual Licensing Sessions for this district were held yesterday, at the Police Court.....

Abraham Carter, of the BEACON HOTEL, Sedgley, applied personally, for a license to his house, but he was opposed by Mr. Stokes, on behalf of the owner of the WHITE LION..... Application refused."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

"The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

Abraham Carter, of the BEACON HOTEL, Bilston, applied personally for a license for that house. Mr. Stokes objected, and said that there was a house which had sufficient accommodation nearly opposite *Carter's*; and as his house was only half a mile from Sedgley, any person could find accommodation there. Refused."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

"The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

There were six applications for new licensed victuallers' licenses.....

The application of *Abraham Carter*, supported by Mr. Best, for a license to a house in Bilston Street, Sedgley, was granted."

1871 Census

47, Bilston Street

[1] *Abraham Carter* (50), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Nancey Carter* (61), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Mary A. Carter* (32), servant, born Sedgley;

[4] Margaret Carter (21), lodger, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/8/1872

“Bilston Division Annual Licensing Sessions.....

The record of the Chief Constable showed that 28 licensed victuallers and 14 beersellers had been convicted of various offences against their licenses. Of these five publicans and one beerhouse keeper were only ordered to pay the costs. In the other cases the fines varied from £10 to 1s. The licenses of 210 licensed houses and a similar number of beerhouses were renewed.

The applications for the renewal of the suspended licenses were postponed till the adjourned licensing day, on the 27th September, but the certificates were granted to the five licensed victuallers and the beerseller who, as before mentioned, were previously only ordered to pay the costs. These were.....

Abraham Carter, BEACON HOTEL, Sedgley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/1/1875

“The Stipendiary (Mr. I. Spooner) had before him, in the Wolverhampton Police Court, on Wednesday, a case of much interest to members of friendly societies, and presenting somewhat peculiar phases. Joseph Jones, was summoned for that he, being the secretary of 969 Branch of the Wolverhampton District Order of United Free Gardeners, did refuse to receive the subscription, on the 11th inst, of *Abraham Carter*, then a member. Mr. C. Barrow prosecuted, and Mr. J. E. Underhill defended.

The case for the prosecution was to the effect that the complainant kept the BEACON INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley, where, in 1869, the branch was established, and Mr. *Carter* became a member. The complainant paid his subscription regularly, but in May last, owing to a disagreement between him and the members, the society transferred its meeting-house to a neighbouring inn. The complainant then declined to give up possession of the belongings of the society. By some means a portion of them, however, were obtained by two members of the society, who were summoned, but dismissed, there being no evidence of felonious intent.

Then the society summoned the complainant for refusing to give up their other belongings, and they got an order in their favour. The litigation, however, had created much feeling, and on June 21, the following letter was received by the complainant: ‘Mr. *Abraham Carter*. Sir and brother, The committee has fined you, *Abraham Carter*, the sum of 5s, in Brother Humphrey’s case, and 5s in Brother Millard’s case, for that you, *Abraham Carter*, did wilfully, knowingly, and maliciously summon the two brothers before the magistrates, to the great loss of time and a great injury to their feelings, you knowing at the time that such charge was false, according to the 5th rule, 16th page.’ Further, that up to the 28th May, the complainant, excepting some disputed items, was not in arrear, yet that he had been refused admission into the club room, and his subscription several times, including the day in question, refused.

The defence, as detailed by Mr. Underhill, and supported by the defendant, was to the effect that the complainant had declined to pay the two 5s fines stated in the letter; also 5s for striking a member in the club room, and additional fines for other misconduct; that he had in every way obstructed and tried to injure the branch since it had been removed from his house; and that non-payment of fines warranted a member being kept out of the club room.

His Worship considered the two 5s fines were improperly imposed; and that even if the complainant had refused to pay other fines, it would not justify the society in refusing admittance. He doubted whether a member could be fined without substantiating the charge before magistrates. Besides, it did not seem hardly right that a man should be mulcted in his absence, or without notice of such intention having been given him. The society, in acting as they had done, had acted wrongly from the beginning, and had continued to do so throughout. His worship suggested that the 10s as fines for summoning Humphrey and Millard, and 5s fine for the alleged striking of a member, should be struck off; that the complainant should pay the remaining 18s 6d entered against him, and that the parties should divide the costs; the summons to be then dismissed. There had been much ill-feeling on each side; the club had stretched their rules to take their part, and the complainant had exercised violence to take his part.

The suggestion of the Stipendiary was adopted.

(Our correspondent’s parcel containing this and other reports was despatched from Wolverhampton by the 7.40 London and North Western train on Wednesday evening, and reached us at 7.30 yesterday evening. Twelve miles in twenty-four hours would have been considered slow work in the old days of stage wagons.)”

Dudley Herald 5/2/1876

“Reuben Carter was charged with assaulting his cousin *Abraham Carter*, in the WHITE LION public house, Bilston Street, Sedgley on the 24th ult.

Complainant, who is landlord of the BEACON INN, Bilston Street, stated that on the evening in question he attended his club, which is held at the WHITE LION. As soon as he entered the room the defendant commenced abusing him, and said he was drunk. To prove he was not he walked up and down the room, and upon sitting down the defendant made use of some very indecent remarks reflecting upon his (complainant’s) adopted daughter, came towards him, and wanted to fight. He got up, and having fought a few rounds the defendant knocked him down. As he thought he had received sufficient punishment, he was about going out of the room when the defendant again closed with him, knocked him down, and attempted to thrust his thumb into his eyes. The defendant admitted fighting, but urged that the complainant was the aggressor, on account of his having fined him 5s through coming drunk into the lodge room.

He called a witness who corroborated his statement.

The Magistrates dismissed the case.

The parties were then charged with committing a breach of the peace by fighting, to which they pleaded guilty.

They were each ordered to find two sureties in £10 each to keep the peace, in default two months’ imprisonment.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/1/1877

“At the Police Court on Monday, before the Stipendiary, *Abraham Carter*, landlord of the BEACON HOTEL; and Joseph Colley and Henry Colley, ironworkers, were charged with assaulting Job Slater, miner, on the night of the 26th ult. The evidence showed that on the night in question complainant went into the hotel, and a disturbance ensued about a dog, and ultimately defendant *Carter* caught hold of him and kicked him out of the house, and subsequently the two other defendants knocked him down in the street, and ill-used him in a violent manner. Mr. Spooner said a publican had a perfect right to use main force in pushing an obnoxious person out of his house if he had been the cause of a disturbance, therefore he would be discharged, but the conduct of the other two defendants was unpardonable, and he should fine them each 20s and costs, or in default one months’ imprisonment.”

County Express 16/3/1878

“John Hinton, secretary to a friendly society held at the BEACON INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley, was summoned by Richard Harrison, also a member of the society, for refusing to pay sick money. The complainant said he had been a member of the society about thirty-one years, but during the past six years he had been ill. On the 5th ult. he sent his daughter to the defendant for 3s sick money due to him, when he refused to pay it. Defendant said the members of the lodge had never disputed their liability to pay the money, but they wished complainant to fetch the money instead of sending his daughter for it. Mr. Spooner said that such a defence was simply superfluous. Complainant said that defendant wanted to give him £4 10s in order that he should not have any further claim upon the society. Mary Ann Harrison corroborated. Mr. Spooner said he certainly thought that defendant’s conduct was very singular. He should order him to pay the 3s claimed and 10s 6d costs, and if it was not paid at once he would have to go to prison.”

County Express 2/8/1879

“A disturbance took place in Gospel End on Monday evening over a right of way and also over a wall. Mr. *Abraham Carter*, landlord of the BEACON HOTEL, gave instructions to some bricklayers to take down a wall. On the men beginning to work a man named Harrison claimed the wall as his property, and ordered the men not to destroy it. The men, however, continued to demolish the wall. A general disturbance followed, and the police had to be sent for. The wall having been taken down ‘stakes’ were driven into the earth, and *Carter* claimed the land on which the wall stood. The dispute will, it is stated, be fought out in a court of law.”

Dudley Herald 9/8/1879

“At the Sedgley Police Court, on Monday, before the Revs. W. Griffiths and J. Y. Rooker, and Mr. F. A. Homer, *Abraham Carter*, landlord of the BEACON HOTEL, was summoned for unlawfully damaging a wall belonging to George Harrison, in Gospel End Street, on the 28th ult. Mr. Gould appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Hall, of Bilston, for the defendant. The complainant said the defendant claimed the wall, and on the day in question he (defendant) gave instructions to some men to knock down witness’s wall, and notwithstanding witness telling the men not to destroy the wall they forced it down, and also knocked him down with it. He was quite sure that the wall belonged to him and not to the defendant. For the defence it was contended that defendant had a right of way, and was justified in knocking down the wall. Mr. Hall said he was of opinion that the Bench should not assume jurisdiction. The Bench said they considered that defendant had no claim whatever to the property, and they were of opinion that he had acted in a most unjustifiable manner. Defendant would have to pay a fine of £5 and costs, damages £1, solicitors’ fees, and witnesses’ fees. If the case came again before the Bench they should commit him to prison. During the hearing of the case the Court was crowded by people interested.”

Dudley and District News 6/11/1880

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an inquest on Saturday last at the BEACON HOTEL, Bilston Street Sedgley, touching the death of Daniel Marsh (64), a watchman who had been found dead in the canal at Round’s Hill, Coseley. Joseph Foster, boat catcher, said that on going to work at the Round’s Hill Colliery, on Thursday morning shortly after six o’clock, he met Thomas Fielding, a watchman, who said he had not met deceased during the night. Marsh was employed as a watchman, and in wet weather it was his duty to scoop water out of the boats. Witness went to the hovel and found deceased’s two dogs, but the scoop was missing, and on going to the basin of the canal he saw the deceased in a standing position in six feet of water. With assistance he lifted Marsh out of the water. When he was first moved a lantern fell out of his hand. Witness was of opinion that the deceased fell off the boat into the canal when scooping water out of the boat. The Coroner: But don’t you think it dangerous employment to remove water out of boats at midnight? – Witness: The water has to be removed. On Wednesday night it was very stormy, and the boats were soon partially filled with water, and someone was obliged to remove the water to keep the boats from sinking. Where was the body found? – Between the ends of two boats. Can anything further be done to prevent a similar occurrence? – I do not think there can. A juryman said the deceased could swim, and he was surprised that he should have been drowned. The Coroner said it was dangerous employment when it was dark, especially on stormy nights. PS Ellis said that after the body was taken out of the water he examined it and found the right ear discoloured. In the pockets he found a watch, 1s 6d in money, and several articles. The watch, which had not run down, stopped at 12.20, and it was supposed the deceased fell into the water at that time. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned.”

1881 Census

47, Bilston Street – BEACON HOTEL

- [1] *Abraham Carter* (60), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Nancy Carter* (70), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *James Baker* (47), lodger, bedstead fitter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Ellen Baker* (36), lodger, wife, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Isaiah Baker* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Abraham Carter died on 26th January 1882.

Nancy Carter died on 18th June 1890.

1891 Census

47, Bilston Street

- [1] *Joseph Richards* (28), widower, box fitter and publican, born Coseley;
- [2] *Mary K. E. Richards* (1), daughter, born Coseley;
- [3] *John A. Richards* (1 month), son, born Coseley;
- [4] *Elizabeth Richards* (20), sister, housekeeper, born Coseley;
- [5] *Rose Hannah Getley* (19), domestic servant, born Coseley;
- [6] *Kate S. Turley* (12), domestic servant, born Coseley;

A seven day license was granted at the Adjourned Licensing Meeting on 27th September 1898.

Wolverhampton Express and Star 27/9/1898

“The adjourned licensing sessions for the township of Bilston were held today (Tuesday). . . .

Mr. R. A. Willcock applied for the granting of a seven days license instead of the present six days license for the BEACON INN, Cinder Hill, Sedgley. *Mr. Willcock* said the seven days license had been granted before.

The Bench granted the application.”

1901 Census

47, Bilston Street – BEACON HOTEL

- [1] *Joseph Richards* (38), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Frances Richards* (38), wife, born Sheffield;
- [3] *Kathleen Richards* (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Albert Richards* (10), son, born Sedgley;

John Baker died on 25th December 1909.

1911 Census

Bilston Street – BEACON HOTEL

- [1] *James Fellows* (37), licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Ethel Mary Fellows* (30), wife, married 8 years, born Dudley;
- [3] *Marjorie Mary Fellows* (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Kathleen Fellows* (6 weeks), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Rose Rudge* (16), general servant, born Coseley;

James Fellows was a brewer.

South Staffordshire Times 23/10/1920 - Advert

“To Brewers.

Preliminary Notice of Sale By Auction of very Valuable Fully Licensed Freehold Houses at Sedgley and Ruiton.

Alfred W. Dando and Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, November 17th, 1920 at seven o'clock in the evening precisely. Subject to conditions of sale then to be produced as follows.

Lot 1. The BEACON HOTEL, Bilston Street, Sedgley.

Lot 2. The DUKE WILLIAM INN, Ruiton, Upper Gornal; also two Dwelling Houses, numbered 26 and 27, adjoining same.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. W. A. & H. M. Foster, Solicitors, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, or the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.”

South Staffordshire Times 2/2/1924

“Much regret has been expressed locally at the illness of *Mr. James Fellows*, of Bilston Street, Sedgley, a retired licensed victualler and a well known figure in the village.”

South Staffordshire Times 16/2/1924

“*Mr. J. Fellows*, the late licensee of the BEACON HOTEL, Sedgley, died at his residence on Feb 3rd. The funeral took place at the Parish Church last Friday, when the Rev. H. T. Samuel, Vicar of St. Mary's officiated. A large number attended the final cer-

emony, and wreaths were sent from the following: His wife and family; Ethel, Jane, Lizzie and Zavanne (sisters); Jack and Lucy Fellows; Mr. and Mrs. Dicken (sister); Mr. and Mrs. Harper; Mr. and Mrs. F. Fisher.”

1921 Register

47, Bilston Street – BEACON HOTEL

- [1] *Sarah Hughes* (56), married, licensee, born Tipton;
- [2] Joseph Hughes (54), boarder, widower, labourer, Wilson Lovatt and Sons, Sedgley, born Woodsetton;
- [3] Lillian Hughes (30), daughter, household duties, born Woodsetton;
- [4] *Elsie Hughes* (27), daughter, barmaid, born Woodsetton;
- [5] Gertrude Hughes (24), daughter, dressmaker, born Woodsetton;
- [6] George Hughes (22), son, roll turner, out of work, born Woodsetton;
- [7] *Alfred Hughes* (19), son, wood carver, Atlas Bedstead Company, Bilston, born Woodsetton;
- [8] Betty Hughes (10), grand-daughter, school, born Tipton;
- [9] Arthur Read (55) visitor, gas stoker, Midland Railway Company, Derby, born London:

1939 Register

129, Bilston Street – BEACON HOTEL

- [1] *Sarah Hughes*, date of birth 3/7/1865, unpaid domestic duties, single;
- [2] *Elsie Adelaide Hughes*, dob 27/5/1894, manageress of hotel:

Sarah Hughes died in 1951.

Brewing ceased in 1958.

John Hughes was the grandson of George Hughes, PLUME OF FEATHERS, Dudley.

Express and Star 22/11/1984

‘Hotel’s Own Brew Set For Comeback’

“Home brewing is to be resumed at one of the Black Country’s oldest free houses. And to celebrate the news Mr. *John Hughes*, proprietor and new head brewer at the BEACON HOTEL, Sedgley Mr. *Hughes* helped with brewing until the tradition died out in the 1950s – and has ensured over the years that the original equipment remains. His family bought the Victorian pub in the 1920s and he is restoring the building to as near its original state as possible.....”

Dudley News 14/11/1986

‘A Recipe for Success’

“Pub owner, *John Hughes*, will be following in his grandma’s footsteps when he starts brewing her own real ale recipe at the BEACON HOTEL for the first time in over 30 years. His grandma, *Sarah Hughes*, used her own 100 year old traditional recipes He has spent £80,000 restoring the pub’s tap room, snug and work has started on the smoke room Work has also started on the pub’s brewery which was left to fall into disuse when brewing real ale went out of fashion in the 1950s.....”

Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild was launched in June 1987.

Sandwell Evening Mail 9/6/1987

“A 100-year-old secret home brew is bringing cheer again to the Black Country real ale drinkers. The *Sarah Hughes* Brewery in Bilston Street, Sedgley, has re-opened after closing 29 years ago, and is brewing to an original recipe. The brewery, part of the BEACON HOTEL, has been in the *Hughes* family for three generations since 1921. *Sarah Hughes* took it over after moving from the BARLEY MOW in Bilston, and brought her old recipe for Dark Ruby Mild beer – and her ten children – with her. She had already been in the business for some time by then, as had the pub and brewery which are thought to be at least 120 years old. The place was dilapidated and *Sarah* set about modernising, installing new flooring and being one of the first users of electricity. The brewery continued to be run by the *Hughes* family until it closed in 1958, when real ale went out of fashion following the introduction of modern keg beers.

Now *Sarah*’s grandson, *John*, has started brewing again after giving the brewery and free house a £250,000 facelift. *John*’s four-year ‘labour of love’ has restored the two buildings to their original Victorian appearance, with the brewery working exactly as it did in former days.

Restoration work started on the pub, modern upholstery and furnishings were ripped out, the original wooden seating lovingly renovated, and old grates and gaslights (now electrically operated!) installed. Further work, inside the pub and on the car park, landscaping and inside toilets costing another £50,000, is due for completion later this year.

John, who runs the pub with his girlfriend, *Judy*, said, ‘We thought we could either modernise or restore. The only hesitation about the brewery was whether to have it like a museum or restore it to its original working order. We decided to open it up again.’

John and his friend Peter Hickman, a local building renovation specialist, have done most of the work themselves, including building an extension for a family room and reinforcing the cellar with girders. They also had the help of brewing consultant and technologist Chris Marchbanks from Burton-on-Trent, to bring the brewery up to public health standards and ensure it was working as originally intended. *John* said, ‘He searched around the country to get original materials and brewing ingredients for us.’

Restoration was made a little easier because most of the original furniture had been kept stored away in the brewery. *John* said, 'When grandma came there was nothing around but fields, and the whole pub and brewery were dilapidated. But there were plans for one of the council's first show estates to be built at the rear and she had the foresight to realise their potential.' His grandfather Isaac had died young so over the years the children helped, including *John's* father *Alfred*, Uncle George and Aunts *Elsie* and *Lily*. They took over when *Sarah* died in 1951, aged 84, continuing to brew to her recipe until the brewery closed seven years later. Now it's back in the vats again and the regulars liked it so much they drank the first batch dry in 48 hours. *John* also has a list of 35-40 guest beers. There are three vats producing 108 gallons each brew. *John* said, 'We were quite prepared to throw away the first two or three brews, but as it happened we got it right first time.'

One of the guests at the re-opening of the brewery was Adrian Hyde, chairman of the local Campaign for Real Ale. 'He was heartened to find another brewery opening, seeing as the Simpkins Brewery closed in recent years,' said *John*.

Drinkers at the BEACON thought *John* was mad when he first started the mammoth renovation task, but they were eventually won over when they saw other old pubs being closed. The Tap Room now reveals its polished wooden seating and genuine picture rail, and the Snug boasts a piano. There is no jukebox or computer game to distract regulars from the serious business of drinking and relaxing. But there is a Shetland pony, called Billy, outside to give children rides. It was bought from one of the customers who had put him to graze nearby.

John said, 'We now have an original Black Country pub. It really has been a labour of love. We are over the moon with it and I know grandma would be thrilled.'

Andy Brough brewed the beer here.

Sue Powell was born c.1965.

She was married to Martyn.

He brewed the beer here.

Dudley News 7/2/2007

"The likes of Captain Hook and Peter Pan helped a Sedgley pub raise more than £200 for Acorns Children's Hospice. Staff at the BEACON HOTEL dressed in pirate gear and asked regulars to dig deep for their New Year fancy dress celebrations. *Sue Powell*, the pub's general manager, said, 'A friend's son from Fordhouses was helped by Acorns, and so we asked if anyone minded if we asked for donations for the hospice.'

Rob Jinks, assistant director of fundraising for Acorns Children's Hospice, said, 'This was a fun night that did a lot of good all round'."

Dudley & South Staffordshire CAMRA Pub of the Year 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014 (joint), 2015, 2017.

CAMRA West Midlands County Pub of the Year 2008, 2010, 2014.

CAMRA West Midlands Regional Pub of the Year 2010.

CAMRA National Pub of the Year Runner-up 2010.

The pub and the brewery were listed Grade 2 in October 2010.

Express & Star 2/11/2011

"Pet owners are boycotting an award-winning Black Country pub after bosses banned dogs from the premises. The BEACON HOTEL in Sedgley has angered customers who say pets have been allowed inside for as long as they can remember. They are now collecting a petition in a bid to try to get the decision reversed. However, BEACON landlord *John Hughes* said he had become concerned for people's safety after three 'serious complaints' were made. One of the incidents involved a man being bitten on the ankle. The BEACON, which has been named West Midlands Pub of the Year by CAMRA for four years running, was one of only a few pubs where dogs were allowed, said Mr. *Hughes*. Victoria Perry, aged 33, said she was shocked to see a notice in the pub informing customers that dogs would be banned."

Express & Star 13/11/2016

"Drinkers had a lucky escape after a car smashed through the wall of a Sedgley pub.

Customers and residents in nearby houses were shocked by a loud bang, and rushed out to see the vehicle's front end ruined and rubble strewn across the car park at the BEACON HOTEL, in Bilston Street.

The crash happened on Friday night at around 9.05pm. A red Vauxhall Astra GTC collided with a wall that surrounds the pub's car park. No-one was seriously hurt, but the pub's bosses will be counting the cost after they have cleared the mess away.

Alex Marchant, general manager at the pub, said, 'It was shortly after 9pm. I think the driver tried to swerve out of the way of another car that was going into the car park. The police were over the road because of some trouble with kids so they were able to get here right away, and the fire service weren't far behind. No people were hurt luckily, the driver walked free, I think he might have had a bit of whiplash. It was a wall that goes around the car park. I don't know how much it's going to cost us, we haven't got that far yet. We're still busy clearing the rubble. We need to get it cleared up first and made safe for everyone. We didn't need to shut when it happened, in fact we were probably busier with people coming along to have a look what was going on. Somebody could have been standing there, been hit by the car or anything so we're just grateful that didn't happen really and that everyone is okay.'

Drinkers and residents from nearby took to Facebook to express their shock and concern.

Sara Knowles, who took pictures after the accident had happened, said, 'Having a nice quite drink at the BEACON and heard a

bang. Thought nothing of until I've seen flashing lights and this is why....."

Dudley Chronicle 5/1/2017

"Bosses at a Sedgley pub and brewery are celebrating after hearing that their powerful ale had been named West Midlands Champion Beer of the Year.

The BEACON HOTEL's six per cent Sarah Hughes Dark Ruby Mild had been given the title by expert judges from the Campaign for Real Ale. The beer, one of the strongest milds in the country, is pulled around 2,000 times week at the pub on Bilston Street in Sedgley.

Simon Massey, operations manager, said, 'It's a great achievement but it's all down to teamwork, hard work, and dedication from the staff. The owner of the pub, *John Hughes*, is still very passionate about the business and it's all down to him. He reinstated the brewery in 1987 and it's just gone from strength to strength.'

The BEACON brews in its Victorian tower brewery using traditional methods."

Express & Star 17/3/2017

"Owners of a Sedgley pub are raising their glasses after being named pub of the year – for the eighth time. The BEACON HOTEL in Sedgley has been named the best pub in Dudley and South Staffordshire by the Campaign for Real Ale. The award was presented to the pub on Bilston Street on Wednesday. It means that the pub is now in the running for winning pub of the year nationally. Owner *John Hughes* said, 'It's a great feeling that we have the support from CAMRA members and customers still. They clearly still enjoy the atmosphere and the quality of beer we produce. I'd like to thank all of the staff for all their hard work and dedication and a big thank you to all of the customers and CAMRA members who support and voted for The BEACON HOTEL. This now puts us further forward in the competition meaning we're now up for pub of the year nationally. It's great news for both us and the local community.'

Their very own ale, the renowned Ruby Mild, was named West Midland Champion Beer of the Year in January. The six per cent ale is one of the strongest milds in the country and is pulled around 2,000 times a week at the pub. It previously won the title in 1988 and 2002.

Dudley and South Staffs branch chairman Ryan Hunt made the presentation to general manager *Alex Marchant* on Wednesday. He said that 4,500 beer scores from members of 200 pubs in the branch area had resulted in a final shortlist from which the BEACON, runner-up in 2016, had come out on top."

Dudley News 16/2/2020

"A historic Sedgley boozery has been voted the best brew pub in the West Midlands by beer lovers. The BEACON HOTEL was voted as the winner of best brew pub in the region by Rate Beer, a competition which saw beer fans all over the world vote for their favourite watering holes across the world. The Bilston Street pub, which is home to Sarah Hughes brewery and is one of the oldest licence breweries in the country, has been in operation since the eponymous *Sarah Hughes* began brewing at the site in 1850. It remains in the family with *Sarah Hughes*' grandson *John Hughes* now owning the pub.

Current manager *Alex Marchant* said it was nice to be recognised by the accolade, which the pub previously won two years ago. *Alex* said, 'We're old school, we don't have any games nor pool tables. We don't even do food, it's just beer and conversation. The interior is quite special and unchanged. The pub still has many of its original Victorian features including an island bar and snug rooms.'

It is also renowned for being the home of the 6.7% Ruby Mild, which *Alex* says is largely unchanged from when it was first brewed in the Victorian era. *Alex* said, 'The recipe was found in an old copper tin in the 70s by *Sarah Hughes*' grandson who started brewing it in the 80s as close to the original as possible.'

The pub also brews two classic Black Country bitters, Surprise and Pale Amber."

[2020]

BEACON HOUSE

Bath Street, Cinder Hill, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

William Compton

LICENSEES

NOTES

Advert 1913

“On Monday, January 27th 1913.

Sale of Freehold Properties, Land, and Free Out-Door Beerhouse, at Cinder Hill, Sedgley.

Messrs. Richards and Son have received instructions from the Trustees of the late Mr. William Compton to Sell By Auction at the RED LION HOTEL, Bull Ring, Sedgley, on Monday, January 27th, 1913 at 7 o'clock in the Evening.

Lot 1. All that Valuable Freehold Home Brewing Out-Door Beerhouse, known as the BEACON HOUSE, situate and being in Bath Street, Cinderhill, in the parish of Sedgley, with the Brewhouse, Stabling, and Out-buildings, large gardens and small orchard or paddock; occupying an area of 1a 2r 15p.

Arrangements will be made to give vacant possession of this Property upon completion of purchase, the purchaser taking the usual Public House Fixtures at a valuation.

Lot 2. A Close of Freehold Pasture Land, having a frontage to the Beacon Lane, and immediately at the rear of the above lot, containing 3r 27p.”

Check BEACON HOTEL

BEAR

Bayer Street, (Bear Lane), COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Tranter [1849] – [1851]

NOTES

Bear Lane [1851]

1851 Census

Bear Lane

- [1] *John Tranter* (43), labourer, born Tipton;
- [2] Hannah Tranter (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Joseph Tranter (18), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [4] John Tranter (16), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [5] Betsy Tranter (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Thomas Tranter (12), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [7] Rhosanna Tranter (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] William Tranter (5), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] James Tranter (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [10] Job Tranter (6 months), son, born Sedgley:

BELL

20, Church Street, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Clark [1867]

Elisha Marsh [1869] – [1871]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 12/12/1864 - Advert

“Wanted, for a small Beerhouse and Provision Shop, a strong Servant Girl. Only three in the family. One who can read and write preferred.
Apply, BELL, Lower Gornal, near Dudley.”

Stourbridge Observer 1/7/1865 - Advert

“To be let, and may be entered upon immediately, the best Retail Brewery and Provision Shop in Gornal, the BELL INN, opposite the Church. Rent £20. Coming in to suit the Purchaser.....”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/4/1867

“W. Cooper of Dudley and J. Cartwright of Gornal are matched to run 120 yards at the Royal Oak Grounds, Burnt Tree, near Dudley on April 22. £1 is down in the hands of Mr. *Clark*, the BELL INN, Gornal, the final stakeholder; Mr. Billingham of the WINDMILL INN, Shavers End, referee.”

Elisha Marsh = Enoch Marsh

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court. The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.....
Permitting drunkenness *Elisha Marsh*, BELL, Lower Gornal, 40s and costs.....
The licenses of the following beerhouse keepers were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting *Elisha Marsh*.”

Sheffield Independent 18/5/1870

“On Monday, at the Sedgley Police Court, before Mr. Isaac Spooner, stipendiary, Mr. *Enoch Marsh*, landlord of the BELL INN, Lower Gornal, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on 26th April last. Two police constables, upon visiting the house, about half-past ten at night, found some persons intoxicated, one of whom was very drunk. The officers gave the house a ‘character’ and, as there had been a previous conviction, the defendant was fined £10 and costs.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1870

“Bilston. The adjourned licensing sessions took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....
The magistrates stated that they had agreed to grant all the licenses which were suspended at the adjourned licensing day, with the exception of the three following: Daniel Jones, TRAVELLERS REST, Lower Gornal; Daniel Marsh, BULL AND BUTCHER, Ruerton [sic]; and *Elisha Marsh*, of the BELL, Lower Gornal.....”

Dudley Herald 29/10/1870

“*Elisha Marsh* of the BELL INN, Lower Gornal disorderly persons dismissed.”

1871 Census

20, Church Street

- [1] *Elisha Marsh* (30), grocer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Emma Marsh (28), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Anne Marsh (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Elisha Marsh* (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Benjamin Marsh (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Lydia Marsh (3 months), daughter, infant, born Sedgley;
- [7] Sarah Taylor (14), general servant, born Sedgley;

Elisha Marsh – see also FOUNTAIN.

BIG CAT

Can Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Michael Busby [1822] – [1836]

BIRD IN HAND

12, Duck Street / Ettingshall Road, (Sodom), Upper Ettingshall, COSELEY

OWNERS

James Fellows
South Staffordshire Brewery Co. Ltd.
H. Fitzsimmons, wine and spirit merchant, Tipton
Leonard Foster, maltster, Gospel End, Sedgley
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Peter Nicholls [1850] – **1855**;
Thomas Smallman (**1855** – []
James Smallman [] – **1860**)
Mrs. Elizabeth Smallman [*1861*] – **1871**);
James Fellows (**1871** – **1876**);
John Hawkes (**1876**);
James Fellows (**1876** – **1881**);
Thomas King (**1881** – **1882**);
James Davis (**1882** – **1884**);
Thomas Biddlestone (**1884** – **1885**);
Edward Sheldon (**1885**);
Robert Morris (**1885** – **1888**);
Charles Stamps (**1888** – **1889**);
William Bennett (**1889** – **1892**);
Elizabeth Bennett [1891]?
Robert Morgan (**1892** – **1894**);
William Harris (**1894** – **1902**);
Theresa Harris (**1902** – **1904**);
William Smith (**1904** – **1913**);
Albert Rhodes (**1913** – **1915**);
Thomas Alfred Holmes (**1915** – **1923**);
Martha Elizabeth Bradley (**1923** – **1929**);
William Davies (**1929** – [*1940*])

NOTES

It had a pigeon fliers club.

Peter Nicholls = Peter Nicholds

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1850

“The special sessions for granting and renewing victuallers’ licenses within the hundred of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Wolverhampton, on Thursday The new licenses granted were to.....

Peter Nicholds, the BIRD IN HAND, Sodom, Sedgley.”

1851 Census

Sodom – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *Peter Nicholls* (56), widower, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Benjamin Nicholls (17), son, iron founder’s patternmaker, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Smallman (12), visitor, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] Margaret Jones (19), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas Nicholls (20), visitor, coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [6] Joseph Shelson (20), visitor, iron labourer, born Sedgley;

Black Country Bugle

'Grog Glass and an Old Sodom Pub'

"An inscription on a 19th century grog glass has inspired Coseley reader Len Taylor to turn up several fascinating snippets of a local pub's past The inscription reads '*Peter Nicholls*, BIRD IN HAND, Sodom. Born 1792, Died December 7th 1854, age 62 years. Sarah Smallman, born January 17th 1830.'

After delving into the history of the hostelry mentioned, Mr. Taylor believes that the original BIRD IN HAND (a new pub was built in the late 1950s) dated back to the 18th century, and possibly beyond, and that it was situated in the now defunct Duck Street....."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/2/1856

"On Thursday last, an inquest was held at the BIRD IN HAND, Sodom, in this parish, before T. N. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of John Cope, aged three years and a-half, son of James Cope, of Bakers Fold, moulder. On the Monday morning previously a neighbour, hearing a child screaming, went to the house of the deceased's parents, and there found the boy with the clothes upon his body in flames. She, with the assistance of a neighbour, speedily succeeded in extinguishing the flames. The clothes were taken from the child's body, and his stomach and arms were found to be dreadfully burnt. Dr. Ballenden attended the deceased who lingered until Wednesday morning, when he expired. It appeared that the deceased had been left in the house by his mother whilst she went to purchase some barm. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence."

Birmingham Journal 26/5/1860 - Deaths

"On the 8th inst, after a long illness, aged 49 years, Mr. *James Smallman*, of the BIRD IN HAND, Sodom; deeply regretted by his family and friends."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 8/7/1860

"Hollies of Can Lane, Bilston, will run T. Wright of Sedgley 200 yards level, or if will give him one yard in 120, to come off at Aston Cross Grounds, for from £20 to £25 a side. A match can be made any night next week, at Mr. *Jas. Smallman's*, BIRD IN HAND, Sodom."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/1/1861

"T. Nicholls of Ettingshall will run J. Golomer of Sodom 200 yards, for £25 a side. A match can be made any night next week, at the BIRD IN HAND, Sodom, where the money is ready."

1861 Census

Duck Street, Ettingshall

- [1] *Elizabeth Smallman* (45), widow, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Smallman (21), daughter, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [3] Rebekah Smallman (13), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Kate Smallman (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Clara Smallman (12 months), niece, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth Fellows (22), visitor, nursemaid, born Sedgley;
- [7] Charlotte Floyde (17), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [8] Job Smallman (25), son, brass founder, born Sedgley;
- [9] James Smallman (17), son, brass founder, born Sedgley;
- [10] William Smallman (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/5/1866

"E. Dudley of Stourbridge is surprised at Sam Hodgkiss challenging him level, but if he will give him two yards in 100 he can have a match on for £10 a side, and on no other terms; or Tom Rogers of Bilston can have a match, the like distance, and for the same sum, if he will give six yards start. Money ready at the BIRD IN HAND INN, Sodom."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/4/1867

"E. Dudley of Stourbridge, is surprised at T. Hough, of Willenhall, challenging him in the way he did, when he knows he can give Dudley eight yards in 120 yards. The latter will not run Hough on any terms, but will take two yards start in six score yards of Hawthorn, of Burslem, for £15 or £20 a side. An answer through our columns will be attended to, or a match can be made by applying at the BIRD IN HAND, Sodom."

Birmingham Daily Post 2/8/1870 - Advert

"To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately – all that well-known Old-licensed Public-House, known by the sign of the BIRD IN HAND INN, situate at Sodom, between Sedgley and Coseley, now in the occupation of Mrs. *Smallman*. The house is doing a thriving trade, and which may be considerably increased by a person of energy and respectability. The in-coming about £200. Rent low. The present Proprietor retiring from business, having successfully carried it on for thirty-five years. There are two Lodges held at the house.

For further particulars and to treat apply to Mr. Jabez Bywater, Auctioneer, Princes End."

1871 Census

12, Duck Street – BIRD IN HAND

[1] *Elizabeth Smallman* (55), widow, victualer [sic], born Sedgley;

[2] *Phoebe Smallman* (22), daughter, born Sedgley;

[3] *Catharine Smallman* (19), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] *William Smallman* (15), son, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/5/1871 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. Bywater, this day (Thursday), May 25, at the BIRD IN HAND INN, Sodom, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read.

Lot 1. All that Freehold Old-Licensed Public House, situate at No.12, Duck Street, Sodom, Coseley, aforesaid, and known by the sign of the BIRD IN HAND INN, containing Bar Parlour, Tap Room, Kitchen, large Club Room, four Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, and other Out-buildings, for many years in the occupation of the late *James Smallman*, and since his widow, *Elizabeth Smallman*, at the yearly value of £30.

And also, all those two Messuages or Dwelling Houses adjoining the lastly-described Premises, being Nos.13 and 14, and now in the occupation of *James Fellows* and *Ann Ellis*, producing the yearly rental of £11.....”

County Express 1/7/1876

“*James Fellows*, formerly landlord of the BIRD IN HAND, Upper Ettingshall, has filed a petition for liquidation in the county court. The liabilities are estimated at £400.”

London Gazette 7/7/1876

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *James Fellows*, formerly of the BIRD-IN-HAND, Upper Ettingshall, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, and of the Breen Reading Colliery, Upper Ettingshall aforesaid, and then carrying on the businesses of a Licensed Victualler and Charter Master, but now residing in furnished lodgings in Duke-street, Upper Ettingshall aforesaid, and being out of business.

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. William Shakespeare, 55, Church-street, Oldbury, in the county of Worcester, on the 21st day of July, 1876, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 4th day of July, 1876.

W. M. Shakespeare, Church-street, Oldbury, Worcestershire, Solicitor for the said *James Fellows*.”

Midland Examiner 22/9/1877

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court on Wednesday, before I. Spooner, Stipendiary, *James Fellows*, a licensed victualler, residing at Sodom, near Deepfields, was charged with allowing betting in his permanent booth on Wolverhampton racecourse, on Thursday, Sept. 6. Mr. Barrow defended.

Police-constable Day said that on the race Thursday he noticed four men on the stand forming part of the defendant’s booth. He went and called the defendant out of the booth, and pointed out the four betting men to him. He told him he had better have them turned out, and went away. A short time afterwards he returned, and went on the stand, whilst the Patshull Handicap was run. The same four men were still there. They made bets with several persons on the stand, and he saw money pass between them. In a few minutes a waiter went to the betting-men and said that a policeman was on the stand. One of them asked where he was, but the waiter said he did not know. The betting men then took the colours off their hats, but remained on the stand. He went down and told Mr. *Fellows* that he would be summoned for allowing betting on the stand. The defendant asked him to have something to drink and say nothing about it.

Cross-examined: The defendant was in an adjoining booth the second time. The first time he (witness) told the defendant about the men he stopped a few minutes to see whether the men were ordered off, but they were not. He did not know that illegal betting was practiced on the race course, nor was he aware that the defendant had been a licensed victualler for 30 years and had never had a stain on his character.

Police-constable Hart who was with Day on the occasion, gave corroborative evidence, and added that the four betting men wore attractive colours. Whilst he was on the stand he saw bets made by those four men with some people on the stand on ‘Pretty Bird,’ ‘Fairy Queen,’ and ‘Miss Gertrude.’ On the first occasion defendant said he could not help them being there. The second time he said he had ordered them off, and he thought that they had gone.

For the defence, Mr. Barrow did not deny the facts, but said the defendant did not know of the presence of the four betting men until told by the policeman. The men paid for entrance to the stand. They went up with plain hats on, and when they got up they put on some attractive colours. He ordered them off, and thought they had left the stand. He submitted that it was unfair to single out the defendant for a betting prosecution, whilst a short distance away persons were betting their hundreds and thousands in the betting ring. He contended that when the men desisted from betting, the defendant had no right to turn them out.

Mr. Spooner: Certainly he has, because they used his booth for betting purposes.

Mr. Barrow was proceeding to comment on the fact of persons betting in the ring, when Mr. Spooner said it was no use appealing to his feelings on that point. He had not the slightest doubt that the defendant allowed betting, and he would be fined £50 and costs.

Mr. Barrow gave notice of appeal. Subsequently Mr. Barrow appealed for a mitigation of the penalty, when Mr. Spooner decided to reduce the fine to £25. The money was paid.”

1881 Census

12, Duck Street – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *James Fellows* (58), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Fellows* (55), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *James Fellows* (26), son, iron worker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John Fellows* (21), son, iron worker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Henry Fellows* (41), brother, widower, iron worker, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

12, Duck Street – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *William Bennett* (41), forge engine tender, born Chester;
- [2] *Elizabeth Bennett* (44), wife, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Myra Davies* (18), stepdaughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Arthur Davies* (9), stepdaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Bennett* (5), daughter, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/10/1891

“*William Bennett*, of the BIRD IN HAND INN, Duck Street, Coseley, was charged with permitting drunkenness and being drunk on his own licensed premises. Mr. R. A. Wilcox defended. Several policemen visited the defendant’s house and found defendant and a man named *James Cope*, miner, drunk. The defendant was fined 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness and 10s and costs for being drunk on his own premises.”

1901 Census

12, Duck Street

- [1] *William Harris* (42), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Theresa Harris* (42), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Susannah Harris* (20), daughter, grocer, born Leeds;
- [4] *Selina Harris* (19), daughter, born Tipton;
- [5] *John W. Harris* (17), son, carpenter, born Leeds;
- [6] *Samuel Harris* (10), son, born Leeds;
- [7] *James Harris* (7), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Phoebe Cope* (15), general servant, born Sedgley:

Mrs. *Elizabeth Harris*, BIRD IN HAND and shopkeeper, Sodom. [1904]
[Is this a typographical error?]

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

1911 Census

Upper Ettingshall – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *William Smith* (53?), licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Lucy Smith* (44), wife, married 10 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William Smith* (14), son, left school, born Coseley;
- [4] *Thomas Smith* (12), son, school, born Coseley;
- [5] *Lucy Smith* (9), daughter, school, born Coseley;
- [6] *Alice Smith* (17), daughter, born Coseley:

Thomas Alfred Holmes was also a brewer. [1921]

South Staffordshire Times 26/5/1923

“Mr. F. L. Steward applied for the license of the BIRD IN HAND, Ettingshall, to be transferred to Mrs. *Bradley*, who has been holding a license in Tipton [BOAT, Boat Row]. He said she intended to give up the Tipton license. Supt. Higgs said Mrs. *Bradley* had conducted the house at Tipton in a satisfactory manner, and the only objection to the present application was that her husband, who was living with her, was employed at a neighbouring works. It was for the Bench to use their discretion whether they would grant a transfer under such circumstances as those. After consideration, the Chairman said this application would be granted.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 3/10/1925

“Bilston Police Court.....

Mr. A. J. Shepherd applied for sanction to make alterations to the BIRD IN HAND, Duck Street, Upper Ettingshall. Inspector Young did not think the house justified the proposed alterations. It was in a side street and in a dilapidated condition. The application was refused.....”

1939 Register

Duck Street – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *William Davies*, date of birth 9/11/1869, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Eliza J. Davies*, dob 12/4/1871, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *William Herbert Davies*, dob 9/10/1893, boiler maker, heavy worker, single:

Closed

Demolished

It was rebuilt in Paul Street.

BIRD IN HAND

4, Male Lane, (4, Rounds Hill), Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

The Earl of Dudley

LICENSEES

Benjamin Round [1850] – [1861]

Lydia Round [1865]

John Bailey [1871] – **1886**;

Lydia Bailey (**1886 – 1916**);

Harry Bailey (**1916 – 1922**);

NOTES

4, Rounds Hill [1871]

4, Male Lane [1891], [1901]

It had an ante '69 beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/2/1850 - Advert

“Freehold Houses And Land at Rounds Hill, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Powell, on Tuesday, February 18, 1850, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, near the Church, Coseley, at five 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 such conditions as shall then be read.....

Lot III. All that Public House, with Outbuildings to the same, nearly adjoining the last lot, and now in the occupation of *Benjamin Round*.....”

1851 Census

Rounds Hill

- [1] *Benjamin Round* (40), bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Round* (44), wife, born Worcestershire;
- [3] *Benjamin Round* (17), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William Round* (15), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Lydia Round* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Jesse Round* (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Hannah Round* (9), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Ellen Round* (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Elijah Round* (3), son, born Sedgley;

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/5/1854

“Bilston Petty Sessions *Benjamin Round* for having his beer-house open after eleven at night, was fined 20s.”

1861 Census

Lower Rounds Hill

- [1] *Benjamin Round* (50), bricklayer and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Round* (52), wife, born Pershore, Worcestershire;

- [3] *Lydia Round* (24), daughter;
- [4] *Hannah Round* (18), daughter, dress maker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Ellen Round* (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Elijah Round* (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *James Roberts* (20), visitor, no occupation, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 19/8/1865 - Advert

“Tuesday, September 5, 1865.

Valuable Freehold Properties, at Rounds Hill, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, and Princes End, in the parish of Tipton.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Offer for Sale by Auction (by order of the Trustees under the Will of the late Mr. *Benjamin Round*), on Tuesday, the 5th day of September, 1865, at the house of Mr. Henry Round, the BLOOMFIELD INN, at Bloomfield in the parish of Tipton, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced – the following valuable Freehold Properties.

Lo 2. All those Nine dwelling Houses (one of which is a Public House, known by the sign of the BIRD IN HAND INN), situate at Rounds Hill, in the parish of Sedgley, in the respective occupations of Benjamin Round, Richard Riddle, Edward Trow, *Lydia Round*, James Mellor, Joseph Hurlstone, Thomas Vincent, Francis Hoare, and Richard Welch, with the Gardens and Out-buildings thereto belonging, the whole producing an annual rental of £64 13s.

Further particulars may be obtained from James Round, Esq, Solicitor, Tipton; or the Auctioneer, 17, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

Lydia Round married *John Bailey* in the 1st quarter of 1868.

1871 Census

4, Rounds Hill – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *John Bailey* (46), carpenter and beerseller, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [2] *Lydia Bailey* (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Lydia Bailey* (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John Bailey* (10 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Hannah Round* (29), sister in law, general servant, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

4, Rounds Hill – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *John Bailey* (56), carpenter and retailer of beer, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [2] *Lydia Bailey* (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Lydia Bailey* (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *John Bailey* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Robert Bailey* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Clara Bailey* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Enoch Bailey* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Harry Bailey* (2), son, born Sedgley:

John Bailey died in 1886.

Lydia Bailey = *Lydia Bayley*

1891 Census

4, Male Lane

- [1] *Lydia Bayley* (54), widow, beer seller, born Sedgley;
- [2] *John Bayley* (20), son, iron moulder, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Robert Bayley* (19), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Clara Bayley* (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Enoch Bayley* (16), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Harry Bayley* (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

4, Male Lane – Public Inn

- [1] *Lydia Bailey* (64), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Robert Bailey* (29), son, coal boat loader, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Enoch Bailey* (26), son, bricklayer's labourer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Harry Bailey* (22), son, maltster, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Male Lane, Rounds Hill – BIRD IN HAND

- [1] *Lydia Bailey* (74), widow, brewer and beer seller, born Coseley;

[2] Robert Bailey (39), son, coal boat loader, born Coseley:

South Staffordshire Times 4/2/1922

“Bilston Licensing Sessions.....

Mr. Round said that he had to make a rather unusual application with regard to the BIRD IN HAND, Wallbrook, Coseley. The present licensee was *Harry Bailey*, and his application was that the license be transferred to his wife, *Julia Bailey*. The reason for that was that *Harry Bailey*, who had been tenant for many years had gotten into financial difficulties and it had become impossible for him to carry on any longer. Consequently the owners of the house had considered the desirability of getting another tenant, and out of sympathy they had consented to accept Mrs. *Bailey* as manageress, if the magistrates approved of that course. She would accept the position on condition of her husband residing in the house, but going to work and trying to get out of his financial difficulties.

Supt. Higgs said this was one of the houses that he was going to suggest to the Court were redundant. The fact that the husband had held the license for a considerable number of years, and was now in financial difficulties was in itself an indication that the house was redundant. The house had been in the family a great number of years, but it was now doing no trade. He failed to see how the wife could make a living there. The house was in a very dilapidated condition, almost tumbling down.

Mr. Round said the house belonged to Lord Dudley, and was to be renovated.

Temporary transfer was granted, and the Chairman said the Bench had agreed to refer the house for compensation.”

The license was refused by the Compensation Authority on 20th July 1922.

South Staffordshire Times 27/7/1922

“The principal meeting of the County Licensing Committee was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday morning, Colonel R. C. Clive presiding.....

Regarding the BIRD IN HAND, Wallbrook, Coseley (*Harry Bailey* licensee), Inspector Parsons described it as an isolated house on pit banks. The collieries were now dis-used, and very little trade was being done at the house. As to the structure, the house was propped up with buttresses, and tied up with rods, with a clear stream of water running through the cellar. The collieries were now disused, but there were public paths over the grounds, and it was a favourite resort of the people on a Sunday evening walk. Mrs. *Bailey*, wife of the licensee, said a considerable sum had been spent on repairs to the house. A scheme has also just been _hed for erecting 48 houses in the vicinity. As to the stream in the cellar, the water came from a spring and ran straight away, and did not in any way interfere with the use of the cellar. The takings ranged from £5 15s 8d in January, up to £20 in July.

The Chairman: Showing that it is generally a summer house.

The licensed was refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/8/1922 - Notice

“County Of Stafford. Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 20th day of July, 1922, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below.....

BIRD IN HAND, Wallbrook, Coseley, Beerhouse, ante 1869, Licensee *Harry Bailey*, Registered owners The Earl of Dudley.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/10/1922

“A Supplementary Meeting of the Staffordshire Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1910, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday, Lord Hatherton, C.M.G. in the chair. The Committee approved the following awards of compensation in respect of the under-mentioned houses, the licenses of which were refused renewal at the Principal Meeting of the Authority on July 20 last.....

BIRD IN HAND, Wallbrook, Coseley, beerhouse, ante 1869, £712.”

Compensation of £712 was paid on 23rd December 1922.

It closed on 30th December 1922.

BIRD IN HAND

9, Paul Street, COSELEY

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1999]

LICENSEES

Howard Ernest Shepherd (1959 – 1974); first

John Hill (1974 – 1977)

John Purchase []

NOTES

It was built in the 1950s, to replace BIRD IN HAND, Duck Street.

Howard Ernest Shepherd died in 1982.

John Hill was married to Sandra.

It had a pigeon club. [1989]

Express and Star 9/8/1999 - Advert

“3 room community operation. Lounge, Bar and Children’s Room. Car park and outside drinking area. Purely wet led and games oriented. 2 bedroom private accommodation. Last 12 months wet trade – 210 Barrels. Tenancy. Approximate ingoings from £7,500 (purchase plan available for fixtures and fittings).”

[1999]

Closed

It was demolished after sustaining fire damage in 2002.

Six detached houses were built on the site.

BLACK BEAR

86, (37), Deepdale Lane / Lake Street, Dibdale Bank, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Jesse Adams, ironmaster, Tipton

Mr. Peacock (acquired in November 1885 for £350)

Richard Bate (acquired on 15th February 1893)

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd. (acquired in February 1898)

Thomas Plant Ltd. Netherton (acquired in 1920)

Ansells Ltd. (acquired in 1937)

Diane Davidson (acquired in 1988)

David Mitchinson (acquired in 1992)

LICENSEES

Theophilus Caddick [1830]

John Marsh [1834] – [1835]

Massey [1836] – [1837]

Zachariah Guest [1838] – **1868**)

Thomas Hill [1870] – **1877**);

David Collins (**1877 – 1886**);

Herbert Blackham (**1886 – 1889**);

Richard Bale (**1889 – 1898**);

Daniel Smith (**1898 – 1899**);

Albert Ernest Edwards (**1899**);

John Bale (**1899 – 1900**);

Samuel Towle (**1900 – 1902**);

Edward Yeates (**1902 – 1903**);

John Crump (**1903 – 1904**);

Manasseh Corfield (**1904**);

Susannah Corfield (**1904 – 1907**);

Edwin Alfred Holden (**1907 – 1909**);

George Grimley (**1909 – 1910**);

John Chilton (**1910 – 1913**);

Isaac Bradley (1913 – 1922);
Mrs. Leah Elizabeth Bradley (1922 – 1942);
William Henry Sansome (1942 – 1948);
James Frederick Statham (1948 – 1958);
Ivan M Loatkins (1958 - 1960);
John Charles Brightman (1960 – []
William Henry Whittaker [] – 1968);
Gwendoline Flavell (1968 – 1971);
Kathleen Barbara Edwards (1971 – 1974);
Sylvia Watters (1974 – 1975);
Roger William Taylor (1975 – 1979);
Brian Gordon Heatherington (1979 – 1982);
John Rudolph ‘Jack’ Pugh (1982 – 1987);
Edith Common (1987 – 1988);
Diane Davidson (1988 – 1989);
Jonathan Roger Hales (1989);
Clive Nicholas Fenner (1989 – 1991);
Susan Evis (1991);
Georgina Calow (1991 – 1992);
Clive Nicholas Fenner (1992);
David ‘Dave’ Mitchinson (1992 – [2018])

NOTES

37, Deepdale Bank [1881]
37, Deepdale Lane [1871], [1891], [1901]
86, Deepdale Lane [1939], [1985]

It stood on the site of an ancient burial ground.

It was known locally as “The Bonk”.

It was originally called the HORSE AND JOCKEY.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 20/9/1830 - Advert

“Freehold Property at Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Griffin and Marsh, on Thursday the 23rd of September, between the hours of four and six in the afternoon, at the house of *Theophilus Caddick*, known by the sign of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, at Dibdale Bank, in the parish of Sedgley – the undermentioned Freehold Property, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon, and subject to conditions as will be then produced.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/11/1836

“Joseph Jones, the noted cock-feeder of Gornel will fight old Hedge, the father of Charley Hedge, who fought on Tuesday last, for £50 or £100, and will be ready to make a deposit tomorrow, between the hours of four and seven in the afternoon, at Mr. *Massey’s*, WHITE HORSE [sic], Dibdale Bank. Hedge is 65 years of age. Jones is 72 and means fighting and no mistake.”

AND

“A slashing fight came off on Tuesday last, at Kinver Hedge, nine miles from Gornel and five from Stourbridge, for £20 a side, between James Hall, the Gornel champion, and Charley Hedge, the Brierly Hill pet On stripping Hall showed the best condition, had a little advantage in height and length of arms, and had also ‘the full’ four pounds in weight, being 12st 6lb, while Hedge was but 12st 2lb. All being ready, and their respective colours tied to the stakes, crimson for Gornel, and orange and red for Brierly Hill, at one o’clock the fight commenced The thirty-eight rounds were fought in one hour and two minutes, and Hall was declared the winner amidst the uproarious shouts of the Gornelians. Many hundreds have changed hands by the event.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/1/1837

“James Hall, the Gornell champion, accepts Benn Mee’s (The Flower of May’s) challenge to fight for £25 a side. His dust will be ready at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Dibdale Bank, tomorrow evening from 5 to 9 o’clock.”

AND

“A man in Gornell accepts Crump’s (of Stourbridge) challenge for £50 a side, neither to exceed 10st, and will make the match tomorrow, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Dibdale Bank.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/1/1837

“The projected match between Hale, the Gornell champion, and Mees (alias ‘Flowers of May’) has not been made, although Hale attended with his backer at Dibdale Bank for the purpose, on Monday, and offered to stake £5. Hale is still open to make the

match for £25, £50, or £100, and give 'The Flowers of May' his own time."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/10/1837

"Emanuel Bradley, of Gornal, is also open to fight Boneer of Lower Gornal, for his own sum; he will meet him on Monday next, to make a deposit, at Mr. *Massey's*, the sign of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Dibdale Bank."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/4/1838

"An inquisition was held on Wednesday, and by adjournment on Monday last, before H. Smith, Esq, coroner, at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Joseph Eades, a collier, about twenty years of age, who lost his life in a pugilistic contest with a man named Joseph Beardmore. The deceased and Beardmore were drinking together at a beer shop in Lower Gornal, kept by *Zachariah Guest*, on the 20th ult. till after midnight, when some words ensued between them, and the deceased several times challenged Beardmore to fight; this challenge seems to have been for some time declined, but at length the deceased stripped to his skin, and throwing a shilling upon the table, told Beardmore, with aggravating language, that he would fight him for £5. Beardmore replied he had got no money, but still the deceased kept taunting him, and he at last stripped, and jumped up to fight. *Guest*, the landlord, however, got between them, and prevented their fighting in the house; yet while he was pushing them towards the door the deceased kept sparring at Beardmore over the landlord's shoulder. At length they agreed to go out to fight. The combat took place in the peg alley behind the house, and after several blows had been struck by each of them, the first round terminated by the deceased falling, or being knocked down by the prisoner. He got up and they prepared for a second round, by approaching each other with clenched fists and in a fighting attitude; they went at each other, and were close together, when the deceased suddenly fell upon his belly, and lay without speaking or stirring. On picking him up he was found to be dead. The body was taken into the house, and a surgeon, Mr. Browne, sent for. At the inquest Mr. Browne stated that he immediately examined the body, and had subsequently made a post mortem examination, the result of which was that he considered the immediate cause of death to be inflammation of the stomach, produced by some external violence on the chest, such as a blow or fall. The inflammation, he stated, would come on instantly after the injury was inflicted, and some of the smaller vessels in the stomach were ruptured. The jury after a short deliberation returned a verdict of Manslaughter, and the coroner issued his warrant for the prisoner's commitment. An application to bail the prisoner will, it is stated, be made to the Magistrates." [At the Staffordshire Summer Assizes, in July 1838, Joseph Beardmore, charged with manslaughter, was fined £1 and discharged. The judge considered that he had received sufficient punishment already, having been in gaol nearly four months.]

1841 Census

Deepdale Bank

- [1] *Zachariah Guest* (35), born Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Guest (35), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Ann Guest (15), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Ann Worrall (15), fs:

Birmingham Journal 7/11/1846

"William Beardmore was charged before the Magistrates, on Tuesday, with assaulting a woman named Susannah Smith. The complainant appeared with a black eye, and other tokens of ill-usage. It appeared that on Thursday last there was a raffle for a horse, at Mr. *Guest's*, of the HORSE AND JOKEY, Dibdale Bank, and at half-past eleven the complainant went to bring her husband home. On entering the house, she found him fighting with the defendant's brother, and on her interfering, she was struck by Beardmore, who knocked her down and kicked her. Several witnesses for the defence proved that the complainant had been extremely violent, upon which the Magistrates ordered both parties to find sureties."

1851 Census

Dibdale Bank

- [1] *Zachariah Guest* (49), charter master, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Guest (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Rebekah Bennett (18), servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/12/1851

"An inquest was held on Monday at the house of Mr. *Zacharia Guest*, Deepdale Bank, before W. W. Ward, Esq, on the body of Edward Waldron, a miner, aged 20. The deceased was employed in the stone quarry, Wrens Nest Hill, the property of Lord Ward, and on Friday last was 'putting in a shot,' when it suddenly went off. The poor fellow received such severe injuries that he died in about an hour afterwards. The enquiry was adjourned till the 15th inst."

1861 Census

Dibdale

- [1] *Zachariah Guest* (59), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Guest (57), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary Marsh (16), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 28/2/1863 - Advert

“Dwelling Houses, Gardens, Land, and Premises, situate near to Dibdale Bank, at Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Batemen, on Tuesday, the 17th day of March, 1863, at Six o’clock in the evening, at the House of Mr. *Zachariah Guest*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, at Dibdale Bank aforesaid, and subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/3/1863

“Yesterday, at the Sedgley Sessions, Paul Ropier, a young man who had been carrying on a system of imposition in this district, was charged with obtaining a sovereign from Mr. Joseph Guest, under the false pretence that he was a mines inspector. The case had been remanded for the attendance of Mr. Baker, the Government Mine Inspector, who was yesterday in attendance. The prisoner was defended by Mr. Bowen, and Mr. Cresswell appeared to prosecute.

Mr. Joseph Guest said he was a butty miner, and had a pit in Mr. S. H. Blackwell’s field at the Dock Colliery. On Friday afternoon, the 7th March last, he went to Mr. *Zachariah Guest*’s public house at Dibdale Bank, and Ropier, the prisoner was in there. They afterwards left the kitchen, and went into an adjoining room, and the prisoner told him he was a mine inspector, under Mr. Baker, the Government Mine Inspector, and that he was authorised by Mr. Baker to go from place to place to see that things were done right. In doing his duty the day before, prisoner said he had detected that more men than were allowed to be drawn up at one time had come up the pit, and that he should inform against prosecutor, for he had seen nine men come up at one time in one skip. Other evidence having been taken, Mr. Baker, Government Mine Inspector for Staffordshire and Worcestershire, denied having employed the prisoner, or authorised him or any one else to act for him. Prisoner was no relation of his that he knew of. Police-constable Sheldon apprehended the prisoner. Found some old summonses on him, and when accused denied receiving the sovereign, but subsequently confessed, and said he had no right to have the sovereign. Prisoner confessed that he was not employed by Mr. Baker, and he was then committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions.”

[At the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, on 6th April 1863, Paul Ropier, was found guilty of fraud, and sentenced to six months’ imprisonment.]

Dudley Herald 4/7/1868 - Advert

“To be let and may be entered upon immediately. The well established old licensed public house known as the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Dibdale, near Dudley. The premises have been upwards of 28 years in the occupation of the present tenant, Mr. *Zachariah Guest*, who is now retiring. There is an excellent business attached to the house.”

Dudley Herald 20/8/1870 - Advert

“To be sold by auction all that freehold, old licensed public house and premises known as the HORSE AND JOCKEY with stable, outbuildings, yard, garden and premises held therewith, situate at Dibdale Bank in the parish of Sedgley now in the occupation of *Thomas Hill*, formerly of *Zachariah Guest* at the yearly rent of £20.....”

1871 Census

37, Deepdale Lane

- [1] *Thomas Hill* (43), brickmaker, born Lye;
- [2] *Mary Hill* (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary E. Hill* (9), daughter, born Wall Heath;
- [4] *William H. Hill* (3), son, born Wall Heath;
- [5] *Ann T. Price* (16), general servant, born Lye;
- [6] *Reubin Price* (22), lodger, boiler maker, born Dudley:

Dudley Herald 20/5/1871 - Advert

“To be sold by auction a freehold old licensed public house and premises known as the HORSE AND JOCKEY now in the occupancy of *Thomas Hill* at the yearly rent of £20.....”

The Era 15/12/1872

“At the Police Court, Sedgley, Staffordshire, on Monday. Mr. *T. Hill*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Deepdale Bank, Lower Gornal, near Birmingham, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on the 27th ult. The case caused considerable excitement, as it was of special interest to the trade, the point being that the police alleged that an attempt had been made to bribe a constable. A police-constable swore that on the day in question he visited defendant’s house in his absence. He saw a number of persons drunk. He knew by their looks they were drunk, but could not describe those looks. He also concluded they were drunk because one man offered to make a wager, and they were wrangling one with the other. The landlady gave him a shilling. He took it and walked away, saying nothing about the drunkenness because he did not think of it. He reported the matter to his superior officer, who, ten days afterwards, accompanied him to the house to return the shilling and to hear what was said about the matter. The evidence of the constable was denied in toto, and after a long investigation, during which the police were severely handled by Mr. Stokes, who appeared for the defendant, and by Mr. Isaac Spooner, the Magistrate, the latter said he could not allow the case to go any further. It annoyed him to see such things carried on by the police. The case was reported on Thursday, and nothing was done for ten days, and what was then done was for the purpose of strengthening the case for the police that would otherwise have been weak. The police had pursued a course that he never would allow. They went craftily into the house, and he did not think that the word used by Mr. Stokes was too strong (to entrap the defendant). He would not sanction such proceedings, and should dismiss the case. The result was hailed with much satisfaction.”

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks. . . .

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given. . . .

No.34 Lodge, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dibdale Bank; 11 members. No change in the attitude of our men.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

Midland Counties Evening Express 27/1/1875

“This morning, W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, held an inquiry before a respectable jury, of which Mr. E. P. Cartwright was foreman, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Hill*, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Lower Gornal, into the cause of the death of Mr. J. Hopson, 37, which occurred under circumstances mentioned in the *Evening Express* on Monday. Mr. Gibbons, of the Deepdale Fire-brick and Retort Works, where the accident happened, was in attendance, and Mr. White, of Dudley, a representative of the Accidental Death Insurance Company, was also present to watch the proceedings on behalf of the company in whose office deceased was insured.

Richard Walton was the first witness, and he stated that the deceased was 37 years old, and was manager at Mr. Gibbons’ fire brick works at Deepdale, Lower Gornal. About mid-day on Sunday last the deceased was engaged at the works in putting hay-bands round a retort, and while helping to tighten the band the retort fell over and on to him. The retort was seven feet high, and would weigh about half a ton. In answer to Mr. Aston, a brother in law of the deceased, witness said he had never known a retort fall over before, when being wrapped. . . .

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

Allusion was made to the excellent character which the deceased bore, and how his loss would be much felt in the neighbourhood, where he was very useful and greatly respected. . . .”

David Collins = David Collings

County Express 14/9/1878

“Mr. W. H. Phillips, District Coroner, held an inquiry on Monday at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Dibdale Lane, Lower Gornal, as to the death of John Fellowes, aged 72, who was found dead in a hut on Friday morning.

The jury having been sworn the Coroner said he had already been to the place in which the deceased had resided, and owing to the filthy state of the habitation he regretted that the jury were compelled to go to it in order to view the body. They would find it dirty and utterly devoid of furniture.

The jury, accompanied by a police-officer, proceeded to the hut, which was situated in the centre of a large field, and surrounded by good vegetation, but upon arriving at the hut – for it was certainly not a house, there being only one room in it, about eight feet in width and twelve in length – the jury were horrified by the offensive odour arising from the filth and also from the corpse. The relatives of the deceased, the wife (sixty-five years of age), and an imbecile daughter, who had in her arms an illegitimate baby, were washing themselves in water obtained from a sewer near the hut. They were in a most filthy state, and wore scarcely any clothing. At the end of the room were four-post beds and the frames, but no bedding was upon them. On the chimney shelf was a cat, which appeared to be greatly alarmed on seeing so many visitors, and at the bottom of the bedstead was placed a parish coffin. This was all that was to be seen, for there was not a particle of furniture, with the exception of an old ‘bench,’ which was placed in the garden. When the police-officer removed the lid of the coffin shavings were seen to be strewn across a white sheet, and upon the sheet being removed the body of a man was found. It was entirely naked, the skin and bones were black with filth, and the odour arising was so bad as to cause many of the jury men and one of the police-officers to vomit.

Upon returning to the public-house evidence was taken.

Eliza Jane Fellowes, said she was the daughter of the deceased. She was single, and the child at her breast was an illegitimate child. For the last twelve months her father had been unwell, and had been in receipt of 4s a week as parish relief to ‘keep four of them.’ Her father had been ‘clammed’ to death. When in employment he used to break cinders. Some time after he had been taken ill the parish surgeon came and saw him, and said he was suffering from a bad cough, and he could do no good for him. Her father slept on a bench, and on Friday morning when she awoke she found him dead on the floor. For the house in which they lived no rent, but only rates and taxes, to be paid. The previous week her father had received 2s 6d from the relieving officer and 2s in food.

Mrs. Fellowes (interposing): Dr. Ballenden says he is worn out and ‘clemmed’ to death.

The Coroner: Has he ever had an opportunity of going to the Workhouse? – Witness: His other daughter wanted him to go but he would not do so.

The Coroner (to Mrs. Fellowes): You ought to go to the Workhouse; you should be taken care of there. – Mrs. Fellowes (crying): I shall not go there; they will ‘clem’ me to death.

The Coroner: Who does the house in which you live belong to? – Mrs. Fellowes: They are lost houses.

In answer to the Coroner, witness said three days previous to her father dying he had nothing to eat.

The Coroner: During that time was there any food in the house to give him? Witness: No.

The Coroner: Are you satisfied no person has injured your father? – Witness: Yes.

Susannah Fellowes, the widow gave corroborative evidence.

By the Jury: The relieving officer had not recommended her husband or herself to go into the house, neither had the parish officer.

The Coroner said the house was filthy dirty, and was not fit for habitation, and he thought the Sanitary Authorities ought to take steps in the matter at once. The parish authorities ought also to take care of the two women and the child. He had noticed a bruise on the deceased's face, and he would like to know how it was done? – Witness: By falling off a bench. He had to lie on a bench, as there was no bed for him.

The Coroner: I would recommend you go to the Workhouse. – Witness (crying bitterly): I will never go.

The Coroner: But the place in which you live is not healthy, and you have no beds, nor any clothing to cover you. You will be starved to death in the winter.

Mr. Millington (foremen of the jury) said it would not do for the women to go to the house again until the corpse as removed, for the odour arising from it was enough to kill anyone.

Witness said she and her daughter would go and stay in the fields.

The Coroner: The Sanitary Authorities will compel you to leave the house, and then you will have to go to the Workhouse. – Witness: I will not go to the Workhouse. I would rather live in that old house, if I only had a potato a day to eat.

The Coroner: How long have you lived there? – Witness: Nine years.

The Coroner said it appeared to him that some of the people were degenerating into wild animals. He certainly thought that they were worse than savages or else they would never wish to exist in filth and vermin.

Witness said that if the house was white washed it would do.

A woman named Hale, who was present, said there was an 'awful amount' of vermin that require killing. The deceased's clothes had to be burnt owing to being covered in vermin.

The jury returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes, and recommended that the Sedgley Local Board be requested to close the house as being unfit for human habitation, and also that the receiving officer be requested to visit the place at once with a view of the two women and the child being removed to the Workhouse.

Mrs. Fellowes said it was useless talking about going to the Workhouse, for she should not go, as she had been 'clammed' there before.

The Coroner: But you ought to go if you wish to be comfortable. – Mrs. Fellowes: I will never go, for I will cut my throat first.

The Coroner: But you will be kept clean there. – Mrs. Fellowes: I don't care.

The Coroner: It will not do for you to go about like a wild animal in a nude state. That will not do. – Mrs. Fellowes: I tell you I ain't going.

The Coroner: I cannot make you go; I can only recommend you to go. – Mrs Fellowes: I won't flinch an inch.

The Coroner: I don't know how you can live in such a beastly place and go about in a state of nudity. As the daughter has got a child, she ought to go into the Workhouse and take care of it.

Mrs. Fellowes: Her father said before he died she should not go into the poor-house. If she does go in I will soon die.

The Coroner said it appeared useless talking to the woman, and the jury being of the same opinion, directed the police-officer to inform the relieving officer of the whole of the facts of the case, and request him to bury the body at once.

The inquiry created a great deal of interest."

1881 Census

37, Deepdale Bank – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

[1] *David Collings* (37), brickyard labourer, born Sedgley;

[2] *Martha Collings* (37), wife, no occupation, born Sedgley;

[3] *Joseph Collings* (16), son, brickyard labourer, born Sedgley;

[4] *Sarah Collings* (5), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] *Maud Collings* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] *Mary Lees* (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1885

"At the Stipendiary's Court, yesterday, *David Collins*, publican, Dibdale, was fined £5 and costs for keeping his house open on Sunday, the 13th inst. The defendant supplied drink to a number of men who assembled in a private house on Sunday morning. *Elisha Marsh*, licensed victualler, Church Road, Lower Gornal, was fined 20s and costs for a similar offence. On Sunday, the 13th inst defendant permitted two customers to remain on his licensed premises after closing time."

County Express 7/11/1885

"Messrs. *Rollinson and Beckley*, auctioneers, Brierley Hill, held a very successful sale of property at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday last. The room was crowded and the bidding brisk. The lots were ultimately disposed of as follows. Lot 1. Public house, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dibdale, sold to Mr. Peacock for £350....."

1891 Census

37, Deepdale Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

[1] *Richard Bale* (58), licensed victualler, born Alvechurch, Worcestershire;

[2] *Jane Elizabeth Bale* (49), wife, born Donnington, Shropshire;

- [3] Thomas Bale (19), butcher's apprentice, born Wednesfield;
- [4] Mary Jane Earp (17), step daughter, barmaid, born Dunstable, Staffordshire;
- [5] Edith Mable Earp (15), step daughter, student, born Dunstable, Staffordshire;
- [6] Richard William Bale (6), son, student, born Dunstable, Staffordshire;
- [7] Mary Jane Wilkes (44), sister in law, unmarried, born Elmley Lovatt, Worcestershire, deaf and dumb:

1901 Census

37, Deepdale Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

- [1] *Samuel Towle* (62), public house manager, born Mansfield, Nottinghamshire;
- [2] Hannah Towle (59), wife, born Warmfield, Yorkshire;
- [3] George Towle (20), son, electrical mechanical labourer, born Great Wyrley, Yorkshire;
- [4] Edward Towle (16), son, iron safe maker, born Cannock, Staffordshire;
- [5] Joseph Bagley (30), son in law, sand merchant's waggoner, born Sedgley;
- [6] Rose Bagley (26), daughter, born Swadlincote, Derbyshire;
- [7] Samuel B. Bagley (7 weeks), grandson, born Sedgley:

Lichfield Mercury 4/7/1908

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

Thomas Price, a miner, was indicted for unlawfully wounding William Henry Beardsmore with a knife at Lower Gornal, on May 4th. Mr. R. J. Lawrence defended.

It appeared that the men were in the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Lower Gornal, and there had been a dispute between prosecutor and a man named Bennett with regard to some pigeons. Prisoner interfered in the dispute, and it was alleged that he challenged prosecutor to fight. The landlord put a stop to the dispute in the public house by ordering the men out of the inn, and the men went into a field, where they exchanged blows. Prisoner and prosecutor fell on the ground, and in the scuffle which took place it was asserted that prisoner pulled out a knife and wounded prosecutor on the head with it. The defence was that the knife was used in self-defence, prisoner alleging that prosecutor had threatened to kill him, and the wounds received by the prosecutor were due to an accident. The jury acquitted the prisoner.”

Tipton Herald 21/8/1909

“Joseph Waterfield, of Dibdale Lane, was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dibdale, on July 26th.

PC Rock stated that the defendant went on to the licensed premises in a drunken state and demanded to be supplied with drink, but the landlord ordered him to leave, which he declined to do. He was eventually ejected from the inn by PC Rock.

Defendant expressed regret for his conduct, and was fined 10s 6d.”

1911 Census

Deepdale Bank

- [1] *John Chilton* (39), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] Phoebe Chilton (39), wife, married 18 years, born Tipton;
- [3] Thomas Henry Chilton (17), son, nothing, born Tipton;
- [4] George Chilton (10), son, school, born Tipton;
- [5] Dora Chilton (7), daughter, school, born Tipton;
- [6] Nellie Chilton (6), daughter, school, born Tipton;
- [7] Lucy Chilton (3), daughter, born Tipton;
- [8] Gilbert Chilton (1), son, born Tipton:

John Chilton – check also BRITANNIA, Hall Street, Dudley; MAZEPPA, Dudley; and MINERS ARMS, Salop Street, Dudley.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 22/11/1924

“On Monday afternoon, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Lower Gornal, Mr. J. T. Higgs, the South Staffs Coroner, held an enquiry into the death of Thomas Morgan (60), 10, Furlong Walk, Lower Gornal. It was stated that the deceased retired from business four years ago, and had since been suffering from diabetes and indigestion. He was last attended by Dr. McMillan, of Upper Gornal, about twelve months ago. On November 14th, he ate his supper as usual, and retired to bed. About 10pm he complained of pains in his chest. His wife placed a mustard plaster on his chest, but he still complained, and died in bed about 9.40am on November 15th.

A verdict of Natural Causes was returned.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN

boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time. It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions HORSE AND JOCKEY (Dibdale), Lower Gornal, 1s 1d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

86, Deepdale Lane

[1] *Leah Bradley*, date of birth 19/3/1875, manageress, widowed;

[2] William (Henry A) (Samson) Sansome, dob 14/12/1900, motor driver, married;

[3] Olive Evelyn (Samson) Sansome, dob 31/12/1906, housewife, married;

1968 – “Mrs. Ida Whittaker, wife of the licensee.”

The HORSE AND JOCKEY closed in 1978.

It was re-opened by *Jack Pugh*, and his partner John Gardener, as the BLACK BEAR in December 1983.

It was named after a 19th century print of a dancing bear in Sedgley Bull Ring.

London Gazette 3/6/1985

“*Taylor, Roger William* lately of and carrying on business, as a Publican at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, at 86, Deepdale Lane..... Date of operation of Order of Discharge – 22nd April, 1985.”

It was re-opened on 22nd June 1988, after refurbishment.

Diane Davidson was married to Ian.

Dudley Chronicle 2/12/1988

“A Black Country ‘World Cup’ competition raised £500 for the Children in Need appeal. The sponsored competition was organised by pub landlord Ian *Davidson* and his wife *Diane*, who run the BLACK BEAR in Lower Gornal.

Eight teams competed for a trophy presented by Derek ‘The Doog’ Dougan, and the tournament was run along the same lines as a World Cup, with the two top teams going through to a final match. Winners of the competition at Dudley Leisure Centre were Ian *Davidson*’s team ‘The Men’ and top fund raisers were the AA Insurance team who were sponsored for more than £200.....”

David Mitchinson – see also LEOPARD, Kingswinford.

Ales & Tales (Summer 2010)

“Bear Faced Robbery. Have you seen this bear? Gavin Lawson asks for help.

It is thought that over the Easter weekend in a bear-faced robbery at the BLACK BEAR in Deepdale Lane, Lower Gornal, this bear was abducted. It is black, very hairy, and approximately six feet long. On 7th April a customer noticed that it was absent and reported it to the current landlord, *Dave Mitchinson*, who said ‘It is a black day when a long time, loyal friend and guardian can be abducted from his home. I was offered money for him in the past.’

The bear had arrived from Germany in the early 1980s along with the German wife of a former landlord, *Jack Pugh*. *Jack* renamed the pub, previously called the HORSE AND JOCKEY, the BLACK BEAR in honour of the animal. It had been displayed on the wall in the lower lounge until a few years ago when the pub was being redecorated, during which it had been re-homed in the ‘conservatory’ at the rear until a way of cleaning it could be found.

No ransom demands have been received and a sniffer dog was employed to search the pub’s ‘ornamental gardens’ but no sign or scent was found. An insubstantial reward has been offered to anyone with any information, who should contact the BLACK BEAR. The pub, which serves up to 8 real ales, including ‘Black Bear’ brewed by Kinver, is well worth a visit even without the bear, which will be sadly missed by not many.”

London Gazette 15/2/2017

“Bankruptcy Orders

Mitchinson, David, BLACK BEAR, 86 Deepdale Lane, Dudley, DY3 2AE

Birth details: 3 July 1953

David Mitchinson Currently a Publican Trading at 86 Deepdale Lane, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 2AE as a Publican

In the County Court at Central London

Date of Filing Petition: 8 December 2016

Bankruptcy order date: 8 February 2017

Whether Debtor’s or Creditor’s Petition – Creditor’s

Name and address of petitioner: Commissioners for HM Revenue & Customs Receivables Finance, Barrington Road, Worthing, BN12 4XH.....”

Express & Star 15/11/2017

“Pub landlord tied up and ‘threatened with gun’ during raid on the BLACK BEAR in Gornal.

A 64-year-old man was severely assaulted and tied up with wire during a robbery at a Lower Gornal pub.

Two masked men entered the BLACK BEAR pub in Deepdale between 3am and 4am on Sunday where they attacked the pub owner. They pushed their way into the pub after the owner went to investigate a noise at the rear of the property, police believe.

One of the men is believed to have threatened the man with a gun, while the other was holding a scalpel-like instrument.

The 64-year-old man was severely assaulted and tied with wires and put into a cabinet, before the men made off with a quantity of cash. It is also believed the men deliberately turned a gas hob on before their departure.”

Express & Star 15/10/2018

“Thousands of food hygiene warnings have been sent to businesses in just one year....

Businesses given the notices included BLACK BEAR pub in Lower Gornal – all have since complied.”

Dudley News 11/3/2021

“*David Mitchinson*, aged 67, trading as the BLACK BEAR pub in Deepdale Lane, Lower Gornal, has been charged with six offences under Food Safety and Hygiene Regulations. They include not having hot water for sinks and not keeping working surfaces clean. The alleged offences date back to November 2019. *Mitchinson* is charged with failing to provide hot running water for wash hand basins; failing to comply with a notice to provide hot water; not providing adequate cleaning and disinfecting facilities; not having proper food safety procedures; failing to keep surfaces clean; not enough storage and provision for disposal of beer bottles. The case was adjourned by Black Country Magistrates Court until May.”

Express & Star 7/5/2021

“A Gornal pub has been fined over six breaches of hygiene laws. *David Mitchinson*, trading as the BLACK BEAR on Deepdale Lane, has pleaded guilty to all breaches. All six offences took place between November 2019 and January 2020. The 67-year-old was fined £480 and ordered to pay £850 in costs after failing to ensure hot running water was provided for cleaning hands in the food area and fined a further £480 for failing to ensure wash hand basins had hot water. Other breaches include failure to provide adequate facilities for the cleaning and disinfecting of utensils and equipment, specifically no hot water, and failure to put in place a permanent food safety procedure. *Mitchinson* also failed to clean and maintain structure and surfaces and to ensure provision for the storage and disposal of rubbish specifically beer bottles.”

[2021]

BLACK BOY

COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mary Williams [1870]

NOTES

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1870

“Bilston. The adjourned licensing sessions took place yesterday, at the Police Court....

Mary Williams applied for a license to sell on the premises of the BLACK BOY, Coseley, the house having formerly been a licensed one. The application was granted.”

BLACK COUNTRY REAL ALE HOUSE

Roseville Precinct, Castle Street, COSELEY

OWNERS

Davidson Inns

LICENSEES

NOTES

It was originally Oscar's Wine Bar.

Closed

BLACK HORSE

6, Skidmore Row, Highfields, (Brierley), COSELEY

OWNERS

Henry Fowler, ironmaster, Tettenhall

LICENSEES

Joseph Blewitt [1828] – [1830]
Henry Baker [1833] – [1842]
Joseph Baker [1845] – **1850**);
Henry Baker (**1850** – [1858]
James Fellows [1860] – **1863**);
Stephen Taylor (**1863** – []
John Taylor [1864] – [1865]
John Shutt [1868] – [1870]
Joseph Shutt [1868]
Urban Bate [1871] – **1874**);
Mark James Fellows (**1874**);
Abraham Bowkley (**1874** – **1875**);
Robert Phillips (**1875** – **1876**);
William Francis (**1876**);
Thomas Wesson (**1876** – **1877**);
Thomas Taylor (**1877** – **1878**);
John Guest (**1878** – **1879**);
Edward Jones (**1879** – **1887**):

NOTES

Joseph Blewitt = Joseph Blewit

London Gazette 25/12/1829

“*Blewitt, Joseph*, formerly of Ettingshall, Staffordshire, then of Dudley, Worcestershire, and late of Coseley, Staffordshire, Licensed Victualler and Tailor.”

Henry Baker, retail brewer, Skidmore's Row. [1833]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/10/1845

“On Friday last, another inquest, originating from the same cause [clothing catching alight] was held by Mr. Phillips, at the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore's Row, Sedgley. Jemima Gettings, the deceased, was a girl nearly eleven years old, whose pinafore caught fire while reaching a pot off the fire, no person being in the house beside the deceased and a younger child. The accident occurred on the 8th instant, and the deceased lingered until the 16th, when she died. Verdict in each case Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/6/1849

“On Saturday last an inquest was held before W. W. Ward, Esq., coroner (officiating for T. M. Phillips, Esq.) at the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore's Row, in this parish, on the body of John Plant, a bricklayer, who was killed on Wednesday, under the following circumstances. Plant was at work with another bricklayer, Elijah Caddick, building a chimney at Pothouse Bridge. A labourer

brought up some bricks on a board, when the deceased took the board off his head and threw the bricks on to the scaffold. He was then standing on brickwork, but jumped off on to the scaffold, a distance of nearly three feet. The scaffold broke, and both Plant and Caddick fell to the ground, from a height of about twenty-five or twenty-six feet. Plant fell on his side, with his face downwards. He was bleeding from his right ear, was badly hurt on the back and side of his head, and on other parts of his body and was quite insensible. He was taken home, and attended by Mr. Kettle, surgeon, but died about four o'clock on the following morning. He was twenty-six years of age. It was stated that the scaffold was as firm as it could be. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1851 Census

Skidmore Row

- [1] *Henry Baker* (39), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Baker* (38), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Baker* (14), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sarah Baker* (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Joseph Southall Baker* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Alfred Baker* (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Cornelius Baker* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Jeremiah Francis Baker* (3), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] *John Henry Alexander Baker* (under 3 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Sarah Smith* (20), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [11] *George Baker* (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/9/1858 - Advert

"Brierley, in the Parish of Sedgley. Freehold Public House, The BLACK HORSE INN, and a Cottage adjoining. By Messrs. Aston and Sollom. To Be Sold by Auction, on Thursday, September the 23rd, 1858, at five o'clock in the afternoon, upon the premises, and subject to conditions to be produced at the sale, all that old licensed and well-accustomed Public House and Premises, with a large yard and stabling, known as the BLACK HORSE INN, also a Cottage adjoining, situate fronting Skidmore Row, at Brierly, near Sedgley, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Henry Baker* and his under tenant. The property is well situated for business, in good repair, and plentifully supplied with water. For further particulars apply to Mr. *Baker*, on the premises; or the Auctioneers, Queen Street, Wolverhampton."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/12/1858 - Advert

"To Publicans.

To be Sold by Private Treaty, that well-established old-licensed Freehold Public House, known as the BLACK HORSE, situate in Skidmore's Row, Coseley, near Bilston, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Henry Baker*. Also the small Tenement adjoining. The premises are well situated, with every convenience for carrying on a large trade. For particulars, apply to Baker and Crockett, Castle Street, Wolverhampton."

1861 Census

Skidmore Row – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *James Fellows* (39), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Fellows* (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Fellows* (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *James Fellows* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Phoebe H. Fellows* (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *John T. Fellows* (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Elizabeth Fletcher* (18), general servant, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 23/9/1863 - Advert

"To be Let, with immediate possession, the well-known Old-Licensed Public House, the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore's Row, near the Deepfields and Daisy Bank Stations. Satisfactory reasons for leaving will be given by the present landlord, *James Fellows*. The house is well situated and surrounded by Works and Potteries."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 19/12/1863

"At Bilston Police Court yesterday, the license of the BLACK HORSE, Sedgley, was transferred from Mr. *James Fellows* to Mr. *Stephen Taylor*, of Birmingham."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/10/1864 - Advert

"BLACK HORSE, Skidmore Lane, Deepfields, a well-situated Tavern, with Spirit License, doing a good ready-money business. In-coming £80. Apply, Roderick and Son."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/1/1867

"H. Handley will shoot J. Bamford of Bradley at 21 pigeons each. 1½oz of shot, 60 yards boundary, for £25, £50, or £100 a side,

on Shrove Tuesday. A match can be made any night next week, at *J. Fellows's*, the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore Row.”

County Express 2/5/1868

“William Payne was charged with leaving a cart on the highway at Quarry Bank, and with driving a cart without a name, on the 3rd of February last. He pleaded guilty to the first charge, but not the second.

Police-constable Hammond said on the 3rd of February he saw the cart in High Street, Quarry Bank. After seeing it remain twenty-five minutes he went into the adjoining public house, and found defendant on the bowling green behind. The name on the cart was ‘*James Fellows*, BLACK HORSE INN, Skidmore Row, Bilston.’ Defendant said that was his name. He had had a journey to Bilston and two to West Bromwich in search of defendant three months ago.

Defendant said he had business in the public-house, in support of which he produced several bills. He knew it was not right to leave the horse in the street, but he could trust him. There was a name on the cart, but not the right one. He lived at West Bromwich. Ordered to pay costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/6/1868 - Advert

“To be Let, at Midsummer, an Old-licensed Public House, the BLACK HORSE, situated in Skidmore Row, Coseley. Apply on the Premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/6/1868 - Advert

“Sale This day (Monday), June 15.

At the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore Row, near Coseley.

To Publicans, Brokers, And Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Jabez Bywater – Part of the Household Furniture, and the whole of the Brewing Plant, comprising cross-legged Drinking Tables, one Drinking Table 9 feet long, fitted up with three Drawers, Seating round Tap Room, Screens, Rail-back Forms, Buffet, 4-pull Beer Machine, with Stop Taps and Barrel Taps complete. Barrels, Vats, Lead Piping, 20-bushel Mash Tub, wrought-iron Boiler, American Bowling Alley Pegs and Bowls; quantity of Jugs and Glasses, Glass Fittings throughout the House, and other Articles belonging to connected with the Public Business; belonging to Mr. *Joseph Shutt*, who is giving up the Business.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/3/1871

“At the Police Court, yesterday, before Mr. I. Spooner (Stipendiary), *Urban Bate*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore Row, was summoned for keeping his house open during prohibited hours. The offence was proved by Police-constable Harrison to have been committed on the 19th ult. The defendant was fined £5 and costs. Mr. Spooner asked the defendant to produce his license in order that the conviction might be marked upon it. The defendant, in handing it to the magistrates, remarked that he wished he (Mr. Spooner) had kept it instead of granting it at the licensing day.

Mr. Spooner said he had nothing to do with granting licenses; but he wished he could be king of Bilston for half-an-hour, and he would get rid of all the licenses.”

1871 Census

6, Skidmore Row

[1] *Urban Bate* (41), engineer at chemical works, born Sedgley;

[2] Mary A. Bate (40), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Edwin Bate (14), son, labourer, born Darlaston;

[4] William Bate (12), son, labourer, born Darlaston;

[5] Maria Bate (10), daughter, born Toll End;

[6] Emma Bate (8), daughter, born Toll End;

[7] Austin Corkendale (17), stepson, labourer, born Ettingshall;

[8] Antony Corkendale (15), stepson, labourer, born Bilston;

[9] Mary Jane Corkendale (8), stepdaughter, born Tunstall.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions. These Sessions were held yesterday.....

An application made by John Bryon, formerly landlord of the BLACK HORSE, Coseley, for the temporary transfer of his license to *Urban Bate*, also of Coseley, was objected to by Mr. Samuel Jackson, the owner of the house in question, on the ground that *Bate* had been convicted for a breach of his license during his tenancy at a public house formerly in his possession. The Bench declined to grant the transfer.

The application of *Urban Bate*, landlord of the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore's Row, Coseley, for the transfer of his license to Joshua Fellows, formerly of Swindon, was adjourned for a week.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/10/1873

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

John Harrison (53), engineer, was charged with obtaining by false pretences, from *Urban Bate* in January, 1872, at Sedgley, a quantity of whisky and ale, with intent to cheat. Mr. Bosanquet was for the prosecution, and Mr. Motteram defended the accused. The evidence tendered went to show that on a certain day in January, 1872, the accused went to the house of the prosecutor, who is a licensed victualler, and representing that he was a delegate from the ‘Associated Amalgamate’ of engineers, and had called to

see if the society could make arrangements to hold meetings there, obtained refreshments. It turned out that he did not belong to the society. In cross-examination, the prosecutor admitted that he had made no application to the society for the money. The Jury under the direction of the Assistant-chairman, acquitted the prisoner.

Mr. Bosanquet, after a little delay, then proceeded with a second indictment, which charged the defendant with obtaining 5s by false pretences, from David Walters, on 25th August, 1870, at Sedgley. The circumstances of this case nearly resembled the previous one. Defendant alleged that he represented an engineers' association, the members of which were to take possession of a club room at prosecutor's on the following Saturday, when they would march in procession, with a band and banners. He obtained 5s for the purpose of getting bills printed. Evidence was called to show that the defendant had not been connected with any association of engineers in the district.

Mr. Motteram submitted that there was no case for the Jury, and did not offer any observations on the evidence.

The Assistant-chairman, however, said that the case materially differed from the previous charge, and laid the evidence very exhaustively before the Jury, who ultimately found a verdict of guilty, and the prisoner was sentenced to six months' imprisonment."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/9/1877

"*Thomas Taylor*, BLACK HORSE, Skidmore Row, Sedgley, was fined 40s and costs at the Bilston Police Court, on Friday, for permitting drunkenness in his house on Sunday, 19th August. Mr. C. Barrow, of Wolverhampton, appeared for the defence."

London Gazette 2/4/1878

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley. In the Matter of a Special Resolution for Liquidation by Arrangement of the affairs of *Thomas Taylor*, of the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore Row Innkeeper and Foreman Jabez Bywater, of Princes End, Tipton, Auctioneer, has been appointed Trustee of the property of the debtor....."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 31/8/1878

"Bilston Annual Licensing Sessions.....

The following is the list of licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers who had been summoned during the year for offences against the Licensing Act Licensed victuallers.....

Thomas Taylor, BLACK HORSE INN, Coseley, permitting drunkenness, 7th September, 1877, fined £2 and costs, and license endorsed."

AND

Wolverhampton Express and Star 21/9/1878

"The Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The persons who had been convicted during the last twelve months for offences against their licenses, the renewals of which were withheld until today, now appeared before the Bench, and there being no further complaint as to the conduct of their houses in the interval the magistrates granted the renewals."

Birmingham Daily Post 16/9/1878 - Advert

"Coseley. To Let, BLACK HORSE INN, Skidmore's Row. Doing good trade. In-coming low. Apply on premises."

The license was not taken out in 1887.

BLACK HORSE

42, (49), (Upper) Ettingshall Road, (Ettingshall Lane), (49, Sodom Road), Sodom, COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Jackson, IVY HOUSE, Mount Pleasant, Coseley
William Hampton, licensed victualler, Providence Row, Coseley
Millward Brothers, maltsters, Wednesbury

LICENSEES

William Swatman [1840] – [1842]
Thomas Jackson [1845] – [1860]
Mary Richards [1861] – [1865]
George Horton [] – 1866;
Moses Vines (1866 – []
Edward Judson [1867] – [1868]
Joseph Fletcher [1868] – [1870]

John Bryan [1871] – 1873);
Joseph Jeavons (1873 – 1875);
John Tonks (1875);
John Bryan (1875 – 1883);
Benjamin Ward (1883 – 1886);
Mrs. Susannah Ward (1886 – 1893);
Benjamin Ward (1893);
William Hampton (1893 – 1909);
Henry Wingrove (1909 – 1910);
Jesse Harper (1910 – 1911);
John Thomas Sharkey (1911 – 1923);
William Cope (1923 – 1927);
William Clark (1927);
Edward Clamp (1927 – 1928):

NOTES

Sodom [1849], [1850], [1865]
49, Sodom Road [1871]
Ettingshall Lane
49, Upper Ettingshall Lane [1881]
42, Ettingshall Road [1891]
Ettingshall Road [1896]
42, Upper Ettingshall Road [1901]
Upper Ettingshall Road [1904], [1911], [1912]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/9/1840

“An adjourned meeting of Magistrates was held on Friday at the Public Office, for the purpose of considering the applications for public house licenses, and new licenses were granted to the following applicants.....
William Swatman, Ettingshall Lane, Bilston.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/1/1844

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....
On Monday last, at the BLACK HORSE, Sodom, in the parish of Sedgley, on a child named William Hampton, about five years old, who came to his death in a similar way [his clothes taking fire] Verdict in each case Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Journal 16/6/1849

“On Monday last, an inquest was held at the BLACK HORSE public house, Sodom, in this parish, on the body of Elizabeth Burden, a child of about eighteen months old, who met with her death on Saturday, in consequence of a wheel of a cart going over its head. There was no blame attached to the driver, as he was close to the horse’s head at the moment of the occurrence. Mr. Daniel Hughes, farmer, of Coseley, to whom the cart belonged, kindly offered to bear the expenditure of the burial of the deceased.”

Birmingham Journal 28/12/1850

“On Tuesday last, an occurrence of a most distressing nature took place on the bank of a pit belonging to Mr. Thomas Pemberton, coal and iron master, Coseley. The pit is worked by a horse gin, the driver of which is a lad named Benjamin Wilkes, and with him at the time was a boy, only nine years of age, named George Mills. They had been paying together for some time, but Wilkes having occasion to go into the hovel, Mills must in the meantime have climbed up into the wooden drum, round which the pit rope is wound by the movement of the horse. Wilkes not being aware of this, suddenly started the horse, and the head of the poor lad, being caught by a beam which is fixed above the drum, he was decapitated in an instant. An inquest was held on Thursday, at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, but we have not learned the result.”

1851 Census

Sodom – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *Thomas Jackson* (59), coal miner and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Jackson* (56), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Samuel Jackson* (21), son, coal labourer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Elizabeth Jackson* (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Ann Marie Jackson* (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Thomas Jackson* (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/12/1851

“An inquest was held on Friday, at the BLACK HORSE, Sodom, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, on the body of Ann Webb, aged two years. From the evidence of the deceased’s mother, it appeared that on the morning of the 4th instant the deceased took the tea pot

from the hob to put it on the table, when the bottom of the pot fell out, and she was severely scalded on the neck and breast, from the results of which she died on the 18th inst. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/4/1852

“An inquest was held on the 13th inst, at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Harriet Lydia Burden, the illegitimate child of Mary Bartlett, who died on the 12th inst, from injuries she received in consequence of her clothes taking fire during the absence of her mother. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855 - Advert

“Freehold Houses At Sodom, Staffordshire.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Mason, on Friday, the 14th day of September, 1855, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Jackson*, the BLACK HORSE INN, at Sodom, in the parish of Sedgley, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions the to be read.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/11/1858

“On Friday morning last, as Richard Walters, a miner, 55 years of age, was at work in a pit at Coseley, a quantity of earth rushed from the side of the shaft and injured the unfortunate man so seriously about the head that he died shortly afterwards. The body was removed to the BLACK HORSE, Sodom, where it awaits the coroner’s inquest.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/1/1861

“B. Fellows of Sodom will run Fred Wright of Sedgley 90 yards, for £10 a side. Money ready any night next week at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/1/1861

“Campbell of Sodom will run C. Jones of Sedgley 90 yards, if he will give him 2 yards start, or run Tie of the same place level. Either of the matches can be made for £15 a side, any time next week, at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom.”

AND

“B. Fellows of Can Lane, Bilston, will run Fred Wright of Sedgley 120 yards level, for £10 a side. Money ready any night next week, at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom.”

1861 Census

Ettingshall Road

- [1] *Mary Richards* (37), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Archibald Campbell (19), son, blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [3] Edwin Campbell (17), son, blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Campbell (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Campbell (13), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth Thomas (19), house servant, born Bushbury:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/1/1865

“An inquest was held at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, on Wednesday last, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Mary Jones, a married woman, who lived at the village, and who had died from injuries caused by burning. It appeared that the deceased was 59 years of age, and on the 9th instant a neighbour, hearing her screams for assistance, went out and saw the deceased in front of her own house enveloped in flames. The witness threw a quantity of water over her and extinguished the flames as speedily as possible, and a surgeon was speedily in attendance, but the poor woman was so frightfully burnt in the upper part of her body that she died on Monday last. She was unable to give any account of the affair, but the supposition was, as she was alone in the house at the time, that some part of her clothing accidentally came into contact with the grate where a fire was burning, and thus caught the flames. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/7/1866 - Advert

“To be Let, the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, near Sedgley, and possession may be had immediately. For further particulars, apply to *George Horton*, BLACK HORSE, Sodom, near Sedgley.”

It had brewing plant. [1868]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/2/1868 - Advert

“Bankruptcy Act, 1861.

Unreserved Sale, The BLACK HORSE, Sodom near Coseley.

By Mr. John Bent, Tomorrow (Saturday), February 22 – the whole of the excellent Brewing Plant, well-seasoned Casks, 16-bushel Mash Tub, Coolers, Wrought and Cast-iron Boilers, six-pull Beer Machine and Piping, Jugs, Cups, Measures, Tables, Benches, Household Furniture and Effects, belonging to Mr. Judd [sic], a Bankrupt.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

London Gazette 21/2/1868

“*Edward Judson*, now and for four months last past residing at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, Coseley, in the parish of Sedg-

ley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Engineer, and for one year and three months previously thereto residing at the ROLLERS ARMS, Coseley aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper and Engineer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 17th day of February, 1868, is hereby required to surrender himself to Thomas Walker, Esq., Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 12th day of March next, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the said Court. Thomas Walker, Esq., is the Official Assignee, and Joseph Stokes, Esq., of Dudley, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

John Bryan = John Bryon

1871 Census

49, Sodom Road – BLACK HORSE

- [1] *John Bryan* (41), miner, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Hannah Bryan (38), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Jane Bryan (18), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Carmi Bryan (15), son, tradesman, born Sedgley;
- [5] John Bryan (13), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [6] Job Bryan (24), lodger, tradesman, born Sedgley;
- [7] Rebecca Davies (8), adopted child, born Sedgley;
- [8] James Richards (25), son in law, tradesman, born Sedgley;
- [9] Emily Richards (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] James Richards (1), grandson, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

"Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions. These Sessions were held yesterday.....

An application made by *John Bryon*, formerly landlord of the BLACK HORSE, Coseley, for the temporary transfer of his license to Urban Bate, also of Coseley, was objected to by Mr. Samuel Jackson, the owner of the house in question, on the ground that Bate had been convicted for a breach of his license during his tenancy at a public house formerly in his possession. The Bench declined to grant the transfer.

The application of Urban Bate, landlord of the BLACK HORSE, Skidmore's Row, Coseley, for the transfer of his license to Joshua Fellows, formerly of Swindon, was adjourned for a week."

Midland Examiner 21/8/1875

"John Marchant, a stud groom, of Hockley, Yorkshire, was summoned by Martha Davies, of Sodom, near Deepfields, to show cause why he should not be called upon to contribute towards the maintenance of her illegitimate child, of which he was alleged putative father. The complainant is a sister to the girl Jane Davies, who accused Mr. *Tonks*, land lord of the BLACK HORSE, Deepfields, with an indecent assault, for which he was committed for trial, and which case Martha Davies was one of the witnesses.

Mr. Barrow appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Fellows, of Birmingham for the defendant.

The application was dismissed owing to the defendant calling a man who spoke to seeing the applicant with another man."

[At Stafford Quarter Sessions on October 18th, 1875, *John Tonks* appeared charged with 'assault with intent' and found not guilty.]

Dudley Herald 19/8/1876 - Advert

"Unreserved Sale Of Three Powerful Cart Horses, gearing, Chaff Engine and Effects, on Monday, August the 21st, 1876, at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, Coseley.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Monday, August 21st, 1876, three useful Cart or Boat Horses fresh from work, together with the Gearing, Chaff Engine, and other Effects, removed to Mr. *Bryan*'s, the BLACK HORSE, Sodom, near Coseley, for convenience of sale.

Sale to commence at Twelve o'clock."

County Express 11/5/1878

"At the Police Court on Monday, before I. Spooner (Stipendiary) and Mr. F. A. Homer, *John Bryan*, sen., landlord of the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom; John Bryan, jun., Carmi Bryan, and David Unett, were charged on remand with unlawfully wounding Benjamin Fellowes, puddler, Upper Ettingshall Road, on the 15th ult.

It will be remembered that on the day in question a general disturbance took place at Sodom, in the course of which the prosecutor was knocked down by the prisoners, who grievously assaulted him and broke two of his ribs. Mr. Sheldon, of Wednesbury, appeared to prosecute; and Mr. Joseph Underhill (instructed by Mr. R. A. Wilcock, of Wolverhampton), appeared for the defence. Mr. Sheldon said he wished to inform the Stipendiary that terms had been offered by the prisoners to the prosecutor, which had led him to ask for the case to be withdrawn.

Mr. Spooner: What are the terms? – Mr. Sheldon: They are willing to pay £20 and the costs.

Mr. Spooner: I was going to say that I would not allow the case to be withdrawn under £20. (To prosecutor) Are you willing to submit to those terms? – Prosecutor: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Wilcock, on behalf of prisoners then paid £20, and costs £1 18s 6d.

Mr. Spooner, in addressing the prisoners, said they would be discharged. They appeared to be respectable men, but he could

hardly overlook the fact that four men had committed a brutal attack on one. Nevertheless, he thought it would be better for the prosecutor to receive a sum of money than the prisoners to be sent to gaol.”

Dudley Herald 1/5/1880

“On Monday afternoon a married woman named Sarah Jones (40), was found dead in a chair at her house, which is situated at Sodom. A few days ago the deceased’s husband and adopted son were committed to prison for stealing a wheelbarrow, since which the deceased had been very melancholy. At times she complained greatly of her trouble, and was nearly always weeping. Death is supposed to have been caused to a great extent of grief. It is rumoured that the deceased had been starved to death, but there is no foundation for the rumour, as food was found in the house by Police-sergeant Ellis. An inquiry was held on Thursday, at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, by Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner), relative to the death of Sarah Jones (43), who died suddenly on Monday. Some witnesses alleged that the deceased had been starved to death, whilst others stated the deceased had been subjected to violence. The enquiry was adjourned for the purpose of a post mortem examination being made.”

1881 Census

49, Upper Ettingshall Lane – BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *John Bryan* (53), coal miner and licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Bryan* (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *James Richards* (11), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John T. Bryan* (3), grandson, born Sedgley;

Benjamin Ward died on 1st February 1886.

1891 Census

42, Ettingshall Road – BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *Susannah Ward* (64), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *William Bennett* (13), grandson, butcher’s assistant, born Sedgley;

Susannah Ward died on 19th January 1893.

Sporting Life 8/9/1900

“Articles have been signed, and the whole of the stakes £20 deposited in our hands, for Thomas Gutteridge, of Wallbrook, Coseley, and Samuel Cooper, Coppice, Coseley, to play a match of quoits on Monday next, September 10. To play 61 points up, Cooper to be in receipt of 10 points start. The first half of the match to be contested at the BLACK HORSE Quoit Ground, Sodom, Upper Ettingshall, and the remaining half at the STAR Quoit Ground, Wallbrook, Coseley. First quoit to be pitched at 10am. The *Sporting Life* appoints a referee.”

[Thomas Gutteridge beat Samuel Cooper (10 points given) 61-53.]

1901 Census

42, Upper Ettingshall Road

- [1] *William Hampton* (53), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Betsy Hampton* (46), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Hampton* (21), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Eliza E. Hampton* (20), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Maud Hampton* (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Lily Hampton* (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *May Hampton* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;

1911 Census

Upper Ettingshall Road – BLACK HORSE INN

- [1] *John Thomas Sharkey* (44), boat maker and licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Martha Sharkey* (43), wife, married 23 years, assisting in business, born Coseley;
- [3] *Abel Sharkey* (22), son, holloware moulder, born Coseley;
- [4] *Mary Sharkey* (20), daughter, assisting at home, born Coseley;
- [5] *Phoebe Sharkey* (17), daughter, domestic service, born Coseley;
- [6] *Sarah Sharkey* (13), daughter, born Coseley;
- [7] *John Sharkey* (11), son, born Coseley;
- [8] *Charlie Sharkey* (1), son, born Coseley;
- [9] *Francis Pountney* (37), boarder, general labourer, born Tipton;

John Sharkey was also a brewer.

John Thomas Sharkey – see also OLD HOUSE AT HOME.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/12/1926

“Alleged to have stolen jewellery worth £97, Mary *Cope*, 38, married, of the BLACK HORSE INN, Upper Ettingshall, appeared at Wolverhampton yesterday, and was remanded for a week. Detective-constable Pendred said that in consequence of complaints by Messrs. Kemp and Wilcox, jewellers, he made inquiries, and arrested the prisoner. When charged she is alleged to have said, ‘No, I have nothing to say. I should not have done it had it not been for that rotter’.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/12/1926

“Mary *Cope*, aged 38, married, BLACK HORSE INN, Ettingshall, again appeared in the Wolverhampton police court yesterday and was remanded on bail on nine charges of false pretences. At her previous appearance she was charged with obtaining by false pretences jewellery to the value of £97 from a local firm.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/1/1927

“Quarter Sessions.....

May *Cope* (38), BLACK HORSE INN, Upper Ettingshall, pleaded guilty to having obtained goods by false pretences, and was bound over for 12 months.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1927

“Notice Of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

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 Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday, the 19th day of July, 1927, at 11 o’clock am.

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 Licences of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, 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).....

BLACK HORSE, Coseley. Alehouse. Licensee *Edward Clamp*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1927

“.....at the principal meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Compensation Authority held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....

The licence referral of the BLACK HORSE, Coseley, was unopposed by the owner, and was not renewed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/1/1928

“At the meeting of the Compensation Authority held on July 19, the Committee refused 13 out of 16 licenses referred to them. At the Supplemental Meeting the Committee fixed the compensation of the undermentioned cases as follows.....

BLACK HORSE, Coseley, alehouse. £1,600.

In all the before-mentioned cases the money had been apportioned amongst the interested parties, and would be paid on 24th December instant.”

License refused by Compensation Authority on 4th March 1928.

Compensation, £1,600, paid on 24th December 1928.

It closed.

It became a newsagents shop.

BOAT

47, Hurst Road, (Ettingshall Road), (74, Can Lane), (Holywell Street), (47, Hurst Hill Road), Hurst Hill, COSELEY

OWNERS

Abraham Harris, engineer, Can Lane, Sedgley

Samuel Wasdell

Frank Myatt Ltd.

Holt Brewery Company

LICENSEES

Thomas Screen [1845] – [1862]

Joshua Fellows [1864] – [1865]

Joseph Fellows [1868] – 1880;

Henry Clark [1879]
Samuel Wasdell (1880 – 1908);
Henry Palmer (1908 – 1917);
William Henry Jones (1917 – 1920);
John William Richards (1920 – 1921);
Leo Fildes (1921);
John Fellows (1921 – 1922);
George Albert Hardman (1922 – 1925);
Benjamin Poole (1925);
John Webb (1925 – 1931);
James Henry Pugh (1931 – 1933);
John Henry Newton (1933 – 1937):

NOTES

Can Lane [1849], [1861], [1865]
74, Can Lane [1871]
47, Hurst Hill Road [1891]
Hurst Hill [1904], [1912]
47, Hurst Road [1901], [1932]
Holywell Street
Ettingshall Road

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1844

“Inquisitions Before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner.....

On Monday last, at the BOAT, Cann Lane, in the parish of Sedgley, on the boy of William Hill, a miner, who was killed by a fall of stone while at work in a pit.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/9/1848

“On Friday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the BOAT INN, Cann Lane, on the body of Joseph Dunn, 12 years of age, who had been employed as ‘pitcher’ in a stone pit, at Prior Field, and who was found dead at the bottom of the shaft on Thursday morning.

It was stated by the witnesses that his duties required him to be in the hollows of the pit and not at the bottom of the shaft. He was, however, found at the latter spot, lying on his face, with a slight scar on his forehead, the top of his head being crushed in a dreadful manner. He expired shortly after he was taken to his father’s house. The witnesses all agreed in the opinion that the wound on the head of the deceased was caused by some of the clods accidentally falling from the ‘skip’ whilst the bankswoman (deceased’s sister) was landing it. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/1/1849

“On Thursday last an inquest was held at the BOAT INN, Cann Lane, in this parish, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Benjamin Nicholls, a child about a year and four months old, who, on the previous Tuesday, had been found drowned in a tub of water, with his head downwards, near his mother’s house door. It appearing from the evidence that the boy had accidentally fallen into the water, during temporary absence of his mother, the jury gave a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/12/1850

“On Monday last an inquest was held at the house of *Thomas Screen*, Can Lane, Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, on the body of James Bunn, of Can Lane, who was killed on the 27th ult. in a pit in Mr. Whitehouse’s field, in consequence of a quantity of coal falling upon him. Verdict Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Can Lane

- [1] *Thomas Screen* (39), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Screen (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary Ann Screen (14), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Screen (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Henry Screen (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Judy Screen (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Betsy Screen (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] James Screen (25), brother, general servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/1/1854

“An inquest was held on Saturday last, before W H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, at the BOAT INN, Can Lane, on the body of Edward Smart, a child about five years old, who was found in flames in his mother’s house, in Can Lane, by Mrs. Cox, on Thurs-

day last. From the evidence of the mother of the deceased, it appeared that the boy was left in the house, in company with a little girl, and upon her return home she found him burnt in the manner described. Deceased was sensible when found, and he said he had been playing with some paper and the fire, and set his clothes on fire. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for granting and renewing publican’s licenses in the parish of Bilston and Sedgley was held on Friday last, in the Bilston Police Court. The magistrates on the Bench were J. Loxdale, Esq, John Foster, Esq, J. N. Bagnall, Esq, and the Rev. J. B. Owen Sedgley.....

Mr. Whitehouse made an application for a license to the house of Mr. John Mills, Can Lane, describing the extent and comfort of the house, the beauty of the garden attached, so excellently adapted for the enjoyment of horticultural pleasure and alcoholic amusement. Mr. Waterhouse opposed, on the part of Mr. *Screen* of the BOAT INN, immediately in front of Mr. Mills’s house. Mr. Waterhouse likewise applied for a license to the house recently in the occupation of the late Mr. John Stanley, of the Coppice, in the immediate neighbourhood. It appeared that Mr. Stanley had died within the last fortnight, and Mr. Waterhouse now contended that the widow was entitled to apply for the license on the notices which had been given by her husband. The Bench were of a different opinion, and deferred the consideration of the applications until the next annual licensing day.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston..... Mr. T. M. Whitehouse said he had been instructed to apply for a license on behalf of Mr. John Mills of Can Lane, in the parish of Sedgley, and perhaps before he entered into a statement of the circumstances under which, in all probability, the magistrates would grant the license, he had better mention that he appeared for Mr. Mills to make a similar application last year, and on that occasion the application was adjourned, inasmuch as Mr. Stanley, who had given notice of an application he intended to make for a license to a house in his occupation at Can Lane, died between the time of giving the notice and the day of the application. The Bench thought it would only be acting right to the representative of Mr. Stanley, to give Mrs. Stanley the opportunity of renewing the application, and therefore postponed the consideration of that case. Mr. Mills now came to renew his application, and when he (Mr. Whitehouse) had laid before the Bench the circumstances of the case, he thought they would have no doubt that the application should be favourably received. He intended to rest the case of Mr. Mills on three points; first he should have to satisfy the Bench that the house was wanted on public and social grounds; next, the character of the applicant, which he (Mr. Whitehouse) should prove by certificate; and thirdly, the character of the house in respect of which he made the application. In regard to the first point he would remark that no old license had been granted in the locality for a least twenty years. Within a period of six years no less than 108 (for he had counted them particularly) houses had been erected in the locality, Lord Ward having introduced a good deal of land into the market, which had been bought by small purchasers. To show the progressive character of the locality, he might observe that within the last two or three months sixteen new houses had been erected; in fact since the last license was granted the population had increased by 500; there had been almost time for a new generation to arise. He did not know that he had needed to mention any other facts in order to show that another license was wanted in the neighbourhood on the ground of public necessity alone. Mr. Whitehouse contended that on social grounds it was desirable the license should be granted. Mr. Mills’s smoke room was respectably attended, and it was an inconvenience to him not to be able to supply his customers with anything else but ale. When he mentioned the character of the house and premises he thought the Bench would consider that persons would resort thither not so much for drinking and smoking – though, of course, they would like a little of both – as to enjoy the recreation which a garden like that of Mr. Mills’s would afford. Mr. Mills had been a beershop keeper many years, and no complaint had been made against him. Mr. Whitehouse then read a respectably signed certificate, and afterwards proceeded to refer to the opposition to the application by Mr. Underhill – no doubt on behalf of Mr. *Screen* – with a view of supporting that the application of Mrs. Stanley, and opposing that of Mr. Mills. He (Mr. Whitehouse) had, however, been informed that Mr. *Screen* was unable to attend the Court that day, in consequence of an injury which he had received in a row which took place in his public house. If that were true he apprehended Mr. *Screen* was not a person qualified to oppose the application – at least he did not come into Court with clean hands. If the Magistrates considered two licenses necessary, they would perhaps grant Mr. Mills’s and Mrs. Stanley’s, but if only one, they would no doubt give the license to the house most suited for that purpose. The BOAT INN (Mr. *Screen*’s house) stood upon 160 yards of land only, and yet it was a licensed house. Mr. Whitehouse then produced a large and elaborate plan of the premises, stating that in the erection of the house, and the formation of the garden, with its fishpond and greenhouse, £2,000 had been laid out by the origin proprietor, Mr. Joseph Fletcher. It afterwards fell into the hands of Mr. Robinson, solicitor, and had been subsequently purchased by Mr. Mills. He had no hesitation in saying that the house and garden were worth £1,000. He had recently visited the place himself, and found the greenhouse abounding in plants, and the garden in various productions of the horticultural and floral world. Mr. Whitehouse concluded by saying that whilst the Bench would enhance the value of the property by granting the license, they would not be injuring the property of Mr. Mills’s neighbours, but would confer an advantage upon the persons who visited the applicant’s house, particularly the working classes, who would resort thither for a little relaxation after the labours of the day.

In reply to Mr. Loxdale, it was stated that two or three similar applications to the Wolverhampton Bench had not been granted, Sub-inspector Costello saying that at the time of the making of one or two of the applications, part of the premises were used as a Chandler’s shop.

Mr. Underhill opposed the application of behalf of Mr. *Screen*, whose house, he said, was next door to the applicant’s. It did not surprise him that three or four similar applications by Mr. Mills had been refused, when he knew within 300 yards from applicant’s house, there were three public houses, besides Mr. *Screen*’s. Mr. Mills’s house was not even situated on the highway, but persons wishing to go to it had to turn up a small lane. The great point for the Magistrates to consider was whether another license was required in the locality. Magistrates seldom granted, even in large towns, licenses to houses next door to which licensed

houses existed.

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to a beerhouse in Can Lane, the property of, and occupied by Mrs. Stanley. He said that in case the Magistrates consider only one license in that district necessary, they would no doubt appreciate the advantage of his client's premises over those of Mr. Mills and grant her the license. His client came into court without opposition. The population, as had been stated by Mr. Whitehouse, had increased in such a ratio since the granting of the last license to that neighbourhood as to render another licensed house absolutely necessary. He thought the Bench almost assumed that fact last year; but it was decided that he (Mr. Waterhouse) in applying for a license for the widow of Mr. Stanley, who had just before died, had no locus standi, and consequently no license was granted – the consideration of both Mr. Mills's and Mrs. Stanley's application being adjourned until the present year in order that both applicants might appear in court on the same day. There had not only been an increase in the population at Can Lane, but also at the Coppice. One fact in favour of his client's application was that she was a widow, and that her late husband had expended all his means in erecting the premises, for the conveniently carrying on of his trade – that of a butcher – combined with the business of a beerseller. The applicant had four children, whose ages varied from six years to five months. Unless she obtained a license she would be unable in future to maintain her family in the respectable manner she had hitherto done. He had nothing to say against Mr. Mills; but his house was hidden from view by Mr. *Screen*'s house. The applicant's house cost £900 or £1,000 (inclusive of the land), and the outbuildings were extensive. The certificate bore the signatures of respectable persons, and she had kept the house three or four years without complaint. The Magistrates, after a short consultation, said they were unanimous in their opinion that both licenses must be refused.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. Mills, of Can Lane, for a license to the SUMMER HOUSE INN, of which the latter is owner and occupier. The applicant had occupied the house in respect of which he (Mr. Whitehouse) applied for a license for six or seven years, and no complaint had been made as to the manner in which it had been conducted, and further, Mr. Mills's certificate was numerously signed. As regarded the house itself, it cost Mr. Mills at least £1,000, and possessed such accommodation as was highly necessary for a public house. The last license to the neighbourhood was granted twenty-five years ago, to a most miserable house. Since that time 238 houses had been erected, 130 of them within a period of six years. Between twenty and thirty had been erected since last year, and a large piece of land had been divided into building lots, and would, no doubt, be built upon in the course of next summer. Mr. Loxdale observed that the Bench had decided upon granting one license in the neighbourhood; the question was whether it would be to the house of Mr. Mills, Mrs. Hobday, or Mr. W Jones. Mr. J. E. Underhill, on behalf of Mr. *Screen*, of the BOAT INN, the next house to Mr. Mills's, opposed the application, principally on the ground that no other licensed house was required.

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license on behalf of Mrs. Hobday. The buildings which Mr. Whitehouse had said had been recently erected stood at the Coppice, and he apprehended that it was in respect to that district that the license was required. He therefore contended that the house of Mrs. Hobday stood in the most convenient situation.

Mr. Waterhouse then applied for a license to the house of Mr. Jones, at Wood Cross, one of the three cases selected by the Magistrates. The grounds of the application were the increase of population and the great probability of a further increase, and that there was no public house in the village. The nearest inns were at Cinder Hill, one 493 and the other 517 yards from the applicant's house. Mr. Whitehouse opposed the application on the part of the inn-keepers of Cinder Hill, the ground of the opposition being that a sufficient increase had not taken place in the population to demand further public house accommodation, or render another licensed house necessary. Mr. Whitehouse added that there were already three licensed houses and five beer-houses in the neighbourhood.

The Bench granted the application of Mr. Jones, and refused that of Mr. Mills and of Mrs. Hobday.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. Mills, of Can Lane, for a license to the SUMMERHOUSE INN, of which the latter is owner and occupier. This, Mr. Whitehouse said, was the ninth or tenth application which he had made for Mr. Mills; three times he had applied at Wolverhampton, and since that time he had appeared year after year before the Magistrates at Bilston; but notwithstanding previous applications, Mr. Mills had such firm reliance on the merits of his case, that he appeared again with confidence to submit it to the Bench. Having known the parish of Sedgley for something like thirty years, he could confidently assert, having himself inspected Mr. Mills's premises, that no other licensed house in that locality afforded equal accommodation. The last license to the neighbourhood was granted thirty years ago, and so rapidly was that district increasing that as many as 300 houses had been erected in that neighbourhood in the last three years. He (Mr. Whitehouse) did not consider that the license granted last year to Mr. *Screen* would at all affect the present application, because Mr. *Screen*'s house was situated some distance from the house of Mr. Mills, and no traveller who could be accommodated at the house of Mr. Mills would ever go to the house of Mr. *Screen*.

Mr. H. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mr. *Screen*, of the BOAT INN, and contended that his client's house was quite commodious enough to accommodate all travellers to that district, and that there was no necessity for another licensed house. Mr. Underhill pointed out that the applicant's house could only be approached by a narrow road, scarcely wide enough for one carriage, and still further urged that passengers must pass the BOAT INN in order to reach the house of Mr. Mills. With respect to the stabling accommodation set forth by the plan, Mr. Underhill said that the applicant was a butty collier, and required a large number of stables for his own horses. Mr. Underhill also urged that the applicant being a butty collier, and having in his employ a large number of men in his employ, it would, by granting a license, be affording an indirect medium for the applicant to compel his workmen to expend a portion of their wages in drink.

Mr. Whitehouse asked that before the magistrates decided upon the application of Mr. Mills they should hear an application which

he had to make on behalf of Mrs. Hobday, who is also the occupier of a house in that neighbourhood. Mr. Waterhouse stated that Mrs. Hobday's house was situated in the main thoroughfare, while the house of Mr. Mills is some distance from the public road. As regarded the house itself it was originally built for a public house, while the house of the other applicant was formerly the private residence of Mr. Fletcher, and by no means adapted to the requirements of a licensed house. Mr. Underhill opposed for Mr. Rudge, of the GATE INN, Can Lane. Mr. Underhill remarked that there seemed to be a remarkably pretty quarrel between Mr. Mills and Mrs. Hobday, and he was therefore very desirous neither party should gain a victory over the other. The houses of both applicants were situated only sixty or seventy yards distant from those of Mr. Rudge and Mr. *Screen*, the opposing parties, and he (Mr. Underhill) contended that no reasons had been shown why there should be any additional licenses granted for that district. After a short consultation the Magistrates decided to refuse both applications."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

"The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. T. M. Whitehouse again applied on behalf of Mr. John Mills, for a license to the COTTAGE SPRING [sic] beerhouse, Can Lane. Mr. Whitehouse, in urging this, his tenth application, strongly pressed his suit, enlarging upon the requirements of the neighbourhood and the advantages offered by his client's premises. Mr. J. E. Underhill opposed for Mr. *Screen* of the BOAT INN. Mr. Whitehouse then, with Mr. Underhill, applied for a license to the house kept by Mrs. Hobday, in Can Lane, near to Mr. Mills's premises. Both applications were recommended by influential persons. The Bench thought there had not been a sufficient increase in the population to warrant the granting of additional licenses in that neighbourhood, and refused both applications."

1861 Census

Can Lane

- [1] *Thomas Screen* (49), innkeeper and coal dealer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Screen (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Henry Screen (19), son, boat builder, born Sedgley;
- [4] Judith Screen (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Betsy Screen (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Eliza Jane Screen (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

"Applications For New Licenses.....

John Mills, the SUMMERHOUSE INN, Can Lane, Sedgley. This was the 12th application. Supported by Mr. Whitehouse. Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mrs. Hobday and Mr. *Screen*, publicans in the same locality, the one to oppose the application of Mills and the other to apply for a license. Both applications were refused."

Joseph Fellows = Joseph Fellowes

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

"The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license for Mr. Mills, of the SUMMERHOUSE, Cann Lane, Ettingshall. Mr. J. E. Underhill opposed of behalf of Mr. *J. Fellows*, of the BOAT INN, and as the houses in question were only a short distant some few yards, the Magistrates refused the application."

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

"The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

The learned advocate also applied on behalf of John Mills, of the SUMMER HOUSE, Cann Lane, but he had two difficulties to deal with – one, that there was a public-house next door, by whom he was opposed; and another, that he had applied regularly, but unsuccessfully, for the last twelve years. Mr. Fellowes opposed the application, on behalf of Mr. *Fellows*, the landlord of the BOAT Refused."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/3/1865

"Sam Hodgkiss of Cann Lane will run J. Adams of Bilston 120 yards, for £10 a side; or he will give Wedge of Bilston two yards start in the like distance, for the like amount; or he will give T. Perry of Tipton a yard start in 120, or take five yards in the like distance from T. Rogers of Hall Green. Either match for £10 a side or their own sum. Money ready any night next week at Mr. *J. Fellows*'s, BOAT INN, Cann Lane, near Sedgley."

Birmingham Journal 12/1/1867 - Advert

"Desirable Freehold Dwelling House, Land, And Other Property, at Can Lane.

To Be Sold By auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the House of Mr. *Joseph Fellows*, the BOAT INN, Can Lane, near Sedgley, on Tuesday Next, the 15th day of January, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions of sale....."

Sporting Life 25/5/1867

"Sam Hodgkiss, of Ladymoor, is surprised at H. Tudor, of Dudley Port, asking for a yard start in 100. He will run him that distance level, for £10 a side, at Britannia Grounds, Tipton, or Burnt Tree Grounds, Dudley Port. Money ready at W. Shenstone's,

SEVEN STARS, Sedgley, or the BOAT INN, Cann Lane.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/3/1868

“T. Nicholls of Hurst Hill will run J. Clempson of Cinder Hill or H. Wright of Can Lane their own distances, for their own sum, or J. Hodgkins of Can Lane or G. Cinnforth of Walsall 125 yards, for £5 or £10 a side, or will stake £5 with them and start off the same mark. Money ready at *J. Fellows*’s, the BOAT INN, Can Lane, or at T. Nicholls’s, QUEENS ARMS, Hurst Hill.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 15/8/1868

“S. Horton of Darlaston will run S. Gee of Willenhall 120yards, for £25 a side, in eight weeks from signing articles, or he will run any man within six miles of Darlaston 300 yards; or if *J. Fellows* of the BOAT INN, Cann Lane, Sedgley, has a man that will run him he can have a match by sending a deposit to *Bells Life* and articles to Horton, at Hayes’s, the CELLAR INN, James Bridge, Darlaston.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/5/1869

“Sam Hodgkiss of Cann Lane will run Harry Tudor of Dudley Port 100 yards, and give him the choice of sides, at ground, for £5 or £10 a side, in one month from signing articles. Money ready at Mr. *Fellows*’s, BOAT INN, Cann Lane”

1871 Census

74, Can Lane – BOAT INN

- [1] *Joseph Fellowes* (39), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Fellowes (31), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Thomas Fellowes (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joseph Fellowes (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] James Fellowes (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Hannah Fellowes (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Fellowes (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] Hannah Williams (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/4/1876

“Isaac Collins, a well-known character, was charged with refusing to quit the BOAT INN, at Hurst Hill. Collins, on visiting the house, was believed by the landlord to be rather the worse for drink, and was at once refused a supply of liquor. The landlord desired him to quit, and on his persistently refusing to do so he was ejected. The landlord now summoned him for disorderly conduct and refusing to quit. After hearing the evidence, the magistrates said it was a very proper case to bring before them, as they considered the defendant had been guilty of a serious offence, for probably if complainant’s house had been visited while he (defendant) was there the complainant would have been heavily fined and his licence endangered. The Bench had decided to support any licensed victualler who might come before them in the straightforward manner Mr. *Fellows* had done, and to give legitimate protection in such cases. The defendant was fined £5 and costs, and in default two months’ hard labour.”

1891 Census

47, Hurst Hill Road – BOAT INN

- [1] *Samuel Wasdell* (33), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Margaret H. Wasdell (31), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Maud M. Wasdell (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Kate E. Wasdell (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] John E. Wasdell (1 month), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth Jones (17), sister in law, unmarried, born Sedgley:

Wellington Journal 17/8/1895

“On Monday afternoon Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy county coroner) held an inquest at the BOAT INN, Hurst Hill, touching the death of Esther Darby (51), wife of John Darby, miner, of Walter Street, Hurst Hill. John Darby gave evidence to the effect that his wife had been in failing health for a year and nine months. Margaret Darby, daughter of deceased, said her mother went to bed on Saturday night about ten o’clock, nothing unusual being the matter with her. Early on Sunday morning deceased was missed from her bedroom, and on witness going downstairs, she saw her mother hanging by a clothes line from a hook in the ceiling of the back kitchen. She had evidently stepped on a small table and swung herself off. Dr. Baker was called but life was extinct. A verdict of Suicide whilst of Unsound Mind was returned.”

Dudley Herald 18/6/1898 - Advert

“Tuesday, June 21st.

Sale of valuable Freehold Houses and Building Land, Bradley and Coseley.

Messrs. J. Male and Son have received instructions to offer for Sale By Public Auction at the BOAT INN, Hurst Hill, on the above date, the following lots.....”

1901 Census

47, Hurst Road

- [1] *Samuel Wasdell* (43), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Margaret H. Wasdell (41), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Edith E. Wasdell (18), daughter, milliner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Florence M. Wasdell (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Kate E. Wasdell (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] John E. Wasdell (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Wasdell (27), sister in law, household duties, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Hurst Hill – BOAT INN

- [1] *Henry Palmer* (48), victualler and joiner, born Woodsetton;
- [2] Elizabeth Palmer (37), wife, married 3 years, born Sedgley:

South Staffordshire Times 17/9/1921

“Bilston Police Court. *John Fellows* (who was represented by Mr. Turton) applied for the license of the BOAT INN, Hurst Hill, to be transferred to himself from *Leo Fildes*, who had been manager of the house for several months.

The application was first heard at a previous Court, when *Fildes* objected to the transfer on the ground that he had been unable to obtain accommodation elsewhere, although he had made every endeavor to do so. The application was then adjourned to see if arrangements could be made for *Fildes*' accommodation.

Mr. Turton now stated that under the Act the question of alternative accommodation did not apply to this case. *Fildes* had been only manger, not tenant, and his notice expired some time before the first application for transfer was made. *Fildes* and his family were still in the house.

Fildes repeated that he had nowhere else to go. When he went to the BOAT INN he gave up a six-roomed house. It was his own property, and he afterwards sold it. The brewery company told him that if it happened that he would have to leave the inn they would provide him with alternative accommodation.

The Chairman: How long have you been at the inn?

Fildes: Seven months.

Mr. Turton: There were reasons why the agreement had to be terminated, but I will not go into them here.

The Chairman said the transfer would be made.

Subsequently *Fildes* came into Court, and asked what he was to do, as the incoming manager had threatened to turn his goods into the street.

The Chairman said that was a matter in which they could not interfere.”

It had a homing pigeon society. [1928]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/3/1936

“At the adjourned licensing sessions at Darlaston yesterday.....

The Justices approved an application on behalf of the Holt Brewery Co. for the removal of the license of the BOAT INN, Hurst Hill, Bilston, to new premises proposed to be erected in Rough Hay Road, Darlaston, to be known as the ROUGH HAY TAVERN. It was stated that the company were prepared to surrender the license of the WOODMANS INN, Blakemores Lane, and an off-li-
cense, Catherines Cross.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/5/1936

“Staffordshire Licensing.....

The committee confirmed grants in respect of the removal of the full license of the BOAT INN, Hurst Hill, Coseley, to prem-
ises to be erected in Rough Hay Road, Darlaston.”

The license was removed to new premises erected at Rough Hay Road, Darlaston, and known as the ROUGH HAY TAVERN.
The BOAT closed on 19th May 1937.

BOAT

31, Havacre Lane / Biddings Lane, Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

Elizabeth Thompson
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (leased)
Joseph Taft, The Warren, Coseley
Isaac Millard

Truman, Hanbury & Co. [1965]
Courage Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.
Henry Hardy (acquired in 1977)
G. B. Taverns

LICENSEES

Isaac Hill [1824] – [1835]
David Millard []
Richard Thompson (1836 – [1870]
Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson [1872] – 1877);
Henry Francis Griffiths (1877 – 1882);
Daniel Rice (1882 – 1883);
John Griffiths (1883 – 1888);
Thomas ??? (1888);
Job Light (1888 – 1890);
Charles Hodge (1890 – 1901);
Samuel Cotton (1901 – 1906);
William Cox (1906 – 1907);
Selina Cox (1907 – 1912);
Isaac Millard (1912 – 1925);
John Rogers (1925 – 1929);
Philip Blundell (1929 – 1933);
John Corbett (1933 – [1940]
George Frederick Lewis [1965]
Henry Hardy [1972] – 1985);
Anne Hardy* (1985 – [1994]
Margaret Hardy* [1988] – 1995);
Sally Ann Hilton (1995 – []
Mandy Radbourne [2005]

NOTES

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 8/11/1824 - Advert

“Freehold And Copyhold Buildings And Land, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by Thomas Walters, at the house of Mr. *Isaac Hill*, the BOAT INN, at Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, on Tuesday the 21st day of December, 1824, at four o'clock in the afternoon (unless disposed of in the mean time by private contract, of which due notice will be given), in the following or such other lot or lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced.

Lot 1. A large Malthouse, in good repair, in the occupation of Mr. *Isaac Hill*.

N.B. The above lot is freehold.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1831 - Advert

“Freehold Buildings And Land, Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. R. S. Walker, on Thursday, the 15th of September, 1831, at the BOAT INN, Coseley, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then be produced, and in such lots as may be determined upon at the time of sale.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/3/1833 - Advert

“The Late William Stevens Deceased.

The Creditors of Mr. William Stevens, late of the Deepfields, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, are requested to meet the Executor of his Will, at the house of Mr. *Isaac Hill*, called the BOAT INN, Deepfields aforesaid, on Monday, the 25th day of March instant, at three o'clock in the afternoon, when a statement of his affairs will be laid before them. All Persons are hereby cautioned not to purchase or receive any of the Effects lately belonging to the said William Stevens, except from, or by the authority of Mr. George Jellicoe, of Bilston, in the said county, the sole executor of his will.

Bilston, 19th March, 1833.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/4/1833 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction, at the house of Mr. *Isaac Hill*, known by the sign of the BOAT, at the Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, on Friday, the twelfth of April instant, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Eighteen Canal Boats, late the property of William Stevens, deceased, and which will be put up in separate lots.

For further particulars, and to view the same, apply to Mr. Geo. Jellicoe, of Bilston, the Executor of the said William Stevens.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/10/1837 - Notice

“The Euphrates Packet Company will commence running their Packet on Monday, October 23, 1837, from Deepfield to Birmingham, in two hours and a half.

On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, for the accommodation of Passengers and Conveyance of Parcels, leaves Mr. *Richard Thompson's*, BOAT INN, Deepfield at eight o'clock in the morning, through Tipton Green, Dudley Port, Tividale, Oldbury, Spon Lane, and Smethwick, to Mr. John O. Williams's, Wagon and Horses, Friday Bridge, Birmingham, and returns at five o'clock the same evening. Also on Wednesdays, leaves Mr. James Aston's, FOUNTAIN INN, Tipton Green, at half past eight o'clock in the morning, through Coseley, Deepfield, and Millfield, in one hour to Wolverhampton, and returns four o'clock the same evening.”

1841 Census

Deepfields

[1] *Richard Thompson* (30), victualler, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Thompson* (25), born Staffordshire;

[3] James Thompson (6), born Staffordshire;

[4] John Thompson (4), born Staffordshire;

[5] Ann Thompson (3), born Staffordshire;

[6] William Thompson (2 months), born Staffordshire;

[7] William Lowe (20), ms;

[8] Hannah Law (20), fs, born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1844

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Saturday, at the BOAT, Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, on a child named Joseph Wires, who was drowned by falling into a canal. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/5/1845

“The following inquisitions have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Friday, the 23rd instant, at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, on the body of Stephen Green, carter, about 64 years of age. It appeared that on Wednesday evening last the deceased was with a horse and cart, loaded with cokes, at Ladymoor, and stopped the horse to reach a piece of coal placed on top of the cokes. As soon as he got on the shaft the horse started, and deceased fell from the shaft near one of the wheels, which passed over him, and crushed his ribs on both sides. He lingered until the next (Thursday) evening, and then died. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/8/1845 - Advert

“To be Peremptorily Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Walker And Page, on Tuesday, the 26th day of August, 1845, at the house of Mr. *Richard Thompson*, known by the sign of the BOAT INN, Deepfields, Coseley.....

Lot I. All that newly erected and extensive Screw Manufactory, situate at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, together with the Steam Engine, Screw Turning Lathes, Cutting Machine, and all the requisite machinery, Bands, Fixtures, Fittings, and other apparatus.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/2/1847

“On Monday last, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, Sedgley, on the body of Thomas Hunday, a labourer, about twenty-five years of age. The deceased was employed at Messrs. Benton and Pemberton's iron-works, at Deepfields, on Friday afternoon was engaged with several other workmen in getting ready for casting. While they were standing near some hot metal in an iron mould an explosion suddenly took place, and the deceased and two other men were badly burnt. The deceased, notwithstanding the attendance of two surgeons, and every care and attention, died on Saturday morning last. The occurrence is attributed to water having got into the furnace, and the end of the tweers having become very hot. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/9/1847

“On Friday last an inquest was held at the BOAT INN, at Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Samuel Pemberton, two years and a half old, son of Mr. Samuel Pemberton, coalmaster, who was found drowned in a pool of water in the pleasure grounds of his father on the previous Wednesday evening. It is supposed that the boy fell into the water whilst fishing, as his rod and line were found near that part of the pool in which the body was discovered. The jury gave a verdict of Accidentally Drowned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/7/1848

“On Friday last, at the Public Office, Wolverhampton, James Wright was charged with stealing five shillings from a table in one of the rooms at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, on the previous day. It appeared from the evidence that Mrs. *Elizabeth Thompson*, wife of the landlord, placed five shillings on the table in the tap room, which she was about to give a little girl to make some purchases, but thinking she had better wrap the money up, she went to the bar to fetch a piece of paper. She returned immediately to the tap

room, where she found that the five shillings were missing from the table. The prisoner, who came into the house with another man, about the time she left the tap room, immediately sent the little girl into the bar for a jug of ale. On being taxed with the theft he denied having seen the money. A policeman was sent for, and on his taking out his handcuffs, the prisoner said, 'Sooner than I'll have them on I'll pay the money back again.' He then produced a half-crown, a shilling, and three sixpences. This agreed with the coin which had been placed on the table by the landlady. In answer to the charge the prisoner said now that he merely offered to pay the money rather than go to gaol, but he knew nothing about the silver; he had plenty of money of his own. It was stated in court that his real name was James Gutteridge, and he admitted that he was known by two names. He was committed for three months, as a reputed thief, to hard labour."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/9/1848

"On Wednesday last an inquest was held at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Edward Atherton, 37 years of age, a furnace labourer.

The deceased, who had enjoyed good health for the last four years, was suddenly seized with illness on Sunday afternoon, between three and four o'clock, and fell to the ground. An attempt was made to revive him, and medical assistance was promptly obtained, but deceased died about six o'clock the same evening. It appeared that the deceased had lived on good terms with the woman with whom he cohabited.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased died from Natural Causes."

1851 Census

Deepfields

- [1] *Richard Thompson* (40), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Thompson* (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] James Thompson (16), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] John Thompson (14), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Ann Thompson (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] William Thompson (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Mary Elizabeth Thompson (1 month), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] James Rose (47), lodger, born Birmingham;
- [9] Rachel Toy (21), servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/7/1855 - Advert

"Sale Tomorrow.

Freehold Investments At Skidmore's Row & Bradley, near Bilston.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. S. Powell, by order of the Mortgagees, the 10th day of July, 1855, at the house of Mr. *Richard Thompson*, the BOAT INN, near Deepfields, at six o'clock in the evening, in the following lots, and subject to conditions then to be produced....."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/7/1859 - Advert

"In Chancery.

Rolinson v. Hill and Others.

Peremptory Sale By Auction, Of Foundry And Fitting-Up Shops, Machinery, And Other Effects, at Coseley, near Bilston, in the County of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, with the approbation of Vice-chancellor Sir John Stuart, the Judge to whose Court the above-mentioned cause is attached, pursuant to an order of the said Court, bearing the date the 22nd of March, 1859, by John Mason (the person appointed by the Court for that purpose), on Friday, the 22nd day of July, 1859, at the house of Mr. *Richard Thompson*, the BOAT INN, Deepfields, near Coseley aforesaid, at five o'clock in the evening subject to conditions then to be read – the Union Engine Foundry and Fitting-Up Shop....."

1861 Census

Deepfields – BOAT INN

- [1] *Richard Thompson* (50), victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Thompson* (41), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] Ann Wassell Thompson (22), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] William Thompson (20), son, house carpenter, born Coseley;
- [5] Mary E. Thompson (11), daughter, scholar, born Coseley;
- [6] Martha Wilton (30), house servant, born Bilston:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/4/1861 - Advert

"Freehold Messuage and Land, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford.

Mr. John Mason will Sell by Auction (by order of the Mortgagee), at the house of Mr. *Richard Thompson*, the BOAT INN, Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, on Tuesday next, the 30th day of April, at five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read.

Lot 1. All that Messuage or Dwelling House with the Outbuildings and Garden thereto belonging, situate at the Gaol Ho'es, in the parish of Sedgley, containing with the site of the Buildings, 712 square yards or thereabouts, now in the occupation of Samuel

Webb.

Lot 2. All that Plot of Building Land, adjoining lot 1, now used as a Garden, containing in front 11 yards, in depth 29 yards and a half, and in the whole about 325 square yards.

Lot 3. All that Plot of Building Land, adjoining lot 2, containing in front 11 yards, in depth 28 yards, and in the whole about 308 square yards.

For further particulars apply at the office of Mr. John Mason, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/8/1865

“At a late hour on Tuesday night a fatal accident occurred at Deepfields Station, on the London and North-Western Railway. About eleven o’clock a train arrived from Wolverhampton with a heavy freight of passengers. The train was a special one, on account of the races at the last-named place. The train stopped on the off-side of the station, and many passengers, immediately after alighting, rushed to the back of the train and commenced crossing the rails to get to the other side, the only means of leaving the station. The train had scarcely started on its journey before there was, as must be better imagined than described, a stream of persons passing the crossing to the station side. At this time a cry arose of the approach of another train, and the station master, Mr. Plant, and the booking-clerk, Mr. Thomas P. Fletcher, and other persons called out to persons not to pass. Seeing the rapid approach of an express train, and that many people were still heedless of the caution, those who saw the imminent danger joined in the shouts for care to be taken. In a second or two the express came up, and in its flight caught a young man named Joseph Fletcher, as he was springing from the floor to the platform. The poor fellow was dashed against the walls of the station, and such was its awful force that the body rebounded to the train. He did not live a minute, and it was found that his legs and thighs were broken, his head fearfully crushed, and many other injuries done to him. The blood was sprinkled about the whole building, and the whole of the scene was a most shocking one. The deceased was a young man about eighteen years old, and resided at Princes End, and is well known in the district in the movements of Temperance societies. A person present, who knew deceased and his friends, positively refused to tell them unless some one would undertake to pay for his trouble. We need scarcely say that this individual was spoken of with execration by those present. The body lies at the BOAT INN, at Deepfields. Several persons present consider it nothing short of a miracle that a number of persons were not killed. It has long been a matter of surprise to the public that the company have not had an ingress on both sides of the station. The dangerous crossing would then be saved, for the station is at a favourable junction, where roads run on both sides of the station.”

[At the inquest, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/5/1869

“Yesterday evening week Mr. Joseph Plant, station master at Deepfields, was presented with a purse containing twenty guineas which had been subscribed to by person wishing to show their appreciation of his courtesy in the discharge of his duty. The presentation was made by Capt. Groucott, at a meeting of the subscribers held at the BOAT INN, at Deepfields. Messrs Smallman and Thompson, the promoters of the testimonial, said the people of Coseley had expressed the warmest acknowledgements of Mr. Plant’s gentlemanly and obliging conduct. Mr. S. Granger hoped that the testimonial would cause the directors to better appreciate his services.”

Western Mail 8/5/1869

“Fatal Accident On The London And North-Western Railway.

On Thursday evening, a singular and melancholy accident happened on this line, near Deepfields Station, resulting in the death of a stoker or fireman, named Richards. At the time when the six o’clock passenger train from Wolverhampton to Walsall was passing Spring Vale, Richards was disengaged, and was leaning over the side of his engine. In passing the siding at that place, his head came into contact with the signal post for Ettingshall Road Station. He was therefore thrown off the engine on to the line. The driver, having observed the occurrence, at once brought his train to stand, and went to his comrade, and found him stretched on the ground and bleeding profusely. His injuries were so severe about the head he died almost instantaneously. With assistance the poor fellow was placed in the guard’s van, and brought on the train to Deepfields, the next station, where Mr. Plant, the station-master, took charge of him, and did everything that was requisite for the body. The deceased lies at the BOAT INN, at Deepfields. He had a wife and family, with whom he resided at Walsall.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 9/10/1869

“Yesterday (Friday) afternoon an inquiry was made before Mr. W. H. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, touching the death of John Mobberly and Edward Hampton, who were killed the preceding day in a singular manner at Priorfields Furnaces, Coseley.

John Tranter, a wheeler, deposed that John Mobberly a fellow workman, was that day engaged in his duty of loading ‘cinder.’ Samuel Hampton was employed with him at the same work, but had only commenced his labours at that place the previous Monday. About a quarter to one on Thursday afternoon witness saw both standing still at the bottom of the incline railway, which conveys the furnace cinders away. They had filled a wagon with cinders, and were waiting for the return of an empty one. At that time a cinder wagon was being drawn up the tramway in the usual mode. He saw it descend the rails, and rush into the wagon at the bottom. It came into contact with Mobberly, and killed him on the spot, having cut him at the waist into two parts, one portion being completely detached from the other. Edward Hampton was also injured by the same, his head being partially smashed, from which he died in a few minutes. Witness afterwards examined the wagon, and found that the pin that held the hook which was fastened to the chain came undone. There was only one wagon being drawn up at the time, and there was no additional weight on it. The nut, which was a fixture on the pin, was a very strong one, and he had not anticipated any danger. It was not necessary for the deceased to stand on the line, and witness could not find fault with anyone.

George Wellings, furnace manager, said that having examined the wagon, he found that the 'bur' had come off the pin. The present arrangement had existed for years, and no accident had occurred, and they had not feared one. That wagon had been repaired about three weeks before. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, with a recommendation that the proprietors should adopt a coupling suggested in lieu of the one in use.

Mr. Carmi Rollason said he wished to say on behalf of Messrs. H. B. Whitehouse and Son, that they deeply regretted the sad occurrence, and would immediately take care to fully carry out the recommendation of the jurors."

1871 Census

31, Haveacre Lane

- [1] *Elizabeth Thompson* (60), widow, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] James Thompson (37), son, agent, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Thompson (29), son, master carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Mary E. Thompson (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Maria Steadman (22), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] James Ball (36), brewer, born Sedgley:

Elizabeth Thompson was also a maltster. [1873]

Dudley Herald 18/8/1877 - Advert

"The BOAT INN, Deepfields.

To be Disposed of by private contract, by Mr. Charles Round, the Goodwill and Possession of the above well-known and much frequented Old-Licensed inn situate immediately opposite the Goods and Passenger Station of the London and North-Western Railway, at Deepfields and in the midst of Collieries and Ironworks.

The House contains a well fitted-up Bar, two Parlours, Tap Room, Kitchen, four Chambers, Club Room, and three excellent Cellars. The Out-offices comprise Brewhouse, good Stabling, Coach Houses, Yard and Premises.

The adjoining property consisting of the Deepfields Post Office and Two Dwelling Houses may be taken on a lease with the inn.

The Business has been carried on by the present proprietor and her late husband for a period of forty-one years, and will be found one of the best in the district, and an enterprising man of business would amass a good fortune in a few years and none but Capitalists need apply.

There is also a Car Business to the house, which may be greatly extended.

For Rent, Incoming, Goodwill, and Lease, apply to Mr. Charles Round, Auctioneer and Valuer, 60, High Street, Tipton."

1881 Census

31, Havacre Lane

- [1] *Henry F. Griffiths* (43), civil engineer, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Elizabeth Griffiths (41), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Lizzie Griffiths (17), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Kate M. Griffiths (16), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Dora Griffiths (14), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Florence E. Griffiths (12), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Harry B. Griffiths (10), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] Francis A. Griffiths (6), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] Pamela Edwards (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 14/4/1883

"Yesterday morning a man was found drowned in the Birmingham canal, near Deepfields Station, Coseley, and within a few yards of the spot where a young man from Wolverhampton was drowned on Saturday evening last. About five o'clock a man named Thomas Newton, who it appears is employed on the canal by the Birmingham Canal Company, and was proceeding to his work, noticed some peculiar movement in the water at this particular place, and was therefore led to thinking that something was in the water. After obtaining assistance he commenced to search the canal, and in a very short time found the body of an aged man, which was identified as being that of Peter Weaver, about 55 years of age, and a native of Bromyard, Herefordshire. The deceased was un-married, and had been in the district for some time. It seems that he had no particular employment, nor any fixed abode, but obtained work as a horse driver and other ways, and slept where ever he could get a night's lodgings. During the past week, or two, he had been residing with a man named Weaver, at Hurst Hill, and had been engaged as a horse driver by Mr. T. Nicholls, of the QUEENS ARMS INN, Hurst Hill, and a royalty master. About half-past four this morning the deceased was seen near the Birmingham Canal, and about a quarter past five his body was found. PC Wood was sent for, and he removed the body to the BOAT INN, Deepfields to await an inquest. How deceased got into the water is not at present known."

[At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of Committed Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.]

Worcestershire Chronicle 21/4/1883

"Last Friday the body of a man named Peter Weaver (55), a native of Bromyard, was found in the Birmingham canal.....

At a meeting of the Coseley sanitary Authority, on Wednesday The body was removed to the BOAT INN, Deepfields, and after the inquest no person came forward to claim the body or see to its burial. On Monday the landlord of the house complained to the authorities that the body had not been removed. The relieving officer refused to bury the body on the ground that the deceased

was not a pauper, and if he expended the money in burying the body he would be surcharged. On Tuesday the medical officer certified that the body was a nuisance. The friends of the deceased were communicated with, and they replied that they could not afford to pay the expenses of burying the deceased. Consequently, he was compelled to 'make away' with the body, it being declared a nuisance.

The Chairman: What expense have you occurred? – The Inspector of Nuisances: 27s.

The Clerk said the expenses would have to be included in the removal account, and he very much questioned if the auditor did not surcharge the Board.

Mr. Cowfield said to all intents and purposes the deceased was a pauper, and should have been buried by the parish, and not the Local Board officers.

The Chairman said he was glad that the officers of the Board had given the deceased a decent burying, notwithstanding the red tapism which had to be contended with."

Dudley and District News 9/2/1884

"At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, Eliza Johnson (26), a single woman, was brought up in custody charged with stealing wearing apparel, the property of *Daniel Rice*, landlord of the BOAT INN, Deepfields; and with stealing a gold ring, the property of David Nicholls, greengrocer, also of Deepfields.

The prisoner was formerly the servant of Mr. *Rice*, and afterwards lodged at Nicholls's, and after she had left Deepfields the property was missed from both houses; and on the woman being arrested the ring and other articles named in the charge were found in her possession.

It was stated by PC Longden that the prisoner was about to be married; but that interesting ceremony will have to be postponed for a little while, as the Bench decreed for her seven weeks' hard labour – four weeks for the one robbery and three weeks for the other."

Birmingham Daily Post 28/3/1885

"Yesterday morning, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, on the body of William Golding (38), a master cooper, of Cannock Road, Wolverhampton, who was found on the London and North-Western line, near Ettingshall, on Friday night. Inspector Prime represented the company. The facts of the case were as reported in yesterday's *Post*, and the jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased was found on the line, and that he met his death accidentally."

1891 Census

31+32, Havier Lane – 2 houses in one – BOAT INN – public

[1] *Charles Hodge* (43), innkeeper, born Devonport, Devonshire;

[2] Selina Hodge (40), wife, born Devonport, Devonshire;

[3] Selina Hodge (19), daughter, born Devonport, Devonshire;

[4] Ada Hodge (4), daughter, born Devonport, Devonshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/1/1893

"*Daniel Rice*, formerly landlord of the BOAT INN, Deepfields, was charged with attempting to commit suicide on the 3rd inst, and also with assaulting his wife.

The only witness called was John Chesworth, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields, who stated that on the date named, from information he received, he went to the prisoner's house, and found him lying on the bed with a severe wound in his throat. By the bedside there was a bucket containing some blood, which had evidently flowed from the wound. Dr. Clendinnen was sent for, and after attending to the injury, the prisoner was conveyed to the Wolverhampton Hospital. Witness did not see any instrument in the room with which the gash had been inflicted.

It will be remembered that on the 31st ult. the prisoner was to have appeared at the Bilston Police Court to answer a summons issued by his wife for assault, and rather than appear the prisoner attempted to take his life.

The Stipendiary (Mr. N. C. A. Neville) thought the man was unable to understand the predicament in which he was placed, and remanded him to hospital till Tuesday next."

1901 Census

BOAT INN

[1] *Charles Hodge* (53), publican, born Devonport, Devonshire;

[2] Selina Hodge (51), wife, born Devonport, Devonshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/8/1901

"Henry Davis, 26, Pleasant Street, Hill Top, Westbromwich, was charged with breaking into the BOAT INN, Deepfields, and stealing four bottles of whisky and 17s. The house was entered from a back-window and four bottles of whisky and a purse containing the money were stolen while the inmates were asleep. The prisoner was traced from statements he made to a relative, and said that the landlord was snoring while he was in the bedroom searching for other things. He had lately completed a term of imprisonment and was now committed for trial at Staffordshire Quarter Sessions."

[Henry Davies was found guilty at the Quarter Sessions and sentenced to 5 years' penal servitude. He had 8 previous convictions.]

Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

“John Hickman (30), of 9, Riddings Lane, Deepfields, was seized with a fit of coughing in the early morning, and getting out of bed died shortly afterwards. He had suffered from asthma. An inquest was held at the BOAT INN, before Mr. Stokes, when a verdict of Natural Causes was returned.”

1911 Census

Deepfields – BOAT INN

- [1] *Selina Cox* (43), widow, publican, born Pensnett;
- [2] Kate Pamerla Cox (21), daughter, born Coseley;
- [3] Elizabeth Jones (19), general servant, born Coseley:

David Millard was born in 1851.

He married Ruth Webb (who died in 1934).

He died in 1950.

Isaac Millard was born in 1877, the son of *David* and Ruth Millard.

He was also a brewer.

See also ANCHOR.

South Staffordshire Times 17/7/1920

“On Saturday last the customers and friends of the BOAT INN, Deepfields, Coseley, had their annual outing, when upwards of 60 journeyed by brakes through the country. A circular route was chosen, and the districts covered included Wombourn, Trysull, Swindon and Wallheath. At Trysull and Wallheath an alfresco luncheon was partaken of, the landlord of the house Mr. *Isaac Millard*, having generously given a good donation toward the cost. Home was reached at 9.30pm, everyone having thoroughly enjoyed the outing, although it started in bad weather, but, fortunately, it turned out very nice after the start had been made. The arrangements were left in the hands of Mr. G. Ward, and he was cordially thanked.”

1939 Register

Havacre Lane – BOAT INN

- [1] *John Corbett*, date of birth 19/6/1900, innkeeper (public house), married;
- [2] Martha Corbett, dob 3/3/1901, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/9/1939

“We Pay 13 More Claims. Free Insurance – 58 Safeguards.

To be prepared is a maxim to be followed. A precaution that can be taken is to ensure being covered by the 58 benefits of the *Birmingham Gazette* Free Insurance Registration coupon will be found on Page 4. Payments recently made to readers include Accidents to Children.

Mr. *J. Corbett*, BOAT INN, Deepfields, Coseley – accident to reader’s child (broken leg).”

Henry Hardy died on 2nd February 1985 aged 61.

* possibly the same person

It closed in September 2006.

It became a target for vandal attacks.

It was demolished in 2008.

Black Country Bugle 28/7/2021

Article by David Cooper

“.....BOAT INN at the junction of Havacre Lane and Biddings Lane I recall the back garden was visible from the road showing a rear entrance with brick-built staircase direct onto the canal towpath. Presumably popular with the families of working boats of the period. Wolverhampton Archives confirm that the pub was in existence in 1841. Other sources suggest it was built in 1820s.

In 2021 the Canal and River Trust were urgently trying to trace the owner of the derelict site, a Kevin O’Keef, to resolve an issue with the brick retaining wall that sits above the canal towpath. The path had been closed for two years due to the imminent collapse of the wall.”

BOAT

43, (5), (4), (14), Highfields Road, (Capponfield Road), (Highfields Bridge), (20, Ladymoor), (Ettingshall), COSELEY

OWNERS

Benjamin Whitehouse, ironmaster, Sedgley
Julia Hanson and Son Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1995]
Avebury Taverns Ltd. (acquired in 1999)

LICENSEES

R Downs [] – **1863**);
John Hall (**1863** – [1865]
Edward Phillips [1867] – **1869**);
William Holmes (**1869** – **1870**);
E Slater (**1870** – []
Charles Jones [1872] – **1873**);
Mary Ann Jones (**1873**);
James Turley (**1873** – **1878**);
James Sedgwick (**1878**);
George Holmes (**1878** – **1879**);
Joseph Reynolds (**1879** – **1891**);
Edward Gettings (**1891** – **1894**);
Richard Davis (**1894** – **1896**);
William Tilley (**1896** – **1897**);
Richard Davies (**1897** – **1898**);
James Davies (**1898** – **1899**);
Josiah Guttridge (**1899** – **1902**);
Richard Davies (**1902** – **1904**);
John Rayson (**1904** – **1905**);
John Biggs (**1905**);
John Isaac Turner (**1905** – **1908**);
George Norton (**1908** – **1910**);
Thomas Pocock (**1910** – **1911**);
James Collins (**1911** – **1914**);
Joseph Statham (**1914** – **1917**);
Mary Jane Statham (**1917** – **1919**);
Elijah Stott (**1919** – **1926**);
Gilbert Foster (**1926** – **1928**);
Arthur Griffiths (**1928** – **1929**);
James Smith (**1929**);
Sam Cottrell (**1929** – [1940]
Jacqui Waldron [] – **1995**);
Leslie Shirley (**1995** – []

NOTES

Highfields Bridge
Capponfield Road [1940]
14, Highfields Road [1881]
4, Highfields Road [1891]
4, High Fields [1901]
Highfields Road [1904]
20, Ladymore [1911]
Highfield Road [1932]
5, Highfields Road [1939]
43, Highfields Road

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/10/1865](#)

“A man named William Hughes, a sinker by trade, was, on Tuesday, charged, at the Police Court, before Mr. Isaac Spooner, with having assaulted a man named Jabez Talbot, a ball-furnaceman, residing at Hall Fields. The prosecutor appeared in court in a very weak state, and looked as though he had been injured severely. A bandage was round his forehead, and both his eyes were nearly closed and blackened. On Saturday night they were drinking together at the BOAT in Highfields, and when they went out a quar-

rel arose about two fighting dogs. The dogs, one of which belonged to the prosecutor, began to fight, and the prosecutor refused to part them. The prisoner then hit him in the ribs and knocked off his cap. While prosecutor was looking for his cap the prisoner came up and struck him a fearful blow on the forehead with a line-prop, inflicting a wound nearly three inches long, from which the blood flowed freely. The prosecutor became insensible, and when he recovered he was taken to a chemist's, where his wound was dressed. The prisoner was remanded until Friday at Wolverhampton."

1881 Census

14, Highfields Road – BOAT INN

- [1] *Joseph Reynolds* (53), coal miner and licensed victualler, born Gnosall, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Reynolds* (52), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Sarah Ann Reynolds* (17), daughter, born Moxley;
- [4] *Joseph Davis* (4), grandson, born Hill Top;
- [5] *Annie Wilson* (17), visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Sarah Griffiths* (22), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Evening Star 14/4/1882

"On Monday, the 'Working Man's Friend' Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners celebrated their anniversary at the house of Brother *Reynolds*, the BOAT INN, Highfields, when 32 members and friends dined together, the meal being served by the host and hostess with customary credit. After dinner Brother Bennett was voted to the chair and Brother Clifford in the vice chair....."

1891 Census

4, Highfields Road – BOAT INN

- [1] *Joseph Reynolds* (63), licensed victualler, born Gnosall, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Reynolds* (63), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *William Perry* (9), grandson, scholar, born Ettingshall;
- [4] *Elizabeth Shone* (16), general servant, born Hull, Yorkshire:

Richard Davis = Richard Davies

1901 Census

4, High Fields – BOAT INN

- [1] *Josiah Gutteridge* (37), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Jemima Gutteridge* (38), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Sarah Whitehouse* (23), domestic servant, born Coseley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/5/1902

"*Josiah Gutteridge*, of the BOAT INN, Highfields, Bradley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. Police-Sergt. Gibbs and Police-constable Myatt saw a man named Walker being led from the house by a woman in a very drunken condition. In the taproom they saw a woman named Cox drunk and crying, and when the landlady had been aroused from sleep it was noticed that she was drunk. Later on the landlord was fetched, and he was so much under the influence of drink that he had to support himself by a wall. The Bench fined *Gutteridge* £10 and costs, amounting to £15 15s, for permitting drunkenness, and 10s and costs for being drunk; Mrs. *Gutteridge*, 10s and costs; and Cox and Walker, 5s and costs each."

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

"Sedgley Licensing Sessions BOAT INN, Highfields, Bradley.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required and conviction.

PS Gibbs proved the conviction and also said that there were three or four steps down to the front door.

Plans were submitted for alteration.

The license was renewed on condition that the alterations were made, and a door on the canal side stopped up."

George Norton married *Theodosia Lane*.

1911 Census

20, Ladymore

- [1] *Thomas Pocock* (42), licensed victualler, born Chieveley, Berkshire;
- [2] *Jane Pocock* (41), wife, married 15 years, born Besford, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Martha Anne Pocock* (14), daughter, student, born Armley, Leeds;
- [4] *Thomas Colin Pocock* (7), son, school boy, born Hampton, Worcestershire;
- [5] *Gweneth Emily Pocock* (2), daughter, born Evesham:

Dudley Chronicle 18/8/1917

"At Dudley County Court on Tuesday, before Judge Amphlett, *Samuel Whitehouse*, of 12, Highfield, Bilston, a miner, claimed £4 7s 6d from *Joseph Statham*, BOAT INN, High Fields, in respect of damage done to his garden by defendant's fowls. After hearing

the evidence judgement was entered for plaintiff for £3.”

A music license was granted on 2nd March 1928.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/3/1931

“Evidence of an extraordinary nature was given at Bilston yesterday when two men were charged on remand with robbery with violence. The public portion of the court was filled, and a large number of people gathered in adjoining streets. The accused, Arthur Hall, aged 28, of 7, Long Row, Highfields, Bradley, and Samuel Pearson, aged 25, of 12, Stoke Street, Bradley (both labourers and married), were committed to the Staffordshire Assizes on a charge of robbing Edward Roberts, aged 67, of Greycot Lane, Bradley, of four £1 Treasury notes, at the same time using violence. Mr. Ernest Brown appeared for the prosecution, and it was stated that on the evening of Monday, 2 March, the accused entered the BOAT INN, Highfields, where Roberts was. Shortly before 10pm Roberts went out and was followed by the accused. They passed him in the road, and apparently hid behind a gateway. When Roberts had walked a little way past, it was stated, they followed him and overtook him. One tugged at his walking-stick, and the other apparently jumped on his shoulders from behind, and both men struck him. Roberts fell down and shouted ‘Murder!’ and the men left him. After a few minutes Roberts managed to get home, where he found that four £1 notes he had had in his possession were missing. Dr. W. V. Roland of Bradley, said Roberts had a gaping wound which had to have two stiches inserted, on his upper lip. There were also skin abrasions on the forehead. These were consistent with Roberts having been struck with fists. Witness did not think any instrument was used. When interviewed by the police, Hall at first made a statement denying any charge, but later, it was alleged, made another, mentioning that he and his companion went into Rounds Road and stopped by the cot gates, let Roberts pass, and then went behind him and struck him together with their fists, but nothing else, Pearson taking the money from Roberts pocket while Hall held him. ‘This is the first time, and I hope it will be the last,’ added the statement. ‘I hope Mr. Roberts is all right. Have you seen him this morning.’ Pearson after hearing Hall’s statement, made one in which he alleged to have said, ‘This is the first time I have ever done anything in my life, and I had some beer or we should not have done it. We had no intention of hurting. We didn’t strike him with anything but our fists. God help me and Mr. Roberts.’ While they were being conveyed to the police station, Pearson wept and was said to have exclaimed, ‘Oh God! I trust Mr. Roberts gets better. Is he all right. Are you sure he won’t die? Oh God! Will he get better. Let me know how he is. Oh God! I hope he doesn’t die. What shall I do if he dies?’ When they were charged, Hall, it was alleged, replied, ‘I can only say I am sorry. I hope Mr. Roberts will get well. We hadn’t ought to have dome such a thing.’ Pearson’s reply was stated to have been, ‘I can’t realise the act we done. It was the beer. I hope and trust in God that he will get better. It’s the first time I have been in trouble. I hope whoever tries me will be as lenient as he can.’ Asked if they had anything to say to the magistrates, Hall replied in a voice almost inaudible, ‘Please sir, it was the beer, else we should never have done it.’ Pearson’s reply was inaudible. Both the accused were allowed bail, each in two sureties of £50.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/7/1931

“Staffordshire Summer Assizes before Mr. Justice Wright Addressing the prisoners his Lordship said, ‘You have pleaded guilty to an offence which the law of this county regards with great gravity. It is one of the few offences in this land that is punishable by whipping and I need not say that it is a serious matter that a respectable member of the community should be knocked down in a public place, maltreated and robbed. On the other hand you are well spoken of, it is your first offence, and I take into consideration the fact that you have pleaded guilty and that you may have been under the influence of drink which may have warped your sense of decency.’ Sentences of six months’ imprisonment were passed.”

1939 Register

5, Highfields Road

- [1] *Sam Cottrell*, date of birth 9/8/1885, public house licensee, married;
- [2] *Henrietta Cottrell*, dob 26/11/1887, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Ruby (Cottrell) Bromley*, dob 28/6/1917, assistant fried fish shop, single;

[1995]

Closed

It was demolished in early 2002.

BOOT AND SLIPPER

Ladymoor, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Bennett [1828] – [1845]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

BRAMFORD ARMS

Tipton Road / Park Road, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Greene King (Hungry Horse) (acquired in November 1998)

LICENSEES

Reginald Round Field [1962]
Howard Ernest Shepherd (1974 – 1977);
John Hill (1977 – 1981)
Phil Hinkley (1986 – [1987]
Chris Brewer (1988 – [1989]
Brian Dubberley []
Val Scott [2001] manager
Michael Peterson [2003] – [2006]
Maxine Timmins [2012] – 2014);
Alexander ‘Alex’ Lacey (2014 – [2015]
Daniel Phillips [2016] general manager
Christopher Henden [2018] general manager
Donna Boden [2023] general manager

NOTES

It opened in 1956.

Howard Ernest Shepherd died in 1982.

John Hill was married to Sandra.

Chris Brewer was married to Jo.

Refurbished and restaurant area opened on 15th August 1988.

Garfield’s Restaurant opened here in June 1989.

It was renamed FAST EDDIE’s [1996], [1999]

It was refurbished at a cost of £300,000

It reopened as BRAMFORD ARMS (Hungry Horse) in March 1999.

Michael Peterson was married to Julie.

It closed on 25th February 2008.

It underwent a £370,000 refurbishment.

It reopened on 23rd March 2008.

Express & Star 18/4/2014

“A burglar who broke into pubs across the Black Country, stealing money from pool tables, gambling machines, jukeboxes and charity tins, has been jailed for six years.

Trevor Hollis targeted seven pubs in Dudley, Stourbridge, Brierley Hill and Coseley in less than two weeks, all at night or in the early hours of the morning. In some cases the landlords or licensees were on the premises, leading a judge to warn of the dangers of that profession. Hollis, aged 32, of Cheshire Street, Market Drayton, was arrested at the NEW WELLINGTON pub, in Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill on November 14, 2013. The landlord had been in bed in a flat above and was woken by a bang, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. He caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage.

In his spate of burglaries he also targeted the KING WILLIAM in Dudley, the SAMSON AND LION in Stourbridge, the MALT SHOVEL in Dudley, the BRAMFORD ARMS, also in Dudley, and the STARVING RASCAL, in Stourbridge. He previously pleaded guilty to the six burglaries and also to raiding the pub area of the PAINTERS ARMS in Coseley with an accomplice, stealing £100. He denied a separate charge of burgling the upstairs private area of the PAINTERS ARMS, but a jury found him guilty. Yesterday, the court heard how an intruder, believed not to have been Hollis but rather his accomplice, went upstairs armed with a hammer to steal from the property, leaving the licensee ‘distressed’. Mr Robert Cowley, defending at yesterday’s hearing, asked the judge to be lenient in his overall sentence, saying, ‘For the majority of these offences he did plead guilty.’ Another of the pubs that was occupied by the landlords when Hollis broke in was the BRAMFORD ARMS. The landlords were woken by the alarm and watched Hollis on a live CCTV feed. Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting, said Hollis got away with two charity boxes containing an unknown sum of money and tried to force open the till.

At the KING WILLIAM he stole £500 from gambling machines and forced open the pool table. At the MALT SHOVEL he fled with £600 from games machines and £100 from a charity jar. And at the SAMSON AND LION he broke into games machines and a pool table, getting away with £300, as well as bottles of whiskey, vodka and Disaronno.

But at the STARVING RASCAL he left behind a cigarette end, which enabled police to trace him through DNA testing.

The court heard he had a string of burglaries on his record, as well as drug offences, dating back to 1998. Hollis was sentenced to six years and was ordered to pay a £120 victim surcharge.”

Express & Star 8/7/2014

“A fire also broke out this morning at the BRAMFORD ARMS in Tipton Road, Sedgley, at around 7.15am. The fire, which was sparked by an electrical fault, started in the cellar. The cleaner raised the alarm, and firefighters wearing breathing apparatus were able to contain the fire to the cellar.

Dudley watch commander Andrew Froggatt said, ‘The fire was caused by an electrical fault with the incoming supply. Thankfully the fire could be confined to the room of origin because of good information from the cleaner on arrival and the actions of the breathing apparatus crew.’

General manager, *Alex Lacey*, added, ‘We had a little electrical fire that was confined to a small storage area’.”

Express & Star 18/4/2014

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It closed in April 2015 for a refurbishment.
It reopened on April 29th 2015.

Dudley News 29/4/2015

“A Woodsetton pub has reopened after undergoing a makeover to bring a bit of sparkle to the family friendly local. The BRAMFORD ARMS welcomed customers back today (Wednesday) just under three weeks after work began. The pub now boasts a new layout in the restaurant area with additional booths fitted with their own TVs. Significant work was also done to give a new look to the bar area, with a large projector screen for sports viewing. New carpets and furniture were added throughout and, outside of the pub, the beer garden has been extended and improved. Speaking about the changes, pub manager *Alex Lacey* said, ‘The pub was in need of a bit of a refresh and the makeover was just the job. The difference it has made is amazing’.”

Dudley Chronicle 19/7/2018

“A Pub in Dudley is set to undergo a six-figure refurbishment, creating up to eight jobs.

The BRAMFORD ARMS in Park Road, Woodsetton, was closing this week for a revamp as a sports bar, including extra TV screens and improved beer garden.

General manager *Christopher Henden* said, ‘We’re really excited to get the refurbishment under way, and look forward to welcoming our Dudley neighbours to the revamped venue when it officially opens on Sunday, July 29.’”

Dudley Chronicle 27/9/2018

“A pub in Dudley has launched a vegan range of meals as part of its new menu. The BRAMFORD ARMS, in Park Road, even offers a vegan version of the pub classic fish and chips. Produced by VBite, the vegan dish is made of fish-free ‘fish’ flakes, and there is also a Bakewell tart pudding, which is served with special vegan vanilla flavoured ice-cream.

Christopher Henden, general manager, said, ‘We know our local customers have a wide range of diets and tastes, so it’s important that we experiment with exciting new dishes and flavour combinations to ensure we cater for this.’ Other dishes on the special menu include chickpea and sweet potato curry, and vegan falafel burger.”

Dudley News 2/9/2020

“A Woodsetton pub is set to serve a bright green burger to raise cash for Macmillan Cancer Support. The BRAMFORD ARMS will sell the unusual dish throughout September to raise funds for the cancer charity whose fundraising work has been severely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. Greene King and Hungry Horse have teamed up to unveil the brightly coloured burger, which is dyed in Macmillan’s signature colour, as part of its partnership with the charity. Burger fans can get their hands on either a crispy chicken or grilled beef patty, topped with a layer of fajita seasoned mac ‘n’ cheese, lettuce, tomato, red onion and mayo, all sandwiched between two vibrant green burger buns. The burger, which has been named the ‘Greene Warrior,’ is available now in 600 pubs nationwide, including the BRAMFORD ARMS on Park Road.....”

Halesowen News 7/3/2021

“Other recent cases at the local magistrates court included.....

The owners of a Dudley pub have been fined £8,000 for a breach of hygiene regulations and ordered to pay another £2,277 in costs. Four other charges of hygiene breaches were withdrawn. Greene King Retailing Ltd, based at Bury St Edmunds, pleaded guilty to a food safety procedure failing at the BRAMFORD ARMS in Park Road, Woodsetton in October 2019.”

Dudley News 21/11/2023

“Dudley pub the BRAMFORD ARMS at Woodsetton is collecting pre-loved and new toys to donate to the Black Country Wellbeing Centre Charity this Christmas. The Hungry Horse venue is one of 235 pubs across the country participating in the pub chain’s annual Toy Boxing donation scheme, which launched in 2021 to help less fortunate families ensure children have toys to open at Christmas. Pubgoers can donate toys at their local Hungry Horse until December 18. The BRAMFORD ARMS took part in the initiative last year and donated more than 1,500 toys to the Black Country Wellbeing Centre, which supports local families. This year, the pub is again calling for locals to donate toys for the Black Country Wellbeing community.

Donna Boden, general manager of the BRAMFORD ARMS, said, ‘The staff and I at the BRAMFORD ARMS are delighted to be supporting our local community for the third year running by donating toys to families in need. We know that although this time of year is a special one for many, it’s equally a struggle for those trying to support a family, with so many feeling the pinch in the current climate. The Woodsetton community is so tight knit and caring. We had such wonderful engagement from our customers and staff last year and we anticipate a great response from everyone again this year, as people come together to make every child’s Christmas special.’

Wade Cooper, founder and director of the Black Country Wellbeing Centre, said, ‘We are passionate about supporting children and families in the local area – particularly those struggling to get by financially. The donations given to us by the BRAMFORD ARMS will have a huge impact on our community, helping us put a smile on children’s faces on Christmas morning while easing some financial pressure on parents buying presents for little ones this year.’”

[2023]

17, Brierley Lane, Daisy Bank, COSELEY

OWNERS

Peter Rudge, bricklayer, Lichfield
Edward Ward, innkeeper, Highfields, Coseley [1898]
Mary Jane Ward, beerhouse keeper, Skidmore Road, Coseley
Edward Ward, licensee

LICENSEES

John Turley [1860]
Peter Rudge [1864] – [1871]
Thomas Sergeant [] – 1873);
Benjamin Horton (1873);
Thomas Jones (1873 – 1875);
Samuel Martin (1875 – 1876);
Peter Rudge (1876 – 1877);
George Harrison (1877 – 1883);
Edward Ward (1883 – 1900);
Alfred P Ward (1900 – 1915);
Thomas Ward (1915 – 1922);
Edward Ward (1922 – [1940]
Thomas William Brookes []

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was formerly the BULLS HEAD.
[Was the name changed during the second tenure of Peter Rudge?]

Peter Rudge, beer retailer, Daisy Bank. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 24/4/1865

“At the Police Court, on Saturday, Isaiah Taylor, alias Waterhouse, and Elizabeth Taylor, were charged with stealing various articles of wearing apparel, the property of Charles Tatton, Railway Buildings, Bloomsbury, Tipton. On the night of the 7th inst, the premises of the prosecutor were secured as usual. On the following morning, the back door was found open, and a large quantity of wearing apparel and food was discovered to be missing. The male prisoner was apprehended on Thursday night, whilst attempting to break into a house in Church Lane, Tipton. On searching his house at Wallbrook, Sedgley, a number of pawntickets were found, one of which related to the property missing. It was thought the property and tickets found in the house are the proceeds of upwards of twenty burglaries. Some of it has been identified. The prisoner was further charged with stealing food and wearing apparel from the house of William Leopard, Bloomfield, Tipton, on the 13th inst, and from the house of *Peter Rudge*, Daisy Bank, Sedgley, on the 14th inst. The circumstances were precisely similar to those in the first case, and the prisoners were committed to the Sessions. The man has previously served a term of six years penal servitude.”
[At the Staffordshire Midsummer Assizes, Isaiah Taylor (28), caster, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. Elizabeth Taylor (22), no occupation, was acquitted, there being no evidence offered against her.]

1871 Census

17, Brierly Lane
[1] *Peter Rudge* (46), publican, born Sedgley;
[2] Emma Rudge (41), wife, born Wolverhampton;
[3] John Rudge (16), son, labourer in iron works, born Sedgley;
[4] Mary J. A. Rudge (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
[5] Alfred Rudge (11), son, scholar, born Bilston;
[5] Jane Rudge (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

17, Brierley Lane
[1] *George Harrison* (52), beerhouse keeper, born Kidderminster;

- [2] Maryann Harrison (50), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] William Harrison (17), son, coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Emma Harrison (14), daughter, born Sedgley:

Evening Star 24/3/1882

“*George Harrison*, landlord of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Brierley Lane, Daisy Bank, Bradley, was charged with keeping his licensed premises open during prohibited hours.

Police-constable Kidson stated that he visited the defendant’s house on Sunday last, at 12.15, and found three men with a quart jug containing ale, and on asking the defendant how he accounted for it, he said they had come to see a friend, and he had given them a quart of ale. Witness told defendant he should report it, when he said, ‘I hope not.’

Police-constable Robinson corroborated.

The defence was that the men had come to see a relation of his. He saw them standing outside, and asked them to come in, instead of waiting outside, and gave to them a quart of ale. He was ignorant of the law, and did not know he was doing wrong.

Finced 10s and costs.”

Dudley and District News 11/10/1884

“On Monday afternoon the District Coroner (W. H. Phillips, Esq.) resumed at the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Daisy Bank, an enquiry which opened on Saturday touching the death of Naomi Rudge (32), wife of John Rudge, bricklayer, Daisy Bank, who died suddenly on the previous Thursday. On the morning of that day deceased was apparently in good health, but later she sent for Mary Ann *Ward*, landlady of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, who found her in bed struggling as if she was in a fit. She had been subject to fits, and Mrs. *Ward* gave her some water. She, however, died in the course of five minutes. Deceased had been a hard drinker, and had been in the habit, in order to relieve the toothache from which she suffered, of rubbing her face with a liquid obtained from a bottle labelled ‘ascetic acid.’ Under those circumstances there was some doubt as to the exact cause of death, and, by order of the Coroner, Mr. J. G. Clendinnen, surgeon, had made a post mortem examination of the body. He now stated that he was satisfied death was the result of syncope, or fainting caused by epileptic convulsions. He was satisfied too, that deceased had not taken any powerful acid. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1891 Census

17, Brierley Lane

- [1] *Edward Ward* (38), blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Jane Ward (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Alfred Poultney Ward* (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Earnest Poultney Ward (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Edward Poultney Ward (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Mary Jane Poultney Ward (5), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Thomas Poultney Ward (3), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Annie Poultney Ward (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Sarah Martin (15), servant, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

17, Brierley Lane

- [1] *Alfred P. Ward* (22), son, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ernest Ward (19), son, railway stoker, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary J. Ward (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Annie Ward (10), daughter, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Brierley Lane – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *Alfred Ward* (32), unmarried, brewer for sale, born Coseley;
- [2] Ernest Ward (28), brother, general dealer in household goods, born Coseley:

1939 Register

Brierley Lane – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *Edward Ward*, date of birth 5/2/1884, beerhouse keeper, single;
- [2] Ernest Ward, dob 2/2/1882, slag labourer, retired, lost one ____, single;
- [3] Mary J. Tomlinson, dob 25/11/1885, unpaid domestic duties, widowed;
- [4] Mary J. (Tomlinson) Martin, dob 17/12/1916, unpaid domestic duties, single:

Thomas William Brookes – see also HAND AND KEYS, Bilston, and GEORGE AND DRAGON, Bradley.

[1986]

Closed

It was converted into a private residence.

Check Wednesbury Oak, TIPTON.

BRICKLAYERS ARMS

13, Straits, (Cotwall End), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Earl of Dudley

LICENSEES

Josiah Hickman [1830] – 1875);
Enoch Hickman (1875 – 1899);
Josiah Hickman (1899);
Mrs. Elizabeth ‘Betty’ Hickman (1899 – 1907):

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/9/1840

“An adjourned meeting of Magistrates was held on Friday at the Public Office, for the purpose of considering the applications for public house licenses, and new licenses were granted to the following applicants.....

Josiah Hickman, Straits Green, Sedgley.”

1841 Census

Cottwallend

- [1] *Josiah Hickman* (50), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Hannah Hickman* (50), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Mary Hickman* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Enoch Hickman* (14), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *James Hickman* (2), born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Straits

- [1] *Josiah Hickmans* (64), bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Hickmans* (63), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Jobe Hickmans* (41), son, widower, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Ann Hickmans* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Sarah Hickmans* (13), granddaughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *James Hickmans* (12), grandson, born Sedgley:

1861 Census

Straits – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *Enoch Hickman* (34), carpenter, born Sedgley;
 - [2] *Elizabeth Hickman* (32), wife, born Sedgley;
 - [3] *Job Hickman* (13), son, born Sedgley;
 - [4] *Prudence Hickman* (9), daughter, born Sedgley;
 - [5] *Josiah Hickman* (2), son, born Sedgley:
- [*Josiah Hickman* (74), bricklayer, is the next entry.]

1871 Census

13, Straits Road

- [1] *Josiah Hickman* (84), BRICKLAYERS ARMS, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Enoch Hickman* (44), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Hickman* (42), daughter in law, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Prudence Hickman* (19), granddaughter, general servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Josiah Hickman* (12), grandson, scholar, born Aldershot, Hampshire;
- [6] *John Hickman* (9), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Edward Hickman (4), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] William Hickman (2), grandson, born Sedgley:

Dudley Guardian 27/6/1874

“At the Sedgley Police Court on Monday, before I. Spooner, Esq, stipendiary, Thomas Wilkes, Benjamin Greenway, and William Timmins, colliers, who are on strike, were charged with assaulting John Thompson, a labourer in the employ of the Earl of Dudley, on the 19th inst. Mr. Stokes appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Barrow defended the prisoners.

Mr. Stokes in opening the case said the circumstances were extremely unusual, and he could not account for the attack that had been made on the complainant and others by the prisoners. The facts he could show, were these. On Friday night the prisoners, who were colliers, went to the village called The Straits, which was some distance from their homes, and whilst there went to the BRICKLAYERS ARMS public-house. All went quietly until about ten o'clock at night, when the prisoners left the house and loitered about the village for some purpose or other instead of going home. About half-past ten o'clock, a youth named Brookes was attacked by the prisoners as he was going home with some flour to his mother. They first asked Brookes to fight, and because he refused they commenced dragging him about the road. A villager passing remonstrated with them upon which one of the prisoners struck him and knocked him down. The man's wife called out 'murder' and a number of persons hearing the cry came out. Amongst them was the complainant who asked what was the matter, and he had no sooner done so than he was felled to the ground by Wilkes and Greenway. Complainant got up and ran away as hard as he could, but the prisoners followed him and overtook him. He saw they had large sticks in their hands and as he said to them 'don't kill me' they knocked him on the head with their sticks and again felled him to the ground. Complainant put up his hands to protect his head and they got so beaten that they were now in a fearfully smashed and mutilated condition. Complainant became insensible and whilst in that state Mrs. Wilkes came up and said 'you have killed the man' upon which prisoners ran away. Complainant could not speak to the prisoner Timmins as one of the men, but Mrs. Wilkes would be able to identify him as the third prisoner. He was then called.

John Thompson deposed: I am a labourer living at The Straits, Sedgley. On Friday night about half-past ten o'clock, I was in the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, which is about a quarter of a mile from where I live, and I left to go home soon after. On my way I heard a noise on the road and I said, 'Hallo lads what's the row?' No sooner had I said those words than I was struck with a large hedge stake by the prisoner Wilkes and knocked down. The prisoner Greenway also struck me. The blow was on the right side of the head. When I got up again I fought my way out as well as I could. There were a number of persons there, and someone prevented me from striking Wilkes. I then ran away and three of them followed me, the prisoners Wilkes and Greenway being two of them. I was overtaken after running about 60 or 70 yards by Wilkes, who had a bludgeon in his hand. I said, 'For God's sake Tom don't strike me with that thing,' and he lifted the weapon and struck me on the right side of the head. I was knocked down and Greenway came up and both then struck me. I begged for mercy. A third man also struck and kicked me, but I did not know who he was. I had put my hands on my head to save it, and my hands were so badly injured that I cannot use them even to dress myself with. I recollect Mary Wilkes coming up and I heard her say 'For God's sake spare his life.' After that I became insensible. The coat produced (which was covered in blood) was the one I wore.

Cross-examined by Mr. Barrow: Friday was the reckoning night. I left work about half-past five o'clock in the evening. About six of us went to the BRICKLAYERS ARMS public-house. I saw Wilkes and Greenway on the bowling alley at the public-house. The two prisoners, Wilkes and Greenway, left the house before I did. The six men who went with me were on the road when I came out of the house. I went into a ruck of men and said, 'Hallo lads what's the matter?' and it was then I was struck as I have said. There was a crowd of men, but I cannot say how many there were. Greenway was in the middle of the crowd when I first saw him, and Wilkes then struck me. I did not notice whether anything was being done to him by the crowd. I did not hear Greenway cry out 'murder' or 'hold off, I have not done anything to you.' I know Job Hickman but I did not see him among the crowd. I did not hear anyone say, 'don't kick him.' I did not see anyone with a bayonet or with any such weapon.

Re-examined: I did not speak to any of those I went to the house with after I came out.

By Mr. Spooner: There was a noise when I got up to the crowd, but I did not see any fighting going on. Both men and women appeared to be quarrelling.

Dr. John McNab Ballenden deposed: I was sent by the police to Thompson's house on Saturday morning at five o'clock. I found the man in bed. I found two wounds on the head, one at the back of the head two inches and a half in length penetrating to the skull, and the other on the top of the head two inches and a half in length. Both were ragged wounds. I have not perceived any fractures. On the back of his hands there are wounds, bruises and severe abrasions. They would be occasioned by his holding them up to protect his head. The head was matted with blood and dirt. I examined his body but did not perceive any injury. He is doing well now but he will not be able to work for a fortnight, granting all goes favourably.

Thompson re-called: I am not employing any boys at all. No application was made to me for money for those on strike. I believe the prisoners are all out on strike.

Mary Wilkes deposed, I am the wife of Timothy Wilkes, and live at The Straits. On Friday night, about half-past ten, I was at home, when I heard a noise in the road. Being an unusual noise, I went out to see what was the matter, when I got into the road I heard a cry of 'Murder.' I ran in the direction of the cry, and about a hundred yards from my house, I saw the three prisoners round Thompson, who was lying on the ground. I only saw Timmins strike him, and he struck him with what appeared to be a rail off a gate. I put my hands on Timmins's shoulder and I said, I hope you have not killed him, and he said, 'I have not.' I then went to Thompson and raised his head up. He was insensible, and I called to the three prisoners, but they walked away. I called after them, 'You have killed him,' and the prisoners then ran away. I cried for help, and his wife and brother came out and took him away home.

Cross-examined by Mr. Barrow: I heard the noise for ten minutes before I went out. I have known both Wilkes and Greenway for many years. I was not near enough to see any marks of blood on Greenway.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Barrow, for the defence, said his learned friend, in his opening address, made use of an observation which struck him (the speaker) as singular, it was that he could not account for the attack. His instructions were that the prisoners were at the house of Mr. *Enoch Hickman*, the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, until closing time. Thompson and a number of his fellow-workmen were there about six o'clock, and were engaged from that time until about eleven o'clock drinking. None of the prisoners had any communication with them.

Mr. Spooner: You must assume it's proved that he did not go there until eight o'clock, as he did not get his wages until nearly that time.

Mr. Barrow said the men, at all events, did not leave the house until they were turned out. Wilkes left the house first, and after he had got a good way along the road he was followed by Greenway. The fellow workmen of Thompson, who had been drinking in the bowling alley, were congregated on the road, and as Greenway was passing through the crowd he was assaulted by Thompson's companions. Wilkes hearing his companions' cries for help, went to his assistance, and found himself in the midst of a crowd armed with sticks and bludgeons which were freely using on Greenway. Wilkes endeavoured to get his companion away. No doubt, Thompson heard of the fight that was going on, and went to the assistance of his fellow-workmen, but where and how he got his injuries he could not imagine.

Mr. Spooner: There is no doubt how he got them if Mrs. Wilkes is to be believed.

Mr. Barrow said he was speaking of the commencement of the affair. No doubt Thompson went into it with all the spirit of mischief and desire for victory that animated his companions, and he was instructed to deny that any of the weapons that were in court were used by any of the prisoners.

Mr. Spooner: They are not produced, or in any part shown to have been used, therefore you have nothing to do with them.

Mr. Barrow said that with regard to the woman Mrs. Wilkes, he felt he could not impugn the testimony she had given; it was a dark night, and she might have made some mistake. He would call evidence to show how the whole thing had begun, and then leave the matter to Mr. Spooner to deal with as he thought fit.

He then called John Jones, who deposed: I am a miner living at Gornal Wood. On Friday I was at the BRICKLAYERS ARMS public-house. I went there early in the afternoon with the three prisoners, and stayed there until closing time. Wilkes left to go home first, and I and the others followed. There were a large number of persons around, and a row occurred between Greenway and some others. Greenway was knocked down and the prisoner Timmins went to fetch Wilkes. When Wilkes came back John Thompson and several others were pitching into Greenway. At that time no weapons were used, but a number were introduced shortly afterwards. Thompson was not sober; I do not believe a man there was sober. Nothing was done to Thompson I saw.

Mr. Spooner then ordered the witness to go down and to be kept in custody, but shortly afterwards he was liberated.

John Greenway was called, but his evidence was not material, as he knew nothing about the disturbance further than having heard a noise.

Benjamin Greenway and William Timmins were further charged with assaulting Thomas Timmins at the same time and place.

Complainant, a bricklayer, residing at The Straits said on the night in question he saw two prisoners pushing and dragging a young man named Thomas Brookes about the road. He remonstrated with them, upon which they knocked him down and struck him with a stick across the arm. He had not been able to do any work since. Some one pulled the prisoners from him and he got away. Thomas Brookes corroborated.

Mr. Spooner: I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that these are two most brutal and cowardly attacks. Wilkes, you will be sentenced to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour, and Greenway and Timmins, you will each be sentenced to two months' imprisonment for the first case, and an additional two months' hard labour each in the second case, consecutively; and remember that if that man should die from this you are liable to be tried for manslaughter.

There were several other charges against the prisoners Greenway and Timmins, but they were withdrawn as Mr. Spooner thought the prisoners had been punished sufficiently."

Josiah Hickman died in 1875.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/8/1877

"*Enoch Hickman*, landlord of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS INN, The Straits, appeared on an adjourned summons for having permitted gambling in his house, under the circumstances already reported in the *Daily Gazette*.

The Magistrates' Clerk said the magistrates had visited the premises.

Mr. Gould, who appeared for the defence, said a similar case had been heard at Salford, and on appeal the case was dismissed.

Mr. Rooker said that having viewed the premises they had decided to dismiss the case."

1881 Census

13, Straits – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *Enoch Hickman* (54), carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hickman* (53), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Prudence Hickman (29), daughter, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Josiah Hickman* (21), son, carpenter, born Aldershot, Hampshire;
- [5] John Hickman (18), son, stone mason, born Sedgley;
- [6] Edward Hickman (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] William Hickman (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1883

"On Monday Mr. W. N. Phillips held an inquest at the BRICKMAKERS ARMS, The Straits, on the body of Mary Bradley (57),

wife of a sawyer. Deceased had suffered from melancholia for some time, and on Friday her body was found in White's Pool, Baggeridge Wood. A verdict of Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity was returned."

1891 Census

13, Straits – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *Enoch Hickman* (64), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hickman* (63), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Josiah Hickman* (31), son, farm labourer, born Aldershot, Hampshire;
- [4] Edward Hickman (24), son, farm labourer, born Sedgley;
- [5] Enoch Evans (5) grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Hannah Hide (17), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/10/1894

"At the Police Court, yesterday – before Mr. Neville (Stipendiary) – John Taylor and James Wakelam, miners, Lower Gornal, were charged with obtaining by means of false pretences a quantity of ale and tobacco, from *Enoch Hickman*, landlord of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, The Straits. Mr. W. A. Foster prosecuted.

It was alleged that on the 24th ult. prisoners went to the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, and told the landlord they had been instructed by Mr. Noah Dando to obtain refreshments to the value of 1s, which he would call and pay. On this representation prosecutor supplied the defendants with ale and tobacco, but on subsequently ascertaining that the prosecutor was not then in the district, he demanded the names and addresses of the defendants, who refused to comply with the request. On being arrested by Police-constables Sutton and Heappy, they admitted having had ale and tobacco, and expressed willingness to pay for them. Taylor further said, '*Hickman* ought to have had more sense than to let us have it, as he knew Dando was not at home.' The Stipendiary committed prisoners for trial at the quarter session."

[At the Quarter Sessions, on 16th October, they were found guilty, and sentenced to seven days' imprisonment.]

Dudley Herald 25/8/1900

"The general annual licensing sessions for Bilston were held yesterday Six notices of applications had been received as follows.....

Elizabeth Hickman, licensed victualler, BRICKMAKERS ARMS, Straits, Sedgley, for a provisional order sanctioning the removal of a full license, now held by her, to the Wallows, Sedgley.

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1900

"At the annual licensing meeting for Bilston division.....

The Bench refused the applications of.....

Elizabeth Hickman, Lower Gornal, for a provisional order sanctioning the removal of a full license from the Straits, Sedgley, to the Wallows, Sedgley."

1901 Census

13, Straits – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

- [1] *Elizabeth Hickman* (73), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] William Hickman (32), son, cabinet maker and carter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mercy Hickman (31), daughter in law, born Tipton;
- [4] Elizabeth Hickman (22), granddaughter, housekeeper, born Sedgley;
- [5] Pearl Hickman (9), granddaughter, born Dudley:

Mrs. *Elizabeth Hickman* brewed her own beer.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/2/1907

"According to the report of Police-Superintendent Spendlove read at the annual brewster sessions for the Bilston Petty Sessional Division yesterday, there are 356 licenses of all kinds within the division, or one to every 174 of the population.

Among the applications for renewal was one in reference to the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, at the Straits, Lower Gornal. It was stated that the new colliery at Baggeridge would tend to develop the locality and make the house a valuable one. The objection was on the ground of structural unsuitability."

Lichfield Mercury 12/4/1907

"Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

Elizabeth Hickman, the licensee of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, and the Earl of Dudley, the owner of the house, appealed against the decision of the justices of Bilston Petty Sessional Division not to renew that license on the ground that the premises were structurally unsuitable. Mr. Disturnal supported the appeal, and Mr. R. J. Lawrence represented the respondent justices.

For the respondent justices, it was stated that the house was a very old one, and that portions of it had fallen down. It was also stated that the rooms were small, and that there was not suitable accommodation for the public.

Mr. Taylor, Lord Dudley's agent, said that nothing had been done to the house because there was a fear of mining subsidences, but it had been found out that the building was on a 'fault' and that it might be re-built safely a little nearer the road; and he was

prepared to put forward plans for the re-building of the premises.
The appeal was dismissed with costs.”

License refused by Compensation Authority, on the grounds of structural unsuitability, on 8th February 1907.
An appeal against the refusal was heard at Stafford Quarter Sessions, on 10th April 1907, and dismissed.
It closed in 1907.

It was converted into a dwelling.

Black Country Bugle Annual 1989

Article by Archie Williams

“.....The last licensee was a lady, Mrs. *Betsy Hickman*, who sold nothing but her own Wum Brewed Ale. She needed to do well, she had an enormous family of twenty-two children, ‘All born and christened’ as she was wont to boast. Of her husband little is known, except he was a seafaring man, so did not spend much time at home.
When Mrs. *Hickman* passed on, the pub licence lapsed, and it was let to a Mrs. Lloyd, who specialised in breeding dogs, bulldogs in particular.....”

Demolished

BRICKMAKERS ARMS

25, Broad Lanes, Ladymoor, COSELEY

OWNERS

Bennett Waterhouse, screw manufacturer, Can Lane, Sedgley
Ellen Pearson, Cinderhill, Sedgley
Ivy Barwell, Cinderhill, Sedgley
N. F. Bird, Crown Brewery, Bloxwich
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Hinton [1860]
Rebecca Hinton [1861]
Rebecca Shenton [] – 1864)
Sarah Ann Blaze [1866] – **1892);**
Isaac ‘Ike’ Fellows **(1892 – 1933);**
James ‘Shutty’ Shutt **(1933 – [1940]**
Davies [1947]
Jack Collingwood []
Arthur Martin **(1952 – []**

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as “Shutty’s”.

It had a menagerie at the rear.

It had a marble alley.

1861 Census

Broad Lanes – BRICKMAKERS ARMS

[1] *Rebecca Hinton* (65), widow, publican and huckster, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah A. Cox (19), granddaughter, servant, born Sedgley:

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/2/1864 - Advert](#)

“Monday, 29th February, 1864. To Families Furnishing, Brokers, and Others. Sale at Ladymore, near Bilston. Mr. Thomas Richards will Sell by Auction, upon the premises of the late Mrs. *Rebecca Shenton*, the BRICKMAKERS ARMS INN, Ladymore, near Bilston, on Monday, the 29th February, 1864. The whole of the Household Furniture, comprising cane-seated and other chairs, feather beds, four-post bedsteads, mahogany dressing table and wash stand, mahogany and oak chest of drawers, eight-day clock in oak case, mahogany centre table, cheffonniers, hair seated sofa, &c, &c, the whole detailed in Catalogues, which may be had from the Offices of the Auctioneer, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton. Sale to commence at half-past eleven o’clock in the morning. NB. The Stock-in-Trade and Fixtures have been taken to by valuation.”

Sarah Ann Blaze = Sarah Ann Bladen

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday..... Mr. Young applied for a license on behalf of *Sarah Ann Bladen*, of the BRICKLAYERS [sic] ARMS, Broad Lane, and an opposition was raised by Mr. Underhill on behalf of a licensed victualler named Cadman. It was not granted.”

1871 Census

25, Broad Lanes

- [1] *Sarah A. Blaze* (45), widow, innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Joseph Blaze (15), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [3] Robert W. Blaze (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Phoebe Evans (13), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] Hannah Parker (47), visitor, born Bloxwich;
- [6] George Parker (29), lodger, clerk, born Tipton:

1881 Census

25, Broad Lanes

- [1] *Sarah Ann Blaze* (54), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Robert William Blaze (22), son, boiler maker, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Elizabeth B. Brough (16), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

25, Broad Lanes

- [1] *Sarah Ann Blaze* (65), widow, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] William Brough (50), son in law, general labourer, born Bloxwich;
- [3] Mary Ann Brough (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Isaac Fellows* (23), steel worker, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Fellows (22), wife, born Sedgley;
- [6] William E. Fellows (1 month), son, born Sedgley:

Sarah Ann Blaze died in the 4th quarter of 1892.

Dudley Herald 19/3/1898

“Guardians And District Council Nominations Coseley..... *Isaac Fellows*, publican, Ladymoor.”

1901 Census

25, Broad Lanes

- [1] *Isaac Fellows* (33), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Fellows (32), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Edward Fellows (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joshua Thomas Fellows (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Cope (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Isaac Fellows, beer retailer, Broad Lane. [1904], [1912], [1916], [1921]

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1910

“Col. T. E. Hickman, MP for Wolverhampton South, made a tour of part of his constituency on Saturday night, several dinners were held in celebration of the victory in the General Election. At each of these the Member was accorded an enthusiastic reception..... At Ladymoor, Mr. R. Probert presided over a gathering held at the BRICKMAKERS ARMS.....”

1911 Census

25, Broad Lanes

- [1] *Isaac Fellows* (44), brewer, innkeeper, born Coseley;
- [2] Elizabeth Fellows (43), wife, married 22 years, housewife, born Coseley;
- [3] William E. Fellows (20), son, electrician, born Coseley;
- [4] Thomas Fellows (12), son, schoolboy, born Coseley;
- [5] Susan Blenott (18), domestic servant:

A billiard license was granted on 7th February 1913.

Isaac Fellows brewed his own beer. [1916], [1923], [1930]
He died in 1933.

It had a tea garden at the rear during the 1920s.

James Shutt was married to Elizabeth.
He brewed his own beer.

Evening Despatch 19/5/1939

“Hale and hearty Mr. *James Shutt*, licensee of one of the few remaining home-brew houses in the Black Country, the BRICKLAYERS ARMS [sic] at Ladymoor, is anxiously awaiting Wednesday night. In his back yard a microphone will be flung over a marble alley, and ‘Shutty’ as he is familiarly known to his customers, and David Gretton, who is in charge of Midland out-side broadcast, will describe the final of the ‘shoot the ring’ competition. This broadcast will be the Midlands Regional contribution to ‘Roundabout’ which is succeeding ‘Band Waggon.’

I doubt whether there is another marble alley in the Black Country, writes an *Evening Despatch* reporter, but at one time alleys were as common as bowling greens today. The Black Country miners and iron-workers years ago played marbles for as much as £20 a-side in public-houses, and they also played for pleasure in the streets – then less frequented by traffic – and on waste ground.

Nowadays there is little marble playing by men, but boys and youths still play.

Recently I saw a group of them shooting with glass marbles from gingerbeer bottles – which are now becoming scarce – by the light of a lamp at the side of a footpath at the side of Birmingham New Road at Lanesfield.

To return to ‘Shutty’ – this is what he told me about the marble alley and Wednesday’s broadcast, ‘A lot of folks have asked me about the alley’ he said, ‘and why I started it. It isn’t one of the old ones, I knew there wasn’t one about here, so two years ago I thought I’d get one going myself. I asked some of the old customers about the alley and they gave me the measurements. We practically put it down ourselves. It consists of a concrete bed with a wooden surround. I measured the wood and fastened it together, and a few of the customers put the concrete in on Saturday afternoon. We started the competition first to get the alley going, and I gave two cups to get the customers interest in the game. They all played when they were nippers. Some of our customers are steel-smelters, and there are moulders, loco drivers, acetylene welders, and shoe-makers. They are all working chaps. This year we had an entry of 64 for the competition, and we made a draw on 7 April. Since then we’ve been playing regularly, and there are only eight left in now. I expect they’ll play off their game this weekend, then we shall be ready for the final next Wednesday.’”

Staffordshire Sentinel 24/5/1939

“Broadcasting To-Night.....

Regional Programmes 342.1m 9.0. David Gretton will introduce you to marbles as played at the BRICKMAKERS ARMS, Lady Moor in the Black Country.....”

1939 Register

25, Broad Lanes

- [1] *James Shutt*, date of birth 26/12/1893, publican and brewer, married;
- [2] Elizabeth Shutt, dob 29/5/1894, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Norah (Thorpe) Whitehouse, dob 22/12/1919, domestic servant, single:

It closed c.1956.

BRITANNIA

109, Kent Street, (109, Sheepcotwall), (Dudley Road), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Thomas Wolverson, Upper Gornal
Joseph Round Cartwright, gentleman, Gornal (by conveyance)
William Henry Perry (acquired in 1874)
Henry Perry
Louis Peacock Perry [1909]
Sarah Perry
Philip Bellfield (acquired in 1992)
Daniel Batham and Son Ltd. (acquired on 6th March 1997)

LICENSEES

William Jordan [1841] – [1842]
John Jukes [1845] – 1857);
Mrs. Hannah Jukes (1857 – 1864);
William Jukes (1864 – 1866);
Henry Perry (1866 – 1874);
William Henry Perry (1874 – 1905);
Louis Peacock Perry (1905 – 1929);
Mrs. Sarah ‘Louisa’ Perry (1929 – 1942);
Sally Eileen (Perry) Williams (1942 – 1991);
John Burrows (1991 – 1992);
Philip Bellfield (1992 – 1997);
Stan Furphy (1997 – 2001);
Graham Blower (2001 – [2003]
Lisa Budd [2008] – [2009]
Lisa Glen [2015]
Simon Rogers (2016 – [2018]

NOTES

The pub had a slaughterhouse at the rear.

It was known as “Sally’s” or “Old Sal’s”

It is listed in ‘The CAMRA National Inventory’ of pub interiors of outstanding historic interest.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/5/1842 - Advert

“To Be Sold By Auction By Messrs Walker and Page, (By order of the Assignees of Thomas Wolverson, an insolvent) on Friday, the 20th day of May, 1842, at the BRITANNIA INN, in Upper Gornal, near Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, at six o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions which will then be produced, and in the following lots.....

Lot III. All that above mentioned substantially built and well accustomed old licensed Inn, known by the name of the BRITANNIA, situate in Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley aforesaid, on the west side of the road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton, with the site of Land on which the same is erected, having a frontage to the road, of twelve yards and upwards, and containing an entire quantity of four hundred and thirty square yards or thereabouts, and also the Shop, Stable, and other buildings erected thereon. The whole of the premises are now in the occupation of *William Jordan*, a yearly tenant at the low rent of £20 per annum, but of which early possession if required can be given. This lot is also Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley.....”

London Gazette 27/7/1842

“Thomas Wolverson, late of Upper Gornall, Sedgley, near Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, Bricklayer and Builder, then Brewer and Retailer of Beer and Tobacco, since Bricklayer, Builder, Victualler, and Retailer of Spirituous Liquors and Tobacco, and lately Bricklayer only.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/10/1848 - Died

“On the 22nd instant, at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, Mr. David Round, blacksmith, aged 72; also the same day, George *Jukes*, aged four years, grandson of the above.”

Birmingham Journal 13/7/1850 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. R. S. Walker, on Monday next, July the 15th, at the BRITANNIA INN, in Upper Gornal, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot 1. All that Messuage and Premises, called or known by the sign of the BRITANNIA INN, situate at Upper Gornal, aforesaid, fronting the Turnpike Road, from Sedgley to Dudley, now in the occupation of *John Jukes*.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/1/1851

“At the public office, on Tuesday, Mr. *John Jukes*, landlord of the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, was fined 20s and costs for harbouring police-constable Mason in his house while on duty on the night of the 8th instant. The case was proved by police-constable Mewis, who stated that on the night in question he was sent by sub-inspector Tomlinson to meet Mason at Upper Gornal, and patrol the district together. About eleven o’clock they went to Mr. *Jukes* house, where they had a glass of ale each; after which Mason began to play bagatelle with some of the parties who were present, (one of whom was the parish constable). He (witness) wished him to leave several times, but he refused. They remained there until after twelve o’clock. When he got back to the station he told Tomlinson where he had been. Two other witnesses were summoned, who corroborated Mewis’s statement. Mason was then charged under the Constabulary Act with neglect of duty. The defendant did not deny the charge; but stated that on the night in question he met Mewis at Gornal, who said, ‘I want a glass of ale, but I have got no money.’ He replied, ‘If you come with me I will get you one.’ They went to Mr. *Jukes*’s house, where he paid for two glasses of ale for Mewis, who Mason said was quite as willing to stay as he was. Mason also produced a memorial, signed by most of the respectable inhabitants of the neighbourhood, which stated that he was a civil, well conducted officer; and that since he had been stationed there the lower classes were better conducted, and disturbances were of less frequent occurrence. Mr. Leigh told the defendant that he had grossly neglected his duty, still he did not think it so aggravated a case as to require him to commit him to Stafford gaol; he should therefore inflict a penalty of 20s and costs. It was then suggested to Mr. Leigh that Mason would be dismissed the force; that he had a wife and two children. Mr. Leigh said he would reserve his decision until he had made further inquiries respecting his character. He has since been dismissed.”

1851 Census

Dudley Road – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] *John Jukes* (55), nail maker, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Jukes* (58), wife, nail maker, born Sedgley;
- [3] Richard Jukes (35), son, nail maker, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/6/1857

“On Thursday last, an inquest was held at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornall, by W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, on the body of Paul Taylor, a builder residing at Brewood. He had gone on the previous day to the works of Mr. Cartwright, at Gornall, for a load of tiles, and stayed at the BRITANNIA INN, to get a little refreshment, as he returned. He placed a trough in front of his horse, and put some green food in it. Whilst endeavouring to take the bit out of the horse’s mouth, the bridle slipped off, the horse plunged and knocked him down, and the wheel passed over him, breaking some ribs and his collar bone. The unfortunate man died in about six hours after the accident. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Journal 27/6/1857 - Died

“On the 23rd inst, at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, consequent upon a fall, aged 48 years, Mr. *John Jukes*, jun.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/8/1857

“Transfer of Licenses. The following transfers were made on Tuesday.....
Sedgley: the BRITANNIA, from the executors of *John Jukes* to his widow, *Hannah Jukes*.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] *Hannah Jukes* (66), widow, victualler, born Upper Gornal;
- [2] *William H. Jukes* (21), son, painter, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] Sarah Webb (20), general servant, born Upper Gornal:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/6/1864

“At the Police Court, on Friday, the following transfer of licenses was sanctioned.....
BRITANNIA, Upper Gornal, from the Executors of Mrs. *Jenks* [sic], deceased, to her son, *William Jenks* [sic].”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday, when the Magistrates present were – The Revs. J. Y. Rooker, and W. Lewis, and J. Perks, H. D. Best, A. Sparrow, H. Ward, and W. Hatton, Esqs. At the commencement of the proceedings, the superintendent of Police presented the following report.

Bilston Division, August 31st, 1866.

‘I beg to submit to the Magistrates the attached list of licensed victuallers who have been complained about during the year. Twenty-five have been convicted, and three have paid costs; one had been convicted three times and five twice. This is a large increase on last year’s list; but I think it has arisen from the police being more particular in reporting cases of permitting drunkenness – as it was found to be an evil rather on the increase. I believe it has caused landlords to be more careful in supplying drink to persons intoxicated.’

H. McCrea, Superintendent.

Black List.....

William Luke, [sic] BRITANNIA, Dudley Road, Sedgley..... left over until the adjourned licensing meeting on the 28th of Septem-

ber.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1866

“Yesterday, the adjourned Licensing Session was held at the Police Court, before Captain G. P. A. Pudsey and Mr. H. Ward, when the following licenses were granted.....

A license was granted to *William Jukes*, of the BRITANNIA, Sedgley, on condition that he would not permit dancing in his house.”

Henry Perry was fined £2 and costs for serving on a Sunday, in February 1868.

Henry Perry was also a butcher. [1868], [1873]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

“The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30 Licensed Victuallers.....

Henry Perry, BRITANNIA, Upper Gornal.”

Dudley Herald 25/2/1871 - Advert

“To be sold by auction all that freehold and excellent roadside inn and premises called the BRITANNIA situate at Upper Gornal and now in the occupation of Mr. *Henry Perry* at the yearly rent of £30.”

1871 Census

109, Sheepcotwall - BRITANNIA INN

[1] *Henry Perry* (29), butcher, born Sedgley;

[2] Rebecca Perry (29), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] James Perry (2), son, born Sedgley;

[4] Nelly Perry (8 months), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Jane Oakley (20), servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/5/1873

“Edward Williams, provision dealer, Gornal, was charged upon the information of Mr. J. G. Horder, Inspector of weights and measures, with having in his shop a scale which was 1oz out of balance against the purchaser. *Henry Perry*, butcher of Gornal, was charged with having a spring balance 1oz against the purchaser. The Magistrates imposed a fine of 40s in each case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/10/1873

“On Monday an inquest was held at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy-coroner, upon the body of Ezekiel Elwell, a child of three years of age, who was burnt to death on the previous Friday.

From the evidence of Mary Hale, it appeared that about twelve o'clock on Friday she heard a scream, and upon going to her door, she saw deceased come out of its fathers' house, in Club Row, Upper Gornal, enveloped in flames. Mrs. Hale caught hold of the child, and, with the assistance of Wm. Allen, succeeded in extinguishing the flames. John Ballenden, assistant to his father, and William Rhodes, assistant to Mr. Walker, surgeon, were called in, but the poor little sufferer died from the injuries it had received the same night. Some children who were in the house at the time of the occurrence stated that the mother of the deceased went into the yard to fetch some clothes in, and whilst she was away the deceased tried to take the lid off a saucepan on the fire to get a dumpling, and in doing so his clothes caught fire.

The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/1/1877

“An inquest was held at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, last night, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, district Coroner, touching the death of Susannah Blackham (48), who died under the following circumstance at Pale Piece, Upper Gornal, on the 6th inst.

The Coroner informed the jury that he had called the inquest owing to a report made to the police by Mr. Homer, a magistrate.

They (the jury) had no doubt seen the deceased was in a bad condition, and also that the house in which she had lived was in a filthy condition.

William Blackburn, husband of the deceased, said he had been married 14 years. For the past four years she had at times been ill, and frequently blood flowed out of her mouth. For the past four months the parish surgeon had attended to the deceased. On one occasion he gave an order for relief in kind, and the relieving officer supplied her with some mutton. Since then he had only given orders for her to take medicine. She had never wanted for food.

The Coroner: How has the family been supplied, then? – Witness: By relief of 5s per week from the parish. In all about 15s per week has come into the house to support six of us. Sometimes 25s was brought in. On all occasions the medical officer had paid great attention, and he had no reason to blame any person as to the cause of her death.

Mary Garrett said she had known deceased many years. She never knew that deceased's husband ever ill-used her. During her illness no person attended to her with the exception of witness and the family.

The Coroner: How is it that the deceased is in such a filthy condition? I should think she had not been washed for six weeks. –

Witness: Her clothing could not be changed as she had no other.

Elizabeth Nicholls said she had on several occasions taken deceased food. She did not consider the deceased had wanted for food, although at times there was no person to attend her.

The Coroner said at present he could not see much blame was attributable to any person, but perhaps Mr. Homer would state something for the information of the jury.

Mr. F. A. Homer, a county magistrate, stated that a lady had informed him that two children belonging to the deceased had frequently been to her begging and complaining of their poverty. From reports he had heard, the deceased had died of starvation, and he accordingly informed the inspector of police.

In answer to the Coroner, the husband of the deceased stated that he had received parish relief for the past month.

The Coroner said there was little evidence to show that the deceased had died of starvation, but the house was in a very filthy state, and as was most likely the whole of the other houses.

The jury returned a verdict of that the deceased had not from the best of their knowledge died from violence or neglect, but from Natural Causes.”

County Express 9/11/1878

“On Monday morning about three o’clock a fire was found to have broken out at the BRITANNIA INN, Kent Street. At the time stated the inmates were alarmed by finding the rooms full of smoke, and upon examination it was discovered that the wood flooring of the tap room was partly destroyed by fire. The flames were, however, subdued by a plentiful supply of water, which was close at hand. It is supposed that the fire was caused by sparks falling out of the grate.”

1881 Census

109, Kent Street – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] *Henry P. Perry* (40), butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] Rebecca Perry (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] James A. Perry (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Nelly Perry (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Rose Perry (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Louis P. Perry* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Eliza Porter (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [8] George Vale (21), butcher’s servant, born Sedgley;

Dudley and District News 4/2/1882

“At the Police Court, on Monday, a well-known offender named James Baines, was charged with being on the premises of Mr. *Perry*, BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, for the purpose of committing an unnatural offence. He was found under circumstances leading to the suspicion of the grossest conduct. Defendant denied the serious part of the offence, and complained of being assaulted by the witnesses who found him. He was convicted for vagrancy and sentenced to three months’ hard labour.”

Dudley and District News 16/1/1884

“At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, Thomas Welsh (22), labourer, no fixed residence, was charged with stealing a coat, valued at £2, the property of *Henry Perry*, landlord of the BRITANNIA INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, on the 2nd inst.

James Perry, son of prosecutor, said he saw the prisoner come in the house on the night of the date named, and soon after ten o’clock he noticed Welsh run down the street with the coat on his arm. Information was given to the police, and prisoner was arrested while attempting to get to Dudley. At the time of his arrest he was wearing the coat turned inside out, and alleged that he had paid a man for it.

The Stipendiary committed prisoner for two months’ hard labour.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/2/1884

“James Welch (23), no settled place of abode, was charged with stealing an overcoat. Prisoner sang at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, on Saturday night, and after his departure Mr. *Perry*, the landlord, missed his overcoat. Information was given to Police-constable Gibbs, who found the prisoner on a tramcar going to Wolverhampton. When he saw the officer, prisoner jumped off the car and ran away, but was pursued and captured by Gibbs. As prisoner is suspected of being a notorious thief, he was remanded for enquiries.”

Dudley and District News 1/3/1884

“James Westwood, Thomas Nicholls, Zachariah Taylor, and Isaac Downing, bricklayers, Upper Gornal, were charged with refusing to quit the BRITANNIA INN, Dudley Road, Upper Gornal, on the 16th inst. Defendants created a disturbance in the house, and on being requested to leave they refused to do so. They expressed contrition for their conduct, and on the application of the complainant the Bench allowed the case to be withdrawn upon each of the defendants paying 8s.”

1891 Census

109, Kent Street – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] *Henry Perry* (49), widower, butcher, born Gornal;
- [2] Nellie Perry (20), daughter, born Gornal;

- [3] May Perry (18), daughter, born Gornal;
- [4] *Louis Perry* (16), son, scholar, born Gornal;
- [5] Ellen Turner (18), servant, born Gornal;
- [6] William Blackham (38), assistant butcher, born Gornal:

William Henry Perry was also a butcher. [1896]

1901 Census

109, Kent Street – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] *Henry P. Perry* (59), widower, butcher and licensed victualler, born Upper Gornal;
- [2] Selina Flynn (39), housekeeper, born Trysull;
- [3] Rachel Turner (30), servant, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Henry Kendrick (20), butcher's servant, born Dudley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/2/1907

“According to the report of Police-Superintendent Spendlove read at the annual brewster sessions for the Bilston Petty Sessional Division yesterday, there are 356 licenses of all kinds within the division, or one to every 174 of the population.

The Clerk (Mr. Pratt) said the Bench had decided to recommend the following eleven houses on the ground of redundancy to be referred for compensation, and the cases would be adjourned to the adjourned meeting, and in the meantime notices would be given to the owner.

BRITANNIA INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.”

Tipton Herald 6/3/1909

“Mr. W. A. Foster applied on behalf of Mr. *Louis Perry*, owner and licensee of the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, for permission to make certain alterations at the above inn. Mr. Frank Lewis, architect, submitted the plan, which the licensing justices approved.”

Tipton Herald 11/9/1909

“On Saturday evening about 7.10pm, a little boy named Enoch Hampton, aged five years and ten months, residing at 4, The Square, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, was with several other boys playing in a field. The boy threw his cap at a horse, and when he went at the back of it to pick the cap up the animal kicked him in the body. He was taken home, and Dr. Biggam sent for, but he succumbed to his injuries on Sunday morning. The deceased's father, James Hampton, is a miner.

An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, by Mr. T. A. Stokes.

The evidence showed that on Saturday afternoon, after he had had his tea, the deceased boy went out to play, with some other lads. They got into a field, and Hampton threw his cap at a horse. When he fetched his cap the animal kicked out and hit him in the stomach. Two of his playmates dragged deceased to a stile, and one of them named David Allen carried him home on his back. He was attended by Dr. Biggam, who found that the boy was suffering from shock, and that his condition was serious. Death occurred on Sunday morning, and was due probably to the rupture of one of the internal organs.

The jury found that death was due to Misadventure, and expressed their sympathy with the parents.”

1911 Census

109, Kent Street

- [1] *Louis Peacock Perry* (36), butcher, publican, born Gornal;
- [2] *Sarah Perry* (38), wife, married 10 years, assisting in business, born Netherton;
- [3] William Henry Perry (7), son, born Gornal;
- [4] Rose Rebecca Perry (5), daughter, born Gornal;
- [5] James Arthur Perry (1), son, born Gornal;
- [6] Eliza Ann Harper (25), general servant, born Gornal;
- [7] Ellen Howes (15), general servant, born Gornal;
- [8] Sarah Jane Howes (15), general servant, born Gornal;
- [9] Charles Alfred Green (20), assistant butcher, born Gornal:

Louis Peacock Perry was also a butcher. [1912], [1916]

He issued tokens from here.

Upper Gornal Bowling Club was based here. [1926]

Had a bowling green [1930s]

Beacon Lodge of the Royal and Ancient Order of Buffaloes met here. [1920s], [1930s]

South Staffordshire Times 11/11/1922

“Another milestone on the highway of Buffaloism was passed when on Wednesday night, when members of the Beacon Lodge celebrated their second anniversary at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, by entertaining a large number of visitors for dinner and a smoking concert. Bro. F. E. Foster presided The toast of ‘Host and Hostess’ was entrusted to Bro. *Louis Perry*, who paid a big

compliment to their abilities as caterers.

Bro. J Pargeter, in reply, said he was always pleased to do what he could for Buffaloism.....”

South Staffordshire Times 24/5/1924 - Advert

“Auction at the house of Mr. *Louis Perry*, the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 29/8/1925

“R.A.O.B. A new lodge of the G.L.E. was opened at the BRITANNIA, Upper Gornal, last Wednesday. Next Tuesday there are raising ceremonies in connection with the Beacon Lodge.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, £13 19s 3d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Dudley Herald 25/4/1931

“The Stipendiary (Mr. Bertram Grimley), sitting at Bilston on Tuesday, dismissed summonses against *Sarah Perry*, butcher, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, for permitting a motor van to be used without having the proper insurance policy in force, and against William Henry Worton, Spills Meadow, Upper Gornal, for aiding and abetting.

The case was before the Court four weeks ago, and was adjourned, the Stipendiary remarking that it raised an important point, and that he would like to consider the terms of the insurance policy.

Mr. Ernest Brown (prosecuting) then stated that Mrs. *Perry* was the owner of a motor van, carrying a third party insurance, which was restricted however, to the transport of goods in connection with her business. On Wednesday, March 4th, said Mr. Brown, there was a cup-tie play at Wolverhampton, between Wolves and Albion. Worton was driving Mrs. *Perry*’s van in which there were five passengers, and the police stopped the vehicle. Worton at first told the police that he was going to market, and that the men in the van were going with him. Later he stated that all, except one, were going to the football match.

Mrs. *Perry* told the Stipendiary that she was not aware that anyone in the van was going to the football match.

Mr. F. W. Green, for the defence, now submitted that under the bye-laws anybody could travel in the van in connection with the business.

Worton, giving evidence, denied the statement that they were going to the match. What he said was that he was going to the match after he had been to the market. Six sheep and one beast were bought, and afterwards he left the van in the parking place near the market while he went to the match. All the passengers were connected with the business, some of them going to bring the animals back, and some of them to assist in the buying.

The Stipendiary said he found that the vehicle was being used for the purposes of business, and it had not been made out that it was not being used all the time for that purpose. Both cases, therefore, would be dismissed.”

Dudley Herald 13/6/1931 - Advert

“Announcement of Sale of Freehold Investment Properties at Upper Gornal (near Dudley).

Comprising a Block of Seven Dwelling Houses, situate and being Nos.10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16, Spills Meadow, Upper Gornal, let on weekly tenancies to Messrs. Gough, J. Smith, Anton, Bradley, Pugh, Tomlinson and Elwell, producing a gross income of nearly £81 12s 6d per annum.

The Accommodation of each house is Two Bedrooms (No.14 contains only one), Living Room, Pantry, Scullery and W.C., all under one roof.

Each house has a garden and the one belonging to No.16 is particularly large.

J. Albert Abel, A.A.I., has received instructions to Sell By Auction the above Freehold Properties at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, on Tuesday, June 23rd, 1931, at 7 o’clock in the evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced.

Further particulars may be obtained from Messrs. Gould, Elcock & Parkhouse, Solicitors, Stourbridge (Tel.57253), or the Auctioneer, 88, High Street Stourbridge (Tel.57218).”

Britannia Lodge (No.5663) of Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/8/1937

“The Clubman Diary.....

As far as I know, there is only one woman brewer in this country. She is slim, trim, tiny Mrs. *Louisa Perry*, of the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, Staffordshire, one of the comparatively few brew houses in The Midlands. Behind the inn is the brewery.

Mrs. *Perry* _____ her beer as she brews it.

But Mrs. *Perry* had another distinction. She is one of the few women butchers in the country. Cheek by jowl with her inn – connected with it in fact, by an opening in a dividing wall – is her butcher’s shop. And behind the butcher’s shop is Mrs. *Perry*’s own slaughter house. She sells her meat as she kills it.

Mrs. *Perry* has been conducting the inn, brewery, slaughterhouse and butcher’s shop, during the eight years since her husband died. She has the help of two sons and ___ daughters. Though she has been titular head of the concern only during the last ___ years, she had been connected with it for over 40 years – since, indeed, she was a girl – for the inn was her father’s before her, and his father before that.

I found it extremely pleasant in the inn with a homely atmosphere, drinking ale and watching trim Mrs. *Perry* knitting this and that for grandchildren, between drawing ale from the wood.”

1939 Register

109, Kent Street – BRITANNIA INN

[1] *Sarah Perry*, date of birth 14/4/1872, licensed victualler, widowed;

[2] *Sally E. (Perry) Williams*, dob 27/1/1916, costing clerk, surveyor’s office, single;

[3] *Louis P. Perry*, dob 25/5/1913, brewer, married;

[4] *Lilian Perry*, dob 1/4/1920, housewife, married;

[6] *Carrie (Lakeman), Fletcher*, dob 28/11/1918, domestic servant, single;

Dudley Herald 28/2/1942

“Died *Perry* on 22nd February at BRITANNIA INN *Sarah*, beloved wife of the late *Louis Perry*.”

Dudley Herald 21/3/1942 - Advert

“Sale by auction estate of late Mr. *Louis Perry* well known home brewing, fully licensed property (with possession) The BRITANNIA INN together with shop adjoining upon which a valuable Butcher’s business has been carried on for many years.”

[It sold for £6,300 in April 1942.]

Birmingham Daily Post 9/4/1942 - Advert

“Estate of *Louis Peacock Perry*, Deceased. Estate of *Sarah Perry*, Deceased.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from the Executors, as above, to Sell by Auction at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Tuesday Next, April 14, at Four o’clock in the Afternoon precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced as follows.

Lot 1. The Well-known Home-Brewing Fully-Licensed Property (with Possession), the BRITANNIA INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, together with Shop adjoining, occupying an area of 456 square yards or thereabout. Also a Plot of Land at the rear of the same, part formerly used as a Bowling Green, having an area of 1 acre and 23 perches, the whole until recently in the occupation of the late Mrs. *Perry* and now by members of her family, and Sold with Vacant Possession upon completion of the purchase.

Lots 2. 3. and 4. The adjoining Dwelling Houses and Cottages.

Lot 5. The important Freehold Fully-Licensed Corner Property, known as the DUKE OF WELLINGTON INN, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, together with the Shops and Dwelling Houses adjoining.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. Hawkins and Co., Solicitors (Tele. No.3188), or of Auctioneers (Tele. No.2256), all of Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.”

Sally Perry was the daughter of *Louis* and *Sarah Perry*.

She married Sedgley born, *Wally Williams*.

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

It was the headquarters of the Upper Gornal Homing Society. [1958]

Express & Star 1967

“In seven years, if the bulldozers spare it there will be a massive celebration at one of Upper Gornal’s oldest pubs.....

The BRITANNIA, on the main Sedgley-Dudley road, will have been in one family for 100 years. The oldest regular still remembers *William Perry*, who bought the pub 93 years ago and died before his granddaughter, Mrs. *Sallie Perry*, the present licensee was born.

The pub passed to his son *Louis Perry*, then to *Louis*’s wife in 1929. Their daughter *Sallie* took the license in her turn in 1942, shortly after being married to Sedgley born *Wally Williams*.

The sign outside still proclaims her ‘licensed to brew’, but regretfully gave up home brewing about eight years ago. The old tackle is still round the back. ‘In her grandfather’s time, they never used to knock a tap in until the beer was two years old,’ she told me. ‘The customers used to call our old ale ‘cow and gate’.’ There are few home brewers left in Gornal, but *Sallie* remembers when they used to queue up at the pub for their yeast.

The BRITANNIA is a cosy, old world pub, and many of its regulars follow traditional occupations like bricklaying and pigeon flying.

The daddy of them all ‘Old Zake’ Elwell, now nearly 91, used to call daily, but now he does not often get out beyond his garden. He was still laying bricks at 80, and is said to have left one job around then claiming that it offered him ‘no prospects.’

Fred Sheldon, now 80, was a bricklayer till he was 75 and has always lived in Upper Gornal. His work was mainly in furnaces throughout the Black Country, but as a young man he was building them for the Coventry motor industry, back in the days when 'the Daimler was made in a galvanised shed.' A pigeon fancier and angler, Fred has used the BRITANNIA as long as he can remember, but these days he only calls in three times a week.

Bill Witton, who came up from Lower Gornal 40 years ago and now lives in Cricket Meadow, is shortly retiring from his labouring job at Turners of Wolverhampton. Now he plans to go back to pigeons and will be occupied looking after birds for his brother-in-law and neighbour Bill Porter, who has just fixed up a loft.

Across North Oval from Fred Sheldon lives Lil Smout, a lively 73-year-old who lives with her daughter Eve, and her son Gilbert. Lil remembers how she used to carry beer across the road when she was 12 for the haymakers working in the field, then owned by *Louis Perry*. She married Sam Smout, who as a corporal was awarded the DCM in 1918 after his raiding party brought in 14 Germans, including an officer, near Roncalte in Italy. Widowed 30 years ago, she went out to work to bring up her three children. Now they give her a drink 'every night for supper' at the BRITANNIA. Her married son Dick, a grocery branch manager with the Dudley Co-op, visits her (and the BRITANNIA) regularly on Friday nights from his home at Wheatsheaf Road, Oakham. A keen Wolves supporter and athletic viewer, Dick spends much of his time cultivating a garden which in 1960 won the Hobbs cup for the best in Rowley Regis. Roses are his speciality.

Behind the BRITANNIA are the headquarters of the Upper Gornal Homing Society and here can be found secretary Joseph Cox collecting members' birds for the next flight, and Sam Naylor setting the clocks. Joe, who delivers and sells beer to houses in the Dudley-Coseley-Gornal area, finds pigeons a full-time job. 'I couldn't do it without the help of my wife Cynthia,' he told me. But business is booming. The society is having its best season ever, for birds, membership and finances. Joe himself is also doing well with two thirds in recent weeks, and the top money winner last year. Like Joe, Sam learnt about pigeons from his father. 'I used to ring them when I was a lad, when my father used to fly at Pale Street.' Sam is a bricklayer, among the many in Upper Gornal, but, unlike Fred, has always been on private housing, and now works for Mucklows. 'I prefer an outdoor life,' he said."

Sports Argus 31/10/1970

"Pat Stintons Piscatorials A.C. will in future be called BRITANNIA A.C. This change is due to Pat Stintons resignation through pressure of business. Secretary, P. D. Andrews, says, 'Our books are now open to new members and anyone wishing to join may attend our next meeting at the BRITANNIA INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, at 8.30pm on Tuesday, November 9.' His address is: 7, Mulberry Green, Old Farm Park Estate, Dudley."

Black Country Bugle (1976)

'The Britannia Inn'

"*Sally* She was born on the premises sixty years ago, as was her father before her, the late *Louis Peacock Perry*. In fact, the BRITANNIA was bought by her grandfather, *William Henry Perry*, in 1874 and has remained in her family for all of the one hundred and two intervening years. When *William Henry* died, the license passed to *Sally's* father, and, on his death, to her mother. *Sally* took over in 1942.....

No forbidding counter separates *Sally* from her customers. The seventy odd years old beer pulls are in the same room. She sits among you, waits upon you, brings your order to the table, then resumes her friendly chats The BRITANNIA, believed to have been built in the early part of the last century, brewed its own beer on the premises until 1960, when ill health compelled *Sally's* late husband to call it a day. Many of the utensils are still stored in the cellar. Today it is a free house, dispensing Whitbread's famous ales.....

Days when the *Perry's*, apart from their reputation as brewers of fine ales, were also noted for the prime beasts which they killed in the slaughterhouse at the rear of the pub and sold from their butcher's shop, which was in the front room of the BRITANNIA."

Sally Williams died in 1991.

John Burrows was the son in law of *Sally Perry*.

He married *Lesley Perry*.

Philip Bellfield reopened the brewery in 1995.

Philip Bellfield was married to June.

Philip Bellfield – see also MOUNT PLEASANT and JOLLY CRISPIN.

It was CAMRA West Midland Regional Pub of the Year 1995.

Dudley News 8/5/1997 - Advert

"Bathams Delph Ales are proud to announce their move into No.10. Due to the success of their 9 other pubs Bathams has recently acquired the BRITANNIA INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.

For a step back in time visit the BRITANNIA, a pub unchanged over 130 years. We don't have noisy juke boxes or fruit machines, just a warm friendly atmosphere, where a conversation with a friend is not a thing of the past.

Sample our selection of Bathams bitter and mild.

Relax in our secure beer garden over a glass of wine or a pint of real ale.

Open Monday-Saturday 12 noon-3.30pm, 7.00pm-11.00pm; Sunday 12 noon-3.30pm, 7.00pm-10.30pm."

Dudley News 8/5/1997 - Advertisement Feature

“Bathams has a heritage that spans five generations. Every Bathams pub is steeped in history and soaked in character. The BRITANNIA, their new acquisition in Kent Street, Gornal, is no exception. This superior ale house would certainly receive Charlotte Batham’s, the founder’s, seal of approval. Charlotte would commend her great great grandsons Tim and Matthew’s decision to gain this historic pub made famous by another stalwart lady, *Sallie Perry*. *Sallie* died in 1991, the year Bathams won the coveted title for Best Bitter in Britain. Her death ended 127 years of family involvement but her memory remains in the BRITANNIA. Time stands still in ‘*Sallie’s Room*.’ The tap room is virtually untouched and beer is served from the original wall handpumps with *Sallie’s* photographs adding a nostalgic glow to the surroundings.

Today’s hosts are *Stan* and *Sigy Furphy* and their formidable but friendly reputation is impressive. Headhunted by Bathams, the couple are pleased to be in charge of the BRITANNIA. *Stan* served in the army for 24 years before coming into the trade and *Sigy* is from a long line of publicans. Bathams and *Stan* are proud of their association the CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale). *Stan* is quietly proud that as former tenant of the WOOLPACK in Short Heath, Willenhall, for the past three years, under his guidance this year it made the Good Beer Guide and he received a prestigious award.

Regulars to the BRITANNIA can expect to see some cosmetic updating but Matthew Batham is adamant that there will be no modernisation or fruit machines installed in the Black Country gem.

Stan and *Sigy* provide the welcome atmosphere in this unique pub. Drop into the BRITANNIA and let *Stan* pour you some Bathams. Or enjoy a refreshment in the lovely beer garden and admire the BRITANNIA from a different angle.”

Stan Furphy was married to *Sigi*.

Graham Blower was married to *Pat*.

Express & Star 26/4/2014

“Mobbed by supporters and the world’s media, Nigel Farage mania swept into the rain-drenched West Midlands – one of Ukip’s key target regions for European and council election seats After his tour of Dudley, he and his entourage stopped in at The BRITANNIA INN on Kent Street in Upper Gornal for a swift pint.”

[2018]

BRITISH QUEEN

Meadow Lane, (Thumpers Lane), Deepfields, (Masons Bank), COSELEY

OWNERS

Thomas King
Isaac Whitehouse (acquired in June 1870 for £600)

LICENSEES

James Mason [1851] – 1868);
Mrs. Ann Mason (1868 – [1871]

NOTES

Masons Bank [1851]
Thumpers Lane [1870]

It was a half timbered house situated about half way along the lane, between the Post Office and the Ettingshall / Rookery Road.

1851 Census

Coseley
[1] *James Mason* (50), victualler, born Sedgley;
[2] *Ann Mason* (50), wife, born Sedgley:

1861 Census

Thumpers Lane – BRITISH QUEEN
[1] *James Mason* (60), victualler, born Coseley;
[2] *Ann Mason* (61), wife, born Coseley;
[3] *Bethuma(?) Maydy(?)* (18), niece, servant, born Coseley:

James Mason died 1868.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/6/1868

“Applications were on Friday made to the Magistrates to grant the transfer of the following licenses, and the applications were all acceded to.....

Sedgley BRITISH QUEEN from the executors of *James Mason* to *Ann Mason*.”

Dudley Herald 28/5/1870 - Advert

“To be sold by auction all that old licensed public house called the BRITISH QUEEN with the garden, close of land and premises adjoining situate in Thumpers Lane, Coseley now and for many years in the occupancy of Mrs. *Mason*, at the yearly rent of £20.....”

County Express 18/6/1870

“The Woodsetton Estate, near Sedgley, the property of Mr. Thomas King, who died about three years ago, and whose will occasioned some protracted litigation in the superior courts, was offered for sale by auction on Monday evening last, at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, and realised very good prices.....

The public house called the BRITISH QUEEN, at Coseley and land containing altogether 3r 30p, with the mines and minerals underneath, was bought by Mr. Isaac Whitehouse, for £600 The whole of the lots sold realised £10,175.”

Dudley Herald 18/2/1871 - Advert

“Sale of household furniture and public house fixtures. Beer machine, drinking tables, forms, club room table and trestles, casks, brewing utensils and sundry other effects. To be sold by auction The above furniture and effects of Mrs. *Mason* who is leaving.....”

The license was abandoned.

BRITISH QUEEN

55, Parkes Hall Road / 22, Turley Street, West Coseley, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

The Earl of Dudley

John Edward Crofts, builder, Bloomfield Road, Tipton

John Flavell*, licensee

John Flavell*, colliery proprietor, Bell View House, Woodsetton

Kate Goodreid, 44, Stowheath Lane, Bilston

Darby's Brewery Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Avebury Taverns

Admiral Taverns [2006]

LICENSEES

James Flavell [1873] – **1887**);

John Flavell (**1887 – 1908**);

Evan Shaw (**1908 – 1921**);

Alfred Jeavons (**1921 – 1922**);

Edith Lucy Johnston (**1922 – 1923**);

Frederick Bishton (**1923 – 1928**);

William Jeavons (**1928 – 1930**);

Harry Griffiths (**1930 – [1940]**)

Frank Clowes [c.1958]

James Thomas Burgwin [1983]

Joseph Trindade (**1985 – []**)

Sharon Cowen [2006]

NOTES

22, Turley Street [1901], [1911]
Turley Street [1940]
55, Parkes Hall Road

[This pub was strictly in the parish of Dudley but has been included here because of its proximity to other pubs in Woodsetton.]

It had a six-day license.

James Flavell was married to Zibiah.

[A James Flavell, saddler, appears at 28 Parkes Hall Lane in the 1881 Census. He is married to Zibiah.]

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1881

“Yesterday, the Licensing Sessions for the Bilston Division of the county were held at the Public Office.....

Mr. Waterhouse next applied for a full six-days’ license to be granted to *James Flavell*, of 14, Parkes Hall Road, Woodsetton. The house was rented at £35, and was situated in the midst of between sixty and seventy houses, which were entirely separate from any other part of the parish. The nearest house was 1,000 yards away. Refused.”

Dudley Herald 8/1/1898

“The annual supper in connection with the Wrens Nest Villa Football Club was held on Monday evening last at the BRITISH QUEEN INN. Upwards of 20 members sat down to a capital repast provided by host and hostess *Flavell*. After the removal of the cloth Mr. H. Jones was appointed chairman, and a vote of thanks was passed to the host and hostess for the able way in which they had provided for them. Mr. Blakesley, secretary, gave a report showing that out of 17 matches played they had won 14, lost 3, and scored no less than 86 goals against 18. The rest of the evening was passed in harmony, the following taking part, Messrs. Billingham, Rigby, Guest, Jevon, Blakesley, Clarke, and Millard. Mr. Blakesley, who is a member of the Coseley Dramatic Society, very ably gave several recitations. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought a pleasant evening to a close.”

Dudley Herald 27/8/1898 - Advert

“Nearly new and substantially built Freehold Properties in Castle Street, and Old End Lane, Roseville, Coseley; and well letting Freehold Dwelling Houses and Building Land in Brook Street, Woodsetton, all in the Parish of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford. To be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Powell & Brown, at the house of Mr. *John Flavell*, the BRITISH QUEEN, Parkes Hall, Woodsetton, on Tuesday, the 30th day of August, 1898 at Six for Seven in the Evening precisely.....”

1901 Census

22, Turley Street

- [1] *John Flavell* (52), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Flavell (47), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Evan Shaw* (39), relative, general labourer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Teresa Shaw (38), relative, born Tipton:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/2/1903

“At the Bilston Licensing sessions yesterday.....

The application of *John Flavell*, BRITISH QUEEN, Woodsetton, for a seven days’ license instead of six was refused.”

Tipton Herald 13/3/1909

“At the adjourned annual licensing sessions for the Bilston Division on Friday, Mr. W. A. Foster (Tipton and Wolverhampton) applied on behalf of *Evan Shaw*, of the BRITISH QUEEN INN, Parkes Hall, Woodsetton, for a seven-day license. Mr. Foster pointed out that the BRITISH QUEEN was the only licensed house in Parkes Hall, and that the nearest licensed house was more than half a mile away. He produced a petition signed by more than sixty householders in favour of the application. Mr. Foster went on to say that a public house existed for the comfort and convenience of the public, and that as there was a unanimous desire for a seven-day license, the justices ought to comply. The application was granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/4/1909

“A meeting of the County Licensing Committee to consider applications for the confirmation of new licenses conditionally granted by local licensing benches was held in the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Saturday.....

Mr. Graham Milward, barrister (instructed by Mr. Foster, solicitor, of Tipton), applied on behalf of Mr. *John Flavell*, owner, and Mr. *Evan Shaw*, the tenant, of the BRITISH QUEEN INN, Parkes Hall Road, Coseley, for the confirmation of a new seven days license granted by the magistrates to *Evan Shaw*, in place of a six days license.

In explaining the matter to the Bench Mr. Milward said that the village in which this inn was situated contained about 300 inhabitants, and there were no other licensed premises in it. Consequently, the residents were unable to obtain any refreshments on Sunday. The nearest other public house was 1,000 yards away, and there were two others 1,200 and 1,250 yards away. He argued that it was most inconvenient to the inhabitants to have to send a mile and a half for refreshments. In reply to questions, he said there

were nine magistrates on the Bench when the license was conditionally granted, and that Sir Alfred Hickman was in the chair. He went on to say he wished to put in a petition in favour of the license being confirmed, signed by 66 out of 72 householders in the village. The Court below had made it a condition of the license that if it ever came up for compensation it should only be reckoned as a six days license and that condition was not only accepted by the owner and the tenant, but they had offered to comply with any other condition the Bench imposed.

The Chairman said the Bench did not think they ought to grant a seven days license in view of the population of the village. The application was therefore unanimously refused.”

1911 Census

22, Turley Street

[1] *Evan Shaw* (48), publican, born Dudley;

[2] Louisa Shaw (48), wife, married 22 years, born Tipton;

[3] Annie Johnson (33), general servant, born Barrow in Furness:

South Staffordshire Times 4/12/1920

“The annual dinner and concert in connection with the Parkes Hall Bowling Club, Woodsetton, was held at the BRITISH QUEEN, Parkes Hall, on Saturday last, and were well attended. The secretary (Mr. Whitehouse) reported a balance in hand over £2 4s.

Councillor John Dodd, who presided, congratulated the team on the satisfactory balance sheet, also in being successful in gaining second place in the League. He wished them every success in the coming season. Although he expected to be a member of another team, he would be the first to congratulate them should they beat his team. Mr. Dodd presented the prizes.

A very pleasant evening was spent.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/12/1929

“Horace *Jeavons*, aged 26, a miner, of the BRITISH QUEEN, Parkes Hall, Woodsetton, was at Dudley, yesterday, committed to the Quarter Sessions charged with breaking and entering the lock-up shop of Herbert Henry Hockley, of 6, Ballard Road, Netherton, on 22 December and stealing two dead turkeys, four fowls, and tins of fish, of the value of £23 3s 10d.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/1/1930

“For breaking into a shop at Netherton and stealing two turkeys, four fowls and other goods, Horace *Jeavons*, aged 26, miner, residing with his father, licensee of the BRITISH QUEEN, Parkes Hall, Woodsetton, was bound over for 12 months and ordered to pay £5 towards the costs of the prosecution and £2 incurred by his offence to the premises by the breaking of a window.”

Midland Advertiser 18/1/1930

“Mr. P. W. Green appeared on behalf of Daniel Smart, residing at the BRITISH QUEEN INN, Coseley, who sought possession of No.19, Parkes Hall Road, Woodsetton, a cottage owned by him and tenanted by Charles Bennett.

Mr. Green said that about two or three months ago applicant was the manager of a public house at Woodsetton and he bought the house in question from Lord Dudley. He had since had to leave the public house and was now living with a friend at the BRITISH QUEEN INN, Coseley. His friend had now received notice to leave the BRITISH QUEEN, and when he did so the defendant would have nowhere to go. He required the house for the occupation of himself, his wife, and their two sons.

There was no difficulty about alternative accommodation, said Mr. Green, for although the tenant carried on a small business, the question of alternative accommodation did not take into consideration any business premises. They had only to provide alternative accommodation reasonably suitable to the means and needs of the tenant. Should the Bench not be satisfied with the alternative accommodation there was another way in which the case could be dealt with. His client was willing to have only one bedroom in the house, and to allow Bennett to live in the rest of it. They would be satisfied if they could get only one room in the house.

Applicant was then called and said that he had arranged for alternative accommodation at the Munition Hutments, Dudley, which was about two miles from Parkes Hall Road.

Cross-examined by Mr. J. R. Stockdale, who appeared for the defence, witness admitted living in the house for 38 years. He carried on a business, and apart from that if he had a bedroom at the house, in order to use it he would have to pass through Bennett’s bedroom.

Mrs. Annie Thompson, 311, Munition Houses, Dudley said that she was prepared to sub-let a bed-sitting room to Bennett, to do his washing and to look after him for 6s a week.

Mr. Stockdale submitted that there was no reasonable alternative accommodation. Bennett, who was 77 years of age, had lived in the house for 38 years. He carried on a business and apart from that he was only in receipt of the old age pension of 10s per week. That business was the only work he could do and if he was turned out he would have to rely upon the generosity of his friends. He submitted that the alternative accommodation did not allow the same security of tenure as Bennett was at present enjoying. The Bench decided to make no order.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1938

“Sixteen applications, granted earlier in the year by the local justices, remained to be dealt with when an adjourned meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday.

An application by *Harry Griffiths* for a seven-day license to sell intoxicating liquor at the BRITISH QUEEN INN, Coseley, in place of the present six-day license, was opposed on behalf of the Commissioners of Excise and Inland Revenue, on the ground that the monopoly value of £1,500 fixed by the local justices was not sufficient.

Mr. E. E. Brown, for *Griffiths*, said within a quarter of a mile radius there was no other house. The inn catered for a large number of people, and on Sundays they hung around outside, unable to obtain the refreshments they wanted. A new housing estate was being developed in the vicinity.

Mr. Wilson addressed the justices on behalf of the Commissioners and called as witness Thomas Wollaston, surveyor, Wolverhampton, who expressed that the premises had a monopoly value of not less than £2,000.

The committee confirmed the application, and fixed the monopoly value at the Bench's figure of £1,500."

Evening Despatch 12/4/1940

"Four Midland Men Aggregate. 150 Years as Licensees. 100 Years as Councillors.

Black Country licensed victuallers have always taken their full responsibility in municipal administration, and particularly is this true in the area round Dudley.

Tipton, Sedgley, and Coseley Councils are 'fathered' by 'mine hosts' and the last named authority has another member of the trade with a long record of public usefulness.

The four are: Ald. W. J. W. George, of the JOLLY BREWER INN, Burnt Tree, Tipton; Councillor George Mills, C.C., of the SWAN INN, Sedgley; Councillor J. Grange, of the APPLE TREE INN, Coseley; and Councillor *H. Griffiths*, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Woodsetton.

Their aggregated service to the community exceeds a hundred years, and as licensed victuallers they total nearly a hundred and fifty years.

Ald. George had held the license of the JOLLY BREWER for just 50 years, and has continuously served on Tipton Council for 41 years.

Councillor Mills has taken out 39 licenses, and his membership of Sedgley Council covers an unbroken period of 26 years, and Councillors Grange and *Griffiths*, who have been licensees for more than 25 years, have between them nearly 40 years service on Coseley Council.

Many years ago the first three named were the chairmen of the respective councils during the same year.

These interesting facts were revealed to the *Evening Despatch* reporter by Ald. George, who is shortly retiring from business....."

It came under the jurisdiction of Dudley in 1954.

It was renovated in 1985 at a cost of £65,000.

It closed in 2010.

Dudley News 4/1/2011

"Arsonists set fire to a derelict Woodsetton pub last night. Crews from Dudley and Tipton were called to the BRITISH QUEEN pub on Parkes Hall Road at around 7.22pm, as flames swept through the first floor living room area of the two storey building. Approximately 30 per cent of the first floor was destroyed by fire. Fire fighters used four breathing apparatus, two hose reels, one jet and a ventilation fan to tackle the blaze, which is being treated as arson."

It was converted into housing in 2012.

BROOK

29, (9), Bourne Street, (Brook Street), (9, (21), Brook Road), WOODSETTON

OWNERS

James T Bourne, solicitor, Dudley

Clara Turley

William Willetts

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Black and White Pub Co. [2006] until May 2008

[Richmond Hill Brewery \[2023\]](#)

LICENSEES

James Turley [1835] – [1842]

John Turley [] – 1851;

John Hughes (1851 – [1861]

James Turley [1864] – 1889);

Arthur Turley (1889 – 1909);

Mrs. Clara Turley (1909 – 1914);
Charles Roger Turley (1914 – 1929);
William Willetts (1929 – [1940])
Constance Malpass (m. Thomas) [1950s]
Wilf Workman (1962 – 1978);
Jacqueline Blewitt (1978 – [1984])
Chris Hill [1988]
Jackie Blakeway [2002]
Kirsty Matthews (2017 – [])
Fiona Tennant (2022 – [2023])

NOTES

21, Brook Road [1871]
9, Brook Road [1891]
9, Bourne Street [1901], [1932]
Brook Street [1940]

BROOK HOUSE. [1835], [1841], [1847], [1851]

1841 Census

Woodsetton – BROOK HOUSE

[1] James Turley (57), victualler, born Staffordshire;
[2] Elizabeth Turley (42), born Staffordshire;
[3] John Turley (21), born Staffordshire;
[4] Hannah Turley (20), born Staffordshire;
[5] Eliza Turley (16), born Staffordshire;
[6] Sarah Turley (13), born Staffordshire;
[7] William Turley (12), born Staffordshire;
[8] Joseph Turley (10), born Staffordshire;
[9] George Turley (9), born Staffordshire;
[10] Phoeby Turley (6), born Staffordshire;
[11] Martha Turley (3), born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/1/1847

“Coroner’s Inquests.....

At the BROOK HOUSE, Coseley, on the body of Sarah Fellows, a girl about 14 years old who died in consequence of severe burns received about five weeks ago. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Coseley

[1] John Turley (47), victualler, born Sedgley;
[2] Elizabeth Turley (37), wife, born Sedgley;
[3] James Turley (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
[4] John Turley (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
[5] Sarah Turley (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
[6] Thomas Turley (4), son, born Sedgley;
[7] Elizabeth Turley (6 months), daughter, born Sedgley;
[8] Sarah Davies (41), nurse, born Sedgley;
[9] Hannah Smith (16), house servant, born Sedgley;
[10] James Overton (10), servant, labourer, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/4/1851

“At a Special Sessions of County Justices for transferring victuallers’ licenses.....

the executors of the late John Turley, deceased, of BROOK INN, Woodsetton, Sedgley, to John Hughes, brickmaker.”

John Hughes married Sarah Turley in the 4th quarter of 1849.

Birmingham Daily Post 26/4/1860 - Advert

“Lost, the Writings of Three Freehold Houses, situated at Coppice, Coseley. Whoever has found them, and will bring them to John Hughes, BROOK INN, Wood Setton, Coseley, shall receive £2 reward.”

1861 Census

Woodsetton – BROOK INN

- [1] *John Hughes* (35), fire brick maker and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Hughes (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Thomas Hughes (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Carmie Hughes (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah M. Hughes (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Henrietta H. Hughes (5), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] James A. Hughes (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] Julia A. Hughes (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Isaac Hughes (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [10] Joseph Turley (29), unmarried, brother in law, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [11] George Turley (28), brother in law, unmarried, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [12] Phoebe E. Turley (26), unmarried, house servant, born Sedgley;
- [13] Levinia Turley (18), sister in law, unmarried, born Sedgley:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/4/1866

“Quoits. The match for £10 a side, between Messrs. W. Hampton and I. Gill, of Dudley, who are matched to play on May 7, at Mr. *Turley*'s, the BROOK, Coseley, 120 up, Harrison receiving 20 chalks, distance 21 yards, clay ends, is going on. The next deposit for the same is to be made at Mr. Challingsworth's (the stakeholder), BULLS HEAD, Hall Street, Dudley, this evening.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/5/1866

“Quoits. J. Guy and J. Hampton. These men met on Monday last at the BROOK at Coseley to play a match, for £10 a side, clay ends, 21 yards, Guy giving Hampton 20 chalks out of 120. The match ended in favour of Hampton, who beat his opponent by 44 chalks. Betting 5 to 4 on Hampton.”

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 25/7/1868 - Advert

“Freehold Mineral Estate, near Coppice, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Ironmasters, Coalmasters, and Other Capitalists.

Messrs. Powell and Son will Sell by Auction, at the BROOK INN, Woodsetton, Sedgley, on Wednesday, the 12th day of August, 1868.....”

1871 Census

21, Brook Road

- [1] *James Turley* (39), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Turley (39), wife, household, born Sedgley;
- [3] Annie Turley (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Jane Brown (15), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/4/1877 - Married

“On the 10th inst, at Christ Church, Coseley (by the Rev. Slater, Vicar), George Frederick, second son of Frederick Green, music-seller, Dudley and Walsall, to Annie, only daughter of *James Turley*, the BROOK, Woodsetton.”

Dudley Herald 12/7/1879 - Advert

“Friday, July 25th 1879. Important Sale of Freehold and Copyhold Properties at Coseley and Upper Ettingshall, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Richards, will Sell by Auction (by direction of the Trustees, under the Will of Mr. Joseph Turley, deceased), at the house of Mr. *James Turley*, the BROOK INN, Woodsetton.....”

1881 Census

BROOK INN

- [1] *James Turley* (49), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Turley (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Arthur Turley* (22), son, clerk in timber trade, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Millard (27), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Ally Sloper's Half Holiday 16/8/1890

“Twenty Watches Given Away Every Week to Purchasers of Ally Sloper's Half Holiday.....

The list for this week will close on Tuesday evening next, August 19th. The list for August 9th will be published in the *Half Holiday* for August 23rd.

210th Week. The following Twenty Applicants have been given 'Sloper' Watches.....

Arthur Turley, Licensed Victualler, BROOK INN, Woodsetton. Age 32 years. Subscriber since December 1885.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/1/1891 - Advert

“Lost, Gold Scarf Pin, onyx stone, gold star centre; supposed in New Street, or upper box, Theatre Royal. Finder 5s reward.

Turley, BROOK INN, Woodsetton, Dudley.”

1891 Census

9, Brook Road – BROOK INN

- [1] *Arthur Turley* (32), licensed victualler, born Woodsetton;
- [2] *Clara Turley* (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Charles Roger Turley* (7), son, born Woodsetton;
- [4] Arthur Leonard Turley (6), son, born Deepfields;
- [5] Dorothy Turley (3), daughter, born Deepfields;
- [6] Robert Turley (1 month), son, born Woodsetton;
- [7] Sarah Smith (56), visitor, living on her own means, born Coseley;
- [8] Louise Meredith (17), general servant, born Upper Gornal:

Black Country Bugle

‘Dog Fight Wrangle at Woodsetton Pub’

“Coseley reader, Mr. A. Hyde, recalls an incident In the old days the BROOK INN, Woodsetton, nestled in a very pleasant scene indeed, with a brook running across farmland from the rear of the premises – through the pub’s garden – via the street tunnel and then winding its way over the fields and meadowland that then fronted the building.

Charley Turley, landlord and licensee for many years The inn was frequented by pitmen, moulders, millmen and skilled artisans; a clay pipe smoking, twist chewing, hard working, tough crowd, conversing jovially as they thirsted for *Turley’s* wum-brewed.”

Black Country Bugle

Letter from Connie Thomas, Cannock

“I am an ex-licensee, and I wonder who can remember the days of the tatters and the Sunday morning horse market, and the horse dealing. The money that changed hands was phenomenal, and there were always horses in the paddock at the rear of the pub Then there was old Joe *Turley*, who brewed his own beer, when it was a home brewed house. On a Friday, he wouldn’t allow the miners more than one pint of beer, until they had been home and turned up their wages. It was said that his beer was so strong, no-one had more than three pints per night.....”

1901 Census

9, Bourne Street

- [1] *Arthur Turley* (42), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Clara Turley* (45), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Charles R. Turley* (17), son, hardware apprentice, born Sedgley;
- [4] Arthur L. Turley (16), son, cabinet maker’s apprentice, born Sedgley;
- [5] Dorothy Turley (13), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Robert Turley (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Anne Webb (23), general servant, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Woodsetton – BROOK

- [1] *Clara Turley* (55), widow, licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Charles Roger Turley* (27), son, maltster’s traveller, born Coseley;
- [3] Arthur Leonard Turley (26), son, assisting in business, born Coseley;
- [4] Dorothy Turley (22), daughter, assisting in business, born Coseley;
- [5] Robert Turley (20), son, assisting in business, born Coseley;
- [6] Annie Webb (22), general servant, born Coseley:

Charles Turley brewed his own beer.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/9/1939

“Second-lieutenant D. C. L. Shepherd, son of the Archdeacon of Dudley (the Ven. A. P. Shepherd, DD), who joins the 268th Battery, R.A., for active service to-day, was married yesterday at Dudley Parish Church to Miss Elsie Doreen *Willets*, only daughter of Mr. *William Willets*, licensee of the BROOK INN, Woodsetton, Coseley.”

1939 Register

Brook Road – BROOK INN

- [1] *William Willets*, date of birth 23/12/1885, brewer and licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Ann (Ann Wilinon) Willets, dob 27/8/1883, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Elsie S. (Shepherd) Slade, dob 1/3/1915, secretary to principal of Dudley Training College and ARP supervisor(?), married:

William Willets brewed his own beer.

Jacqueline Blewitt was the daughter of *Wilf Workman*.

It was renovated in 1987 at a cost of £180,000.

It reopened in 1988

[2015]

Closed [2016]

It reopened on the 4th March, 2016.

[2018]

Express and Star 9/8/2023

“A Black Country councillor has called on residents to make their voices heard after a plans to convert a pub into flats were submitted. Five flats have been proposed for the BROOK INN on Bourne Street, Woodsetton, a pub which dates back to 1835 and run by the Tully family for nearly 100 years. Under the application by Joshid Ahmed, three one-bed, a two-bed and a three-bed homes are proposed, with a two-storey rear extension replacing the existing extension also included in the plans submitted to Dudley Council. Explaining the proposal, the applicant said, ‘The proposed conversion of the public house to residential apartments is due to the lack of demand for its current use.’

Reasons given include a change in working patterns since the pandemic, higher running costs, competition from supermarkets. The application also notes, ‘The younger generations of the local adult population now have readily available alternative means of social communication and socializing, thus reducing the need to attend public houses to meet and communicate with their friendship groups,’ and ‘changing social trends, including greater respect for drink driving law and increased consciousness over health.’ 14 parking spaces are included in the plans, which the applicant says will be ‘unlikely an increase on-street parking demand within the area,’ while cycle racks are proposed too.

The application concludes, ‘Due to current trends socially and economically, with higher cost of beverages and fewer punters, the business, trading as BROOK INN public house, is no longer a viable one. The forecasts for the future will follow the same trend, due to the changes mentioned above and hence the owners feel it is the right time to close off the business and convert the building into a more viable use. The conversion to residential apartments is very attractive due to the current demands for good quality housing, and will help plug the shortfall within the Borough and nationwide in general.’”

Express & Star 15/8/2023

“The licensee of an at-risk pub has spoken of her shock at finding it has been put up for sale and claimed a lack of support from the brewery which owns it. *Fiona Tennant* said she was astonished to find out that the BROOK INN in Woodsetton had been put up for a planning application to convert it into flats without her prior knowledge. Ms. *Tennant* has been licensee of the pub since December last year and said she had done what she could to make the pub a welcoming place for people to come to and, she claimed, without any support from owners Richmond Hill Brewery. She said, ‘I feel I have had no support from Richmond Hill in the time I have been here, and as a tenant, I know I have to fix things, but for example, my boiler broke in March and so I have been without hot water since then. I think I’ve done the best I can to bring people in, with live entertainment and the fact we have a beautiful garden for families to sit in.’

She said the first she had heard of the application was when a customer had sent her screen shots of the planning application and said she suspected it was the brewery that had made the application. She said, ‘I couldn’t believe it when I saw it as no one had told me and I sent over the screen shots to Richmond and asked them what this was, to which they said they were going down the route of coming out of pubs, so, to my knowledge, they made the application. They hadn’t even told me anything and I was shocked when I found out as I would have hoped they’d have had the decency to tell me.’

Ms. *Tennant* said the customers were united in wanting to keep the pub, although she said she couldn’t see a future for it under the current owners. She said, ‘All of my customers and even those who aren’t regulars, they’re all behind wanting to save the pub and I think it would be a shame for it to be turned into flats. Sadly, I don’t see much of a future for the pub under Richmond Hill.’ Richmond Hill Brewery have been contacted for a comment.”

BROWN LION

SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas L Pemberton [] – 1866);

Stephen Golby (1866 – []

NOTES

BULL AND BUTCHER

39, Vale Street, (1+2, Park Street), Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Benjamin Marsh
Daniel Marsh
Joseph Davies, Wheelwrights Arms, Netherton

LICENSEES

Daniel Marsh Snr. [1845] – [1854]
Daniel Marsh [1860] which one?
Daniel ‘Dan’ Marsh Jnr. [1865] – 1906);
Edward Dunn (1906);
William Naylor (1906 – 1909);
Solomon Cooksey (1909 – 1910);
Thomas Fox (1910 – 1911);
Samuel Flavell (1911 – 1913):

NOTES

1+2, Park Street [1871]
39, Vale Street [1901], [1911]

BULL [1854]

It had an ante '69 beerhouse (6 days) license.

Tokens were issued from here.

Daniel Marsh Snr. was also a butcher. [1845], [1849], [1850], [1851], [1854]

1851 Census

Ruiton

- [1] *Daniel Marsh* (48), butcher and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Marsh (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Hannah Marsh (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Benjamin Marsh (4), son, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/10/1858 - Advert

“Sale of Freehold Property at Ruiton, near Sedgley.

John Mason will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, the 9th day of November, 1858, at the house of Mr. *Daniel Marsh*, known as the BULL AND BUTCHER, in Ruiton aforesaid, at six o'clock in the evening (subject to conditions then to be read), all that well-erected Messuage or Dwelling House, together with two well-built Tenements and a capital Windmill, adjoining thereto, and also that piece or parcel of Land on which the said buildings are erected, and containing by admeasurement 1¼ acres, situate at Ruiton aforesaid, and now in the occupation of Mr. Paul Thompson and his Tenants.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Thompson, on the premises; Mr. Waterhouse, Solicitor, Bilston; or the Auctioneer, Willenhall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/4/1862 - Deaths

“On the 19th inst, Mr. *Daniel Marsh*, of Upper Gornal, very much respected and deeply regretted by his family and friends.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/7/1863

“The Ruiton Hill Lodge held their anniversary feast on Monday, July 6th, at the BULL AND BUTCHER INN, Gornal, when

upwards of 120 members walked in procession to the parish church, Sedgley, headed by the Gornal Saxhorn Band. The Vicar preached a very impressive sermon from the 18th chapter of Luke, 14th verse. The funds are in a very prosperous condition. In the last years the society accumulated the sum of £38 8s 5d. The total capital of the society is £550 9s 11d.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1864 - Notice

“All Persons having any Claim upon the Estate of the late Mr. *Daniel Marsh*, also the late Mrs. *Hannah Marsh*, both of the BULL AND BUTCHER INN, Ruiton, in the parish of Sedgley, are requested to send in their accounts to either Mr. *Dan Marsh*, of the same place, or to the Executors, Mr. Theophilus Tinsley, of Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, and Mr. William Smith, of Russell’s Hall, Sedgley, near Dudley; all persons indebted thereto are respectfully requested to pay the amount of their accounts to the same parties at their earliest convenience, in order to facilitate the winding-up of the estate.

Signed Theophilus Tinsley, William Smith, Executors.

August 1864.”

Daniel Marsh was also a butcher. [1865]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/4/1868

“On Monday an inquiry was held at the BULL AND BUTCHER INN, Upper Gornal, before Mr. Phillips, deputy coroner, into the cause of death of Samuel Edwards, aged 15. It appears that the deceased was working on the 15th inst. at Mr. Alfred Colbourn’s brick-yard, at Woodsetton, and when near where the clay was being ground a wheel broke, knocked him down, and crushed him badly, from which he died the next day. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/7/1868

“Staffordshire Summer Assizes.....

John Abbiss, 25, hawker, was charged with unlawfully wounding John Hickman at Sedgley, on the 20th inst. Mr. Young appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Griffiths for the defence.

The offence was committed in the course of a squabble outside the BULL AND BUTCHER public-house, Sedgley, the wound inflicted was not of a serious character. It was contended by the defence that it was received accidentally, but the jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to one months’ imprisonment.”

Daniel Marsh Jnr. was also a butcher. [1869], [1870], [1892]

Dudley Herald 9/1/1869

“*Daniel Marsh*, publican, was charged with permitting disorderly conduct in his house, the BULL AND BUTCHER INN, Ruiton, Upper Gornal, on the 14th ult. no cohesive evidence was elicited, and the case was dismissed.

Daniel Marsh was also charged with gambling at the same house and at the same time. James Hickman deposed that on the night of the 14th ult, two men named Levi Harper and John Guest, bowled for a leg of mutton and a gallon of ale, at the house of the defendant. He could not swear, while the bowling was going on, that *Daniel Marsh* was present, but he was sure his brother Benjamin was. Benjamin *Marsh* took part in the management, and seemed to be a sort of partner. He could not tell how many men were present at the bowling, but the number was nearer twenty than two. – Laughter.

The stakes were found by ten men, five a side. Witness was one of them and he gave the first 6d to Benjamin *Marsh*, and a shilling afterwards to someone else.

John Hickman was then called and stated that he was present, but took no part in the proceedings. He saw no money staked, but he heard they were playing for a leg of mutton and that John Guest had lost. Jeavon Nicholls deposed after the bowling for the leg of mutton was over, he played with five other men for checks, which were sold to them by John *Marsh*, also a brother of the defendant. They were supplied with ale from the checks. the Bench fined defendant £1.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Allowing Gambling. *Dan. Marsh*, BULL AND BUTCHER, Upper Gornal, £5 and costs.....

The licenses of the following publicans were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting.....

Dan Marsh, BULL AND BUTCHER, Sedgley.”

Daniel Marsh was fined 20s and costs for allowing drunkenness in July 1870.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

“The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30. Licensed Victuallers.....

Daniel Marsh, BULL AND BUTCHER, Gornal.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1870

“Bilston. The adjourned licensing sessions took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The magistrates stated that they had agreed to grant all the licenses which were suspended at the adjourned licensing day, with the exception of the three following: Daniel Jones, TRAVELLERS REST, Lower Gornal; *Daniel Marsh*, BULL AND BUTCHER, Ruerton [sic]; and Elisha Marsh, of the BELL, Lower Gornal.

Mr. H. Best appeared for *Daniel Marsh*, and asked the magistrates to reconsider their decision, on the ground that the property belonged to his client, and he had a very large stock upon it. The magistrates consulted, and said they had no reason to alter their decision. In answer to an application to grant the house an out-door license, so that Mr. *Marsh* might sell off his stock, they said they could not because proper notices had not been given. Mr. Hall, magistrates' clerk, said the Bench had the power to adjourn the meeting so that proper notices might be given; and they agreed to do so.”

Daniel Marsh was granted an off-license in November 1870.

1871 Census

1+2, Park Street

[1] *Dan Marsh* (34), unmarried, butcher and public house keeper, born Sedgley;

[2] Benjamin Marsh (24), brother, butcher, born Sedgley;

[3] Hannah Marsh (44), sister, housekeeper, born Sedgley;

[4] Hannah Marsh (14), niece, cook, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1871

“Bilston Annual Licensing Session.....

Mr. Stokes, solicitor, of Dudley, applied for a renewal of the ale license for a house at Kinton [sic], Gornal, belonging to *Daniel Marsh*. It appears that the license for selling ale upon the premises had been withdrawn about twelve months ago, on account of some irregularity, and Mr. Stokes now requested that it might be regranted. He pointed out that the third subsection of the first section of the new Act of Parliament, which referred to houses that would be a convenience to the public, gave the Magistrates power to recommend the applications to the Secretary of State for his approval, also in cases where a refusal would cause injury to persons. Mr. Stokes maintained that the Act of Parliament was framed for the purpose of protecting mortgagees or large land owners of property, who frequently took to public houses on account of the value being enhanced by the license; and as a matter of course, if the license were withdrawn, the value of the property would be greatly deteriorated. Further, that in cases where the applicant had laid out large sums of money upon the property before the passing of the new Act of Parliament, the Magistrates had the power of granting a license. Mr. Stokes presented a memorial, signed by influential residents in the neighbourhood, also a petition from a club that had been formerly held at the house, praying for the renewal. He could give sufficient guarantee as to the future respectability of the house. The Magistrates objected to the application on the ground that the license had been taken away and not suspended, and that the Act of Parliament gave them no power to renew a license unless it could be shown that by refusing to do so they would be occasioning inconvenience or injury to the public. Dr. Ballenden, of Sedgley, subsequently attended, and gave testimony in the applicant's behalf, but the Bench did not find sufficient cause to alter their determination.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/10/1872

“Adjourned Licensing Day.....

Mr. Stokes applied on behalf of *Daniel Marsh*, of Upper Gornal, for a license to sell ale off the premises. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

“Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court.....

The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent McCrea presenting his annual ‘black list.’ In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act.....

Applications were then considered.....

Mr. J. Underhill (instructed by Messrs. Gold and Ellcock) solicited a six days beerhouse license for Mr. *Marsh*, for the BULL AND BUTCHER INN, Vale Street, Ruaton [sic], near Sedgley Granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/8/1875

“Yesterday, there was an annual Licensing meeting for the Bilston Petty Sessional Division, at the local Police Court.....

Applications were the made for new licenses. Mr. Gould (Stourbridge), sought for a six days' license to sell wine and spirits, to be consumed on the premises of Mr. *Daniel Marsh*, of the BULL AND BUTCHER beerhouse, Ruiton, situate in a populous neighbourhood, at the junction of three roads, on the main road from Lower Gornal to Gornal Wood. For many years the house had been old-licensed, but the license had been revoked because of two convictions. The premises were still to be sufficiently rated, possessed a club room, and with good stabling. The police proved that the applicant had managed his house without complaint during the last eighteen months.”

Dudley Herald 10/1/1880

“On Monday last, Mr. *Dan Marsh* gave his annual supper to relatives and friends. An excellent repast was provided, to which about sixty-three did ample justice. Mr. Wassel occupied the chair. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been duly honoured, the remainder of the evening was spent in conviviality. Songs, recitations, &c, followed in quick succession, each one present endeavouring, to the best of his ability, to make the evening as enjoyable as possible. The South Staffordshire brass band

was in attendance, and contributed largely to the enjoyment of the evening, by rendering several national and popular airs in its accustomed good style. Altogether a very enjoyable evening was spent and the company dispersed with mutual good wishes for the prosperity and happiness of the new year.”

Dudley and District News 21/2/1880

“On Tuesday night Mr. W. H. Phillips held an inquest at the BULL AND BUTCHER, Vale View, Ruiton, relative to the death of Joseph Law (26), manager at Messrs. Tindsley’s nail warehouse, who died suddenly on Friday last. Dr. Ballenden stated that death had arisen from apoplexy.

The Coroner: Not from violence of any kind? – Witness: In consequence of the rumours prevalent I made a most minute examination of the stomach, and found it healthy and empty.

The Coroner said it was most astonishing that such a healthy-looking young man should have met with such a death. A juryman said the deceased was the healthiest-looking young man in the parish of Sedgley. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence. Much interest was taken in the proceedings.”

1881 Census

Vale Street – BULL AND BUTCHER INN

- [1] *Daniel Marsh* (42), widower, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] Benjamin Marsh (34), brother, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [3] Hannah Marsh (54), sister, born Sedgley;
- [4] William Stanley (21), butcher, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah J. Marsh (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

Vale Street

- [1] *Dan Marsh* (52), butcher, born Ruiton;
- [2] Emily Marsh (37), wife, born Ruiton;
- [3] Daniel Marsh (5), son, born Ruiton;
- [4] Hannah Marsh (65), sister, born Ruiton;
- [5] Eliza Burrows (27), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

1901 Census

39, Vale Street – BULL AND BUTCHER INN

- [1] *Dan Marsh* (64), beer seller and butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] Emily Marsh (50), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Daniel Marsh (16), son, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [4] Charles Henry Guest (20), nephew, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [5] Esther Guest (11), niece, born Sedgley;
- [6] Mary Russell (21), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions BULL AND BUTCHER, Upper Gornal.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required; difficult of police supervision.

Superintendent Walters said the work had been done to his satisfaction, and he withdrew the objection.

The license was renewed.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/10/1903

“*Dan Marsh*, jun., residing at Ruiton, the son of a licensed victualler, was charged at the Sedgley Police Court yesterday afternoon, before Mr. Neville (Stipendiary), on six summonses with unlawfully taking and detaining valuable homing pigeons belonging to pigeon-fanciers at Lancaster, Burton-on-Trent, Nuneaton, Cradley, Northumberland, and Perry Barr.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe, who prosecuted on behalf of the National Homing Pigeon Union, stated it was a test case, and was really the first of its kind instituted by the union. Recently a large number of birds had been missed after flying over Sedgley and district, and the defendant being suspected by Mr. Harrison of being in the habit of ‘taking’ pigeons, a search warrant was obtained, and when defendant’s premises were searched upwards of fifty valuable pigeons with rings on their legs and numbers on their wings were discovered by Mr. Harrison. Defendant said his pigeons were frequently caught, and he should catch as many as he could. Several of the pigeons had been identified by the owners. There was no doubt when the pigeons flew over the district tired after flying a long journey they were enticed down on the defendant’s premises, and the union were most desirous that such a very objectionable practice should be stopped.

Evidence in support of the prosecution having been given, Mr. W. A. Foster, who defended, urged that the defendant had not been proved to have broken the law excepting that he had not advertised the birds.

The Stipendiary held that the defendant had acted unlawfully, and said it was important that the obnoxious system which defendant has adopted should be put down. He ordered defendant to pay £11 1s 6d, including costs.

Six other summonses charging defendant with larceny were, on the application of Mr. Foster, dismissed.”

Dudley Herald 15/2/1908

“.....one of the oldest beerhouses in the district ante '69.....”

1911 Census

39, Vale Street – BULL AND BUTCHER INN

- [1] *Thomas Fox* (49), manager, born Walsall;
- [2] Gertrude A. Fox (52), wife, married 22 years, born Dublin;
- [3] Thomas Fox (17), son, bricklayer's labourer, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Mary Ann Fox (15), daughter, born Lower Gornal:

Samuel Flavell, beer retailer, Ruiton. [1912]

Staffordshire Sentinel 7/6/1913

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. Notice of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1901, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shirehall, Stafford, at 10-45 o'clock am on Thursday, the 24th day of July, 1913. 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 (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

BULL AND BUTCHER, Upper Gornal. Beerhouse, ante 1869 (six days). Licensee, *Samuel Flavell*.”

License refused by Compensation Authority on 24th July 1913.

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/7/1913

“The principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

Seven houses were scheduled in Bilston division.....

BULL AND BUTCHER, Upper Gornal, ante 1869 beerhouse.....

Renewal was formally applied for and refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/8/1913 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 24th day of July, 1913, 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 Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 7th day of September, 1913, for the purpose of enabling 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.....

BULL AND BUTCHER, Upper Gornal, Sedgley. Beerhouse ante 1869 (six days). Licencee, *Samuel Flavell*. Registered Owner, Joseph Davies.”

Compensation of £520 was paid on 24th December 1913.

Lichfield Mercury 9/1/1914

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee fixed the following amounts.....

BULL AND BUTCHER, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, £520.”

It closed.

Demolished

BULLS HEAD

37, (39), Webb Street, Deepfields, (Mount Pleasant), COSELEY

OWNERS

Benjamin Jones

James Cahill, Heath Town, Wolverhampton

W. Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Benjamin Webb [1828] – [1830]
John Whitehouse [1833]
Benjamin Webb [1835] – [1850]
Hannah Webb [] – **1847**);
William Webb (**1847** – [1862]
Benjamin Jones [1864] – **1874**);
Henry Jakeman (**1874** – **1884**);
Eli Jones (**1884** – **1890**);
Sarah Ann (Jones) Salt (**1890** – **1900**);
Thomas Salt [1896] ?
Thomas Salt (**1900** – **1905**);
William Clark [1905] ?
Arthur Gilhard Cartwright (**1905** – **1913**);
James Turley (**1913** – **1915**);
James Jackson (**1915** – **1923**);
George Emmerson (**1923** – **1926**):

NOTES

Mount Pleasant [1851], [1861], [1865]
39, Webb Street [1871], [1881], [1891], [1911]
37, Webb Street [1901]

John Whitehouse, victualler, BULLS HEAD, Mount Pleasant, Fullard's End. [1833]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1835 - Advert

“To be Sold by Private Treaty, all that well-established Inn, called the BULLS HEAD, consisting of parlour, kitchens, club-room of large dimensions, convenient lodging rooms, brewhouse, spacious cellarage, with a stable, yard, suitable outbuildings, and all other requisite conveniences thereto attached, situate at Mount Pleasant, near the New Church, Coseley, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Benjamin Webb*.

And also all that excellent Messuage adjoining the above, comprising two front parlours, large kitchen, suitable lodging-rooms, brewhouse, garden ground, and premises thereto belonging, and now in the occupation of Mr. Adam Webb.

The above premise as are freehold of Inheritance, most substantially built, and delightfully situated on an eminence, commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country, and are well supplied with water.

Mr. Adam Webb, the Proprietor, will shew the property, and to treat for the same and for other particulars apply at the offices of Messrs. Robinson and Fletcher, Solicitors, Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1837 - Advert

“To The Electors Of The Borough Of Wolverhampton.....

Any communication in favour of Mr. Benbow and Captain Burton's election will be thankfully received at the following places and houses where the gentlemen conducting their election sit daily.....

Sedgley, the COURT HOUSE and SWAN; Sedgley Lowerside, the BULLS HEAD, Deepfields.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/10/1839 - Advert

“Conservative Festival, Sedgley.

The Members of the Sedgley Operative Conservative Association intend to celebrate the formation of this Society by dining together in the Sunday School Rooms, Sedgley, on Monday, the 28th October, 1839.

Samuel Stone Briscoe, Esq, in the Chair.

Tickets, 2s 6d each, may be procured till Friday, the 25th of October, at the Bar of the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, and the BULLS HEAD INN, Coseley.

Dinner on the table precisely at two o'clock.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/12/1841

“Inquisition before T. M. Phillips, Esq.....

On Thursday last at the BULLS HEAD, Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, on the body of Jane Welch, an aged female, subject to attacks of asthma, who expired suddenly, at an early hour in the morning, having gone to bed in better health than usual. Mr. Kettle, surgeon, was called to give evidence in this case. Verdict, Died by the Visitation of God.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/6/1842 - Advert

“To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, A Genteel House, near Coseley new Church, comprising two front parlours, entrance hall, butler's pantry, kitchen, brewhouse, &c. with an excellent garden at the back.

For particulars apply to Mr. *B. Webb*, BULLS HEAD INN, Coseley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/8/1843 - Advert

“Freehold And Leasehold Buildings, at Deepfields and Princes End, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Richard Corbett, by direction of the devisee of the trust for sale under the will of the late Mr. William Green, mine agent, late of Deepfields. aforesaid deceased, on Friday, the 1st day of September, 1843, at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Webb*, the BULLS HEAD INN, Deepfields aforesaid, at five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read.....”

Benjamin Webb was also a coalmaster. [1845]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/11/1846 - Advert

“Old Licensed Public House, called the BULLS HEAD, at Coseley.

To be Let or Sold, with immediate possession, all that old-established, well know, and extensive Public House, called or known by the name of the BULLS HEAD, situate at Coseley, in the occupation of the proprietor, Mr. *Benjamin Webb*, who is leaving on account of ill-health.

The House consists to three taprooms, bar, pantry, parlour, large club room, three chambers, and extensive cellars, capable of storing upwards of 30,000 gallons of ale.

The detached offices include a well-arranged brewhouse, cooking kitchen, store room, stable, and other appurtenances, with an excellent garden.

The premises are plentifully supplied with hard and soft water, and well calculated to carry on, in addition to the retail, an extensive wholesale trade or brewery, being situated in very populous neighbourhood, and within a short distance of the canal.

Also together with the above premises, a very convenient Dwelling House adjoining the said premises, consisting of two parlours, kitchen, four chambers, cellar, detached brewhouse, garden, &c.

The stock of ale, spirits, fixtures, and plant to be taken at a fair valuation.

For terms of letting apply to Messrs Walker, Page, and Loveridge, agents, Snowhill, Wolverhampton. For price of premises, and further particulars, apply to them, or Messrs. Robinson and Fletcher, solicitors, Dudley.

Wolverhampton, Nov 10, 1846.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/4/1847

“At a special sessions for the transfer of victualler’s licenses, held at the Police Office, in this town, on Friday last, before H. Hill, Esq. and Joseph Tarratt, Esq. the following business was transacted.....

The license hitherto held by *Hannah Webb*, of the Deepfield, in the parish of Sedgley, was transferred to her son, *William Webb*.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/5/1847

“An inquest was held on Monday last, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the BULLS HEAD, Coseley, on the body of Elizabeth Smith between four and five years old. The child was playing with a little boy at hopscotch, when the boy pushed her, and she fell beneath one of the wheels of a waggon which was passing at the time. The deceased died the next day. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/2/1850

“On Friday last an inquest was held at the BULLS HEAD, Deepfields, near Coseley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Mary Ann Clark, nine days old, daughter of Mary Clark, a single woman, living in Mamble Square. The child had been buried on Sunday week in Coseley church-yard, but had been disinterred by order of the coroner, in consequence of reports that the child had come by its death through unfair means. Rebecca Clark, who attended Mary Clark in her confinement, stated that the child appeared to be full grown, but was not healthy from its birth to its death, which took place on that day week. She was called to the house where Mary Clark lived about three o'clock on Friday morning, and saw the deceased in her grandmother’s arms in bed, where deceased’s mother was also sleeping. She took the deceased from her, and found that she was dead. She did not observe any bruises or marks of violence on the child’s body. Previously to her confinement the mother of deceased invariably denied being in the family way. She (witness) did not believe that the child had anything of an injurious nature given to her except a little peppermint, and not more than one teaspoonful altogether. The inquiry was adjourned to afford time for a post mortem examination.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/12/1850

“On Wednesday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Deepfields, upon the body of William Taylor, aged 76 years, who was drowned by falling into the canal, near Coseley, on the night of the 30th ult. Verdict Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Mount Pleasant

[1] *William Webb* (27), victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Charlotte Webb* (27), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *William Webb* (6), son, born Sedgley;

[4] *Benjamin Webb* (4), son, born Sedgley;

[5] Hannah Webb (2), daughter, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 31/12/1853

“On Tuesday, William Russell, Kirus Russell, and Justus Evans, were fined by the sitting Magistrate, the first two 5s and costs, and the last-named 5s and costs, for cruelty to a favourite cat, belonging to Mrs. Charlotte *Webb*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Coseley.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/6/1859 - Advert

“In Chancery. Rolinson v. Hill And Others.

Important And Peremptory Sale By Auction of Foundry & Fitting-Up Shops, Machinery and Other Effects, at Coseley, near Bilston, in the county of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, with the approbations of the Vice-chancellor, Sir John Stuart, the Judge to whose Court the above mentioned Cause is attached, pursuant to an order of the said Court for that purpose, bearing the date the 2nd day of March, 1859, by John Mason (the person appointed by the Court for that purpose), Tomorrow (Tuesday) the 7th day of June, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Coseley aforesaid, at four o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read.

Lot I. The Union Engine Foundry and Fitting-Up Shop, at Coseley aforesaid.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1859

“Scarcely has the excitement caused by the late case of manslaughter subsided than a painful interest had been awakened as to the circumstances attending the death of a man named Thomas Eastop, residing at a back house near the Darkhouse Chapel, and which was said to have been the result of a blow given by a woman with whom he cohabited. Eastop was a very sensible man, and was a recognised Mormonite, the principles of which sect he tried to disseminate by lending the ‘Book of Mormon,’ &c. The particulars of the affair will be found detailed in the evidence of the witnesses examined yesterday, at the house of Mr. *William Webb*, the BULLS HEAD INN, Mount Pleasant, before Mr. Phillips, Coroner, and a respectable body of jurors. John Hopwood, a sinker, living next door to the deceased, deposed: The deceased was about sixty-nine years of age, and was a carpenter. On Saturday evening last, between eight and nine o'clock, I was in my own house, when I heard the sound of quarrelling in Eastop's house. I then heard some scuffling, and the woman cried out ‘Murder.’ I heard the man say, as I stood at the door (which was before the cry of murder), ‘You drunken old ——, I will kill you.’ I am sure it was Eastop's voice. She replied, ‘Well, you do it,’ twice or three times. I heard a ‘scuffle’ in the house, and then behind the door. I went in, and found they were behind the door, both standing up; he had got her against the wall holding her two arms. When they saw me they ceased quarrelling. She seemed if she had had liquor. I put my arm round his neck and waist to draw him away from her, and I had no difficulty in doing it. I said, ‘Why, Thomas, what is the matter,’ and as he turned his head to look at me she struck him with a hand brush. He made no attempt to get after her after I laid hold of him. It was when I was drawing him away that she struck him. There was a bit of fire in the house, but no candle lighted. She picked the brush off the table and struck him on the left side of the head. He immediately let fall his head on my breast. She only struck him once, and did not attempt to strike him again. He did not speak after, but groaned twice. My wife and mother came in at that time. When I got him between my knees, partly on the ground, the woman ran to the well for some water and placed it on his face. I said, ‘It is no good; he is dying.’ She said, ‘Oh, it is only one of his passions,’ but he died in a few minutes afterwards. He did not appear to have had any ale. I had often heard them quarrelling, and they appeared as bad as the other. They have no children, but he had two children by another woman. Rodha (the woman) had come into our house about ten minutes before, and said she had been at Bilston. She was rather ‘fond of her beer,’ and was then in liquor. I have heard them threaten each other at different times.

Ann Hopwood, mother of the last witness, and May Hopwood, his wife, corroborated his evidence. Both stated that Rhoda said, ‘I intended to have struck him but I did not.’ The last witness said her husband told her the blow caught his arm. It was a usual affair for them to be falling out; the quarrels were almost nightly.

A Juryman: Did you ever see him run round the garden, after her with an axe? – Witness: No.

A few minutes before the quarrel Rhoda was in our house, and Eastop came to the door, and asked her, in a pleasant manner, ‘Are you coming?’ She went out laughing, and said, ‘Have you lost me, my dear?’

Elizabeth Jones, wife of William Jones, a labourer, said she went into the deceased's house about a quarter past eight, when he was dead. She had heard Rhoda cry out ‘murder’ before. Witness laid out the body and washed him, but saw no marks at all on him. Had heard Rhoda cry out ‘murder’ many a time, and took no notice of it, for she would cry out before she was hurt.

The enquiry was then adjourned for a post mortem examination.”

[At the adjourned inquest a verdict of Manslaughter was returned against the woman ‘Rhoda’.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/6/1860

“A painful affair came to light last week at Coseley, which has occasioned considerable excitement in the neighbourhood, and has resulted in the committal of a respectable young girl, only eighteen years of age, named Sarah Ann Tyer, daughter of Mr. Thomas Tyer, of Mount Pleasant, Coseley, to take her trial for wilful murder of her newly-born infant child. Mr. Tyer was formerly manager of Deepfields ironworks, but is now, we are informed, without a situation. The circumstances of the case are that early on Monday morning a woman went to a petty at the back of the BULLS HEAD INN, and observing considerable traces of blood on the floor her suspicions were aroused, and subsequently, about ten o'clock, on searching among the nightsoil, she found the body of a full-grown female child. Information was given to the police, and upon inquiry it was ascertained, and in fact admitted by the unfortunate girl Sarah Ann Tyer, that she had that morning been delivered of a child in the closet. As her indisposition would not permit her removal, she was kept under surveillance at her father's home. On the following day an inquest was opened at the BULLS HEAD INN, Coseley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, and after eliciting facts as to the finding of the body the inquest was adjourned until Monday morning last at ten o'clock, for the purpose of obtaining a post mortem examination.”

[At the adjourned inquest the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder. Sarah Ann Tyer appeared at the Stafford Assizes on 19th July 1860, and was acquitted.]

1861 Census

Mount Pleasant

- [1] *William Webb* (37), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Charlotte Webb* (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William Webb* (15), son, roal turner, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Harriet Webb* (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Louisa Webb* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Emmalo Webb* (3), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Charles Kerry Webb* (1), son, born Sedgley;

London Daily News 11/4/1861

“Yesterday afternoon an inquest was held at the BULLS HEAD INN, Coseley, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner for the Wolverhampton district, on the body of an aged man, named Walter Piper, a boatman, who had died near to that house the day before from injuries he had received from highwaymen. Deceased was a single man, and lodged with George Wooton, a shoemaker. He left home on the morning of March 25, saying he was going with a boat for his master to Birchills, near Walsall. His master was Samuel Willcox of Dark House Lane. Deceased was accustomed to go to Bilston market, about one mile away, every Monday evening. On the evening of the 25th March, at about nine o'clock, witness heard that the deceased had been injured and robbed. He found him in the house of a neighbour, bleeding from a severe wound in the forehead. The skull was driven in. Witness took him home and sent for a surgeon, who came and attended the deceased till his death. Before he became insensible he said he was coming through the Blue Button Leasowe, a field not far from his lodgings, when two men sprang out of the hedge close by the pathway, one of whom clutched him by the throat, and the other dragged him out of the footpath, and under the hedge, where they rifled his pockets of a brass tobacco-tin containing 3s 6d, and a bag containing 1lb of bacon, 1lb of cheese, two loaves of bread, and some meat. He was a very quiet man, and witness never knew him to quarrel with anyone. His friends lived at Hagley.

Thomas Jones, a miner, in whose house deceased was found by the last witness, deposed that on the night of the robbery he saw the deceased in Bilston, carrying a bag which apparently contained his marketings. About three-quarters of a hour afterwards, he was entering the Blue Button Leasowe, he met a man dressed in dark clothing, and running past him ‘as swift as a dart,’ and carrying something under his arm. Immediately afterwards a second man came running up, saying, ‘Where is he? Oh, there he is; I see him.’ Having said this he continued running in the direction in which the first man had gone, although there was not light enough for him to see him. Witness could not identify the men again. About 40 yards further up he came up with the deceased, laying on his face on the grass, and moving his hand on the ground. He was insensible, and his hat was lying near to him. By his hat he knew who he was, and said, ‘Halloo Walter, is that you? Have those two fellows been robbing you?’ He lifted him up and then he became sensible, and said, ‘They have robbed me of my marketings. I did not see anything of them till one of them took hold of me by the throat. I can’t tell where they have come from.’ Witness was sympathising with him when deceased said, ‘Don’t make a bother about it, keep it quiet.’ The blood was flowing from a wound in the forehead, and covering his face, and he would insist on going down to the canal to wash it off. Witness allowed him; but if he (witness) had not held him by his ‘frock’ as he did so, he would have fallen into the water. On getting to his (witness’s) house he sent for the previous witness, and tried to staunch the blood, but could not.

Police-superintendent M’Crea, of Bilston, deposed that he heard of the circumstance for the first time on Friday, the 29th ult. On that day the Rev. H. S. Fletcher, a magistrate, and the assistant magistrates’ clerk, took the deceased’s deposition by his bedside, the deceased being under the conviction that he should not recover. He was, however, quite sensible. Witness produced the deposition, which was taken in his presence. The testimony of the deceased in his deposition was fully corroborated of the conversation deposed with him by the other witnesses. In addition to the property spoke to, the dying man mentioned two receipts for pew rent paid to the managers of a neighbouring chapel, and a basin and a plate.

At about six o’clock the inquest was adjourned for a fortnight, the coroner remarking that a verdict of Wilful Murder would have to be returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/5/1861

“The Dark House Lane Murder.

We are requested to state that the Chief Constable of the county (Colonel Hogg) has made an application to the Secretary of State, the result of which a reward of £100 is now offered for the apprehension and conviction of the person who robbed and fatally assaulted Walter Piper on the 25th March last.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/1/1862

“This morning at eight o’clock, David Brandrick was executed for the murder of Mr. John Baggott, at Bilston, on the morning of the 29th September last, the execution of the sentences against his two associates, William Jones (or Mulligan) and William Maddocks, having been respited by Sir George Grey, the Secretary of State for the Home Office Department, contrary to the expectations not only of the public, who have watched every step in the progress of the case with intense interest, but even of the prisoner’s immediate friends.....

The selection the Government made in choosing him [Brandrick] for execution he attributed to the suspicion entertained that he was the murderer of Walter Piper, who, it will be remembered, was robbed and left injured in the fields near Bilston some months

before the murder of Mr. Baggott. Of this crime he solemnly declared his innocence.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/1/1866 - Advert

“Wanted, a steady Practical Maltster, to wet fourteen quarters. Wages 26s per week. No ale. Must produce a good character from last employer.

Apply to *Benjamin Jones*, BULLS HEAD, Deepfields, near Bilston, Staffordshire.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/5/1870 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Properties, Tipton, Foxyards, and Coseley.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, at the home of Mr. Benjamin Mellor, WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Tipton, To-Morrow (Wednesday), May 25, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read, the following properties, by order of the Mortgagees.....

Lot 3. All that old-established Public House and Premises, called the BULLS HEAD INN, situated at Mount Pleasant, Coseley, leading to Deepfields. The Premises comprise an excellent Bar, Smoke Room, large Tap Room, Kitchen, Club Room, three Chambers, three good Cellars, Brewhouse and Malt Room over, four-horse Stable, Coal Shed, Piggeries, and other Out-buildings, with an excellent soft-water Cistern, and right of road into Buckwell Lane, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Jones*, at the low rent of £28; also all that compact and newly-erected Dwelling House, situated at the back of lot 3, late in the occupation of Mr. R. Williams. The Premises comprise front Parlour, Sitting Room, two Chambers, Cellar, Brewhouse, Coal-house, Piggery, and other Out-buildings, with an excellent Well of Water, producing an annual rent of £7 10s.....”

1871 Census

39, Webb Street

- [1] *Benjamin Jones* (49), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ruth Jones (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Kate Jones (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Benjamin Jones (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Ann Allen (18), domestic servant, born Tipton:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1873

“An inquest was held at the BULLS HEAD INN, Coseley, on Thursday evening, on the body of Samuel Baggaley, aged 18, collier. He was on the previous evening with other lads in the pit of Messrs S. W. Smith and Co. In an interval of labour the youths were amusing themselves with seeing who could penetrate with a pick a block of wood most deeply. The first to make trial was Thomas Cartwright, who missed the mark, and the pick striking deceased, who stood by, passed through his neck, inflicting a frightful wound, of which he died in half-an-hour.”

1881 Census

39, Webb Street

- [1] *Henry Jakeman* (35), licensed victualler, born Princes End;
- [2] Mary Ann Jakeman (31), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Phoebe Horton Jakeman (10), daughter, scholar, born Coseley;
- [4] Emily Patent (?) (18), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Eli Jones died on 9th May 1890.

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1890

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner) held an inquest at the BULLS HEAD INN, Webb Street, on the body of William Ball (64), miner, who was killed by a fall of coal at the Rookery Colliery. Owing to the deceased neglecting to use sprags and cogs in a working a fall of coal occurred, and he was instantaneously killed.

Mr. W. B. Scott, the Government inspector of coal mines, held that Mr. Baylis, the manager of the colliery, was guilty of a contravention of the Coal Mines Regulation Act in not making an inspection of the working places at proper intervals, and he should deem it his duty to lay a complaint before the Home Secretary. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Sarah Ann Jones married *Thomas Salt* on 25th December 1890.

1891 Census

39, Webb Street – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *Thomas Salt* (27), licensed victualler, born Great Bridge;
- [2] *Sarah A. Salt* (40), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] Sarah Jones (14) niece, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] Betsy Ball (19), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Thomas Salt issued tokens from here.

1901 Census

37, Webb Street – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *Thomas Salt* (37), widower, licensed victualler and brewer, born Tipton;
- [2] Louisa Ball (42), visitor, widow, born London;
- [3] Frederick Ball (16), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [4] Caroline Ball (14), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [5] Alice Scott (19), servant, born London;
- [6] Lizzie Machin (17), boarder, born Walsall:

Tipton Herald 24/10/1903

“On Thursday morning Mr. T. A. Stokes (coroner) held an inquest at the BULLS HEAD INN, Darkhouse Lane, Coseley, touching the death of William Fowler (53), 6, Webb Street, Coseley, who committed suicide on Tuesday morning by hanging himself in his bedroom.

Phoebe Ann Fowler, widow of deceased, stated that her husband was an engine driver. He had been confined to the house for nearly four years locomotor ataxy. He was only able to get about the house by taking hold of the furniture. On Tuesday morning she left him in bed when she got up to prepare the breakfast. He was then quite cheerful. Before she got up, he said, ‘God bless you; it troubles me to see the children so bad off for clothes and boots.’ She asked him if he was going to get up, and he said he would dress and follow her down. That was the last time she saw him alive, as she went to the next door at 9.10 to wash. Shortly after she left the house the little boy went upstairs and called deceased. About half an hour later she was informed of what had taken place. There were six children. They were dependant on the out-relief from the parish, and 2s 6d per week from a sick club. She earned 2s 3d a week by washing. The rope (produced) was purchased a week ago to lengthen the clothes line. The piece produced, with which deceased hanged himself was thrown into the bottom of a cupboard. She did not see deceased take the rope upstairs the previous night.

By PS Shaffery: The cupboard in which the rope was kept was close to where he sat.

By the Coroner: She could not say where the rope was secreted during the night.

Sarah Ann Meachin, 5, Webb Street, Coseley, stated that about 9.30am on Tuesday morning she was called out of the house by deceased’s daughter. She said that the little boy, Edwin Fowler, had been upstairs and found his father against the door asleep. He had slapped his hands, but he would not speak. The girl called, ‘Papa, papa’ but there was no answer, and witness went upstairs. She found deceased reared up against the door. She saw the rope round his neck, and thrown over the door to the knob of the door on the other side. Deceased was on the landing side of the door, as though he was coming down. She cut the deceased down. There was a chair near the door, which deceased had apparently sat on to tie the rope on the knob of the door. The jury returned a verdict of Suicide during Temporary Insanity.”

Tipton Herald 22/5/1909

“At the BULLS HEAD INN, Webb Street, Coseley, an inquest was held on Tuesday evening by Mr. T. Allan Stokes, concerning the death of Nellie Raybould (5 years and 10 months), whose parents live at 24, Foundry Street. The child died suddenly on Friday.

Elizabeth Raybould, the mother, stated that on Thursday last Nellie complained of a headache, and witness gave her a pink powder. Such powders, she said, had always seemed to do her children good. This made the child vomit, and she seemed so much better afterwards that when she got up on Friday morning she asked to be allowed to go to school. She would not have any breakfast, however, so witness kept her at home, and in the afternoon she again complained of sickness. Shortly after three o’clock the child seemed to ‘go queer’ and witness called in a neighbour, who expressed the opinion that the child was in a fit. Dr. Clendinnen was sent for, but death took place shortly after five o’clock.

The Coroner called attention to some marks on the child’s arm, which the witness said were burns done by a neighbour’s child with a spoon whilst making some toffee on the 1st April. She dressed these wounds, but the children at school pulled off the dressings and made fun of the child, because they said she had her arm in a sling.

Dr. Clendinnen said when he visited the child on Friday afternoon he found her in a condition of tetany, a contraction of the hands and feet peculiar to lockjaw. He had never known deaths to be caused by tetany, although instances were recorded. As a rule the patients recovered, as he believed the child would do, and he was surprised when they told him in the evening death had taken place. He could give the jury no other opinion of the cause of death than the child’s tetanic condition, which had no doubt been set up by some organic disorder. He supposed a post mortem would only reveal a small trace of pneumonia or something of the kind.

The Coroner asked whether the doctor thought the wounds on the arm had anything to do with death.

In reply the witness said that something might have got into the wounds and so set up the tetanic condition of the child.

Summing up, the Coroner said the case was a most complicated one, but he did not think a post mortem would carry them any farther. There was no certain reason to suspect that the condition of the child was brought about by the insignificant scalds.

The jury came to the conclusion that death was probably due to a fit, and returned a verdict of Natural Causes.”

1911 Census

39, Webb Street – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *Arthur G. Cartwright* (39), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Cartwright (38), wife, married 12 years, housewife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Elizabeth Cartwright (10), daughter, school, born Coseley;
- [4] Catherine Cartwright (8), daughter, school, born Coseley;
- [5] Sarah Cartwright (6), daughter, school, born Coseley;

[6] Lily Cartwright (2), daughter, born Coseley:

The license was surrendered.
It closed on 9th April 1926.

BULLS HEAD

404, (71), Himley Road, Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Edward Francis Guest
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Little Pub Co. (leased 2009 – 2010)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [2010]
The Kerriman Pub Company Ltd. [2013]
Mick Enright [2014]

LICENSEES

James Hughes [1835] – **1859**);
Mrs. Hannah Hughes (**1859 – 1862**);
Miss Emily Hughes (**1862 – 1863**);
Edward Perry (**1863** – []
William Edwin Perry [*1864*]
Levi Harper [1868]
William Edwin Perry [*1870*]
George Guest [1871]
Edward Francis Guest [] – **1873**);
Samuel Chrimes (**1873 – 1883**);
Henry Barlow (**1883 – 1884**);
Joshua Hickman (**1884 – 1886**);
Emmanuel Bradley Jnr. (**1886 – 1893**);
John Turner (**1893 – 1894**);
William Parrish (**1894 – 1895**);
William Thomas Marsh (**1895 – 1898**);
Joseph Ward (**1898 – 1906**);
Daniel Hickman (**1906 – 1907**);
John Marsh (**1907**);
Richard James (**1907 – 1912**);
Joseph Ward (**1912 – 1917**);
William Howard Smith (**1917 – 1918**);
Noah Terry (**1918 – 1922**);
Rowland Job Foster (**1922 – 1923**);
Seth Robinson Jones (**1923 – 1925**);
Joseph Ward (**1925 – 1935**);
Robert Dudley Ward (**1935 – 1943**);
Edward Joseph Ward (**1943 – 1987**);
Sidney Hale (**1987** – []
Lesley Bates [1999]
Margaret West [2005]
Ian Butts (**2010** – []
Richard Smith (**2010** – [] manager
Deana Rowley [2010] manager
Mike Enright [2013]

NOTES

71, Himley Road [1871], [*1873*], [1881], [1891], [1901]

404, Himley Road

Tokens were issued from here bearing 'Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.'

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/9/1840

"An adjourned meeting of Magistrates was held on Friday at the Public Office, for the purpose of considering the applications for public house licenses, and new licenses were granted to the following applicants.....

James Hughes, Gornal Wood, Sedgley."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 30/5/1842 - Advert

"Valuable Copyhold Dwelling Houses And Land, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Danks and Rhodes, on Thursday next, the 2nd day of June, by direction of the Mortgagee under a power of sale, at the house of Mr. *James Hughes*, the BULLS HEAD INN, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, at five o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed on by the Vendor at the time of sale, subject to conditions as shall be then produced.....

3. All that well-accustomed Messuage or Dwelling House, used as a Beer Shop, and known by the sign of the RED LION, now in the occupation of Edward Guest; and also two other Messuages or Dwelling Houses adjoining thereto, in the several occupations of Samuel Dean and Henry Fisher, together with the Shop, Gardens and Premises thereto respectively belonging, including the site of the buildings....."

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1844

"Inquisitions Before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner....."

On Thursday, at the BULLS HEAD, Gornall Wood, on Ann Smith, child about eight years old, who came to her death in consequence of her and several other children having pulled the shafts of a pit 'gin,' from which a horse had just been taken, and caused the bowk attached to the rope filled with water to descend the pit, the weight of which made the 'gin' go round with great velocity, and the shafts struck the child on the head causing a fracture from which she died in a few hours afterwards. Verdict, Accidental Death."

James Hughes was the brother of Isaac (brewer).

He was also a butcher. [1845], [1849], [1854]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/3/1845

"*James Hughes*, licensed victualler, of Gornal Wood, was convicted in the penalty of 20s and costs for having had his house open during divine service on Sunday. There were, it appeared, twenty-three persons in the house at half-past twelve o'clock. The defendant, it was stated, had kept a public house eleven years without complaint."

Worcestershire Chronicle 1/11/1848

"Among the other cases was that of John Birch v *James Hughes*. The plaintiff resides at Stourbridge; and the defendant, who is a publican and butcher, resides at Gornal Wood. The latter was sued for £12 5s 3d, the balance of an account for malt, &c. The defendant did not appear when called upon, but the judge made an order for plaintiff for £6 a month."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/8/1849

"Another inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on Saturday last, at the BULLS HEAD, Gornall Wood, on the body of Thomas Cox, about 45 years of age, who was at work with another man in the hollows of coalpit at Shut End, on Wednesday afternoon, about four o'clock, when a large quantity of clod suddenly fell from the roof of the workings and covered his body. On the clod being removed from Cox it was found that he had received several cuts on his head, from which injuries he expired at his own house about half-past nine o'clock the same evening. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

AND

"The same evening (Saturday) another inquest was held before Mr. Phillips, at the BULLS HEAD, Gornall Wood, on the body of John Flavell, 22 years of age, a miner, who was instantaneously killed in a coalpit at Plant's Colliery, in the parish of Kingswinford, by a large quantity of coal falling upon him, whilst he was loading a skip. Another man helping the deceased to load the skip when the coal fell had a very narrow escape of his life. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1851 Census

Gornall Wood

[1] *James Hughes* (50), butcher and victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Hannah Hughes* (46), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Mary Ann Hughes (20), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Sarah Jane Hughes (17), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] *Emily Hughes* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] Alice Hughes (6), daughter, born Sedgley;

[7] Mary Ann Hodgetts (19), house servant, born Sedgley;

[8] John Humphreys (20), house servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/5/1855

“On Thursday last, an inquest was held at the BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood, on the body of W. Oakley, a miner, aged 20 years. On Monday morning last the deceased and Henry Marsh were ‘holeing’ in a stone pit at the Oak Farm Works, when a large quantity of rock suddenly fell from the side of the workings upon the deceased, knocked him down with violence and killed him on the spot. A severe blow was afterwards found upon the deceased’s temple. There was plenty of timber in the pit, and on the morning of the occurrence props had been placed in the spot where the deceased was working. The workings were considered quite safe. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased received injuries, which caused death, from a fall of rock.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 31/12/1856 - Married

“Dec 20th, at Leamington, Mr. Arthur Worrall, architect and surveyor, of Dudley, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. *James Hughes*, licensed victualler, Himley Road, near Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/5/1859 - Died

“On the 17th inst, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Himley Road, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, in the 66th year of his age, Mr. *James Hughes*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/9/1859 - Advert

“To Wheelwrights, Blacksmiths, Chainmakers, And Others.

To Be Let, commodious Shopping and Yard (with or without Dwelling House), suitable for carrying on either of the above Trades, and situated in a densely populated Mining District.

Apply to Mrs. *Hughes*, BULLS HEAD INN, Himley Road, Gornal Wood.”

Mrs. *Hannah Hughes* was also a butcher. [1860]

1861 Census

Himley Road

- [1] *Hannah Hughes* (55), widow, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Jane Hughes (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Alice Hughes (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Michael Head (22), butcher, born Kidderminster;
- [5] Sarah Ann Westwood (17), born Kingswinford:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/5/1861

“Lower Gornal, Sedgley. Valuable Freehold Property, with Mines and Minerals.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, the 22nd day of May, 1861, at six o’clock in the evening, at the house of Mrs. *H. Hughes*, the BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, aforesaid, and subject to conditions then to be produced, the following valuable Freehold Properties, with Mines and Minerals.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/8/1861 - Advert

“To Greengrocers Or Shoemakers.

To be Let, with immediate possession, a House and Premises, suitable for carrying on the above trades. Parties being desirous of embarking in the same will find this an opportunity rarely to be met with, the premises being situate in a densely populated district, and no opposition.

Apply to Mrs. *Hughes*, BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood, near Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/6/1862

“Bilston. At the Police Court, on Friday, the following intermediate transfers were made...

DRUIDS [sic] HEAD, Lower Gornal, *Hannah Hughes* to her daughter *Emily Hughes*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/10/1862

“At the County Court, on Tuesday, before Rupert Kettle, Esq, Judge, a lengthened enquiry was made into the following case of interpleader.

An action was entered by Mr. Thomas Gordon Bunch, of Gornal Wood, maltster, against Mrs. *Hannah Hughes*, formerly of the BULLS HEAD, at the same place, and upon that action execution had been issued, and certain goods distrained upon and sold. Mr. William Perry, commission agent, Wolverhampton, now interpleaded, and claimed a sum of £10 3s 6d, alleging that the goods seized upon and sold under execution were his, and had been purchased by him at a public auction. Mr. Walker, of Wolverhampton, appeared for the claimant, and Mr. Ebsworth, of Wednesbury appeared for the execution creditor. The case was very complicated, but the following statement will represent the facts briefly.

On the 1st of March, a bill of exchange had been drawn by Mr. Bunch, and accepted by Mrs. *Hughes*. The bill fell due, was not met, and action was brought for recovery, and judgement was allowed to go by default. An execution was issued on the 6th September, but prior to that time the name over the BULLS HEAD INN had been altered from *Hannah Hughes* to that of *Emily Hughes*, her daughter. It was stated, too, by the claimant that a sale took place at the BULLS HEAD on the 31st July, and that he attended the sale and purchased goods to the value of £46 13s 7d, which sum he duly paid to the auctioneer on the 2nd of August. It was further stated that the goods were allowed to remain at the BULLS HEAD because the son of the claimant was about to contract a matrimonial alliance with the ostensible Proprietress of the inn, Miss *Emily Hughes*. The sale, it appeared, took place

while Mrs. *Hughes* was in Leamington, and it was her daughter, *Emily*, who gave instructions respecting the sale to Mr. Gray, auctioneer.

On the claimant's son being examined, he stated that his father had lent the money to Miss *Emily Hughes*, and that he wished the property sold, in order to secure himself.

This statement did not very well agree with that of the claimant, who said he paid over the money to the auctioneer, who was in no way concerned in the matter, except in his business capacity, and paid the money, the proceeds of the sale, to Miss *Emily Hughes*, a palpable discrepancy was shown. On the part of Miss *Hughes*, who by the way did not appear, neither did her mother (a fact alluded to pointedly by Mr. Ebsworth), a claim was set up to the effect that her mother had conveyed the whole of the goods at the BULLS HEAD to her as a gift, and that they were valued at £98. Such are the facts of this singular case, and a dash of gossiping interest was imparted to them by an intimation that the projected alliance of Miss *Hughes* had been broken off in consequence of the return of a former lover of the young lady.

After hearing Mr. Walker's explanation of the facts, his Honour said that he need not trouble Mr. Ebsworth to reply. In delivering judgement he said that the question was, whether the alleged transactions were bona fide or not. He did not think they were. He considered that the alleged transaction was a fraud, and that the sale by auction was a fraud, and therefore the verdict must be for the execution creditor. In the course of his remarks, his Honour fully exonerated the auctioneer from blame, as his business was merely to act according to instructions."

Birmingham Daily Post 26/3/1863

"We are requested to state that the marriage announced in the *Daily Post* of the 10th inst, between Miss *Hughes*, of the BULLS HEAD, Himley Road, Dudley, and Mr. Thomas Beale, is a fabrication."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1868 - Advert

"Gornal Wood. Sale of Valuable Old Licensed Public House And Premises.

Mr. Thomas Lloyd will Offer for Sale by auction, by order of the Mortgagee under a power of sale, upon the Premises, on Thursday, the 20th day of August, 1868, at six o'clock in the evening, and subject to conditions of Sale, the following eligible property. All that Old-licensed Freehold Public House and Premises, called the BULLS HEAD INN, situate at Gornal Wood, and fronting the turnpike road leading from Himley to Dudley, comprising Bar, Parlour, Tap Room, large Club Room, Parlour, Cellar, 2 Stables, Slaughter Houses, Brewhouses, large Yard, excellent Garden, partly walled in; and other appurtenances, in the occupation of Mr. *Levi Harper*, at a rental of £48 per annum, contains 1,852 square yards or thereabouts.

The above premises are situate in a populous neighbourhood, and present a desirable opportunity either for occupation of investment.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Hayes, Solicitor, or to the Auctioneers, both of Wolverhampton."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/6/1870

"On Monday evening last, an inquest was held at the BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood, before Mr. Phillips (Coroner), upon the body of Harriet Perry, about sixteen years of age, who was killed at the brickworks of Messrs. Woodhall and Co. on the previous Friday afternoon.

George Guesford, the engineer, stated that the deceased came to him in the engine-house, and asked if the clay was ready. He replied in the negative, and proceeded to the top room of the engine-house, where the deceased followed him, of which, however, he was not aware. He shortly after heard a cry of 'Oh, George – Oh, George!' and upon turning round saw that she had been caught in the machinery. He immediately stopped the engine and assisted in getting the deceased out. She was then quite dead. It was subsequently discovered that her body had been mangled in a frightful manner. Both arms were pulled from their sockets, the bowels protruded, the left breast was cut off, and her head fearfully injured. Witness further stated that he had repeatedly cautioned the girls employed in the brickyard not to enter the top room, and a board had been put up signifying that there was no admittance. In reply to the coroner, witness said the machinery might be fenced, but that would render it more difficult for him to work.

Edward Perry, the deceased's father, said he had inspected the engine-house, and was of opinion that the machinery ought to be fenced. The notice 'No admittance' had been put up since the accident.

The Coroner, in summing up, severely censured the engineer, and the Jury afterwards returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

Mr. Woodhall promised to adopt the recommendation of the Jury, and see that the machinery was securely fenced."

1871 Census

71, Himley Road – OLD BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *George Guest* (29), licensed victualler and butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Guest* (28), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Albert Edward Guest* (7), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Laura Louisa Guest* (5), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *William Henry Guest* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *George E. Guest* (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Mary Greenway* (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

London Gazette 5/12/1871

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1569. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *George Guest*, of Gor-

nal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Butcher.

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 Mr. Joseph Stokes, No.1, Priory-street, Dudley, in the county of Worcester, on the 14th day of December, 1871, at three o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 29th day of November, 1871.

Jos. Stokes, 1, Priory-street, Dudley, Attorney, for the said Debtor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/12/1871 - Advert

“BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood.

Sale On Tuesday next, January 2, 1872.

To Publicans, Maltsters, Brokers, And Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by M. John Bent (by order of the Trustees) the whole of the Brewing Plant, Stock, Trade Utensils, Household Furniture, and Effects; comprising half-tester Bedsteads and Hangings, straw and wool Mattresses, feather and flock Beds, Bed Linen, Washstand and Dressing Table, Toilet and Chimney Glasses, Chest of Drawers, mahogany Sofa, Windsor Chairs, Prints and Frames, with the usual Kitchen Requisites, Cross-leg and oblong Drinking Tables, Rail-back Benches, Cups, Jugs, Glasses, Ale and Spirit Measures, four-pull Beer Machine and Piping, well-seasoned Ale Casks, 14-bushel Mash Tub, pair of Cooling Vats, Coolers, Tubs, &c; two Pockets of Yearling Worcester Hops, 12 bushels Malt, Stock of Fresh Ale, Licenses, and other Effects.

Sale to Commence at Eleven o'clock in the morning.”

Dudley Herald 27/5/1876

“A Special Petty Sessions was held on Saturday evening, before F. A. Homer, Esq, when Sophia Young, of Dudley, was charged with two others not yet in custody, with stealing £32, a pocket book, and knife, the property of Mr. Thomas Jones, recently a victualler at the Straits, near Sedgley [COTTAGE SPRING] where he still resides.

Mr. Jones gave evidence showing that on the 9th inst, he was at a public-house at Dudley, and while there he met the prisoner and another girl, whom he had seen before. They drank and had refreshment at the VINE INN. Subsequently, about 10 at night, after being some hours together, they all three went in a cab to the BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood, where more drink was obtained, for which he paid. Thence he, still in company with the girls, proceeded to the Straits in the same cab. In the meantime his female companions were joined by a man named Dovey, and upon his (prosecutor's) arrival at the road near to the gate of his house he received a push from behind, which caused him to fall heavily. While lying on the ground Dovey put his hand into his pocket, which caused witness to cry out. Dovey now fell heavily upon him, and the prisoner and the other girl placed their hands over his mouth to prevent him making a noise. He was also held so that he was disabled, and could neither shout nor move. Directly afterwards all three went away, and he found his money, amounting to about £32, had been stolen from his coat pocket, with his pocket-book and knife.

Mr. Waldron, who appeared for the defence, elicited that prosecutor was at a brothel the previous day, and that during the day of the robbery he had been at several public houses drinking. He did not want the girls to go with him, nor had he asked Dovey to see him safe home.

Joseph Hill, the cabman, stated that about ten o'clock on the night named, four persons, who seemed to be on the spree, came to engage his cab to go to Gornal Wood. Jones seemed unwilling to go without the girls, and they got into the cab first and he followed. The second man ran alongside the cab to Gornal Wood, a distance of about two miles and a half, and on reaching the BULLS HEAD INN, they alighted, where they all had something to drink. On leaving a strange man (not the man who had come from Dudley) proffered to guide him to Jones's residence, where they all afterwards went, the strange man riding on the step. At that place Jones stumbled and was helped up, and subsequently witness drove the women and the man to Bumblehole, Netherton, one of the females paying him half a sovereign in gold as extra fare, it being then one o'clock in the morning. Witness did not hear Jones complain of theft when at the Straits, but was away for a few seconds, his horse having moved a short distance onward. On starting away only the two women were in the cab, but the stranger ran after and caught the cab and went inside.

Mr. Crimes gave evidence to the prisoner being at the BULLS HEAD with another woman, whom he did not know, and Dovey was also there with the parties concerned. The prisoner was committed for trial at the Assizes.”

[At Stafford Assizes, on 10th March 1876, Sophia Young was found guilty of 'robbing in company' and sentenced to twelve calendar months' imprisonment.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/7/1876

“Thomas Dovey, labourer of Lower Gornal, was charged with robbing and assaulting Thomas Jones, shoe manufacturer and cattle dealer, at the Straits, Sedgley. The prosecutor was in Dudley when he met two girls of low repute, and they accompanied him in a cab to the BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood, where they were joined by the prisoner. Having taken refreshments they drove on to the prosecutor's home, and upon prosecutor getting out of the cab, the prisoner knocked him down, and the two women held prosecutor whilst prisoner put his hand in the prosecutor's side pocket and took out a bag containing £32. The prisoner afterwards hastened away in the cab. He was committed to take his trial at the assizes.”

[At Stafford Assizes on 10th March 1876, Thomas Dovey was found guilty of 'robbery in company' and sentenced to two years' imprisonment.]

Dudley Herald 18/9/1880

“Two cases of swine fever have occurred this week on the premises of Mr. *Chrimes*, BULLS HEAD INN, Himley Road, Gornal Wood.”

1881 Census

71, Himley Road – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *Samuel Chrimes* (33), licensed victualler, born Kingswinford;
- [2] Ann Chrimes (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Frederick Chrimes (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Walter E. Chrimes (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Emily M. Chrimes (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Louisa M. Chrimes (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Sophia Grainger (17), domestic servant, born Kingswinford:

Dudley and District News 6/1/1883

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an inquest on Wednesday night at the BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood, touching the death of Benjamin William Round (60), grocer of Netherton, who had died from the effects of injuries received on Christmas day. The evidence showed that on Christmas morning the deceased went to the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Joel Griffiths, grocer, Gornal Wood, for the purpose of spending the Christmas holidays with his children. In coming downstairs, he by some means slipped and fell to the bottom. It was found he had sustained serious injuries to the head and shoulders, from the effects of which he died on New Year’s day. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Dudley and District News 7/7/1883

“*Samuel Chrimes*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Lower Gornal, was charged with assaulting Fanny Daniels, wife of Chas. Daniels, safe manufacturer, of Lower Gornal. Mr. W. H. Tinsley, of Sedgley, appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Ward, of Dudley, for the defendant.

The complainant stated that on Tuesday afternoon, the 26th ult, she went to defendant’s house for her husband, who had been drinking there all day. She saw some cards and put them on the fire. When she asked him to go home with her defendant commenced using very bad language towards her, upon which she threw a jug at him, but it did not hit him. Defendant afterwards assaulted her very badly, gave her a black eye, and loosened some of her teeth. Her husband had been away from her thirteen weeks, and during the greater part of that time had been living at defendant’s house.

In reply to Mr. Ward, she said she thought it would annoy anyone when her husband took Mrs. *Chrimes* a ride as he had done and said she would do it again.

Two witnesses were called to disprove that the defendant committed the assault.

At this stage the Bench suggested that the case should be withdrawn, also a summons which had been taken out by the defendant against complainant for wilful damage and assault. This was agreed to.”

Darlaston Weekly Times 4/4/1885

“*Joshua Hickman*, of the BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood, was charged with permitting drunkenness.

A police-officer found a man named Collingwood drunk in the house. The landlord was not present.

A fine of 5s and costs was inflicted, and Collingwood was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk on the premises.”

County Express 26/7/1890

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (Coroner) held an inquest on Monday, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Himley Road, Gornal Wood, touching the death of John Phipps (16), horse driver, who died on Friday from injuries received on the 2nd inst, by a fall of coal at No.9 Himley Colliery, belonging to the Earl of Dudley. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

71, Himley Road – BULLS HEAD

- [1] *Emanuel Bradley* (28), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Bradley (26), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Isaac Bradley (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Brown (19), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 22/12/1891

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood, on the body of Enoch Marsh (14), points turner, Chapel Walk, who was killed on Friday afternoon by being run over by a number of trucks on Lord Dudley’s private railway between Hunt’s Mill and Pensnett. It was not clear how the lad got under the wheels, as there was no one near him at the time. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

William Parrish was convicted on 11th June 1894 for permitting gaming.

Birmingham Daily Post 6/8/1894

“Birmingham Assizes. Before Mr. Justice Wills.

James Turley, butcher, Sedgley, sought to recover £150 from *John Turner*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal, in respect of damages alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiff through being maliciously prosecuted by the defendant. Mr. Jelf, QC, and Mr. Parfitt (instructed by Mr. Foster, Wolverhampton) appeared for Turley; and Mr. Harris, QC, (instructed by Mr. Waldron, of

Brierley Hill) represented the defendant.

The prosecution was admitted, but the defendant denied all malice, and alleged that the plaintiff obtained this horse which was the subject of the dispute by false representation.

According to the plaintiff the horse originally belonged to Thomas Smith, the defendant's brother-in-law, who sold it to plaintiff's brother. The Turleys had lived together with their father, and on December 14 defendant and Smith called upon plaintiff and borrowed the horse and trap. Smith afterwards told plaintiff that he had sold the horse and trap to the defendant, but that plaintiff's brother went to defendant's house and drove the horse away, defendant's man harnessed the animal for him. Subsequently plaintiff was arrested on defendant's warrant for stealing the horse, but the magistrates dismissed the case when before them. (The result of the prosecution was that plaintiff had lost his situation, and remained out of work for six months.)

In his evidence defendant said he bought the horse from Smith and paid £5 for it, and now he had lost both horse and money. Smith was called, and said the animal was his property, and never belonged to any of the Turley family. He sold it to defendant, and received money for it in the presence of plaintiff, who knew perfectly well that the horse had been sold, and raised no objection.

Addressing the jury, Mr. Harris said there was no doubt that his client had been 'jockeyed.' There had been a false sale, and a 'swindle by somebody,' and defendant was the victim.

In summing-up, his Lordship said that one incident of the case was almost without parallel in his experience. Until Mr. Harris got up to make his speech he had no idea it would be contended that the horse was Smith's. It was an unusual way of conducting a case. If the jury considered that a serious accusation had been made by persistence, and followed by a bitter onslaught on the plaintiff's character, the damages would not be small.

The jury found for the plaintiff with £26 6s damages.

His Lordship observed that the plaintiff's character had been eventually cleared of all reproach.

The Court then rose."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/9/1894

"Bankruptcy Proceedings. Re *John Turner*, New Street, Gornal Wood, butcher, &c.

At the Dudley County Court, yesterday, this debtor was examined. Mr. Martin (from the office of Mr. Waldron) appeared on behalf of the debtor, and Mr. W. A. Foster, represented Mr. James, a creditor. Debtor's deficiency is estimated at £314, his liabilities being £325. Debtor stated that he commenced business as a butcher without any capital in New Street, Gornal Wood, seven years ago, prior to which he worked in a brickyard. In 1892 he found that he was getting into difficulties, and in 1893 he took the BULLS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood. The in-going valuation was £224, of which amount the sum of £100 he borrowed, and had not been paid. He continued his business of a butcher up to the time of filing his petition. The takings at the public-house averaged from £10 to £15 per week. The out-going valuation of the public-house was £125, and some of this money he applied to the discharge of his debts. All the debts referred to in his statement of affairs were incurred since he took the public-house. He filed his petition in consequence of his inability to meet a judgement against him for over £100, in an action brought against him arising out of a horse transaction.

Mr. Foster objected to the debtor statement with reference to the latter matter until certain legal formalities had been observed, as until then he was able to cross-examine on the point.

The Official Receiver, in his observations, stated that, 'at about the time of disposal of the public-house the bankrupt had charged one Mr. James Turley of stealing a horse. The police court proceedings ended in the acquittal of Mr. Turley, who subsequently brought an action against the bankrupt in the High Court for damages, and obtained a verdict, the damages and costs amounting to £103.' The examination was adjourned."

Birmingham Daily Post 25/8/1894

"Bilston. The annual licensing sessions for this division were held yesterday....

Notices of opposition had been served on the occupiers of the....

WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Gornal Wood; BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood; WOOD CROSS INN, Coseley; ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, Bilston; ROYAL OAK, Moxley....

The licenses of the ROYAL OAK, Moxley, and the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Gornal Wood, were renewed."

1901 Census

71, Himley Road

- [1] *Joseph Ward* (39), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Agnes E. Ward* (37), wife, born Harts Hill;
- [3] *Gertrude M. Ward* (17), daughter, board school teacher, born Dudley;
- [4] *Lillie M. Ward* (14), daughter, born Dudley;
- [5] *Ednan J. B. Ward* (6), son, born Dudley;
- [6] *Gladys M. Ward* (5), daughter, born Dudley;
- [7] *Robert D. Ward* (5 months), son, born Lower Gornal:

1911 Census

Himley Road – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *Richard James* (37), saddler and publican, born Tamworth;
- [2] *Sarah James* (37), wife, married under 1 year, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Frank James* (14), son, house duties, born Sedgley;

- [4] Wilfred James (13), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [5] John James (10), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [6] Richard George James (8), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [7] Annie James (3), daughter, born Sedgley;

Rowland Job Foster was the son of Martin Perry Foster of the SPREAD EAGLE, Darlaston.

See also RED LION, Bilston Road, Wolverhampton; EXCHANGE, Wolverhampton; BULLS HEAD, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton; and LORD RAGLAN, Wolverhampton.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 20/9/1924

“Mr. *Ward*, Bradley Terrace, Pensnett, becomes the tenant of the BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood, on September 29th. He has been in the licensed trade for many years, having been traveler for Messrs. Rutland and Lett, of Dudley.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 7/11/1925

“A pretty wedding took place in the presence of a large congregation at the Parish Church of St. George, Nailsworth, Glos., last week, when the contracting parties were Mr. *Robert Dudley Ward* (second son of Mr. and Mrs. *Ward*, BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Gornal), and Miss Gertrude Emily Dee (only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dee, Central Hotel, Nailsworth). The bridegroom was attended by Mr. Ralph Dee, Black Horse Hotel, Tillupts End, Horseley, who acted as best man.....”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions BULLS HEAD INN, Lower Gornal, 2½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Cecil Gordon Lodge (No.5477) of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

1939 Register

Himley Road

[1] *Robert Dudley Ward*, date of birth 5/10/1900, chief mechanical electrical engineer to road transport company, married;

[2] Gertrude E. Ward, dob 10/12/1899, manageress licensed house, married;

A football team was based here.

Tipton Herald 23/7/1960

“Gornal born Mr. Reginald *James*, who emigrated to Australia half a century ago, has during the last three years sponsored four British families who have followed him there and who are now set up in their own homes.

Mr. *James* was born at the BULLS HEAD, Himley Road, in 1904, when his father was licensee. In 1910 the family went to Australia. Now Mr. *James* is contemplating a trip to England and a visit to his birthplace and looking for a Gornal couple who would like to emigrate to Australia and need a sponsor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1975 - Deaths

“On September 9, at Wordsley Hospital, of Llanaber Street, Kingswinford, Christina Dorothy *Ward*, fourth and last surviving daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. *Joseph Ward*, BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood. Funeral on Tuesday, September 16, service at St. Mary’s Church, Kingswinford, at 12 noon, followed by cremation at Gornal Wood. Family cross only; donations to St. Mary’s Church Restoration Appeal, c/o The Rev. N. Lewis, The Vicarage, Kingswinford. Enquiries to J. T. Brookes and Co., 68 Mount Pleasant, Quarry Bank. Tel: Brierley Hill 77098.”

Orion Science Fiction Club was based here. [1999]

It was refurbished in 2005 at a cost of £22,000.

It closed in 2008.

Express & Star 22/1/2009

“Derelict, boarded-up and abandoned pubs are becoming an all-too-common sight in the region. But while many are destined for the developers, Peter Towler is determined to make sure the BULLS HEAD in Lower Gornal doesn’t bite the bar room dust.

Mr Towler now has a team on site transforming the empty pub in Himley Road into the third in the Black Country to bear the popular Mad O'Rourke's trademark name. He hopes the pub will be serving customers his famous cow pies by mid-March and he is determined not to let the credit crunch stall his success.

'I love Gornal and I think it is a great place to drink,' said Mr Towler, aged 49, who took over the Mad O'Rourke chain in 2000 having worked for company founder Colm O'Rourke for a number of years.

'Everyone knows it is a difficult time for the industry but I think we are surviving because people are looking for good, honest, value for money which is exactly what we offer.'

The original Mad O'Rourke's PIE FACTORY stands in Hurst Lane, Tipton, and just last year the company bought the former VINE pub in Camp Hill, Wordsley, and transformed it into a Pie Factory, which has flourished. Its latest venture, costing in the region of £550,000, will create around 25 new jobs – and if successful, Mr Towler says he will be on the lookout for more pubs to take over.

'We have been absolutely delighted by the response in Wordsley – we are over the moon,' said Mr Towler. 'Our aim is to offer simple, honest, home-cooked food at a fair price. I think people are moving away from expensive, fussy food so effectively they are down grading – but they're down grading to us which is fine by me.'

The BULLS HEAD, which had stood empty for around six months before Mr Towler came along, is set over two floors with huge windows on both levels facing out onto Himley Road. Once the transformation is complete, customers will enter the pub by a main door at the back of the building. A number of internal walls have been knocked down to open out the available space and new staircases will be put in place. The kitchen will also be found at ground level with the upstairs used as a dining space with table service. Glass windows bearing the trademark Mad O'Rourke's cow pie logo are on order – as is a lifesize fibreglass bull. The bull will stand on the pub roof to welcome punters through the door. It is a variation of the giant pigs found at the two existing Pie Factory pubs and has been chosen to mark the site's history as the BULLS HEAD.

'We are hoping to open in mid-March and we should be able to accommodate around 130 people,' added Mr Towler. 'The response so far has been immense – we are advertising about 25 jobs and I must have sieved through at least 250 applications. If this venture is successful then we will be looking to open another one.'"

Express & Star 31/3/2009

"Raiders caused around £20,000 of damage to a popular Stourbridge theme pub after breaking in and stealing a safe containing £9,000 in cash.

Raiders struck at The Mad O'Rourke's PIE FACTORY in Camp Hill, Wordsley. The thieves cut the phone lines in the pub and disconnected CCTV before stealing the hard drives to ensure they went undetected. They then forced entry through a back door and dragged a huge safe – containing £9,000 – out of the pub. Pub owner Pete Towler believes that an 'organised gang' carried out the raid on Sunday and says they must have used a lorry to transport the heavy safe. He said: 'It took six men to lift that safe in to place so this is an organised operation we are looking at. Police say they have found at least four different footprints in the pub.'

Mr Towler said the break-in could not have come at a worse time, as he is due to open a new Pie Factory – called the Mad O'Rourke's STEAK 'N' PIE FACTORY – in Himley Road, Lower Gornal, Dudley, on Thursday.

Staff discovered the break-in at 8am on Monday morning and believe it must have happened overnight on Sunday or in the early hours of Monday morning."

It reopened, in March 2009, as MAD O'Rourke's STEAK AND PIE FACTORY, after a £530,000 refurbishment.

Ian Butts was formerly the head chef here.

He was born c.1953.

Express & Star 27/7/2010

"The original Mad O'Rourke's PIE FACTORY in Tipton has gone into administration, blaming the recession, it was revealed today. The news comes just weeks after the iconic chain's branches in Wordsley and Lower Gornal changed hands. Administrators PKF have been appointed to run the Mad O'Rourke's PIE FACTORY in Hurst Lane, Tipton, while a separate firm, Leonard Curtis, has taken over the affairs of Mad O'Rourke's Ltd, which was responsible for the whole chain. The decision was made on Friday and administrators today confirmed the pub would continue to trade while efforts were made to sell it.

Former Mad O'Rourke's boss Pete Towler, from Tettenhall, declined to comment. PKF spokeswoman Jane Murray said, 'The pub is continuing to trade with us as administrators, with the aim of selling it as a going concern. The pub closed due to difficulties recovering from the recession and the current economic conditions.' Pub manager *Deana Rowley* said all 15 members of staff were still employed.

The famous pie factory chain handed its Gornal and Wordsley pubs back to Marston's Brewery at the end of June after revenue fell and profits were hit by the recession. They were reopened under new names and ownership at the start of July.

Former head chef at the Gornal branch *Ian Butts*, aged 57, took over the pub in Himley Road, Lower Gornal, under the name The STEAK AND PIE FACTORY, while the branch in Camp Hill, Wordsley, reverted back to its original name The VINE under Irish pub owner Liam O'Connell.

Tipton councillor Syeda Khatun today said she hoped someone would be able to save the last remaining Pie Factory. 'It would be a real shame to lose it, it's a unique feature for Tipton.'

Regular at the pub, car fitter Roger Massey, 50, of Wednesfield, said the news was like 'a smack in the face.'"

Closed

It reopened on 17th February 2011.

It closed for refurbishment in 2012.

It reopened in December 2012 as the BULLS HEAD.

London Gazette 11/9/2013

“The Kerriman Pub Company Ltd Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at 35, Ludgate Hill, Birmingham B3 1EH on 19 September 2013 at 11.00am Creditors should forward a statement of their claim by 12 noon on 18 September 2013.....”

Mike Enright was a director of Kerriman.

[2014]

Closed [2015], [2018]

Reopened [2019], [2021]

Express & Star 20/1/2023

“A new Indian restaurant and bar on the site of an old pub promises to fuse traditional Punjabi cuisine with a bar-like experience. The new Tapri Bar and Grill on Himley Road, Lower Gornal, opened last weekend promising authentic Indian flavours in an easy setting. The North Indian restaurant has attracted early reviews on social media. One Facebook user said, ‘I went in for a drink on Saturday and the food looked and smelled amazing.’

The new restaurant has taken over the site of the former BULLS HEAD pub, giving a new look and feel to the old building. Tapri Bar and Grill opens at 4pm Monday to Friday and 12pm to 11pm on Saturdays, also opening on Sundays from 12pm to 9.30pm.”

Dudley News 1/2/2023

“The former BULLS HEAD on Himley Road has been transformed into Tapri Bar and Grill. The new venue boasts several TV screens and one huge projector screen, so there will be plenty of matches for guests to choose from while they enjoy a curry. Owners Raj Patel and Jas Singh launched their first Tapri Bar and Grill in Sutton Coldfield towards the end of the first Covid 19 lockdown in 2021. Raj, who is from Wolverhampton, said, ‘Our Sutton Coldfield restaurant is doing very well so we thought it was time to spread the love and pop up somewhere closer to home.’

Jas said, ‘We have a live kitchen, so our customers can see our talented chefs in action. We are serving traditional Punjabi food – mixed grills, chicken tikka, lamb chops, seekh kebabs, lamb shank curry, as well as plenty of vegetarian options like lasooni paneer, saag and aloo gobi. There is something for everyone.’

The family-friendly sports bar serving authentic North Indian cuisine and a large selection of drinks opened in January.....”

Express & Star 16/7/2023

“As pubs continue to battle the cost of living crisis, the *Express & Star* continues its Love Your Local series which celebrates our local inns. Tapri Punjabi bar and grill in Gornalwood, Dudley, is a newly-opened pub and the owners are hoping to win over the locals by serving good food and good beers. Business partners Raj Patel and Jas Singh opened the pub in January this year, following the success of their Sutton Coldfield branch, and they have adopted the same name as their coffee shop business, which has one store in the Mander Centre in Wolverhampton, and one in Kettering. According to Raj, the name Tapri means tea stall, which is similar to the name chai-wallah, which in Hindi is someone who serves tea.....

The pub offers a vast menu, with a range of items such as curries, biryanis, and what seems to be the Black Country’s favourite item and pub-speciality right now, the famous mixed-grill. A huge wave of popularity of ‘Desi pubs’ have risen around the Black Country in recent years, where pubs that were maybe once struggling or just simply had a transformation and change with the times, now serve top quality Indian food, including the ever famous ‘Mixed Grill,’ which arrives to your table sizzling on a platter, with a range of items including tandoori fish, lamb chops, chicken tikka – the options are endless and mouth-watering. Desi pubs have become a hit with locals and even people from afar, as diners from all over the country head to the Midlands to eat the famous mixed grills, as it is here in the Black Country that the famous sizzling platters are the most famous and most tasty.

Raj added, ‘Whilst it is still very much a pub, the food is like restaurant style, served to your tables but it still also has a pub feel. But whilst it is still a pub, it is much more family friendly, giving it an Indian gastro-pub feel, and we have done this by making sure that the beers and pints we serve are fresh and tasty, and also made sure the food is quality and tasting good, which of course makes people want to come back. And now with our price adjustment, we are probably the cheapest in the area for a pint of Carling, so it was all about being more competitive, and we have done that. The mixed grills have seen a massive boom in recent years, and we wanted this but not for just a male-dominated environment but to welcome families and women too. We are getting groups of ladies come out here for a night out too, which is great to see them enjoying the food and drinks that we have on offer, and it proves that we are doing something right by making it a friendly environment where all are welcome. And with a new level of custom for cocktail drinkers, we are able to serve them too with a range of cocktails on offer, as well as the traditional drinks, so we wanted to offer options to everyone. Now, it is about doing the right marketing and getting our name out, and hopefully people will make it their local. Customers aren’t maybe going out as much now, and so when they do come here, we want to give them good quality for their money, and so we cater for the locals and provide a service that is good for their money that they spend with us. We have all the live sports on here too, with Sky Sports, BT Sport, and are also in the process of opening a function room

for small parties, and that will be ready in the next couple of weeks. There is also a beer garden with decking that the customers can enjoy, especially in the summer evenings. As we said, this is a good quality pub, serving traditional Punjabi food, and it is an environment where all are welcome.”

[2023]

BULLS HEAD

27, (14), Bilston Street / Castle Street, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Cornelius Wilkes (until 1848)
John Ebery (acquired in January 1848 for £400)
Betsy Ebery
John Hughes (acquired in 1861 for £420)
South Staffordshire Brewery (acquired in August 1890 for £1,200)
J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd. (acquired in January 1898 for £2,190)
Old Wolverhampton Brewery (acquired in 1910)
Frank Myatt Ltd. (acquired in 1920)
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1927)
Ansells Ltd. (acquired in 1934)
Holdens Brewery Ltd. (leased from December 1984)
Holdens Brewery Ltd. [2000]

LICENSEES

John Jenkins [1794]
Stephen Wilkes (1802 – [])
Cornelius Wilkes [1835] – 1848);
John Ebery (1848 – [])
Levi Round [1850] – 1852);
Richard White Tamlyn (1852 – [1854])
Joseph Walker [1856] – [1859]
Richard Wood [1860] – [1861]
John Hughes [1862] – 1890);
Lucy Ann Fox and Thomas Anthony Hughes (1890);
William Henry Riley (1890);
Thomas William Palmer (1890 – 189_); [1892]
Noah Williams [] – 1892);
Thomas Thompson [1896] – [1900];
Alfred Edwards (190_ – 190_);
Henry Thompson [1904]
William Clarke [1904] (190_ – 1908);
George Thomas Mills (1908 – 1910);
Samuel Preston (1910 – 1925);
George Benfield (1925 – 1926);
Joseph Tate Hawley (1926 – 1927);
John Lloyd (1927 – 1928);
Charles James Udall (1928 – 1930);
Mrs. Mary Day (1930 – 1933);
Fred Bishton (1933);
James Philip Conway (1933 – 1941);
Ernest Dempster Short (1941 – 1944);
Wilfred Bert Bryan (1944 – 1950);
Sidney Winmill (1950 -1951);
William Hampton (1951 – [])
William Joseph Knott [] – 1969);
John Beattie Gibson (1969 – 1970);
Bernard Yale (1970 – 1971);

George Williams (1971 – 1975);
Raymond Thomas Ford (1975 – 1978);
Frank Davenport (1978 – 1980);
Kathleen Ann Davenport (1980);
Joseph Lawrence Price (1980 – 1984);
Raymond Dennis Perrins (1984 – 1985);
Frances Gillian Webb (1985 – 1988);
Eunice Yvonne Smith (1988 – 1989);
Keith Poole (1984 – [] ?
Mrs. Carol Ann Rogers (1989 – 1996);
Melanie (Wright) Radford (1996 – [1999]
Jacqueline Batstone [2005] – [2009]
Ann Khotatha [2015] – 2017);
Doreen Jones (2017 – [] manager

NOTES

14, Bilston Street [1871], [1874], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
27, Bilston Street [1939], [1940]

WHITE BULLS HEAD [1854]

It is a listed building.

Cornelius Wilkes = Cornelius Wilks

Cornelius Wilkes, beer retailer, Sedgley. [1835], [1841]
He was also a cooper.

1841 Census

Bilston Street

- [1] *Cornelius Wilks* (50), cooper, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Wilks (50), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Sarah Wilks (20), born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1850

“The special sessions for granting and renewing victuallers’ licenses within the hundred of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Wolverhampton, on Thursday The new licenses granted were to.....
Levi Round, the BULLS HEAD, Sedgley.”

1851 Census

Bilston Street – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *Levi Round* (49), blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Round (52), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Charlotte Round (25), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [4] Mary Round (22), daughter, tailoress, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Round (20), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] William J. Round (17), son, roll turner, born Sedgley;
- [7] Joseph Round (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Elizabeth Parkes (5), grandchild, scholar, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/8/1852

“At the weekly sessions held on Monday last, the following licenses were transferred.....
BULLS HEAD, Sedgley, from *Levi Round* to *Richard White Tamlyn*, of the same parish.”

Richard White Tamlyn – see also CROWN, Sedgley.

John Ebery built a malthouse and brewery at the rear, on the site of three cottages and stables c.1854.

Staffordshire Sentinel 29/11/1856

“At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday last, Sam. Mills, Sam. Ellis, and John Parker, all from Princes End, were charged with stealing a handbell and brass ornament, from the house of Mr. *Joseph Walker*, publican, of Sedgley, on Sunday night last. The evidence went to show that the accused entered the parlour and had some drink. The articles named were seen safe before their

arrival, and were missed after their departure. They were followed, and Parker and Ellis were found in another public house close by. The police were sent for, and they were given in charge, and nothing was discovered in their possession; but while the officer was in the house, Mills entered, and was also charged. He and the others mutually denied any knowledge of each other. The prosecutor said that he suspected Mills to be the thief, from the fact of his playfully handling sundry portable articles in the parlour. The magistrates committed Mills for fourteen days, and discharged the others.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1859 - Advert

“Peremptory Sale at the BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, To-Morrow (Thursday), August 11, 1859.

Mr. John Cassere will Sell by Auction, on Thursday, August 11, 1859, upon the Premises, BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, the whole of the Stock-In-Trade, Brewing Plant, &c, together with a portion of the Household Furniture, Sweet-Toned Pianoforte, comprising one hundred and forty-gallon copper furnace, iron furnace, quantity of the most excellent well-seasoned ale casks, nearly new, from 60 to 650 gallons; 16-bushel mash tub, coolers, round tubs, capital three-motion ale machine, piping and taps, malt crusher, valuable half-bred Cart Mare, perfectly sound; Spring Trap, set Gears, Gig Harness, two fine Sows in pig; together with the whole of the Public House Fixtures, including grates, screens, benches, partitions, and the whole of the shelving, gas fittings, &c, &c. The whole being sold without reserve, the property of Mr. *Joseph Walker*, who is leaving the house and retiring from the trade. Catalogues may be obtained at the Offices of the Auctioneer, 51, Snowhill, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/9/1860 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Important Freehold, Free Copyhold, and Leasehold Dwelling Houses, Public House, Malt House, and Building Land, at Sedgley.

Mr. Solomon Powell will Sell by Auction on Wednesday, the 3rd day of October, 1860.

Lot 6. All that Freehold and old licensed Public House, known by the sign of the BULLS HEAD INN, situate in Bilston Street, and at the corner of Castle Street, Sedgley, with Brewhouse, Coalhouse, and Maltroom, Stable (with loft over), Pigstye, Privy, and Yard at the back; and also those two Cottages adjoining, and fronting to Castle Street aforesaid, the whole now occupied by *Richard Wood* and his under-tenants, and producing £28 per annum.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/1/1861

“E. Wood of Sedgley, Staffordshire, will run Hollies of Cann Lane 100 yards level, if he will stake £20 to £15; J. Turner of Bilston 120 yards, for £14 a side; or T. Hayes of Intake 200 yards, if he will give him four yards start, for the same in one month from the first deposit; or he will take three yards of Newbold of Birmingham in 200, for the same sum; or he will take two yards start from Cruddington of London in 200. A match can be made by applying at Mr. *R. Wood's* BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, any night next week.”

1861 Census

Bilston Street – BULLS HEAD INN

- [1] *Richard Wood* (34), licensed victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] Sarah Wood (30), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Richard Wood (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] William Wood (2 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] John Myatt (20), visitor, potter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Ann Myatt (20), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [7] Julia Timmins (13), general servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/7/1861 - Advert

“BULLS HEAD INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley. Sale on Monday Next, August 5th, 1861.

Mr. John Cassere will Sell by Auction, upon the premises as above, without the least reserve (under a bill of sale), the whole of the Stock-in-Trade, Brewing Plant, Public House, Fixtures, Screens, Benches, Drinking Tables, Windsor Chairs, Cut Glass Jugs, Spirit Counter, Ale Casks, 140 gallons, Copper Furnace, Mash Tub, Coolers, Vats, Round Tub, capital three-pull Beer Machine, piping and taps complete; four Store Pigs, Malt Crusher, four-wheeled Phaeton, and numerous effects.

Sale to commence at eleven o'clock.

John Cassere, Auctioneer and General Valuer, 51, Snowhill, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/11/1861

“At Stafford County Court, on Tuesday, before Francis Russell, Esq, the deputy judge, the insolvency cases were disposed of. In the following cases there was no opposition, and the insolvents were ordered to be discharged forthwith.

Richard Wood, licensed victualler, Sedgley, supported by Mr. Walker. Debts £522 9s 10d; credits, £318.”

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1863](#)

“At Bilston Public Office, yesterday, the undermentioned licenses were suspended.

[James \[sic\] Hughes](#), BULLS HEAD, Sedgley.

With respect to [Hughes](#), the Rev. W. Lewis remarked that he himself had heard many allegations made against the house, from which he inferred that it was doing much towards demoralising the young in that neighbourhood.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....
The following is a list of those who had been proceeded against and fined in the past year.....
John Hughes, BULLS HEAD, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/9/1863

“The adjourned licensing meeting for the Bilston division of the county was held on Friday.....
Licenses suspended at the annual licensing meeting were now renewed to the following houses, the landlords being cautioned to conduct them more creditably for the future.....
BULLS HEAD, Sedgley, kept by *Hughes*. In this case the license had been suspended in consequence of complaints of a dancing saloon connected with the house, but the police being able to say that the house had been better conducted within the last month, the license was renewed.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 21/11/1863

“At the Bilston Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, before H. Spooner, Esq, *John Hughes*, landlord of the BULLS HEAD, Sedgley, was convicted of having, on the 27th of August, brewed more malt than the quantity that he set down in his brewer’s entry paper, and with having removed the grains of the same brewing within an hour of the time allowed by law, immediately following the time set down in the paper named as that at which the grains would be ready to be gauged. He was fined £50 in each case. The case for the Crown was conducted by Mr. Dwelly, solicitor to the Inland Revenue Board; and proved by Mr. Allcorn, supervisor, and by Mr. Evans, one of his officers. They showed that six bushels was the quantity of malt entered to be brewed, and that the brewing was to be over by two in the afternoon. When, however, they reached the inn at five minutes past two o’clock, they found that some of the grains had been removed. They had them brought back, and when they gauged it was found there were nearly 47½ per cent more than the six bushels, or nearly nine bushels – a quantity of 32 per cent higher than the officers had ever known grain to exceed the malt from which they had been obtained. Mr. J. E. Underhill, of Wolverhampton, was for the defence. He called several witnesses to prove the increase complained of was usual, but Mr. Ashcroft, auctioneer, of Wolverhampton, who had been in the excise, and who was his principal witness, deposed that he had never known a greater increase than 30 per cent. The Stipendiary refused to recommend mitigation of the penalty, because he believed this had not been the first time *Hughes* had so offended.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/3/1865

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes.
David Guest, on bail, a young man, was indicted for cutting and wounding Hannah Rogers, at Sedgley, on the 30th of August last, with intent to do her some grievous bodily harm; and was also indicted for committing the offence with felonious intent. Mr. Gough conducted the prosecution.
The prisoner was in the BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, at twelve o’clock on the night in question, and after quarrelling with another man, was put out of the house. The prosecutrix whose daughter was servant at the house, was there, and asked a man not to fight who was offering to take his off his coat, and very soon afterwards she felt a cut in her right arm. Just before this the prisoner was seen to go into the room with a table knife in his hand. He met the daughter of the prosecutrix as he was going in with the knife, and on her telling him to mind what he did with it, he smacked her on the cheek with his hand. It was also shown that he was just behind the prosecutrix when she was cut. The wound was stated by Mr. Ballenden, surgeon, to be three inches long in two directions at an angle, and penetrated to the bone, and must have been inflicted with considerable force. The prisoner was charged with the offence a few hours afterwards, and as police-constable Sheldon was searching his clothes he said, ‘I’m very sorry I cut her, but you won’t find it; I threw it away.’ He was found guilty of the misdemeanour only, and was sentenced to eight months’ imprisonment.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/3/1866

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes.
John Marson, 20, who was described in the calendar as a nailer, but wore the uniform of an infantry soldier, was indicted for stealing 4cwt of iron, the property of Henry Morgan. Mr. Young conducted the prosecution.
The prosecutor is a nail dealer, residing at Sedgley, and it seemed that in the night of the 20th ult, his shop was broken open, and nine bundles of iron taken therefrom. The prisoner was drinking at the BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, and on the night in question, he was heard to say that he knew of a ‘good pull’ in Henry Morgan’s shop, and he would have it out and go to Wolverhampton. He and his brother were afterwards seen to take the iron out of the prosecutor’s shop and carry it away on their shoulders. The iron had not been discovered, nor was there any evidence to show what had become of the prisoner’s brother.
The prisoner called his father and mother for the purpose of proving that he was at their house at the time the iron was said to have been stolen, but their evidence did not carry conviction in the minds of the jury, and a verdict of guilty was returned.
His Lordship said the prisoner had been in gaol before for assaults and malicious damage, and sentenced him to six months’ imprisonment.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/12/1866

“On Wednesday, the adjourned inquiry into the cause of death of a child that was found on the 9th of November last, in a cesspit at Stoney Park, under the singular and suspicious circumstances narrated in the *Chronicle* at the time, was resumed at the BULLS HEAD INN, before T. M. Phillips, Esq. It will be remembered that at the last investigation the Jury, after conferring for a considerable time, were unable to arrive at a unanimous verdict, and that the investigation was accordingly adjourned for additional evidence. On Wednesday an open verdict was returned. On Thursday, a special Petty Sessions was held at the Police Court, when

Maria Slater, the daughter of the man in whose privy the child was found, was charged with concealing the birth of the child. Mr. Stokes appeared for the accused. Evidence was given that the accused had given birth to a child a few days before the finding of the body, and that the birth had been concealed. As a prima facie case was made out, the Bench said they had no alternative but to commit her for trial.”

[At the Staffordshire Lent Assizes Maria Slater was acquitted.]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/2/1869 - Advert

“I hereby give Notice that I will not be Responsible for any Debt or Debts my Wife, Elizabeth Hall, may contract after this date. All Claims to be sent in at once to Mr. *John Hughes*, BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, and, if found correct, will at once be discharged.

Anthony Friar Hall, VINE INN, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.

Jan 30, 1869.”

John Hughes was also a maltster, brewer and general agent. [1870]

1871 Census

14, Bilston Street

- [1] *John Hughes* (47), married, maltster, born Tipton;
- [2] Mary Jane Hughes (19), daughter, scholar, born Tipton;
- [3] John E. Hughes (17), son, scholar, born Tipton;
- [4] Thomas A. Hughes (12), son, scholar, born Tipton;
- [5] Kate Hughes (14), daughter, scholar, born Tipton;
- [6] Betsy Fellows (20), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/8/1872

“Bilston Division Annual Licensing Sessions.....

The record of the Chief Constable showed that 28 licensed victuallers and 14 beersellers had been convicted of various offences against their licenses. Of these five publicans and one beerhouse keeper were only ordered to pay the costs. In the other cases the fines varied from £10 to 1s. The licenses of 210 licensed houses and a similar number of beerhouses were renewed.

The applications for the renewal of the suspended licenses were postponed till the adjourned licensing day, on the 27th September, but the certificates were granted to the five licensed victuallers and the beerseller who, as before mentioned, were previously only ordered to pay the costs. These were.....

John Hughes, BULLS HEAD, Sedgley.”

John Hughes was described as a maltster, brewer and ale and stout bottler. [1874]

Dudley Guardian 28/3/1874

“On Tuesday morning last a parish meeting was held at Sedgley, for the purpose of electing four overseers for the parish, the following gentlemen were elected for the ensuing year. Messrs. *John Hughes*, BULLS HEAD INN, Maltster.....”

Staffordshire Sentinel 8/1/1876

“Staffordshire Epiphany Sessions.

Solomon Briscoe, 26, miner; Joseph Anson, 26, puddler; and James Morgan, 23, labourer, were charged with having stolen fourteen fowls, the property of *John Hughes*, of the BULLS HEAD, Sedgley, on the 13th of December. Mr. Young was for the prosecution, and Mr. Underhill (with him Mr. Rose) for the defence. Prisoners were found guilty and were sentenced, Morgan to four months' imprisonment, and the others to six months.”

Dudley Herald 25/11/1876 - Advert

“Important Investment. To be Sold, 2,040 Square yards of Freehold Building Land, with Mines and Minerals under the same, situated next to the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, and the new schools, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton, and having a frontage of 21 yards to the said important road.

For price and to view plan of same, apply to Mr. *John Hughes*, BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley.”

Dudley Herald 17/4/1880 - Advert

“Sedgley. To Brewers, Maltsters, Publicans, Bottlers, and Others.

Sale of an Important Freehold Public-House, called the BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, Tuesday, April 27th, 1880.

Mr. Thomas Skidmore, has received instructions to offer for Sale by Auction, at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday, April 27th, 1880, at Six o'clock in the evening subject to conditions of sale which will incorporate the common form conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Association.

All that Freehold Full-licensed Corner Public-House called the BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, midway between Dudley and Wolverhampton, in a densely populated district, situate at the corner of Bilston Street, and Castle Street, having a frontage to Bilston Street, of 25ft 6in, and to Castle Street, of 129ft, on the main road leading from Sedgley to Deepfields, Bilston, &c, adjoining one of the largest nail warehouses in the district.

The House and Premises consist of neatly-fitted Bar, Taproom, large Landscape Room, 24ft by 14ft; five Bedrooms, Bath or small

Room, Cooking Kitchen, China Pantry and Dairy, three-quarter Brewery, on the most modern principle; excellent well of water, extensive dry Cellars, Hop and Malt Rooms, enclosed Yard and Shed, lock-up Coach-house and Stable, capacious three-storey Bottling Stores, with office delivery door to Castle Street; lifting crane, &c, complete, could be used for nail or corn warehouses. Immediate possession may be had, and the greater part of the purchase money may remain.

Fixtures and trade effects to be taken at fair valuation.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. H. and J. H. Underhill, Solicitors, Darlington Street; or to the Auctioneer, 2, Bilston Street, all of Wolverhampton.”

Dudley and District News 13/11/1880

“Samuel Partridge, Castle Street, Sedgley, was charged with stealing, on the 5th of November, a piece of cloth, value 3s 6d, the property of James Edwards, labourer, Gospel End Street.

Prosecutor stated that he went to the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, to receive a parcel containing cloth, which he had left the previous Saturday. He was in the kitchen, the prisoner also being there. The landlord handed him the parcel, and he put it on a bench. The accused opened the parcel and looked at the cloth, and afterwards walked off with it. Prosecutor afterwards saw the prisoner the same evening, and asked him for the cloth. He said, ‘Oh, the cloth’s right, come on Monday.’

Cross-examined by Mr. Tinsley, prosecutor could not recollect anything saying, ‘When a man’s drunk he don’t remember.’

Samuel Gattos, farm labourer, Cinder Hill, said that, being at the BULLS HEAD, about six o’clock on Saturday night, the prisoner came in with a parcel, asking all round whether anyone wanted to buy a piece of cloth. Witness bought one piece for 2s 6d there being two other pieces, for which he wanted 3s 6d a piece.

PC Durrie said he apprehended the prisoner in his own house about ten minutes to eleven o’clock, and, in answer to the charge, he said he did not know where the cloth was, or to whom he had given it. He was ‘fresh.’

Mr. Tinsley, in defence, urged that the prisoner bargained with prosecutor that he should sell the cloth for over 7s 6d, and said it would be unfair to deprive him of his reputation upon the uncorroborated testimony of a drunken man.

James Rudge stated, being at the prosecutor’s house, he heard him say, ‘We have sold one piece, and we have spent the money; the other two pieces are all right.’

A waiter named Jones, at the BULLS HEAD, deposed to the prisoner and the prosecutor coming to the premises between ten and eleven o’clock on Saturday night for a pint of ale, and being refused both by him and Mr. *Hughes*.

Mr. Homer said the Bench believed that both parties were in a disgraceful state of intoxication, and there was no credence whatever to be placed on what either of them might say in reference to the case. The Bench would give the accused the benefit of the doubt as to whether there was any felonious intention, but they thought it was a lamentable thing that any two men should have been allowed to get into such a beastly state of intoxication.”

1881 Census

14, Bilston Street – BULLS HEAD

Inhabited Days Only

Evening Express 8/11/1881

“A idle aged woman named Sarah Jones, of Evans Court, was charged with stealing 4s, from the drawer in the bar of Mr. *John Hughes*, BULLS HEAD INN, Bilston Street. Sedgley.

Prisoner went into the house for half a pint of fourpenny, and during the temporary absence of Elizabeth Rogers, the person in charge, from the room, prisoner put her hand through the bar window and took 4s out of the money drawer.

She was convicted for one month.”

John Hughes died on 23rd March 1890.

Lucy Ann Fox and *Thomas Anthony Hughes* were granted the license as executors of *John Hughes*.

Birmingham Daily Post 17/6/1890 - Advert

“Important Sale of a Valuable Freehold Public House, called the BULLS HEAD INN, situate in Sedgley, on Wednesday, June 25, 1890.

Messrs. Thomas Skidmore & Son, have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the SWAN AND PEACOCK HOTEL, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, June 25th, 1890, at 6.30 for Seven o’clock prompt, subject to conditions which embody the common form conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Association – the following Valuable Freehold Public House, the BULLS HEAD INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley (by direction of the Representatives of *John Hughes*, deceased).

Lot 1. A double-fronted Freehold Full-Licensed Free Public House and Malt-House, called the BULLS HEAD, Bilston Street, Sedgley, with the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession. The Premises include Bar, Entrance Hall, Side Passage, Back Passage, large Smoke Room, Tap Room, front Sitting Room, Store Room, Closet, three Bed Rooms, back Kitchen, Washhouse, with soft-water pump and cistern, washing boiler and oven grate, Dairy, capital Brewhouse, Yard, and Shed, two capital Cellars, with lift.

Also, the Capital Three-Quarter Malthouse, with Kiln, and Stoves, Wetting-floor and Cistern, Withering Floor, Drying Kiln, with quarry floor; Screening and Crushing Rooms, Dry Room, with Garners; Office, &c.

Note. An inventory of the Effects, which will be Sold with the Freehold, and an inventory of the Public-house Fixtures and Trade Utensils, will have to be taken to at a fair valuation, will be produced at the time of sale.

Further particulars and plans may be obtained from the Solicitors, Messrs. Thos. Waterhouse and Son, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.

ton; or from the Auctioneers, Messrs. Thomas Skidmore and Son, 1 and 2, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/6/1890

“Sale Of Property.....

Mr. Thomas Skidmore and Son the same evening sold the BULLS HEAD, Sedgley for £1,200.”

1891 Census

14, Bilston Street – BULLS HEAD INN

[1] *Thomas W. Palmer* (30), widower, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Emma F. Palmer* (27), sister, born Wolverhampton:

1901 Census

14, Bilston Street

[1] *Alfred Edwards* (25), publican, licensed victualler, born Wordsley;

[2] *Isabella Edwards* (26), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Isabella Edwards* (3), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Florrie Edwards* (4 months), daughter, born Birmingham:

William Clarke was fined 10s and costs, on 26th February 1906, for permitting drunkenness.

Plans were passed for alterations on 9th March 1907.

George Thomas Mills – see also SWAN HOTEL.

1911 Census

14, Bilston Street – BULLS HEAD INN

[1] *George Mills* (37), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Phoebe Mills* (40), wife, married 14 years, born Hurst Hill;

[3] *Leonard Mills* (7), son, school, born Sedgley;

[4] *Ernest Wilfred Mills* (6), son, school, born Sedgley;

[5] *Doris Mills* (3), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] *Ivy Winifred Mills* (3 months), daughter, born Sedgley;

[7] *Florence Darby* (16), general servant, born Sedgley;

[8] *Edna Darby* (13), visitor, school, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/3/1914

“There were a number of withdrawals yesterday in the Midlands in connection with District Council elections.....

The following have been elected Mr. *George Mills*, BULLS HEAD INN, Sedgley, a new member.”

South Staffordshire Times 26/1/1924

“The Stipendiary (Mr. Grimley) was engaged for a couple of hours on Monday afternoon at Sedgley Police Court, when *Samuel Preston* (60), licensee of the BULLS HEAD, Bilston Street, was summoned for supplying drink in prohibited hours, and also with keeping his house open.

Jos. Frederick Joyce, 15, Herbert Road, Wolverhampton, was summoned for being on the premises and aiding and betting *Preston*. Mr. E. Brown appeared for the defence.

PS Hall said *Preston* was the licensee of the BULLS HEAD INN, Bilston Street, and his closing time at night was 10 o'clock. On January 10th at 11pm, two constables reported to him, and he went with them to the inn, arriving at 11.5. Outside he observed that the bar was lit up, the curtains drawn at the window, and at the top of the curtains there was an aperture. He looked through, and saw the licensee and *Joyce* standing at the bar. No other person was present. He remained outside the premises till 11.25, and PCs *Dimpleby*, *Nutt*, and himself looked through the aperture, only one being able to see at a time. He heard *Preston* (who is deaf) ask *Joyce* where he lived on the Sedgley Housing Scheme, and received the reply that he (*Joyce*) lived at Wolverhampton. Then *Preston* said, ‘It ay bad beer is it?’ and *Joyce* replied ‘No, it’s a bit of all right.’ He saw *Preston* and *Joyce* drink from half-pint glasses. He heard the beer pull being used, the jingling of money and the opening and closing of the money drawer. After that he saw *Preston* and *Joyce* drink again. Then he knocked at the door, and it was opened by *Preston*. The police entered. When asked to account for the presence of *Joyce*, *Preston* said ‘He is a friend of my son, *Roland*, and is going to get him a situation, but I don’t know him.’ Witness told how he had been watching, and had seen *Joyce* drinking, whereupon *Preston* said, ‘*Joyce* hasn’t paid for anything since 10 o’clock.’

When witness asked *Joyce* what time he came in, he replied ‘About half-past nine,’ and said he stayed after 10 o’clock, as they were having a conversation and had not paid for anything since 10 o’clock. When witness asked *Preston* if he knew he could not change a customer into a guest after hours, *Preston* said he did not know that, and had been instructed on the contrary. When told he would be summoned, *Preston* replied, ‘For God’s sake sergeant, don’t; I am about to leave. Let me go with a good character. I am sorry if I have done anything wrong.’

When *Joyce* was spoken to, he replied, ‘You haven’t seen me drink any beer.’

Dimpleby and *Joyce* went outside to look through the aperture, and while they were out *Preston* said, ‘I’m sorry; I did let him

have half a pint after 10 o'clock.' When the inspector was sent for *Preston* said, 'For God's sake sergeant, don't make a case of it, or I shall never get another license. I am trying to get an outdoor.'

Cross-examined by Mr. E. Brown, for the defence, witness agreed that the curtains were not drawn for the purpose of concealing anything.

In further cross-examination, the sergeant insisted he distinctly heard *Preston* say, 'It ay bad beer.' He also insisted that he heard the drawer open and the jingle of money after 11.15. *Preston* had held the license for a great number of years, and was quite straightforward about the matter, but witness had had complaints in the past from policemen.

The Stipendiary (to Superintendent Higgs): I don't think you need cross-examine on the ability, seeing all that Joyce seems to have admitted was that 'It isn't bad beer.'

PCs Dimbleby and Nutt corroborated with regard to the observations.

Inspector Parsons told how he arrived at the house at 12.25 on January 10th, when the three officers were in the bar. After hearing all the explanations he went outside and saw through the aperture in the curtain quite plainly.

For the defence Mr. Brown admitted the presence of Joyce, but he denied any drink had been supplied or paid for after 10 o'clock. All that was done was that *Preston* pulled himself a glass of beer, and asked Joyce to take a portion of it.

Joyce, on oath, denied the allegations about him drinking after hours in the house, but he admitted that he had had half of *Preston's* half-pint.

Mr. Brown pleaded the ten year's tenancy of the house and the fact that *Preston* had been employed at Lewis's, Bilston for thirty years.

Sergeant Hall said though he had received complaints from the constable he thought the house was generally well conducted. It had a rather rough element to deal with.

The Stipendiary fined *Preston* 40s, for supplying, and Joyce 10s, for consuming.

The second cases were withdrawn."

South Staffordshire Times 15/3/1924

"Leonard Jones, Castle Street, Sedgley, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and pleaded not guilty. Norman Adams, who was with him at the time, was charged with being disorderly and pleaded guilty.

PC Nutt told how at 10.15pm, on March 7th, he heard shouts outside the BULLS HEAD in Bilston Street. He went there and found the two defendants sparring and Jones received a blow which floored him. Adams ran away. Jones could not stand, because he was helplessly drunk. Adams was allowed to go home, but Jones was taken to the police station where the test of pupils of the eyes showed he was drunk. He was bailed next morning.

PC Wood, who was in the station when Jones was brought in, testified to the man being drunk. He wanted to argue whether he did not win the war. (Laughter).

Jones' defence was that after the blow he did not know what he was doing. He had been in bed a week suffering from a complaint contracted during the war, and he had only three half pints of beer.

It was the first time either had been before the magistrates, and Adams declared that his character was so good that he had only been at one place since he left school.

The Stipendiary said he would let both men off with a fine of 5s."

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

"Bilston Licensing.....

The licenses for the BULLS HEAD, Sedgley; the FOXYARD, Woodsetton; and the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, to which objection had been made on the ground of convictions, were renewed, and the license of the FOXYARD was transferred to Cecil Crowther."

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

"Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions BULLS HEAD, Sedgley, 4s 9½d."

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

27, Bilston Street – BULLS HEAD

[1] *James P. Conway*, date of birth 8/7/1885, license public house, married;

[2] *Ethel Conway*, dob 27/2/1898, unpaid domestic duties, married;

A team from here were champions of the Sedgley and District Domino League in 1946.

Carol Rogers was married to Frank (photographer).

Melanie Radford (nee Wright) was married to Chris.

It was redecorated and renovated in October 1996.

A dining room was opened in July 1997.

It was redecorated and renovated in 2005.

It underwent a major refurbishment in June 2019.

[2020]

BULLS HEAD

Red Hill, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1873]

BUSH

Can Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Nock [1818]

BUSH

37, Wallbrook Street, (High Street, Wallbrook), (Mamble Square), COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Colbourn
James Lewis
Hannah Lewis, widow
Enoch Bailey Lewis
Richard Price
Atkinsons Ltd. [1959]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Dabbs [1833] – [1834]
Samuel Colbourn [1858] – [1864]
James Onions [1872] – 187_);
James Lewis (187_ – 1877);
Hannah Lewis (1877 – 1888);
Enoch Bailey Lewis (1888 – 1893);
Joseph Richards (1893 – 1894);
Richard Price (1894 – 1912);
Mrs. Clara Jane Price (1912 – [1940])
Robert Joseph Mahon [1959]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Dabbs, retail brewer, Mamble Square. [1833]

Samuel Colbourn = Samuel Colbourne

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.

Application For New Licenses.

Mr. Waterhouse appeared on behalf of *Samuel Colbourn* for a license for the BUSH INN, at Wallbrook. The house was the property of the applicant. A few years since there were in that neighbourhood two licensed houses, but they were both destroyed by mining operations. The license belonging to one of these two houses was transferred to the UNION public house, but the other license was allowed to expire without an application for its renewal. The house of the present applicant is built upon the site of the property referred to, and Mr. Waterhouse now applied that the license might be restored. After setting forth the accommodation afforded by the applicant’s house, Mr. Waterhouse stated that within the last few years something like 500 new houses had been erected in that locality, and there were at present only two licensed houses to supply the wants of the district. Application refused.”

1861 Census

Mamble Square – BUSH INN

- [1] *Samuel Colbourn* (43), coal miner and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Colbourn (46), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah A. Colbourn (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Betsy Colbourn (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.

Mr. Travers applied for a license to the BUSH INN, Wallbrook in the possession of Mr. *Samuel Colbourn*. Application refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

“The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.

Mr. Travis (of West Bromwich) applied on behalf of Thomas Prince, of the RED LION, Coseley; and also for *Samuel Colbourne*, of the BUSH INN, Coseley, both of whom were in a position to carry on the business of a licensed victualler, greatly to the advantage of the public, if the Magistrates granted the applications.

The Magistrates refused to grant any one of these applications.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.

For keeping open during prohibited hours.

Samuel Colbourne, BUSH, Walbrooke, to pay costs.”

James Onions, beer retailer, Walbrook. [1872]

James Lewis died on 11th September 1877.

1881 Census

37, Wallbrook Street

- [1] *Hannah Lewis* (54), widow, grocer and publican, born Ladymore;
- [2] *Enoch Lewis* (24), son, assistant grocer, born Skidmore Row;
- [3] Sarah Lewis (19), niece, domestic servant, born Tipton:

Hannah Lewis died on 2nd March 1888.

Birmingham Daily Post 17/12/1890

“Mr. Thorneycroft (deputy coroner) held an inquest on Monday night at the BUSH INN, Walbrook, Coseley, on the body of William Powell (33), miner, who was killed by a fall of dirt at the Horseley Colliery, Tipton. It was shown that the man had his neck broken. The enquiry was adjourned.”

1891 Census

37, Wallbrook Street

- [1] *Enoch B. Lewis* (34), grocer and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Lewis (29), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] John Titley (31), boarder, roller, sheet iron, born Tipton;
- [4] Mary Titley (32), boarder, born Tipton;
- [5] James H. Titley (8), boarder, scholar, born Harborne;
- [6] Maria Titley (6), boarder, scholar, born Harborne;
- [7] Beatrice Sue Titley (5), boarder, scholar, deaf and dumb, born Harborne;
- [8] John Titley (3), boarder, born Tipton;
- [9] Polly Hyett (14), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/9/1893

“Bankruptcy Proceedings. Re *Enoch Bailey Lewis*, grocer and beerhouse keeper, Coseley.

Yesterday, at the Dudley County Court, a receiving order was made in the matter of *Enoch Bailey Lewis*, formerly beerhouse keeper and grocer, Coseley, and now an inmate of the Coton Hill Lunatic Asylum. Mr. J. T. Wassell, Bilston, was the solicitor for the petitioning creditor.”

London Gazette 18/5/1894

“*Lewis, Enoch Bailey*. County Asylum, Stafford, lately trading at Wallbrook, in the parish of Sedgley, Staffordshire. Lunatic, not so found by Inquisition, formerly Beerhouse Keeper and Grocer. Amount per Pound 20s (and interest at 4 per cent) payable May 21, 1894.”

1901 Census

37, Wallbrook Street – Tavern

- [1] *Richard Price* (45), bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Clara Price* (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Nellie Price (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Dick Price (9), son, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Jenny Price (6), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Harry Price (2 months), son, born Sedgley:

Richard Price, beer retailer, Wallbrook. [1904]

1911 Census

Wallbrook Street – BUSH INN

- [1] *Richard Price* (54), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Clara Price* (48), wife, married 23 years, assisting in business, born Sedgley;
- [3] Nelley Price (21), daughter, assisting at home, born Birmingham;
- [4] Richard Wilfred Price (19), son, assisting at home, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Jenny Price (15), daughter, learning dress making, born Sedgley;
- [6] Arthur Price (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] George Price (4), son, born Sedgley:

Richard Price, beer retailer, Wallbrook Street. [1912]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/5/1915

“‘My Tobacco Had Run Out’

We have made an arrangement with Messrs. Martins Ltd. for the supply of parcels. One Shilling Has The Purchasing Power Of 2s 7d, and for each shilling subscribed by a reader we are able to send to the men of the Midlands Regiments at the front 50 Cigarettes, ¼lb Tobacco.

These at retail prices would cost 2s 7d, and all packing expenses and postage are paid by ourselves.

This can only be done by sending large consignments to regiments, and does not refer to individual soldiers. These latter cost one

shilling each for postage.

In every parcel you subscribe for is a postcard addressed to you to enable the recipient of your gift to write and thank you, a personal note from a man on duty at the Front, which should be a cherished souvenir in the years to come.....

Miss N. Norton, BUSH INN, Coseley. £1”

[In September 1915, Master A. G. Price, BUSH INN, Wallbrook, Bilston, also donated £1.]

Mrs. *Clara Jane Price*, beer retailer, Wallbrook Street. [1916], [1921]

She was also a brewer.

1939 Register

37, Wallbrook Street

[1] *Clara J. Price*, date of birth 15/2/1864, licensee, widowed;

[2] Sarah E. Price, dob 21/1/1890, unpaid domestic duties, single;

[3] Arthur Price, dob 6/5/1902, brewer and public house manager, heavy worker, single:

Closed

BUSH +

COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Abigail Harris [1835]

BUSH

52, (2), Summit Place, (Summit Lane), (Bush Lane), Gornalwood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Ann Guest

Joseph Stokes, rent collector, Dudley

Bindley and Co. Ltd., brewers, Burton on Trent

Ind Coope and Co. (1910) Ltd. (leased)

Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd.

Ansells Ltd.

Holt, Plant and Deakin [1989]

Pubmaster

Punch Taverns

Patron Capital (acquired 5th March 2018)

LICENSEES

Stephen Hale [1820] – **1843**)

Mrs. Nancy Hale [1845] – **1853**);

Thomas Hale (**1853**);

John Fellows (**1853 – 1864**);

Edward Nicklin (**1864 – [1870]**)

Mrs. Ann Guest [1869]

Thomas Smith [1871] – [1872]

Joseph Wright [1873]

Thomas Smith [1873] – **1877**);

Thomas Thatcher (**1877**);

Daniel Moses Stanley (1877 – 1878);
Reuben Morris (1878 – 1885);
Mrs. Mary Morris (1885 – 1902);
Edward Henry Hickman (1902 – 1905);
Benjamin Jones (1905 – 1907);
Isaac Smart (1907 – 1909);
David White (1909 – 1919);
John Edgar Wootton Bryan (1919 – 1923);
William Cox (1923 – 1935);
John Fleming (1935 – 1936);
Lewis George Elston (1936 – 1939);
Edwin Beesley (1939 – 1955);
Amelia Jane Beesley (1955 – 1956);
Mary Ann Mason (1956 – 1958);
Archibald Andrew Richardson (1958 – 1959);
George William Beswick (1959 – 1967);
Stanley Uriah ‘Stan’ Witton (1967 – 1979);
Francis Michael Curley (1979 – 1985);
Sonia Desmonde Hughes (1985 – [1993])
John Joyce (2000 – [2018])

NOTES

Summit Place [1874]
2, Summit Place [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901]
Summit Lane [1912], [1916], [1921]

OLD BUSH [1833], [1901]

Reputedly haunted by the ghost of a former landlady. [Nancy Hale]

Stephen Hale = Stephen Hall

Stephen Hall, cooper and victualler, OLD BUSH, Gornal Wood. [1833]

1841 Census

Gornalwood

- [1] *Stephen Hale* (50), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Hale (50), born Staffordshire;
- [3] George Hale (20), carpenter’s apprentice, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Thomas Hale* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Mariah Hale (23), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Sophia Hale (16), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Sarah Hale (13), born Staffordshire;

Worcestershire Advertiser 23/1/1843 - Died

“Jan 21st, aged 52 years, Mr. *Stephen Hale*, of the OLD BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, near Dudley, highly respected by all who knew him.”

Nancy Hale = Nancy Hall

Morning Post 25/12/1845

“On Friday, the 19th instant, and by adjournment on Monday last, an inquest was held at the BUSH INN, Gornall Wood, before T. M. Phillip, Esq, on the body of Hannah Collins, a married woman, about fifty-four years of age. The deceased, it appeared, worked as a nailer, and on Tuesday week, complained to Mariah Marsh, who worked with her, that she was ill with ‘a rising light,’ and asked Marsh to give her some shot to swallow, saying she had taken some before for the same complaint, and they had done her good. Marsh had none; but the next day Collins told Marsh she had taken some procured from a neighbour named Abbiss, and was better. She began to work again, but died on Tuesday last. Mr. J. B. Browne, surgeon, stated that he had made a post mortem examination of the body of the deceased, and found the right lung in a state of ossification, which was the cause of death. Verdict accordingly.

(The swallowing of shot is, it appears, is a common practice at Gornall and the neighbourhood, in order to cure ‘a rising light’.)
Wolverhampton Chronicle.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/8/1846

“The following inquests have been held before Thomas Moss Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Tuesday at the BUSH INN, Gornall Wood, on the body of Samuel Clark, whose death was occasioned by an explosion of sulphur which took place in a stone pit in Prestwood Colliery. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/3/1847

“On Tuesday morning, a little before six o’clock, a lamentable occurrence took place at the Yew Tree Colliery, Kingswinford, belonging to Mr. Benjamin Gibbons, by an explosion of gas, which severely burnt seven boys, who, it appeared, were engaged in brushing out the sulphur of the pit. It was supposed a candle was left in one of the ‘headings’ which caused the explosion. We regret to add four of the seven have since died, from injuries received; their names are Job Marsh, John Marsh, Noah Hodgetts, and John Guy, and very little hope was entertained of the recovery of the others. An inquest was held on Thursday, at the house of Mr. *Stephen Hale*, Gornal Wood, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the bodies of the boys, namely the two Marsh’s and Hodgetts’ and on the body of John Guy at TANSEY GREEN INN, Kingswinford, on the following day, but the proceedings were adjourned in each instance till Thursday week. All the witnesses coincided in the opining that every precaution is invariably used to prevent accident in the pit.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1848

“On Thursday morning last, about a quarter past six o’clock, John Massey, who was thirty-eight years of age, was at work with another man upon the pit bank at the bottom of the Dock, in the parish of Dudley, and whilst pushing a trolley towards the mouth of the coal-pit, the trolley ran into and down the pit, Massey falling with it to the bottom, a distance of seventy yards. His dead body was brought up shortly afterwards. It was deceased’s duty as banksman to push the runner (the waggon) over the mouth of the pit directly a skip was drawn up, but upon the morning in question he omitted to do so, and as his eyes were towards the ground when he was pushing the trolley over the pit, he did not observe that the runner was not in its proper place. He consequently fell down the pit with the trolley. Thomas Lee, a collier, who was at work with in the hollows of the pit, was not more than two yards from the spot where the trolley and deceased fell. At the inquest on the body of Massey, which was held on Saturday last, at the BUSH INN, at Gornall Wood, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, the witnesses deposed to the foregoing circumstances, and gave it as their opinion that the occurrence was accidental. The jury returned a verdict to that effect.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1849

“On Wednesday last one of those fatal accidents which unhappily are too common in mining districts occurred to Joseph Perks, a collier, forty years of age, whilst he was in the act of holeing in a coal pit, at the Oak Farm Colliery, in the parish of Kingswinford. He had neglected to prop the coal, thinking that it was not necessary, and before he could get out of the way a large quantity, about a ton of weight, suddenly fell upon him, by which his neck and one of his legs were broken, and he was killed on the spot. An inquest was held on his body, on Thursday, at the BUSH, Gornal Wood, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner; the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Bush Lane

[1] *Nancy Hale* (60), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Thomas Hale* (24), son, born Sedgley;

[3] *Sarah Hale* (21), daughter, born Sedgley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 12/1/1853 - Died

“Aged 61, Mrs. *Nancy Hale*, of the HOLLY BUSH INN, Gornal Wood.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/2/1853

“At a special Sessions for the division of Seisdon North, held on Monday last, for the transfer of victuallers’ licenses.....

The license of the BUSH INN, Gornall, Sedgley, from the executors of the late *Nancy Hale* to *Thomas Hale*.”

Worcestershire Advertiser 2/3/1853 - Married

“Feb 16th, at St. James’s Church, Lower Gornal, by the Rev. J. Y. Rooker, incumbent, Mr. *Thos. Hale*, of the BUSH INN, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. Jos. Beale, butcher, all of the above place.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/12/1853

“At the Public Office, on the 6th instant, a special sessions was held for transferring licenses.....

that of the Executor of *Thomas Hale*, of the BUSH, at Gornal, to *John Fellows*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/3/1856 - Advert

“Barr’s Estate, Gornal Wood. Third Sale.

Valuable Freehold Dwelling Houses, Malthouse, Cottages, and Building Land, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, and county of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by T. W. Coldicott, at the house of Mr. *Fellows*, the BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, on Monday, the 31st of March, 1856, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/4/1857 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Building Land, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, and county of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. T. W. Coldicott, at the house of Mr. *John Fellows*, BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, aforesaid, on Monday next, at six o'clock in the evening, and subject to conditions to be then read.....”

1861 Census

From Himley Road to Cock Pits

- [1] *John Fellows* (31), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Fellows (31), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Samuel Hughes (10), nephew, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/5/1863

“On Thursday last, an inquest was held at the OLD BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, on the body of Joseph Getting, aged 43. The deceased was a miner, employed at the Bird's Leasowes Colliery, and it appears that whilst at work on Monday last he was killed by an unexpected fall of coal. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/9/1865

“At the Police Court, yesterday, before Messrs. H. Ward and A. Sparrow, the following, whose names had been placed on the 'black list,' had their licenses renewed.....

E. Nicklin, BUSH INN, Lower Gornal.”

Dudley Herald 6/6/1868

“*Edward Nicklin* of the BUSH INN, Gornal Wood licensed victualler and shoemaker having been adjudged bankrupt in the County Court of Worcestershire holden in Dudley on the 2nd day of June 1868.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/6/1869 - Advert

“Freehold Property, Gornal Wood.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, This day (Tuesday), June 8, at the house of Mrs. *Guest*, the BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, at Six o'clock p.m.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *Ann Guest*, OLD BUSH, Lower Gornal, 20s and costs.”

1871 Census

2, Summit Place – BUSH INN

- [1] *Thomas Smith* (50), licensed victualler, born Rednal, Worcestershire;
- [2] Mary Smith (53), wife, born Stourport;
- [3] Mary Smith (19), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] James Smith (14), son, born Tettenhall:

1881 Census

2, Summit Place

- [1] *Reuben Morris* (37), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Morris* (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Jane Morris (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Ann Morris (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary Ann Morris (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Susannah Morris (2), daughter, born Sedgley:

County Express 19/11/1881

“On Wednesday last Mr. Phillips held an inquest at the BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, on the body of Zachariah Hickman (63), furnace labourer, of Gornal Wood. The deceased's body was found in the canal near Holling's Bridge, Pensnett on Sunday last, and it was thought that he accidentally fell into the water whilst walking along the towing path on Saturday night. But as there was no direct evidence to show how he got into the water, a verdict of Found Dead was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/6/1884

“Last night a mass meeting of miners was held at the BUSH INN, Lower Gornal, and after an address from the Chairman (a miner) and Mr. H. Barnes, it was agreed unanimously not to accept notices unless legally given, and that the men should not go to work if they could not get the old rate of wages. It was also agreed that the men should do their best to promote the Union among the men. The meeting was most enthusiastic, and carried all the resolutions without dissent. It was resolved to come out if the price (3s 8d) was not given.”

Dudley and District News 13/9/1884

“*Reuben Morris*, landlord of the BUSH INN, Summit Place, Gornal Wood, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house on the 1st inst.

Police-constable Sutton stated that last Monday he visited the defendant’s house and found several colliers, who are on strike, in the kitchen the worse for drink. Two of the men were very drunk, and all made use of disgusting language.

Mr. Homer said there had been an increase in drunkenness in the district during the past few weeks, and that day a large number of colliers had been fined.

Police-constable Sutton stated since the colliers’ strike there had been a great deal of drunkenness in the district, and the police were frequently called to quell disturbances. Every night the men were lying about the roads ‘like rotten sheep.’

The bench imposed a fine of £5 and costs. About twenty persons were fined for drunkenness.”

Reuben Morris was the son of *Enoch* and *Sarah Morris* (of the PIG AND WHISTLE, Old Hill).

He died on 15th June 1885.

1891 Census

2, Summit Place

[1] *Mary Morris* (52), innkeeper, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary Ann Morris* (18), daughter, assistant, born Sedgley;

[3] *Susannah Morris* (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] *Elizabeth Morris* (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] *Louisa Morris* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/1/1893

“Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest on Saturday at the BUSH INN, Lower Gornal, on the body of *William Smart* (3), whose parents reside at Brook Lane, Gornal Wood. Whilst playing alone in front of the fire the child’s clothing caught fire, and he was so badly burnt before assistance arrived that he died the same day. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/1/1893

“On Saturday afternoon Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, on the body of a girl named *Sarah Ann Jones*, nineteen, whose parents reside at 15, Prospect Road, Gornal Wood.

Deceased, who was a tailoress, had suffered for some time from St. Vitus’s dance, and had been attended by Dr. Biggam. Shortly after partaking supper on the evening of the 10th inst she was taken ill, and died early the following morning. During the night she frequently complained of violent pains in her head.

The father and a brother of the deceased alleged that several persons in the neighbourhood of their house had suffered in the same way, the latter stating that he was suddenly taken ill on the morning of the 11th inst.

Dr. J. Biggam stated that as the result of the post mortem he had made, he attributed death to the breaking out of poisonous gases – probably carbonic acid gas, mixed with others – from the flooring of the house and cellar where deceased lived, and in other neighbouring houses. He was unable to account for the exudation of gas, but a cat left in the house on the night of the 11th was found dead the following morning. He had no doubt deceased was poisoned by the gas, but was of opinion that if medical assistance had been promptly obtained she might have recovered. Both her father and mother were at present suffering from the effects of the gas, and he had advised them to leave the house.

Mr. J. Greenway (inspector of nuisances) stated that he had detected noxious gases in the house where deceased lived, and also in the adjoining dwellings. In his opinion they were generated by burning pit mounds in the neighbourhood. He was of opinion that the house and cellar should be relaid on a bed of sand at least a foot thick.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased was Accidentally Poisoned through inhaling carbonic acid gas.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/1/1893

“Last evening Mr. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, on the body of *Hannah Jones* (70), of Prospect Road, Gornal Wood, who died under circumstances exactly similar to those surrounding the death of her daughter, who, as reported in yesterday’s *Post*, was accidentally poisoned through inhaling carbonic acid gas.

It was shown that on the evening of the 10th inst the father, mother, daughter, and son of the Jones family were suddenly taken ill. Early the following morning the daughter died, and the result of the post mortem made by Dr. Biggam disclosed the fact that she had been poisoned by carbonic acid gas, which, it was supposed, was generated by burning pit mounds in the neighbourhood, and was exuded through the flooring of the house and cellar. The father and son recovered, but the mother lingered until the 14th inst, when she succumbed to the effects of the poisoning.

In reply to the coroner, *Jonathon Jones*, son of the deceased, said he had not taken steps to get another house, as he was hopeful the noxious gas would not appear again.

The Coroner remarked that they were incurring great danger to live in such a place, as the gas might break out again at any time.

Dr. Biggam (medical officer) stated that he had informed the chairman of the Local Board of the occurrence, but no special meeting had been convened for the purpose of taking steps in the matter. He was perfectly convinced that the death of the mother, as in the case of the daughter was attributable to poisoning by inhaling carbonic acid gas. He had been unable to detect the presence of any noxious gas in the house that day, but a short distance from the building he found carbonic acid gas three feet from the surface of the ground.

A desultory conversation took place between the jurymen as to the cause of the presence of the gas in that neighbourhood, and the

general opinion was that the ventilation from the reopening of old mines in the locality had forced the noxious gas to the surface. A verdict to the effect that deceased was Accidentally Poisoned through inhaling carbonic gas was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 31/3/1893

“Yesterday, at a special petty sessions – before Messrs. F. A. Homer, and S. Wilkes – a young man named Albert Flavell, residing at Upper Gornal, was charged with being on the premises of the OLD BUSH INN, Gornal, for unlawful purposes. Prisoner was drinking at the OLD BUSH on Sunday evening, and remained until closing time, when he left the premises. At about two o’clock the next morning the occupants of the house were disturbed by hearing a noise, and on going downstairs found prisoner in the smoke room pretending to be asleep. Prisoner, it was stated, must have climbed a wall eight feet high and broken into the premises. He pleaded that he was drunk and did not know how he got into the house. The magistrates sentenced him to a months’ hard labour.”

1901 Census

2, Summit Place – OLD BUSH INN

[1] *Mary Morris* (53), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Louie Morris* (19), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions BUSH, Gornal Wood.

Objection was raised on the ground that the license was not required; premises in a dirty and insanitary condition; difficult of police supervision.

Mr. W. Lees appeared for the owner.

Inspector Moss said the necessary alterations had been made.

The license was renewed.”

1911 Census

Summit Place – BUSH INN

[1] *David White* (29), bricklayer and publican, born Whitwick, Leicestershire;

[2] *Alice White* (27), wife, married 7 years, born Whitwick, Leicestershire;

[3] *Sidney David White* (5), son, born Whitwick, Leicestershire:

South Staffordshire Times 7/2/1920

“Bilston Licensing Sessions....

During the past year plans had been passed for the reconstruction or alteration of the undermentioned houses; LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood; BUSH INN, Gornal Wood; 10, Cinder Road, Gornal Wood; and the WOOD CROSS INN, Cinderhill; THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield; CASTLE INN, Bilston; BULLS HEAD INN, Ettingshall.

The reconstruction or alterations in the case of the LIMERICK INN, BUSH INN, 10, Cinder Road, and WOOD CROSS INN, were in hand, but in the case of the other houses had not commenced In the case of the reconstruction of the THREE CUPS and CASTLE INN the contracts had been made in each for reconstruction.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 21/3/1925

“On Monday, at Sedgley Police Court, *William Cox*, licensee of the BUSH INN, Gornal Wood, was summoned for selling beer to certain persons during illegal hours; also with supplying beer during prohibited hours, but after the evidence of Inspector Parsons and PC Warrender, and the defendants, the magistrates decided to dismiss both charges.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions BUSH INN, Lower Gornal, £1 14s 4d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Lewis George Elston was born on 19th June 1873 at Crediton, Devon.

Before becoming a publican he was a baker and grocer.

He was married to *Edith Mary Elston*, born on 12th June 1875 – see SWAN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal.

1939 Register

Summit Place – BUSH INN

[1] *Lewis G. Elston*, date of birth 19/6/1873, licensed victualler, married;
[2] Edith M. Elston, dob 12/6/1875, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Lewis George Elston died on 15th November 1943. Probate to Edith Mary Elston, widow, and Francis Thomas Elston [son], licensed victualler. Effects £202.
Francis Thomas Elston – see LEOPARD, Horseley Heath, Tipton.

Lewis George Elston – see also WEST END, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, FIVE WAYS, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, BLUE BOAR, Stone Street, Dudley, BRITISH OAK, Salop Street, Dudley, BEEHIVE, Tinchbourne Street, Dudley and SWAN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, Sedgley.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/2/1952

“Draw for the quarter finals of the Dudley Town FC darts cup competition is as follows: CALIFORNIA INN B (Blackheath) v GPO (Wolverhampton) or NELSON INN A (Wednesbury), VICTORY INN A (Tipton) v BUSH INN A (Lower Gornal), Belgrave Sports A (Blackheath) v CALIFORNIA INN A (Blackheath), Vono Sports (Tipton) v Ex-Servicemen’s Club (Bradley). These matches must be completed by Saturday March 8.”

Tipton Herald 6/10/1956

“Lower Gornal Darby And Joan Building Fund.

A successful harvest home was held at the BUSH INN, Summit Place, on Sunday. The service was conducted by Mr. Bert Buxton, soloist was Miss Madeline Hickman and Mr. E. Bradley (Chairman of the Building Fund) presided. The produce was sold on Monday evening by Mr. Simeon Jeavons, and £52 was raised. To complete the series of harvest homes, a final one will be held at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, to-morrow (Sunday), when the service will be conducted by Rev. Perry Smith. Councillor S. Dews, Chairman of the Sedgley Council will preside.”

Stan Witton was married to Pat.

A football team was based here. [c.1974]

It opened as a Holt Plant & Deakin pub in 1989.

John Joyce’s partner was Kim Harvey.

[2018]

BUSH

Gornalwood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Wilkes [1835]

NOTES

Check JUNCTION.

BUSH

Coseley Street, Otley, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Harris [1833] – [1834]

NOTES

Coseley Street [1833]

Otley [1834]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/04/1847

“On Thursday forenoon last, Samuel Brittain, a boy about six years and a half old, was badly burnt in his father’s garden, where there was a fire, and near to which he was found, with his clothes in flames. Several persons immediately ran to his assistance, and the flames were extinguished, but he died in the course of the afternoon. The inquest held on his body on Friday, at the BUSH INN, Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

CABIN

10, Alderwood Precinct, Northway, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

Holt, Plant and Deakin

Allied Domecq Inns [1997]

Spirit Group (Punch Taverns) [2012]

Greene King [2018]

LICENSEES

Derek McAlinden []

Roger Powell [1987]

Bill Kelly [1996]

Peter Guise [2003] – [2018]

NOTES

It opened in 1970.

It was originally called UNCLE TOM’S CABIN [1976], [1983]

It had a volleyball court [1993]

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.....

CABIN, 10 Alderwood Precinct, The Northway, Sedgley, Dudley.”

It became a leased house in November 2006.

Express & Star 11/10/2010

“Big screen sport in pubs across the Black Country is under threat as landlords are having to fork out thousands of pounds extra in subscription fees. The cost of showing fixtures in pubs is becoming so expensive many smaller businesses say they are not be able to afford it. Meanwhile publicans paying subscriptions say rivals showing sport illegally are undercutting their trade.

Licensee *Pete Guise* is paying an extra £3,000-a-year to have Sky Sports at the CABIN in Sedgley and says the huge increase in

Sky bills is denting his profits. Mr *Guise*, aged 49, is now paying £15,600 a year. Just five years ago it cost him £8,300. BAR SPORT in Walsall pays £20,000 a year following a rise of £2,500 a month ago. Mr *Guise* reckons 10 per cent of his profits a year are swallowed up by the fee but says pulling the plug on Sky Sports is not an option. He said, 'The increase has had a massive effect on my business. You're charged on your rateable value and because I've a got a big car park I'm in a higher band so I'm charged more which is very unfair. Having Sky Sports is a must for me as I've built my business around it but I think there will be a lot of smaller pubs who won't be able to afford it.

Brothers Kalbir and Gurinder Singh run the HEN AND CHICKENS in Hill Top, West Bromwich, and say they are struggling. Gurinder Singh, 26, said, 'Eventually we won't be able to have Sky Sports if the subscription keeps going up. What gets to us is we are doing things the proper way but I know lots of pubs are showing the games illegally.'

BAR SPORT in Walsall has 60 screens and manager Simon Moore, 33, said, 'Even though it is costing us more to have Sky we've actually gained because the increase has affected a lot of smaller pubs.

The Association of Licensed Multiple Retailers represents the industry and boss Nick Bish said, 'The situation is not helpful for pubs in difficult times. More pubs will stop showing it but it's sad because many pubs have built their business around lads and sports.'"

[A knitting group met here on Tuesdays from 12 noon to 1.30pm. \[2023\]](#)

[2023]

CASTLE HOUSE

9, Bridge Street, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James H Fryer [1939] – [1940]

NOTES

1939 Register

9, Bridge Street (2 of 3)

[1] *James H. Fryer*, date of birth 9/9/1880, gas stoves despatch clerk, married;

[2] *Florence A. Fryer*, dob 27/6/1885, shop assistant, wine lodge, married;

CHAPEL HOUSE

28, (89), Ruiton Street, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Edward Parkes Cartwright

Charles Evans, brewer

Thomas Booth, Corbyn Hall Brewery, Pensnett

Cornelius Cartwright (acquired in 1870)

James Hughes, druggist (acquired on 11th September 1875 for £294)

John Kimberley, brewer, Sedgley (acquired on 1st November 1878 for £450)

Annie Corker (later Annie Cox Darby) (acquired on 28th July 1879)

Thomas Fox (acquired on 29th July 1889 for £350)

Charles Evans, Jolly Crispin, Upper Gornal (acquired on 21st January 1891 for £700)

Benjamin Evans

John E. Evans (acquired on 21st January 1911)

Thomas Booth (acquired on 20th June 1949)

John Seedhouse

Enoch Smart

Holdens Brewery (acquired on 30th September 1955 for £3,240)

LICENSEES

Isaac Fisher Snr. [1834] – 1866);
Benjamin Elwell (1866 – []
Richard Oakley [] – 1869);
John Worton (1869 – []
Isaac Fisher [1870]
John Worton [1870] – [1872]
Edward Parkes Cartwright [] – 1873);
Caroline Bickley (1873 – 1875);
Charles Henry Cartwright Hughes (1875);
Benjamin Smith (1875 – 1876);
Amelia Dickin (1876 – 1878);
Benjamin Timmington (1878);
Simon Dando (1878 – 1882);
Mrs. Annie Cox Corker (1882 – 1883);
Thomas Turner (1883 – 1884);
Annie Cox (Turner) Darby (1884 – 1887);
Richard Cartwright (1887 – 1888);
Mary Cartwright (1888 – 1890);
Thomas Fox Snr. (1890 – 1891);
Charles Evans (1891 – 1892);
John Hickman (1892 – 1906);
Benjamin Evans [1901]
Mrs. Elizabeth Ann (Evans) Bellamy (1906 – 1912);
Enoch Smart (1912 – 1934);
William Ernest Bartlett (1934 – 1938);
Henry Horan (1938 – 1939);
Reuben Joseph Walker (1939 – 1948);
Alice Walker (1948 – 1949);
Sarah Smart []
Henry Nock (1949 – 1954);
George Turner (1954 – []
Thomas Booth []
Absalom Horton (1954 – 1972);
James ‘Jim’ Hollis (1972 – 1983);
Rosemary Joy Jones (1983 – 1986);
Keith William Upton (1986 – 1990);
Thomas ‘Tommy’ Poulton (1990 – []
Kay Richards [1993]
Sarah M Pritchard (2001 – [2004]
Joanne Evans (2013 – 2015);
Heather Bowman (2015 – []
James Stevens (2016 – [2023])

NOTES

89, Ruiton Street [1871], [1891], [1901], [1911]
28, Ruiton Street [1939]

Black Country Bugle 14/4/2005

‘The Birth Of A Gornalwood Church.....’

“One of the most famous pubs in Gornal is the MINERS ARMS, which is still known to locals by its original name of the CHAP-EL HOUSE, despite the fact that its title was officially changed way back in 1882! The name came about when a group of local Methodists, known as the Gornal Ranters, were given encouragement by the Darlaston Circuit. From 1820, they began meeting in cottages in the Gornal area, and were allowed to use the back room at the pub for their meetings they acquired their own place of worship in nearby Lake Street in 1841.....”

Village Voice (November 2021)

“It seems that there is hardly a pub in the Black Country that doesn’t have its own resident ghost.....”

In Gornal, the MINERS ARMS (now called the CHAPEL HOUSE) in Ruiton Street allegedly had a poltergeist that regularly moved round all the furniture, including a heavy wooden cabinet, in the bar. No damage was ever done and nothing was taken; all the windows and doors were locked so outside assistance could be discounted.”

Black Country Bugle (July 1982) - Pub of the Month

“Ask a Gornal bloke for directions to the MINERS ARMS and he will probably be a little puzzled. Ask him to direct you to the CHAPEL HOUSE, and he will immediately send you to a cosy little hostelry in Ruiton Street.

Which is not really surprising when you learn that the ancient pub was officially listed as the CHAPEL HOUSE in Pigot’s Directory way back in 1834 Owner and licensee of the CHAPEL HOUSE in 1834 was one *Isaac Fisher*. Twenty years later, in 1854, *Isaac Fisher* was still listed as Mine Host of the CHAPEL HOUSE Prior to 1834 it is believed that a few pioneering Methodists met for worship in the tiny back room of the CHAPEL HOUSE, hence its original sign Still remembered by the not so young is Aynuck *Smart*, who was the last of the owners to brew his own beer. He was followed by *W. E. Bartlett* at the time when John Seedhouse’s Brewery bought the house. Around 1954 another unforgettable character became the mine host of the MINERS ARMS. He was the late *Absalom ('appy) Horton* who continued to dispense potent ales and jovial spirits for seventeen happy years It has dispensed Holdens palatable ales for the past twenty odd years.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/5/1836

“William Whitton and Henry Raybould appeared to answer a charge of maliciously plucking a large quantity of growing leeks in the garden of *Isaac Fisher*, public-house-keeper in Lower Gornal. The complainant proved that on the night of the 28th of April he found as many leeks as a man could carry plucked out of his garden, and thrown over a hedge into a neighbour’s premises. Harriet Bradney, niece of the complainant, stated that as she was going to get some nails, about eleven o’clock at night from the shop, she saw the defendants getting her uncle’s leeks; she told her sister, who came out, and on seeing them the men ran away. Her sister confirmed this, and both witnesses stated that they knew the defendants and were quite confident they were not mistaken, for it was quite moonlight.

On behalf of Raybould, his mother stated that he was a-bed by half-past ten o’clock; and Whitton’s sister declared that he was also a-bed by half-past nine. This testimony, however, though persevered in, was given in such a manner that it failed to obtain credit with the Magistrate (Mr. Briscoe), and an assertion being made that the charge was trumped up against the defendants because they would not use the complainant’s house, where it was alleged card-playing was carried on at improper hours, Mr. Briscoe inquired the character of the house from the constable of the place, who stated he personally did not know of the card-playing never being in the house at the times stated, but he had heard talk that it took place. The defendants were then fined 5s each and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/6/1842

“Joseph Cartwright was charged by *Isaac Fisher*, a publican, residing at Upper [sic] Gornal, with an assault of a very violent description. The complainant had refused to draw any more beer for the defendant, upon which he (defendant) struck him violently on the mouth, knocking out several of his teeth, and leaving him insensible on the floor; the defendant afterwards threw stones at the complainant’s windows. For this outrage he was fined by the magistrates £3 with costs, in default of payment to be committed for two months.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/5/1845

“*Isaac Fisher*, an alehouse keeper, of Gornal, was summoned for suffering disorderly conduct in his house on the night of the 26th ult. but was cautioned and ordered to pay expenses only.”

Charles Henry Cartwright Hughes was born in the 2nd quarter of 1848.

Isaac Fisher, beer retailer, Lower Gornal. [1849], [1850], [1870]

1851 Census

Lower Gornal

- [1] *Isaac Fisher* (67), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Fisher (59), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Elizabeth Fisher (18), daughter, house duty, born Sedgley;
- [4] Thomas Fisher (15), son, stone miner, born Sedgley;

1861 Census

Main Street, Lower Gornal

- [1] *Isaac Fisher* (77), widower, publican, born Lower Gornal:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1863

“Yesterday Mr. T. M. Phillips, Coroner, held an inquest at the house of Mr. *Fisher*, the CHAPEL HOUSE, relative to the sad death of a girl named Honor Bennett, aged ten years. Sarah Fellows, who is about the same age as the deceased deposed that on Thursday last, about mid-day, deceased was near the canal, close by Foster’s Works, when, the wind being so very boisterous, deceased was blown into the water. She (witness) screamed for help, but the assistance her cries brought was to no avail, for the deceased sank in the water, and when got out was dead. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

“The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30 Licensed Victuallers.....

John Worton, CHAPEL HOUSE, Gornal.”

1871 Census

89, Ruiton Street – CHAPEL HOUSE

- [1] *John Worton* (30), licensed victualler and bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Eliza Worton* (32), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Worton* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John Worton* (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Thurza Worton* (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *William Worton* (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Emily Bate* (14), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Benjamin Handley* (56), widower, lodger, labourer, born Shropshire:

Dudley Herald 13/4/1872 - Advert

“Sale old licensed public house, large garden and premises called the CHAPEL HOUSE in the occupation of *John Wootton*, situate in Lower Gornal.....”

Caroline Bickley = *Caroline Vickler* = *Caroline Oakley*

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

“Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court.....

The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent *McCrea* presenting his annual ‘black list.’ In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act. The names of the offending licensed victuallers were.....

Caroline Oakley, CHAPEL HOUSE, Lower Gornal.....

The committee stated that the licenses of all the persons contained in the ‘list’ would be suspended until the adjourned licensing sessions, to be held on the 26th proximo.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions. These Sessions were held yesterday.....

There were in the list of applicants two more names, those of *Caroline Oakley*, CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal; and *David Walters*, GATE HANGS WELL, Coseley; but these licenses were not renewed because the parties did not appear in Court to answer their names.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/11/1873

“*Charles Henry Cartwright Hughes*, landlord of the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house. A police-man stated that he visited the house on the 4th inst, and found several men drinking in the house, four of whom were drunk. Another policeman corroborated this statement, and the defendant was fined £5 and cost.”

Dudley Herald 1/1/1876

“Epitome Of Local Events For 1875. 22nd November.

At the Sedgley Police Court, *Benjamin Smith*, landlord of the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal, was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness in his house.”

Dudley Herald 12/2/1876

“*Benjamin Smith*, of the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal, was charged with allowing drunkenness in his house, on the 29th ult. Police-constables *Rowland* and *Moffatt* visited the house, and found ten or twelve persons drinking there. A person named *Joseph Whitehouse* was in a drunken state in the tap room, and on getting up, reeled about and had to be assisted home. The son of the defendant said he only supplied *Whitehouse* with one pint of ale, and that was all the defendant had in the house, and he then appeared sober, and witness was not aware he was drunk. A conviction for permitting drunkenness was proved against the same defendant in November last.

Fined £5 and costs, the Court saying that they would not endorse the license on that occasion.”

County Express 17/6/1876 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale. On Monday June 19th, 1876, CHAPEL HOUSE, Lower Gornal.

To Publicans, Brokers And Others.

Mr. *John Bent* will Sell by Auction, on Monday, June 19th, 1876 (under a Bill of Sale,) the whole of the Public-house Fixtures, Brewing Plant, Trade Utensils, and Household Furniture, consisting of Wrought and Cast iron Boilers, Cooling Vats, Bearers and

Piping, 14 Bushel Malt Tub, Wort Sieve, Coolers and Tubs, capital Malt Crusher, well-seasoned Ale Casks, Hogsheads and Half Hogshead ditto, Pocket and a Half of Prime Worcester Hops 1875, Gathering Tubs, Four-pull Beer machine, Taps and Piping, Cup and Glass Shelving, Pewter Ale Measures, Jugs, Cups, and Ale Glasses, Screens, Benches, Drinking Tables, Gas Fittings and Piping, Licenses, Stock of Ale, Garden Produce, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Benjamin Smith*.
Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock prompt."

London Gazette 20/6/1876

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley.
In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Benjamin Smith*, of the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.
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 house of Mr. Joshua Cartwright, the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal aforesaid, Innkeeper, on the 3rd day of July, 1876, at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon precisely.
Dated this 17th day of June 1876.
Gould and Elcock, Stourbridge, Solicitors for the said *Benjamin Smith*."

County Express 2/9/1876

"At the Sedgley Police Court on Tuesday, John Cartwright, fruiterer, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal, on the 20th inst. Defendant was fined £2 and costs for being drunk and 5s and costs for refusing to quit.
William Middleton was also fined £2 and costs for a similar offence.
Edward Slater was also fined £1 and costs."

County Advertiser 29/6/1878 - Advert

"To be Let, Two of the Best Old-Licensed Public-Houses.
The CHAPEL HOUSE, Lower Gornal; selling over 200 gallons a week; coming-in £50; and
The COCK INN, Harts Hill, one of the best houses in the district.
Apply to Mr. Isaac Richards, COCK INN, Harts Hill, who is retiring from all business."

Dudley Herald 26/4/1879 - Advert

"CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal.
To Be Let, extensive premises, Brewing Plant; Full Licensed; In-coming £100; Rent £20.
Jas. Whitehouse, Auctioneer and Valuer, High Street, Dudley."

Ann Corker = Ann Cawker

Dudley and District News 9/12/1882

"Jas. Ball (17), James Green (16), both labourers, residing in Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, and George Hunt (17), labourer, Strickley Road, Lower Gornal, were charged with stealing a quantity of oat straw, the property of William Foster, of the Straits and Woodsetton; *Ann Cawker*, of the CHAPEL HOUSE, Ruiton Street, was charged with feloniously receiving the straw. Mr. W. H. Tinsley appeared for *Cawker*.
The evidence showed that on the night of the 30th ult. the prisoners broke into the prosecutor's barn and took a quantity of oat straw, and afterwards sold it to *Cawker*.
In reply to the Bench, PC Sutton stated that upon apprehending the youths, Hunt said 'I took the straw by the directions of Mrs. *Cawker*, and she gave me a quart of ale for it.'
The three youths pleaded guilty, and Mr. Tinsley urged that the justices could not convict *Cawker* of receiving the straw with felonious intent, as she gave the youths a quart of ale, which was the full value of the straw.
Hunt and Green stated that whilst they were drinking the ale, they told *Cawker* that they had stolen the straw.
The Bench fined Hunt £1 and costs, and Green and Ball 10s and costs each. *Cawker* was remanded until Wednesday, when the case was dismissed."

Thomas Turner died on 13th March 1884.

Darlaston Weekly Times 17/5/1884

"At Bilston, yesterday, the following license transfers were granted.....
CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal, from the executors of *Thomas Turner* to *A. C. Turner*."

Annie Cox Turner married Joseph John Darby in 1886.

Richard Cartwright died on the 10th May 1888.

Birmingham Daily Post 8/10/1890

"At the Police Court, yesterday, *Thomas Fox*, 90, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, applied for the transfer to himself of the license of the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Ruiton, from *Mary Cartwright*. Chief-superintendent Longden opposed the application stating

that sometime ago, when *Fox* kept the BLACK HORSE INN, Bilston, that house was very badly conducted. The application was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/10/1890

“At Bilston Police Court, yesterday.....

Mr. Gillespie, of Walsall, made an application for the transfer of the license of the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Rinton, from *Mary Cartwright* to *Thomas Fox*, landlord of the NAVIGATION INN, West Bromwich. A previous application on behalf of the applicant’s son for a transfer was granted conditionally upon *Fox* promising that his son should not visit the house.”

Dudley Herald 15/11/1890 - Advert

“For sale CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Ruiton Street Home brewed house Rent £10 8s 0d per annum Tap Room, Bar, Parlour, Four Bedrooms, Two Cellars, Brewhouse, Washhouse, together with Piggery, Outbuildings and Extensive Gardens....”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1891

“At Bilston yesterday, *Charles Evans*, landlord for the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, applied for the license of the CHAPEL HOUSE, Ruiton, to be transferred from *Thomas Fox* to himself. It was explained that the applicant had bought the CHAPEL HOUSE, and intended to live there, and obtain a tenant for the JOLLY CRISPIN INN. Chief-superintendent Longden objected to the transfer, on the ground that the applicant intended to hold both licenses. The application was refused.”

The name was changed to MINERS ARMS in the licensing register on 10th February 1891.

Charles Evans was a brewer.

1891 Census

89, Ruiton Street

- [1] *Charles Evans* (34), licensed victualler, born Netherton;
- [2] Prudence Evans (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth A. Evans* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Prudence B. Evans (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Charles Evans (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Patience Hickman (20), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 9/6/1891

“Yesterday, at Sedgley Police Court – before Mr. Homer and Mr. Wilkes – Igal Allen, ginger beer maker, High Street, Dudley, was charged under the Merchandise Marks Act with selling ginger beer in bottles bearing other manufacturer’s trade marks or names. Mr. Jesse Herbert (instructed by the Birmingham and Midland Mineral-water Trade Protection Society; and Mr. Frank Deeley defended.

Mr. Herbert said it was not a question of fraud or of supplying an inferior article; it was an offence against the Act to put water in another person’s bottles. Mr. Igal Allen could not plead ignorance of the law, for he had previously apologised to the society for a similar offence, and on withdrawal of the proceedings he had paid the costs, and promised not to repeat the offence.

John Poole, bottle inspector of the society, said he went to the house of *Charles Evans*, MINERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, and there found a box with the defendant’s name on twenty-four bottles of mineral-water, and not one of the bottles bore the named of Igal Allen. Mrs. *Evans* said she bought the water from Mr. Allen.

Charles Groves, mineral-water manufacturer, Coseley, said the bottles produced from Mr. Allen’s box bore his (Mr. Grover’s) trademark, and was his property.

By Mr. Deeley: He did not consider it usual for a licensed victualler to put bottles out of one case into another to make room. By such a course there might be bottles with two names in one case.

Mrs. *Evans*, the landlady, said she bought off Mr. Allen, Mr. Marsh, and Mr. A. Allen. Her husband bought the box in the present case from Mr. Igal Allen.

By Mr. Deeley: Sometimes his half-boxes were made into one to make room in the bar.

For the defence Mr. Deeley submitted that no evidence had been given that his client, Igal Allen, sold the ginger beer, for Mr. *Evans* had not been called, and Mrs. *Evans* was not present at any such sale, if one took place. Further than this, the woman admitted that bottles were sometimes changed for convenience.

He called the defendant, Igal Allen, who swore that he filled the bottles delivered on the morning in question, but not one of them contained anything but his own manufacture, and all twenty-four had his name on. He was not a member of the association, but he had returned hundreds of strange bottles to the society.

By Mr. Herbert: He would swear that the bottles produced in court with Mr. Groves’s name on was not in the box when it left his place in Dudley. None of the twenty-four bottles had any other name on but his or his father’s (E. Allen), which was the same thing. He had heard it sworn in court that day that not one of the twenty-four had his name on; but he would still swear that all the bottles in the box he supplied to *Evans* on the day in question bore his name or his dead father’s.

This was the case, re Groves. The Bench considered the charge proved and fined defendant £5 and costs.

Mr. Herbert said that with respect to the other charges (eleven) against the defendant, the society, with the assent of the Bench would withdraw them on payment of the costs. The Bench expressed their willingness that that should be so. Mr. Herbert thanked the Bench and asked for counsels’ fee, which was granted. The fine and costs amounted to nearly £13.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/6/1893

“Last evening Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the MINERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, respecting the death of William Ernest Ball (18), Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. It appeared that on Monday afternoon Ball and two other young men were bathing in what is known as the Stone Bridge Extension Canal, when deceased, who was unable to swim, got out of his depth and was drowned before effective assistance could be rendered him. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1901 Census

89, Ruiton Street – CHAPEL HOUSE INN

- [1] *Benjamin Evans* (54), colliery engine driver (above ground), born Dudley;
- [2] Sarah Evans (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Joseph Evans (22), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Rhoda Evans (16), daughter, none, born Sedgley;
- [5] John Evans (14), son, stoker at colliery engine (above ground), born Sedgley;
- [6] Francis Evans (11), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] William Evans (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] Enoch Evans (15), nephew, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Prudence Evans (13), niece, born Sedgley;
- [10] Charles Evans (11), nephew, born Sedgley;
- [11] Lucy Jones (23), general servant, born Sedgley;

Tipton Herald 26/9/1903

“On Tuesday se’night an invitation supper was given to a number of friends by Mr. *John Hickman*, MINERS ARMS INN, Lower Gornal. About 40 sat down to an excellent repast, ably served by Mrs. *John Hickman*. After the cloths were removed Mr. Alex Paterson was elected to the chair, and Mr. Evans to the vice chair. The following programme was ably rendered: Song, ‘Sailing,’ Mr. John Jones; song, ‘Mother,’ Mr. Peter Mason; song, ‘Marguerite,’ Mr. Tom Cartwright; recitation, ‘The Newsboy,’ Mr. George Brockton; song, ‘The Lost Chord,’ Mr. John Clark jun; song, ‘Annie Laurie,’ Mr. Paterson; song, ‘The Anchor’s Weighed;’ duet, ‘Larboard Watch,’ Messrs. Henry Marsh and Jim Bradley. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. and Mrs. *John Hickman*, the chairman, and vice-chairman, and to the visitors.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1904

“Alfred Goode, miner, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, was charged with assaults. He went to the MINERS ARMS INN, Lower Gornal, and being the worse for drink was ordered to leave. He refused to go and assaulted the landlord and two policemen, who were called. For the assault on the landlord he was sentenced to 14 days, for assaulting the police one months’ hard labour, and for refusing to quit 10s and costs.”

Elizabeth Ann Evans married James Henry *Bellamy* on 4th August 1906.

1911 Census

89, Ruiton Street

- [1] James H. Bellamy (28), electrician, born Tipton;
- [2] *Elizabeth Bellamy* (26), wife, married 4 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] John Albert Bellamy (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] John Enoch Evans (25), brother in law, brewer at own account, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary E. Davies (19), general servant, born Sedgley;

County Express 9/9/1911 - Advert

“To Brewers, Wine and Spirit Merchants, Maltsters, and Others.

The Estate of the late Mr. *Charles Evans*, to close the Trust.

Important Announcement of Sale By Auction of a Valuable Fully-licensed Freehold Public-House, The MINERS ARMS INN, or more commonly known as The CHAPEL HOUSE, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, situate in a populous district and doing a first-class trade, particulars of which may be obtained on the premises.

Ernest Davies has been favoured with instruction from the Representatives of the late Mr. *Charles Evans*, to Sell By Auction, upon the Premises, on Tuesday, September 19th, 1911, at 7 o’clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale, the above Substantially-erected Double-fronted Fully-Licensed property, containing Entrance Hall, Tap Passage, Smoke Room, Serving Bar, long Club Room, Living Room, Three Bed Rooms, Spirit Room, Stores, and Two Large Cellars. In Paved Yard at back, with Side Entrance from Ruiton Street, are recently-erected Outbuildings and well-fitted Brewery, the whole being self-contained and in good condition.

At the rear of the above, with separate entrance thereto, is a large and productive garden, which, at small cost could easily be converted into a Bowling Green, for which, in this district there is a growing demand.

The House has been in the hands of the present family for upwards of 20 years, and the Sale affords to Brewers, Licensees, and Others an exceptional opportunity of acquiring an excellent property with a valuable connection.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs W. A. and H. M. Foster, Solicitors, Wolverhampton; or the Auctioneer, 188, High Street, Dudley.”

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. John Groves.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. Davies.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston(Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. *Enoch Smart*.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Isaac Smart.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Joshua Bradley.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Beerhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley.”

Enoch Smart was fined 5s and costs, on 7th December 1914 for supplying liquor to a child under 14, without having the vessel sealed and corked.

He was fined 26s and costs for the same offence on 5th February 1917.

Birmingham Daily Post 8/5/1915 - Advert

“Under A Deed Of Assignment.

Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Preliminary Announcement Of Sale By Auction of Eleven Freehold, Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises & Dwelling Houses in and around Darlaston, Sedgley, Coseley, Bilston, Tipton, Ackleton, and Bridgnorth.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from R. H. Jonson, Esq. (Messrs. Muras and Co., Chartered Accountants, Wolverhampton), the Trustees as above, to Sell by Auction early in June, the following Properties.

The PRINCE OF WALES INN, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-On).

The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (Fully Licensed), and Two Cottages.

The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (Fully Licensed), and Two Dwelling Houses.

The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-On).

The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and Two Cottages.

The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and five Dwelling Houses.

The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (Fully Licensed).

The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley, (Beerhouse-On).

The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-On).

The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-On).

The Folly Inn, Ackleton, 5½ miles from Bridgnorth and Albrighton, and about 10 miles from Wolverhampton (Beerhouse-On), with Cottage Residence.

The Castle Brewery, Bridgnorth, with Fixed Plant.

Further particulars will appear in future announcements.

Auctioneer's Offices, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. (Tele.56)."

Catalogue for Auction on 2/6/1915

"Under a Deed of Assignment. Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Eleven Freehold Fully Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises and Dwelling Houses.....

The following Eleven Licensed Houses, Three of which are Fully-Licensed and Eight On-Beerhouses, together with the Brewery, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time and are situated in well populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of some of the largest works in Staffordshire, and as they are being offered by direction of the Trustee under a Deed of Assignment, a fine opportunity presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrellage or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade, of acquiring houses which as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, doing genuine trades, and possession of which may be obtained in most cases upon completion and otherwise at early dates afterwards.....

Lot 2. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (Fully-Licensed).

Let on short tenancy at a rental of £35 0s 0d per annum. An excellent Home-Brewing Public House containing Entrance Passage running from front to back, Bar 13' x 10' 6", Smoke Room 12' 6" x 8", Club Room 20' x 10', Kitchen, Pantry, Three Bedrooms and Cellars, together with Brewery, Yard, and large Garden having entry approach; also the Two excellent Brick-built and Tile-roofed Cottages adjoining, being Numbers 90 and 91, Ruiton Street, each containing Three Rooms, Coalhouse, Pantry, party Brewhouse, Piggeries and large Garden, as let and together producing the gross annual rental of £13 4s 2d."

[Sold to Higgs for £600.]

Birmingham Daily Post 4/6/1915

"At Wolverhampton on Wednesday Messrs. W. Dando and Co. of Dudley offered for sale a number of licensed houses in the Black Country, and the lots disposed of realised a total of £6,835....

The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, a fully-licensed house, let at £35 per annum, together with two cottages producing £13 4s 2d gross, fetched £600."

South Staffordshire Times 26/1/1924

"Five defendants figured in a case on a summons that on January 13th in Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, they conducted themselves in a disorderly manner.

The defendants were John Davies (20), The Alley, Gornal Wood; George Harris (27), Brook Street, Gornal Wood; Joseph Bradley (22), Brook Street, Gornal Wood; Daniel Perry, Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal; and Enoch Morris (27), Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal.

PC Kirkham said about 10.20pm he saw all the defendants behaving in a disorderly manner in Ruiton Street. They were shouting and using obscene language. They had just emerged from the MINERS ARMS, and he advised them to go home. They persisted, however, in staying there and shouting for some time.

The following fines were imposed: John Davies 5s 6d, George Harris 15s, Joseph Bradley 12s 6d, Daniel Perry 20s, and Enoch Morris 15s."

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

"Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions MINERS ARMS (Lake Street), Lower Gornal, £1 14s 2d."

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

28, Ruiton Street

[1] Alice Walker, date of birth 2/4/1891, manageress, widowed;

[2] Gladys (Walker) Fellows, dob 25/4/1923, bar general, single;

[3] Sarah (Walker) Leggett, dob 2/2/1869, unpaid domestic duties, single:

Enoch Smart died on 23rd November 1944.

He was married to Sarah.

'Do You Remember' by John R. Stenson

".....As you entered, there was an outdoor that faced you, with a children's room to the right and the bar to your left. This was a nice cosy pub where the son in law Harold was a barman, Harold being the goalkeeper for Gornal football club."

Thomas Booth died on 6th October 1954.

Jim Hollis was a locally known boxer and footballer (he played in goal for Lower Gornal Athletic). He served in the Royal Navy until 1946. He was married to Doris.

Sarah Pritchard was the daughter of Keith Walker (see GREAT WESTERN, Wolverhampton). She married Fred Pritchard.

It reopened on 15th May 2013 as the CHAPEL HOUSE.

Dudley News 13/9/2016

"A Bostin time can be had at the new CHAPEL HOUSE pub in Gornal thanks to its new Black Country born and bred management style.

The establishment in Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, is thought to be the oldest in the town after being first registered as a drinking house in 1834 but used since at least 1820 by a group of local Methodists, known as the Gornal Ranters, who used the back room for their meetings, but it has now been given a new lease of life for 2016 and onwards after *James Steven* and Katie Ann took over the reins and reopened for business on Friday, August 26.

James said, 'We reopened it, cleaned it up, refurbished it. It's a Holden's pub – the oldest pub, we think, in Gornal. It was first registered as a drinking house in 1834. People used to come drink beer and say prayers, and now they come and drink beer and swear, so it's kind of full circle.'

Those familiar with Black Country drinking, music, and heritage will know *James* thanks to his tireless work as the chairman of the Black Country Beer Festival, musician in local indie band The Empty Can, and writer of the Black Country anthem. And now he is hell-bent on preserving the drinking history of the pub.

'The pub closed for basically a week while we tidied it up, but it's been in a state of hiatus for about a year – it's been thrown between different gaffers and stuff, but now the brewery have taken it back as a managed house,' *James* said. 'It's never been a managed house before, and brewers are looking to do that a lot more because tenancies are expensive.'

Managed pubs are run by managers who work for a pub chain, in this case Holden's, while the landlords of tenanted establishments rent the building and its fixtures from a pub company or a brewer.

'Even though it is as a managed pub we are working with Holden's to bring the pub back to its former glory. It just needed a bit of love. The CHAPEL HOUSE is going to get a total refurb and rehaul between now and Christmas and it's going to be the nicest little pub in Gornal,' *James* added.

The CHAPEL HOUSE has introduced a new, frequently changing menu of food, including homemade ale cobs, baked using Holden's ale instead of water, and 'Gornish' pasties, live music Fridays, which sees The Empty Can make their debut in their home venue this Friday (September 16), Sunday jam nights, and occasional FIFA and poker nights."

[Our research does not support this being the oldest pub in Gornal.]

Dudley Chronicle 5/1/2017

"A community pub has returned to its look of nearly 200 years ago – after a revamp uncovered stunning hidden stonework.

The CHAPEL HOUSE, which has served the people of Gornal since 1830, reopened in August under a new team management of *James Stevens* and his partner Rachel Slater, Katie Ann Round and her partner Ben Parkes.

Work to update the exterior revealed a beautiful sandstone frontage which was hidden behind modern cladding. Mr. *Stevens* says the renovated look has delighted punters – and he himself is happy with the find, which he labelled 'a happy accident'....."

Express & Star 16/7/2019

"A pub landlord says trade has been hit after claiming a series of roadwork projects effectively left it cut off to traffic. The CHAPEL HOUSE pub, in Lower Gornal, has seen a downturn in trade, claims the pub's landlord *James Stevens*. Ruiton Street has been blocked off on various occasions for roadworks including on a burst water main. And further works are due to be held in Vale Street in the coming weeks. Dudley Council says it is working with South Staffs Water to minimise disruption. But Mr. *Stevens*, who manages the Holden's-owned pub, says the organisations are not communicating. He said, 'I've got a lovely pub, but I might as well put it on the moon. It's certainly got us scratching our chins – how are you expected to trade if they have shut down your area? And people wonder why pubs are shutting down – you can't afford to lose your margins. We're a community pub, so our regulars help and support us. My bug-bear was that less fortunate pubs than ourselves would have shut. Some pubs could not afford three months of this and it would shut them down.'

A section of Ruiton Street, where it meets Robert Street, has been closed off because new homes are being built. And Vale Street, at the very top of the road, will also be closed for more roadworks during the school holidays. The roads leading to the pub, which has been there since 1834, have been worked on since April, says Mr. *Stevens*. He has called for agencies to communicate better in future. The 42-year-old said, 'I think the lesson to be learned – I don't know if it's possible, but there needs to be communication between agencies. The work needs to be co-ordinated better.'

Mike Morris, network performance manager at South Staffs Water, said, 'We carried out emergency works to repair a burst main

in Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal for two days in May 2019. Although the road already had traffic management set up for the gas improvement works, we had to set up our own temporary traffic management as our work was in a different area of the road covered by the gas improvement works. We completed the work within two days, but are sorry for any inconvenience caused during that time.'

Dudley Council cabinet member, Councillor Karen Shakespeare, who oversees highways, added, 'Supporting local businesses is something that is very important to us. We have done our very best to communicate about the road closure in Ruiton Street to residents and motorists in a number of different ways, while ensuring pedestrian access is maintained to allow continued footfall through to the pub on the other side. We do have regular meetings with utility providers and agencies to co-ordinate roadworks to minimise disruption. The forthcoming closure on Vale Street, for instance, will see both the council and South Staffs Water carry out work at the same time. It has also been programmed to take place during the school summer holidays when traffic flows are lighter, and after the completion of the works on Ruiton Street to minimise disruption. While we understand the frustration and inconvenience that roadworks inevitably cause, the net result will see a number of new homes built, bringing new residents into the village and potentially new customers for the pub which is just over the road.'"

Express & Star 30/9/2020

"'Pubs are the backbone of Britain. And they need a fighting chance to make a profit. If the rules don't change, they won't survive.' Pub landlord *James Stevens* is petitioning the Government to change the rules so pubs can provide bar service again – currently under the new Covid regulations, pubs and restaurants must shut at 10pm and they can only provide table service. But *James*, who runs the CHAPEL HOUSE in Gornal, said for small pubs like his, it's been a real worry. 'We can hold 32 people with the new restrictions, it was about 70 to 80 before with the beer garden but we can't open that now as it can't be policed,' he said. 'With these new rules, you can't put a one size fits all policy on all the pubs – some pubs can take 120 odd people. But these smaller pubs, proper community pubs, they won't survive. The wage bill can't be met.' The 43-year-old said the rules means he has to have a member of staff on table service, rather than just one behind the bar all night – meaning more wages to pay....."

Express & Star 10/11/2023

"A Lower Gornal pub that dates back 188 years is to reopen in time for the busy Christmas season. The CHAPEL HOUSE in Ruiton Street has been shut since October 1 for a £100,000 refurbishment. The pub's licensee *James Stevens* said that Holden's Brewery and the Woodsetton Pub Company were paying for the complete upgrade. 'We are aiming to reopen on November 29. The pub really needed some TLC – after all it is nearly 200 years old,' he said.....

Mr. *Stevens* said improvements included a new stage area and darts area. 'We are going to continue to offer live music performances. Any musicians that would like to perform here can contact us through our Facebook page,' he added. He also hopes to get a new darts team set up for the community pub. The CHAPEL HOUSE will be opening all day on Fridays after the reopening."

[2023]

CLIFTON

Bull Ring, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

J. D. Wetherspoon (acquired in 1998)

LICENSEES

Ian Holdstock (1998 – [2000])
Mark Carter [2001] manager
Albert Barton [2001] manager
Neil Jones [2009] manager
Sarah Foster [2017]
Tom Smith [] – 2018);
David Cator (2018 – []

NOTES

The building was originally the Clifton Cinema.

[Sedgley Heritage Trail \(August 2019\)](#)

“The Art Deco-inspired Clifton Cinema was opened 17th May 1937, and replaced Hilton and Caswell’s builders’ yard and house as well as a butcher’s shop and abattoir. Originally designed with buildings on the south side including a café, it is reputed to have provided meals as part of Churchill’s British Restaurants programme. It closed as a cinema in June 1978 and became a bingo club until bought by Wetherspoons in 1998. Rumour has it that the ghost of a little girl runs around the kitchen and the still intact auditorium at night.”

It opened on 17th December 1998 at a cost of £920,000.

Ian Holdstock was born in Birmingham.

Wetherspoon News December 2001

“Wetherspoon has won recognition for its efforts in making its pubs accessible to people with a range of disabilities. The company’s staff, in particular, were praised for their attitude and helpfulness in dealing with customers with disabilities. The company was a finalist in the pubs and restaurants category of the national EASE awards – Ease of Access, Service and Employment. The awards, which are now in their fifth year, are organised by Queen Elizabeth’s Foundation for Disabled People, which assists more than 100,000 people each year through training, education, care and advice.

Members of the public were asked to nominate companies they felt were demonstrating good practice with regard to disabled people. A number [9] of individual Wetherspoon pubs were praised and nominated by their customers.....

CLIFTON, Sedgley.....”

It was closed briefly in 2009, after a firebomb attack in October.

A second fire bomb attack took place on 18th December 2009.

Dudley News 18/12/2009

“Fire Fighters have been battling a blaze at a Sedgley pub this morning.

The fire at The CLIFTON on the Bull Ring, is the second arson attack at the premises in eight weeks. An alarm alerted the emergency services to the fire at 5.10am, where fire crews found ten per cent of the bar area in flames. 80 per cent of the rest of the building was smoke logged. The surrounding area was sealed off as crews from Bilston, Dudley, Tipton and Wolverhampton battled the blaze. The pub has only just re-opened following the previous fire which took place on Friday October 23, at 4.55am. During the first investigation, officers found a side window had been smashed and around six bottles, believed to contain an accelerant, were found at the scene. Early stages of investigations are currently ongoing to find the exact cause of the latest fire, and it is not known whether the two arson attacks are linked.

Acting Detective Inspector Chris Fox, from Brierley Hill CID, said, ‘The nature of both of these attacks is causing us to link the incidents, at this early stage of investigations. Both fires were deliberately started, with a window being smashed and then the offender has started the blaze. The fires have caused significant damage to the pub, and a great deal of disruption to the business. It will also greatly affect local revellers out over the festive season. Our enquiries into both incidents continue and we urge anyone who saw anything, or anyone acting suspiciously, around 5am this morning to get in touch’.”

Closed

It reopened on 28th January 2010.

Dudley News 25/11/2017

“Dudley News 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.....

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

“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.”

[2021]

COSELEY TAVERN

Caddick Street / 15, (16), (20), Upper Ettingshall Road, (Coppice Road), (1, Sodom Road), Hurst Hill, (Coppice), (Ettingshall), COSELEY

OWNERS

Henry Eachus, dissenting minister, Coseley
David Millard
Mary Jane (Millard) Ward
Julia Hanson and Son Ltd.
InnSpired [2004]

LICENSEES

John Beardmore [1833] – 1863);
Joseph Beardmore (1863 – 1892);
Sarah (Beardmore) Purchase (1892 – 1894);
Mrs. Jane Attwood (1894 – 1896);
Joseph Millington (1896 – 1900);
Jane Millington (1900 – 1901);
David Attwood (1901 – 1902);
Mrs. Rhoda Attwood (1902 – 1904);
William Perry (1904 – 1906);
Rhoda Attwood (1906 – 1907);
David Millard Jnr. (1907 – 1923);
Mrs. Mary Jane (Millard) Ward (1923 – 1933);
Carl Allan Davies (1933 – [1940])
Howard Ernest Shepherd (1977 – 1982);
Terry Hall* (1982 – [])
Terry Wall* [1993] – [1995]

NOTES

Ettingshall [1849]
Coppice Road [1861], [1912], [1932], [1940]
1, Sodom Road [1871]
20, Upper Ettingshall Road [1881]
16, Upper Ettingshall Road [1891]
15, Upper Ettingshall Road [1901]
Coppice [1904]

John Beardmore = John Beardsmore

John Beardmore, retail brewer, Coppice. [1833]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/10/1839 - Advert

“Coal And Ironstone Mines, near Deepfield, Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by R. S. Walker, at the House of Mr. *John Beardsmore*, the COSELEY TAVERN, situate at a place called Coppice, in the parish of Sedgley and county of Stafford, on Friday, the 18th day of October, 1839, at five o'clock in the afternoon, and subject to conditions which will be then read.

All the Mines, Veins, Seams, and Strata of Coal, Ironstone, and Fire Clay which remain ungotten, lying and being with and under all that close, piece, or parcel of Land, situate near to and at the back of the COSELEY TAVERN, containing about five acres (but the exact measure will be ascertained before the sale), having the Fire Clay Brick Works of Mr. Waterhouse on the west, and the land and mines of Sir D. H. St. Paul, Bart, on the north.

N.B. It is believed the Land contains the Thick Coal Pillars, great part of White Stone, the New Mine Coal, Fire Clay Coal, and

Fire Clay, and all the other measures of Coal and Ironstone down to and including, the Blue Flat Ironstone; and six shafts are sunk upon the Land down to the White Stone.

For further particulars apply to Mr. John Thompson, of the Deepfield; or to Mr. Daniel Whitehouse, of Coseley Mill Bank, who will show the property; to the Auctioneer, Wolverhampton; or at the office of Mr. William, solicitor, Bilston.”

1841 Census

Coppice

[1] *John Beardmore* (45), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Ann Beardmore* (55), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Sarah Beardmore* (25), born Staffordshire;

[4] *Joseph Beardmore* (10), born Staffordshire;

[5] *Sarah Perks* (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Illustrated London News 25/1/1845

“On Tuesday an inquest was held at the COSELEY TAVERN, Coseley, Staffordshire, on the body of Benjamin Smith, a miner, whose death, with that of two other men, was caused by an enormous fall of earth in a mine where they were working. The accompanying statement, given before the coroner by one of the survivors, contains a fearful narrative of the conditions of the workmen after the accident, and of the preservation of one man.

Joseph Parkes said: I live at Coseley, and am a miner. On Friday last I was at work with the deceased, Benjamin Smith (who was about thirty-two years old, and a miner living at Coseley), in a coal-pit at the Fox Yards, in the parish of Tipton, and while we were at work, a quantity of clod and earth fell in, to the amount of more than a thousand tons, and almost every man in the pit was stopped up. Some of the men were a distance off, and got clear away; but the deceased, myself, and four others, were stopped in one of the hollows. Great exertions were made to get us out. Several tons of stuff were soon removed, and in about an hour one of the six men was got out badly hurt, but he is still alive. Another was got out soon after without much injury. As fast as the miners got the stuff away more fell in, but in the course of the day all the remaining men, excepting myself, were got out, but I was not got out till about ten o'clock that night. I was not at all hurt, but was very weak through the damp and confinement, and being without food. I had not had anything to eat from the previous night, so that I was more than 24 hours without tasting it. I was quite sensible all the time, and conversed with all the men. I talked with Smith as long as he lived, which was about an hour and a half, as near as I can guess, after the stuff fell in. Two other men were killed. One of them lived about an hour, and the other man about an hour and a half. I was afraid to stir, although I saw my suffering companions close to me nearly buried in the earth. It was light a part of the time from a candle, but after it went out we were in darkness all the time. Some of the men had their arms wedged down, and asked me to remove the clods from their mouths to allow them to breathe, and I did so several times although it endangered my own life, as the stuff continued falling. Other corroborative evidence was given, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

[This was national news and appeared in newspapers all around the country.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/3/1845

“The following inquisitions have been taken before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

At the COSELEY TAVERN, on the body of Mary Jane Careless, a child about two years old, whose death was caused by her being pushed into a gaun of boiling hot water, while at play with another child. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/7/1847

“On Monday last, an inquest was held at the COSELEY TAVERN, Coseley, on the body of Thomas Wilkes, 18 years of age, a miner, who was at work on Saturday night, in a coal-pit, the property of Lord Ward, in the parish of Sedgley, when a large quantity of coal fell upon him, and completely covered his body. The coal was shortly afterwards removed, but the unfortunate young man was found to be quite dead. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/8/1848 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Ettingshall, Near Can Lane And Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, at the house of Mr. *Beardsmore*, called the COSELEY TAVERN, at Coseley, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of August, 1848, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to such conditions of sale as will be then read.

A very Substantially built Freehold Malthouse, a newly erected Screw Manufactory, with commodious Messuage, Shops, Mill Offices, and Warehouse adjoining.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/11/1848

“On Thursday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the COSELEY TAVERN, Coseley, on the body of John Morris, fourteen years of age, who on the 19th of October, was at work in the hollows of a coal pit belonging to Mr. Henry Whitehouse, coalmaster, and whilst in the act of depositing some dirt against the bottom of a pillar, a quantity of clod fell from the roof upon him, knocked him down, crushed the back of his head, and cut his lip open. Deceased rolled from under the clod, when he was picked up quite insensible. He lingered until Monday, the 23rd of the same month, when he died. The witnesses examined at the inquest stated that the pit was properly propped with timber, and that the occurrence was quite accidental. Verdict accordingly.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/3/1850

“On Thursday week, an inquest was held at the COSELEY TAVERN, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of William Hughes, about six years of age, son of Samuel Hughes, of the Coppice, collier. The boy was found on the previous Monday evening, by a little girl, standing in front of the fire, in his father’s house, with his clothes in flames. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Coppice

- [1] *John Beardmore* (58), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Beardmore (70), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Beardmore (35), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Joseph Beardmore* (23), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] George Cox (12), servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] Priscilla Rawton (16), servant, born Dawley, Shropshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1853

“On Tuesday the first anniversary of the Licensed Victuallers’ Protection Society, for the Lower Division of Sedgley, was held at Mr. *Beardmore’s* COSELEY TAVERN, Coseley. There was a large number of the members present. The report of the proceedings of the society was highly satisfactory, and considering that it has been in existence only one year, its success so far has been remarkable, and bids fair to be of great importance for the protection of the licensed victuallers of the district. After the formal business of the day was concluded, the company sat down to a splendid dinner, and under the able chairmanship of Mr. John Taft, assisted by the vice chairman, Mr. Hunt, the members of the society, together with a number of visitors and friends, enjoyed themselves until a late hour.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/8/1853

“Yesterday (Tuesday) at the Bilston Petty Sessions, before James Loxdale, Esq, the adjourned investigation into the affray with the police at Coseley, on the 23rd of last month, was resumed, the injured police officers being sufficiently recovered from the effects of their injuries to give evidence.

Sampson Smith, police-officer, Coseley, deposed that on the night of the 23rd of July, hearing a fight at the Coppice, at Cotterill’s bowling alley, he went there to suppress it, accompanied by police constable Bullock. Saw two men fighting and took hold of one of them, but he was immediately rescued by the crowd. Witness saw the elder Caswell coming out of the Tavern with a poker in his hand, and saw him strike Bullock on the head with it, and knock him down. Witness drew his cutlass, and struck Caswell with it. Before doing so he saw him strike Bullock a second time. Took hold of old Caswell, and was then knocked down and became insensible. On recovering got on his hands and knees, and crawled towards the COSELEY TAVERN. Knocked at the door, and was let in. Witness was severely cross-examined by Mr. Kettle.

James Bullock, the other policeman, corroborated in its principal features the statement of his fellow officer.

David Caddick, farmer and butcher, living opposite Beardman’s [sic] public-house, the Rev. Loftus Graham, of the Coppice, *John Beardmore*, who keeps the COSELEY TAVERN, John Winn, servant to Isaac Caddick, nail factor, and Maurice Costello, the county inspector, were also examined at considerable length.

Mr. Haden, surgeon, deposed to the nature of the injuries received both by the police and the defendants.

This closed the case for the prosecution, when Mr. Loxdale intimated that he considered the affair too serious for summary adjudication, and therefore should send the case to the Sessions.

Mr. Kettle, for the defendants, demurred to this, and urged that both parties ought to be bound over to appear at the Assizes instead, as he considered there were some points involved which should be decided by a higher legal authority than the Bench of Quarter Sessions.

The Court, however, adhered to its original decision.”

Worcester Journal 21/1/1854

“South Staffordshire Election.

Lord Paget has partially continued his canvass during the week, and has addressed meetings in those places which he had not previously visited then proceeded to attend a meeting at the GEORGE AND DRAGON, at Hall Green. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Barlow, chairman of the district committee, Mr. Dimmack, Lord Paget, and Mr. Blackwell. The party then proceeded to the COSELEY TAVERN, and addressed a numerous meeting in the large room of that inn. They subsequently attended another meeting at the COURT HOUSE, at Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/1/1854

“On Monday last, an adjourned inquest was held at the COSELEY TAVERN, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, on the body of Thomas Richards, miner, aged 36, who was killed in a coal mine at Good’s Farm, in the parish of Sedgley, by a fall of coal. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Journal 26/12/1855

“On Monday the Coroner, T. M. Phillips, Esq, held an adjourned inquest at the house of Mr. *John Beardmore*, the COSELEY TAVERN, on the bodies of four persons who lost their lives by the late explosion of gunpowder, by which also three houses were blown down. The *Journal* has previously given the particulars of this catastrophe, which it may be remembered took place on Friday the 14th inst, in a block of houses at Coseley, belonging to Mr. Cotterill. The inquest was originally adjourned from the 15th in order to obtain evidence of one of the injured persons, a girl named Fanny Allen, who was at the time of the explosion

nursing a child in one of the houses that were blown up. The girl was not then sufficiently recovered to be spoken to, and it was presumed that she would be able to give some account of the conduct of the deceased lad, Samuel Miller, prior to his going to the cellar where his body was found, and where the gunpowder was kept. It seems, however, that the girl Allen, who is much better, and is likely to recover, is not able to furnish any satisfactory information in this respect. This information having been given by Sub-inspector Costello to the Coroner and Jury on their reassembling on Monday, the Coroner expressed an opinion that no other evidence in addition to that already received was obtainable, and the Jury being of the same opinion, and also believing that the cause of death was sufficiently apparent and they recorded their verdict was one of Accidental Death.

An opinion was expressed by some of the Jury that there must have been a larger quantity of gunpowder in the cellar than 25lbs, which was stated by Millard on the former occasion to have been there, and as bearing out this opinion Mr. Costello mentioned that one of the neighbours recently saw three or four small barrels; but again, there was but one cask found after the explosion, that being capable of holding half a hundred weight. Blame was attached to the deceased wife for having allowed the lad to go into the cellar; and the husband was also thought blameable for allowing the powder to be kept there. In reply to one of the Jurymen, as to the quantity of gunpowder allowed by law to be kept in a private house, the Coroner said that by the 12th of George III, more than 50lbs could not be kept, nor more than 300lbs in a tradesman's shop. It was said by Mr. Costello (who had consulted the act) that parties keeping quantities exceeding those named were liable to a fine of £200, and 2s per pound for every extra pound in weight. But, he added, the law was imperfect on this point. There had, he continued, been several complaints by landlords against their tenants that were in the habit of keeping powder upon their premises. The landlord, it was said, obtained no compensation in such cases; whether Mr. Cotterill, the owner of the house, obtained any was not mentioned. He was, we believe, insured by one of the Fire Offices. Mr. Costello added, that any person living in the neighbourhood of where gunpowder is kept, and who fears an explosion, can procure a search warrant upon oath before the Magistrates, and have the premises searched. The names and ages of the deceased were, Jane Millard, (the wife), 32; Samuel Millard, 9; Hannah Millard, 7; and Absalom Millard, 11 months."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/7/1856

"The 28th anniversary meeting and dinner of a lodge called the Ancient Order of Druids, was held at the house of Mr. *John Beardmore*, the COSELEY TAVERN, on Monday last. After parading the village, accompanied by a band of music, about sixty of the members sat down to an excellent dinner, which had been prepared by Mr. *Beardmore* in his usual excellent style. In the absence of Mr. Tamlyn, Sedgley, the surgeon to the lodge, the chair was taken by Mr. William Jones, one of the past officers of the society, and the vice-chair by Mr. Thomas Caddick. The secretary, Mr. John Perks, of Sedgley, who has filled his office in a most creditable manner for twenty-eighty years, read a very satisfactory report of the progress of the society, which stated that several new members had joined during the last year. The harmony of the day was much enlivened by the music of the Hallgreen band. Several loyal and patriotic toasts and sentiments were given, and numerous songs sung."

Staffordshire Sentinel 19/7/1856

"An extensive robbery was committed at the house of Mr. David Hughes, situate near the Catholic Chapel, Sedgley, sometime during the night of Thursday or morning of Friday. The following are the particulars: On Monday evening, the 30th June, a committee of members of the Ancient Druids Lodge met at the house of Mr. *John Beardmore*, the COSELEY TAVERN, for the purpose of deciding upon the best means of investing £5 belonging to the society. After some deliberation it was agreed to place it in the savings' bank. It was further resolved upon that David Hughes, one of the members, should hold the money until the following Monday, when the stewards were to take it to the bank. The stewards called for the money, according to the arrangement, but from some cause did not obtain it. On Friday morning last, as Hughes alleges, it was stolen out of a private drawer, in a chest of drawers in his parlour, as well as an iron safe, weighing between 40 and 50 pounds, which stood on the chest of drawers, and contained seven sovereigns and 15s in silver, together with two hams and three fine linen sheets, marked D. Hughes. A chisel was left in the house, which has been identified as belonging to W. B. Whitehouse, Esq., of Hunthill. This led to the apprehension of one of the latter gentlemen's workmen on suspicion of committing the robbery. The most extraordinary feature of the case is, that one of the hams and the iron safe were brought back and left close to the house some time on Sunday night or early Monday morning last. Mr. Hughes is of opinion that those who committed the robbery must have been concealed in the house, and nothing was disturbed or broken, and when he came downstairs the next morning, between four and five o'clock, he found the door and window open and the property missing."

1861 Census

Coppice Road – COSELEY TAVERN

- [1] *John Beardmore* (69), widower, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Joseph Beardmore* (34), son, grocer, master employing 1 man, born Tipton;
- [3] *Jane Beardmore* (28), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Thomas Richards* (14), grocer's assistant, born Wolverhampton:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1861 - Advert

"To Be Let, the excellent Public House and extensive Premises (with Grocery and Provision Shop adjoining), called the COSELEY TAVERN, situate at Coseley, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Beardmore*. The Stock and Furniture to be taken at valuation. For further particulars, and to treat for the same, apply on the premises, or to Messrs. Aston and Sollom's Office, Wolverhampton."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/8/1861

“T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the COSELEY TAVERN, on Monday last, on the body of a collier named Hill, 43 years of age, who had died from the effects of injuries received in one of the Earl of Dudley’s pits at Foxyards. On the 6th instant the deceased was at work in the pit when a fall of coal took place. His left leg was fractured, and his back and chest were injured, and though he had the aid of a medical man he died on Saturday last. There was not the slightest blame to be attached to the ‘doggy’ of the pit, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/2/1862 - Advert

“Eligible Opportunity For Investment.

Newly Erected Public House, Messuage And Shopping, at the Coppice, Coseley.

Mr. Solomon Powell will Sell by Auction (by order of the Mortgagees), on Wednesday, the 26th day of February, 1862, at the house of Mr. *Beardmore*, the COSELEY TAVERN, Coseley, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions.

All that recently erected Public House, with large Nail Shops, Offices, and Yard, situate at the Coppice aforesaid; and three Messuages or Dwelling Houses, adjoining thereto, now or lately occupied by Enoch Guest, Samuel Jackson, and John Smith. Annual rent £40.

Two-thirds of the purchase money may remain on Mortgage if desired.

Any further information may be obtained at the Office of Mr. Hayes, Solicitor, Wolverhampton, or of the Auctioneers, Tipton.”

Joseph Beardmore = Joseph Beardsmore

Joseph Beardmore was also a grocer and provision dealer. [1864], [1873]

Joseph Beardmore was also a provision dealer. [1865], [1892]

Birmingham Daily Post 5/8/1864

“The inquest on the body of the old man (Thomas Caddick) who, it had been alleged, died on Monday night from the violence of his son-in-law (Henry Christian, of Coseley), as detailed in the *Daily Post* of Wednesday, was resumed yesterday, at the COSELEY TAVERN. The prisoner was present in custody.

Mr. John McNab Ballenden deposed that he was a physician, and resided and practiced in the parish. He knew the deceased, who had frequently been a patient of his. He enjoyed good health, and never to his (witness’s) knowledge had had a fit or other attack likely to cause sudden death. On Wednesday forenoon at half-past eleven, thirty-nine hours after death, he made a post mortem examination of the body. Externally it presented the appearance of a strong, robust man, who although he was sixty, yet looked only fifty. The body was considerably altered by changes after death. Round the throat on the front and the sides were some indistinct marks. After describing the condition of lungs, heart, liver and brain, neither of which presented peculiar appearances, Dr. Ballenden said he examined the throat very particularly. He dissected off the skin round the neck, and there found marks of great violence on each side of the throat, the smaller vessels underneath being many of them ruptured. Those were the only marks of violence he saw there.

The Coroner: Could you detect any finger marks? – Witness: Some parts were more injured than others. All the marks were confined to the front and side of the throat and each side of the windpipe.

Coroner: Could those injuries be occasioned by a fall? – Witness: No, I should think not.

Coroner: How could such injuries, then, be occasioned? – Witness: If by blows, it must have been by repeated blows.

Coroner: Would it have taken long-continued pressure to produce those injuries? – Witness: Oh, no.

Coroner: What do you think was the actual cause of death? – Witness: Injuries to the throat – the evident compression. The throat seems to have been compressed – producing a stoppage of circulation of the brain, or an interruption of the circulation of the brain. The heart seems to have been affected by a sudden spasm, in attempting to relieve itself; and the lungs had ceased to do their duty. These two symptoms, with also the effusion of the left ventricle, would be caused by the pressure upon the neck. All these matters combined to produce terror and mental commotion, and he died from what we call a nervous shock.

Coroner: Do you think it possible for a man to have spoken after receiving those injuries? – Witness: He might have spoken – might have gasped out something. I should think that anything he could say would be brief and very incoherent.

Coroner: Would it have been possible for a man by holding the deceased tightly round the throat with his hands to cause these appearances? – Witness: It would. That seems to be the most likely mode of accounting for it.

Coroner: Would it have been possible for the deceased to have received those injuries any days or any great length of time before his death? – Witness: No, I think not. I have no doubt that during the struggle a small vessel in the brain gave way. Still the mischief was not done then; it was not until a little blood was poured out and stopped its function. That gave him time to speak.

The following witnesses were then called at the request of the prisoner.

Daniel Fellows, a miner of the Coppice, deposed that he had known the prisoner all his life. He was coming down the Coppice on Monday, and hearing a disturbance at Henry Christian’s, he went in, and saw two or three of his sisters-in-laws with their fists in the prisoner’s face. He (witness) said ‘Why don’t you stand aside, and let the man be; you will try any man’s temper in the world.’ When he had separated the women from Christian, deceased came in running, and said to the prisoner, as he put his fist into his face, ‘Harry, you are a rogue. I have kept you long enough. D—— you, I should like to kill you tonight.’ Witness said, ‘Thomas, stand back, we don’t want any more bother here to-night.’ The old man stayed about a minute, and then he (witness) and his brother went away. The next day they heard that the old man had fallen down dead.

Noah Fellows, brother to the last witness, and also a miner, deposed that when he and his brother went into the prisoner’s house, and the women were thrusting their fists in the prisoner’s face, the blood was running down his face. He (witness) and his brother placed the prisoner on the screen or settle, and he sat down quietly. Deceased was in the room when he (witness) first went in, and

it was about ten minutes afterwards the deceased came in again and rushed up to the prisoner, and in about a minute afterwards the deceased fell down dead, he saw no blows nor wrestling. Nothing of the kind could have occurred there without seeing it. Nancy, the wife of Abraham Richards, puddler, who lives next door to the deceased, deposed that she was in the prisoner's house when he came home. When his wife said that they must part, he said he would, and he went upstairs and fetched down his box. The wife said that the cover in the box was not his. He replied that he did not want to take away what did not belong to him. An altercation ensued, and the prisoner kicked or pushed his wife with his knee. Mrs. Christian's two sisters then came in. Afterwards the deceased came to the door and then walked out again. He came in a second time, and rushing up to the prisoner, struck him. They wrestled, and in the fall the back of his head came against the floor.

The Coroner read over the evidence of the prisoner, and cautioned him.

The prisoner then said, 'I never put a hand to him till he came up to me and pulled me off the screen to the door. I said, 'You do what you like with me, and I won't interfere with no one,' and I went and reared myself up against the screen. He then went out, but came in again, and ran at me with his fists. I have nothing more to say. There is false evidence against me. There are so many at me. I never stirred or did anything to him.'

The Coroner (Mr. W. H. Phillips) then sent the case to the Jury. In doing so he said: It appears the deceased died from injuries inflicted upon his neck and throat. You have evidence of a struggle which took place between Henry Christian and the deceased, and it will be for you to say how far Christian was to blame in causing his death. If you believe that Christian unlawfully attacked the deceased, and inflicted those injuries, your verdict will be one of manslaughter against Christian. But if you believe that Christian was attacked by Caddick, and that Christian in self-defence alone, did those injuries, then your verdict will be in accordance with those facts. The surgeon is clear; and he distinctly swears that Caddick died from injuries inflicted upon his neck – that he died, not from excitement, or not from any natural cause, but from violence.

The Jury deliberated for about twenty minutes, and then returned a verdict of Manslaughter, on which charge the prisoner was the committed on a Coroner's warrant for trial at Staffordshire Assizes."

[At the Assizes at Stafford, on 1st December 1864, Henry Christian, charged with manslaughter, was found not guilty.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/4/1866

"David Round, a decent-looking man, was charged with indecently exposing himself. Mr. J. Walker appeared for the prosecution and called two witnesses, whose evidence went to show that on Sunday, the 18th of March, the defendant went into the COSELEY TAVERN, at this place, and asked for the landlord, Mr. *Joseph Beardmore*. On being informed that he could not see him as he was ill in bed, defendant made use of a very filthy expression, addressed to the servant girl and another female, after which he deliberately turned round and exposed himself to the company in the tap room. Mr. Bartlett, for the defence, said he could not deny that his client had misconducted himself, but when he did so he was under the influence of drink, and this combined with the results of an injury to his head, which he received some years ago, so affected him that he really did not know what he was doing. Defendant said that he had his skull fractured in several places some years ago by being drawn into some machinery, and when he took any drink his head was so affected that he did not know what he did. A surgeon's certificate was handed up to the Bench, in proof that the defendant had been injured as stated. Mr. Spooner said he could not allow it to be thought that the mere fact of a man being in drink was to be considered an excuse for committing such an offence as that charged against the defendant. If drink had such an effect upon him as was stated, he ought not to indulge in it. The case was too serious a character to be passed over lightly, and he must be sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment."

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/11/1870

"Eliza Skidmore, a domestic servant, was sentenced to twenty-one days' imprisonment for stealing 6s 1½d off her master, *Joseph Beardmore*, beerhouse keeper, Coseley."

1871 Census

1, Sodom Road – COSELEY TAVERN

[1] *Joseph Beardmore* (44), victualler and grocer, born Great Bridge;

[2] *Sarah Beardmore* (38), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Maryann Fomes (19), general servant, domestic, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/11/1876

"On Wednesday evening a trap belonging to Mr. *Jos. Beardmore*, COSELEY TAVERN, came into collision with a waggon of Mr. Jenkins, cooper, throwing out of the trap the owner, and two of his friends, and breaking the shafts of the vehicle."

Midland Examiner 26/5/1877

"On Thursday morning, an adjourned inquiry was held at the COSELEY TAVERN INN, Coseley, before Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner) touching the death of Thos. Wilkinson (36), who was killed at the Tipton Green Colliery, under circumstances already reported.

Mr. Scott (the Assistant Government Inspector) was present to watch the proceedings.

The Coroner said the inquest was adjourned so that the jury might hear the evidence of the Government Inspector.

John Evans, doggy, stated that there was only just room between the timbers for the tubs to pass.

Mr. Scott said he had examined the workings, and said he did not think any person was to blame; the fall of coal took place in the boat-hole. He did not know what caused the timber to give way; neither was there a breach of the Mines Regulations.

The jury after a short consultation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

The Coroner observed that it was essentially necessary that the 'competent person' should thoroughly understand the rules, for he

was very sorry that a person should be criminally liable for the violation of the rules he was not able to read. It would be well if 'competent persons' would learn to read and write.

In answer to the Coroner, a friend of the deceased, named Jane Savage, stated that he had left a widow and four children, and in consequence of the deceased being 7s 6d in arrears in the Miners' Association the secretary had refused to pay the funeral money, £5, and the usual subscriptions.

The Coroner: How long has the deceased been in the society? – Witness: Four years, sir.

The Coroner said this was a very hard case, and he considered that it was not legal to stop the money. If the friends of the deceased would bring him the rules, he would let them know what action it would be advisable to take.

Other gentlemen endorsed the Coroner's remarks, and steps will be taken to recover the money."

Dudley and District News 4/12/1880

"*Joseph Beardmore*, of the COSELEY TAVERN, Coppice, was charged with allowing Martin Smallman to be in his house drunk and asleep on the 20th inst. PC Patterson said he called *Beardmore's* attention to the fact that Smallman was drunk and asleep.

Defendant said he considered Smallman to be quite sober, and others who were in the place also.

The Stipendiary said he should say nothing about the house as it was considered to be a respectable one, but the defendant knew what might be the consequence of a conviction.

Fined 2s 6d and costs."

Evening Express 11/1/1881

"Mr. *Joseph Beardmore*, of COSELEY TAVERN, was charged with being drunk in his own house on the 27th ult.

An officer found defendant, with five customers, in his kitchen, drunk and swearing, and he afterwards wanted to fight the officer.

The case being proved, the Stipendiary adjourned it for a fortnight, in order that defendant might produce his license, on which to endorse the conviction."

Evening Express 25/1/1881

"*Joseph Beardmore*, proprietor of the COSELEY TAVERN, was charged, on adjournment, with being drunk on his own premises on Boxing Day.

Police-constable Paterson stated that on Boxing Day he found defendant drunk in his own house, and that he afterwards wanted to fight him.

Having been previously convicted, defendant was fined 10s, and 14s 6d costs."

1881 Census

20, Upper Ettingshall Road – COSELEY TAVERN

[1] *Joseph Beardmore* (54), licensed victualler and grocer, born Tipton;

[2] *Sarah Beardmore* (48), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Sarah Stanley (65), sister, widow, visitor, born Birmingham;

[4] John Groves (13), nephew, scholar, born Willenhall:

Evening Express 28/7/1881

"W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquest on Wednesday evening, at the COSELEY TAVERN, touching the death of Charles Caddick, aged two years, son of William Caddick, a moulder, residing in the Coppice, Coseley, resulting from injuries caused by a brewer's cart, belonging to Mr. Smith, of the Fox Brewery, Wolverhampton. The proprietor was represented by Mr. Everlet.

A man named John Hampton deposed that he was in Caddick Street on Tuesday morning and saw the accident occur. The driver had the reins in his hands, and was standing up in the cart going at a very slow rate. The deceased ran in front of the right wheel, fell down, and was crushed badly about the body. Witness did not attach any blame to the driver.

Mary Whitehouse stated that she saw the accident and picked up the child. The deceased, she said, was standing on the footpath, near his parents' residence, and when the horse and cart came near the child attempted to run across the road, but it fell in front of the wheel. There was no blame to be attached to the driver.

The father of the deceased said he was satisfied that death had been caused accidentally, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

The coroner said parents were to blame in some cases for allowing their young children to run the streets, but in this case it was not so, as the mother was ill and the father at work."

Evening Star 9/6/1882

"On Thursday evening, at the TAVERN INN, Coppice, Coseley, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest on the body of Arthur Jones, aged two years and eight months, son of John Jones, a miner of Coppice Road, Coseley, who died on Tuesday evening from injuries sustained from a mare on the afternoon of that day, in a field near to his home.

The mother of the child died about two years ago, and since that time it has been under the care of Mrs. Mary Picken, the father paying for such care. A few minutes before two o'clock on the day named the child left the house alone and went to play in a field close to, belonging to Edward Wones. Soon after a child named Job Smallman, about five years of age, went to Emily Jane Picken, Mrs. Picken's daughter, and told her that the deceased had been run over by a horse in the field, upon which she went and found him lying on the ground, bleeding very badly and insensible, and had a severe bruise on the left side of its head. They were not aware that the mare and her foal were in the field. The child was at once taken home, and Dr. Baker, of the Coppice, was called in, who gave every attention to it, but it died the same evening.

A little after two o'clock Joseph Sherwin, a rate collector, went by the field and saw a mare and her foal there, the mare apparently striking with her fore feet at some object before her. He went to the gate and saw a child, about twenty yards away, and near to where the mare had been striking, but did not know that the child had been kicked. He spoke to a girl near by to go and pick the child up, and afterwards went on his way. The mare and the foal went into the road out of the field.

A girl, named Filister Allen, on her way to school, about two o'clock, saw the mare and foal running about, saw the deceased in the grass, and went to pick him up, and found that he was bleeding very badly. When she tried to raise him up it cried out, 'Oh dear, knock off,' and lay down. She then called for assistance.

Abraham Wilkes, Coseley, said the mare and foal belonged to him, and that he rented a field near the Coppice Road from Edward Wones, in which he placed them. A short time after he had placed them in the field on the day named he heard that the deceased was injured, and on going towards the field found the mare and foal in the turnpike road coming home. He had fastened the field gate safe, but on going to the field found it undone and open, which he could not account for. There was no public road near the field where he placed the mare and foal.

In reply to questions put, he said the mare was no more vicious than others which had foals, and that he never knew the mare to kick anyone.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased died from injuries caused by a mare."

Dudley and District News 30/9/1882

"At the Dudley County Court on Tuesday last, a petition was filed on behalf of *Joseph Beardmore*, of the Coppice, in the parish of Sedgley, innkeeper and provision dealer. The liabilities are £650. Messrs. T. M. J. and A. Whitehouse are solicitors to the debtor."

Dudley and District News 28/7/1883

"The Court Miners' Friend, AOF, held their anniversary on Monday evening, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Beardsmore*, when a goodly number of members paraded the parish, headed by the Excelsior brass band, after which the members and friends sat down to an excellent repast. After the cloth had been withdrawn, Bro. John Bailey was appointed chairman, and Bro. Noah Fallons vice-chairman. The band led the way to an evening's enjoyment.

The Chairman spoke of the dangerous calling of the miners, and how many lives were lost by the mistakes that were now and then made, and he impressed upon miners the necessity of learning more about their occupation than some miners had done in the past. He was glad that they took notice of these things, as their banner depicted on one side an explosion, and on the other side widows and fatherless children. He hoped that they would join hand-in-hand to help one another, as in this matter union was strength.

The evening was enlivened with songs from members and friends, the band playing a fine selection of music at intervals.

A vote of thanks was given to the host and hostess, the chairman, vice-chairman, and friends, and the management committee.

The National Anthem, played by the band, brought a pleasant evening to a close."

1891 Census

16, Upper Ettingshall Road – COSELEY TAVERN

[1] *Joseph Beardsmore* (64), licensed victualler, born Tipton;

[2] *Sarah Beardsmore* (58), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Maria Nicholls (20), general servant, born Brightside, Lancashire:

Joseph Beardmore died on 22nd April 1892.

Sarah Beardmore married Emanuel *Purchase* on 9th September 1893.

South Wales Daily News 21/2/1895

"Mr. A. B. Smith, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the COSELEY TAVERN, The Coppice, Coseley, Warwickshire [sic], on Wednesday, relative to the death of Nellie Harrison, 30 years of age, who was found in an almost nude condition in a well at Coseley, under mysterious circumstances, and died shortly afterwards from the effects of exposure. Deceased, who was a widow, was the daughter of George Birken, commercial traveller, Coleman Street, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton, and formerly resided at Bridgnorth with her parents, who kept a hostelry. She married a Bridgnorth gentleman, who was a scientific engineer, and it is stated, at one time a member of the Bridgnorth Town Council. The husband, Mr. Harrison, died shortly after the marriage, and deceased engaged herself as an assistant at an Hotel at Walsall, where she remained some time. Subsequently she assisted at the COURTHOUSE INN, Sedgley, and for the past eight months she had been staying with Mrs. *Attwood*, landlady of the COSELEY TAVERN. On Saturday afternoon last she was in her usual health, but soon after her uncle arrived from Birmingham she disappeared, and in the evening she was found in a well at the rear of the premises, sitting upright in about 15 inches of water. She was nearly naked, having on only her boots and stockings. She was removed to the house, and a doctor sent for, but the unfortunate woman expired in about half an hour after being discovered in the well.

The Jury returned a verdict to the effect 'that deceased killed herself by exposing herself to the cold, but that there was no evidence to show the state of her mind when she so exposed herself.'"

1901 Census

15, Upper Ettingshall Road

[1] *David Attwood* (38), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Rhoda Attwood* (35), wife, born Blaina, Monmouthshire;

[3] Nathaniel Attwood (4), son, born Sedgley;

- [4] Eliza Attwood (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Price (29), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] Gertrude Hawkes (17), general servant, born Sedgley:

David Attwood died on 2nd January 1902.

David Millard Jnr. was born in 1881, the son of David and Ruth Millard.

David Millard was described as a brewer in 1900.

David Millard married Polly Round.

David Millard was the father of Kenneth Millard, builder.

It had a bowling green. [1903]

This later became grazing land.

1911 Census

Upper Ettingshall – COSELEY TAVERN

- [1] *David Millard* (29), licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Mary Jane Millard* (29), wife, married 3 years, assisting in the business, born Coseley;
- [3] Harold Denis Millard (2), son, born Coseley;
- [4] Rose Corbett (19), servant, born Pensnett:

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/3/1913

“Bilston magistrates sanction was given to alterations at the COSELEY TAVERN, The Coppice.”

Mary Jane Millard married George *Ward* in 1925.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 3/2/1934

“The first annual dinner of the Coseley Angling Society was held on Saturday night at the COSELEY TAVERN.

There was a good gathering, amongst those present being Mr. Geoffrey Peto, MP (president of the society), who distributed the prizes in connection with the two fishing contests.....

The present membership was over 50, and was gradually increasing.....”

1939 Register

Caddick Street – COSELEY TAVERN

- [1] *Carl A. Davies*, date of birth 13/3/1887, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Ethel M. Davies*, dob 25/4/1889, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Howard Ernest Shepherd died here in 1982.

* possibly the same person

Terry Wall was married to Jenny.

A new bowling green was built c.2000.

[2018]

COTTAGE OF CONTENT

18, (52), Clarence Street, (Dudley Road), (Kent Street), (The Quarries), (Sheepcotwall), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Amelia Jones, widow, Woodsetton

Anthony Lee, licensee

Richard Sidney Wilson, maltster, Ackleton

John Joule and Sons Ltd, Stone

Bass, Mitchells and Butlers

Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Martin Carter [1848] – **1856**);
Mrs. Eliza Carter (**1856** – []
John Leek [1860]
Samuel Nicholls [] – **1860**);
William Taylor (**1860** – []
Thomas Guest [1861]
Thomas Page [1867]
Samuel Nicholls [1868]
Samuel Naylor [1864] – **1878**);
Jane Tomlinson (**1878** – **1881**);
John Percival (**1881** – **1882**);
Anthony Lee (**1882** – **1901**);
Richard Marsh (**1901** – **1907**);
William Henry Webster (**1907**);
Arthur Joseph Bird (**1907** – **1908**);
William Allen (**1908** – **1909**);
George Henry Morgan (**1909** – **1911**);
Harry Johnson (**1911**);
John Thomas Hickman (**1911** – **1913**);
Joshua Bradley (**1913** – **1914**);
William Carter (**1914** – **1917**);
Thomas Fellows (**1917** – **1927**);
Edith (Bailey) Fones (**1927** – **1928**);
Ada Florence Morgan (**1928** – **1930**);
Ernest John Rolfe (**1930** – **1931**);
Eileen Rolfe (**1931** – **1933**);
Charles Edgar Yates (**1933** – **1943**);
Agnes May Yates (**1943** – **1961**);
James William ‘Jim’ Riley (**1961** – **1977**);
Byron Montgomery McFarlane (**1977** – **1986**);
Denise Davies (**1986** – **1989**);
Shirley Beardsmore (**1989** – **1990**);
Judy Elizabeth Jones (**1990** – **1991**);
Ann Bridgewater (**1991**);
Adele Yvette Richards (**1991** – **1992**);
Geoffrey Blower (**1992** – []

NOTES

Sheepcotwall [1851]
The Quarries [1861]
52, Clarence Street [1881], [1901], [1911]
18, Clarence Street [1939]

COTTAGE SPRING [1856]
COTTAGE OF CONTENT [1849], [1861], [1868], [1870], [1990]
CABIN INN [1871], [1881], [1882], [1891], [1900], [1900], [1915]

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1848

“Licensing Day. The Public Office, on Thursday last, was numerously attended by legal gentlemen, innkeepers, and others, on the occasion of renewing innkeepers’ licenses, and the hearing of applications for fresh ones. The magistrates who attended in the course of the sitting were H. Hill, W. Mannix, G. Briscoe, J. Barker, W. Tarratt, W. Fryer, D. Fereday, W. Baldwin, H. Foster, and J. Loxdale, Esqs. During the early part of their sittings G. B. Thornycroft, Esq, mayor of the borough, was on the bench. There were about fifty applications for new licenses, and upwards of twenty were granted. The following is a list of the successful applicants.....

Licenses were also granted to.....

Martin Carter, nail factor, Upper Gornall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/9/1849

“On Saturday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, at the sign of the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal, on the body of Joseph Hyde, a miner, who was killed by a fall of coal, while loading a skip, in a stall in a coalpit at the Dock, in the parish of Dudley. The deceased, who was stooping when the coal fell from the roof, was dreadfully hurt on his back and on the back of his neck. His death was instantaneous. As the pit was considered safe by a witness who worked in it, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Sheepcotwall

- [1] *Martin Carter* (44), nail factor and publican, born Gornall;
- [2] *Eliza Carter* (33), wife, born Upton on Severn, Worcestershire;
- [3] Matilda Carter (17), daughter, born Gornall;
- [4] Elizabeth Carter (12), daughter, born Gornall;
- [5] Absalom Carter (4), son, born Gornall;
- [6] John Smith Carter (1), son, born Gornall;
- [7] Jabez Blackham (26), lodger, shie maker, born Gornall:

Staffordshire Sentinel 25/10/1856

“On Tuesday, at Bilston Town Hall, the following intermediate transfer of licenses were granted.....
COTTAGE SPRING INN, Gornal, from the executors of *Martin Carter* to *Eliza Carter*, widow.”

1861 Census

The Quarries – COTAGE [sic] OF CONTENT

- [1] *Thomas Guest* (36), victualler, born Wrens Nest Hill;
- [2] Elizabeth Guest (36), wife, born Campourne, Cornwall;
- [3] Ellen Bray (9), niece, born Campourne, Cornwall;
- [4] Elizabeth Crow (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Samuel Naylor, beer retailer, Upper Gornal. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Journal 2/11/1867 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold & Copyhold Property And Building land, situated at Ruiton, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent (by order of the Devises in Trust of the late Mr. John Harper), at the House of Mr. *Thomas Page*, the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal, on Wednesday, November 13, 1867, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/7/1868 - Advert

“COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the above Old-established Public House. The Premises are compact, comprising Front Bar and Tap Room, Smoke Room, Kitchen, four Chambers, Brewhouse, good Cellar, Stabling, Piggery, and other Out-buildings, with Carriage Drive and retired Yard. The Premises are well supplied with Hard and Soft Water. Rent under £20 per annum, and the in-coming moderate.

For further particulars and to treat, apply to Mr. John Bent, Auctioneer and Publicans' Valuer, 205, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.”

Dudley Herald 26/9/1868 - Advert

“Clearing Out Sale COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal to be sold by auction, the whole of the excellent brewing plant.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/2/1869

“The following bankrupts came up on Friday at the County Court.....

Thomas Page, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, limestone miner. First examination, Mr. G. B. Lowe supporting the bankrupt. The liabilities were £125 4s 4d; assets £3 18s 4d. The 20th of March was fixed for the bankrupt's last examination.”

London Gazette 30/3/1869

“*Thomas Page*, now at lodgings with Mary Ann Page, of Hermit Row, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Limestone Miner, and late of the COTTAGE OF CONTENT INN, Upper Gornal aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Limestone Miner, adjudicated bankrupt on the 26th day of January, 1869. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 20th day of March, 1869.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.....

For keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Samuel Naylor, Upper Gornal, 1s and costs.”

1871 Census

Clarence Street – CABIN INN

- [1] *Samuel Naylor* (41), miner &c, born Woodsetton;
- [2] *Eliza Naylor* (38), wife, born Woodsetton;
- [3] *Joseph Naylor* (17), labourer, born Woodsetton;
- [4] *Hannah Naylor* (15), daughter, born Woodsetton;
- [5] *Rachel Naylor* (12), daughter, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] *Richard Naylor* (9), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [7] *Elizabeth Naylor* (6), daughter, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [8] *Mira Naylor* (3), daughter, born Upper Gornal:

Samuel Naylor, beer retailer, Upper Gornal. [1872]

Dudley Herald 2/10/1880 - Advert

“Public House to Let, the CABIN, Upper Gornal, low rent, and in-coming low; a good opportunity. Apply to *Isaac Tomlinson*, upon the premises. Coal and Breeze Business connected.”

Evening Express 22/1/1881 - Advert

“Public House to Let, the CABIN, Upper Gornal; low rent, and in-coming low; a good opportunity, to be taken at valuation. Apply, *Isaac Tomlinson*, upon the premises.”

1881 Census

Clarence Street – CABIN

- [1] *John Percival* (25), publican, born Roseville;
- [2] *Mary E. Percival* (18), wife, born Princes End;
- [3] *Sarah A. Percival* (1), daughter, born Woodsetton;
- [4] *Eliza Eades* (19), general servant, born Staffordshire:

Dudley and District News 14/1/1882

“*John Percival*, of the CABIN INN, Dudley Road, Upper Gornal, was charged with allowing gambling in his house on two occasions in November last. Mr. Stokes of Dudley defended.

It appeared that two strange police-officers in plain clothes visited the house on the 10th and 12th November, when they discovered a number of men drinking, and they were also engaged in playing cards for the ale supplied. Defendant himself was also gambling with the men on one of the occasions.

Mr. Stokes admitted that the defendant had behaved very indiscreetly in suffering gaming to take place, and pleaded inexperience of the defendant, who only recently took to the house as his excuse.

He was fined £5 and costs for the first offence, and 1s and costs for the second case.”

John Percival – see also [WHITE HART, Bilston](#).

1891 Census

52, Clarence Street – CABIN INN

- [1] *Anthony Lee* (39), tailor and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Catherine Lee* (36), wife, born Brettel Lane;
- [3] *Violet Lee* (8), daughter, scholar, born Gornal;
- [4] *Liza G. Lee* (5), daughter, scholar, born Gornal;
- [5] *Lillian Lee* (4), daughter, scholar, born Gornal;
- [6] *Clara Hill* (20), domestic servant, born Gornal:

Anthony Lee issued tokens from here – CABIN INN.

Dudley Herald 21/7/1900

“The first meeting of the Sedgley and District Junior League takes place at the CABIN INN, Upper Gornal, on July 14th, when all intending members would do well to attend.”

[This is a cricket league]

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/8/1900

“At the annual licensing meeting for Bilston division, Supt. Walters reported that there were 354 licensed houses in the division, which gave one to every 181 of the population. During the year, four licensed victuallers and two beerhouse keepers had been convicted. Compared with the previous 12 months, this was a decrease of one licensed victualler and three beerhouse keepers convicted. Since the last meeting 565 males and 82 females were proceeded against for drunkenness, 548 males and 75 females being convicted. As against last year, this showed an increase of 49 males convicted, and a decrease of four females.

Objections were made, on the ground of convictions, to the renewal of the licenses of.....

Anthony Lee, CABIN INN, Upper Gornal.....

The Chairman said it was gratifying that there had been fewer charges against licensed victuallers, but he was sorry that there had been an increase in the number of persons proceeded against for drunkenness.

Mr. R. A. Willcock referred to the 'long pull' question, and said notice of opposition to two license holders with respect to that matter had been served. After the attitude taken on the previous day by the Wolverhampton county magistrates, the Council of the Wolverhampton and District Licensed Victuallers' Association had decided to take no further action, and the notices of objection would be withdrawn. The licenses to which the police objected were renewed."

1901 Census

52, Clarence Street

- [1] *Richard Marsh* (41), foreman bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] L. Marsh (36), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Lottie Marsh (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Florrie Marsh (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Beatrice Marsh (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Annie Marsh (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Joseph Marsh (10 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] E. Hale (40), sister in law, unmarried, barmaid, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 6/2/1909

"James *Morgan*, a young man, of Upper Gornal, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on licensed premises.

PC North stated that he found defendant creating a disturbance at the CABIN INN, Upper Gornal, kept by defendant's brother.

The accused, who expressed contrition, was fined 10s 6d."

A billiard license was granted on 10th February 1911.

1911 Census

52, Clarence Street

- [1] *Harry Johnson* (46), married, innkeeper (manager), born Birmingham;
- [2] Elizabeth Johnson (70), mother, widow, born London, Essex;
- [3] Kathleen Johnson (9), daughter, school, born Smethwick;
- [4] Elizabeth Tranter (22), general servant, born Smethwick:

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

"Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. John Groves.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. Davies.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. Enoch Smart.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Isaac Smart.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. *Joshua Bradley*.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Berhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley."

Birmingham Daily Post 8/5/1915 - Advert

"Under A Deed Of Assignment.

Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Preliminary Announcement Of Sale By Auction of Eleven Freehold, Fully-Licensed and On-Berhouse Properties, Brewery Premises & Dwelling Houses in and around Darlaston, Sedgley, Coseley, Bilston, Tipton, Ackleton, and Bridgnorth.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from R. H. Jonson, Esq. (Messrs. Muras and Co., Chartered Accountants, Wolverhampton), the Trustees as above, to Sell by Auction early in June, the following Properties.

The PRINCE OF WALES INN, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-On).

The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (Fully Licensed), and Two Cottages.

The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (Fully Licensed), and Two Dwelling Houses.

The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-On).

The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and Two Cottages.

The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and five Dwelling Houses.

The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (Fully Licensed).

The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley, (Beerhouse-On).

The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-On).

The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-On).

The Folly Inn, Ackleton, 5½ miles from Bridgnorth and Albrighton, and about 10 miles from Wolverhampton (Beerhouse-On), with Cottage Residence.

The Castle Brewery, Bridgnorth, with Fixed Plant.

Further particulars will appear in future announcements.

Auctioneer's Offices, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. (Tele.56)."

Catalogue for Auction on 2/6/1915

"Under a Deed of Assignment. Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Eleven Freehold Fully Licensed and On-Berhouse Properties, Brewery Premises and Dwelling Houses.....

The following Eleven Licensed Houses, Three of which are Fully-Licensed and Eight On-Berhouses, together with the Brewery, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time and are situate in well populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of some of the largest works in Staffordshire, and as they are being offered by direction of the Trustee under a Deed of Assignment, a fine opportunity presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade, of acquiring houses which as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, doing genuine trades, and possession of which may be obtained in most cases upon completion and otherwise at early dates afterwards.....

Lot 10. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-On). Under Management.

A well known Public House containing Entrance Passage, Bar Smoke Room front 12' x 12', Tap Room front 16' x 11', Club Room 24' x 12', Two Bedrooms, Kitchen and Cellars, together with Brewhouse, Piggeries and other Outbuildings, the Property situate on the main road between Wolverhampton and Dudley."

[It was withdrawn at £530.]

South Staffordshire Times 12/8/1922

"Richard Westwood (30), of 17, The Wynd, Sedgley, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly outside the COTTAGE OF CONTENT on the Dudley Road late on Bank Holiday night, and denied the charge,

PC Nutt said that at about 10.10pm on Monday night the defendant was outside the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, a licensed house on the Dudley Road, and was under the influence of drink. He was punching and kicking all round him in his endeavour to get at a man whom he wanted to fight. He refused to go home when requested by witness, used vile and threatening language and had to be taken into custody.

Defendant when asked by the magistrates' clerk if he wished to question retorted: Do you pay your officers to knock men about in your district?

PC Pitt deposed to seeing a crowd of 300 persons around the COTTAGE OF CONTENT at Upper Gornal, and corroborated PC Nutt's evidence. In reply to a question he said PC Nutt did not offer defendant any violence.

A penalty of 20/-, or 14 days imprisonment, was the sentence."

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

“Bilston Licensing.....

Superintendent Higgs had served notices on the landlords of the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal, and the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, on the grounds that the premises were defective. Remarks were made by the Licensing Justices at their annual sessions in 1923 respecting the dirty condition and defective sanitary arrangements of certain licensed premises, and, the Superintendent added, he regretted to have to report that several still needed remedying.....

Respecting the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal, Inspector Parsons, gave particulars of defects alleged by the police, including a defective chimney, and the dirty condition of the smoke room, where paper was hanging from the walls.

Mr. J. T. Higgs took the formal objection that with regard to ante '69 beerhouses the license could not be taken away on the ground of structural deficiencies. If the authorities wished to take away the license on ground of redundancy for compensation, that would create another position.

The case was postponed until the adjourned sessions.”

South Staffordshire Times 8/3/1924

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Bilston Division were held yesterday, before a full Bench of Justices, Mr. E. Hickman presided.....

Applications were made for the renewal of the licenses of the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End Street, Sedgley; the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, Sedgley; the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, which were adjourned from the last sitting of the justices for certain structural alterations to be carried out. The police were satisfied in each instance, and the licenses were granted.”

Edith Bailey married *Arthur Fones* on 10th April 1927.

She died on 19th December 1928.

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1938

“Sixteen applications, granted earlier in the year by the local justices, remained to be dealt with when an adjourned meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....

A licence to sell wine was granted to *Charles Edgar Yates*, licensee of the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal, at present a beerhouse.”

1939 Register

18, Clarence Street

[1] *Charles E. Yates*, date of birth 26/3/1895, licensee, married;

[2] *Agnes M. Yates*, dob 15/6/1897, wife of licensee, married;

[3] *Iris M. (Yates) Hodgetts*, dob 12/1/1920, shop assistant, grocer, single;

[4] *William C. Yates*, dob 16/11/1921, shop assistant, hairdresser, single;

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

A football team was based here.

[1997]

Closed [1998]

It was converted into Café Casita Trattoria (opened in September 1999).

COTTAGE SPRING

Straits Road, The Straits, (Straits Green), (Cotwall End), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Smith [1860] – [1861]

Thomas Jones [1862] – [1873]

NOTES

Benjamin Smith, beer retailer, Straits Green. [1860]

1861 Census

Straits – COTTAGE SPRING

- [1] *Benjamin Smith* (40), horse dealer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Smith (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Benjamin Smith (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] John Smith (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary Smith (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Sarah Smith (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Smith (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Samuel Smith (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Louisa Smith (2), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [10] Thomas Smith (1), son, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861 - Advert

“The Straits, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Cooksey will Sell by Auction, upon the premises of Mr. *Benjamin Smith*, the Straits, Lower Gornal, on Monday, the 16th day of September, 1861, an assemblage of Household Furniture, comprising mahogany dining tables, pianoforte, mahogany sofa, arm chairs, Windsor chairs, chimney glass, mahogany cupboard, chimney ornaments, oak tables, chairs, chests of drawers, beer machine, clock, large quantity of glass, with a variety of other household furniture.

Also 140-gallon Copper, ten bags of malt, 12 bushel Mashing Tub, fifteen Barrels, nearly new, with everything necessary for brewing; two Wooden Stables, one 36 feet long and 10 feet wide; two Milched Cows, nine fat Sheep, Mare and Colt, fat Pig, and a lot of Store Pigs.

Sale punctually at eleven o'clock in the morning.

Catalogues at the Offices of the Auctioneer, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/9/1861 - Advert

“Gospel End. A First-Rate Public House.

To Bet Let, with immediate possession, the Sign of the SPRING COTTAGE. [sic]

It contains four places downstairs, a bar and bar parlour, lower parlour, and tap room; upstairs, it contains four rooms, three sleeping rooms, and an extensive club room; two extensive cellars with everything that is requisite; Brewhouse, stabling and barn, two large gardens, with fruit trees of all kinds; Field at the back of the barn, Piggeries, and an excellent supply of water, both clean and soft; a good Bowling Alley, room for Quoit Pitching, or any out-door amusements. Joining the main road from Sedgley to Baggeridge. Rent low, and a good business doing. The present proprietor leaving on account of other engagements.

For further particulars apply to Joseph Moreton, RED COW INN, Bilston; or on the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/10/1862

“The shocking particulars which rumour has freely circulated concerning a child that was found ‘scorched to a cinder’ at the Straits, through the culpability or something worse on the part of its parent, have not, as is usually the case, been exaggerated into a complete distortion of the facts. The sad account will be best gleaned from the subjoined evidence, taken on Monday evening last, at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, before Mr. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, and a respectable body of Jurors.

Rachel Thompson, a girl of fourteen, swore that she lived with her father, Isaac Thompson, a labourer, at the Straits. Her father was absent from home the greater part of Sunday week, and returned home between nine and ten that night. Her mother ‘run off’ on the previous Friday, and had only been in the house for a few hours since up to that time. She herself had attended to the children on the Sunday, and they and herself were in bed when their father returned home at night. She left him, however, a candle on the table. When he came in he said ‘Where is the candle?’ and I told him on the table. He then asked where Martha and Mary (my sisters) were, and as they were a-bed, he came up stairs with the lighted candle, and took Martha down stairs. I did not consider that he was ‘tipsy’ at the time. He always took Martha out of bed to give her some of his supper. I am quite sure Martha was alive when he took her down because I heard her laugh and make a noise when he brought her to my bedroom door, and asked me if all the children were safe a-bed. The next morning (Monday) my father asked me if while I was in bed I had seen Martha, as he had forgotten where he put her after he fetched her downstairs. He got up and found her, and said she was ‘roasted,’ and was lying close to the fender before the fire. I did not smell ‘any smell,’ or hear any noise during the night. The child was scorched to death. Father did not tumble down the stairs, for I heard him give Martha some supper and talk to her.

Mr. Henry Ballenden, surgeon of Sedgley, deposed to making a post-mortem examination of the body of Martha Thompson, a child of seventeen months old. The body externally was extremely thin and wasted, and looked more of the age of a three months’ child than its real age. It presented marks of severe burns on its left arm, and a great part of the skin and flesh were completely burnt away. The flesh on the chest and bowels was also much charred down to the ribs. The burns appeared to have been done after death, except two very small blisters at the bottom of the back, which might have been done before life was extinct. The internal organs were sound, excepting the brain, which was congested. There was also congestion of the lungs. The stomach was filled with food, chiefly imperfectly masticated potatoes. From these indications I conclude that the child died from suffocation, and was afterwards burned. He could not positively say what occasioned the suffocation, but he was quite satisfied that the child did not die from burns, but from the suffocation.

Phoebe Jones, wife of *Thomas Jones*, proprietor of the COTTAGE SPRING, public-house at the Straits, said she knew the de-

ceased child, and saw it alive about a month ago. It was then very thin, and not able to walk or crawl, and could scarcely make any noise. Isaac Thompson, the father of the deceased, had a pint of ale at their house on the Sunday night in question. He seemed 'rather tipsy' when he came in, and he remained about half an hour, but did not drink all the ale himself. He appeared 'solid,' that is he was as upright as anyone else, and walked steady when he left, alone, about a quarter past nine o'clock. William Russell spoke to his having ale at *Jones's*, but when he left he was only 'market pert.' The Coroner then asked Thompson if he desired to make any statement, cautioning him that it might be used against him if he was placed on his trial.

Thompson then made the following statement: I remember very well on Sunday night, about half-past nine to quarter to ten, when I went home and called Rachel, and asked her if her mother had been at home, and she said 'Yes,' and I said, 'How long has she been gone away?' and she told me that it had not been long. I then asked if Martha and Mary, her sisters, were in bed, and she said they were, and she had not given them anything to eat since four o'clock in the afternoon, when she gave the youngest, Martha, the deceased, some sop, made of tea and bread, I 'tended' the candle that was left on the table, and went upstairs, and found Mary and Martha in bed. I picked Martha up, as I generally do, in my arms, and asked Rachel if the other children were safe. I took Martha downstairs and 'gave she' some of my supper, and afterwards sat talking to her for about ten minutes. I felt as if I wanted to go to the water closet, and laid her down on the screen and placed my jacket over her, and went out, and on returning sat on the opposite bench. Feeling sleepy I lay down, not thinking to go to sleep, but I dropped asleep. When I found myself in bed about a quarter to five o'clock on the following morning, with Mary by my side, I felt for Martha, but could not find her. I then called to Rachel, and asked her if she had taken her out of bed, and she said, 'You took her to give her some supper, and I have not seen her since.' I then said, 'Oh, dear, I have left her on the screen,' jumped up, and ran downstairs, with only my shirt on, and ran to the place I put her on. The house was dark, as the fire was almost out. In going to the screen my foot caught her on the hearth. I stooped down and picked her up. I then called my eldest daughter Rachel down, and I sent her to tell Mr. Smith how I found it burned. I afterwards sent to Mr. Tomlinson, at the Sedgley police station, to tell him what had happened, and that is all I know. The room was then cleared, and the Jury, after a lengthy conference, returned a verdict of Manslaughter against the father of the deceased, Isaac Thompson."

[In January 1863 another inquest was held at the FIDDLERS ARMS, concerning the death of Hannah, aged eight years, another daughter of Isaac Thompson, who it was alleged was beaten to death, with a poker, by her father.] [At the Staffordshire Lent Assizes, in March 1863, Isaac Thompson appeared, charged with feloniously killing his daughter, Hannah, he pleaded not guilty, and was found not guilty. He was also charged with having killed his daughter, Martha, no evidence was offered and he was found not guilty, but sentenced to a fortnight of hard labour.]

Thomas Jones, beer retailer, Straits Green. [1868], [1870]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/1/1871

"G. Kirby will run W. Millard (Dusty) of Dudley 120 yards, if he will allow him two yards start, or J. Wright of Woodside 120 yards level. Either match can be made for £10 or £15 a side at Mr. *Jones's*, the COTTAGE SPRING, Gornal."

1871 Census

Straits Road – COTTAGE SPRING

- [1] *Thomas Jones* (49), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Phoebe Jones (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Charlotte Bate (22), general servant, born Sedgley:

Thomas Jones was fined 10s and costs for permitting drunkenness, in July 1871.

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/10/1872

"Adjourned Licensing Day.....

An application to sell ale off the premises was made by Mr. Cartwright on behalf of *Thomas Jones*, of the SPRING COTTAGE, Cotwell End, but it was opposed by Mr. Stokes, on behalf of Mr. Taylor, agent to the Earl of Dudley. Refused."

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

"Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court.....

The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent McCrea presenting his annual 'black list.' In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act.....

Applications were then considered.....

Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Cartwright) applied, on behalf of *Thomas Jones*, of the COTTAGE SPRING, Cotwell End, for a beerhouse license, and Mr. J. Underhill (duly instructed) opposed the application, which was eventually withdrawn on discovering that the applicant's house was insufficiently rented to meet the requirements of the Act."

Dudley Herald 3/7/1875

"Sale freehold property formerly known as the COTTAGE SPRING INN with the land in private tenure."

County Express 20/4/1878

"At Sedgley Police Court, on Saturday, Joseph Cornelius Tomlinson, was charged with stealing a watch and chain and two

sovereigns, the property of Mr. *Thomas Jones*, a retired licensed victualler. Mr. *Jones* who until recently kept the COTTAGE SPRING INN, at the Straits, Sedgley, had been at Upper Gornal on Thursday, and left the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN at that place about eleven to go home. He stated that Tomlinson joined him on the way and 'got fumbling him.' The next morning he missed his money and his watch. Early the same morning Tomlinson tried to dispose of the watch at the FIDDLERS ARMS INN, Lower Gornal, but the proprietor's son, to whom it had been offered as a bargain, refused to purchase. When *Jones* visited this house shortly afterwards Tomlinson gave him back the watch, repudiating all knowledge of the money. Later in the day, however, Tomlinson exchanged a sovereign in the purchase of some tobacco, at Gornal Wood, and on being arrested declared that *Jones* had given him the watch to take care of for him.

For the defence, accused stoutly averred his innocence, alleging that he picked up the money the next morning at a spot close to the Abbey, where *Jones* had fallen down the previous night on his way home, the sovereigns were in the mud. He was committed for trial at the next Staffordshire Quarter Sessions."

[At the Quarter Sessions, Tomlinson was charged with 'larceny from the person,' and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.]

Thomas Jones – see also BULLS HEAD.

COTTAGE SPRING

33, Hermits Row, (Pale Piece), Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Carter

Joseph Guest

James Guest, brewer, Upper Gornal

Joseph Round Cartwright, gentleman, Upper Gornal

Thomas Jackson Barnett, auctioneer, Wolverhampton (acquired in 1879)

William Henry Anderson, wine merchant, Wolverhampton (acquired in 1883)

LICENSEES

Edwin Leek [] – **1860**);

Thomas Guest (**1860 – 1863**);

John Waterfield (**1863 – 1865**)

Thomas Page [1867]

Joseph Oldfield [1869]

Edward Allen [1870] – **1878**);

Joseph John Guest (**1878 – 1884**);

Robert Elliott (**1884 – 1885**);

Philip Benjamin Yardley (**1885**):

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

"Mr. Underhill applied for a license for a public house called the PAINTERS ARMS, situated at Upper Gornal, and in support of the application remarked that it did not come so much in the form of an application for a new license as for a transfer of an old one. Mr. Guest had, he said, recently purchased some property, called the COTTAGE SPRING, belonging to a person named Carter, situated about sixty or seventy yards from the house to which he wanted the license transferred. The license to the COTTAGE SPRING had been renewed that morning in the usual form, and it was the intention of Mr. Guest, if the Magistrates would grant a license for the PAINTERS ARMS, to give up the license granted that morning for the COTTAGE SPRING.

Mr. Waterhouse opposed on behalf of Mr. Hughes, the occupier of the LIMERICK, the adjoining house. The Magistrates agreed to reserve their decision until the adjourned licensing day."

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/10/1858

"Bilston Adjourned Licensing Day.....

The application of James Guest, Upper Gornal, for the transfer of a license from an old-licensed house to a beerhouse was refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/9/1863 - Advert

“Clearing-Out Sale. To-Morrow, Thursday.

COTTAGE SPRING, Pale Piece, Upper Gornal.

Mr. John Cassere will Sell by Auction tomorrow, Thursday, September 24, without the least reserve, the whole of the excellent Brewing Plant, Fixtures, Ale Machine, Furnaces, large capittally-made Ale Casks, one 360 gallons; 18 strike Mash Tub, Coolers, Tubs, costly slate-bottom registered Bagatelle Table, Benches, Screens, Square Pianoforte, the whole of the Household Furniture, together with numerous other effects, all of which will be sold without the slightest reserve, the property of Mr. *Thos. Guest*, who is leaving the house and retiring from the trade.

Catalogues are now ready, and may be obtained at the offices of the Auctioneer, 61, Snowhill, Wolverhampton.”

Joseph Oldfield was fined £5 plus 9s 6d costs for permitting drunkenness in April 1869.

Edward Allen was fined £5 plus costs for permitting drunkenness in April 1870.

1871 Census

33, Hermit’s Row – Public House

[1] *Edward Allen* (42), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Hannah Allen (42), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] William Allen (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] Tabitha Austin (20), general servant, born Shifnal, Shropshire:

1881 Census

33, Hermit Row

[1] *Joseph Guest* (32), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah Guest (27), wife, born Dudley;

[3] Ellen Guest (5), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] Kate Guest (3), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] Frank Guest (1), son, born Sedgley;

[6] Rachel Allen (14), servant, nurse, born Sedgley:

Joseph Guest issued tokens from here – COTTAGE SPRING.

London Gazette 4/3/1881

“To be Sold, pursuant to a Judgement of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, made in a matter and cause re James Guest, deceased the Staffordshire Joint Stock Bank Limited against Guest at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton on Friday, the 18th day of March, 1881.....

Certain freehold property, situate at Upper Gornal, near Dudley a well-established brewery known as the Sheepcote Brewery, with the yard and appurtenances belonging thereto; also an old licensed public house, called the COTTAGE SPRING INN, and two small cottages adjoining, and a piece of building land adjoin the last mentioned premises, containing an area of 500 square yards, or thereabouts.....”

London Gazette 27/4/1883

“To be Sold, pursuant to a Judgement of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, made in a matter and cause re James Guest, deceased, the Staffordshire Joint Stock Bank v Guest ... at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton on Wednesday, the 16th day of May, 1883.....

Certain freehold property situate at Upper Gornal, near Dudley old-established licensed public house, called COTTAGE SPRING INN, and two small cottages adjoining, and a piece of building land adjoining; the entire area of the property being 1,016 square yards, or thereabouts.....”

Note in Licensing Register

“At Adjourned Licensing Meeting, 25th September 1885, an Order was made sanctioning the removal of this license to premises used as a beerhouse.”

This order of removal was confirmed by the County Licensing Committee on 9th October 1885.

COTTAGE SPRING

9, Brook Street (Road), WOODSETTON

OWNERS

William Hodgetts

Elizabeth Hodgetts

Courage Ltd.
Black Country Traditional Inns (acquired in 2012)

LICENSEES

Elizabeth Hodgetts [1871]
William Hodgetts [1872] – 1890);
Elizabeth J Mason and John Kitley (1890);
Abraham Hampton (1890 – 1895);
Mrs. Elizabeth Jane Hampton (1895 – 1899);
Zachariah William Mason (1899 – 1904);
William Smallwood (1904 – 1905);
William Perks (1905 – 1907);
Ernest Flavell (1907);
Walter Foster (1907 – 1916);
Mrs. Elizabeth Walters (1916 – 1918);
Benjamin Parkes (1918 – 1922);
Harry Millington (1922 – 1925);
Joseph Thomas Wilger (1925 – 1929);
Lottie (Woodhall) Plant (1929 – 1930);
William Henry Tomlinson (1930 – [1940])
Louis Albert Hands [1980]
Brian Holland [1990]
Anthony Owen (1995 – 2000)
Peter Knight [2003] – 2009)
Lyndsey Elizabeth Morris (2012 – 2014);
Kerry Bailey and Peter Peterkin (2014 – 2015);
Shelly (Garbett) Price (2015 – [2023])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

9, Brook Road

- [1] William Hodgetts (44), field carpenter, born Coseley;
- [2] Elizabeth Hodgetts (43), wife, publican, born Dudley;
- [3] John Hodgetts (15), son, engineer, born Swan Village;
- [4] Ruth Hodgetts (10), daughter, scholar, born Woodsetton;
- [5] Luke Hodgetts (8), son, scholar, born Woodsetton;
- [6] Elizabeth Hodgetts (4), daughter, scholar, born Woodsetton;
- [7] Sarah Hodgetts (3 months), daughter, born Woodsetton;
- [8] Ann Elwell (16), general servant, born Upper Gornal:

William Hodgetts, beer retailer, Woodsetton. [1872]

1881 Census

9, Brook Road – COTTAGE SPRING

- [1] William Hodgetts (54), carpenter, born Woodsetton;
- [2] Elizabeth Hodgetts (52), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] John Hodgetts (25), son, engine driver – stationary, born Woodsetton;
- [4] Luke Hodgetts (17), son, born Woodsetton;
- [5] Elizabeth Hodgetts (14), daughter, born Woodsetton:

Dudley and District News 17/12/1881

“*William Hodgetts*, innkeeper, of Brook Street, Woodsetton, was charged with violating the new Inland Revenue Act by using 4lb of sugar in brewing, without first making an entry of the same in a book kept for that purpose. The offence was committed on the 13th September last. Mr. Stokes defended. The offence being formally admitted, the evidence was not gone into. The penalty incurred – viz. £100 – was reduced to £10.”

Evening Star 18/3/1882

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, held an inquest at the COTTAGE SPRING, Woodsetton, touching the

death of Samuel Brown, a miner, (49), of Brook Road, Woodsetton, who was killed at a pit in the Fox Yards Colliery, Swan Village, near Coseley, on Wednesday morning.

Deceased was formerly a soldier serving in the 32nd Regiment of the Highlanders and served years in India and returned about 10 years ago. He was in possession of a medal for having served in the Indian Mutiny.

The colliery belongs to the Earl of Dudley, but the owner and worker of the pit is Mr. William Punter, of Swan Village.

Mr. J. B. Scott, deputy inspector of mines was present.

The evidence showed that on Wednesday morning last, the workmen engaged at this pit resumed work as usual, but in an hour and a half or so after, a quantity of coal fell upon three of them, resulting in the immediate death of Samuel Brown and the sustaining of injuries by the other two.

Joshua Oakley stated that he, with the three others referred to, was at work on the morning named near the spot where the coal fell. The place had been examined that way many a time and found to be quite safe; there were trees already placed under the coal. A lump of 'rock' rolled out of the 'shut' against one of the trees, knocked it out, and the coal fell in an instant. Several tons of coal fell. Brown was hit on the head by the fall of the coal and was killed instantly. Witness himself had a very narrow escape. There was plenty timber put up, and plenty more down the pit for use if needed, but there was no need of additional timber. That way the coal knocked as hard as limestone. There was no blame whatever attached to anyone.

In reply to Mr. Scott, he said there was no room for more timber, and he thought the place as safe as being in that house.

By The Coroner: The master himself had been down and knocked upon the coal that morning.

Evidence was given by Mr. Punter, who said that he could not account for the fall of coal. The coal knocked as hard as possible, and there was plenty of timber. He did not hear the place stir, it was all quiet.

Benjamin Smith, another workman in the pit, gave corroborative evidence.

The Coroner remarked that Mr. Scott had visited the pit but could not communicate any information, the place being buried by a large quantity of coal.

Mr. Scott said it was quite possible if he himself had visited the place before the accident that he should have come to the same conclusion as the owner and with cases where there was enough timber, a heavy 'knock' could have drawn the tree, and the accident might have taken the same form as it had had there been more timber.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

William Hodgetts died on 9th July 1890.

1891 Census

9, Brook Road – COTTAGE SPRING INN

[1] *Abraham Hampton* (41), publican and miner, born Sedgley;

[2] *Eliza Jane Hampton* (40), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Elizabeth Granger* (20), general servant, born Sedgley:

Worcestershire Chronicle 15/8/1891 - Advert

"Wanted, strong, honest Girl, one used to public house.

Apply, COTTAGE SPRING INN, Woodsetton, near Dudley."

Birmingham Daily Post 23/9/1893

"At Wolverhampton, yesterday, *Abraham Hampton*, licensed brewer of Woodsetton, was summoned by the Inland Revenue authorities for making an untrue entry in his brewing book as to the quantity of sugar he intended to use, 7lb being recorded instead of 24lb. Mr. J. T. Squires, of Somerset House, prosecuted, and Mr. Foster defended. Mr. Squires stated that Mr. J. H. Millar, the supervisor for the district had had his attention drawn to the defendant's method of brewing, and samples were taken on the 1st June. These were analyzed, and it was found that 24lb of sugar had been used instead of 7lb. The defence was that the additional sugar had been put in the liquor by mistake. The Stipendiary, in imposing a fine of £20, said he could not understand a brewer, for the sake of a few shillings, rendering himself liable to penalties amounting to £100. A further charge of not making an entry of the use of sugar was not dealt with."

1901 Census

9, Brook Road

[1] *Zachariah W. Mason* (37), widower, publican, born Woodsetton;

[2] *Dorothy Mason* (8), daughter, born Woodsetton;

[3] *Hannah Johnson* (60), visitor, born Woodsetton;

[4] *Elizabeth Johnson* (14), general servant, born Woodsetton:

1911 Census

9, Brook Road

[1] *Walter Foster* (46), saddler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Grace Foster* (39), wife, married 13 years, housewife, born Bushbury;

[3] *Vernon Leslie Foster* (9), son, school, born Woodsetton;

[4] *Mary Dawes* (30), visitor, housekeeper, born Bushbury;

[5] *Rebecca Richards* (20), general servant, born Woodsetton:

Walter Foster, beer retailer, Brook Street. [1912]

Mrs. *Elizabeth Walters*, beer retailer, 9, Brook Street. [1916]

South Staffordshire Times 8/5/1920

“Sedgley Police Court.....

Benjamin Parkes of the COTTAGE SPRING INN, Brook Road, Woodseton, was summoned that he, being the holder of the license of that house, did contravene the orders of the Central Control Board by supplying certain persons with beer after 10pm on April 13th, and further by permitting certain persons to consume beer, and *William Barrett* was charged with being on licensed premises during prohibited hours.

Mr. C. H. Darby (Messrs. Sharpe and Darby) prosecuted, and Mr. Turton, of Wolverhampton, represented the defendants.

It was agreed to take the whole three cases together, the facts in each being the same, each of the defendants pleading not guilty.

Mr. Darby, in opening the case, said the charge was that the offence took place in the early hours of April 13th, at 1.35am, viz, between the closing hour on April 12th and the opening hour on the following day. He asked the Bench to presume from the evidence that beer had been sold and supplied three and a half hours after the usual hour, and had been consumed on the premises by the second defendant.

PS J. Parsons, of Coseley, deposed that he was in the neighbourhood of the house on the date named, and saw a light at 1.35am, and went and listened at the window for a few minutes. He heard three or four voices, and also heard a beer pump pull.

Mr. Adams: Do you know the sound of a beer pull? – Witness: Yes, and afterwards there was noise of a coin dropping.

Mr. Adams: You heard a chink? – Witness: Yes, I went with the constable to the back and heard Barrett come to the backyard of the house. I stopped him. We obtained admittance to the house. Both Barrett and the landlord were indoors, and were not sober. The clock pointed at the time to 1.35 and I asked the landlord how he accounted for Barrett being in the house. The landlord said Barrett was his cousin, and had come into the house as they had had a case of scarlet fever, and he had not been able to get any sleep for a week. In the house there was beer in a glass. The landlord at first denied that the beer pump had just been pulled, but afterwards said his wife had put the contents into the glass, stating that no coin had been received.

Mr. Turton: Did you know when you when you said they were drunk they went to see Dr. Ballenden? – They went in the direction of Dr. Ballenden’s, but that is all I know.

The Bench (to Mr. Turton): Are you going to call Dr. Ballenden?

Mr. Turton said he had not summoned him to give evidence, as he did not think it necessary.

In reply to Mr. Turton, the Sergeant said the child of Mr. *Parkes* had been ill of scarlet fever, but he did not know whether it was seriously ill at the time. After he was in the house Mrs. *Parkes* drank ale in his presence, saying it was hers. All other glasses used had been put on one side.

By the Bench: They were dirty glasses on the tray near the beer pump, but no others on the table.

By Mr. Turton: The glasses might have been there since 10pm. There was no fresh beer in them.

PC F. W. Tagg, stationed at Coseley, said he was with PS Parsons on the day named when he arrived at the COTTAGE SPRING INN. From the outside they heard people talking in the house, and also heard a beer pump pull, and he (witness) went and met Barrett at the door. He told Barrett to go back into the house, and he and the Sergeant followed him in. He (Barrett) then said he had been there since 10pm, and it was obvious he had had some drink. The landlord said he had drawn some beer, and his wife, who was also present, said it was hers, and drank some of it and took the rest away.

By Mr. Turton: I heard the beer-pump pulled three times. Mrs. *Parkes* remained in the room all the time, and told him the child was ill, and she had been attending it.

Re-examined: There were three pulls at the beer-pump; each pull would draw half a pint.

The Chairman: You heard three pulls, and you found two receptacles with a portion of beer in one, but there was another. Did you examine it?

The Constable said he had not seen whether there had been any other beer drawn recently.

Mr. Turton submitted there was no case to answer, but the Bench overruled his submission.

The defendant was called, and said he was the manager of the house in question. The child referred to had been very seriously ill, and his wife had been nursing it. Barrett and he were related by marriage, and his (Barrett’s) wife had helped in the nursing. They were very short of coal, and could not keep two fires in the inn, and so he and Barrett had sat in the front room. They were both sober at the time, and directly after the police came they went down to Dr. Ballenden’s house to be examined as to their condition. No beer was drawn for Barrett after ten o’clock, but his wife came down from the bedroom, drew a sup of beer from the beer-pump for herself and drank part of what was in the glass after the police came in.

Cross-examined by Mr. Darby, Mr. *Parkes* said he expected Dr. Ballenden to have been there to give evidence. Owing to the child’s illness the cups on the tray had not been cleansed by his wife as they usually were. He never denied to the police that beer had been drawn, but said that he had not drawn it. His wife had drawn some beer for herself.

William Barrett, the second defendant, said he went to the house of his cousin because of the child’s illness at about 10pm. He remained there till 1am, but had no drink. Mrs. *Parkes* was there part of the time.

Mr. Darby: Do you mean to say that you remained there but three hours and never had a drop? – I did.

Did not *Parkes* say to the police the beer-pump had not been pulled, and then afterwards admitted that it had been pulled, and said the beer was for the missus? – No.

Mrs. *Mary Ann Parkes*, wife of defendant, said that her child had been very seriously ill with scarlet fever. Barrett came into the house during the evening, but had not been supplied with beer, but she had drawn a glass for herself. Her husband had been sitting up night after night with the child.

Mr. Turton: On your oath was anything supplied to or consumed by Mr. Barrett that night? – Mrs. *Parkes*: No I drew the beer and

drank it.

The Bench asked Mrs. *Parkes* if she heard the money drop into the till. They also asked her how much beer could be drawn by three long pulls. Could she drink it all?

Mrs. *Parkes* said she could not.

The Bench said there was an element of doubt in the case, and defendants would get the benefit of it.

The case was dismissed.”

Benjamin Parkes, beer retailer, 9, Brook Street. [1921]

Lottie Woodhall married Joseph *Plant* on 29th June 1929.

A billiard license was granted on 3rd February 1933.

1939 Register

9, Brook Road

[1] *William H. Tomlinson*, date of birth 2/8/1901, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Dorothy F. Tomlinson*, dob 21/4/1903, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] *Sylvia Beatrice (Tomlinson) Cutler*, dob 6/10/1934, under school, age, single:

London Gazette 11/8/1980

“*Hands, Louis Albert*, residing and lately carrying on business at the COTTAGE SPRING, 9, Brook Street as a Tenant Publican. Court – Dudley (by transfer from High Court of Justice) Date of First Meeting – 2nd September 1980, 10.30am. Place – Official Receiver’s Office, Commercial Union House, 22, Martineau Square.....”

Anthony Owen was the brother in law of Peter Knight.

It closed in 2009.

It reopened as a Black Country Traditional Inn in November 2012.

Express & Star 11/3/2023

“*Shelly* and *Tony Price* have run the COTTAGE SPRING in Woodsetton since 2015, and recently celebrated their eighth anniversary of running the pub. Eight years on, and they are still loving life running it for Black Country Ales, where they say the customers they have met over the years have now become friends.

Sharing about what it was like when the couple first took over the pub, *Shelly*, 53, says, ‘We had done some relief work for Black Country Ales, and then we were asked if we wanted to take a look at this pub, checked it out, had an interview and we decided we would take it on and have been here ever since. We had run pubs before, but previously it was just relief work.....’

Pubs of course have been facing a tough period following the pandemic and now the cost of living crisis, with the hospitality industry being one of the most hard-hit areas. Speaking about what it has been like, *Shelly* says, ‘Covid was a really weird time. The day we were told to close the pub, everyone went silent and some were crying. We pulled the last pint and then everyone had gone by 8pm. It was like a ghost town around here with nobody around, it was a strange time. We started doing pub takeout lunches once a week, taking telephone orders – that kept us going a bit during the time and it allowed us to give people the feel of a pub, as we gave bottles of beer and beer mats, and it also allowed us to keep in touch with people as well. With the energy crisis, I think it goes one of two ways. People will either not come out at all as they cannot afford it, or in order to save on their own bills they will come here to have the warmth, and I think it has worked for us in that way as we are still getting people coming in. We always have the fire lit, and so it is a warm, cosy environment and it is the company too, rather than sitting at home on your own, people come in, enjoy having a chat and the warmth we provide for them.’

The COTTAGE SPRING is really popular with locals but also from people from across the Black Country as it has become very popular for its darts competitions. According to *Shelly* and *Tony*, it is a darts-mad pub. They run a league on a Monday night, and their pub is the head office. Then on Tuesdays there is an in-house darts tournament, and regular quiz nights on Thursdays, and Saturdays they have entertainment, and so they feel that there is a bit for everyone to keep all entertained and it has helped the pub in its popularity.....”

[2023]

COURT HOUSE

1, Gospel End Street, Bull Ring, (Lowerside), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

The Earl of Dudley
Bindley and Co. Ltd., Burton on Trent
Ind Coope and Co. (1912) Ltd. (leased)
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased)
Ansells Ltd.
Punch Taverns [2000]
Cowtho (Sedgley) Ltd.
Mark Bradley [2010]

LICENSEES

Michael Ebery [1803]
Julia Ebery [1826] – [1842]
John Ebery [1839] – [1858]
John French [1860] – [1871]
William Pearson [1871]
John Watson [1872] – 1878;
John Hughes (1878 – 1890);
Lucy Ann Fox and Thomas Anthony Hughes (1890);
Frederick Evans (1890 – 1893);
Henry John Boulton (1893 – 1894);
Frederick Bounds (1894);
Henry Jones (1894 – 1899);
Stephen Allen Corbett (1899);
Joseph William Owen Hincks (1899 – 1900);
Joseph Thomas Dilger (1900 – 1903);
Thomas Turley (1903 – 1906);
Mrs. Mary Turley (1906 – 1910);
Cornelius Henry Robson (1910 – 1916);
William Henry Ingles (1916 – 1922);
James Caddick (1922 – 1924);
Eric William Lobley (1924 – 1925);
Harold Unwin (1925 – 1931);
Charles Matthews (1931 – 1933);
John Bailey (1933 – 1936);
Follan Charles Smith (1936 – 1938);
Frederick John Adkins (1938 – 1939);
Barbara Eva Adkins (1939);
James Benton (1939);
Frederick [Augustine](#) Joseph [Richards](#) (1939 – 1951);
Nellie [Richards](#) (1951);
Wilfred [Sanson](#) Meir (1951 – 1955);
Daniel Alexander McMillan (1955 – 1976);
Czeslaw Stachowski (1976 – 1985);
Terence William Royce Mellor (1985 – 1987);
Robert Leslie Morris (1987 – 1989);
Robert John Thomas (1989 – 1990);
Charles and Lesley Maren (1990 – []
Lynn Barton [1998] – [2000]
David John Whale [2006]
Claire Hickman (2015 – []

NOTES

DUDLEY ARMS [1828], [1830]
EARL OF DUDLEY'S COURT HOUSE [1834], [1866]
COURT HOUSE [1839], [1849], [1862], [1872], [1932]
LORD DUDLEY'S COURT HOUSE [1844]

It was Grade II listed.

[Sedgley Heritage Trail \(August 2019\)](#)

“The COURT HOUSE building has been extended from an alleged medieval base. It was always a public house as well as the home of Lord Dudley’s regular Manorial Court, or Court Baron, and of the annual Court Leet to appoint Manor officials. Land ownership and transfers dominated proceedings. Minor offences and coroner’s inquests were also heard. There are records from 1535 until closure in 1925.”

Village Voice (November 2021)

“The COURT HOUSE pub in Sedgley was indeed used for the hearing of both civil and criminal cases for almost 400 years; the first recorded cases were in 1535 and it was used for the manorial court right up until 1925. It has been rumoured for many years that there were tunnels leading from the pub to the nearby police station and to the RED LION across the other side of the Bullring (although their existence has never been proved). The COURT HOUSE was also regularly used for coroners hearings.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/11/1803 - Notice

“Turnpike Tolls to be Let.

Notice is hereby given, that the Tolls arising at the several Toll Gates, called Gospel End Gate and Side Bar, Sedgley Gate, Can Lane Gate and Bar, with the Weighing Machine, and the Deepfields Toll Bars, erected upon the Turnpike Road leading from Wombourn, through Sedgley, to Bilston, and from Gospel End to Over Penn, and from Sedgley to Princes End, in the County of Stafford, will be Let by Auction to the best Bidder, for one whole Year, at the Dwelling House of *Michael Ebery*, the COURT HOUSE INN, in Sedgley aforesaid, on Tuesday the 6th Day of December next, at Eleven o’Clock in the Forenoon in the Manner directed by the Act passed in the 13th year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George the Third, for regulating Turnpike Roads; which said Tolls were let together for the last Year at the Rent of £360 clear of Expenses of collecting the same and will be put up at that Sum.

Whoever happens to be the best Bidder must at the same Time give Security, with sufficient Sureties, to the satisfaction of the Trustees of the said Turnpike Roads, for payment of Rent agreed for, and at such Times as they shall direct.

W. Fellows, Clerk to the Trustees.

Dudley, November 16, 1803.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 12/6/1826 - Notice

“Sedgley Church.

Notice, is hereby given, that a Copy of the Schedule, or List of several Claimants, shewing the nature and particulars of all and every Claims to the several Seats, Pews, and Kneelings in the Parish Church of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, as already made and delivered to the Commissioners for receiving, hearing, and determining all and every such Claims to the same Seats, Pews, and Kneelings, and also a Ground Plan of the said Parish Church, and Galleries therein, are deposited at the house of Mrs. *Ebery*, known by the name of the COURT HOUSE, in Sedgley aforesaid, there to remain for the space of twenty-one days, for inspection of all persons interested in taking down and re-building of the said Parish Church of Sedgley aforesaid. And all persons who may have any objections to make to the said Claims, or any or either of them, are hereby required, on or before the 30th day of June instant, to signify the same in writing to me, the undersigned, as the Clerk or Solicitor to the said Commissioners, specifying therein the nature of every such objection, in order that all such objections may be taken into consideration, and finally heard and determined by the said Commissioners at a meeting to be hereafter holden for that purpose, of which due notice will be given.

By order of the Commissioners, Henry Smith, their Clerk and Solicitor.

Wolverhampton, June 3, 1826.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 6/11/1826 - Advert

“Notice is hereby given, that the Tolls arising at the several Toll Gates and Toll Bars upon the Turnpike Road leading from Wombourn, through Sedgley, to Bilston and Princes End, in the county of Stafford, will be Let by Auction to the best bidder, at the house of *Julia Ebery*, the COURT HOUSE, in Sedgley aforesaid.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1837 - Advert

“To The Electors Of The Borough Of Wolverhampton.....

Any communication in favour of Mr. Benbow and Captain Burton’s election will be thankfully received at the following places and houses where the gentlemen conducting their election sit daily.....

Sedgley, the COURT HOUSE and SWAN; Sedgley Lowerside, the BULLS HEAD, Deepfields.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1839

“On the evening of the 9th instant, the Sedgley Operative Conservative Association met at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley. S. S. Briscoe, Esq was in the chair; and in an impressive speech showed the necessity for such associations, and offered every assistance to the institution. Samuel Bateman, Esq, J. H. Turton, Esq and J. Ballendon, Esq also attended the meeting. Mr. W. S. Naylor, of West Bromwich, addressed the meeting at considerable length. Several other animated addresses were delivered, and a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Briscoe for his able conduct in the chair. It was the largest meeting the association has had, and the greatest unanimity existed amongst all present. The next meeting of the Association takes place at the KINGS ARMS, Princes End, on the evening of the 23rd instant.”

John Ebery = John Ebrey

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 19/8/1839 - Advert

“Freehold And Copyhold Messuage And Lands, in and in the vicinity of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, formerly the estate of John Parkes, deceased.

To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Chesshire and Son, on Thursday the 29th day of August inst. (instead of the 22nd, as previously advertised) at four o'clock in the afternoon, at Mr. *Ebery's*, the COURT HOUSE, in Sedgley, in the following or such other lots as may be determined upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions then to be produced, the undermentioned properties.....”

1841 Census

Gospelend Street

- [1] *John Ebery* (40), innkeeper, COURT HOUSE;
- [2] Betsee Ebery (45);
- [3] John Ebery (16);
- [4] *Julia Ebery* (70);
- [5] Phoebe Whitehouse (21), fs, born Staffordshire;
- [6] Sarah Hadley (16), fs, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/2/1842 - Notice

“Wombourn, Sedgley, And Bilston Turnpike Roads.

Notice is hereby given that the General Annual Meeting of the Trustees of the above mentioned road will be holden at the house of Mr. *John Ebery*, the COURT HOUSE, in Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, on Tuesday, the 22nd day of March, 1842, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at which meeting a statement of the Debts, Revenue, and Expenditure of the said Turnpike Road, from the first day of January to the 31st day of December, 1841, will be audited, and an estimate of the probable expenditure for the current year will be laid before the trustees, pursuant to the estate; and other business connected with the new line of the road will be transacted.

William Fellowes, Jun., Clerk to the Trustees.

Dudley, February, 8, 1842.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/3/1844

“On Monday the 18th instant a public dinner was given at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley to J. W. Turton, Esq, and Joseph Cresswell, Esq, as a slight compliment to those gentlemen for their valuable services during the late church-rate contest at that place. The company numbered about forty, which included the most respectable inhabitants of the parish. Dudley Fereday, Esq, with great ability, presided on the occasion, and John Maughan officiated as vice-president. The dinner, which consisted of every delicacy of the season, was excellently served up by Mr. *Ebery*; and after the good things provided had satisfied the good appetites which the sight of them had naturally excited, some good speeches were elicited proposing and responding to a succession of toasts. The health of Mr. Turton and Mr. Cresswell, and ‘thanks to them for their services during the church-rate contest,’ was drank most enthusiastically, and neatly replied to by each of them.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/4/1844

“Edward Slater, Simeon Slater, William Slater, Benjamin Harrison, Thomas Harper, and Thomas Fellowes, charged with fighting at Mr. *Ebery's*, the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, were ordered to pay expenses, and a man named Bunn, who was much more violent than the rest, was ordered to find sureties.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/7/1844 - Advert

“Sedgley Roads. The next Meeting of the Trustees for the care of the above road will be held at Mr. *Ebery's*, LORD DUDLEY'S COURT HOUSE, in Sedgley, on Friday, the 2nd day of August next, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, on business connected with the new line of road and other matters.

W. Fellowes, Jun., Clerk to the Trustees.

Dudley, July 13, 1844.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/9/1844

“Mathew Leech was charged with cutting and maiming William Simmer. The parties met at the COURT HOUSE, in Sedgley. Simmer was smoking a pipe, which the prisoner broke, and then gave him a slap in the face. Prosecutor knocked Leech down, who soon after left the house, but returned with a jug, which he threw at prosecutor's head and broke. Prosecutor laid hold of the prisoner and threw him down, and fell down himself on one knee. Whilst wrestling on the ground, the prosecutor felt something cut his neck. It bled very much.

Mr. Haden, surgeon, who was called to attend the prosecutor, stated that he found an incised wound in Simmer's neck, rather more than two inches long, and half an inch deep, on the right side of the neck below the lower jaw. The wound must have been inflicted by some sharp cutting instrument. It was not, however, a dangerous wound. The prisoner, who intimated that the wound was made by a broken bit of jug, was committed to the assizes, but bail, it was stated, would be taken.”

[At the Winter Assizes, at Stafford, on 18th December 1844, Mathew Leech charged with ‘to do bodily harm,’ was found not guilty.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/10/1845

“On Wednesday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, on the body of Charles Oakley, which had been disinterred for that purpose. The death of the deceased, it was subsequently proved, was acciden-

tal, but rumours prevailed that the engine of which he had charge was not in a proper condition at the time he received his injuries which terminated in his death. No foundation whatever for the report, as will be seen, existed. Richard Richards stated that he was a banksman, and lived at Coseley. The deceased, who was a few months more than sixteen years of age, was son of William Oakley, of Coseley, engineer, and was himself employed to work an engine in the Fox Yards colliery, belonging to Messrs. Cresswell and Sons, coalmasters. On the 6th of August last the deceased was working the engine, at about eight o'clock in the morning, when Richards, who was on a pit bank near the engine heard him cry out. He instantly went to the engine, and saw deceased between the fly-wheel and the wall of the fly-wheel 'race.' Richards instantly pulled him out, and asked how he got there, and he replied that the arm of the fly-wheel had hit him on the back of the head. The deceased was badly hurt, the injuries consisting of a fracture to one of his legs, and contusions on the head and body. He (Richards) attributed the accident to the deceased's going among the machinery before it was quite stopped; the fly-wheel made half a stroke, and he (Richards) had no doubt it was then that the fly-wheel arm struck the deceased. He was taken home, and regularly attended by Mr. Roberts, surgeon of Dudley, until his death, which took place on the 9th instant. The deceased stated that he and gone on the fly-wheel 'race' to look at some men on a hill, a short distance off. The engine was found to be in good working order. Verdict Accidental Death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/8/1846

"Wolverhampton Summer Assizes.

Mary Grimley was charged in three separate indictments with stealing certain articles of wearing apparel, the property of her master, Mr. *John Ebery*, an innkeeper of Sedgley. The evidence in each case was unsatisfactory, and there was reason to believe that the son of the prosecutor had given most, if not all of the articles, to the prisoner. She was acquitted on all indictments, and immediately discharged."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1846

"On Saturday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, on the body of Mark Davis, a miner, about sixty years old. The deceased who lived at Copper's Bank, was a very drunken man, and early on Thursday morning was found lying, in a drunken state, near to the Roman Catholic chapel, at Sedgley. He had been very drunk the preceding evening. He was bruised about the eyes, and his clothes were in a filthy condition, as though he had been rolling about, but none of the bruises would have caused death. He was taken to the workhouse, where he died about seven o'clock in the evening. Mr. Henry Haden, surgeon, stated that he attended the deceased, whom he had known several years, and was of opinion he had died from apoplexy. He was in an apoplectic state when taken to the workhouse. Verdict accordingly."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/8/1848 - Advert

"Sale This day. Growing Crops of Wheat, at the Straits, near Himley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Abiathar Bunch, by direction of the executor of the late Alexander Gordon, Esq, on Wednesday, August 9, 1848, at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, a five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced....."

1851 Census

COURT HOUSE

- [1] *John Ebery* (53), innkeeper and maltster, born Bridgnorth;
- [2] Betsy Ebery (56), wife, born Selworthy, Somerset;
- [3] Elizabeth Ann Ebery (21), daughter, born Minehead;
- [4] William Ebery (17), son, born Minehead;
- [5] *Julia Ebery* (83), mother, widow, born Worfield;
- [6] Elizabeth Higgins (20), house servant, born Newport, Shropshire;
- [7] Esther Slater (12), house servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/9/1852 - Married

"On the 14th inst, at Sedgley, by the Rev. W. Lewis, MA, vicar, Mr. Richard Brewster, of Somerford Mill, to Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr. *John Ebery*, COURT HOUSE, Sedgley."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/8/1853 - Notice

"Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned *John Ebery* and Stephen Sheldon, both of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, lately carrying on the trade or business of Fire-proof Safe Manufacturers, was Dissolved by mutual consent, and that all claims against the Co-partnership must be sent in to Mr. *John Ebery*, COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford aforesaid, that the same may be examined and, if found correct, discharged; and all debts due to such estate must be paid to Mr. *John Ebery* aforesaid.

Dated this 15th day of August, 1853.

John Ebery.

Stephen Sheldon.

Witness to the signing of both parties – Samuel Packwood, Dudley."

Worcester Journal 21/1/1854

"South Staffordshire Election.....

Lord Paget has partially continued his canvass during the week, and has addressed meetings in those places which he had not

previously visited then proceeded to attend a meeting at the GEORGE AND DRAGON, at Hall Green. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Barlow, chairman of the district committee, Mr. Dimmack, Lord Paget, and Mr. Blackwell. The party then proceeded to the COSELEY TAVERN, and addressed a numerous meeting in the large room of that inn. They subsequently attended another meeting at the COURT HOUSE, at Sedgley.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/9/1855

“At the Petty Sessions, on Friday last, Joseph Slater, Emanuel Walters, Isaac Slater, Joseph Brittain, David Walters, John Clark, Thomas Harper, William Cornfield, William Perry, William Ellis, and Charles Partridge, appeared in answer to a summons before E. Best, Esq, for fighting and assisting in fighting on the previous Sunday, at Sedgley. Emmanuel Walters and a man named Perry were to have encountered each other in a prize fight, which was prevented by the interference of police-constable Tomlinson. The crowd then dispersed to various public-house, and the parties above got up various contests at the COURT public-house, Sedgley. They were all bound over to keep the peace, a heavier share of the costs being apportioned to the actual combatants.”

John Ebery died in April 1858.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/5/1858 - Advert

“The COURT HOUSE, Sedgley.

To Be Let, with immediate possession, this well-established Inn, with about two acres of Land, at which the late Mr. *Ebery* has carried on a lucrative business for a great number of years.

There are also two good Maltheuses, either or both of which may be taken with the above.

The incoming tenant will be required to take to the tenant’s fixtures, and may take any part of the stock at a fair valuation.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Leigh, HIMLEY ARMS, Himley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/10/1858 - Advert

“COURT HOUSE, Sedgley.

Sale On Monday Next, November 15, 1858, of the greater portion of the Furniture, contents of Malthouse, two excellent Dog Carts, dark brown Mare, Harness, Gears, Saddles, Bridles, Cart, &c, by order of the Executors, the property of the late Mr. *John Ebery*.

Mr. John Casserre will Sell by Auction, at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, on Monday Next, November the 15th, 1858, the greater part of the Furniture and Effects, capital brown Mare, new and second-hand harness, two excellent Dog Carts, maltsters’ Cart, saddles and bridles, cart gears, malting implements, 350 bushels of Malt, upwards of 300 malt bags, eight pockets of prime Sussex and Worcester Hops, capital Malt Crushers, malt measures, Sack Wagon, malt baskets, Day’s patent weighing machine and weights, rick of well-ended Hay, several dozens of prime Old Port and Sherry Wines, seven boxes of prime Cigars, &c. The Furniture includes four-post and tent bedsteads, well-seasoned white goose feather beds, mattresses, tables, chests of drawers, carpets, large painted wing wardrobe, mahogany and Windsor chairs, seven pairs of brilliantly-cut decanters, large quantity of cut glass, two sets of willow-pattern dinner service and odd dinner ware, large club-room tables upon trestles, noble chimney glasses in carved and gilt frames, Pianoforte, eight-days’ timepiece, copper saucepans, pewter plates, and other effects.

The whole will be sold without reserve.

In consequence of the great number of lots and shortness of the days, the sale will commence at ten o’clock to the minute.

The Dog Carts, Harness, Horse and Stable will be sold at two o’clock.

John Casserre, Auctioneer and Valuer, 51, Snowhill, Wolverhampton.”

John French = John Finch

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/2/1861 - Advert

“Gospel End, Sedgley, about midway between Dudley and Wolverhampton, Sale of Capital Oak, Elm, Poplar, Sycamore, Beech and Other Timber.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, on Tuesday, the 19th day of February, at six o’clock in the evening, and subject to conditions then to be produced, upwards of 400 capital hedgerow Timber Trees.

Lot 1. Sixteen Oak, numbered 1 to 16; 86 Ash, numbered 1 to 86; 50 Elm, numbered 1 to 50; 67 Poplar, numbered 1 to 67; 41 Sycamore, numbered 1 to 41; 12 Beech, numbered 1 to 12; 2 Larch, and 2 Hornbeam, growing on lands comprising the Gospel End House and Brown Wall farms, situate on the north and south sides of the turnpike road leading from Sedgley to Wombourne, at Gospel End, in the parish of Sedgley, in the respective occupations of Mr. John Millard and Mr. Thomas Evans, who will, upon application, appoint a person to show the Timber.

Lot 2. Eight Oak, numbered 1 to 8; 35 Ash, numbered 1 to 35; 49 Elm, numbered 1 to 40 and 1 to 9; 41 Poplar, numbered 1 to 41; and 35 Sycamore, numbered 1 to 35; growing on lands called Lower farm, commencing at Red Lane, at Gospel End aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. Millard.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, or to Messrs. Bourn and Sons, Solicitors, all of Dudley.”

1861 Census

Gospel End Street

[1] *John French* (31), licensed victualler, born Wardington, Oxfordshire;

[2] Eliza French (27), wife, born Thenford, Northamptonshire;

[3] Jesse Wall (21), servant, ostler, born Great Alne, Warwickshire;

[4] Sarah Brittain (28), house servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/5/1861

“Acting upon the advice given by Tidd Pratt, Esq, in his late lecture at Bilston, viz, ‘the holding of their meetings away from public houses,’ the No.15 Loyal Lodge of Good Fellows on Monday evening, being club night, unanimously decided to remove their lodge away from the COURT HOUSE INN, to the Life Boat Temperance Hotel, and the removal is likely to result in a saving to the members, as nothing now will be stopped from their contributions for drink, and the wisdom of this step is further established by numbers promising to become members in consequence; several gentlemen have also promised their co-operation by becoming honorary members.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/7/1861

“Mr. Griffiths, in the evening, addressed a meeting at Sedgley. At his committee room, at the COURT HOUSE INN, Mr. Griffiths said he had been led to understand that he must not expect much support from Sedgley; but that in fact, the vast majority of the electors there were opposed to him. In reply to this observation, several enthusiastic members of the committee assured Mr. Griffiths that such was not the case, but on the contrary, the majority of members of the committee were in his favour. Another gentleman said there was no doubt that the majority of the electors were opposed to Mr. Griffiths, but he was of the opinion nevertheless that a greater number of electors would support him than was generally supposed. Mr. Griffiths then went into the Bull Ring, and spoke from the box of his carriage. There were about 600 or 700 persons present, who warmly cheered him on his rising to address them. In the course of a speech about an hour’s length, Mr. Griffiths alluded to the Parliamentary history of the borough which had been comparatively without incident, and condemned the idea of the suffrages of the electors being disposed of by a clique who met in conclave, and decided amongst themselves who should be returned without consulting the constituents.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....”

Mr. *John French*, of the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, was opposed in his application for a renewal of his license by Mr. Homer, on the grounds that a large organ or musical box had been introduced into the house, which played secular music on week-days and sacred music on Sundays. There was no other complaint against the house, and the license was therefore renewed.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1863 - Advert

“Wanted, an active young man, as Ostler, and Brewer, to live in the house and make himself generally useful. Apply at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley.”

Birmingham Journal 13/2/1864

“Mr. T. M. Phillips, coroner, resumed his inquiry at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, on Friday, touching the death of a female child that was found in a well, in Duck Lane, on Wednesday fortnight, as already reported in this paper. Mrs. Harley was re-called, and the Coroner said it appeared mightily strange that she could have discovered the child in the mysterious manner she had stated at the previous inquiry, and proceeded to put some very searching questions as to whether she had not had a female lodger or visitor at her house at the time it was found, but nothing material was elicited. Sabina Butler, having spoken to going to Mrs. Harley’s assistance when the child was found, John Bagley, who resided within thirty yards of the well, stated that about eleven o’clock on the Tuesday night previous to the child being found, he was returning ‘from having some fun at the Temperance Club,’ and when near the well in Duck Lane he heard a tremendous splash in the water, and turning in that direction saw a woman beating a rapid retreat up the fold adjoining. In doing so she stumbled. He thought something was wrong, but afterwards concluded that she might have accidentally dropped her bucket, so took no further notice. Mr. H. Ballenden, surgeon, deposed to have made a post mortem examination of the body of the child. He said he found injuries from violence on the left leg, hips, neck, arms, and mouth. The child was a remarkably fine and healthy one. He gave it as his opinion that the child had never been washed or partaken of any food, but it had breathed and lived for some time. It was suffocated before it was placed in the water by bandages tied over its mouth. The Coroner remarked it was evident that it was most foul murder, and that two or more persons were concerned in it. After some consideration the Jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown. The Coroner said he would recommend that a handsome reward be offered by the Government for the discovery of the murderer.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/11/1865 - Advert

“Wanted, immediately, a young Man, as Brewer, and to make himself generally useful. Apply, COURT HOUSE, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/2/1866 - Notice

“Sedgley Roads.

Notice is Hereby Given that the General Annual Meeting of the Trustees for executing the Act of Parliament ‘For Repairing and improving the Roads commonly called the Sedgley roads, in the County of Stafford, and for making a new line of Road connected therewith in the said County,’ will be held at Mr. *French*’s, EARL DUDLEY’S COURTHOUSE, Sedgley, on Friday the 2nd day of March next, at Eleven o’clock in the forenoon. At which meeting the Debts, Revenue, and Expenditure of the above roads, commencing on the first day of January, 1865, and ending the 31st day of December, in the same year, will be audited, and an estimate of the probable expenditure of the current year will be submitted to the said meeting, and other business relative to the said Roads will be transacted.

Henry Coldicott, Clerk to the Trustees.

Dudley, 6th February, 1866.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/8/1866 - Advert

“For Sale, Pedestals and Paintings, Writing Desk and large Oak Chest, Hatbands, Pall Cloth, and Regalia belonging to No.16 Good Fellows Lodge.
Apply to Mr. *John French*, COURT HOUSE, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/12/1866 - Notice

“Sedgley Turnpike Roads.

Whereas the Tolls arising at the several Toll gates and Toll bars upon the Turnpike Road leading from Wombourne through Sedgley to Bilston and Princes End, in the county of Stafford, (being the Old District), were on the 9th day of November instant, pursuant to due Notices, put up to be let by Auction, at the house of Mr. *John French*, EARL DUDLEY’S COURT HOUSE, in Sedgley aforesaid, on Friday, the 14th December next, between the hours of Ten and Twelve in the forenoon, for the term of One Year, commencing the First day of January next, at such sums respectively as the Trustees of the said Turnpike Road then present may agree upon, and in the manner directed by the Act passed in the 3rd and 4th Years of the Reign of His Majesty’s King George the Fourth, ‘For Regulating Turnpike Roads,’ in the following Lots.

Lot 1. (Old District.) Gospel End Gate and Bar, Sedgley Gate, Can Lane Gate and Bar, Deepfield Gate and Bar, and Ladymoor Gate and Bar.

Lot 2. (New District.) Bunker’s Hill, Littleworth, Hurst Lane, Park Lane, and Dudley Port Gates, and Groveland Bar.

Whoever happens to be the best bidder must at the same time pay one month in advance (if required) of the rent at which each of such lots or tolls may be let, and give security with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the trustees of the said turnpike roads for payment of the rest of the money monthly.

Henry Coldicott. Clerk to the Trustees of the said Turnpike Roads. Dudley, 12th November, 1866.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/4/1868 - Advert

“County of Stafford. Weights and Measures. District C, or South Staffordshire

I hereby give notice that I shall attend at the undermentioned times and places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining such Weights and Measure as shall be brought to me for that purpose, and stamping such items as shall be found correct.....

COURT HOUSE, at Sedgley, on Thursdays, April 16th, May 14th, and June 11th, 1868, at Two o’clock pm.....

All Person residing in the said District desirous of having their Weights and Measures stamped should bring them or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be most convenient; or to my residence, at Goldthorn Hill, near Wolverhampton, on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Persons within any local jurisdiction, for which a separate Inspector is appointed, cannot have their Weights and Measures Examined or Stamped by the County Inspector.

J. George Horder. Inspector of Weights and Measures for the said District.

Brueton Villa, Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton. April 1, 1868.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/7/1868

“West Staffordshire Liberal Registration.

Persons (Liberal) having qualified in the parish of Sedgley for county votes, and not on the register, may be registered, free of expense, by attending the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, on Monday and Tuesday, the 13th and 14th days of July inst, between the hours of three and nine o’clock in the afternoon and evening; and the Infant School Room belonging to Darkhouse Chapel, Coseley, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 15th and 16th July inst, between the hours of five and nine o’clock in the afternoon and evening of such days.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 2/2/1870 - Advert

“Lost, in Dudley, January 21st, small Brown Terrier Dog. Mark on right fore foot. Anyone detaining him after this notice will be prosecuted.

COURT HOUSE, Sedgley.”

1871 Census

1, Gospelend Street – COURT HOUSE INN

[1] *John French* (41), licensed victualler, born Wardington, Oxfordshire;

[2] *Eliza French* (37), wife, born Thenford, Northamptonshire;

[3] *Mary Berry* (16), niece, visitor, born Rotley, Warwickshire;

[4] *Jesse Wall* (31), servant, brewer, born Alcester;

[5] *Susannah Hall* (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley;

[5] *Susannah Ralph* (6), niece, visitor, born Tipton;

[6] *Georgina Mallin* (3), niece, visitor, born Tipton;

[7] *Edward J. Mallin* (1), nephew, visitor, born Tipton;

[8] *Jane Timms* (16), domestic servant, born Tipton:

Dudley Herald 4/11/1871

“*William Pearson*, COURT HOUSE, Sedgley fined 10s and costs for permitting gambling.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/3/1872 - Notice

“County of Stafford. Weights and Measures, District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, that I shall attend at the undermentioned times and places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to me for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct.....

At the COURT HOUSE INN, at Sedgley, on Thursdays, April 18th and May 16th, 1872, at ten o'clock am.....

All persons residing in the said District desirous of having their Weights and Measures stamped should bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be most convenient, upon the days and at the hours mentioned.

Persons within any local jurisdiction for which a separate Inspector is appointed cannot have their Weights and Measures Examined or Stamped by the County Inspector.

J. George Horder. Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire.

Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton, March 16th, 1872.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/4/1873 - Advert

“General Servant (good) wanted; must understand cooking. Comfortable Home. Man Kept.

Apply COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/9/1873

“On the application of *John Watson*, landlord of the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, the Magistrates granted an additional hour on this (Wednesday) evening, on the occasion of the anniversary of the 29th Staffordshire Volunteers.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 1/12/1874

“Thomas Cooper, a puddler, was charged with assaulting Emma Lamb, barmaid at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley. It appeared that on the 9th November, defendant and his wife visited the taproom of the COURT HOUSE, and as their language was foul and improper, Mr. *Watson*, the landlord, remonstrated, and finding that they would not cease swearing, he tried to put them both out of the house. In the scuffle defendant knocked the landlord down. Shortly afterwards complainant went into the taproom, when her hair net was taken from her, and she was assaulted. Returning to the Inn after purchasing another net from a neighbouring shop, she was met, knocked down, became insensible from the effects, and had to be carried home. Defendant’s wife assaulted her. A number of witnesses were examined, the Bench expressing the opinion that perjury had been committed. In the course of the hearing, it came out that the landlord wanted the defendant to go down Duck Lane and fight it out. The Bench spoke in strong terms of the case, saying that they were disposed to send defendant to prison without the option of a fine, but considering all the circumstances, they had decided to fine him £1 and costs, or one month in default.

Police Inspector Tomlinson had instructions to convey to Mr. *Watson* the magistrates’ sense of the bad conduct of his house.”

Dudley Herald 13/5/1876

“Jonathan Cadman, grocer and draper and postmaster for the district of Sedgley was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the COURT HOUSE INN on the 3rd inst. fined 10s.”

Dudley Herald 14/10/1876

“The annual dinner of the Sedgley Rifle Volunteers took place on Monday night at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley. Captain Naylor presided.....”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/9/1877

“The annual licensing sessions for the Bilston division were held at the Public Office, Bilston, yesterday.....

The black list was as follows Licensed Victuallers....

John Watson, COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, permitting drunkenness, 40s and costs.....

None of these persons had their license endorsed.

The whole of the licenses in the ‘black list,’ it was stated, would be held over until the adjourned sessions.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/9/1877

“Bilston Adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

The licenses of the following persons were renewed, each holder being cautioned.....

John Watson, COURT HOUSE, Sedgley.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/9/1877 - Advert

“Extensive and Peremptory Sale, at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley.

To Licensed Victuallers, Innkeepers, Heads of Families, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, This Day (Friday), the 28th day of September, by order of the Mortgagee, under the power of a Bill of Sale.

All the Valuable Brewing Plant, Public-House Fixtures, Ale Barrels, Household Furniture, Stock-In-Trade, and Effects, being the contents of four Chambers, five Cellars, Parlour, Smoke Room, Commercial Room, Bar, Tap Room, Store Room, Yard and Premises, and comprising of Screens and Seatings, with Elbows; Mahogany-cased Barrel Organ, with six Barrels, plays forty-two tunes; cross-leg Drinking Tables, mahogany and horse-hair seated Chairs; mahogany Dining Tables, Window Pole and Fittings, mahogany round Stand Table, oblong Table five-pull Ale Machine, Cupboards, Chimney and Swing Glasses, Tap Table, covered

with lead; eight-day Clock, in mahogany; Beaufet, Barometer, mahogany and oak Chests of Drawers, four-post, half-tester and iron Bedsteads; Beds, Bed Furniture, and Bed Linen; Chamber Chairs, Washstands, and Dressing Tables; thirty Ale and Spirit Casks, various sizes; Tubs, Coolers, Buckets, Pails, Spouts, Trestles, Benches, Mash Tub; 200, 90, and 20-gallon Boilers and Fittings; Grates and Fixings, Sign, Lamps, and Ironwork; Gas Fittings and Piping; the Stock of Wines and Spirits, Ales, &c, &c; and a large quantity of other Effects, too numerous to mention, on the Premises of *John Watson*, which will be sold without the slightest reserve.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock a.m.

Auctioneer's Offices, 60, High Street, Tipton."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/11/1877

"Court Leet.

The customary Copyhold Court of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dudley for the parish of Sedgley, was held at the COURT HOUSE HOTEL, Sedgley, on Tuesday afternoon, when there was a large attendance of copyholders, and after the formal business had been transacted upwards of forty gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner supplied by Mr. *Watson*....."

Dudley Herald 21/2/1880

"The annual meeting of the Conservatives in the Sedgley district was held at the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, yesterday, Dr. Ballenden, Vice-President of the Association presiding....."

1881 Census

Gospel End Street – COURT HOUSE

- [1] *John Hughes* (58), widower, victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Lucy A. Hughes* (32), daughter, barmaid, born Tipton;
- [3] *Mary J. Hughes* (30), daughter, born Tipton;
- [4] *Thomas A. Hughes* (22), son, born Tipton;
- [5] *Ernest T. Hughes* (5), grandson, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Ann Southall* (26), general servant, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Elizabeth Rogers* (18), general servant, born Ironbridge:

Evening Express 13/6/1881

"*Samuel Bennett*, a labourer, was charged with refusing to quit the COURT HOUSE INN, and doing wilful damage to the property of Mr. *John Hughes*, the proprietor.

On Saturday, defendant went to this inn while drunk, and asked to be supplied with some ale. This was refused and he then went into another room and began drinking another person's liquor. This being objected to, he struck several persons, and broke some glasses and jugs. He refused to leave the house when requested, and, after being ejected, returned again and made a great disturbance.

Mr. *Hughes* did not wish to press the case.

The Stipendiary said that but for Mr. *Hughes* leniency defendant would have been heavily fined, for such conduct could not be tolerated. He would be fined 5s and costs for each case, and to pay damages, or 14 days' hard labour in default."

John Hughes died on 23rd March 1890.

See also BULLS HEAD.

Wellington Journal 15/11/1890 - Deaths

"9th inst, aged 31, at his sister's residence, after a long and painful illness, *Thomas Anthony*, youngest son of the late Mr. *John Hughes*, of the COURT HOUSE HOTEL, Sedgley. Deeply regretted."

1891 Census

Gospel End Street – COURT HOUSE HOTEL

- [1] *Frederick Evans* (29), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Emma Evans* (28), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Gertrude Evans* (4), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Joseph P. Evans* (3), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Annie Gittins* (11), niece, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Emma Evans* (16), sister, visitor, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Charles Evans* (7 months), son, born Wolverhampton:

Lucy Ann Fox and *Thomas Anthony Hughes* held the license as executors of *John Hughes*.

1901 Census

1, Gospelend Street – COURT HOUSE INN

- [1] *Joseph Dilger* (32), publican and tailor, shop keeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Clara L. Dilger* (33), wife, born Woodsetton;
- [3] *Adeline Dilger* (6), daughter, born Sedgley;

- [4] Joseph V. Dilger (3), son, born Sedgley;
[5] Ernest S. Dilger (1), son, born Sedgley;
[6] Ada Bond (16), servant, born Dudley:

Thomas Turley died on 7th October 1906.

1911 Census

Gospel End Street – COURT HOUSE HOTEL

- [1] *Cornelius Henry Robson* (41), licensed victualler, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;
[2] Sarah Jane Robson (36), wife, married 12 years, born Birmingham;
[3] Catherine Saley Robson (10), daughter, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;
[4] Tom Henry Robson (8), son, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;
[5] Charles William Robson (6), son, born Wheaton Aston, Staffordshire;
[6] Samson Frank Robson (4), son, born Bromsgrove;
[7] Hilda May Robson (2), daughter, born Brierley Hill;
[8] John Percy Robson (4 months), son, born Sedgley;
[9] Florrie Price (19), general servant, born Shifnal, Shropshire:

Bilston & Willenhall Times 27/9/1924

“It was with deep regret that a large circle of relatives and friends received the news of the death of Mr. *Eric William Lobley*, the licensee of the COURT HOUSE, Sedgley. Mr. *Lobley* was only 28 years of age, was born at Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, and came to Sedgley from Matlock last October, having been chief mechanical engineer for Southend Waterworks. He joined up with the North Suffolk Regiment at the beginning of the war, and was at Neuve Chapelle before being wounded at Festubert. He received the Mons Star and three service medals. He leaves a widow and a son aged three to mourn their loss. The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon, at Sedgley Parish Church, when the Rev. D. H. S. Mould, of St. John’s Church, Dudley, officiated. The mourners were Mrs. Lobley (widow), Mr. Lobley (father) and Mr. and Mrs. Guggari (mother and father in-law). The Sedgley British Legion were represented by Messrs. T. Postlethwaithe and J. Nichols. A large number of the Beacon Lodge of the R.A.O.B. attended, including Councillors F. E. Foster and Geo. Mills. The bearers were six ‘Buffs.’ – Leut. G. F. Eccleshall and Messrs. G. Lunt, H. Hartill, E. E. Wright, F. Allsopp and S. Windriche.”

Annie Lobley was fined £5 and costs, on 2nd January 1925, for permitting drunkenness.

She was originally from Matlock.

She was the wife of *Eric William Lobley*.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 7/2/1925

“At the Bilston Licensing Sessions today formal objection was taken by the police to the renewal of the license of the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley.

It was stated that when the temporary license was granted to the former licensee the owners were warned that she had been fined at Matlock while in charge of a house there.

The Chairman (Mr. E. Hickman) said he wished to remind the owners that they were responsible as the holder of the license.

The justices decided to consider the application at the adjourned meeting.”

AND

“Bilston Brewster Sessions.....

In the case of the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, convictions were proved of offences which took place on Christmas Eve. The Chairman said he wished to bring home to its owners that they were as responsible as the licensee.

Mr. R. Harris, who appeared on behalf of the owners (Ind Coope and Co.) pointed out that the license granted to the previous licensee was only a temporary one.

The Chairman: You do not want to put into the house people who want constant attention.

Mr. Hickman added that the justices had decided to consider the application at the adjourned meeting.....”

The last court case was held here in 1925.

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions COURT HOUSE, Sedgley, 6d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Frederick John Adkins died in 1939.

1939 Register

1, Gospel End Street

[1] *James Benton*, date of birth 27/9/1898, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Elizabeth Benton*, dob 4/5/1886, licensed victualler, married;

Probate Notice

“Frederick Augustine Joseph Richards of the COURT HOUSE INN, Bull Ring, Sedgley, Staffordshire, died 25 April 1951. Probate Birmingham 22 August to Barclays Bank Limited. Effects £2,548 9s 1d.”

Wilfred Sanson Meir – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY, Wood Green and GREEN DRAGON, Wednesbury.

Brother of *Wilfred Sanson Meir*, *Walter Frederick Meir* – see WAGGON AND HORSES, Darlaston.

Tipton Herald 21/5/1960

“Darts enthusiasts in the Sedgley area are sharpening up the ‘Jim Pikes’ and generally getting in trim for yet another season in the Hurst Hill and Sedgley League.

An initial meeting to which all past league members are invited to attend is being held at the COURT HOUSE INN, Bull Ring, Sedgley, on Tuesday evening.

Mr. D. A. McMillan, League President and Treasurer, tells me that it is hoped the league will be up to full strength and that one or two new teams will also be attracted to come along. Normally there are between 12 and 20 teams in the league and there are some good trophies offered.”

Tipton Herald 13/8/1960

“It was behaviour that could not be tolerated and the magistrates were determined to put a stop to it, declared Councillor Mrs. E. E. Williams, Chairman, at Sedgley Magistrates Court, on Monday, when four Coseley men, whose ages ranged from 18 to 29, appeared on charges in connection with a disturbance that took place in Dudley Street, Sedgley, shortly after 10pm on June 25th. Before the Court were Alfred Lawrence Denner (18), of 11, Sherwin Avenue, Woodcross; George Albert Perkins (19), of 27, Swan Road, Deepfields; William Arthur Hodgetts (29), of 85, Etingshall Road, Parkfields; and Ronald Hall (18), of 39, Jeffery Avenue, Parkfields.

Telling the men that they were a disgrace to themselves and to the district, Mrs. Williams said the magistrates had got to deal very severely with all of them. They all got bad records and had got to pay the price, she added.

Pleading guilty to stealing one mineral water glass, the property of the licensee of the COURT HOUSE, Bull Ring, Sedgley, Denner was sent to a detention centre for three months.

On charges of assaulting Mr. Edgar R. C. Purcell, of Kings Road, Sedgley, and Mr. Keith Anthony Harvey of South Oval, Upper Gornal, Denner was sentenced to two months at a detention centre, to run concurrently. He was also fined £5 with £1 7s 6d costs for disorderly behaviour on June 25th, £5 for using obscene language and £2 for being drunk and disorderly on July 22nd. A further charge of causing wilful damage to a pint beer glass, the property of the licensee of the COURT HOUSE, was dismissed.

After being found guilty of assaulting Purcell on June 25th, Perkins was sent to a detention centre for two months, and the magistrates also sentenced him to two months detention on a charge of causing wilful damage to a pint glass of beer, the property of the licensee of the COURT HOUSE INN, this sentence to run concurrently. He was fined £5 with £1 7s 6d costs for disorderly behaviour on June 25th, and £2 for being drunk and disorderly on July 22nd.

Hodgetts was fined £5 with £1 7s 6d costs for disorderly behaviour on June 25th, and a similar penalty was imposed on Hall who was also concerned in the disorderly behaviour on that date. In addition, Hall was given a conditional discharge for six months on payment of 12s costs on a charge of causing wilful damage to a window, the property of Mr. Basil Grainger.

Superintendent W. E. T. Hinckley told the Court that the trouble involving the four men started at 10.25pm on June 25th when members of a mixed youth club, who had been on an outing to Rhyl, were dispersing after getting off their coach in Dudley Street, Sedgley. Denner, who was with the three other defendants, persisted that someone in the party had sworn at him. ‘He seemed to have an obsession about this and although it was denied such a remark had been made, he still persisted that someone had sworn at him,’ continued the Superintendent.

Mr. Purcell, a leader of the youth club, was accused by Denner who became aggressive, and he pushed Mr. Purcell against the Dormston school railings. The police were sent for and when PC Brierley arrived he questioned Denner and Perkins. ‘There was no doubt all four defendants had been taking part in the disturbance,’ added the Superintendent.

Purcell, giving evidence, said he was one of the last to leave the coach which had pulled up in Dudley Street. As he walked towards High Holborn with members of the party, he noticed some youths following them. When Denner said someone on the coach had sworn at him, Purcell denied this. Perkins, he said, was adopting a threatening attitude. ‘He stood over me, with his fists waving about, and I expected a blow at any time,’ said Purcell.

Referring to the charges against Denner and Perkins of being drunk and disorderly, Superintendent Hinckley told the Court that Mr. D. A. McMillan, licensee of the COURT HOUSE INN, Bull Ring, had his attention drawn to a disturbance in the bar at 9.45pm on July 22nd. He found Denner and Perkins in the bar, adopting a fighting attitude and squaring up to one another. The licensee put Perkins off the premises. Mr. McMillan told the magistrates that his object in putting Perkins off the premises was to separate the two men. Later pint glasses which had been in their possession were found broken. He also identified a mineral

water glass as his property when it was shown to him by the police.

PC P. Turner said, with PS F. A. Phillips, he went to the Bull Ring, Sedgley, and found Perkins and Denner fighting and squaring up to one another. They were separated and later charged with being drunk and disorderly. Denner was also charged with stealing a mineral water glass, which was found in his possession when being searched and he admitted taking it from the public house. Perkins told the Court that a beer glass he was holding got caught against the door when he was being ejected from the COURT HOUSE INN and ‘that was how it got broke.’”

[Is Alfred Lawrence Denner related to William Raymond Denner? See WHITE LION, Bilston Street, Tipton Herald 30/7/1960.]

Tipton Herald 1/10/1960

“A disturbance in a Sedgley public house, involving a number of local youths, was followed by a scene in the Bull Ring, Sedgley magistrates were told on Monday.

Before the court was Raymond Arthur Chinn (18), of 25, Watson Road, Woodcross, Coseley, who pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly, and assaulting John William Nicholls (17), of 22, Cross Lane, Sedgley.

Insp. C. Barsted said that on Thursday night of last week there was a disturbance in the bar of the COURT HOUSE INN. Afterwards in the Bull Ring, Chinn was seen arguing with Nicholls and other youths who previously had been in the public house. By the time police officers arrived the youths were on the verge of fighting.

Fining Chinn £2 for being drunk and disorderly and £5 for assaulting Nicholls, the magistrates warned him ‘very seriously’ that if he went about hitting people he could be sent to prison. ‘If you continue with this sort of behaviour that is where you will land,’ he was told.”

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 Mater Cellarmen holds its annual luncheon at the Ind Coope Burton brewery Guildhall.”

Robert Morris was married to Susan.

See also MOUNT, Penn Road, Wolverhampton.

A tunnel still exists leading to a nearby church. [1994]

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.

COURT HOUSE HOTEL, Bull Ring, Sedgley, Dudley.”

It reopened after a £220,000 refurbishment on 28th July 2000.

It reopened as HOTEL COURTHOUSE Bar and Restaurant, on 7th March 2015, after a closure of ten weeks.

Express & Star 15/7/2015

“Sedgley has become a hive of Pokemon Go activity with a range of Poke Centres, gyms and Pokemon hotspots all in close proximity, ideal for players to level up.

The WHITE HORSE, the GRAND JUNCTION, the COURTHOUSE, the local Scout hut and Sedgley Library are all Poke Centres which offer the opportunity for players to collect Poke balls and other useful items quickly.”

Closed [2016]

Express & Star 13/4/2017

“A Grade -II listed pub in the Black Country that was once a Courthouse dating back to the early 19th century has gone up for sale. The COURTHOUSE on Gospel End Street, Sedgley which closed over a year ago, has a guide price of £150,000. The two-storey building contains a historic stone detached building, and was used as a public house and restaurant which was open for many years.

Ward councillor Michael Evans said it had always been ‘a nice old pub’ but hopes it can be taken over, rather than staying empty. He said, ‘The pub closed down around a year and a half ago. It was originally bought by an undertakers which I was pleased about but renovation costs concerned them and now it’s up for auction. It’s a bit of a shame because I thought the undertakers would be brilliant – it’s a guaranteed trade for Sedgley. I’m assuming that if plans don’t go ahead at the auction then the original

plans for an undertakers may go ahead again.’ He added, ‘It was always a nice old pub – the type of pub we all like in Sedgley.’ The pub, on Gospel End Street, is located near other pubs including the SWAN, the CLIFTON and the WHITE HORSE.

Ian Tudor, director and head of commercial auctions at SDL Bigwood, said, ‘The most important thing about the property is the history of the building. It was the old courthouse for Sedgley and when you go down into the cellar you can see where they would’ve held people overnight. The big heavy doors are long gone but you can still see what would’ve been where.’ He added, ‘It has a potential to have lots of different uses such as a retail unit on the ground and perhaps an office or living space on the first floor. It’ll be an interesting project for someone.’

On the first floor are former private living quarters containing five rooms, a former kitchen, bathroom and an office. Outside there is a small terraced area and car parking.

The COURTHOUSE will appear in the auction on May 4 at Aston Villa football club in Birmingham.”

Dudley Chronicle 10/08/2017

“A Grade-II listed pub which went up for sale has been bought and could be turned into an Indian restaurant, a ward councillor has said.

The COURTHOUSE on Gospel End Street, Sedgely, was due to go under the hammer but the property was snapped up by a buyer beforehand.

Sedgely ward councillor Michael Evans said, ‘I think it will be (turned into) an Indian restaurant.’”

CROSS KEYS

57, (33), Ruiton Street, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

James Hartill, brewer, Lower Gornal

James Ellis, wine merchant, Sedgley [1864], [1865]

Thomas Bate, licensee

Thomas Booth, brewer, Red Lion Inn, Lower Gornal

John Francis Myatt, Red Hill Lodge, Compton, Wolverhampton

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Bradley [1834] – [1835]

William Cartwright [1841] – [1842]

John Baker [1845] – [1846]

Joseph Baker [1849] – **1856**;

Emma Hughes Wassell (**1856** – [1858])

Thomas Hartle [1859]

Mason []

Benjamin Bradley [] – **1860**;

Joseph Gilbert (**1860**);

Joseph Hyde (**1860** – [])

Joseph Price [1862]

James Hartill [1864] – **1888**;

Thomas Bate (**1888** – **1931**);

Thomas Howard Bate (**1931** – **1935**);

Thomas Copson (**1935**);

Arthur Fieldhouse (**1935** – **1937**);

John Hickman (**1937**);

Mrs. Mary Ann Mason (**1937** – **1942**);

Albert Wooldridge (**1942** – **1943**);

Mrs. Mary Ann Mason (**1943** – **1953**);

Susan Evelyn Watkins (**1953** – **1957**);

John Frederick Tomkinson (**1957** – **1958**);

Sarah Ann Westwood (**1958** – [])

Barry Flavell [1991] – [1993]

NOTES

33, Ruiton Street [1871], [1873], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
57, Ruiton Street [1939]

OLD CROSS KEYS [1835], [1841], [1842]

CROSS KEYS [1843], [1845], [1846], [1850], [1855], [1858], [1904], [1912]

It was known locally as 'The Clinic.'

1841 Census

Lower Gornal

- [1] *William Cartwright* (25), maltster, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Cartwright (20), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Sarah Cartwright (2), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Phebe Cartwright (8 months), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Mary Raybould (15), ms, born Staffordshire:

Worcestershire Chronicle 15/6/1842 - Advert

"Sale At The OLD CROSS KEYS INN, Lower Gornal.
To Publicans, Cider Dealers And Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Newbold, on Tuesday, the 21st of June, 1842, commencing punctually at half-past ten o'clock. A Capital new 260-gallon Copper Furnace, 12 very superior store and other English oak Casks (varying from 240 to 60 gallons), capital mash and other tubs, screens, new oblong and other tables, deal forms, glass, cupboards, mahogany signboard, and other effects, the whole being of the best materials and manufacture, and only purchased about 15 months."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1843

"The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Monday, at the CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornall, on a child named John Wilkes, who fell into a well of water while playing with a kitten near to the edge of it Verdict in each case Accidental Death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1843

"The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Tuesday at the CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornal, on a child named Joseph Davenport, who died through injuries received by his clothes taking fire. Verdict, Accidental Death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/11/1845

"On Monday night an inquiry was commenced at the CROSS KEYS, Gornall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, as to the death of Matthew Whitton, a boy about thirteen years old. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased had sustained an injury to his left knee, about a month ago; but, having been attended by Mr. Roberts, surgeon, Dudley, the wound had healed, and a few days before his death it appeared to have got well. He then became ill, and continued so until his death, on Saturday week. A report that the boy had been poisoned gained circulation, and it was deemed prudent to hold an inquest upon the body; and upon the examination of witnesses, and a post mortem examination having taken place, the jury, at the adjourned inquiry, on Monday last, returned a verdict of Died from inflammation of the stomach and bowels."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/1/1846

"On Friday last an inquest was held at the CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Josiah Nichols, a child nearly two years old. The death of the deceased, it appeared, was caused by his upsetting on himself a coffee pot containing boiling coffee, which had been prepared for breakfast, and left on the hob of the fire place, while his mother was sweeping some rubbish from before the door. The accident occurred on the 6th instant, and notwithstanding the necessary applications, the poor child died on the 19th instant. Verdict, Accidental Death."

AND

"An inquest was held on Friday last, at the CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornall, on the body of William Worton, a miner, about twenty-two years of age. The deceased, it appeared, lived at Upper Gornall, but worked at an ironstone pit belonging to Mr. T. P. Wilson, in the parish of Kingswinford. On Thursday morning last, while he was holing, a mass of clod and stone, of the weight of three or four tons, fell upon him, by which his head was much cut, one of his legs broken, and he was otherwise so much injured that he died instantly. Joshua Bunn and James Abbiss, workmen in the pit, spoke to its general safety, the former having worked in it two years, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/2/1846 - Advert

"Desirable Properties at Dudley and Gornal, near Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction by Abiathar Bunch, at the house of Mr. *John Baker*, the CROSS KEYS INN, in Gornal, on Monday, February 23, 1846, precisely at six o'clock in the evening, 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.

Lot I. A Copyhold Public House and Premises, situate at Gornal, known by the sign of the CROSS KEYS; comprising front kitch-

en, front parlour, bar, back parlour, four cellars, four bed-rooms, large club-room, brewhouse, Stable, pigsty, wash-cistern, and other outbuildings, with a large productive Garden, in the occupation of Mr. *John Baker*. . . .”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/4/1846

“An inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the house of Mr. *John Baker*, the CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday the 7th, and by adjournment to Monday the 17th instant, upon the body of Mary Elizabeth Stafford, an infant about fourteen weeks old. It appeared in evidence that Hannah Stafford, the mother of the deceased, had been in the habit of giving her children paregoric when they had coughs, and that on the previous Friday she sent her son, Joseph Stafford, a boy about nine years old, to the shop of Mr. Oakley, a druggist residing at Lower Gornal, with a bottle, for twopenny worth of paregoric; the sister of Oakley, by mistake, gave the boy laudanum; the mother gave the deceased half a teaspoon of it, believing it to be paregoric, and laid her down to sleep, as usual, upon a pillow in the kitchen. Soon afterwards, the deceased appearing uncomfortable and restless, Mrs Stafford sent for her sister in law, who was present when she gave the laudanum; and requested her to take the bottle and its contents to Mr. Oakley’s, and ask if what he had sent was paregoric. Mr. Oakley discovered the mistake, and instantly sent an emetic; he also went immediately to Stafford’s house, and upon ascertaining the quantity the mother had given the deceased, fetched Dr. Hicken, surgeon, who attended the deceased, but his services were to no avail, the child dying between one and two o’clock the following morning. Mr. Hicken made a post mortem examination of the body of the deceased, and gave it as opinion that she died from congestion of the brain, probably produced by some powerful narcotic. The jury, after a very long deliberation, returned a verdict that deceased died in consequence of the innocent administration of laudanum by Hannah Stafford, her mother.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/11/1850

“The following inquests were held on Tuesday, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner. . . .

At Gornall, on the body of Edward Guest, a miner, aged 50, and blind, who was at Mr. *Joseph Baker*’s, CROSS KEYS public-house, Lower Gornal, and after having some liquor was put out of the house at one o’clock in the morning somewhat intoxicated. Deceased was shortly afterwards seen by a woman named Ann Marsh going out of his right direct way home, when she led him some distance into the right road and then left him. The deceased had to pass within 30 yards of a pit at the Swan Colliery, and the next morning his lifeless body was discovered at the bottom, he having, it is supposed, accidentally fallen down, as there were no marks of any struggle on the bank. The pit, it was stated, was standing on account of it being Sedgley wake, and was partially covered by two planks. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston. . . . The following licenses were suspended till the adjourned licensing day, in consequence of complaints against the house. . . . *Joseph Baker*, CROSS KEYS, Gornal.”

Stafford Sentinel 15/11/1856

“Miss *Emma Hughes Wassell*, assistant in the business of *Joseph Baker*, of the CROSS KEYS, Gornal, was charged before the magistrates, on Monday last, with perjury. The charge arose out of a case tried before Mr. Sergeant Clark, the Judge of the County Court, in which Joseph Waterfield was the plaintiff, and *Joseph Baker* defendant. The case had been before the public two or three times previously, and the facts are briefly these. *Baker*, of the CROSS KEYS, Gornal, was indebted to Waterfield, in the sum of £16, was sued in the county court, Waterfield obtaining judgement. Execution was subsequently obtained, and the bailiffs, on taking possession, were summarily ejected from the house by Miss *Emma Hughes Wassell*, and others, for which offence the parties were afterwards fined by the Judge. On the bailiffs obtaining possession the following day, they found a number of articles had been removed from the premises. The matter again came before the county court, in the shape of an interpleader, when Mr. Kenealey, barrister, appeared for Waterfield, and Mr. Warmington, for *Wassell*, the prisoner, on that occasion, swearing that the goods were removed to a Mrs. Passmore’s; the goods not being found there, and Mrs. Passmore having stated, very confidently, that they had never been brought to her house; the present charge was instituted. A great number of witnesses had been examined, and the case for the prosecution appeared to be fully established, until Mrs. Passmore, unexpectedly explained that though the goods in question had never been brought to her house, they had been put into a shop at the back of it, which at once put the case to an end.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Bilston Annual Licensing Day. . . .

The following were not renewed, the applicants not being present in person, and having had complaints entered against them. . . . CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornal, kept by *Emma Hughes Wassell*.”

London Gazette 23/8/1859

“Whereas a Petition of *Thomas Hartle*, at present and for the last twelve days residing at the BLACK HORSE, Queen’s-cross, in the parish of Dudley, in the county of Worcester, following no business or occupation, and for about eight months previously thereto residing and carrying on business at the CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornall, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, as a Publican, and also for about five months of the said period of eight months as a Grocer and Provision Dealer, and for about one year and five months previously thereto residing and carrying on business at the NEW INN, High-street, in the parish of King-swinford, in the county of Stafford, as a Publican, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, at Dudley, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Thomas Hartle*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Thomas Hartle* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 6th

September 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 the choice of the creditors' assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Thomas Hartle*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Thomas Walker, Registrar of the said Court, at the Court-house, Priory-street, Dudley, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent."

Mason issued tokens from here.

Joseph Hyde = Joseph Hide

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861 - Advert

"Staffordshire, Valuable Freehold Houses, Leasehold Corn Mill (Equal to Freehold), and Eligible Freehold Building land, situate at Gospel End, Ruiton, and Lower Gornal, all in the parish of Sedgley.

To Solicitors, Capitalists, Speculators, & Others, Mr. Solomon Powell will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. Henry Fullwood, the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, on Wednesday, the 9th day of January, 1861, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to the conditions then to be produced, and in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon.....

Lot 3. All that Freehold and Eligible Field of Land, containing 1a, 3r, 27p, and situate opposite the CROSS KEYS INN and WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, approached by a road leading out of the road from Sedgley, through Ruiton to Gornal Wood and Dibdale bank.

This land is supposed to contain the celebrated Gornal Stone so commonly used in the erection of Houses, and for the use of Ironworks and Furnaces; and irrespective of this valuable Mine, the Land is very eligible for Building purpose, being situated on an elevated position, having good falls for drainage, and in the immediate neighbourhood of a large population, and within short distances of works of all kinds....."

Birmingham Journal 11/1/1862

"Two attempts at self-destruction, the last of which has nearly proved fatal, have been made by the wife of Mr. *Joseph Price*, landlord of the CROSS KEYS INN, Lower Gornal. On the first occasion when she made an effort to cut her throat, she was caught in the act. She renewed the endeavor on Saturday, however, and this time with effect. The wound she inflicted is about three inches long, but it fortunately did not reach the larynx. She was taken to the Union Poorhouse and put under restraint, and is progressing favorably."

Birmingham Journal 28/6/1862 - Advert

"CROSS KEYS INN, Lower Gornal.

To Publicans, Brokers, And Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Tuesday next, July 1st.

The whole of the Brewing Plant, 140-gallon copper Boiler, 100-gallon ditto, Vats and Piping, excellent 30-bushel Mash Tub, gathering Tubs, oval Coolers, three tumps of Hops, three 120-gallon Casks, eight hogsheads ditto, twelve half ditto, five 18-gallon ditto, six 2-gallon ditto, sweet and in excellent condition; Fixtures, four-pull Beer Machine, with stop taps and piping, nearly new; together with the neat and clean Household Furniture, fine toned Piano-Forte, by Collard and Collard; four sets of iron Bedsteads, four-feather Beds, Blankets, Sheets, Mattresses, Counterpanes, oak carved Linen Chests, Chests of Drawers, Dressing Tables, Wash Stands, mahogany Sofa, horse-hair seating, handsome eight-day Timepiece, oil Lamps, Prints and Frames, Stuffed Birds, Oil Paintings, with the usual Kitchen Requisites, belonging to Mr. *Joseph Price*, who is declining the business.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.

N.B. The Auctioneer respectfully solicits an early attendance in consequence of the number of lots."

James Hartill, beer retailer, Lower Gornal. [1864], [1865]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

"Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

Mr. J. Ellis, the mortgagee of the CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornal, applied in person for a license to that house, and was refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/9/1864

"Bilston Adjourned Licensing Day.....

Mr. Ellis, mortgagee of the CROSS KEYS, Gornal, applied for a license to that house. Two years ago the license was taken away from the then tenant for his misconduct of his house. Application refused."

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1865

"Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting of the Bilston division of the county of Stafford was held in the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Underhill applied, on behalf of Mr. *James Hartill*, for a license to the BARLEY MOW, formerly called the CROSS KEYS, at Lower Gornal. The house belonged to Mr. James Ellis, wine merchant, Sedgley, who had been the mortgagee. Three years ago the license had been taken from the house owing to the misconduct of a person named *Hide*, who kept it at that time, but it was remarked to Mr. Ellis that if he could get another tenant, the license would again be renewed. Mr. Underhill then called Po-

lice-sergeant Tomlinson, who deposed that Mr. *Hartill* was a most respectable man, and had kept the house creditably for eighteen or twenty months. Application granted”

1871 Census

33, Ruiton Street – CROSS KEYS

- [1] *James Hartill* (43), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Hartill (44), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Alice Hartill (19), daughter, born Dudley;
- [4] Phillis Hartill (16), daughter, born Dudley;

Dudley Herald 9/1/1875 - Advert

“To be shot for on Monday 1st day of February 1875, at the CROSS KEYS INN, Lower Gornal, a splendid (maiden) fat pig, upwards of 30 scores, by 40 subscribers at 10s each.”

Lichfield Mercury 17/12/1880

“On Monday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips (South Staffordshire Coroner) held an adjourned inquest at the CROSS KEYS INN, Ruiton Street, touching the death of Job Flavell, aged four months, the illegitimate child of Mary Flavell. The child was found dead in bed on Friday morning, and as the mother could not account for its death the Coroner directed a post mortem examination of the body should be made. Dr. Ballenden said death had been caused by suffocation, but could not say how the child was suffocated. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.”

1881 Census

33, Ruiton Street – CROSS KEYS

- [1] *James Hartill* (54), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Hartill (55), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Thomas Bate* (27), son in law, blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [4] Phyllis Bate (26), daughter, born Dudley;
- [5] *Thomas Howard Bate* (8), grandson, born Sedgley;
- [6] Ann Rebecca (no surname) (14), general servant, born Dudley;

Dudley and District News 11/3/1882

“On Saturday afternoon last, Mr. W. H. Phillips, Esq, held an inquiry at the CROSS KEYS INN, Lower Gornal, touching the death of a boy named Israel Hopson (2), who was killed on the previous evening in Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. It appeared that the child ran across the road while a cart, driven by a baker named Eli Moss, was passing. Before it could be pulled up, deceased got under the wheel, and was killed on the spot. The child’s mother witnessed the sad occurrence, but was powerless to render assistance. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

33, Ruiton Street – CROSS KEYS INN

- [1] *Thomas Bate* (35), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Phillis Bate (34), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Thomas H. Bate* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] James B. Bate (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *James Hartill* (67), father in law, widower, retired lime stone miner, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 5/3/1892

“The Coal Trade Crisis.

A meeting of colliers was held at the CROSS KEYS INN, Lower Gornal, on Thursday night. Messrs. H. Rust and B. Turner addressed the meeting in favour of the men remaining loyal to the Wages Board. It was unanimously agreed to support the Board.”

1901 Census

33, Ruiton Street – CROSS KEYS INN

- [1] *Thomas Bate* (45), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Phyllis Bate (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas H. Bate* (20), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [4] James B. Bate (14), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Clarence Bate (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Hannah J. Hopson (16), general servant, born Sedgley;

Tipton Herald 17/1/1903

“At the annual meeting of the CROSS KEYS Sick and Draw Club a capital spread was provided by the host and hostess, after which Mr. J. Carter was voted to the chair.....”

1911 Census

33, Ruiton Street

- [1] *Thomas Bate* (57), widower, licensed victualler, born Gornal Wood;
- [2] Clarence Bate (18), son, brewer, born Gornal;
- [3] Bernard Bate (24), son, engineer, motor fitter, born Gornal;
- [4] Lilian Bate (27), son's wife, married 1 year, born Wednesbury;
- [5] May Morgan (17), general servant, born Brierley Hill:

Thomas Bate was fined 10s and costs, on 5th February 1917, for supplying ale to a child under 14 in a vessel not corked and sealed.

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions CROSS KEYS, Lower Gornal, £1 12s 9d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/7/1936

“*Arthur Fieldhouse*, aged 55, licensee of the CROSS KEYS INN Ruiton Street, was at Sedgley yesterday fined £1 and £8 8s special costs for increasing the specific gravity of beer after an account was taken by an officer of Customs and Excise.”

1939 Register

57, Ruiton Street

- [1] *Mary A. Mason*, date of birth 20/6/1890, licensee, married;
- [2] Ernest Mason, dob 21/1/1895, iron foundry, metal, married;
- [3] Ernest A. Mason, dob 22/7/1922, metal, pattern maker, single;
- [6] Bert Jones, dob 15/12/1914, electric worker, heavy work, single;
- [7] Harold Lathe, dob 4/2/1908, bricklayer's labourer, single:

Barry Flavell was educated at Red Hall and Robert Street schools.
He was married to Sheila.

It closed in February 1998.

It was repeatedly targeted by arsonists whilst boarded up.

It was demolished in April 2001 and houses were built on the site.

CROWN

104, (37), High Street / Wolverhampton Road, (Wolverhampton Street), (Dudley Road), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

John Fereday, gentleman, High Holborn, Sedgley

Mary Fereday, spinster, Sedgley

George Thompson and Sons, brewers, Dudley

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Williams [1845] – [1846]

Thomas Morgan [] – 1849);

Thomas Stamford (1849 – [1851]

John Stamford [] – 1851);

Richard White Tamlyn (1851 – [1852]

John Wheelwright [] – 1855);

William Anson (1855 – [1860])
James Price [1858]
William Hanson [1856] – 1862);
Mrs. Betty Hanson (1862 – []
James Harper [1864] – [1865]
John Darby [] – 1866);
Abel Wootton (1866 – []
W Harrison [1867]
Edward Ward [1867] – 1868);
Thomas Price (1868 – []
Thomas Wright [1869]
James Price [1870]
Richard Perry [] – 1871);
Charles Wainwright (1871 – [1872])
Maria Kent [1873]
James Orlando Winkle [1873] – 1875);
David Kent (1875);
Walter Pearce (1875 – 1877);
Thomas I Wright (1877 – 1882);
Thomas ‘Tom’ Cartwright (1882 – 1887);
Luke Bird (1887 – 1889);
James Perry (1889 – 1894);
Frederick Parry (1894 – 1906);
Albert Ezer Bradley (1906 – 1917);
Thomas John Nicholson (1917 – 1920);
Mrs. Elizabeth Field (1920 – 1930);
John Sidney Tranter (1930 – 1931);
George Jones (1931 – 1944);
Harold Jones (1944 – 1949);
Cyril Lawson (1949 – 1953);
Frank Edward Miliner (1953 – []
Sullivan [1960]
Geoffrey Bangham []
Bill Griffiths [1983];
Barry Mycock [];
John Hill (1985 – 1988);
John Walters (1988 – [1991])
Louise Hales (2005 – [2006])
Mick Brown [c.2013]
Roy Timmins (2014 – [2018])

NOTES

Furlong Walk [1868]
Dudley Road [1881]
37, High Street [1881], [1901], [1911]
104, High Street [1932], [1939]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/3/1846

“On Tuesday the 10th instant, an inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, at the CROWN INN, Sedgley, on the body of Thomas Pugh, a child about five years old, whose death was caused by his clothes catching fire on the 13th of January last. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

James Williams was sued by Samuel Jones, a butcher, of Wolverhampton, in August 1846, for damage done to a horse (by negligence), stabled at the CROWN INN, and had to pay £14 damages.

Thomas Stamford = Thomas Stanford

Birmingham Chronicle 8/3/1851 - Advert

“CROWN INN, Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by W. Ashcroft (under a Deed of Assignment) on Monday Next, March 10th, at Eleven o’clock in the morning – the Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession of the above House and Premises, the whole of the Household Furniture, Fixtures, Brewing Vessels, Casks, nearly new, 300 gallons prime Ale, quantity of Spiritous Liquors, and other Effects; particulars of

which are inserted into catalogues, to be had at the place of Sale. Mr. Ashcroft has several Old-licensed Public Houses and Beer Houses to Dispose of, and an excellent Butcher's Shop."

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Richard Tamlyn* (30), victualler's agent for ale &c, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Louisa Tamlyn* (26), wife, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [3] *Mary Selina Tamlyn* (7), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Eleanor L. Tamlyn* (6), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Samuel Richard Tamlyn* (4), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Elizabeth Tamlyn* (3), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Emma J. Tamlyn* (1), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] *Ellen Burns* (15), servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [9] *Daniel Johnson* (20), servant, born Wolverhampton:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/11/1851 - Advert

"Found in a field at Sedgley, on Wednesday afternoon, November 16, a strawberry and white Fat Cow. She is supposed to have strayed into the field, which is on the roadside, and the owner may have her again by paying expenses, by applying to Mr. *Tamlyn*, CROWN INN, Sedgley."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/2/1852

"Wolverhampton Police Court, Wednesday, February 11.

The Magistrates present were J. Leigh and S. Cartwright, Esqs.

The business, which was not a great deal in amount, was uninteresting. A charge of felony (stealing a pound of bacon) which was remanded, with three or four assault cases, constituted the main matters requiring magisterial attention. The only case possessing any claim to notice was the following.

Mr. *R. W. Tamlyn*, innkeeper, of Sedgley, was charged with assaulting Mr. W. Grosvenor. Mr. Hayes appeared for the defendant. Mr. Grosvenor stated that late on Thursday night (as we understood) he called at the house of Mr. *Tamlyn*, and demanded lodging. Mr. *Tamlyn* and his family were in bed, and Mr. *Tamlyn* at first answered him from the window. He told Mr. *Tamlyn* what he wanted, and Mr. *Tamlyn* refused to let him in; he told him he was ill, and could not go further, offering, if he could not have a bed, to lie upon a sofa, or if that was not possible, to sit upon a chair. He also offered to pay anything that was demanded. As Mr. *Tamlyn* refused to admit him he continued knocking. At last Mr. *Tamlyn* came down and opened the door, with a drawn sword in his hand, with which he threatened to stick him. He (complainant) went to the door and Mr. *Tamlyn* pushed him violently down the steps. He lived at Hanley, and was so ill that he could go no further. Mr. Leigh intimated that the Bench considered the case to be one that would be more fitly decided in the County Court, upon an action against defendant, as an innkeeper, for refusing admission to a guest, than upon the question of an assault; upon which the complainant replied that he had commenced an action in that Court. Mr. Leigh observed that under such circumstances the Bench would not decide upon the case, as the learned Judge before whom it would be tried would, of course, take the whole circumstances of the case into consideration. The Bench did not express any opinion on the case before them, but dismissed the summons."

Nottingham Journal 2/7/1852 - Advert

"Charles Hill and Son's India, Pale, and Burton Ales.

C. Hill and Son, in acknowledging the skill and industry displayed by Mr. Pepper, the well known Lecturer, at the Royal Polytechnic Institution, in his Chemical analysis of their Ales, take the opportunity of calling attention to the fine quality of the present season's brew, with the address of some of their Agents in the principal localities, from whom their Friends and the public generally can be supplied, in Casks of various sizes, as also direct from the Brewery, Burton-upon-Trent.

Favoured by the increasing patronage of a Public that has for many years appreciated not only the excellent article of their highly respected neighbours, but their own particular Beverage, C. Hill and Son cannot but hope that their good name for very superior Ale, and the knowledge of its perfect purity elicited by Mr. Pepper's analysis, will give every satisfaction to their long and much esteemed connexion.

Agents Wolverhampton. Mr. *R. W. Tamlyn*, Sedgley."

Richard White Tamlyn – see also BULLS HEAD, Sedgley.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/4/1855

"At the Petty Sessions, yesterday the following victuallers' licenses were transferred..... that of the CROWN INN, Sedgley, from *John Wheelwright*, deceased, to *William Anson*."

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/1/1857

"At the Public Office yesterday, before J. Leigh and J. Walker, Esqs, *William Anson*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Sedgley, was brought on remand, charged with stealing a purse containing the sum of £49 18s from the person of an Irish pig dealer named Patrick M'Loughlin, on the 16th instant. Mr. J. Underhill prosecuted, and Mr. Bartlett appeared for the accused.

The prosecutor, whose right temple was bandaged with adhesive plaster, deposed that on Friday, the 16th instant, he went round the country to collect money. When starting he had £12 10s in his purse, and at Dudley he received £25 8s, and at Sedgley a

further sum of £12 5s. At Sedgley he went to the CROWN, the prisoner's house. He told the accused he had money about him, and asked his advice whether he should remain all night or go on to Wolverhampton. *Anson* then, as he swore, laid hold of him, threw him down the passage and took his purse from his pocket, and the witness was positive that he saw his purse in his hand. He was then ejected from the house and maltreated by persons who were outside. He ran for some distance, shouting 'Murder and Police,' and lay behind a wall for some time, after which he walked home to Wolverhampton. Other witnesses gave corroborative evidence as to his conduct and appearance after the time when he was at the CROWN.

Mr. Bartlett called witnesses for the defence. The daughter of a beerhouse keeper, named Smith, deposed that on the evening in question the prosecutor called at their house, and was then so intoxicated that they refused to serve him with more drink. William Nott deposed that the prosecutor was very drunk when at the CROWN, and was quietly ejected by the landlord and another man. The witness declared positively that the accused never touched his purse or money. Thomas Pugh stated that about ten minutes after eight o'clock he found M'Loughlin lying in the gutter, with a wound on his head. He was shouting out that he was 'murdered,' and was bawling for the police. The prosecutor had a knife in his hand, and a man standing by told the witness that the former had been running his wife up and down the street, and had nearly frightened her to death.

There were other witnesses for the defence, but the magistrates expressed themselves satisfied that the accused was innocent of the charge, and ordered him to be discharged."

London Gazette 26/2/1858

"In the Matter of the Petition of *William Anson*, at present and for three years last past residing at the CROWN INN, High-street, Sedgley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, carrying on the business of a Licensed Victualler, Licensed Brewer, and Retailer of Spirituous Liquors and Tobacco, at the same time and place a Manufacture of Nails and Dealer in Grocery and Huckstery Goods, previously thereto residing in Bilston-street, Sedgley aforesaid. Dealer in Grocery and Huckstery Goods, and Manufacturer of Nails as aforesaid, an Insolvent Debtor.

Notice is hereby given that the County Court of Worcestershire, at Dudley, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 12th day of March next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary."

William Anson was also a shopkeeper. [1860]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/6/1862

"Bilston. At the Police Court, on Friday, the following intermediate transfers were made... CROWN, Sedgley, Executors of *William Hanson* to the widow, *Betty Hanson*."

James Harper was also a nail factor. [1864], [1865]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

"Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

James Harper, CROWN, Sedgley."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

"The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday, when the Magistrates present were – The Revs. J. Y. Rooker, and W. Lewis, and J. Perks, H. D. Best, A. Sparrow, H. Ward, and W. Hatton, Esqs. At the commencement of the proceedings, the superintendent of Police presented the following report.

Bilston Division, August 31st, 1866.

'I beg to submit to the Magistrates the attached list of licensed victuallers who have been complained about during the year. Twenty-five have been convicted, and three have paid costs; one had been convicted three times and five twice. This is a large increase on last year's list; but I think it has arisen from the police being more particular in reporting cases of permitting drunkenness – as it was found to be an evil rather than an increase. I believe it has caused landlords to be more careful in supplying drink to persons intoxicated.'

H. McCrea, Superintendent.

Black List.....

John Darby, CROWN INN, Sedgley..... left over until the adjourned licensing meeting on the 28th of September."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1866

"Yesterday, the Bilston adjourned Licensing Session was held at the Police Court.....

A license was granted to the landlord of the CROWN, High Street, the tenant who had been fined being about to leave."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/6/1867 - Advert

"Good Old-fashioned Inn, with or without Grocery Business. Immediate possession. Rent £19 10s. In-going, Fixtures and Brewing Plant, about £50.

Apply, *W. Harrison*, CROWN INN, Sedgley, near Wolverhampton."

Edward Ward was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness in September 1867.

Birmingham Daily Post 7/11/1867 - Advert

“Found, in Sedgley, on the 30th of October, a Pig, about 3 score. The Owner may have it by paying expenses. If not Owned in three days will be Sold to pay expenses.
Apply at the CROWN INN, Sedgley.”

Dudley Guardian 10/7/1875

“James Morgan and Solomon Briscoe, were charged by Mr. *Pearce*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Wolverhampton Road, with stealing 2s from a till.

Mary Ann Coleman stated that during her temporary absence from a room where the prisoners were drinking she heard a ‘rattling’ of money. She had just before put two shillings in the till. On returning to the room she saw Briscoe’s hand across the till. She told him to put the money back, when he replied he had not got any. Police-constable Martin searched Briscoe afterwards, but only found 3½d on him. Morgan was standing next to Briscoe at the time of the alleged theft.

A witness for the defendants said he was in the room all the time, and did not see Briscoe or Morgan act as described by the witness Coleman.

The Stipendiary considered this last witness for the defence had sworn falsely, and ordered further enquiries to be made by the police. Case dismissed for want of sufficient evidence.”

London Gazette 23/11/1877

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Oldbury.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Walter Pearce*, of Carter’s Green, Dudley-road, West Bromwich, in the county of Stafford, out of business and employment, and formerly of the CROWN INN, Dudley-road, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Innkeeper.

The creditors of the above-named *Walter Pearce* who have not already proved their debts, are required, on or before the 4th day of December, 1877, to send their names and addresses, and the particulars of their debts or claims, to me, the undersigned, Thomas Wall, of Stourbridge, in the county of Worcester, Solicitor, 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 19th day of November, 1877.

Thomas Wall, Trustee.”

Blackcountryman (Spring 1969)

‘Black Country Crime And Punishment 90 Years Ago’

“At Sedgley Court on April 29th, 1879, *Thomas Wright*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Wolverhampton Street, Sedgley, was charged with permitting gaming on his licensed premises, such gaming being over a rat-baiting match. Thomas Booth, a policeman, went in disguise to the CROWN where he saw a crowd of about a hundred watching which dog killed the most rats.....”

[He was fined £10 and costs.]

Evening Express 20/9/1879

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Session.....

The licenses of *Thomas Wright*, CROWN INN, Sedgley which had been refused at the annual licensing session on account of the owners having been fined during the past year were now granted.”

1881 Census

37, High Street

[1] *Thomas Wright* (41), publican, born Norton, Staffordshire;

[2] Emma Wright (38), wife, born Rea Hall, Staffordshire;

[3] Mary Wright (12), niece, born London;

[4] Mary Ann Parry (21), barmaid, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 28/7/1881

“This morning, at half past three o’clock, as Henry Slater, of Gospel End Street, Sedgley, and James Cox, of the same place, were returning from work along the Wolverhampton Road at Spring Head, near Sedgley, they observed what appeared a coat lying on the pool by the side of the road. Passing to the other side of the road they saw the back of a man. The body was partially embedded in the water and mud, the face being downwards. With difficulty they dragged him out, when he was found to be drowned, but the body was then not quite cold. There is nothing to show how he got in. As he was smothered with mud, he had to be washed in order that he might be identified.

A few scratches were found on his forehead, and, singular to state, his hard felt billycock and necktie lay some short distance away. Nothing was found on him except a rent book, bearing the name of Joseph Short, ROSE AND CROWN, Stourbridge, and a receipted tailor’s bill for clothes, purporting to be an account between Mr. Deakin and William Brown, of Stourbridge.

At present the body – which lies at the CROWN INN, Sedgley – has not been identified, although the police have communicated with the addresses suggested by the names on the bill. The deceased is about 35 years of age, and is 5ft 8in high, has brown whiskers round his chin, and hair on the upper lip of reddish tint, and has a respectable appearance. He was dressed in dark tweed jacket, and cordedcloth vest, and elastic side boots.”

Evening Express 30/7/1881

“On Friday night, Horatio Brevitt, Esq, (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the CROWN INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley, as to the death of Walter Short (29), landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Market Street, Stourbridge, who was found dead in a pool in the Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley, on Thursday.

James Cox, puddler, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, said on Thursday morning, at half past three, I found the dead body of a man near the Spring Head Pool. Near to the pool there is a hole containing water, and I found the body in the centre of the hole. It was near to the main road. The deceased lay with his face downwards, his head being out of the water. With the assistance of two men I got him out. The hole is about three yards long, and the water is only about eight inches deep. The face was covered with mud, and I could perceive that the forehead was badly bruised. At the side of the water was a scarf and hat on an embankment.

Joseph Short, furnace builder, residing at the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Stourbridge, said the deceased is my brother, and is 29 years of age. He was the landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Stourbridge, and left home on Wednesday morning. Before leaving, I noticed he was strange in his looks and ways. In fact, he has been strange for some time, and has been under the treatment and care of Dr. Smith, of Stourbridge. He was a man of temperate habits, but has undergone pecuniary difficulties brought about by the depression of trade.

The Coroner: In what way did he complain? – Witness: He complained of pains in his head.

The Coroner: Has he ever attempted to commit suicide? – Witness: He has. He cut his throat with a piece of glass.

Police-constable Goodhall: For which he was taken before the Stourbridge magistrates a fortnight ago, and was discharged upon his friends promising to take care of him.

In reply to further questions, witness said: Deceased appeared to be considerably better after being discharged by the justices and I do not think he has since been seen by a surgeon. The deceased was missed on Wednesday, at dinner time, and I went and made inquiries as to his whereabouts, but could not ascertain any particulars of him until Thursday, when I was informed by the Sedgley police that the deceased had been found dead at Spring Head.

By the jury: Deceased never transacted business at Wolverhampton or Sedgley and I cannot account for his being at Sedgley. The deceased resided near to the Market Hall, Stourbridge, and was a good business man.

Another witness, a relative of the deceased, said a sister of the deceased is now in a lunatic asylum. On Tuesday deceased said, ‘There will be another death in the family before long.’ On Wednesday evening witness went in search of the deceased at Wordsley, as she had an impression, when she heard that he had left home, that he would drown himself.

Police-sergeant Goodhall said in consequence of information received, he went to the Spring Head Pool at four o’clock on Thursday morning. He there saw the body of the deceased. There was a slight wound on the neck, and some bruises on the forehead. In the left hand trouser pocket he found a key and three halfpence in money, and a few small articles. In his jacket pockets he found a number of unpaid bills, and letters asking for payment. He examined the ground near to the pool and came to the conclusion that there had not been any struggle.

The Deputy Coroner summed up, and the jury, after deliberating for a long time, returned a verdict, that deceased was found in the water dead, but how and by what means he got there there was no evidence to show.”

Sporting Life 9/4/1884

“Richards v. Bills, for £20.

This match, which has been looked forward to with a considerable amount of interest, was brought to a satisfactory termination at the Rough Hills Ground, on Monday last, the conditions being that Thomas Richards of Wolverhampton, should concede Arthur Bills (the bicyclist), of Coventry (late of Wolverhampton), one yard start inside 100, for £15 a-side. Close upon 500 assembled to witness the match, whilst the banks of the old-worked mines, which overlook the grounds, and which furnish points of vantage from whence a great part of the race could be witnessed, was thickly packed with an enthusiastic concourse of spectators. Both men are well known, Richards having been successful in the pedestrian line, whilst Bills is best known amongst the cycling school, a great many of the cracks of which put in an appearance. Richards took his walks from that well-known hostelry, *Tom Cartwright’s*, the CROWN INN, Sedgley, and was brought to the mark in the pink of condition. Bills, however, who was self trained, though he looked well, had contracted a bad cold on Tuesday last, through getting a wetting. The performance of the men might be very interesting.

Thomas Richards, who goes under the sobriquet of ‘Boiler,’ was born at Wolverhampton on October 13, 1859, stands 5ft 5in, and draws the beam at about 10st ... [here there is a long list of the participants’ sporting achievements].....

Speculation for a while ruled at evens, but on the peds stripping Richards was installed a warm favourite at 5 to 4 on. The track, thanks to Old Darby Tom, was in splendid condition, having been well rolled and swept. Bills won the toss and selected the side next to the boards, and the well known Sheffield starter, Mr. T. Wilkinson, calling ‘get ready,’ Bills bounced of his mark, and was put back a yard. At the second attempt both men despatched simultaneously, but ere had they gone 40 yards, Richards, who is a rare beginner, soon assumed the lead, and on nearing the goal, Bills, seeing that his cause was hopeless, eased up a little, allowing Richards to canter in an easy winner by fully five yards. The *Sporting Life* was the stakeholder, and appointed those two well known Sheffield officials, Messrs. Joe Candow and T. Wilkinson, as referee and starter, respectively.”

Sporting Chronicle 31/1/1885

“Victoria Grounds, Rough Hills.

Matches To Come. Mills, of Dudley, and Flavell, of Gornal, run one mile this day (Saturday), for £5 a-side. E. Evans and J. Barnes, both of Wolverhampton, run 300 yards at these grounds, on Saturday, February 7, for £10. J. Marshall, of Bloxwich, and T. Richards, of Wolverhampton, run 120 yards for £10 a-side, on Monday February 16, Marshall being allowed five yards start; *Sporting Life* is stakeholder, and appoints the referee; T. Watkinson starter. Richards is training from Ben Shaw’s, QUEENS, Hos-

pital Street, Wolverhampton, and Marshall, from *Tom Cartwright's*, CROWN INN, Sedgley.”

Sporting Life 4/8/1885

“Victoria Grounds, Rough Hills.

Jones v. Evans, for £20. This match, which has been a storm in a tea cup affair, was brought to a satisfactory termination at this splendidly constructed arena on Saturday afternoon last, the peds engaged being Thomas Jones and John Evans, both hailing from Wolverhampton, who met to run 120 yards, for £10 a side, for which sum was placed with the editor of the *Sporting Life*. Both men are what may be termed novices at the business, though Evans came with an unbeaten certificate, having won several matches for small sums. Both men, however, were placed in clever hands, Jones being trained by *Tom Cartwright*, at the latter's own hostelry, the CROWN INN, Sedgley, whilst Evans was prepared by George Dudley, of Wednesbury, at the latter's own pub, the CROWN AND TUBE WORKS INN, Wednesbury, and both were in fine condition and confident. The track, a splendid one for pedestrianism, was in first-rate fettle. Betting opening at evens, closed at 30 to 20 on Jones. All being in readiness the starter called ‘Get ready,’ when Evans to the chagrin of his backers, overbalanced himself, and got over, and was according to the articles, put back one yard, which there is the least doubt cost him the race. At the second attempt the starter, an old bird at the game, despatched them to a good start, and a brilliant and exciting struggle ensued, and, despite Evans game efforts to get up, Jones won by half a yard. The weather, though cloudy in the morning and threatened to rain, turned out beautifully fine, and a large company assembled to witness the race, including some loud-mouthed ‘un’s. The *Sporting Life* was stakeholder, and Mr. R. Bates (appointed by the *Sporting Life*) was referee, and Mr. James Harding, of the Lea Brook Grounds, Wednesbury, was starter. We shall forward a cheque to Jones to the address given to our representative less expenses.”

Birmingham Mail 27/1/1890

“A case which is likely to produce some singular revelations as to the credulity of a married couple named Kent, came (says the *Daily Gazette*), before the Wolverhampton Police Court on Saturday, when an old man named Samuel Tomlinson (68), of Paul Street, Sodom, near Sedgley, was brought up charged with obtaining by false pretences 18 postage stamps from David Kent, of Bell Place, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton. When visited by the officers, the prisoner displayed a very threatening attitude, and when the question was put to prisoner as to whether he had any letters which would throw some light on the alleged fraud, the prisoner's wife was noticed to take up a book and proceed towards the door. The prisoner having been secured, it was found that the book which the wife seemed so anxious to take out of the house contained about 70 letters which, it is believed, will all be found to deal with the extraordinary fraud which will be investigated a week hence.

Enquiries showed that Tomlinson since 1875 has been extracting large sums of money from Kent by means of a tale that, although somewhat ingenious, ought to have excited suspicion when it was first told. At the time mentioned, Kent, who is about 65 years of age, and his wife, kept the CROWN public house at Sedgley, and they were old acquaintances of Tomlinson, who, it ought be mentioned, followed the calling of a collier. On one occasion he told them that he wanted to borrow some money in order to get possession of an estate which had been left to him. Going into details, he told Kent and his wife that a gentleman named ‘Squire’ Fieldhouse, of Heeley Hall, near Sheffield, had become involved in difficulties owing to the extravagance of his wife, who had run him into debt to the extent of about £26,000. Not knowing how to extricate himself, Fieldhouse had consulted his friends, who had advised him to place his property in the hands of someone for seven years in order that the debt might be cleared off. According to Tomlinson the squire had decided upon following the advice given to him, but singularly enough he entrusted the negotiating of the transfer to his butler, who entered into an arrangement with Tomlinson, according to which the latter was to receive £9,000, out of which he was to provide for maintenance of the squire during the period mentioned. Tomlinson agreed to give the squire a certain sum of money per annum, but the butler, it was stated, did not fulfil his promise. On the contrary, he eloped to Australia with the squire's wife, and Tomlinson was deprived of the £9,000. Not being able to get this money, to enable him to pay the instalments to the squire, Tomlinson said he should have to borrow the necessary funds in order to do so. The Kents, on the strength of this improbable story, were asked to lend him money, and were promised if they would let him have £200 a good plum in the shape of £1,500 when he got possession of the estate. Believing the story, and hoping soon to be placed in easy circumstances on the receipt of the large sum they anticipated becoming possessed of, the Kents lent him money at various times during the past fifteen years, until altogether they have entrusted him with about £500. Tomlinson, it is asserted, resorted to various stratagems in order to keep up the delusion that the estate would ultimately fall into his hands, on several occasions showing Kent letters which he had received on the subject, and taking him to the railway station to meet the Squire, who, of course, always failed to keep his appointments. There is reason to believe that Tomlinson wrote the letters and caused them to be posted himself, and so cleverly were they worded that in order to find Tomlinson all the money they could the Kents have reduced themselves to a state bordering on beggary. Having lived in hope for 15 years they at last came to the conclusion that Tomlinson was duping them, and having stated their case to a friend inquiries were instituted, with the result that Tomlinson was apprehended.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/2/1890

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court, on Saturday, Samuel Tomlinson (60), miner, of Paul Street, Sodom, near Sedgley, was charged on remand with obtaining eighteen postage stamps by false pretences from David Kent, drover, of 1, Bell Place, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton.

In the course of evidence by *Maria Kent*, wife of the prosecutor, it was stated that the stamps had been sent addressed to ‘Mr. Fieldhouse, care of Mr. Tomlinson, 14, Paul Street, Sodom, near Bilston’. They were sent in reply to a letter dated from Derby, but bearing the postmarks only of Deepfields and Bilston. This letter purported to come from a Mr. Fieldhouse, a friend of prisoner. The letter stated that if witness would send the stamps the writer would be able to come from Derby and repay her some money which she had lent to Mr. Tomlinson on his (Mr. Fieldhouse's) account. She was to meet Mr. Fieldhouse at Dudley. She went there, but no one was there to see her, and the stamps had not been returned.

It was explained, on behalf of the prosecutor, that, although the instance of the stamps was at present the only charge preferred, it was connected with a long series of frauds, which were under investigation by the police. Witness gave the Court a long statement as to her relations with the prisoner. According to this it appeared that she first knew him fifteen or sixteen years ago, when she and her husband kept the CROWN INN, Sedgley. Prisoner at that time lived at 38, Jew's Lane, Upper Gornal, and was a customer at the house. Prisoner told her that a young squire named Fieldhouse, who kept an hotel in Sheffield, was involved in debt. The squire's estate was worth £21,000, and was coming to him (the prisoner) by-and-by, but that meanwhile he had to keep the squire supplied with money. Witness was to receive £1,500, out of this estate if she would lend prisoner some cash from time to time. The amount she was to lend was not stated, but she had lent him various sums during the last fifteen years amounting in all to as much as £500. The largest sum she had lent him at one time was £12. The one condition on which she was to have the £1,500 was that she was to have no receipts for money lent, and that she was to keep the matter a secret from everybody. She kept on lending it to him because she was afraid she would lose the £1,500 if she did not. The prisoner kept saying he expected to come into the estate every day. She had received through post large numbers of letters supposed to have come from Fieldhouse on the subject, and she had sent to Sheffield to enquire about the young squire, but without result. She and her husband had been reduced from a good position to one of poverty. Until her son came home from Lichfield last Saturday she had not a bed to lie on, and no furniture in the house. She had kept pawning furniture and clothing to supply prisoner in the hope of receiving £1,500. Since prisoner had been arrested she had received a letter signed H. Fieldhouse, stating that whilst Tomlinson was in prison, she should have nothing; but if she could get Tomlinson released she should have her money. The letter was dated from Derby, but the post-mark was only Wolverhampton.

The prisoner told the Court he was really expecting to receive the estate, and he read an illiterate letter on the subject purporting to have come from 'The Kensington Old Bank of the Bank Of England'.

At this stage of the proceedings prisoner was remanded for a week."

[Samuel Tomlinson appeared at the Quarter Session, on 21st March 1890, to face eight charges of obtaining money by false pretences, was found guilty, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labour in H.M. Prison at Stafford.]

1891 Census

High Street

[1] *James Perry* (60), unmarried, inn manager, born Sedgley;

[2] William H. Hale (28), son in law, French polisher, born Sedgley;

[3] Annie Hale (26), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] John F. Hale (2), son, born Sedgley;

[5] Senora Hale (8 months), son, born Sedgley;

[6] Mary Ann Beadsmore (18), general servant, born Sedgley;

[7] Mary A. Hawood (16), nurse, born Sedgley;

Sedgley Cycling Club had its headquarters here from 1899.

Dudley Herald 14/4/1900

"John Clarke, fruiterer, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, was charged with being drunk in charge of a horse and cart; Henry Marsh, fruiterer, Church Street, Lower Gornal, with being drunk and disorderly, and refusing to quit the CROWN INN; and Joseph Cartwright, fruiterer, North Street, Lower Gornal, with being drunk. Mr. W. A. Foster defended.

PS Moss stated that about 9pm on April 4th he was on duty in the Bull Ring. In consequence of a complaint he went to High Street, and saw the three defendants in a spring trap. Clarke was driving, and bad language was being used by Marsh. He went to the horse's head, and spoke to Clarke, and could then see that he was drunk. While he was speaking to Clarke, Marsh tried to get away by jumping out of the cart, but he fell in the road. Witness called a Mr. Hatch, who took hold of the horse's head, while witness went to Marsh, who he found was also drunk and using bad language. Cartwright was lying in the bottom of the trap, in a drunken condition. With the assistance of PC Withers and Mr. Hatch, he brought the defendants to the police station, where he detained them till the following morning, when they were bailed out. Comprehensive evidence was given by PCs Wilkes and Wright and Mr. F. Hatch.

Emily *Perry*, landlady of the CROWN INN, Sedgley, stated that Marsh came into her house on the date in question. He was drunk and called for a pint of ale, which she refused. He said he was determined to have one. Each time that he asked to be supplied she refused, and she ordered him out of the house. He refused to go and she went for PS Moss.

Selina Rollason, a domestic servant, in the employ of the last witness, corroborated.

Mr. Foster, for the defence, said the defendants denied being drunk. When in the cell Cartwright asked for a doctor to be sent for, but the answer the police gave to that is that it was after they had two or three hours' sleep. He contended that they were not in such a drunken condition as not to be allowed bail. He thought that was adequate punishment for the offence. With regard to Marsh there was no doubt he had had some beer and it was unfortunate that he went to the public house at all.

Clarke was fined 5s and costs, Cartwright 4s and costs, and Marsh for being drunk 10s and costs and a similar fine for refusing to quit."

1901 Census

37, High Street

[1] *Frederick Parry* (43), bedstead fitter (iron), born Sedgley;

[2] Emily Parry (40), wife, born Netherton;

- [3] Florence Parry (17), daughter, born Netherton;
- [4] William Parry (15), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Lily Parry (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Louis Parry (12), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Prudence Parry (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] Ivy May Parry (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Emily Parry (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] Reginald Parry (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [11] Selina Rollinson (26), general servant, born Blackheath:

Wednesbury Leader 13/4/1901

“The annual general meeting of the Sedgley Cycling Club was held at the CROWN INN. Mr. S. Cox was elected captain, Mr. T. H. Oakley vice captain, Mr. D. Price treasurer, Mr. E. G. Dickenson secretary, and Mr. R. Marsh jun, bugler. A committee was also appointed. The opening run should have taken place on Saturday last in the form of a circular run at the discretion of the captain, but owing to the unfavourable weather the run was abandoned. The members met again, however, at seven pm at headquarters, when a dinner was provided for them. After dinner Mr. Cox (captain) occupied the chair, and Mr. Dickinson (secretary) the vice chair.

The Captain proposed ‘Success to the Sedgley Cycling Club’ and regretted that the weather was unfavourable for their first run, and hoped the members would endeavour to turn up to time each Saturday and make the runs as pleasant as possible.

The Secretary, in responding, said their list of runs had been revised, and different places to last year would be visited. They had four new members and the whole of the vice-presidents with one exception (but in whose place another gentleman had consented to stand), together with their president, had agreed to act again, so that they had good prospects for a successful season. They had a small balance in hand.

A smoking concert was then held.”

Tipton Herald 14/3/1903

“Cycling Club. The annual general meeting of the above club was held at the CROWN INN, on Monday last. Mr. T. N. Oakley presided. The following gentlemen were elected officers for the year 1903.

President, Mr. J. L. Gibbons; vice presidents, Councillors J. Brown, W. A. Foster and L. Foster, Drs. Biggam and Ballenden; Messrs. W. H. Haden, J. Fullwood, G. Fletcher, *F. Parry*, W. Wise, J. Hilton, F. Turton, F. Gabriel, A. Pritchard, and Eli Bird; captain, Mr. Theophilus Cox; vice captain, Mr. Dan Westwood; treasurer, Mr. D. J. Price; secretary, Mr. E. G. Dickinson; bugler, Mr. James Cox. A committee was also elected and arrangements made for carrying out the runs of the season. It was decided to commence the season at Easter with a circular run, returning early to dinner.”

1911 Census

37, High Street

- [1] *Albert Ezer Bradley* (39), hotel manager, born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Jane Bradley (37), wife, married 14 years, hotel manager, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Ann Oakley (25), general servant, born Sedgley:

Mrs. *Elizabeth Field* – see also PARK, Woodsetton.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 3/10/1925

“Bilston Police Court.....

Mr. Shepherd next applied for permission to make alterations to the CROWN INN, High Street, Sedgley, where it was proposed to reconstruct the whole of the back premises.

In this case Inspector Young considered the alterations were desirable, and the application was granted.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/3/1932

“Ten cash prizes of £3, 947 14s each and 1,200 of £100 each were drawn in the Irish Sweepstakes yesterday Midland £100 List CROWN INN, Sedgley, 104 High Street, Sedgley.”

Black Country Bugle 5/11/1998

‘Sedgley In The Past’

“Mrs. M. Lane (nee Southall) began telling us about her memories of Sedgley and round about in the 1930s and then the CROWN INN, very different now to the way it was in my childhood. To get in the front door there were one or two steps to climb up. Inside, a bar, a lounge, and a room for moms and kiddies, a very popular place. Going out of the back door of the pub, was a yard with houses on one side.”

1939 Register

104, High Street – CROWN INN

- [1] *George Jones*, date of birth 30/6/1874, public house manager, widowed;
- [2] George (Edward) Jones, dob 27/3/1902, press and stamp operator, single;
- [3] Bertha Jones, dob 1/9/1911, basket maker, blind edge tools, married;

[4] William Sanders, dob 2/7/1904, wood machinist, married;
[5] Elizabeth Sanders, dob 3/5/1907, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Sedgley Homing Society was formed here in 1946.

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Demolished
Rebuilt

Barry Mycock was married to Pauline.

John Hill was married to Sandra.

John Walters was married to Gillian.
See also WHITE LION.

It underwent a £6,000 renovation and was reopened in January 2006.

Roy Timmins was married to Anne.

It had a refurbishment in the bar and restaurant areas in 2016.

Dudley 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 Dudley 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 Dudley town centre.....
CROWN, High Street, Sedgley.”

[2023]

CROWN

16, (11), Holloway Street, (Ruiton Street), Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Daniel Johnson, coalmaster, Ruiton
Thomas Fox
Leonard Foster, maltster, Glenroy, Upper Gornal
Mary Elizabeth Cole
Thomas Booth, brewer, Red Lion Inn, Lower Gornal (acquired on 14th January 1937)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Avebury Taverns [2002]
Admiral Taverns [2007]

LICENSEES

Henry Williams [1841] – [1854]
Daniel Johnson [1860] – 1884);
Thomas Holdwell (1884 – 1887);
Elisha Marsh Jnr. (1887 – 1894);
Thomas Fox (1894 – 1905);+
Richard Elwell Astley (1905 – 1907);
Mrs. Hannah Jane Astley (1907 – 1910);
John Meredith (1910 – 1915);

William Edward Darby (1915 – 1919);
Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Cole (1919 – 1937);
George Booth (1937 – 1939);
David Sheldon (1939);
Alfred James (1939);
James Henry Coxshall (1939 – 1952);
Harold Arthur Greenway (1952);
Benjamin Collins (1952 – 1957)
Kenneth ‘Ken’ Worwood (1957 – 1958);
Reginald John Craggs (1958 – 1961);
Francis Frederick Worwood (1961 – 1992)
Vicky Davey (2003 – []

NOTES

11, Holloway Street [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
16, Holloway Street

It was a home brew house.

1841 Census

Ruiton

- [1] *Henry Williams* (40), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Williams (35), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Isaac Williams (15), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Elizabeth Williams (14), born Staffordshire;
- [5] John Williams (11), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Henry Williams (7), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Richard Smith Williams (4), born Staffordshire;
- [8] Joseph Smith Williams (2), born Staffordshire;
- [9] Sarah Williams (80), independent, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/7/1844 - Advert

“Valuable Stone Quarry and Land, situate at Ruiton, in the parish of Sedgley, consisting of upwards of half an acre of very superior Gornall Stone, together with about three quarters of an acre of Desirable Land; also a large quantity of Stone, now raised, and suitable for building purposes, which Will Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. T. P. Stokes, on Thursday, the 8th day of August, 1844, at the house of Mr. *Henry Williams*, the CROWN INN, Ruiton.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, or to Mr. Henry Johnson, land and mine surveyor, both of Dudley.”

1851 Census

Ruiton

- [1] *Henry Williams* (53), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Williams (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] John Williams (20), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Henry Williams Jnr. (17), son, stone mason, born Sedgley;
- [5] Richard Williams (14), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [6] Joseph Williams (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Charles Williams (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Edwin Williams (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Jane Jones (19), house servant, born Sedgley:

1861 Census

Ruiton

- [1] *Daniel Johnson* (35), coal dealer and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Johnson (33), wife, house dealer, born Sedgley;
- [3] Martha Johnson (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Mary Hannah Johnson (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Benjamin Johnson (4) son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Henry Johnson (2), son, born Sedgley:

1871 Census

11, Holloway Street – CROWN

- [1] *Daniel Johnson* (44), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

- [2] Elizabeth Johnson (43), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Martha Ann Johnson (20), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Mary Hannah Johnson (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Benjamin Johnson (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Henry Johnson (11) son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Joseph Johnson (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] William Johnson (5), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] Edith Adelaide Johnson (11 months), daughter, born Sedgley:

Daniel Johnson was also a grocer. [1873]

1881 Census

11, Holloway Street

- [1] *Daniel Johnson* (54), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Johnson (53), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Martha Horton (30), daughter, widow, born Sedgley;
- [4] Benjamin Johnson (22), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [5] Joseph Johnson (19), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [6] William Johnson (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Edith Johnson (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Daniel Johnson – see also [TALBOT, Beacon Street, Coseley](#).

Dudley and District News 21/6/1884

“On Tuesday morning Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) resumed the enquiry on the body of Mary Elwell (29), wife of James Elwell, a bricklayer, at the CROWN INN, Ruiton. The evidence at the opening was to the effect that the woman had died during her confinement, and that a fortnight previous to this event her husband had beaten her severely.

Dr. Ballenden was examined, and stated that he had, in conjunction with Mr. Johnson, made a post mortem examination. He found that the woman had a small and weak heart, and suffered from fatty degeneration. A sudden loss of blood had produced syncope, and she had died. There were no external or internal marks of violence. Dr. Ballenden said he had made the post mortem with another surgeon because of rumors prevalent in the district as to the man’s violence.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/7/1889

“*Elisha Marsh*, landlord of the CROWN INN, Gornal, was charged by Walter Foster, pianist, High Holborn, Sedgley, with an assault, Mr. Foster defended.

The complainant who had two black eyes, is under an engagement at a concert-hall in Dudley. He said the defendant was talking to a young woman behind the bar, when he (Foster) told her *Marsh* was a married man. This led to a row, and later on, when in Sedgley, *Marsh* struck him, blackening both his eyes and making his nose bleed.

The evidence was very contradictory, and the Bench finally dismissed the case.”

1891 Census

11, Holloway Street

- [1] *Elisha Marsh* (25), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Annie Marsh (22), wife, born Burton, Staffordshire;
- [3] Clara Bunn (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 28/9/1894

“Yesterday, at the County Court, *Thomas Fox*, publican, Ruiton Street, Gornal, sued Isaac Cox, miner, Bricket Lane, Gornal, for the return of a dog, or its value £2. Mr. Child represented the plaintiff, and Mr. W. H. Tinsley defended.

The case for the plaintiff was that he purchased the dog from a man named Jones in February last. It was lost, and shortly afterwards found, and lent by plaintiff to defendant for a few weeks. Defendant matched the dog to run a race, and agreed to pay plaintiff 10s for the use of the animal and then return it. After the race the defendant refused to either pay plaintiff the 10s agreed upon or return the dog.

The defence was that the dog was given by the plaintiff to the defendant, and it was not till the dog proved valuable that the plaintiff claimed it from defendant; and, further, that the dog was found, and Jones was not the true owner at the time of the alleged sale to plaintiff.

His Honour ruled that the question of the true owner could not be raised as a defence in that action, and ordered the return of the dog to *Fox*.”

Dudley Herald 15/1/1898

“Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, held an inquest on Thursday at the CROWN INN, Ruiton, with respect to the death of Joseph Watkins (26), bricklayer, Ruiton, who fell down dead on the morning of the 11th inst, when hurrying to his work.

The deceased left his home shortly after six o’clock apparently in good health, with the intention of going to his work at Wolver-

hampton, and on reaching the Catholic Church on the Dudley Road, Sedgley, he was seen to fall down, and when picked up was found to be dead.

Dr. Powell, who had made a post mortem examination, said there was a hole in the base of the heart, the result of a rupture, which made the valves incompetent to act. There was no doubt the rupture was the result of hurrying. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.”

1901 Census

11, Holloway Street – CROWN INN

- [1] *Thomas Fox* (40), publican, born Walsall;
- [2] *Gertrude Fox* (40), wife, born Dublin;
- [3] *Thomas Fox* (7), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] *May Fox* (11), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] *Mary A. Fox* (5), daughter, born Ruiton:

Dudley Herald 11/3/1905

“For sale valuable free old-licensed public house CROWN INN now and for many years in the occupation of *Thomas Fox*.”

Richard Elwell Astley was married to *Hannah Jane*.
He died on 8th July 1907.

Tipton Herald 6/2/1909

“*Henry Walker*, hawker, of Ruiton, was summoned for drunkenness at the CROWN INN, Ruiton.

Mr. W. A. Foster prosecuted.

PC Rock stated that defendant, who was drunk, created a disturbance at the inn, and refused to leave when requested. Witness had to eject him.

Walker was fined 20s and costs, or a month in default.”

1911 Census

11, Holloway Street

- [1] *John Meredith* (42), publican, licensed victualler, born Coopers Bank;
- [2] *Abigail Meredith* (36), wife, married 15 years, born Gornalwood;
- [3] *Harold Meredith* (13), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Joseph Meredith* (11), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Abigail Meredith* (8), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Fred Meredith* (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *James Meredith* (5 months), son, born Ruiton;
- [8] *Sarah Fellows* (17), domestic servant, born Ruiton:

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor *C. A. Pratt*, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions CROWN INN, Upper Gornal, 6s 0½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

George Booth was the son of *Thomas*.

Evening Despatch 25/9/1942

“Messrs. *A. W. Dando and Co.* of Dudley have acquired from Messrs. *Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.*, Dudley, the RED LION INN and Brewery, Lower Gornal; also the OLD ROYAL OAK, Lye; the GATE INN, Hurst Hill, Coseley; the BLUE BOAR INN, Cradley; and the CROWN INN, Ruiton.

Messrs. *Dando* have sold to the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. the RED LION INN, Wordsley, which belonged to *Mr. Andrew Marks*. The transactions were carried through privately.”

Francis ‘Frank’ Worwood died on 1st March 1998 aged 67.
He was married to *Joyce*.

Vicky Davey was married to Ian.

It was renovated in 2006.

[2010]

Closed [2011]

It was converted into offices.

CROWN AND ANCHOR

2+3, Ettingshall Road, (Can Lane), Ettingshall, COSELEY

OWNERS

Sarah Stanley

LICENSEES

Simeon Stanley [1861] – **1875**;

Mrs. Sarah Stanley (**1875** – [1876])

NOTES

1861 Census

Can Lane – CROWN AND ANCHOR INN

[1] *Simeon Stanley* (55), retail brewer, born Sedgley;

[2] *Sarah Stanley* (45), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Mary Nicholds (15), servant, born Sedgley:

1871 Census

2+3, Ettingshall Road

[1] *Simeon Stanley* (64), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] *Sarah Stanley* (54), wife, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 8/1/1876 - Advert

“Unreserved Clearing Out Sale, on Thursday, January the 13th, 1876.

At the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Ettingshall Road, near Can Lane, Coseley.

To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent, upon the above premises on Thursday, January the 13th, 1876, the whole of the Superior Brewing Plant, well-seasoned Ale Casks, Wrought and Copper Boilers, Hops, Malt, Fresh Ale, Malt Crusher, Brooms, Brushes, Flour Bins, Lead Piping, Four-pull Beer Machine, Pewter Ale Measures, Jugs and Glasses, Tap Table, Screens and Seating, Cross-leg and Oblong Drinking Tables, Benches, &c, together with the Genteel Household Furniture, consisting of Superior made Four-post Mahogany and French Bedsteads and Hangings, Capital Feather Beds, Linen, Mahogany Washstands and Dressing Tables, (Marble Tops), Mahogany Chest of Drawers, Oak Linen Chests, Toilet Glasses and Toilet Ware, Eight Day Clock, Mahogany Horse-hair Seated Chairs, Dining Table and other miscellaneous appendages, belonging to Mrs. *Stanley*, who is declining business.

Sale to Commence at Ten o'clock, on account of the number of lots and short days.

NB Conditions of Sale as usual.”

The license was abandoned.

CROWN AND ANCHOR

Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Morrell [1849]
William Collins [1850]
William Wobridge [] – **1850**;
Thomas Henshaw (**1850** – [])

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/8/1849

“*Joseph Morrell*, landlord of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Coseley, charged by Inspector Thompson of keeping his house open for the sale of ale, &c, after the hour of 12 o’clock on Saturday night last, was fined 5s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/10/1850

“At the special sessions for transferring Victuallers’ Licenses, held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, in this town, on Monday last, by County Justices, the following licenses were transferred from *William Wobridge*, of the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Coseley, Sedgley, to *Thomas Henshaw*, of Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton.....”

DEEPFIELDS INN

19, (29), (30), Havacre Lane, (Meadow Lane), Deepfields, (Etingshall), COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Pountney and Co. [1879]
The Deepfields Cannon Foundry Co.
Richard Andrew Harper, brewer, Bilston

LICENSEES

Joseph Dicken [1841] – [1854]
Mrs. Phoebe Dicken [1860]
John Darrell [1858] – [1861]
Mrs. Phoebe (Dicken) Darrell [1861]
Francis Dicken [1862]
George Lavender [1863]
William Burton [1868]
John Burton [1870]
Phoebe Darrell [1871] – [1872]
Samuel Pountney [1873] – **1888**;
Ann Salt (**1888** – **1890**);
Thomas Salt (**1890**);
Elias Salt (**1890** – **1905**);
Mary Jane Lucas (**1905** – **1906**);
Thomas Roberts (**1906** – **1907**);
Henry Colley (**1907** – **1908**);
George Hassell (**1908**);
Rhoda Attwood (**1908** – **1911**):

NOTES

30, Havacre Lane [1871], [1881]
29, Havacre Lane [1891]
19, Haveacre Lane [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Dicken = Joseph Dickens = Joseph Deikin

Joseph Dicken, beer retailer, Coseley. [1841]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/04/1847

“An inquest was held on Wednesday last, at the DEEPFIELDS INN, Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of John Millward, 86 years of age, who lived by himself, and had been found dead upon the stairs of his house, with a candlestick in his hand, by his son, on the morning of the inquest. There being no evidence to show that the old man had died from any other than Natural Causes, the jury returned a verdict of Died by the Visitation of God.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1848

“Licensing Day. The Public Office, on Thursday last, was numerously attended by legal gentlemen, innkeepers, and others, on the occasion of renewing innkeepers’ licenses, and the hearing of applications for fresh ones. The magistrates who attended in the course of the sitting were H. Hill, W. Mannix, G. Briscoe, J. Barker, W. Tarratt, W. Fryer, D. Fereday, W. Baldwin, H. Foster, and J. Loxdale, Esqs. During the early part of their sittings G. B. Thornycroft, Esq, mayor of the borough, was on the bench. There were about fifty applications for new licenses, and upwards of twenty were granted. The following is a list of the successful applicants.....

Licenses were also granted to.....

Joseph Dicken, Deepfields.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/6/1849 - Advert

“To be Sold, ten to eleven acres of Mowing Grass.
Apply to Mr. J. Deikin, DEEPFIELD INN, Coseley.”

1851 Census

Deepfields

- [1] *Joseph Dicken* (55), brick maker, born Burton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Phoebe Dicken* (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Francis Dicken* (17), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Hannah Dicken (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Samuel Dicken (14), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Joseph Dicken (12) son, born Sedgley;
- [7] John Dicken (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] James Dicken (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] David Dicken (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [10] Phoebe Dicken (1), daughter, born Sedgley:

Joseph Dicken was also a brickmaker. [1854]

Birmingham Journal 4/2/1854 - Advert

“Sale At The DEEPFIELDS INN, near the Deepfields Railway Station.

To Coalmasters, Publicans, Brokers, And Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. S. Powell on Tuesday Next, the 7th day of February, upon the Premises – a portion of the Household Furniture and Ale Casks, Malt Mill, Liquor Piping and Taps, Four Spring Carts, Two Coal Carts, Four well-bred Pigs, Two Pit Chains, Pit Lamps, excellent Cabin Boat, with Side and Top Cloths, and other effects, belonging to Mr. *Joseph Dickens*, of the DEEPFIELDS INN aforesaid, who has no further use for them.

Sale to commence at Ten o’clock in the morning.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/4/1854

“Mr. *Dickens*, the landlord of the DEEPFIELDS INN, Deepfields, was on Monday last fined by J. Leigh, Esq, £3 and heavy costs for encouraging fighting in his house. The dispute arose on the anniversary of a benefit society, when it was proposed that the future meetings of the association should be held at the house of a Mr. Willetts, who was present and was concerned in the affray.”

John Darrell = John Dorrall = John Darrall

Phoebe Dicken married *John Dorrall* in the 3rd quarter of 1857.

Birmingham Journal 27/3/1858

“At the Petty Sessions on Tuesday last, before the Rev. H. S. Fletcher and H. Ward, Esq., *John Darrell*, a publican, of Deepfields, was fined £10, including costs, for having more gunpowder in his possession than is allowed by the Act of Parliament. The information was brought by Police-sergeant Went, of Darlaston.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/11/1858 - Advert

“Freehold Property at Coseley, near Bilston.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. H. Farrington, at the BOAT INN, Coseley, on Monday, the 13th day of December, 1858, at five o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions, all that substantial and commodious Freehold Old-Licensed House, known as the DEEPFIELDS INN, situate at Coseley, within a few yards of the Deepfields Railway Station, and fronting to the turnpike road leading from Bilston to Tipton, with the Outbuildings and Yard thereto belonging.

The House comprises taproom, parlour, two kitchens, four cellars, four large bedrooms, large clubroom, maltrooms, and brew-house. It is in good condition, has an extensive trade, and is now in the occupation of Mr. *John Dorrall*.

And also all that other Freehold House adjoining to the DEEPFIELDS INN, and occupied by Mr. *Francis Dickin*.

And also all those five Freehold Houses adjoining the last mentioned house, fronting to a road leading from the said turnpike road to the towing path of the Birmingham Canal, and occupied by Messrs. Callicott, Dike, Amphlett, Perry, and Cooper. These houses produce a yearly income of upwards of £27.

And also all those six Freehold Houses, with the Shop, Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at the back of the before-mentioned houses, and now occupied by Messrs. Thompson, Ball, Blower, Evans, Jones, and Cooper. The income of these is upwards of £37 10s yearly.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Francis Dickin, at his residence; to Mr. Wilkinson, Solicitor, Walsall; or Messrs. Whitehouse, Solicitors, Wolverhampton.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1860

“*John Darrell*, a charter-master, and landlord of the DEEPFIELDS INN, Coseley, was charged upon a search warrant, executed by Superintendent M'Crea, with having had in his house 154lbs of gunpowder, being 104lbs more than allowed by law. The gunpowder was found secreted in his cellar. About two years ago the defendant was fined £10 for a similar offence. The bench convicted him in a penalty which, with the costs, amounted to £11 5s 6d, and declared the gunpowder forfeited.”

1861 Census

Deepfields – DEEPFIELD INN

[1] *John Darrell* (44), coal miner and innkeeper, born Little Wenlock, Shropshire;

[2] *Phoebe Darrell* (45), wife, born Coseley;

[3] Samuel Dicken (17), son in law, factory labourer, born Coseley;

[4] Phebe Dicken (11), daughter in law, scholar, born Coseley;

[5] Mary Dicken (9), daughter in law, scholar, born Coseley;

[6] Melisant Dicken (8), daughter in law, scholar, born Coseley;

[7] Babella Darrel (3), daughter, scholar, born Coseley;

[8] William Darrell (10 months), son, born Coseley;

[9] Mary Caldicourt (16), house servant, born Coseley:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/4/1861

“At the Petty Sessions, on Friday, *John Darrell*, a butty collier and publican, was charged with stealing a pony, the property of two other butty colliers living at Sedgley, and named Punter and Ebb respectively. The pony it was deposed, was stolen from Fox Yard Colliery in the month of December last. There being no reason to suppose that the pony was in the prisoner's pit, a search was made, but without the pony being found. During the search the prisoner told the constable that he had a pony in the pit, which prosecutor identified as his own. A few days later the pony, which the prosecutor identified as his, was found straying on Penn Common. Witnesses deposed that this same pony had been worked for some time in the prisoner's pit. The Magistrates thereupon committed the prisoner for trial.”

[At the Staffordshire Assizes, on 9th April 1816, *John Darrell* appeared charged with horse stealing, was found guilty, and sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

An application for the renewal of the DEEPFIELDS INN, Deepfields, now kept by the wife of *John Darrell*, at present in prison on a charge of felony, was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/2/1863 - Advert

“Rare Opportunity.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that excellent well-customed Public House known as the DEEPFIELDS INN, near to the Deepfields Station of the London and North Western Railway, and now in the occupation of Mr. *John Darrall*, jun.

Stock and Fixtures to be taken to at a fair valuation.

Apply to Messrs. Morrell and Griffiths, Auctioneers and Publicans' Valuers, Swan Bank, Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/3/1863

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes.

Abraham Abbots, (40), miner, and *John Darrall* (on bail), were charged, the former with stealing and the latter with receiving, on the 26th of January, two sheep, the property of Charles Shepard, at Penn. Two other men, James Conway (31), puddler, and Edward Hollings (37), puddler, pleaded guilty. Mr. Boughy prosecuted, Mr. Kenealy defended the prisoner *Darrall*, and Mr. Mot-

teram, defended Abbots.

It appeared that the prosecutor is a farmer living at Penn, and upon the 6th January he had 101 sheep in a field, and on the next morning he found that two of his sheep had been stolen. The circumstances were made known to Hugh McCrea, Superintendent of Police at Bilston, and shortly afterwards (on the 8th of January) Dix and Conway, who had pleaded guilty, went to McCrea's dwelling house, and in consequence of what he then heard he went to the house of the prisoner *Darrall*, who is a coal proprietor and public-house keeper at Deepfields, and said to him, 'Mr. *Darrall*, I am come about some mutton which you have in the house.' He said, 'I have some which I bought.' Witness said, 'I am aware of it; but I want you to give it to me.' He then took witness into the cellar, and showed him the greatest portion of two sheep. He had the mutton removed upstairs, and charged Mr. *Darrall* with feloniously receiving it; to which he replied, 'I did not steal it, nor did I know it was stolen.' McCrea told *Darrall* that he knew the men who brought it, and he named the prisoner Abbots, with Dix, Conway, and Hollings. The prisoner Abbots, with the two men who pleaded guilty, were proved to have been seen near the place where the mutton was stolen; and it was also proved that the mutton was not in such a state as it would have been had it been slaughtered by a butcher, and that the prisoner *Darrall* bought it at a very low price. Several witnesses were called to prove these facts, but the Jury, without hearing the learned gentlemen engaged, acquitted both prisoners. The prisoners who pleaded guilty were sentenced to the following terms of imprisonment: Six, nine, and twelve months."

Birmingham Journal 2/5/1863 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold Property, at the Deepfields, Coseley, near Bilston.

To Be Sold By Auction (by order of the Mortgagee, under a Power of Sale).

By Messrs. Morrell and Griffiths, at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, on Monday, the 11th day of May, at Six o'clock in the Afternoon, subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced, and in one or more Lots as may be determined at the time of sale. All that very desirable Freehold Property, consisting of Twelve Messuages or Dwelling Houses, with Washhouse, Outbuildings and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situated at the Deepfields, Coseley, near Bilston, in the county of Stafford, two whereof are now converted into a Public House, called the DEEPFIELDS INN, with a Grocer's Shop thereto attached, and front the road leading from Bilston to Coseley, and now in the occupation of *George Lavender*; five of the other said Messuages front a private road or way leading from or out of the first-mentioned road towards a wharf belonging to Mr. F. Gough, now occupied by Mr. Benjamin Gibbons, and the same are now the respective occupations of William Bell, John Thomas Carrier, James Amphlett, Bartley, and Dyke; and the remaining five are erected in the yard at the back of the above, together with the Pump, Well, and other conveniences in the said yard. The whole, when fully tenanted, should produce a gross rental of upwards of £34 per annum. This Property is situated in the midst of a populous and improving neighbourhood. The Public House and Shop are commodious, and well adapted for business purposes, and the rental of the remaining property might by a small and judicious expenditure, be considerably increased. Altogether the Property forms a very excellent investment for capitalists.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneers, Bilston; to Mr. Foster Gough, Solicitor, King Street, Wolverhampton; or to Mr. J. E. Sheldon, Solicitor, High Street, Wednesbury."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/8/1863

"The adjourned inquest on the body of Mary Ann *Lavender*, wife of the landlord of the DEEPFIELDS TAVERN, at Deepfields, whose death was supposed to have resulted from the ill-treatment of her husband, was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on Thursday last.

Mr. Henry Ballenden, surgeon, Sedgley, deposed that he had made a post mortem examination of the body of the deceased. He found that deceased had died from disease of the liver and lungs, brought on by excessive drinking. He considered the injuries she received would accelerate her death. They appeared to have been inflicted within about four days of her death. He could not say that the injuries caused her death, but in the low weak state in which she was they doubtless hastened it. The Coroner stated that having considered the evidence of the surgeon, he considered it unnecessary to occupy their attention with further evidence. There was no doubt that the husband had been a very great brute to the deceased, but there could now be no evidence to criminate him. One of the Jury here stated that *Lavender* had confessed to having three wives living.

At this stage of the proceedings, Mr. Sheldon, solicitor for *Lavender*, applied for leave to introduce some witnesses, as he thought he could materially extenuate the alleged conduct of the husband of the deceased. The Coroner, in answer, said the Jury were fully convinced that *Lavender's* conduct to his deceased wife was of the worst character, and had not only ill-treated her, but had boasted of his bad conduct. He therefore declined to prolong the inquiry for that purpose.

The Jury, after being addressed by the Coroner, returned a verdict that the deceased Died from disease of the liver and lungs, brought on by drinking. The Coroner then addressed *Lavender*, and rebuked him severely on the bad conduct towards his wife. He afterwards censured his conduct of *Lavender's* servant for her shameful treatment of the deceased."

Dudley Herald 15/1/1870

"*John Burton* was fined £3 for permitting drunkenness."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

"The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30 Beerhouse Keepers.....

Samuel [sic] Burton, DEEPFIELDS INN, Sedgley."

1871 Census

30, Haveacre Lane

- [1] *Phebe Darrell* (55), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Millicent Dicken (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Isabella Darrell (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] William Darrell (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Samuel Pountney = Samuel Poultney

1881 Census

30, Haveacre Lane

- [1] *Samuel Pountney* (77), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Rowley;
- [2] John Appleby (48), son in law, labourer, born Warwickshire;
- [3] Mary Appleby (46), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Thomas Pountney (48), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [5] William Stanford (17), nephew, foundry lad, born Tipton:

Dudley and District News 2/4/1881

“William Haines, labourer, Coseley, was charged with refusing to quit the beerhouse of *Samuel Pountney*, Deepfields, on the 25th of March.

The defendant, according to the testimony of the prosecutor, supported by that of his manager, called at the house about 8 o'clock in the evening. He stayed an hour, using very filthy language; in fact it was not fit to be repeated in court. The latter remonstrated with him, and requested him to quit. He, however, refused.

Mr. Homer remarked that the law was exceedingly strict with the management of public houses, and the Bench intended to support the publicans in their efforts to keep their houses respectable and orderly. Defendant would be fined 40s and costs; in default, 28 days.”

Dudley and District News 11/11/1882

“An inquest was held on the body of Thomas *Poultney* (49), son of *Samuel Poultney*, proprietor of the DEEPFIELD INN, on Saturday night. Deceased was a wagoner in the employ of the Cannon Iron Foundry, Deepfields, and resided with his parents. He had been at work during the day the same as usual, appearing to be in his usual good health, and was at home in the evening. About 7.15 he, with two other men, left the house to visit a hairdresser's shop a short distance away. The two men went on first, and on *Poultney* arriving at the top of the four brick steps by which the house is approached, from some cause or other, he fell head long to the bottom. His body was carried into the house, but life was extinct.”

Samuel Pountney died on 10th December 1887.

Ann Salt died on 26th January 1890.

Thomas Salt was the son of *Ann*.

1891 Census

29, Haveacre Lane – DEEPFIELD INN

- [1] *Elias Salt* (60), widower, publican, born Great Bridge;
- [2] Annie Cox (22), inn servant, born Coseley;
- [3] Phoebe E. Smith (14), barmaid, born Coseley;

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1893

“Yesterday the Tipton magistrates were engaged until late in the evening investigating a case in which Thomas Smith, alias Sharran, puddler, Church Lane, Tipton, and Joseph Thomas Paskell, alias Burton, boatman, Joseph Green and George Foster, labourers, all of Dudley, were charged with stealing one ton of pig-iron, value £2 12s 6, from Deepfields, on the 11th inst.

Mr. H. B. Whitehouse, Priorfield Works, Deepfields, stated that a quantity of his No.4 brand of pig-iron had been taken from a boat at the wharf. He had since seen some of the iron at Messrs. Roberts, West Bromwich.

A witness named William Smith deposed that during the past fortnight 1 ton 2½ cwt of pig iron had been taken from a boat which he loaded.

Josiah [sic] *Salt*, publican, Deepfields, stated that on the 11th January, all four prisoners went to him with a horse and cart, Foster being the driver. They had several quarts of beer and some bread with cheese, for which Foster paid; and subsequently William Blackham joined them, and they all went away together. He heard one of the prisoners say they had to ‘shift a boat.’

William Blackham (who, earlier in the day, was committed for trial charged with stealing iron) gave evidence. He said he met the prisoners in the DEEPFIELD INN. In reply to his enquiries, Paskell said they had brought a dredging boat, which they had been emptying. Paskell, Smith and Green then went out, as they said they had to tie up the boat, afterwards coming back again for Foster. They all went down the road together, and Foster asked the way to Highfields Bridge, and witness went thither with them. He asked what they wanted to go to Highfields Bridge for, and they replied that they had some iron in the boat. Witness said he had

missed a boat, and that it was likely Paskell had taken it. Foster said 'Very likely,' and asked which was the best place to get the iron out. Witness said, 'Bateman's brickyard.' Witness helped them to put the iron in the cart, and recognized it as Whitehouse's. Paskell said that he and Smith took it off a cabin-boat which Green watched. Cross-examined by Paskell, he admitted that he told them he had £5 from Sir Alfred Hickman for dredging. He never asked them to go to Messrs. Holcroft's works. Witness was also cross-examined at considerable length by Mr. Sharpe (West Bromwich), who appeared on behalf of Foster.

Jane Smith, scrap-dealer, Dudley, said the prisoner Foster was her son-in-law. On the 12th January he sold her almost a ton of iron, which he said he had bought for £1 15s.

Police-constable Collier said he arrested Foster on the 17th, when prisoner denied all knowledge of any pig-iron.

Police-sergeant Moss arrested Smith and Paskell on the same day. Paskell said he knew nothing about any iron, and Smith added, 'You have got us on a good thing.' At the police station at Deepfields Paskell said he met Blackham on the canal side at Deepfields. He asked his assistance, and they helped him load some iron into Foster's cart. Smith said, 'It is the first time I ever saw Blackham, and I hope it will be the last. Foster was the man who had the iron, and Green was there.' Witness afterwards arrested Green, who denied all knowledge of the affair. Smith said, 'You helped us.' Green replied, 'I am going to deny it,' but afterwards said, 'If they say so, I am going to stick to it; but I don't care so as Foster's here.' Foster said he had bought a load of pig-iron for Blackham at Deepfields.

After further evidence the prisoners were committed for trial.

Foster was further charged with stealing 16 cwt of pig-iron from someone present unknown. This, it was stated, was pig-iron which Foster had also taken to Messrs. Roberts as scrap.

A remand was granted."

[At the Staffordshire Assizes, 9th March 1893, the prisoners were found guilty of stealing. Thomas Smith received six calendar months' hard labour; Joseph Thomas Paskell, 9 calendar months' hard labour; Joseph Green, 3 calendar months' hard labour. George Foster received 3 calendar months' hard labour for this case.]

Dudley Herald 29/1/1898 - Advert

"Monday, February 7th, 1898.

The DEEPFIELDS INN, Freehold Beer-House at Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley.

Messrs. Richards & Son are instructed to Sell by Auction, at the BOAT INN, Deepfields, on Monday, February 7th, 1898, at Six for Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions of sale which will incorporate the common form conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Association, all that old-established Free Beer-House, now doing a large trade, and known as the DEEPFIELDS INN, situate adjoining the Cannon Foundry, in Havacre Lane, Deepfields, with the House adjoining, Yard, Cellars, and Outbuildings, now in the occupation of Mr. *Salt*.

The Auctioneers desire to call the attention of Brewers and others to the above property. The DEEPFIELDS INN is surrounded by large Works, is close to the Deepfields Station (L.&N.W.R.), and also on the Main Road from Deepfields to Coseley, Swan Village, Woodseton, and Sedgley.

Further particulars may be obtained and a Plan of the Property inspected upon application to Messrs. Waterhouse & Son, Solicitors, 45, Queen Street, Wolverhampton; or to the Auctioneers, Devonshire Chambers, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton, and Railway Terrace, Coseley."

Bridgnorth Journal 4/2/1899

"On Monday at the Sedgley Police Court – before Mr. Neville (Stipendiary) – *Elias Salt*, landlord of the DEEPFIELDS INN, was charged with selling and also with keeping open during prohibited hours.

Police-constable Lear stated that on Sunday morning, the 15th ult, he saw a man named Benjamin Aston go from the Cannon Hollow-ware Foundry to a fence which divided the defendant's premises from the Foundry, and be supplied with liquor.

Mr. W. A. Foster for the defence, said that a contractor at the Cannon Hollow-ware Foundry had for several years repaired the cupola on Sundays. In order to prevent his men going to a public-house on a Sunday, he made an arrangement with the landlord to supply him with half-a-gallon of ale, which had always been paid for on the previous Saturday. In support of his contention that no offence had been committed, Mr. Foster quoted a statement by Mr. Patterson, an authority on the Licensing Act 1874; 'When the liquor is purchased before the hours of closing, but not to be consumed on the premises, there seems to be no offence, and customers may call at the house for liquor after closing hours if previously purchased.'

The Stipendiary: The Licensing Act, if that is the law, would be absolutely useless; in fact, the houses would never be shut. Defendant was fined 20s and costs for supplying, and the other charge for keeping open was dismissed."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/7/1899 - Advert

"Wanted – A good general servant – apply *E. Salt*...."

1901 Census

19, Havacre Lane – DEEPFIELD TAVERN

[1] *Elias Salt* (72), widower, publican, born Hammerwich. Staffordshire;

[2] Susan Willey (64), housekeeper, widow, born Tettenhall;

[3] Eliza Hodson (18), general servant, born Bradley:

Elias Salt, beer retailer, Deepfields. [1904]

The license was refused by the Compensation Authority on 24th June 1910.

Compensation of £400 was paid on 21st January 1911.

DRUIDS HEAD

15, Caddick Street, Hurst Hill, (Coppice), (Ettingshall), COSELEY

OWNERS

John Cotterill (by conveyance)
Richard Weed (acquired 15th June 1878)
Mary Ann Swan, beerhouse keeper, Can Lane, Sedgley
John Adams
Dorothy Minnie Flavell, wife of licensee

LICENSEES

William Holmes [1861] – [1868]
John Cotterill [1870] – 1878);
Richard Weed (1878 – 1887);
James Richards (1887 – 1901);
Joseph Adams Snr. (1901 – 1933);
Joseph Flavell (1933 – 1971);
Beryl Fellows (1971):

NOTES

It was known locally as “Flavell’s” or “Joey Flavell’s”.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was a home brew house – mild only (known as Bulls Blood).

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 14/3/1861

“On Monday last Mr. *Holmes*, of the DRUIDS HEAD, Coppice, near Coseley, flew his white-winged chequer dragon pigeon against one of Mr. Millward’s, of the same place, for £10 a side, from Bratch to Home, a distance of five miles. Mr. *Holmes*’s bird was down on the house under four minutes and a half; a strong wind, however, was blowing directly in their favour. The winning bird can be backed to fly any other in the district from five to 30 miles, for from £5 up to £20. A match can be made at any time by applying at the DRUIDS HEAD, Coppice, Coseley, Staffordshire.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/11/1868 - Advert

“To be Let, the DRUIDS HEAD, Coppice, Coseley.”

Dudley Herald 12/12/1868 - Advert

“DRUIDS TAVERN, The Coppice, Coseley. Unreserved sale. The whole of the public house fixtures and effects the property of Mr. *William Holmes*.”

John Cotterill = John Cotterhill

John Cotterill, beer retailer, Coseley. [1870]

1871 Census

15, Caddick Street

[1] *John Cotterhill* (74), widower, publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Phebe Patrick* (87), sister, blind, born Wolverhampton:

County Advertiser 13/9/1879

“At the Police Court, yesterday, *Richard Weed*, beerhouse keeper, Coseley, was charged with being the putative father of the child of his niece, now aged 24. The defendant took to the complainant when she was a child, and when she was 16 took the advantage of her indicated above. He was ordered to pay 2s 6d per week, and the Bench regretted that as the child was born under the old

Act they could not make it more.”

1881 Census

15, Caddick Street – DRUIDS HEAD

- [1] *Richard Weed* (56), publican, born Market Drayton;
- [2] *Margaret Weed* (49), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Mary Ann Adams* (28), unmarried, housekeeper, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Richard Weed Adams* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Joseph Weed Adams* (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Richard Weed – see also MINERS ARMS, Can Lane.

Margaret Weed died in the 1st quarter of 1893.

Richard Weed married *Mary Ann Adams* in the 1st quarter of 1893.

Richard Weed died on 15th May 1893.

Ownership of the DRUIDS HEAD passed to M. A. Weed, Executor of *Richard Weed*, beerhouse keeper, MINERS ARMS.

Mary Ann Weed married *Alfred Swann* in the 3rd quarter of 1895.

1891 Census

15, Caddick Street – Public House

- [1] *James Richards* (45), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Ann Richards* (45), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas John Richards* (23), nephew, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Richards* (18), niece, barmaid, born Sedgley;

1901 Census

15, Caddick Street

- [1] *James Richards* (54), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Ann Richards* (54), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sarah Ann Richards* (27), daughter, assistant barman, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary Millard* (22), boarder, domestic servant, born Sedgley;

Joseph Adams, beer retailer, Coppice. [1904]

1911 Census

Caddick Street – DRUIDS HEAD

- [1] *Joseph Adams* (34), publican, born Deepfields;
- [2] *Eliza Jane Adams* (37), wife, married 15 years, assisting in the business, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Joseph Adams* (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Dorothy Minnie Adams* (11), daughter, born Sedgley;

Joseph Adams, beer retailer, Caddick Street, Coppice. [1912], [1921]

He also owned the FERN TREE.

He was the father of *Joseph Adams Jnr.*, OLD BUSH, Coseley.

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/2/1915

“Bilston. The Annual Licensing sessions for this division of the county were held on the 4th inst.....

The renewal of the license to the DRUIDS HEAD, Caddick Street, Coseley, to *Joseph Adams*, was opposed. The house belongs to his mother and is well conducted, but the objection was to the license being held by him. The license was renewed.”

Joseph Flavell brewed his own beer. He was known as ‘Joah’.

He married *Dorothy Minnie Adams* (the daughter of *Joseph*).

She was known as Minnie.

He kept his pigeons, chickens and pigs in Coppice Road.

He died in March 1971.

A billiard license was granted on 6th February 1931.

1939 Register

Caddick Street – DRUIDS HEAD INN

- [1] *Joseph Flavell*, date of birth 7/4/1897, licensed brewer, married;
- [2] *Dorothy M. Flavell*, dob 22/5/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Dorothy M. Fellows*, dob 26/6/1921, unpaid domestic duties, single;
- [5] *Joseph G. Flavell*, dob 2/7/1930, at school, single;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/1/1940

“One of the two students who took part in the attempt to rescue four children in a pool at Coseley, last Friday afternoon, said at the inquest that he learned to swim at Tipton Baths and gained his first aid knowledge with the Midland ‘Red’ Black Country Bus Ambulance Division, of which his father is superintendent.

The youth, Arthur Edwin Bennet, aged 15, who is a student at Dudley Technical College, and lives at Westmead, Millard Road, Coseley, said that he was on a mound by Brook Pool, Brook Street, The Coppice, with his friend Bertram Smith, aged 15, a fellow student, of the KINGS ARMS, Bloomfield Road, Princes End, when the tragedy occurred.

He and Smith undressed and dived into the water. He recovered the body of one child and tried artificial respiration until a doctor arrived.

Police-sergeant Martin, who recovered the other bodies, said that the pool was 60 feet deep in the centre.

The Coroner (Mr. J. T. Higgins) returned a verdict of Accidental Death and complimented the would be rescuers.

The victims of the tragedy were Norman Fellows, aged 13, of 13 Caddick Street; Irene Fletcher, aged ten, and Desmond Gordon Fletcher, aged eight, brother and sister, 7, Hartland Avenue, and Joseph Gerald *Flavell*, aged nine DRUIDS HEAD INN, Caddick Street.”

Hurst Hill Fliers, pigeon flying club, was founded here in 1952.

The first committee meeting of the Black Country Society was held here on 29th March 1967.

Brewing ceased in November 1970.

Beryl Fellows was the daughter of *Joe Flavell*.

She married Jack Fellows.

Black Country Bugle 9/6/2005

“.....The recipe for the home brewed mild remained a closely guarded secret. For a whole day once a week, *Joe* would brew in the cramped cellar, turning out around 300 gallons a week for the thirsty regulars. Known as Bulls Blood, nothing else ran through the pumps; any other drinks were served in bottles.

Customers had a choice between the tap room or the plusher smoke room. The passageway was also busy, with streams of locals queuing for some carry out, or to buy yeast to brew their own beer.

The pub’s interior was Spartan by today’s standards, yet its cosiness encouraged a well-lubricated flow of conversation. On cold days, the little cast iron stove in the middle of the room provided a place to warm chilled fingers, before retiring to a stool or back rest for a game of dominoes or a good chin-wag.....”

It closed on 23rd November 1971.

Demolished

DUKE OF YORK

5, (4), Hockley Lane, Mason’s Bank, (West Coseley), COSELEY

OWNERS

Thomas Turley

James Turley and John Turley, Ironmasters, Coseley

The Earl of Dudley

Messrs. Showell and Co, Oldbury [1884]

LICENSEES

Thomas Turley [1818] – [1835]

Thomas Turley Jnr. [1841] – [1865]

John Simcox [1868] – [1870]

John Turley [1871] – [1872]

Thomas Turley [1873] – 1879);

Elizabeth Turley (1879 – 1880);

James Turley and John Turley (executors) (1880);

Robert Madeley (1880 – 1884);

John George Lewis (1884);

Samuel Fullwood (1884 – 1890);

Martha Cartwright (1890 – 1892):

NOTES

Thomas Turley was also a shoemaker. [1818]

Birmingham Journal 23/1/1830 - Died

“On the 24th ult. Mr. James *Turley*, maltster of Coseley, son of Mr. *T. Turley*, DUKE OF YORK INN.”

1841 Census

Coseley

[1] *Thomas Turley* (30), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] Elizabeth *Turley* (25), born Staffordshire;

[3] James *Turley* (4), born Staffordshire;

[4] John *Turley* (3), born Staffordshire;

[5] Not known (4 days), born Staffordshire;

[6] Sarah Davis (35), fs, born Staffordshire;

[7] Maria Davis (10), fs, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/4/1843

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On the 30th ult. at the DUKE OF YORK, Coseley, on John Mason. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/1/1846

“An inquest was held on Tuesday the 6th instant, at the DUKE OF YORK, Coseley before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Richard Bowater, a screw forger, residing at that place. Mathew Mason, an engineer, stated in consequence of the deceased, who was about seventy-four years of age, being missing from home, on Friday morning he searched in the direction where he had been on the previous night, and found him in a hole caused by the workings of mines at Claycroft colliery, which was about twelve or thirteen yards deep. He was got out and taken home, but he died on the following Sunday night, in consequence of the bruises and contusions he received. He stated that his hat had been blown off, and that in running after it he fell into the hole. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/11/1847 - Advert

“To Maltsters.

Wanted a good workman. None need apply who cannot have a good character for honesty, sobriety, and attention to business.

Apply *Thomas Turley*, DUKE OF YORK, Coseley.”

Birmingham Journal 19/8/1848

“On Friday last, by adjournment from the previous Monday, and inquest was held at the house of Mr. *Turley*, DUKE OF YORK INN, Coseley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, on the body of Sarah Clark, thirty-three years of age, who had been for eleven months a servant in the employ of Mr. Edward Challingsworth of the UNICORN INN, Dudley, but whose death occurred under the following circumstances. On Tuesday night week she absented herself from her master’s house, in company with a soldier quartered at Dudley, and came home the following morning about six o’clock; she did not appear in her usual health on that or the following day, but was sufficiently well to follow her work. About three o’clock on Friday morning, however, she was taken very ill, and continued so during the day, but in the evening her mother, who resides at Park’s Hall, in this parish, came and took her home in a car. She continued very ill, and died about ten o’clock the same evening. The parents of the deceased appeared to be of opinion that she had died from inflammation of the bowels, to which she and the rest of her family had always been subject; but the result of a post mortem examination made by Mr. J. M. Ballenden, surgeon, of Sedgley, showed that deceased died from the administration of arsenic acid, which he discovered in great abundance. He put a few drops of the fluid obtained from the intestines upon a glass, and having added the ammoniacal nitrate of silver, a precipitate of arsenic was obtained, and other tests also showed the presence of arsenic in its metallic state. The further investigation was adjourned, in order to give more time for more extended inquiry, until Monday, the 28th inst.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1848

“On Monday last the coroner, T. M. Phillips, Esq, and jury again assembled at the house of Mr. *Turley*, DUKE OF YORK INN, Coseley, by adjournment to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Sarah Clark, who, it will be recollected, came to her death by arsenic, a quantity of which was found in her stomach on a post mortem by Mr. Ballenden, surgeon, but no further evidence being adduced by the jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from the effects of white arsenic, but by whom administered there was not sufficient evidence to show.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/4/1849

“The overseers of the poor for the parish of Sedgley for the ensuing year have been appointed at the Public Office, Wolverhampton, namely: Mr. James Mapp, grocer, Sedgley; Mr. Joseph Webster Browne, gentleman, Gornall; Mr. Joseph Holland, butcher,

Princes End; and Mr. *Thomas Turley*, victualler, Coseley.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 30/7/1849 - Advert

“Freehold Dwelling Houses, at Coseley, in the County of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by T. P. Stokes, To-morrow (Tuesday), the 31st day of July, at five o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Turley*, the DUKE OF YORK INN, at Coseley aforesaid, either in one or more lots, as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions then to be produced.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/5/1850

“On Friday an adjourned inquest was held at the DUKE OF YORK, Coseley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Mary Ann Turley, 39 years of age, wife of John Turley, a nailer, who was taken suddenly ill on the previous Saturday, at Mr. Thomas Tildesley's at Gornal and died shortly after her removal home, in the course of the afternoon. She was very sick when first taken ill; and after her decease various rumours were afloat as to the cause of her death, some stating that it arose from ill-treatment; others from starvation; and others from the effects of some pills she had taken. Dr. Ballenden, surgeon, of Sedgley, who had attended the deceased on her being taken ill, was directed by the coroner to make a post mortem examination of her body, and stated at the adjourned inquest that on examination he opened her head, and found nearly two ounces of blood effused in the ventricles and on the surface of the brain, which was the immediate cause of her death. He was of opinion that the effusion upon the brain was the result of natural causes. There was nothing in the stomach or intestines of an injurious nature. The jury gave a verdict to the effect that the deceased Died from Apoplexy.”

1851 Census

Coseley

- [1] *Thomas Turley* (42), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Turley (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] James Turley (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] John Turley (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Turley (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Thomas Turley (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Turley (1 month), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] Sarah Davies (51), widow, nurse, born Sedgley;
- [9] Hannah Smith (16), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [10] James Overton (19), servant, labourer, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/6/1854

“On Friday last, Mr. W. M. Phillips, deputy coroner, opened an inquisition, at the DUKE OF YORK INN, Coseley, on the body of Cornelius Bowater, who met with his death at Blowers Green Colliery, on the previous Wednesday, under circumstances described in another part of our paper. The identification of the body having been established, further inquiry was adjourned until Monday evening last, when Ezekiel Bowater and Benjamin Skidmore were examined, but their evidence was simply a recapitulation of that given by them at the inquest on the body of Errington, fully reported elsewhere.

Mr. Benjamin Cartwright, one of the proprietors of the Colliery, in his evidence said that the engine had only been in use seven months. On the evening preceding the accident, Easthope, the engineer, told him that a cinder had got under the valve of the pump, and he gave him directions to remove it that night. To remove it the engineer had no need to take the ‘burrs’ off, or, if he had done so, it was his duty to see them replaced before again working the engine. Had he done so, the engine could not have got out of gear on Wednesday morning.

James Wright, an engine manufacturer, described the engine as one in every way suitable for the work required. When he came to examine it immediately after the occurrence of the accident, he found that the ‘burrs’ that screw the carriage to the sill were lifted off the balls placed right and left on the drum shaft of the carriage. The burrs being taken off would allow the balls to slip through the carriage, which would throw the engine out of gear. This, in his opinion, was the way in which the accident happened; and it arose from the negligence of the deceased.

The Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Mark Merger Easthope, who was committed for trial on the Coroner's warrant.

The inquest on the body of Job Errington, adjourned from Friday last, was resumed before W. Robinson, Esq. yesterday (Tuesday).

Joseph Roberts, the first witness examined, described the means which were taken for the rescue of the men as detailed in our report of the accident. He gave it as his opinion that Easthope did not pay the usual attention to the whimsy on the morning of the accident.

James Wright was the next witness, and gave evidence similar to that given by him at the inquest on the body of Cornelius Bowater.

The Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Easthope, who was committed to take his trial at the ensuing Worcester Assizes.”

[At the Worcester Assizes, on 15th July 1854, Mark Merger Easthope, charged with manslaughter, was found not guilty.]

Staffordshire Sentinel 20/12/1856

“On Friday, the Coroner, T. M. Phillips, Esq, held an inquest at the house of Mr. *Thomas Turley*, the DUKE OF YORK public house, Coseley, on the body of Isaac Fomes, a child about thirteen months old, who came to his death by scalds received in consequence of his accidentally overthrowing a teapot full of hot tea from the table into his bosom. The deceased was severely scalded on his neck, breast, and left arm. Mr. Haden, surgeon, of Sedgley, was called in and continued to attend him up to the time of his death, which took place at four o’clock on the 11th inst.
Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Journal 2/4/1859 - Advert

“Sale Of Farming Implements, near the DUKE OF YORK INN, Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. S. Powell, on Monday next, the 4th day of April – an assortment of Farming Implements; consisting of broad and narrow-wheel Carts, Horse Gears, Winnowing Machine, Chaff Engines, Hay Forks and Rakes, single and double Horse Harrows, wheel Plough, wood land Roll, Barley Straw, useful Cart Horse, quantity of Manure, Yard Dog, and other Effects; belonging to Mr. Joseph Parker, who has no further use for them.

Sale to commence at 10.30 a.m.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/5/1859

“A resumed enquiry into what was considered the mysterious death of Eliza Bradford, wife of Charles Bradford, miner of Coseley, was made last night (Tuesday) at the DUKE OF YORK INN. Much excitement had prevailed as to the issue of the investigation, a rumour having gained ground that the poor woman’s death had been caused by the dastardly treatment of a brutal husband. The only additional evidence adduced was from Mr. C. A. J. Thompson, surgeon, of Upper Gornal, who had made a post mortem examination. He deposed in lengthy evidence, tracing the successive stages through which the poor woman had passed. While there was no symptom of external injury, her abdomen was strangely swollen and discoloured, in opening which some fetid gas escaped. The liver was larger than usual, and there was a chronic disease within it. He found no ulceration whatever. He did not find any poison whatever, and was satisfied that she died from diseased liver. Dr. Johnson, of Dudley, attended when he made the analysis of the stomach, and concurred in his own opinions. This being the only evidence, the Jury returned a verdict accordingly – namely that she died from Natural Causes. The decision caused much dissatisfaction.”

1861 Census

Coseley – DUKE OF YORK

- [1] *Thomas Turley* (52), victualler and ironmaster, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Turley (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] James Turley (24), son, clerk, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Turley (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Turley (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Frances Ann Turley (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Thomas Turley (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Margaret Ann Thompson (22), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [9] Elizabeth Worton (54), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [10] Nancy Jones (17), house servant, born Sedgley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/2/1863 - Notice

“Notice is Hereby Given that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between us, the undersigned, James Turley and *Thomas Turley* the younger, in the trade or business of Maltsters and Corn Dealers, at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, under the style or firm of ‘James and Thomas Turley’, was this day Dissolved by mutual consent, and in future the business will be carried on by the said *Thomas Turley* the younger, on his separate account, and who will pay and receive all debts owing from and to the said Partnership in the regular course of trade.

Witness our hands this 3rd day of February, 1863.

James Turley,

Thomas Turley, Jun.

Signed by both parties in the presence of Josiah Ryde, Clerk to Mr. Waterhouse, Solicitor, Bilston.”

London Gazette 21/8/1866

“*Thomas Turley* the Younger, of Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Maltster, Beerhouse Keeper, and Dealer in Tobacco, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 20th day of June, 1866, is hereby required to surrender himself to Thomas Walker, Esq., a Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 27th day of August instant, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely, at the said Court. The Registrar of the said Court is the Official Assignee, and Joseph Stokes, of Dudley, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

London Gazette 9/11/1866

“*Thomas Turley* the younger, of Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Maltster, Beerhouse Keeper, and Dealer in Tobacco, adjudicated bankrupt on the 20th day of June, 1866. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 23rd day of October, 1866.”

1871 Census

Hockley Lane – DUKE OF YORK

- [1] *John Turley* (32), innkeeper, born Coseley;
- [2] *Maria Turley* (24), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Mary E. Turley* (2), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] *Lucy M. Turley* (3 months), daughter, born Coseley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Warton* (61), general servant, born Coseley;
- [6] *Martha Walton* (41), general servant, born Coseley;
- [7] *Mary J. Nicholls* (14), nurse, born Coseley:

Thomas Turley was also a maltster. [1873]

London Gazette 3/12/1878

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Turley*, of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, late Licensed Victualler and Poor Rate Collector, but now out of business.

Notice is hereby given, that a General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at my offices, No.87, High-street, Brierley Hill, in the county of Stafford; on the 16th day of December, 1878, at two o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 28th day of November, 1878.

Thomas Homer, Brierley Hill, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Thomas Turley died on 15th February 1879.

Dudley Herald 22/2/1879

“The death is announced of Mr. *Thomas Turley*, of the firm of Messrs. T. Turley and Sons, of Coseley furnaces. The deceased gentleman, who was 71 years of age, was a large employer of labour, and was highly respected by his workmen. He was also a Guardian of the Poor for the parish of Sedgley since the formation of the Union, and also a member of the Coseley Local Board. By all classes of society the deceased was respected, and his loss will be greatly felt. His death occurred on Saturday.”

Dudley Herald 3/7/1880 - Advert

“Sale of the very Superior Furniture and Effects, at the DUKE OF YORK INN, Hockley Lane, Coseley.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Sell by Auction (by order of Mrs. *Turley*, who is leaving the above Inn) upon the premises, on Tuesday, the 13th day of July, 1880, the whole of the Household Furniture and Effects (the same not being included in the valuation to the in-coming tenant), comprising the contents of Four Chambers, Sitting Room, Parlour, Kitchen, &c, and including Mahogany Four-post and other Bedsteads, Paillasses, Dressing Tables, Washstands, Dressing Glasses, Chests of Drawers, Carpeting, Coconut Matting, Handsome Mahogany Sideboard, Ladies and Gentlemen’s Easy Chairs, Square, Loo and Occasional Tables, Hair-seated and other Chairs, Sofas, Chimney Glasses, Eight-day and other Clocks, Fenders, Ashpans, Sets of Fireirons, Wrought-iron Deed Chest, Grocer’s Shop Fittings, Malt Crusher, Coffee Mill, Pepper Mill, Deal Counter, Wringing Machine, &c, &c. The whole detailed in catalogues which may be obtained from the offices of the Auctioneer, 6, King Street, Wolverhampton, and Green Street, Coseley, and at the place of sale.

The Sale to commence at 11 o’clock in the Morning.”

Elizabeth Turley died on 31st August 1880.

Robert Madeley = Robert Madely

Evening Express 16/2/1881

“An inquest was held at the DUKE OF YORK INN, Coseley, on Thursday afternoon, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of a boy four years old, named *Thomas Turley*, whose parents resided at Woodsetton.

The body was found on Saturday in some water in the cellar of a house in course of erection at Parke’s Hall. He had been missing since the 11th.

The jury returned a verdict of Found Dead, but under what circumstances he met his death, there was no evidence to show.”

1881 Census

4, Hockley Lane

- [1] *Robert Madely* (49), publican, born Cuddington, Shropshire;
- [2] *Hannah Madely* (41), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Ada Jemima Madely* (14), daughter, born Slow, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Laura Madely* (6), daughter, born Dudley;
- [5] *George H. Madely* (5), son, born Walsall;
- [6] *Florence Partridge* (23), inn servant, born Coseley:

Evening Star 21/4/1882

“Yesterday afternoon, at the DUKE OF YORK INN, West Coseley, Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner) held an inquiry into the death of a youth named William Harper (10), who resided with his parents at 26, Hockley Lane, West Coseley, and who died on Monday evening from very serious injuries sustained by a fall of clay and dirt at an open work belonging to the Earl of Dudley, and situated near that place.

On Monday evening, about five o’clock, the boy went out of the house quite well, but was brought home from the Earl of Dudley’s open works about 5.30, suffering very badly from injuries which he had sustained there, and in a little while after died. He had been in the habit of going to that place to pick coal out of the clay and dirt, but on the evening named his mother did not send him there, she did not know where he had gone to when he left home that evening. The same evening the deceased was seen alone by a boy named William Hunt near to the open work, who shortly after heard him call out for his sister Annie, and on going to the open works where he heard the voice come from, found him partially covered with dirt and clay, which had fallen, but how he did not know. He was in a lying position, and the boy Hunt immediately set to work and released him alive, but he could not stand, when Hunt’s brother came, and both together carried him home.

The witness Hunt had seen deceased picking coal at the open work, but he could not account for his getting there that evening, nor say how it occurred. When deceased was taken home he could not speak. His face was cut and bruised; also his right thigh.

The manager at the open work, Mr. Thomas Hughes, said they were cleaning away the clay and dirt to get the coal, and children were not allowed to be there, but many a time he had occasion to drive them away. The workmen left work on Monday evening at five o’clock, and on returning on Tuesday morning found that there had been a fall of clay and dirt near where the deceased’s hat was found. There was a wire rope fencing round the place.

The verdict returned by the jury was that deceased lost his life by some clay falling upon him by accident, and accompanied it with a recommendation that two notice boards be put up to prevent children, and other persons from going there.”

Dudley and District News 22/3/1884

“At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, *John George Lewis* was charged with selling intoxicating liquors at the DUKE OF YORK INN, West Coseley, without having a license. The facts, which were not denied, were that Messrs. Showell, of Oldbury, had put the defendant into the house named, and that he had been selling drink there although the license was held by a former tenant named Chadwick.

Mr. W. Bowen, who appeared to defend, said a transfer would be asked for on Friday next, and Chief-superintendent Longden replied that the application would be opposed, and added that the course complained of had been followed too frequently of late. The Bench fined defendant 20s 6d including costs, and ordered the house to be closed until the license is transferred.”

1891 Census

5, Hockley Lane – DUKE OF YORK INN

[1] *Martha Cartwright* (64), widow, licensed victualler, born Rowley;

[2] Elizabeth Skidmore (2), domestic servant, born Brierley Hill;

[3] Elizabeth Fullwood (13), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

An entry in the licensing register dated 26th August 1892 stated “House down, License abandoned”.

DUKE WILLIAM

46, Hill Street, (1, Vale Street / 28, Holloway Street), Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

John Smith, scrap dealer, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton

Selina and Hannah Marsh, spinsters, Vale View, Ruiton, Upper Gornal

Mary Ann Hargreaves, Ivy Villa, Penn Road, Wolverhampton

John Smith, scrap dealer, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton

John Hughes Wise [1902]

Mrs. Mary Ann Hargreaves, Ivy Villa, Penn Rd., Wolverhampton (acquired for £1,200) [1903]

LICENSEES

Henry Smith [1833] – [1850]

Sarah Smith [1851] – 1852);

Joseph Harper (1852 – [1854]

Edward Williams [] – 1855);

Anna Marsh (1855 – []

Edward Williams [1860] – 1863);

Daniel March (1863 – []

Enoch Burton [1866] – 1875);
John Wassell (1875 – 1882);
Richard John Marsh (1882 – 1883);
Richard Marsh (1883 – 1891);
Daniel Collins (1891 – 1892);
John Hughes Wise (1892 – 1902);
Joseph John Marsh (1902 – 1904);
Thomas Smith (1904);
Harry Warren (1904 – 1916);
Emily Roberts (1916 – 1917);
William Henry Carter (1917 – 1922);
Sarah Ann Carter (1922 – 1923);
Sarah Ann Fergusson (1923 – 1925);
John Cartwright (1925 – 1927);

NOTES

1, Vale Street / 28, Holloway Street [1881]
46a, Hill Street [1901]
46, Hill Street [1911]

1841 Census

Ruiton

- [1] *Henry Smith* (49), publican, altered to victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Sarah Smith* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Jane Morgan (18), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Susanah Sennant (19), fs, born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Journal 13/7/1850 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold And Copyhold Properties, at Ruiton, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Sol. Powell, upon the Premises on Friday Next, the 19th day of July, by orders of the Trustee, of the late John Smith, at Six o'clock in the evening, in two lots, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot 1. All that old established Copyhold Public House, known by the sign of the DUKE WILLIAM INN, situate at Ruiton aforesaid, and late in the occupation of *Henry Smith*, deceased.

Lot 2. All that Freehold Land and Garden, with the Brewhouse, Stable, Piggeries, and Fence Wall, situate at Ruiton, aforesaid, late in the occupation of the said *Henry Smith*.

Further particulars may be had on application at the Offices of Mr. Whitehouse, Solicitor, Dudley; or of the Auctioneer, Tipton, where plans of the Property may be seen.”

1851 Census

DUKE WILLIAM

- [1] *Sarah Smith* (55), widow, victualler and shopkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Jane Bagley (13), niece, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [3] Eliza Hale (18), servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1854

“An inquest was held on Monday last at Mr. *J. Harper*'s, the DUKE WILLIAM, Ruiton, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, touching the death of Elizabeth Mullett, aged 75. Hannah Harper, who lived next door to the deceased, stated that, in accordance with her usual custom, she went into the deceased's house about a quarter before ten o'clock on Monday morning, the 19th ult, to leave the key at her house, when she found the deceased standing upright in the middle of the kitchen, with her clothes in flames, and her cap on fire. She raised an alarm, when Joseph Freeman, a nailer, ran in, and extinguished the flames, by wrapping the deceased's head and body in his leathern apron. She was severely burnt on the head, neck and face. Her burns were dressed with oil, and she was attended by Mr. Tompson, surgeon, until the time of her death, which took place on Friday morning last. How the deceased's clothes become ignited there was no evidence to show. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Journal 2/6/1860 - Advert

“Sale Of A Piece Of capital Meadow Land, situate at Upper Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold By Auction, by Thomas Pitt Stokes, on Tuesday Next, June 5th, at the house of Mr. *Edward Williams*, the DUKE WILLIAM Public House, situate at Ruiton, in the parish of Sedgley, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced and read.....”

1861 Census

Ruiton

- [1] *Edward Williams* (30), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emma Williams* (26), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Williams* (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Edward Williams* (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Samuel Williams* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Isaac Williams* (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Mary Ann Baines* (18), house servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 15/11/1862 - Advert

“DUKE WILLIAM INN, Rinton [sic], Gornal.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately the above Old-established Public House, which is replete with every convenience and retired yard. The Premises are spacious and an excellent trade has been carried out for many years, the present proprietor is retiring from the trade being the sole cause of his leaving the premises. The in-coming about £150, and the rent £26 per annum.

For further particulars and to treat apply upon the premises, or to Mr. John Bent, Auctioneer, Valuer, No.5 Bush Street, Dudley.”

Birmingham Journal 14/3/1863

“DUKE WILLIAM, Ruiton, Upper Gornal.

To Brewers, Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Monday, March 16, 1863.

The whole of the excellent Brewing Plant, Public House Fixtures, Copper Boilers, Vats, tap Table, Beer Machine, cross-leg Drinking Tables, oblong ditto, Copper Boilers, Gas Fittings, mash Tub, Iron Frame, Pegs and Bowls, excellent stock of iron-bound Casks (nearly new), one 400-gallon, three 300-ditto, 250-ditto, 150-ditto, 140-ditto, four hogshead ditto, three 60-ditto, one 50-ditto; capital 16-bushel Mash Tub, pair of new Vats, quantity of Lead Piping and Tap, Beer Machine, with stop-taps and piping complete, Working Tub, 150-gallon Copper Boiler, with brickwork and setting complete, 20-gallon ditto, Wort Spouts, Tubs, Three Pockets of Worcester Hops, Ale and Spirit Measures, Meat Safes, Cups, Jugs, and Glasses, Black Board, alphabetically arranged, and numerous other effects, belonging to Mr. *Edward Williams*, who is leaving the neighbourhood.

Sale to commence precisely at Eleven o'clock in the morning.

Auctioneers Offices, 5, Bush Street, Dudley; Residence, Caroline Terrace, Kates Hill.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/5/1866 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold and Free Copyhold Properties, situate in Ruiton, Upper Gornal, in the parish and manor of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 4th day of June, 1866, at six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *Enoch Burton*, the DUKE WILLIAM INN, at Ruiton, and subject to conditions then to be produced, the following valuable properties.....”

1871 Census

Holloway Street – DUKE WILLIAM

- [1] *Enoch Burton* (51), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Caroline Burton* (50), wife, housewife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Betsy Burton* (20), daughter, tailoress, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Hannah Burton* (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Enoch Burton* (15), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Caroline Burton* (13), daughter, milliner, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Mary Burton* (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Henrietta Burton* (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Edward Castree* (5), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Mary A. Hartland* (39), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 13/3/1875 - Advert

“Unreserved sale at the DUKE WILLIAM, Ruiton, Upper Gornal To be sold by auction, the whole of the excellent brewing plant and effects, stock of fresh ale, tump of hops etc. upon the premises occupied by *Enoch Burton* who is declining the public trade.”

1881 Census

1, Vale Street / 28, Holloway Street – DUKE WILLIAM

- [1] *John Wassell* (42), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Lizzie Wassell* (32), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Martha Raybould* (68), mother, annuitant, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [4] *Martha Raybould* (23), sister, born Dudley;
- [5] *Betsy Wassell* (17), daughter, born Tipton:

Evening Express 17/6/1881

“On Monday last between 30 and 40 friends sat down at the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Ruiton, Sedgley, and did ample justice to the same, in recognition of Mr. *J. Wassell* and Mr. Jewkes, who are leaving for the colonies.

Mr. Broughall, of Colley Gate, Cradley, occupied the chair.

Mr. R. Wassell proposed the health of Mr. *J. Wassell* and Mr. Jewkes, and wished them success in their new sphere of labour.

Mr. *J. Wassell* and Mr. Jewkes both returned thanks for the manner in which they had been spoken of. Other speeches were also made.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 27/4/1885

“*Richard Marsh*, landlord of the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Upper Gornal, was summoned for permitting drunkenness.

Police-constable Gibbs stated that on visiting the house on the 18th April in search of a man named Hickman, for whom he had a warrant, he found him drunk in the company of the landlord in the tap room. This was corroborated by Police-constable Slater.

Sergeant Goodhead also gave evidence that Hickman was drunk when taken to the station.

Mr. W. H. Tinsley defended, and called a number of witnesses, all of whom stated that Hickman was not drunk.

The Stipendiary said there seemed to be some doubt on the matter, and he thought he should give defendant the benefit.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1885

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, before Mr. Neville (deputy stipendiary), Mr. *Richard Marsh*, of the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Ruiton, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the 18th inst. Mr. W. H. Tinsley defended.

On the day in question the police arrested a man on a warrant in defendant’s house. On the way to the station it was found out that the man was drunk, and at the police station he appeared to be helpless.

Mr. Tinsley complained that nothing was said at the DUKE WILLIAM as to the man’s condition. It was manifestly unfair to pull a man away, and after the commotion lay the fault of his incapacity on the landlord.

The Deputy Stipendiary said he felt that the man was drunk, but he failed to see how it had been brought to the defendant’s knowledge, and dismissed the case.”

1891 Census

Holloway Street – Public House

[1] *Richard Marsh* (34), licensed victualler, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Mary Marsh (32), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Mary E. Marsh (12), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[4] Richard Marsh (10), son, born Upper Gornal;

[5] Florence Marsh (4), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[6] Sarah Ann Mayler (19), servant, born Upper Gornal:

John Hughes Wise was convicted on 28th December 1896 of being drunk on his own premises.

1901 Census

46a, Hill Street

[1] *John Hughes Wise* (41), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Elizabeth Wise (28), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Sarah Hughes Wise (7), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Ethel Wise (6), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Ernest Wise (4), son, born Sedgley;

[6] John Wise (2), son, born Sedgley:

John Hughes Wise was convicted on 26th May 1901 of permitting drunkenness and being drunk on his own premises.

County Advertiser 7/6/1902 - Advert

“To Brewers, Maltsters, And Others.

Announcement of Highly-Important Sale By Auction, of the Double-Fronted, Old-Established, Fully-Licensed Freehold Public-House, known as the DUKE WILLIAM INN, Ruiton, Upper Gornal, near Dudley, which Alfred W. Dando has received instructions to Sell By Auction, at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, on Friday, June the 20th, 1902.

Further particulars in future announcements, or in the meantime of W. A. Foster, Esq, Solicitor, Wolverhampton, or the Auctioneer, 18, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. Telephone No.56.”

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions DUKE WILLIAM, Upper Gornal.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required; convictions.

Mr. Foster appeared for the owner.

Inspector Moss stated that the former owner (*J. H. Wise*) was fined on May 26th 1902, for permitting drunkenness.

Mr. Foster said that since then Mr. *Wise* had sold the house to a Mrs. Hargreaves, and Mr. *Marsh* was the licensee.

Inspector Moss, cross-examined by Mr. Foster, said he would not say that during the time *Marsh* had kept the house it had not been well conducted. There had been no conviction. The sanitary arrangements had been improved. He would not say it was one of the best structural houses in Sedgley. He thought it was badly arranged, as the brewery was on one side of the road and the

house on the other.

Mr. Foster said he admitted the conviction. Since then there had been a new state of things. The house was offered for sale, and was purchased by Mrs. Hargreaves for £1,200, and she had to pay a sum of £200 for the ingoing. In addition she had spent a good deal of money to improve the sanitary conditions. The property was now in a better state than it had been for many years. The refusal to renew the license would be a very serious matter for Mr. *Marsh*, and much more serious for Mrs. Hargreaves. The license was renewed.”

Tipton Herald 4/7/1903 - Advert

“To Brewers and Others Requiring a Genuine Old-established Fully-Licensed Freehold Public-house, with Possession. Notice of Sale by Auction of an Important Double Fronted Public House at Ruiton, Gornal, near Dudley.

Alfred Dando has received instructions to Sell by Auction at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, on Tuesday, July 21st DUKE WILLIAM INN, Ruiton, Gornal, near Dudley, possessing a frontage to the road of about 44 feet, and containing Smoke and Tap Rooms, Bar Parlour, Kitchen fitted with a first class Range, Two Bedrooms, Large Club-room, and Three Capital Cellars. The Outbuildings in Paved and well-drained Yard, which have for the most part been recently erected, comprise well fitted Scul-lery, two Closets from Side Entrance, and thoroughly enclosed.

Immediately in front, on opposite side of street, is the well-built Brewery, on two floors, with Stabling for Two Horses, and Loft above, Piggeries, Pigeon Pen &c with small strip of land and railed-off productive Kitchen Garden, the whole enclosed and approached by Double Gateway Entrance.....”

1911 Census

46, Hill Street

[1] *Harry Warren* (50), public house manager, born Brierley Hill;

[2] *Grace Warren* (41), wife, married 19 years, assisting in business, born Brierley Hill;

[3] *Julia Warren* (17), adopted daughter, domestic servant, born Stourbridge:

South Staffordshire Times 23/10/1920 - Advert

“To Brewers.

Preliminary Notice of Sale By Auction of very Valuable Fully Licensed Freehold Houses at Sedgley and Ruiton.

Alfred W. Dando and Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, November 17th, 1920 at seven o'clock in the evening precisely. Subject to conditions of sale then to be produced as follows.

Lot 1. The BEACON HOTEL, Bilston Street, Sedgley.

Lot 2. The DUKE WILLIAM INN, Ruiton, Upper Gornal; also two Dwelling Houses, numbered 26 and 27, adjoining same.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. W. A. & H. M. Foster, Solicitors, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, or the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.”

The license was refused on 3rd March 1922.

South Staffordshire Times 27/7/1922

“The principal meeting of the County Licensing Committee was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday morning, Colonel R. C. Clive presiding.....

With regard to the license of the DUKE WILLIAM, Upper Gornal (*William Henry Carter* licensee), Inspector Parsons said there were four fully licensed houses and six beerhouses within 500 yards. The trade was poor, and the tenant stated that he was losing money every week.

Replying to Mr. H. M. Foster (Wolverhampton), who supported the renewal of the license, witness expressed the opinion that this house was not so well adapted for the trade as the adjoining houses. It was true that 200 houses had just been erected in Upper Gornal, but he did not think that would lead to any improvement in trade at this house. The tenant told him that he was only doing one barrel and two dozen bottled goods per week.

Mr. Foster urged that the house was quite as well adapted to the trade as other houses in the vicinity. The trade done was four barrels a week in addition to bottled goods.

The Chairman: But a statement has been made to the police that it is only one barrel.

Mr. Foster: My figures have been taken from the books averaging over three years.

The license was renewed.....”

Dudley Chronicle 16/9/1926

“Strife between parents after their children had quarrelled was related when Maud Stanley, 25b Holloway Street, Upper Gornal, was summoned by *Emily Cartwright*, of DUKE WILLIAM INN, Upper Gornal, for assault and abusive language, and for assaulting *John Henry Cartwright*, the son of complainant. Maud Stanley summoned *Emily Cartwright* for assault. Pleas of not guilty were entered. Mr. F. W. Green appeared for Mrs. *Cartwright*.

Emily Cartwright said on August 28th her son came into the house, and his face was bleeding badly. As a consequence of what he told her she went to see Mrs. Stanley, who used abusive language. The following day witness went to see some friends off on the tram, and on the way back she was accosted by Mr. and Mrs. Stanley, and the latter injured her on the chest.

The son, aged 15, said he was put in charge of a gentleman's new motor car, and while he was sitting in it, Mrs. Stanley's little girl came up and scratched faces on the paint and glass. He told her not to do it and pushed her away. Her mother came up immedi-

ately and hit him twice on the face with her fist, loosening a tooth and making his nose and mouth bleed.

Joseph Bradley, of 5, Ellowes Road, Ruiton, said he saw Mrs. Stanley hit the boy.

Mrs. Eva Greenaway, 8, Pleasant Place, Dudley, said Mrs. *Cartwright* walked with her to the tram, and she heard Mrs. Stanley call her an abusive name.

A step-son of Mrs. *Cartwright's*, Walter Williams, spoke to seeing Mrs. Stanley strike his step-mother on the chest.

Mrs. Maud Stanley said her little girl was only looking at the motor car when the boy struck her. When witness spoke to the boy and asked him why he hit her, he said, 'Nothing.' Witness lifted up her hand and accidentally caught the boy on the nose. When she met Mrs. *Cartwright* on the following evening, she (Mrs. *Cartwright*) kicked witness in the abdomen.

Thomas Stanley said Mrs. *Cartwright* kicked his wife in the stomach and 'she was laid out.'

The magistrate said it was one of those cases where a quarrel between children led to one between the parents, who often acted more childishly than the little ones. It evidently went on until words failed and blows were struck as well. They were silly rows. He would dismiss the cases, each party to pay their own costs."

The license was refused by the Compensation Authority on 4th March 1927.

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/5/1927

"Notice Of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

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 Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday, the 19th day of July, 1927, at 11 o'clock am.

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 Licences of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910, 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).....

DUKE WILLIAM, Upper Gornal. Alehouse. Licensee *John Cartwright*."

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/7/1927

".....at the principal meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Compensation Authority held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....

The closing of the DUKE WILLIAM, Upper Gornal, was opposed by Mr. H. A. Tucker (barrister).

Mr. H. S. Pratt (clerk to the Bilston justices) said that the report of the justices stated that the trade of the house was about one barrel a week, six dozen bottled goods, and one or two bottles of spirit.

Police Inspector Parsons stated that the licensee told him that they were losing money.

Mr. Tucker said the house had been leased for five years at £90 a year, and the lease had another three years to run. The licence was renewed in 1922, and he submitted that they had heard nothing that day which pointed to the house being more redundant than it was at that time. The renewal of the licence was refused."

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/1/1928

"At the meeting of the Compensation Authority held on July 19, the Committee refused 13 out of 16 licenses referred to them. At the Supplemental Meeting the Committee fixed the compensation of the undermentioned cases as follows.....

DUKE WILLIAM, Upper Gornal, alehouse. £1,450.

In all the before-mentioned cases the money had been apportioned amongst the interested parties, and would be paid on 24th December instant."

Compensation of £1,450 was paid on 24th December 1927.

License extinguished on 31st December 1927.

It was demolished.

DURHAM OX

49, Hill Street, (49, Mount Street), Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Thomas Booth, Corbins Hall Brewery, Pensnett

Joseph Williams, late licensee

James Morris

Bennett Waterhouse, Hurst Hill

Bertie Middleton

LICENSEES

Joseph Williams [1864] – 1901);
John Grainger (1901);
James Morris (1901 – 1916);
Clarissa Alice Crew (1916 – 1919);
Mabel Gertrude Crew (1919 – 1920);
William Thomas Crew (1920);
Bertie Middleton (1920 – 1934);
Frank Chambers (1934 – 1936);
Mary Ann Mason (1936);
Leslie Richard Pearce (1936 – 1937);
Alfred Edward Mansell (1937 – 1938);
Stephen Healy (1938);
Daniel Marsh (1938 – 1957);
Florence Bertha Marsh (1957 - []
Reginald Griffiths [1974]

NOTES

49, Mount Street [1871]
49, Hill Street [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911], [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Williams had a case against him for permitting disorderly conduct dismissed in July 1870.
He was described as a beer retailer, Upper Gornal [1864], [1865], [1872]

1871 Census

49, Mount Street
[1] *Joseph Williams* (32), butcher and innkeeper, born Sedgley;
[2] Adelaide Williams (28), wife, born Tettenhall;
[3] Rachel Baker (19), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/10/1873

“On Monday Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an adjourned inquest at the DURHAM OX INN, Ruiton, upon the body of William Gardner, 58, who was killed on the 16th ult, in the Open Works, Littleworth. The evidence showed that deceased was at work on the day in question, when a quantity of stone fell upon him, breaking his right arm, leg, and back, and that he died from the injuries he had received a few moments afterwards. John Smith, surgeon, was sent for, but deceased had been dead some time when he arrived. An inquest was held on the 18th ult, and adjourned until yesterday, in order to give Mr. Baker, Government inspector of mines, and opportunity of being present.

The Coroner read a letter from Mr. Baker, stating that he had no power to enquire into accidents happening in open works, his authority being confined to mines simply, otherwise he would have attended.

The Jury, having heard the above facts given in evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

“Yesterday, at the Bilston Police Court, the annual Brewster Licensing Sessions came off.

Mr. Jos. Underhill (instructed by Messrs. Gould and Elcock, of Stourbridge) applied for a wine and spirit license for Mr. *Joseph Williams*, DURHAM OX, Mount Street, Ruiton. He stated that for the past fourteen years the house had been a beerhouse, and during that period there had been only one complaint against the way in which it was conducted. Mr. Alexander David, district supervisor, was called by Mr. Underhill, but he proved that the rating qualification of the house was insufficient. Mr. *Williams*, however, promised to remedy this if the Bench would accede his request. Refused.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 30/12/1874

“Yesterday afternoon, at the DURHAM OX INN, Upper Gornal, Mr. W. H. Phillips, the deputy district coroner, made an inquiry into the death of a middle aged man named George Grosvenor, a native of Bridgnorth, whose death occurred under very strange circumstances at Upper Gornal, on the previous Saturday afternoon.

Benjamin Jones, of Bridgnorth, stated that the deceased was his nephew, and that on leaving his home three or four days ago he was quite well.

Charles Worton, a labourer residing in Ox Street, Upper Gornal, said he was well acquainted with the deceased. On the night of

Christmas Day, Grosvenor, who had come visiting into the district, came and lodged at his (witness's) father's house, and at that time he was in good health. The first thing the next morning witness, the deceased, and others left home for a walk, intending to enjoy themselves, and a visit was made to a public house close by. They also visited Mr. Charles Smith, and when they left there about eleven o'clock, Grosvenor, on getting into the road, began singing carols, and jumped and danced about, being at that time very merry. He had something to drink, and was getting 'fresh'. Whilst so dancing about he, by some means, tumbled against a young man who was present. This man, whose name was John Walton, became angry, and struck Grosvenor for falling against him. The blow knocked Grosvenor on to the ground, and he bled very much. When picked up he continued to bleed from the mouth. He was taken home and placed on a sofa.

James Worton corroborated the above, and added that when deceased was picked up he said he did not know what he had been struck for, and then became very angry with Walton, and said Walton had given him his death wound. His mouth kept on bleeding all the time. Deceased also had a fall about an hour afterwards by slipping on the ice, when his head struck the ground.

Samuel Genner, of Bridgnorth, said he also saw the deceased dancing about in the road, and after he was struck heard him complain how badly he was hurt in the neck.

The other evidence was to the effect that after being taken to his lodgings, and after resting a short time, his dinner was given to him, but when he attempted to swallow he appeared as if choked, and in a few minutes he died without any apparent cause.

The Coroner said that it was absolutely necessary, looking at all the circumstances of the case, to ascertain precisely what was the cause of death – whether the result of the blow said to have been inflicted by Walton, or from other causes. It was therefore necessary that a post mortem examination of the body should be made, and the inquest was then adjourned for that purpose.”

County Express 9/1/1875

“On Monday, Mr. W. H. Phillips, District Coroner, held an adjourned inquest at the house of Mr. *Joseph Williams*, the DURHAM OX INN, Upper Gornal, touching the death of George Grosvenor, of Bridgnorth, who died under singular circumstances on the 26th of December. It will be remembered that the deceased, in company with several other men, went out on the day in question for a day's enjoyment, and on the road the deceased became very merry, and danced about, and in his movements he fell against a man names John Watton, who became enraged in consequence, and struck deceased a severe blow in the mouth, making it bleed profusely. Deceased shortly afterwards died. The inquiry was accordingly adjourned in order that a post mortem examination might be made.

Mr. T. Walker, surgeon, stated that he had made a post mortem examination of the body, which he found to be well nourished. The membranes of the brain were highly congested, and there were also two or three ounces of black blood at the base of the skull. A large piece of meat was found in the throat, which weighed about one and a half ounces. The stomach was in a distended condition, and contained about three or four ounces of food. There was no smell of ale or spirits. He considered that death arose from suffocation, caused by a piece of meat sticking in the deceased's gullet.

A Juryman considered that Watton ought to be punished for an assault.

The Coroner said that he had no power to order any punishment to be inflicted in accordance with the medical evidence; and, in addressing Watton, the Coroner said he had had a very narrow escape from so serious a charge as manslaughter, advising him not to be so fond of using his fists.

A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was then returned.”

Dudley Herald 10/5/1879 - Advert

“To be Let, the DURHAM OX INN, Ruiton, Upper Gornal; the Stock and Contents of Three Greenhouses to be taken to at valuation; possession may be had at once.

For particulars apply upon the premises.”

Dudley Herald 21/6/1879 - Advert

“To Bandmasters. Wanted, a Band, to play at the Free Gardeners' Annual Meeting, on the 21st July, 1879.

Apply, on or before the 28th June, 1879, to Mr. *Joseph Williams*, DURHAM OX INN, Ruiton, near Dudley.”

1881 Census

49, Hill Street

[1] *Joseph Williams* (42), innkeeper, born Sedgley;

[2] Adelaide Williams (38), wife, born Tettenhall;

[3] Eliza Baker (23), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 18/10/1881 - Advert

“Found, a large fawn-coloured Dog, with brass collar marked Brigadier General Evans. The owner can have the same by applying to the DURHAM OX INN, Ruiton, near Dudley, by paying expenses.”

Dudley and District News 5/5/1883

“Henry Hyde, a well-known hawker of nails, salt, &c, was charged with stealing 23lbs of wheat straw, value 1s, the property of Mr. Joseph Fullard, of Upper Gornal. It appeared that Fullard went into the DURHAM OX INN, and while there Hyde took away the straw which he had left at the door.

Defendant pleaded guilty, but it seems that he was the worse for beer at the time, and after he had been duly admonished by the Stipendiary, he was fined 10s and costs.”

1891 Census

49, Hill Street – DURHAM OX

- [1] *Joseph Williams* (52), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Adelaide Williams* (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Eliza Baker* (33), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/11/1891

“On Saturday an inquest was held at the DURHAM OX, near Rinton, by Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) on the body of *Joseph Blakeway* (55), miner. On Tuesday night the man went to see some friends at Upper Gornal, and left late in the evening to return home. It was very foggy at the time, and the whole of the evidence available tended to show that the man walked into a disused quarry, with a great depth of water in it. His body was recovered by the police. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Dudley Herald 13/1/1900

“The half yearly meeting of the Wolverhampton District of the NUOFG was held at the DURHAM OX INN, Ruiton, on Monday. The business commenced at 12.30 mid-day, and upwards of 50 delegates from the various lodges, together with officers and visiting brethren, were in attendance.....”

1901 Census

49, Hill Street – DURHAM OX

- [1] *Joseph Williams* (62), widower, beer seller, born Ruiton;
- [2] *John Grainger* (43), boarder, brewer, born Hurst Hill;
- [3] *Eliza Jane Grainger* (42), boarder, housekeeper, born Cinder Hill;
- [4] *Sarah Jane Fones* (21), domestic servant, born Ruiton:

1911 Census

49, Hill Street – DURHAM OX

- [1] *James Morris* (43), beer retailer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Morris* (44), wife, married 20 years, assisting in business, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Lily Morris* (16), daughter, assistant at home, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Victor Morris* (13), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Hobyn Morris* (11), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Florence Blanche Morris* (5), daughter, born Sedgley:

James Morris, beer retailer, Ruiton. [1912]

Black Country Bugle

‘Five Ways Imbibers – 70 Years Ago’

“.....But he [*Billy Crew*] was back again in 1920, because his parents bought the DURHAM OX in Upper Gornal. On the death of his parents *Bill* took over the pub, brewing his beer on the premises until he, too, left in 1923. (?) While at the DURHAM OX he married the eldest daughter of Gornal druggist *Sam Bunn*.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor *C. A. Pratt*, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions DURHAM OX, Upper Gornal, £1 2s 10d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

49, Hill Street

- [1] *Daniel Marsh*, date of birth 5/6/1885, licensee, married;
- [2] *Florence Marsh*, dob 22/11/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Dan Marsh*, dob 7/3/1927, at school, single;
- [4] *Brenda Marsh*, dob 28/4/1934, at school, single:

Mr. *Griffiths* was married to *Mary*.

[1993]

Closed

It was converted into a dwelling in 1994.

EAGLE

COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Griffiths [1860]

John Jones [1861]

NOTES

Check SPREAD EAGLE

EARL OF WESSEX

43, Summerhill Road, COSELEY

OWNERS

Truman, Hanbury and Buxton and Co. Ltd.

Whitbread Ltd.

Gerry Greenway (acquired in 1988)

Enterprise Inns [1999]

LICENSEES

Nicola Towey and Jacqueline Town [] – **1988**;

Joanne Onions (**1988** – [])

NOTES

It was originally Albert House.

It was originally the private home of the Greenway family.

It opened as the NEW SPREAD EAGLE, in the 1940s.

It was renamed MALONE'S.

It reopened as the SHERLOCK HOLMES in 1988 after an £80,000 facelift.

It was renamed the EARL OF WESSEX in 1999.

Express & Star 1/5/2007

“Friends of a Coseley motorcyclist killed in a horror smash are raising money in his memory. A memorial fund has been set up in tribute to popular father-of-two David Bentley. Fundraising kicked off at the weekend with a charity football match in Tipton. Mr Bentley, who was 39 and lived in Sangwin Road, was well known and popular within biking circles. He died a year ago after taking a bend at a speed while he was riding his bike with friends in mid-Wales. It was the County Air Ambulance which flew

to help him. All money raised in his memory will go to maintaining the cost of the service, which is based at RAF Cosford. On Sunday Mr Bentley's two children, Brad, aged 10, and Chloe, seven, started the match at Victoria Park in Tipton. A team from the WHITE HOUSE pub in Bradley played Tipton Albion FC, and Tipton won 4-1.

Wayne Yorke, who was one of Mr Bentley's closest friends, said today the first fundraiser was a huge success. He said, 'There was a great turnout and it was a really good day. We raised about £550 which is a good start.' Mr Yorke said he and some of Mr Bentley's other friends wanted to do something in his memory. 'We decided to do it for the air ambulance because they went to help David and deserve all the funding they can get,' he added.

Mr Yorke said a big charity fun day was planned next for the EARL OF WESSEX pub in Coseley on June 9 – with more events planned later in the year.

Mr Bentley, who lived with his partner Julie for 15 years, worked as an engineer in Bridgnorth. He was described as a popular man who was well-known in the biker community. He was a regular at meets at the Wheel of Worfield, the Swancote Country Club and other venues.

Mr Yorke said, 'Everybody misses Dave a great deal and so this was a way of remembering him.'"

Closed [2008]

It was damaged in an arson attack on 29th July 2010.

It was demolished in 2011.

Housing was built on the site

ELLOWES

Ellowes Road, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Harry Lowe (1959 – []

William Whitton [1963]

Ralph Merryweather [1976]

Allan Browne [c.1986]

Malcolm White []

NOTES

It opened in March 1959.

Tipton Herald 24/12/1960

"The customers and management of the ELLOWES public house, Lower Gornal, treated 64 pensioners to a turkey and pork supper at a Christmas party on Thursday evening. Councillor J. Timmins (Chairman of Sedgley Urban District Council) and Councillor H. Jones were among those present."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/10/1963

"Three men were severely injured and 11 slightly hurt when a coach carrying the licensee and 25 customers of the ELLOWS INN, Lower Gornal, home from an outing to Tenbury skidded and overturned at Stewponney, near Stourbridge.

Every window in the offside of the coach, belonging to W. A. Noakes Ltd, of Dudley Road, Pensnett, was smashed. The driver was unhurt.

The licensee, Mr. *William Whitton*, said, 'I was sitting near the front of the coach. The road was very wet. The coach seemed to skid and I do not know what happened after that. I was on the grass at the roadside for about 20 minutes and everything was hazy. My ribs and a shoulder were bruised.'

The three severely injured men were detained in the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge. The other 11 injured were treated in the Royal Wolverhampton Hospital for cuts, bruises and shock but were not detained....."

[1985]

Closed

It reopened as the SPRIGGERS ARMS. [1993]

It was named after *Malcolm White's* grandfather, 'Sprigger' White, who was goalkeeper for Ayr United in the 1900s.

Allan Browne was also an effluent operator.

[1996]

Closed

Demolished

ETTINGSHALL COTTAGE

Sodom Road, Ettingshall, (Sodom), COSELEY

OWNERS

Henry Eachus, Wesleyan minister, Old Meeting Road, Coseley

LICENSEES

William Peake [1862] – **1883**:

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/3/1862

“An adjourned meeting of the Ettingshall Board of Highway Surveyors was held at the house of Mr. *William Peake*, Ettingshall, on Friday last, for the purpose of examining the accounts of the past year.....”

William Peake, beer retailer, Ettingshall. [1864], [1865], [1870]

1871 Census

Sodom Road – ETTINGSHALL COTTAGE

[1] *William Peake* (36), charter master, born Sedgley;

[2] Elenor Peake (50), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] William Henry Peake (11), son, born Sedgley:

The license was abandoned in 1883.

FERN TREE

10, Walter Street, Hurst Hill, COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Walters

Jackson

Rachel Percival (by purchase)

Alice Percival

Joseph Adams, Druids Head, Coppice

James Whitehouse

Beatrice Mabel Whitehouse

LICENSEES

Samuel Walters [] – 1886);
Samuel Jackson(?) (1886);
William Blewitt(?) (1886 – 1889);
Joseph Percival (1889 – 1892);
Rachel Percival (1892 – 1902);
Mrs. Alice Percival (1902 – 1922);
Joseph Adams (1922 – 1929);
Alfred Josiah Lane (1929 – 1932);
James Whitehouse (1932 – 1935);
Beatrice Mabel Whitehouse (1935 – [1939])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1891 Census

10, Walters Street – FERN TREE HOUSE

- [1] *Joseph Percival* (58), iron puddler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Rachael Percival* (57), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] James Percival (28), son, iron puddler, born Sedgley;
- [4] David Percival (25), horse driver, born Sedgley;
- [5] Emily Percival (23), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [6] Clara Percival (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Alice Percival* (18), daughter, school teacher, born Sedgley:

Joseph Percival died in the 2nd quarter of 1892.

1901 Census

10, Walter Street

- [1] *Rachel Percival* (67), licensed victualler, outdoor, born Sedgley;
- [2] David Percival (35), licensed victualler, born Sedgley, feeble minded;
- [3] *Alice Percival* (26), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Daniel Waterhouse (35), boarder, labourer, born Sedgley;

Rachel Percival died in the 4th quarter of 1902.

1911 Census

10, Walter Street

- [1] *Alice Percival* (37), unmarried, licensee, outdoor beer license, born Ettingshall;
- [2] David Percival (46), feeble minded from birth;
- [3] Olive Percival Fellows (12), niece, born Hurst Hill:

Mrs. *Alice Percival*, beer retailer, Walter Street. [1912], [1916], [1921]

South Staffordshire Times 5/11/1921 - Advert

“Alfred W. Dando and Co. Have received instructions to Sell By Auction, at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, on Monday, November 14th, 1921, At seven o’clock precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.

Lot 1. A Valuable Outdoor Beerhouse known as the FERN TREE HOUSE, Walter Street, Hurst Hill, Coseley, containing Entrance Passage, 2 Sitting Rooms, 3 Bedrooms, Verandah leading to Kitchen, Malt Room, 2 Cellars, together with Brewhouse, Outer Kitchen, and other buildings, as now in the occupation of Miss *Percival*, who will give Vacant Possession upon completion of the purchase.

The property is situate in a good working class district, and a large outdoor beer trade can be done.

Apart from the valuable license attached to same, the house itself has excellent accommodation, and occupies a very large area of land with a frontage to the street of about 55 yards, so that it is well worth the attention of those desiring a licensed property with exceptional living accommodation.”

1939 Register

10, Walters Street

- [1] *Beatrice (M) Whitehouse*, date of birth 1/9/1896, licensee, widowed;
- [6] Noreen Whitehouse, dob 14/7/1929, at school, single;

Evening Despatch 7/1/1944

“A woman who can neither read nor write applied at Bilston (Staffs.) today for the transfer of an off-license. She said her husband could not read or write either, but that her 16-year-old son would do all the clerical work. The woman, Hannah Vinter, said she had bought the FERN TREE INN, Coseley. Until recently she had been living in a caravan; she came from show people. Her husband was a hawker. The application was refused.”

FIDDLERS ARMS

16, (13), (14), Straits Road / Louise Street, Gornalwood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

The Earl of Dudley
John Evans
Ethel Evans
Julia Hanson and Son Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Marstons plc
NewRiver Retail (acquired in 2013)

LICENSEES

Josiah Fisher [1860] – [1861]
Daniel Fisher [1862] – **1863**;
Joseph Beddard (**1863** – [1870]
Benjamin Smith [1871] – **1879**);
Sarah Smith (**1879** – **1880**);
Benjamin Nicholls (**1880**);
Benjamin Smith (**1880**);
John Rollason Yates (**1880** – **1882**);
Thomas King Jevon (**1882**);
William King Jevon (**1882**);
Paul Jevon (**1882** – **1883**);
John Bate Jevon (**1883** – **1884**);
Mrs. Ann Jevon (**1884** – **1901**);
Benjamin Evans (**1901** – **1902**);
Benjamin Evans (**1902** – **1921**);
John ‘Jack’ Evans (**1921** – **1946**);
William Evans [1940] ?
Ethel May Evans (**1946** – **1956**);
Stephen Leadbetter (**1956** – [1957]
Christopher Paul Silcox [1996]
Franco Filograsso [1999]
Kerry Walters [2013]
Roy Pickering (**2016** – **2017**)

NOTES

13, Straits Road [1871], [1901]
14, Straits Road [1891]
16, Straits Road

It was originally a farmhouse.

www.zoarchurch.co.uk

“Zoar chapel began its existence as a result of members being ejected from the Wesleyan congregation at Himley Road in 1835. They were part of a dispute which reached way beyond the Black Country and concerned the authority of the national Conference over and above the local Circuits and chapels. Using at first the club room of the WOODMAN INN, then the barn at the FIDDLERS ARMS, these ‘exiles’ took over a wooden building (known as the ‘Wooden Tabernacle’), near the LIMERICK INN on Summit Place. They were one of 19 similar groups (totalling some 1,500 members) from Societies in the Dudley Wesleyan

Circuit who banded together to quit Wesleyanism and join the Methodist New Connexion. By 1837 the MNC Society in Gornal Wood had a brick building ('Brick Tabernacle') on structures. The original front was subsequently plastered over. In the Sedgley Tithe Survey of 1844 the occupiers were recorded as 'Trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel'.

Mount Zion began with a group of people meeting in the same two cottages the Kent Street congregation had used. It had reverted to two dwelling places, but was restored as a place for worship and served during the week as a day school. It was replaced with a new chapel building, opened in 1878. One stone laid recorded the name of Sir Horace St. Paul, a local landowner and coal-master who for a time lived at Ellowes Hall.....

(The information contained in this brief historical record is based on information gathered by the Revd. A. Ward Jones, for a research project on the history of Methodism in the Black Country and incorporates material contained in 'Forward - The Methodist Church Gornal and Sedgley Circuit Souvenir Brochure' (a brochure produced in 1962 to mark the launch of the Circuit) and written by the late Andrew Barnett, local historian and sometime headmaster of Red Hall Junior School.)

Birmingham, Journal 5/9/1857

"The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Wainwright (of the firm Bourne and Wainwright, Dudley) applied on behalf of Lord Ward for a license to the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, occupied by Mr. *Fisher*. The house had been formerly used as a public house. He (Mr. Wainwright) had authority to state that if the license were granted no application would be made for the renewal of the license to the STRAITS INN (also belonging to Lord Ward) which would be quitted by the present tenant at Michaelmas. Mr. Isaac Hughes, of Gornal Wood, victualler, personally opposed the application, and said that the license formerly belonging to the house had been sold. The Magistrates intimated that they would grant the license on the adjourned licensing day (the 22nd September) on condition of the license of the STRAITS INN being given up."

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.....

FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal....."

1861 Census

Gornal Wood – FIDDLERS ARMS INN

- [1] *Josiah Fisher* (22), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Eliza Ann Fisher* (26), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mercy Fisher* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Susannah Rhoden* (13), visitor, born Gornal Wood:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/7/1862- Advert

"Sale on Monday next, at 6pm.

By Mr. Bateman, at the FIDDLERS ARMS INN, Lower Gornal, Sedgley.
Crops of Mowing Grass."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/10/1862

"The shocking particulars which rumour has freely circulated concerning a child that was found 'scorched to a cinder' at the Straits, through the culpability or something worse on the part of its parent, have not, as is usually the case, been exaggerated into a complete distortion of the facts. The sad account will be best gleaned from the subjoined evidence, taken on Monday evening last, at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, before Mr. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, and a respectable body of Jurors.

Rachel Thompson, a girl of fourteen, swore that she lived with her father, Isaac Thompson, a labourer, at the Straits. Her father was absent from home the greater part of Sunday week, and returned home between nine and ten that night. Her mother 'run off' on the previous Friday, and had only been in the house for a few hours since up to that time. She herself had attended to the children on the Sunday, and they and herself were in bed when their father returned home at night. She left him, however, a candle on the table. When he came in he said 'Where is the candle?' and I told him on the table. He then asked where Martha and Mary (my sisters) were, and as they were a-bed, he came up stairs with the lighted candle, and took Martha down stairs. I did not consider that he was 'tipsy' at the time. He always took Martha out of bed to give her some of his supper. I am quite sure Martha was alive when he took her down because I heard her laugh and make a noise when he brought her to my bedroom door, and asked me if all the children were safe a-bed. The next morning (Monday) my father asked me if while I was in bed I had seen Martha, as he had forgotten where he put her after he fetched her downstairs. He got up and found her, and said she was 'roasted,' and was lying close to the fender before the fire. I did not smell 'any smell,' or hear any noise during the night. The child was scorched to death. Father did not tumble down the stairs, for I heard him give Martha some supper and talk to her.

Mr. Henry Ballenden, surgeon of Sedgley, deposed to making a post-mortem examination of the body of Martha Thompson, a child of seventeen months old. The body externally was extremely thin and wasted, and looked more of the age of a three months'

child than its real age. It presented marks of severe burns on its left arm, and a great part of the skin and flesh were completely burnt away. The flesh on the chest and bowels was also much charred down to the ribs. The burns appeared to have been done after death, except two very small blisters at the bottom of the back, which might have been done before life was extinct. The internal organs were sound, excepting the brain, which was congested. There was also congestion of the lungs. The stomach was filled with food, chiefly imperfectly masticated potatoes. From these indications I conclude that the child died from suffocation, and was afterwards burned. He could not positively say what occasioned the suffocation, but he was quite satisfied that the child did not die from burns, but from the suffocation.

Phoebe Jones, wife of Thomas Jones, proprietor of the COTTAGE SPRING, public-house at the Straits, said she knew the deceased child, and saw it alive about a month ago. It was then very thin, and not able to walk or crawl, and could scarcely make any noise. Isaac Thompson, the father of the deceased, had a pint of ale at their house on the Sunday night in question. He seemed 'rather tipsy' when he came in, and he remained about half an hour, but did not drink all the ale himself. He appeared 'solid,' that is he was as upright as anyone else, and walked steady when he left, alone, about a quarter past nine o'clock. William Russell spoke to his having ale at Jones's, but when he left he was only 'market pert.'

The Coroner then asked Thompson if he desired to make any statement, cautioning him that it might be used against him if he was placed on his trial.

Thompson then made the following statement: I remember very well on Sunday night, about half-past nine to quarter to ten, when I went home and called Rachel, and asked her if her mother had been at home, and she said 'Yes,' and I said, 'How long has she been gone away?' and she told me that it had not been long. I then asked if Martha and Mary, her sisters, were in bed, and she said they were, and she had not given them anything to eat since four o'clock in the afternoon, when she gave the youngest, Martha, the deceased, some sop, made of tea and bread, I 'tended' the candle that was left on the table, and went upstairs, and found Mary and Martha in bed. I picked Martha up, as I generally do, in my arms, and asked Rachel if the other children were safe. I took Martha downstairs and 'gave she' some of my supper, and afterwards sat talking to her for about ten minutes. I felt as if I wanted to go to the water closet, and laid her down on the screen and placed my jacket over her, and went out, and on returning sat on the opposite bench. Feeling sleepy I lay down, not thinking to go to sleep, but I dropped asleep. When I found myself in bed about a quarter to five o'clock on the following morning, with Mary by my side, I felt for Martha, but could not find her. I then called to Rachel, and asked her if she had taken her out of bed, and she said, 'You took her to give her some supper, and I have not seen her since.' I then said, 'Oh, dear, I have left her on the screen,' jumped up, and ran downstairs, with only my shirt on, and ran to the place I put her on. The house was dark, as the fire was almost out. In going to the screen my foot caught her on the hearth. I stooped down and picked her up. I then called my eldest daughter Rachel down, and I sent her to tell Mr. Smith how I found it burned. I afterwards sent to Mr. Tomlinson, at the Sedgley police station, to tell him what had happened, and that is all I know. The room was then cleared, and the Jury, after a lengthy conference, returned a verdict of Manslaughter against the father of the deceased, Isaac Thompson."

[In January 1863 another inquest was held at the FIDDLERS ARMS, concerning the death of Hannah, aged eight years, another daughter of Isaac Thompson, who it was alleged was beaten to death, with a poker, by her father.] [At the Staffordshire Lent Assizes, in March 1863, Isaac Thompson appeared, charged with feloniously killing his daughter, Hannah, he pleaded not guilty, and was found not guilty. He was also charged with having killed his daughter, Martha, no evidence was offered and he was found not guilty, but sentenced to a fortnight of hard labour.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1863 - Advert

"Contractor's Carts, Dobbins, Wheelbarrows, Planks, Two Steam Engines, and Sundry Other Effects, at the Fiddlers Farm Yard, Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction, upon the Premises, at Fiddlers Farm Yard, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, on Monday, the 17th day of August, the Farming Stock, comprising strong and useful cart and hack horses, colts, pigs, &c; implements, carts, dobbins, barrows, planks, 10-horse power traction pumping engine, with driving wheels and all appurtenances complete, and a lift of 6-inch cast-iron pump trees, 40 feet in length; 3-horse power chaff cutting engine, with boiler, driving wheels, banding and chaff boxes complete; large quantity of long and thiller gearing, chaff cutting machines, weighing machines and weights, and various other effects of Mr. *Daniel Fisher*, Contactor, who is giving up the farm, full and descriptive particulars of which will be given in catalogues of sale, to be distributed, and which may be obtained at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, and from the Auctioneer, Dudley."

Dudley Herald 12/3/1870

"FIDDLERS ARMS INN and farm....."

County Express 6/8/1870

"An inquest was held on Wednesday, at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, Coroner, upon the body of John Timmins, sixty, who was accidentally killed by falling from a wagon. Deceased was employed on Saturday, by Mr. Orman, of the Straits Farm, to assist in carrying barley. Whilst so engaged he fell from the wagon, and was so severely injured that he died on Monday morning. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1871 Census

13, Straits Road

[1] *Benjamin Smith* (49), farmer of 50 acres, employing 1 labourer, born Sedgley;

[2] *Sarah Smith* (49), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Benjamin Smith* (24), son, sadler, born Sedgley;

- [4] John Smith (23), son, horse dealer, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary A. Smith (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Sarah Smith (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Smith (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] Samuel Smith (14), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] Louisa Smith (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] Thomas Smith (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [11] Charles Smith (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/12/1871 - Advert

“New Spring Cart. To be Sold, a New Spring Cart, belonging to Mr. Enoch Jones, and now on view at Mr. *Benjamin Smith's*, the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, near Dudley.”

Benjamin Smith was also a farmer. [1873]

County Advertiser 27/1/1877

“An inquest was held yesterday week at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, near Himley, before W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner for the district, touching the death of Nathaniel Hale, alias ‘Skunny,’ of Gornal Wood, one of the five persons who were burnt at the explosion a short time ago, at Barrow Hill Coppice Colliery, Lower Gornal.

John Humphrey, a miner, Lower Gornal, was the first witness, and stated that he was in the pit where the explosion happened, at about half-past three o'clock, on Tuesday, the 16th inst. He heard what was known as a ‘bump,’ and the fall brought down several tons of material, and he afterwards found that five persons, including the deceased, were more or less severely burnt by the explosion of gas which followed.

Mr. Smith, the deputy manager of the colliery, stated that he had the same morning made a thorough examination of the whole of the works, and found everything quite safe for the men to proceed, and remembered doing so at the spot where the deceased had to load. He had a short time before got up to the roof where the explosion occurred, and could not find any trace of gas whatever. Witness gave it as his view that the explosion was the result of the ignition of the escaped sulphur from the bump spoken of, and of which he declared there was not the slightest apprehension.

The Coroner said the case illustrated the very great importance of a careful and strict examination day by day of every place in mines, as it was evident that the slightest omission might end very disastrously.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/4/1877

“An inquest was held on Monday at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, on the body of Mary Edwards, aged twenty-seven, the wife of a miner, who died a few days since, in her confinement. The enquiry was adjourned, in order that a post mortem examination of the body might be made. Mr. Whitehouse, who was present at the inquest, on behalf of Dr. Ballenden, the parish doctor who attended the case, said that the gentlemen courted the most complete and searching investigation of the case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/4/1878

“Yesterday, at the Dudley Police Court Isabella Mathews (47), and Fanny Roberts (19), prostitutes, of Brandy Row, were charged with stealing £35 from the person of *Benjamin Smith*, farmer and publican, FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood. The younger prisoner is one of the girls who were concerned in the illegal manslaughter of a young man in a brothel in Broad Street, in this town. The prosecutor met Mathews, and after a conversation with her, was introduced to Roberts, and he treated them both to a drink. He went to their house, and Mathews offered him some meat. Whilst he was eating it Mathews left the house suddenly, and prosecutor, being suspicious, felt for his money and found it gone. He gave information to the police, and both women were apprehended.

Two other women, Elizabeth Doughty (57), and Fanny Goodman (36), prostitutes, were charged with being concerned in the robbery and with receiving the money feloniously. The evidence was not sufficiently strong to connect these two women, and they were indicted for keeping brothels.

The four prisoners were committed to the Sessions for trial.

The police recovered £17 4s of the money.”

[At the Worcester Assizes, 8th April 1878, Elizabeth Doughty and Fanny Goodman, charged with ‘keeping a bawdy house’, were found not guilty; Isabella Mathews, charged with ‘larceny from the person,’ was sentenced to twelve months; and Fanny Roberts, charged with ‘receiving stolen money,’ was sentenced to six months.]

Benjamin Smith died on 17th March 1879.

Sarah Smith died on 1st January 1880.

Dudley and District News 18/9/1880 - Advert

“Under a Bill of Sale and Execution.

To Farmers, Agriculturalists, Publicans, Brokers and Others.

FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood.

Mr. B. Bellingham (late John Bent and Bellingham) will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, September 22nd, 1880, The Stock-In-

Trade, Growing Crops, Household Furniture, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *Benjamin Smith* (under Bill of Sale and Executions), comprising Household Furniture, Feather and Flock Beds, Bed Linen, Iron and Wood Bedsteads, cane-seated Chairs, Wash Stands, Dressing Tables and Toilet Glasses, Oil Paintings and Prints, Carpets, mahogany Chests of Drawers, Sofa, mahogany Centre Table, Chairs, Benches, Cross-legged and Oblong Tables, Tap Table (Metal top), Ale and Spirit Measures, Stone Liquor Barrels, Four-pull Beer Machine and Piping, Decanters, Jugs and Glasses, Ale Cans, Copper Kitchen, and Kitchen Utensils, Brewing Vats, Two Iron Boilers and Seatings, Mash Tub, Copper-bottomed Sieve, and Brewing Utensils, Quantity of Hogshead, Half-Hogshead, and other Casks, &c, also Four Strong Cart Horses, Five Sets of Harness, Stable Tools, Trolley, Rakes and Pikels, Chaff-cutting Machine, Winnowing Machine, Iron Ploughs and Scuffles, Iron Roll, Harrows and Chain, Timber, Carts and Waggon, and Farm Produce, comprising Rick of Hay, Rick of Clover, and about Four Acres of Growing Vetches, Twelve Acres of Growing Wheat (part cut), Four Acres of Clover, Eight Acres of Barley, and Three Acres of Oats.

The Sale will commence at 10.30am, prompt.

The Auctioneer reserves to himself the right of Selling the Growing Crops by Private Treaty, before the day of Sale. Auctioneer's Office and Residence, 205, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley."

Dudley and District News 30/10/1880

"Dudley County Court.

Webb And Others v. *Smith* – Payne Claimant

This was an interpleader issue involving a question of priority title to certain farming stock and household goods, &c, at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, belonging to Mr. *Smith*, the defendant, and upon which Mr. Payne, the claimant, had advanced money under a bill of sale. When an attempt was made to enforce the bill of sale, the high bailiff was found in possession of a judgement of the County Court. It was then agreed that the goods should be sold, and this being done, the amount due to the landlord per rent paid off, the question arose as to the prior right of execution creditor upon bill of sale holder to the balance in the hands of the Court. Mr. Dominick Daly, instructed by Mr. Peat, of Birmingham, appeared for claimant, and there being no defence, applied for an order of court and costs. After some discussion his honour granted the application."

Dudley and District News 13/11/1880

"At a Special Petty Sessions at Sedgley yesterday week before Mr. F. A. Homer, John *Smith*, late of the FIDDLERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, and a well-known horse-dealer of the district, was brought up in custody charged as follows, that on the 30th of September, being then 'joint beneficial owner with William Cartwright (of High Holborn, Sedgley), of a sum of £61 10s, he did embezzle the same.' *Smith* left the district shortly after the alleged offence, and was apprehended by PC Worsley at Wem, where he had been charged with furious driving and fined £2. This occurrence led to his detection. It appears that Mr. Cartwright and deceased were in partnership as horse dealers, and it was alleged that *Smith* having sold two horses at Birmingham about that time for £61 10s, had appropriated it to himself and absconded. Mr. R. A. Wilcock, of Wolverhampton, appeared for the defence. As it was found necessary to postpone the case, *Smith* was remanded till Monday, but on the application of Mr. Wilcock he was admitted to bail, one surety of £100 and himself £50. On Monday, the case was again adjourned, by mutual consent."

1881 Census

Straits Road

- [1] *John R. Yates* (26), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Emily Yates* (26), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Emily Yates* (2), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Annie Yates* (1), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Agnes Ann Paishall* (17), sister, unmarried, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Elizabeth Turner* (14), domestic servant, born Mansfield;
- [7] *William Williams* (21), servant, labourer, born Clee Hills, Shropshire:

County Advertiser 17/12/1881 - Advert

"FIDDLERS ARMS INN, Lower Gornal.

To be Let, at Lady Day next, the above Inn and Premises, with a Cottage and 48 acres of Arable and Pasture Land.

For further particulars apply at the Estate Offices, Downing Street, Dudley."

Dudley and District News 8/4/1882

"Great Strike Of The South Staffordshire And East Worcestershire Miners.

On Thursday a mass meeting of miners was held at Netherton..... At the close of the meeting the men formed themselves six deep, and with flags flying marched through the outskirts of Dudley en route for Gornal Wood to meet the men from Hanley and adjoining collieries, gaining as they passed great accessions to their numbers, so that when they were joined at Gornal Wood by the men from the adjoining collieries their number had nearly doubled. Their appearance as they passed through Dudley created no small stir and considerable alarm, but the men were very orderly and marched along singing hymns, the services of the police, who were turned out under the command of Chief-superintendent Burton not being required. They marched through Lower Gornal to the FIDDLERS ARMS, and in the large green at the back of the inn halted to hold their meeting....."

County Advertiser 15/7/1882 - Advert

"Important Sale of Valuable Live and Dead Farming Stock, including 3 Active Horses and Colt, capital Milking Cow, Sow in pig, Pigs, Poultry, Iron Plough, Iron and Wood land Rolls, Weed and Chain Harrows, G.O. Tackle, Turnip Scuffer, Carts, Spring Trap,

Cart Gearing, and Harness; Household Furniture, consisting of Four capital Feather Beds and Bed Clothing, Bedstead, Mattresses, Chest of Drawers, Washstands and Dressing Tables, Mahogany and other Chairs, excellent long-cased Eight-day Clock and other Clocks, Mahogany, Oak, and Deal Tables, and other Domestic Articles; Public-House Fixtures, Four-pull Ale Machine, Seal Cupboards, Metal-top Shelving, Seating, Barometer, Benches, Fenders; Ale Barrels, Tubs, Working Tubs, and other Effects; also the Brewing Plant, being a 120-gallon Copper Boiler, with Fixings, 20-gallon Iron Boiler with Fixings, Vats, Hop Sieves, and other valuable Effects, at the FIDDLERS ARMS INN, Lower Gornal, which will be Sold by Auction.

By Mr. Charles Round (by order of the representatives of the late Mr. *Thomas King Jevon*), on Tuesday Next, July 18th, 1882, commencing at Ten o'clock in the Morning.

Full particulars in catalogues, to be obtained at the Auctioneer's Offices, High Green, Tipton, and at the place of sale.

N.B. The Growing Crops previously advertised and described in the Catalogue are Withdrawn from the sale by Auction."

John Bate Jevon died on 30th October 1884.

Tamworth Herald 20/8/1887

"The South Staffordshire coroner held an inquest yesterday (Friday) at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, respecting the death of James Edwards (24), who had been struck by lightning. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1891 Census

14, Straits Road

[1] *Ann Jevon* (57), widow, licensed victualler and farmer, born Himbleton, Worcestershire;

[2] Mary E. Jevon (22), niece, born Sedgley;

[3] Eliza A. Wasdall (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Ann Jevon was also a farmer. [1892]

Dudley Herald 3/12/1898

"In dismantling the Leys Furnaces, Brockmoor, a sad accident occurred by which two workmen have lost their lives and a third badly injured.

An inquest on the men was held at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, on Monday morning by Mr. A. B. Smith (Deputy Coroner). The men's names were Henry Bowyer (59), and Benjamin Wasdell (49), both living at Gornal Wood.

Evidence of identification was given by the widows of the deceased men. As far as they knew there was no blame attached to anyone.

Joseph Wellings stated that he and the deceased were engaged dismantling the Ley Furnaces, Brockmoor, in the employ of the executors of the late Mr. Edward Russell. On Friday afternoon witness and others were on top of the building removing boards, and without any warning an embankment against a wall 20ft high suddenly gave way, causing the wall to collapse. The deceased men and another workman, named Angel, were under the wall, and were buried in the debris. Witness had a narrow escape. It took them three hours to get at the men, and Bowyer and Wasdell were found quite dead. He did not think it was necessary to prop the wall up, although it was true that the wall collapsed without any warning. He did not consider any one to blame.

In Reply to Mr. Ward (who represented the trustees of the late Mr. Edward Russell), Bowyer's wife said her husband had been in the employ of the late Mr. Russell for 30 years, and had dismantled buildings all over the Midlands. At the time of his death he was foreman, and thoroughly understood his business.

Wellings in reply to Mr. Ward, said every precaution was taken by Bowyer for the safety of the men, and up to the moment of the collapse there was no indication of danger.

Joseph Rubery, labourer, of Four Furnaces, Kingswinford, deposed that he was working near the Lye Furnaces, and saw the wall gradually collapse, and shouted as loudly as he could to the men to clear out, but they had not the time to make their escape. He should not have been afraid to work in the place. There was no doubt in his mind that the giving way of the embankment caused the wall to collapse.

The Coroner said that it was clearly a pure accident, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned by the jury considering nobody to blame.

Mr. Ward on behalf of the employers of the deceased, deeply regretted the accident, and promised that the widows and the injured man Angel would be looked after."

1901 Census

13, Straits Road – FIDDLERS ARMS INN

[1] *Ann Jevon* (67), widow, licensed victualler and farmer, born Himbleton, Worcestershire;

[2] Maria Moylan (21), domestic servant, born Dudley;

[3] Clara Jevon (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

County Express 1/3/1902

"Monday Next, March 3rd, 1902. Fiddlers Arms Farm, Lower Gornal (6 miles from Wolverhampton, 2 from Dudley).

Messrs. Nock & Joseland have received instructions from the Exor. of the late Mrs. *Ann Jeavon* to Sell By Auction the Live and Dead farming Stock, comprising 7 Excellent Cart Horses, Colts and Cobs, Implements, strong Spring Lorry, Carts, Float, Rolls, Gears, Rick Sheets, Poultry etc.

Sale at One o'clock. Catalogue of Auctioneers, 48, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, and Kidderminster."

Tipton Herald 25/9/1909

“On Monday night the members of the Pride of England Lodge, 1094, held their annual dinner at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood. There was a good attendance. Councillor John Harvey was elected to the chair, and Mr. R. Bradley to the vice chair. The Secretary (Mr. Hemmings) read his annual report, which showed the lodge had £1,193 19s 10d in hand. A musical entertainment was given by the members.”

1911 Census

Straits Road – FIDDLERS ARMS INN

- [1] *Benjamin Evans* (64), widower, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *John Evans* (23), son, engine driver above ground, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Francis Evans* (21), son, student, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William Evans* (19), son, gas fitter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Eliza Jevon* (49), sister in law, housekeeper, born Bilston;
- [6] *Kate Marsh* (21), housemaid, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Louisa Tate* (20), housemaid, born Sedgley;

Benjamin Evans died in 1921.

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions FIDDLERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, 10s 6d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Dudley Herald 18/4/1931

“Mr. J. D. Preece presided over a meeting of the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal Friendly Society, held at the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, on Thursday, for the purpose of receiving reports from the sub-committees on the progress made in the various districts in connection with this year’s carnival. . . .”

1939 Register

13, Straits Road

- [1] *John Evans*, date of birth 24/7/1886, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Ethel M. Evans*, dob 3/11/1897, unpaid domestic duties, married:

A pigeon flying club was based here.

It was damaged by fire in October 1995.

It had undergone a £75,000 facelift to the lounge immediately before this and it had not been opened.

Repairs cost £250,000.

It reopened in June 1996.

Express & Star 28/2/2011

“Pubs across the Black Country are challenging Sky TV’s grip on football by showing live Premier League matches beamed from abroad – and even advertising the screenings on hoardings. . . .”

However, dozens of pubs across Dudley have been warned about illegal screenings. . . .

The FIDDLERS ARMS, in Straits Road, Lower Gornal, also uses the Viasat system to screen games, a member of staff said, ‘Fans watching Saturday’s match gave landlords the thumbs up’.”

Roy Pickering was married to Sue

Morning Advertiser 25/1/2017

“The UKIP Member of the European Parliament (MEP) for the West Midlands has blasted NewRiver Retail’s plans to demolish a Dudley pub to make way for a Co-operative supermarket.

MEP and Campaign for Real Ale (CAMRA) member Bill Etheridge, who previously called for the return of traditional crown stamps on pint glasses, said the locally listed FIDDLERS ARMS, in Lower Gornal, was worth saving. He said, ‘It would be a crying shame to lose yet another lovely old building. The deal between NewRiver Retail and the Co-operative is one drawn up by

accountants with no acknowledgement of local communities. Our pubs are the heartbeat of the community and should be cherished.'

Locals are currently campaigning to save the pub, which is also home to a pigeon flyers club and is used by a church group and various other community organisations.

New River acquired the FIDDLERS ARMS from Marston's in 2013 as part of a 202-strong portfolio of properties. It is submitting plans to demolish the existing pub and erect a convenience store as well as five residential properties.

A spokesman for NewRiver told The Morning Advertiser, 'It is always regrettable when public houses close, but to be sustainable, pubs are no different from any other business. To maintain the operation of the pub and under a management agreement with NewRiver, Marston's is covering the main overheads and remunerates the tenant on a percentage of the turnover. This percentage has been set at a commercially unsustainable level to attract a tenant to run the pub. Consistently poor trading performance over an extended period demonstrates that the FIDDLERS ARMS is not a viable business going forward, so we have formulated a plan that will introduce alternative uses, which will not only serve the needs of the local community, but create new jobs.'

NewRiver is understood to have produced a detailed viability report demonstrating that the pub experienced a 70% loss in trade over a four-year-period.

The spokesman continued, 'There are 12 alternative public houses within a one-mile radius of the FIDDLERS ARMS, meaning that the needs of the local community are being met in terms of food, drink, entertainment and a place to meet. To compete with these numerous alternative pubs, it is estimated that an investment of several hundred thousand pounds is required to bring the FIDDLERS ARMS up to standard. We are clear that the required investment will not deliver a positive return.'"

Express & Star 13/2/2017

"Pigeon fanciers are calling for a closure-threatened pub to be saved, saying the future of their 60-year-old club depends on it. The FIDDLERS ARMS in Lower Gornal is the meeting place of Gornal Wood West End Flying Club. But plans have been unveiled to demolish the watering hole in Straits Road and replace it with a Co-op supermarket and five homes. Members of the club, who meet four times a week and have had a base at the pub for the past 12 years, say they are devastated by the news and are calling for the owner NewRiver Retail to re-think its proposals.

They fear the loss of the pub could lead to them being forced to shut their club due to a lack of alternative meeting places.

Club secretary Dennis Vinnicombe, aged 65, who lives nearby, said, 'I know all pubs are struggling but this pub is an important part of the community. Our club has already had to move out of one pub because it closed and now we are settled here. We wouldn't have anywhere else to go locally because nowhere has the facilities anymore. Many of our members are elderly and this club is the only way they can continue their hobby. If we closed, they would struggle to get to other clubs and they may not even be able to get in because they only have room for so many members.'

His son Mark, aged 35, who is the club chairman said, 'We could fold if the pub closes because we wouldn't have anywhere else to meet. We want the pub to stay open. It's a community pub and there is always a nice atmosphere here.'

The club, which has around 18 members, aged up to 86 and from Gornal, Sedgley, Wordsley, Wombourne and even Shropshire, also regularly holds fundraising events generating tens of thousands of pounds for good causes.

The FIDDLERS ARMS was sold by Marston's to NewRiver Retail in late 2013 and has been rented on a lease since.

Landlord *Roy Pickering*, who has been running the pub since August, says other groups meet at the pub and it's also a popular venue for private parties. 'Everyone wants to the pub to stay open. We don't need another supermarket. This is a community pub and we have the rooms to cater for different people's needs. It's a lovely pub and I would hate for it to close,' he added.

A spokesman for NewRiver said, 'A detailed viability report will be provided as part of the planning application and this shows that the pub has had three tenants in the last six years and experienced a 70 per cent loss in trade over a four-year period.'"

Dudley Chronicle 17/8/2017

"A Pub which dates back to the 19th century looks to have been saved from the bulldozers after a bid to build a supermarket was rejected.

More than 700 people signed a petition opposing plans to knock down the FIDDLERS ARMS in Lower Gornal and put a Co-op store in its place. And the development has now been refused by planning experts who raised a raft of reasons why the build was not suitable. The chief concern was the fact the pub is classed as a heritage asset and they were not prepared to let it disappear.

The FIDDLERS ARMS was among more than 200 pubs sold by Marston's to NewRiver Retail in 2013. NewRiver lodged plans to knock down the pub in order to build a supermarket.

A major campaign was launched in a bid to save the pub. Campaigners now face a wait to see if the firm appeals the decision.

Dudley MEP and Sedgley councillor Bill Etheridge, who backed the campaign, said, 'Far too many of our pubs have already been lost, have been knocked down to make way for supermarkets and various other purposes.'

Landlord *Roy Pickering* is due to move on later this year, but welcomed the decision.

He said, 'For the people of Gornal, I am happy for them, for all the work they have done.'"

It closed on 14th December 2017.

Dudley News 9/3/2021

"Plans to demolish a historic Lower Gornal pub and replace it with homes have attracted a string of objections. An application to flatten the FIDDLERS ARMS in Straits Road with a cul-de-sac of 12 houses has been submitted to Dudley Council. The application, for eight detached homes and four semi-detached houses, has led to a series of objections including concerns over the historic importance of the locally listed boozer, which dates back to 1860. But a letter of support has also been received stating the building is an 'eyesore' and a 'magnet for anti-social behaviour'....."

Dudley News 11/5/2021

“Plans to demolish a historic Lower Gornal pub and replace it with homes have been withdrawn after attracting a string of objections. An application to flatten the FIDDLERS ARMS in Straits Road with a cul-de-sac of 12 houses had been submitted to Dudley Council. But the developer has now withdrawn the application, after the council’s Historic Environment team recommended it be refused saying it was a poor design and that more effort should be made to save the pub building, which dates back to 1860. It said that alternative uses for the building should be explored.....”

Dudley Council’s Historic Environment team objected to the application stating that the building is recorded on the Council’s Historic Environment Record, is a Locally Listed building and it is located in the Gornal Wood Historic Centre Area of High Historic Townscape Value.....”

Dudley News 5/6/2021

“A fire broke out at derelict pub in Lower Gornal on June 4, which is being treated as arson by police. The FIDDLERS ARMS on Straits Road was set alight on Friday night with fire crews from Dudley, Brierley Hill and Tipton battling the blaze.

West Midlands Fire Service were called at 7:25pm and used two hose reels to put out the fire. A spokesperson for West Midlands Fire Service said, ‘We were called to a severe fire at a void public house. It was a two storey building with a basement. The fire involved the first floor. Fire caused 30 percent damage to the building.....”

Express & Star 30/6/2021

“A derelict pub in Gornal was set on fire again last night – the second time within a month. Twenty-three firefighters battled the blaze at the FIDDLERS ARMS on Straits Road last night (June 29) that was believed to have been started deliberately. West Midlands Fire service were called at 6:05pm and crews from Oldbury, Stourbridge, Brierley Hill, Bilston and Dudley attended the fire. A spokesperson for West Midlands Fire Service said, ‘A large quantity of wood and sofas were on fire to the rear of the first floor. The fire was contained by crews to the first floor. There was evidence of numerous previous incidents. The premises is unsecured and has potential for further incidents.’”

Express & Star 1/6/2022

“Bulldozing an historic Black Country pub and replacing it with homes will ‘put a stop’ to anti-social behaviour at the site, according to West Midlands Police. The force has backed a new scheme for nine homes at the site of the FIDDLERS ARMS on Straits Road, Lower Gornal, which closed down five years ago. It will see the demolition of the crime-ridden derelict pub – which suffered an arson attack in June last year – and nine homes complete with two-car driveways built in its place. It comes after previous schemes at the site have either been rejected or withdrawn. In a letter to planners at Dudley Council, West Midlands Police’s crime reduction unit said it supported the plans. ‘The FIDDLERS ARMS, since closing, has been a source of anti-social behaviour, and building nine new dwellings will put a stop to the ongoing ASB at this location,’ the submission said.

Police said that in the year to July 2021, there had been 151 cases of ASB reported in the area as well as 104 vehicle crimes, 56 burglaries and more than 500 violent crimes. A design and access statement accompanying the plans said the development will consist of one four-bedroom detached home and eight three-bedroom semi-detached properties. It concludes, ‘The demolition of the existing building and the development of this vacant site will be a benefit to the immediate neighbouring properties, and the wider street scene as a whole. All parties hope that this attractive scheme will be helped to move forward and be implemented. The development shall be in line with the Government’s push to provide affordable housing – potentially for first-time buyers.’ A previous scheme for 12 homes, submitted in December 2020, led to a string of objections from people wanting it to be redeveloped as a pub or a restaurant. They included one from Gornal councillor David Stanley, who said the pub had played a key role in the local community over the years. The plans were withdrawn in May 2021.”

Express & Star 14/5/2023

“It will be a ‘sad day’ for Gornal when a popular pub closes its doors for the final time, a senior councillor has said. The FIVE WAYS INN on Himley Road is set to be converted into seven flats under a scheme signed off by planners at Dudley Council Gornal councillor David Stanley, the authority’s cabinet member for regeneration and enterprise, said the pub’s closure would mark a sad day for the area. ‘It is always a sad day to see the loss of these pubs,’ he said. ‘In my life I have seen so many of them close down in Gornal, and just recently we have seen the demise of the FIDDLERS ARMS (which is set to be replaced by flats).....”

Express & Star 28/5/2023

“A landmark Dudley pub has been flattened to make way for a new housing scheme. Drone images taken by the *Express & Star* show the ruins of the FIDDLERS ARMS on Straits Road, Lower Gornal, which has this week been reduced to rubble after the bulldozers moved in. The site is set to be transformed into a cul-de-sac featuring nine homes, including eight three-bed semis and one four-bed detached house. The pub, which dated back to the mid-1800s, closed down in 2017 and was ravaged by fire on several occasions. It became a magnet for druggies and vandals, prompting West Midlands Police to support an application from Straits Homes Ltd to knock it down and replace it with houses. The plans were given the go ahead by Dudley Council last October, despite opposition from some local residents, who said their history was being taken away and that they were being penned in by so many new houses being built in the area. The development was also opposed by the Victorian Society, which had called for the ‘historically important’ building to be retained and incorporated into any new development.

Straits Homes Ltd said it was impossible to preserve and restore the building due to ‘extensive fire damage’ to its structure, and added in a statement, ‘The demolition of the existing building and the development of this vacant site will be a benefit to the im-

mediate neighbouring properties, and the wider street scene as a whole.’

The site has been the subject of a number of planning applications, including one in 2021 for a dozen homes that was thrown out over claims it was poorly designed.”

FIVE WAYS

375, (27) Himley Road, Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Richard Marsh, Robin Hood Inn, Dennis Park, Amblecote

Richard John Marsh, 23 Himley Road

Simpkiss Brewery (acquired in 1936)

Shrewsbury and Wem Brewery (acquired in 1985)

Ian and Wendy Harris [2023]

LICENSEES

Isaac Hughes [1845]

Richard Marsh [1859] – **1895**);

Daniel Marsh (**1895 – 1899**);

Mrs. Emily Hodgetts Marsh (**1899 – 1905**);

William Samuel McGill (**1905 – []**)

Mrs. Emily Hodgetts Marsh [1911]

William Samuel McGill [1940] – **1958**);

William Wall (**1958 – []**)

James Ball []

Charlie Smith [] – **1963**);

Arthur Grainger (**1963 – 1968**);

Eric Pask (**1968 – 1983**);

Brian Geoffrey Millward (**1983 – 1993**);

Geoffrey Chares Curtis (**1993 – []**)

Janice Diane Anslow [2008]

Wendy Harris [2015] – [2018]

Callum Nicholls (**2023 – []** manager)

NOTES

27, Himley Road [1891], [1901], [1940]

375, Himley Road [2002], [2018]

It was known locally as the “Widders”.

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/11/1847

“On Friday last an inquest was held at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, before W. W. Ward, Esq, coroner, on the body of William Cannon, a workman, about 46 years of age, employed at the Oak Farm works. On the Wednesday preceding the deceased was seen cleaning some pinions belonging to an iron mill by another workman, who was carrying a bar of iron to the scale. As he was going to fetch another bar he saw the deceased falling, and on going up to him found that he had been drawn through the boxes between the pinions and the rolls. There was a deep wound over his right eye, his left leg was almost severed from his body, and his bowels were squeezed out. It was supposed that his apron or some part of his clothes became entangled in the boxes, which caused him to be drawn in and thus crushed to death. Verdict accordingly.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/12/1848

“On Monday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, on the body of a man named Thomas Bennett, miner, 36 years of age. Deceased was in the act of getting out of the way of a blast he had fired when his foot slipped, and he fell down the shaft of the pit and was killed. Verdict accordingly.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/3/1854

“On Monday last an adjourned inquest was held before W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, at the FIVE WAYS, Lower Gornal, on the body of William Oakley, aged 17 years, who was found on Thursday evening last in a state of insensibility, at the bottom of number 5 coal mine, in the Oak Farm Colliery, with severe cuts of the head, which caused his death in about four hours. It was supposed that several pieces of coal, which were found lying near him, had fallen from an ascending skip. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1859

“At the Bilston petty sessions on Friday the following cases which had been reserved from the annual licensing meeting for further consideration in consequence of complaints having been made by the police against the applicants, were disposed of, the licenses being renewed conditionally that the respective occupiers are more circumspect in their conduct. FIVE WAYS TAVERN, Lower Gornal.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/10/1859

“Wordsley. Excise Informations.

John Plant, beerhouse keeper at Kingswinford, was summoned by Mr. Henry Hoyte, supervisor, for ‘storing divers quantities of spirits and wines, to wit, half a gill of British Brandy, one quarter gill of Gin, and one pint of Port Wine.’ The above quantities, though small, were in large bottles, and were kept in the bar. *Richard Marsh*, a beerhouse keeper at Sedgley, was likewise summoned for ‘storing divers quantities of spirits, to wit, one quart of rum, and one quart of gin.’ The gin was in two bottles, the one being full and the other nearly empty. Defendant stated that the gin was to alleviate the pain in his wife’s stomach, and the rum was obtained as an act of foresight, in readiness of an ‘interesting event’ which his wife was expecting soon. Both defendants pleaded guilty, and were fined in the mitigated sum of £12 10s, with a recommendation of a further reduction to one-half. Mr. Shacklock, the collector of excise, was present and promised to support the recommendation, and said if they paid the £6 5s at once they would probably hear no more of the matter. They took this view of the case, and paid the amount.”

1861 Census

Himley Road

- [1] *Richard Marsh* (29), publick house, born Sedgley;
- [2] Selina Marsh (22), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Richard John Marsh (1), son, born Sedgley
- [4] Eliza Young (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/11/1861

“On Saturday last, T. M. Philips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, touching the death of Godfrey Guest, a collier, aged sixteen years, which occurred in a coal-pit at the New Dock, the property of Mr. Blackwell, on the previous Monday. It appeared that the deceased was employed with a man named John Price in getting coal off the side of the gateroad for the purpose of widening it, when a piece of coal, five or six cwts. in weight, fell from the roof across the back of deceased and covered him. The coal was removed in the course of about ten minutes, when the deceased was found speechless and insensible, and badly crushed about the loins. He was taken to his home at Gornal, where he was attended by Mr. Simmins, surgeon, of Dudley, until his death, which took place on the following day. Price narrowly escaped with his life. There was plenty of timber in the pit, and the workings had been examined previous to the accident by the doggy, who pronounced them safe. The Jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence.”

Richard Marsh, retailer of beer, Lower Gornall. [1862]

Richard Marsh, beer retailer, Gornal Wood. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

Himley Road – FIVE WAYS

- [1] *Richard Marsh* (39), publican, born Gornal;
- [2] Selina Marsh (31), wife, born Gornal;
- [3] Richard J. Marsh (11), son, scholar, born Gornal;
- [4] *Daniel Marsh* (8), son, scholar, born Gornal;
- [5] Hannah Marsh (6), daughter, scholar, born Gornal;
- [6] Sarah Ann Marsh (6), daughter, scholar, born Gornal;
- [7] Hannah Smith (20), general servant, born Gornal:

Birmingham Mail 18/10/1871

“At the Public Office, yesterday, before, Mr. G. Goodrick and Dr. Melson, Mary Smith (45), prostitute, 21, Vale Street; Mary Ann Norton (45), prostitute, Green’s Buildings, Little Queen Street; William Lowe (44) miner; and Ruth Lowe (41), his wife, Gornal Wood, Sedgley; and James Doughty (40), fishmonger of Great King Street, Dudley; and Joseph Gibbons (50), Brandy Row, Dudley; were charged on remand with stealing £370 in bank notes from the person of Richard Hopkins, cattle dealer, Swansea. Mr. East appeared for the prisoner Smith, and Mr. Cheston for Lowe and his wife.

Mr. William Phipps, clerk in the Northamptonshire Bank, said that he paid notes out to prosecutor on the 30th ult, to the value of £370. The notes were of the Northamptonshire Bank, and consisted of fifteen £20, and seven £10 notes; the numbers were entered

into the bank books.

The prosecutor stated that on Saturday night, the 30th ult, he arrived in Birmingham from Northampton with £370 in notes in his possession. He was at the time worse for liquor. He met the prisoner Norton, and accompanied her to a house in one of the adjacent streets. He did not know the name of the street. Whilst in the bed-room she took the notes which were in a bag, from his pocket, and 'made off with them.' He had not been in the house above five minutes when this occurred. He followed the woman down stairs, but could not catch her. There was a woman, whom he believed to be the prisoner Smith, in the lower room; he did not give information to the police until the next morning, as he could not see a policeman about.

John Cetti, draper, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, said that he changed one of the £10 notes on Monday Oct. 2. It was brought to him by the woman Lowe, to whom he paid the money.

William Newton Russell, assistant to Mr. Pratt, draper, Dudley, said that on the 2nd inst, the prisoner Doughty bought 2½ yards of cloth at his shop. He tendered a £10 note on the Northamptonshire Bank, and received after paying for his purchase £9 3s in change.

Richard Marsh, Gornal Wood, publican, proved the prisoner Lowe came to his house on the night of the 2nd inst, and bought a gallon of ale, which she took away. She asked for change for £10, which he gave her. The note was of the Northamptonshire Bank. She said she had several more at home, as her husband worked for several weeks at a time, and was paid in a lump. He believed the male prisoner Lowe to be an honest man; he had known him eight or nine years.

Police-constable Moffatt, stationed at Lower Gornal, said on the 3rd inst, in consequence of information he received he watched Lowe's house during the whole night. He saw the male prisoner go out in the morning, and then he went in and saw Mrs. Lowe. He asked her if she had a lodger in the house, and she replied that she had one woman, who was upstairs. On this information he proceeded to the bedroom, where he found Norton lying in bed. He asked her if she came from Birmingham, and she said she had not that week. He then apprehended her on the charge of stealing £370. She said she knew nothing about it. He searched her dress, which was placed in a box, and found in it a purse containing £9 13s 2d. Subsequently, when he had taken the two women in custody, Norton said she would make a full confession; £50 reward was offered, and he (witness) might as well have as anybody else. She had robbed a man in Birmingham, but the 'old woman' had taken all the £20 notes from her, and left her only with the £10. She had given the man Lowe three of the £10 notes; he, however, only kept one of them. Lowe was arrested on this; he said he nothing about the case.

Police-constable Mathews proved the apprehension of Doughty, and Detective-sergeant Seal, at this stage of the proceedings, applied for a remand for a week, which was granted."

[The charges against William Lowe and Joseph Gibbons were dismissed. At the Warwick Epiphany Sessions, on, 5th January 1872, Mary Ann Wharton, was found guilty of 'larceny from the person' and received 8 calendar months; Ruth Lowe and James Doughty, were found guilty of 'receiving stolen goods' and sentenced to 6 calendar months each; Mary Smith was acquitted of 'receiving stolen goods'.]

Richard Marsh, beer retailer, Lower Gornal. [1872]

Richard Marsh, beer retailer and butcher. [1873]

1881 Census

Himley Road – FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *Richard Marsh* (50), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Selina Marsh (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Richard J. Marsh (21), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Daniel Marsh* (20), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Hannah J. Marsh (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Sarah H. Marsh (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Selina William (10), visitor, scholar, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/4/1886

"Yesterday Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, on the body of James Hodgetts, alias Jim Hook (59), a collier, of Himley Road, who was killed on Saturday at Messrs. Bennett, Jones, Bradley, and Co's pit, Corbyn's Hall. Mr. W. B. Scott, the Government Inspector attended the enquiry. Hodgetts was putting in a wedge, when a piece of coal weighing about 6cwt fell from behind a slip and crushed his head in such a manner as to cause almost instant death. The overman, Samuel Flavell, had previously told Hodgetts to set the tree near the place for his own protection, but this had not been done. Mr. Scott remarked that Flavell should have seen the timber set. Flavell replied that he ordered Hodgetts to put up the timber, and it was given to him for that purpose. Mr. Scott said the accident was due in a measure to the man's disobedience, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1891 Census

27, Himley Road – FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *Richard Marsh* (59), widower, retired publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Daniel Marsh* (29), son, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Emily Marsh* (27), daughter in law, born Sedgley;
- [4] Jane Morris (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Sam Marsh brewed the beer.

County Express 25/4/1891

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner) held an inquest at the FIVE WAYS INN, Himley Road, Gornal Wood, on Tuesday, touching the death of Henry Blakeway (15), horse driver, who had died from injuries received at the Oak Colliery, Himley, belonging to Messrs. Chance. When in a gate road on Friday morning, leading to the fire clay seams, a lump of coal fell from the roof and struck him in the stomach, inflicting serious internal injuries. He was removed to his home, and died on the following day. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Daniel Marsh died on 20th January 1899.

County Advertiser 8/7/1899

“On Saturday afternoon, Mr. A. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, relative to the death of Edward Harthill (16), who was fatally injured at No.10 Pit, Himley Colliery, belonging to Messrs. S. Garret and Sons. Mr. W. B. Scott (Government Inspector) attended, and Mr. Green (engineer) was present on behalf of the owners of the pit. Deceased’s father was asked by the Coroner if he had any complaint to make, and in reply he stated that his son on his deathbed said the boy he worked with omitted to attach the chain to a tub when descending an incline, with the result that it ran into him, knocking him over. Witness also added that he considered Dr. Pyburn, the field-doctor, had not attended deceased as regularly as he ought to have done. Replying to Mr. Scott, witness admitted that it was contrary to regulations for a horse driver to get in front to the tubs, adding that sometimes they could not help doing so in turning corners.

Samuel Collett, the lad alluded to by the previous witness, stated that deceased struck the horse making the animal travel at a fast rate, and deceased being in front of the tubs was knocked down. It was not true that deceased asked witness to attach the chain, neither did he inquire if it was attached. Witness found deceased lying between the rails, and the latter remarked, ‘My back is broken; I am dead.’ Replying to the father, witness said he was sure the blocks were placed.

The Coroner observed that if deceased had not disobeyed the regulations he would be alive to-day.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.

At the conclusion of the inquiry the Coroner expressed a hope that the colliery proprietors would investigate the complaint of the father respecting the irregular attendance on his son by the field-doctor. Mr. Green said the matter, should be inquired into.

On Saturday, a brother of deceased, named John Harthill, was injured in a similar manner at No.5 Pit Himley Colliery.”

1901 Census

27, Himley Road – FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *Emily H. Marsh* (37), widow, publican, born Kingswinford;
- [2] George H. Marsh (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] Elizabeth Stevens (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Himley Road – FIVE WAYS

- [1] *Emily Hodgetts Marsh* (46), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Shut End, Kingswinford;
- [2] George Harry Marsh (19), son, assistant beerhouse keeper, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Martha Poultney (46), visitor, born Kidderminster:

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions FIVE WAYS (Himley Road), Lower Gornal, 13s 6d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

Himley Road – FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *William Samuel McGill*, date of birth 15/2/1876, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Alice (McGill) Ward, dob 10/2/1880, housekeeper, single:

James Ball was a former miner at Baggeridge.

He was married to Olive in 1942.

Tipton Herald 22/9/1956

“Customers of the FIVE WAYS INN, Himley Road, Gornal Wood, gave grand support to the Lower Gornal Athletic Club when

their harvest home, held during the weekend, raised more than £40.

The effort was given a grand start by eight-years-old Janet Wall, who organised a competition which raised more than £7 of the total.

A short service held on Sunday evening was presided over by Vice-President, Councillor A. Turner, with Mr. B. A. Buxton giving the address.

The auction on Monday evening was conducted by Mr. S. Wood and thanks to all the helpers was voiced by the club President, Councillor J. Timmins, and endorsed by the Secretary, Mr. A. Sargeant.

A further harvest home in aid of the Athletic Club funds is being staged this weekend by customers of the OLD BULLS HEAD INN. The service on Sunday evening will be conducted by the Rev. E. P. Waterhouse, curate of St. James, Lower Gornal, with Councillor J. Timmins officiating as chairman.”

Tipton Herald 23/7/1960

“Who says sportsmen don’t aid charities? If you want a typical example how about the Wilfred Pickles Darts Competition in aid of Spastics in Dudley.

Last weekend at the HEN AND CHICKENS HOTEL, the team from the WARD ARMS, Dudley, defeated the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, to win the competition, which raised the handsome sum of £100 for the Dudley Spastics Group.”

Closed

Reopened in 1996.

Express & Star 25/1/2023

“A much-loved Dudley pub could soon be turned into a set of apartments – the third in the last year in the borough to be earmarked for development. The FIVE WAYS INN on Himley Road in Gornal has rave reviews but plans were lodged last week to transform the boozer into a set of seven private apartments. The pub stands at the busy five ways junction on the Himley to Dudley Road where Bull Street and Redhall Road lead into Gornal. Customers of the pub had left rave reviews on Google with some calling it a ‘must-visit place’ and commenting on the quality of the drinks, food and the friendliness of the staff. Developers say the layout of the pub site will remain largely unchanged with nine car parking spaces provided. Plans will see the ground floor extended to the side and split into four apartments consisting of three one-bedroom apartments and one studio apartment. The first and second floors will also be split into three apartments. In a design and access statement a representative for the developer, affordable home designs, said, ‘The proposed two-storey/first-floor side extension will be in keeping with the existing scale and size of the pub. The size of the apartments will be similar to other apartments in the area and will meet the local area’s current standards with regard to living accommodation size and space. The two-storey side extension will be similar in appearance to the existing pub. The character of the building will remain unchanged apart from repair, refurbishment or like-for-like replacement of necessary features. It is intended to keep as much of the existing character as possible and incorporate the existing design and features into the new scheme. It is considered that this proposed development in this location is well designed, sustainable and appropriate for the site to enhance the character and appearance of the local context.”

Express & Star 3/4/2023

“A Gornal pub will be converted into flats after planners gave the scheme the thumbs up. The FIVE WAYS INN on Himley Road has rave reviews, but plans to transform the boozer into a set of seven private apartments have been approved by Dudley Council Two objections were submitted with concerns regarding the impact on light as a result of the two-storey side extension and the other over the social impact of another pub being lost.....”

Express & Star 14/5/2023

“It will be a ‘sad day’ for Gornal when a popular pub closes its doors for the final time, a senior councillor has said. The FIVE WAYS INN on Himley Road is set to be converted into seven flats under a scheme signed off by planners at Dudley Council. It will see a two-storey extension added to the existing building, with the development also set to include nine car parking spaces. No closure date has been set for the pub, which still draws a decent crowd and has been the subject of failed attempts for redevelopment in the past. Gornal councillor David Stanley, the authority’s cabinet member for regeneration and enterprise, said the pub’s closure would mark a sad day for the area. ‘It is always a sad day to see the loss of these pubs,’ he said. ‘In my life I have seen so many of them close down in Gornal, and just recently we have seen the demise of the FIDDLERS ARMS (which is set to be replaced by flats). The FIVE WAYS has been there for years and is seen as a community pub and a meeting place. It is still used regularly and it is particularly sad that it is closing when it appears to be a profitable concern.’

Agreeing to the development subject to conditions, planners at Dudley Council said, ‘The proposed development is acceptable in terms of scale, size and appearance and would not have a detrimental impact on surrounding amenity, or result in the loss of an irreplaceable community asset.”

Express & Star 10/8/2023

“A Black Country pub is set to get a new lease of life after being taken over by a long-time local. The FIVE WAYS INN on Himley Road in Gornal is set to undergo a major renovation ahead of a grand opening at the start of September after being taken over by Mike Westwood, owner of the Jinja beer company and a regular at the pub for 20 years. Mr. Westwood said the pub had been put up for redevelopment as flats by the owners, but he had kept in touch with them and said that if the plans didn’t go ahead, he was interested in taking over the lease of the pub and keeping it open as a pub. He said, ‘I’m a Gornal lad and the FIVE WAYS used to be my local for quite a few years and I still only live two minutes away, plus I’ve also supplied beer to them in the past and

got to know the owners Ian and *Wendy Harris*. I did have discussions with them about taking the pub on, but they were looking to either sell it or go down the renovation route and I know the planning permission had got approved. They came back to me and said the feedback from locals was that they didn't want to lose it as a pub and Ian said he really didn't want to see it close, so I put forward a proposal for him to ensure that it's beneficial for him to keep it open as a pub and not go down the demolition route.' Mr. Westwood said that he had now taken on the pub as the leaseholder, with his colleague *Callum Nicholls* running it day to day as manager, and said he wanted to bring back the community aspect to the pub. He said, 'It would have been galling to see it close and I'm going to do as much as I can to keep it open for a long time. What made it special in the past was the community side as everyone knew each other, so that's what I want to bring back, with Sky Sports and TNT Sports on the TV and a new loyalty card scheme, which means that for every pound you spend, you get 10p back on the card. It means, for example, a £4 pint will get you back 40p on the loyalty card, so it means people can save and spend as they wish, so things like that will help it to become a community hub people can come to. We are working on renovating the pub right now and plan to reopen fully at the start of September, so exciting times ahead.'"

Express & Star 3/9/2023

"The FIVE WAYS INN in Himley Road, reopened on Friday after Mike Westwood took on the pub as leaseholder, while his colleague *Callum Nicholls* will run it as manager....."

[2023]

FIVE WAYS

1, (3), (2), Lake Street, (Green), Five Ways, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joseph Jevon, farmer, Coseley
Joseph Charles Horton, coalmaster (licensee), Wall Heath
John Waterfield
W. Butler and Co. Ltd.
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd. [1930]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Benjamin Jevon [1851] – [1862]
Joseph Jevon [] – 1863);
John Jevon (1863 – 1876);
William Henry Waterfield (1876 – 1878);
John Waterfield (1878 – 1880);
Joseph Horton Waterfield (1880 – 1901);
John Waterfield (1901 – 1912);
Samuel Crew (1912 – 1914);
Clarissa Alice Crew (1914 – 1915);
Joshua Bradley (1915 – 1916);
William Heath (1916 – 1927);
Lewis George Elston (1927 – 1930);
John Waterfield (1930 – 1934);
Frederick 'Fred' Willetts (1934 – 1941);
Samuel 'Sam' Hammond (1941 – 1953);
Elizabeth Hammond (1953 – 1954);
John Gould (1954 – 1957);
Leslie Ernest Piggott (1957 – 1959);
William Blackford (1959 – []
D Broom [1983]

NOTES

2, Lake Street [1871], [1881], [1891]
3, Lake Street [1939], [1940]

1, Lake Street [1990]

Benjamin Jevon = Benjamin Jevons = Benjamin Jeavon = Benjamin Jeavons

1851 Census

Green

- [1] *Benjamin Jevon* (37), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Jevon (33), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Ann Oakley Jevon (10) daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Mary Ann Cartwright (20), house servant, born Dudley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston..... Mr. J. Underhill made an application for a license to the ROYAL EXCHANGE, on behalf of Isaac Marsh, of Lower Gornal. The nearest public house, he said was 200 yards distant, and in an entirely different road. Applicant’s house had been erected for a public house, at a cost of £1,000. It was situated close to the vicarage, and notwithstanding Mr. Rooker, the vicar, did not object to a license being granted, but, on the contrary, wrote to the Magistrates saying that he did not consider the applicant’s having a license would be an annoyance to him. Mr. *Jeavons* of the FIVE WAYS, who opposed the application, had been several times fined and complained of. The house and premises were very commodious, and, as large stables formed a portion of the premises, a great convenience would be afforded to those parties who visited the church, and had now difficulty in finding stabling and accommodation for horses and gigs. The vicar complained of want of accommodation of that sort.

Mr. Waterhouse opposed on behalf of Mr. *Jeavons*, and submitted that another house was unrequired in the district. There were plenty of public houses and the population was stationary. Lower Gornal was as dirty a place as ever, and little improvement was being made in it.

Mr. Underhill said there were 20 houses attached to the applicant’s premises. Refused.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied on behalf of Mr. Isaac Marsh for a license to his house, situate near Gornal church. It had been built at a cost of £700, and fifteen years had elapsed since the last license was granted for the locality. Mr. Whitehouse opposed on behalf of Mr. *Jeavons*, of the FIVE WAYS INN, and the Bench refused the application.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/10/1857 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Eligible Freehold Building Land, situate opposite the CROSS KEYS INN and WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. S. Powell will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Jevons*, FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, on Friday next, the 9th day of October, at Six o’clock in the evening the undermentioned valuable Building Land, subject to conditions there to be read, and in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....

Application For New Licenses.....

Mr. Waterhouse next applied for a license for the ROYAL EXCHANGE, at Lower Gornal, the property of the occupier, Mr. Isaac Marsh. Mr. Whitehouse opposed on behalf of Mr. *Jeavons*, the occupier of the FIVE WAYS INN. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for the purpose of the renewal and granting of licenses for the township of Bilston and the neighbourhood was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

The following publicans having been fined during the past year their licenses were suspended until the adjourned licensing day.....

Benjamin Jeavons, FIVE WAYS TAVERN, Lower Gornal.”

1861 Census

Five Ways

- [1] *Benjamin Jeavons* (47), widower, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Harriet Harley (19), servant, born Chelmarsh, Shropshire:

London Gazette 27/5/1862

“*Benjamin Jevons*, (sued as Benjamin Jeavons) of Kingswood, Tettenhall, Stafford, stone getter, previously of Lower Gornal, Sedgley, Stafford, licensed victualler, now a Prisoner for Debt in the Gaol at Stafford.”

Joseph Jevon = Joseph Jeavon

John Jevon = John Jevons = John Jeavons = John Jeavon

John Jevon issued tokens from here.

Birmingham Daily Post 12/6/1865 - Correspondence

“The Nailers’ Strike.

To the Editor of the *Daily Post*.

Sir. In your impression of today, in ‘The Threatened Strike Of Nailers,’ you stated that the whole of the nailers have taken their iron out at a discount. Sir, there is no drop offered on large nails; only on small work. At a meeting held at Lower Gornal, this morning, it was resolved that all small-nail makers go on strike till the standing price be given, as the Lye and Lye Waste masters all have agreed to pay the old price, except Mrs. Tinsley; her people have been on strike for a fortnight. A small space in your columns will be much obliged.

Your &c, *John Jevons*.

FIVE WAYS, Lower Gornal.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 17/6/1865 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Sale Of Copyhold Public House, Gardens, Two Pieces of Arable and One of Pasture Land, situate at Lower Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction.

By Messrs. Powell and Son, on Wednesday Next, the 21st day of June, at the house of Mr. *John Jevons*, the FIVE WAYS INN Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read.

All that Old-established and Licensed Public House, Out-buildings, and Premises, known as the FIVE WAYS INN, situate at Five Ways, Lower Gornal, aforesaid; and all those three Pieces of Fields of Land adjoining the Public House. This Land has large frontages to the Road leading from Lower Gornal to Upper Gornal, Deepdale Bank, and Dudley. The Property is inclusive of the site of the Buildings, contains an area of 6a 3r 27p, and is now in the occupation of Mr. *John Jevons*.

To see plans, and for further particulars, apply to Messrs. Coldicott and Canning, Solicitors, Dudley; or to the Auctioneers, High Street, Tipton.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *John Jevon*, FIVE WAYS, Upper Gornal, 10s and costs.”

1871 Census

2, Lake Street

[1] *John Jevon* (33), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Ann Jevon (37), wife, born Himbleton, Worcestershire;

[3] Jane Oakley (19), barmaid, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 2/12/1871

John Jeavons, FIVE WAYS, Lower Gornal was fined £2 and costs for permitting drunkenness.

John Jevon was convicted on 7th July 1873 for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

“Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court.....

The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent McCrea presenting his annual ‘black list.’ In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act. The names of the offending licensed victuallers were.....

John Jevon, FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal.....

The committee stated that the licenses of all the persons contained in the ‘list’ would be suspended until the adjourned licensing sessions, to be held on the 26th proximo.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions. These Sessions were held yesterday.....

On the personal application of the following persons the appended old licenses were renewed.....

John Jeavon, FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/10/1875

“*John Jeavons*, landlord of the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 28th ult. A police-officer stated that he visited the defendant’s house and found a man in a drunken state. He drew the attention of the landlord to him, and had the man turned out. He again visited the house at half-past eight in the evening, and he then found another man drunk in the taproom, also a third man in another place drunk, and a fourth asleep. The landlady’s attention was called to them, and she said she could not get them out, although she had tried. She put one of the gas-lights out in the hope that they would leave. The officer said he again visited the house at half-past nine and then found one of the men still there.

Three previous convictions were proved against defendant, and he was fined £5 and costs. The license was not endorsed.”

Dudley Herald 30/9/1876

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Bilston licensing division were held at the Bilston Police Court, yesterday week, the justices present being H. Ward and W. Hatton, Esqs, and the Rev. J. Y. Rooker.

....licences which were ordered to stand over from the annual licensing day.....

John Jeavons, FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, against whom three convictions in five years were recorded, was informed that the Bench had decided to adjourn the matter for a week prior to refusing the renewal. He asked whether he might be allowed to transfer the licence, and was told in reply that that question could then be settled.”

County Express 21/10/1876 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Sale Of A First-Class Old-Licensed Freehold Public House, known at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, and Cottage adjoining.

Mr. John Bent has received instructions from Mr. *John Jevons* (who is retiring from the business), to offer for Sale upon the Premises on Tuesday, October 31st, 1876, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced, incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society, in the following or such other Lots, as may be determined upon at the time of Sale.

Lot 1. All that Compact and well-situated Freehold Old-Licensed Public-House, known by the sign of the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal. The Premises (a great portion of which have been recently erected) are situate in a most commanding position, at the junction of five well frequented roads, and comprise large Front Tap Room, Front Bar, Parlour, Smoke Room, Spirit Stores, large Pantry, Four Chambers, Three Dry Cellars, with iron folding doors, excellent Brewhouse, and Barrel Shed, Store House and Malt Room, Plot of Garden Land, with Carriage Drive and pair of folding gates.

There is good stabling for 4 horses and large clubs hold their meetings at the house.

The Property is in first-class condition, and thoroughly drained. There is a good paved yard at the back, and a never-failing supply of good Spring Water, together with Soft Water and Hard Wash Cisterns, Two good Pumps; also a Feeding Pump to Boilers. Gas is laid throughout the buildings. The brewings of this Establishment average 1,000 bushels a year, independently from the spirit trade.

The House is unquestionably one of the best paying in South Staffordshire, and an independency may very soon be realised there from.

Lot 2. All that Freehold Messuage and Premises adjoining Lot 1, comprising a Front Sitting Room, Two Chambers, Pantry, Nail-shop, capital Garden and Out-buildings; procuring at a weekly rental, the annual sum of £9 2s.

A Plan of the Property will be produced at the time of Sale.

For further particulars, apply at the Offices of Messrs. Gould and Elcock, Solicitors, Stourbridge and Kidderminster; or the Auctioneer, 205, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.”

Dudley Herald 25/11/1876 - Advert

“Sale on Monday, November 27th, 1876, at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal.

To Farmers, Butchers, Brokers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Monday, Nov. 27th, 1876, upon the above Premises, Ten Home-fed Fat Pigs, varying from 11 to 12 score each, of excellent breed; Rick of Meadow Hay, about four tons; Rick of Oats, Rick of Barley, broad-wheel Cart, Winnowing Machine, three-furrowed Drill, six hogshead Cask, two light Spring Traps, set silver-mounted Harness, set brass-mounted Trap Harness, Hackney Saddle and Bridle, Surcingle and Rug, quantity Old Iron, quantity Timber, Butcher's Block, Wheelbarrow, Mash Tubs, Potato Smasher, Grindstone and Frame, double-knife Chaff Machine, Wagon and Cart Rope, 10 Pegs and Bowls, together with a portion of the Household Furniture, consisting of French and Bureau Bedsteads, Mattresses, Green Quilt, Chest Drawers, mahogany Washing Stand, painted panelled Chest, Timepieces, Clocks, Chairs, Sofa, Chimney Glass, Hat and Umbrella Stand, together with the usual Kitchen Appendages, belonging to Mr. *John Jeavons*, who is changing his residence.

Sale to commence at Twelve o'clock prompt.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/8/1877

“Formation of a Rifle Association. An influential meeting of the resident gentlemen in the Sedgley district was held on Wednesday night at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, when Captain E. Nayler presided.

The report of the General Committee, that had been appointed to make certain inquiries, was adopted. It showed that Messrs. Finch, E. P. Cartwright and Company, W. H. Waterfield and Company, George Taylor, and Mrs. Gibbons would allow the association to use any quantity of land that might be required for the purpose. A store-house for the association property was found free of expense by Mrs. Gibbons until there were sufficient funds in hand to construct one. The name of the association was to be ‘The Sedgley and District Rifle Association’ and the range was to be called the Dibdale Range. As the shooting season was almost closed, it was only recommended to erect one target at 300 yards. All members should pay an entrance fee of 10s 6d, and an annual subscription of 7s 6d. Members, to the number of 21, were then enrolled, and the rules, 29 in number, were agreed upon. The rules are similar to those in force at most rifle associations, with the addition of a rule that any person neglecting to hoist the danger flag when firing should be disqualified from shooting, and should not be readmitted unless on the written request of two-thirds of the members and paying a fresh entrance fee.

Captain Nayler was elected president, Mr. Brevitt vice-president, Mr. B. Gibbons hon.sec. and Mr. Gould treasurer.

The committee appointed were Messrs. S. Lane, W. Y. Rooker, *W. H. Waterfield*, W. P. Gibbons, E. P. Cartwright jun, John Ballenden and St. Clair Ballenden.

The customary votes of thanks closed the proceedings.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1877

“A match between members of the Sedgley and District Rifle Association and of the 29th Staffordshire (Sedgley) Rifle Volunteers took place at the Dibdale range on Monday, and resulted in an easy victory for the latter. The bad weather and light were against high yards, Wimbledon scoring and targets. The losing team scored a total of 162 and the winners 207. The competitors subsequently dined together at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Express 16/2/1878

“At the Sedgley Police Court, on Monday, before Mr. I. Spooner (Stipendiary) and Mr. F. A. Homer, Peter Clarke and John Woodhall, miners, were charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, when requested to do so by the landlord, Mr. *W. H. Waterfield* on the 7th inst. The case having been proved, Mr. Spooner fined the defendants each 5s and costs, or in default, fourteen days’ imprisonment.”

County Express 22/6/1878

“On Monday afternoon an interesting competition took place on the Dibdale range, Lower Gornal, between seven members of the Sedgley and District Rifle Association and seven of the 29th Staffordshire Volunteers. Ultimately the latter won by 16 points. In the evening a large number of gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner at the house of Mr. *W. H. Waterfield*, the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, when Lieutenant B. Gibbons presided.....”

1881 Census

2, Lake Street

- [1] *Joseph H. Waterfield* (39), publican, born Gornal;
- [2] Emma Waterfield (35), wife, born Gornal;
- [3] Louisa J. Waterfield (13), daughter, pupil teacher, born Gornal;
- [4] Albert E. Waterfield (4), son, scholar, born Gornal;
- [5] Esther A. Waterfield (18), visitor, dress maker, born Gornal;
- [6] Sarah Hickman (17), visitor, dress maker, born Gornal:

Evening Express 12/7/1881

“Joseph Cartwright, Mary Cartwright, Elizabeth Russell, Lydia Ball, Maria Cartwright, and Emma Cartwright were summoned for assaulting Police-constable Lonsdale at Five Ways, Lower Gornal, on Wednesday, the 29th of last month. The officer stated that he was near the FIVE WAYS public house when Joseph Cartwright came and commenced using bad language, and on being told to go home he struck witness on the face. They struggled together some time, and then rolled over. The female defendants then joined in the fight, and struck witness several times, tore his coat and shirt, and also kicked him. Job Millington said Cartwright struck the officer first, but he did not see the women strike him. Thomas Morgan also proved the assault, but a woman named Ruth Brooks declared that the officer was the aggressor, and that none of the female defendants, except Mary Cartwright, were present. The Stipendiary considered it a serious case, and fined Joseph Cartwright 40s and costs, or one month, for the assault, and 10s and costs, or seven days, for drunkenness; and each of the women 5s and costs, or seven days.”

Birmingham Mail 4/3/1890

“At the Oldbury Police Court today, before Messrs. H. Heaton, S. Bennett, and G. S. Albright, *Joseph Horton Waterfield* (48), landlord of the FIVE WAYS INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, licensed victualler, and also a member of the Sedgley Local Board, was charged with indecently assaulting Reuben Davis, gamekeeper, of Ledbury, whilst travelling in a third-class carriage on the London and North Western Railway between Birmingham and Oldbury stations yesterday afternoon. Mr. J. S. Sharpe defended. Prosecutor stated that he accompanied his brother, T. C. Davis, to Birmingham from Oldbury. He was returning by the train leaving New Street Station at 3.5. The defendant got into the same compartment, and sat opposite him. During the journey, without any previous conversation, witness alleged that defendant caught hold of him in an indecent manner, and also made indecent remarks and overtures. This he repeated two or three times during the journey. When they reached Oldbury Station witness told the defendant that he was a police constable, and took him to the police station and gave him into custody. Mr. Sharpe submitted that upon the evidence the court had no jurisdiction, as everything took place before the parties reached Spon Lane. Davis said the assault was repeated between Spon Lane and Oldbury stations, and the Bench decided to proceed with the case. Cross-examined by Mr. Sharpe: Witness did not raise an alarm or struggle with the defendant, but caught hold of him and held him because he meant to give him into custody at Oldbury. Police-sergeant Clarke deposed to the last witness bringing defendant to the lock up. Prosecutor said to defendant when at the station, ‘You old villain, I had a good mind to hit you.’ Defendant, in reply to the charge, said he was sorry; he knew he had done wrong, and he should like to settle some way. He afterwards said he did not know what caused him to do it. One of the accusations prosecutor made against him the defendant denied. Defendant was sober, but looked rather wild about the eyes. Mr. Sharpe asked the Bench to reduce the charge to one of common assault, and so deal with it. He said it was a most extraordinary case, founded on a most extraordinary statement. Defendant was ultimately committed to the Quarter Sessions for trial, bail being allowed.”

[At Worcestershire County Quarter Sessions the Grand Jury threw out the bill charging *Joseph Horton Waterfield* with

having on the 3rd March, at Oldbury, indecently assaulted Reuben Davis, of Sedgley.]

1891 Census

2, Lake Street

- [1] *Joseph Horton Waterfield* (49), licensed victualler and quarryman, born Upper Gornal;
- [2] Emma Waterfield (46), wife, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] Albert Edgar Waterfield (14), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] Mabel Cordelia Waterfield (6), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] Percy Thomeycroft (4), relative, born Bromsgrove;
- [6] Eliza Hickman (19), general servant, born Lower Gornal:

Dudley Herald 5/3/1898

“James Hartill, West Bromwich, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal.

Mr. *J. H. Waterfield*, the landlord, said defendant come to his house on the 22nd inst, drunk. He was asked to leave, but remained half an hour and had to be ejected.

Defendant denied that Mr. *Waterfield* was there or that he was drunk, and called a witness who said he had only had two pints of beer.

He was fined 5s and costs.”

Dudley Herald 23/7/1898

“On Thursday night an interesting gathering assembled at the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, the occasion being the presentation of a purse of gold amounting to £15 11s 6d to Ex-PC Sutton, who has served over 28 years in the Staffordshire Constabulary. After dinner, which was provided in excellent style by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *J. H. Waterfield*, the secretary, Mr. Dan Hickman, read out the list of subscribers.

Councillor E. Wones, in making the presentation, which had been subscribed by men of different politics and abstainers, spoke of the honest and straightforward manner in which Mr. Sutton had discharged his duties during the 21 years he had been in the district, and hoped he would be long spared to enjoy the pension and testimonial he had so honourably earned.

Ex-PC Sutton heartily thanked the subscribers for their kindness and generosity, and spoke highly of his successor, PC Lawton.

A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. A. Paterson, and seconded by Mr. Dan Hickman, brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.”

Dudley Herald 12/11/1898

“Charles Ball, of Lower Gornal, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, and also with being drunk and disorderly.

PC Lawton said that on October 29th about 5 o’clock he was called to the FIVE WAYS INN, where he found defendant in a state of drunkenness. The landlord said he had asked the defendant to leave several times, but he did not go out, and witness put him out. Later witness found defendant drunk in Robert Street.

Joseph Horton Waterfield, the landlord, stated the defendant was requested to leave, but refused.

For being drunk defendant was fined 7s 6d and costs, or 14 days’ imprisonment, and for refusing to quit he was fined 10s and costs or 14 days.”

1901 Census

Lake Street – FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *Joseph H. Waterfield* (60), quarry master and licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Emma Waterfield (56), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Mary C. R. Waterfeld (15), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Gary Thompson (14), grandson, born Bromsgrove;
- [5] Ernest Thompson (12), grandson, born Catshull, Worcestershire;
- [6] Eliza J. Hughes (21), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [7] Mary Hartill (14), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Lower Gornal – FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *John Waterfield* (40), licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Edith Waterfield (32), wife, married 9 years, assistant in business, born Quarry Bank;
- [3] Lilian Hughes (21), general servant, born Upper Gornal:

Samuel Crew died on 25th September 1914.

William Heath was fined £5 and costs, on 28th August 1916, for selling ale during closing hours.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/8/1916

“At Sedgley Police Court yesterday, *Joshua Bradley*, landlord of the FIVE WAYS INN, Luke Street, Lower Gornal, was fined £5

for having contravened the Order of the Board of Liquor Control by supplying ale during prohibited hours; and Richard Brook, Luke Street, Lower Gornal, was fined 40s for having taken ale away from the inn.

The defence was that the beer was paid for before closing time. Before closing time on the day in question ten quarts of ale and two jars were served for some colliers assembled in an adjoining field. Four quarts were consumed, and the bottle containing six quarts was hidden by Brooks in some old buildings twenty yards from the licensed premises. It was this bottle which Brooks had when Police-constable Bailey came on the scene, and the allegation that the landlord handed the bottle over the wall was denied. Mr. A. Turton, who defended, gave notice of appeal.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions FIVE WAYS (The Green), Lower Gornal, 4s.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Closed

Reopened

Letter 2/1/1930

“Re Julia Hanson & Sons Limited.

We beg to give you notice that the undermentioned licensed properties formerly belonging to Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd., but now belonging to Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Limited, of Tower Street, Dudley, were by a Mortgage dated the 10th day of September 1929, charged by Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd., with other property to secure the repayment to our Mr. A. M. Fairbairn and Others of the principal sum and interest therein mentioned.

FIVE WAYS INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal.

LION INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.

NEW INN, fronting North Street and Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal.

Please also accept this as notice that the Off-Licensed premises, No.3, Church Street, Lower Gornal, belonging to Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd., was by a Mortgage dated the 1st December 1929 charged by them with other property to secure the repayment to our Mr. A. M. Fairbairn and Others of the principal sum and interest therein mentioned.

We shall be glad if you will have a note of the above entered in the License Register.

We enclose Postal Order value 4/- your fee in the matter.

Yours faithfully, Hooper & Fairbairn, Solicitors. 1, Priory Street, Dudley.”

Lewis George Elston was born on 19th June 1873 at Crediton, Devon.

Before becoming a publican he was a baker and grocer.

He was married to Edith Mary Elston, born on 12th June 1875 – see SWAN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal.

Lewis George Elston died on 15th November 1943. Probate to Edith Mary Elston, widow, and Francis Thomas Elston [son], licensed victualler. Effects £202.

Francis Thomas Elston – see LEOPARD, Horseley Heath, Tipton.

Lewis George Elston – see also WEST END, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, BLUE BOAR, Stone Street, Dudley, BRITISH OAK, Salop Street, Dudley, BEEHIVE, Tinchbourne Street, Dudley, BUSH, Summit Place, Lower Gornal and SWAN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal.

1939 Register

3, Lake Street

[1] *Frederick Willetts*, date of birth 20/4/1877, licensee, married;

[2] *Agnes Willetts*, dob 14/4/1878, wife, household duties, married;

[3] *Leslie Willetts*, dob 20/1/1904, window cleaner, single;

[4] *Cyril Willetts*, dob 19/4/1913, haulage contractor, single;

[5] *George Willetts*, dob 24/12/1915, butcher, salesman, single;

[6] *Mary Elizabeth (Willetts) Baker*, dob 18/3/1918, clerk, turf accountant, single:

[1995]

Closed

It became a funeral director's office.

FORGE

32, Chase Road, (29, Pensnett Road), (Forge Lane), (Coopers Bank), Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

The Earl of Dudley
Elizabeth Evans
John Francis Myatt, Red Hill Lodge, Compton, Wolverhampton
Julia Hanson and Son Ltd.
Pathfinder Pubs
Marstons plc

LICENSEES

James Wilkes [] – **1850**);
Joseph Hughes* (**1850** – []
Joseph Hughes* [1861] – **1874**);
Ann Hughes (**1874** – **1890**);
Walter Hughes (**1890**);
Mrs. Emma (Hughes) Webb (**1890** – **1903**);
Walter Hughes (**1903** – []
Henry Robinson [] – **1906**);
Benjamin Evans (**1906** – **1911**);
Mrs. Elizabeth Evans (**1911** – **1938**);
George William Lawrence (**1938** – **1953**);
Jack Dunn (**1953** – []
Colin Fantom [1985]
Douglas Gamson (**1986** – []
Paul Edis [2006] – [2007] manager
Theresa Babic [2023] manager

NOTES

OLD FORGE [1868], [1869], [1870], [1904], [1932], [1940]
OLD FORD [1892], [1896] – This appears to be a typographical error.

* probably the same person

1861 Census

Forge Lane

- [1] *Joseph Hughes* (46), innkeeper and collector, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Ann Hughes* (39), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Elizabeth Hughes (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] William B. Hughes (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Emma Hughes* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Walter Hughes* (3), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] William Burnett (73), father in law, widower, born Devizes, Wiltshire;
- [8] Patience Greenaway (12), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [9] Thomas Hazelwood (50), servant, labourer, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/1/1863

“The offices of the Earl of Dudley at Standsfield Bridge were forcibly entered on Friday night, by means of iron bars, with which they burst open one of the outer doors. The thieves made a minute search all over the place, but as there was no money left there they went away without any, or even anything else so far as is yet known. The house of Mr. Marsh, within a stone's throw of the above place, also received a visit. At this place they endeavoured to get in also through the street door, but being unsuccessful, they left their implements on the door step. They succeeded, however, in entering the premises of Mr. *Hughes*, the FORGE TAV-

ERN, but were disturbed by the barking of a dog.”

Joseph Hughes was also a collector of rates. [1868], [1870]

Dudley Herald 15/5/1869

“*Joseph Hughes*, beerhouse keeper, Lower Gornal charged costs only prohibited hours.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court..... The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year. Open During prohibited Hours *Jos. Hughes*, FORGE INN, Lower Gornal, to pay costs.”

1871 Census

29, Pensnett Road – OLD FORGE HOUSE

- [1] *Joseph Hughes* (56), licensed victualler, born Gornal;
- [2] *Ann Hughes* (49), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Elizabeth A. Hughes (19), daughter, born Gornal;
- [4] *Emma Hughes* (17), daughter, born Gornal;
- [5] *Walter Hughes* (13), son, scholar, born Gornal:

County Advertiser 15/11/1873 - Advert

“DUDLEY ARMS INN, Himley.

A Miscellaneous Concert will be given by the Shut End Brass And Reed Band, assisted by the Sedgley Vocal Union, at the above Inn, on Monday, November 24th, 1873.

For the benefit of the Funds of the Guest Hospital, Dudley.

Under the following distinguished Patronage.....

Miss Darby will Preside at the Pianoforte.

Prices of Admission: Reserved Seats, 2s; Second Seats, 1s; Back Seats, 6d.

Doors to open at seven to commence at half-past.

Tickets may be had at the DUDLEY ARMS INN, Himley; Post Office, Kingswinford; Post Office, Wombourn; Mr. W. Gould, Swindon; Mr. *Joseph Hughes*, FORGE INN, Gornal; Mr. Wallings, SWAN INN, Sedgley; Mr. J. Wilshaw, Wordsley; and of Messrs. W. Ludlow and T. Barrow, Secretaries.”

Joseph Hughes died in 1874.

County Express 3/7/1875

“Mr. R. J. Watts, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest at the Guest Hospital on Wednesday, on the body of Phoebe Ann Hale, aged 15, who died from severe burns on the previous day. From the evidence it appeared that deceased, instead of attending to her work at the FORGE INN, Lower Gornal, got playing with matches, and was in a few minutes all in flames. After the flames had been extinguished Dr. Bradley was sent for, and he ordered her immediate removal to the hospital, but she only lived two days. Verdict, Death from Burns.”

1881 Census

Chase Road – FORGE TAVERN

- [1] *Ann Hughes* (60), widow, victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Emma Hughes* (27), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] *Walter Hughes* (23), son, coach wheeler, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Elizabeth Palmer (29), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] George Palmer (33), son in law, contractor, born Pensnett;
- [6] Emma Leia Palmer (7), granddaughter, scholar, born Pensnett;
- [7] Florence Edith Palmer (3), granddaughter, born Pensnett;
- [8] Amelia Augusta Palmer (1), granddaughter, born Pensnett:

Dudley and District News 5/8/1882

“A fatal colliery accident happened at the Cooper’s Bank Colliery, Lower Gornal, belonging to the Earl of Dudley, to a doggy named Joseph Heathcock, yesterday morning. It appears the deceased, in company with Joseph Mason, manager, went down the pit early yesterday morning for the purpose of making an inspection preparatory to the men commencing work, and whilst examining one of the seams, a large quantity of coal fell from the roof, burying deceased, Mason being a short distance from the deceased, just escaping a similar fate. Men were at once set to work to remove the coal, and when the body was recovered it was found to be literally smashed to pieces. Deceased, who was a married man, was at once removed to his home at the FORGE INN, Lower Gornal, where an inquest will be held.”

Emma Hughes married William James *Webb* in the 4th quarter of 1883.

Birmingham Daily Post 22/1/1884

“At the Petty Sessions, yesterday – before Mr. Doughty, stipendiary – *Ann Hughes*, landlady of the FORGE INN, Gornal Wood, was charged with selling liquors during prohibited hours. Mr. Tinsley defended. Police-constable Brown stated that at two o'clock on the 27th ult. he found six men (three of whom came from Birmingham) and four women in the defendant's house, and wine and spirits on the table. Witness went again at 3.30am, and all the parties were still there. Defendant offered Brown half a sovereign to say nothing about the matter. Mr. Tinsley said it was a private party, assembled to celebrate defendant's daughter's wedding. The Stipendiary said he had great doubt that it was a bona fide party, but he must dismiss the case.”

William James H. *Webb* (b.1851) died in the 4th quarter of 1889.

Ann Hughes died on 10th March 1890.

County Advertiser 16/8/1890 - Advert

“Sale at the FORGE INN, Chase Road, Lower Gornal, near Pensnett.

To be Sold by Auction by Messrs. Hawkins and Son, on Tuesday, August 31st, 1890, upon the Premises as above the whole of the Household Furniture and Effects, belonging to the Estate of the late Mr. *Joseph Hughes*, deceased, comprising excellent Four-post Bedsteads, Goose Feather Beds, Mattresses, Cane-seated Chairs, Washing Stands and Dressing Tables, Night Commode, Toilet and Mantle Glasses, very superior Mahogany Chest of Drawers, Pembroke, Loo, and other Tables, Lot of Pictures, Fenders and Fireirons, Chimney Ornaments, Dining Tables with loose leaves, Horsehair-seated Chairs, Sofa, Pianoforte, Music Stool, Drinking Tables, Beer Machine, Piping and Taps, Ale and Spirit Measures, Hanging Lamps, Sewing Machine, Eight-day Clock, Timepiece, Hackney Saddle and other useful Effects.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.

Auctioneer's Offices, 26, Temple Street, Birmingham, Great Bridge, and Brierley Hill.”

1891 Census

Chase Road – FORGE INN

- [1] *Emma Webb* (37), widow, born Sedgley;
- [2] William P. H. *Webb* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [3] Edith H. *Webb* (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Emma Webb* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] George Palmer (44), brother in law, coal loader, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth A. Palmer (39), sister, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Emma L. Palmer* (17), niece, born Sedgley;
- [8] Florence E. Palmer (14), niece, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [9] Amelia A. Palmer (11), niece, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [10] Saugenee L. Palmer (3), niece, born Sedgley;
- [11] L. Palmer (14 days), niece, born Sedgley;

1901 Census

Chase Road – FORGE INN

- [1] *Emma Webb* (47), widow, innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] William P. H. *Webb* (16), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] Edith H. *Webb* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Emma Webb* (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Esther Jane Marsh (18), general servant, born Sedgley;

Tipton Herald 17/10/1903

“The greatest consternation prevailed in the Gornal district on Saturday [10th] evening by the report that a ‘crowning in’ had occurred, and had resulted in the death of a woman. The report quickly spread, and in a short time it was being talked of by hundreds of people, many of whom hurried to the place indicated. The report proved to be correct.

It appears that Mrs. *Emma Webb* (50), landlady of the FORGE INN, Gornal Wood, had been shopping in Dudley, accompanied by her daughter. They had come by the electric tram to Pensnett, alighting at Chapel Road. From here residents of Gornal Wood often take a short way to their homes along a private railway line belonging to Lord Dudley, running from Warley Heath and Ashwood past the Himley Colliery, amongst others, and on up a stiff bank to Round Oak, a station on the Great Western Railway. Mrs. *Webb* and her daughter had tramped nearly a mile along the track, which runs by the side of the railway, and were in sight of home. The mother and daughter were chatting together when suddenly the ground gave way, creating a hole about nine feet across. Through this, with a cry, the mother fell and disappeared out of sight. The daughter, walking close at the side of her, screamed, and only by a miracle was she saved a like calamity. One of her feet slipped right on the brink of the pit, and it was a wonder, she, too, was not swallowed up by the earth. She, however, managed to catch the side, and succeeded after a minute's endeavour in pulling herself into safety. Then she knelt down at the side of the hole, which proved to be her mother's grave, and gazed into the depths. Full eighteen feet beneath she saw her mother lying, doubled up with her head tucked under her. At the moment a train of wagons loaded with coal from the Himley Colliery appeared in sight. Wildly the girl shouted and gesticulated, and Herbert Cotton, brakesman and pointsman, rushed to the spot where Edith Helena *Webb*, a bonny girl of sixteen summers, was still kneeling in an agony of despair. He was quickly followed by Robert Candlin, the driver of the engine, and James Buxton,

manager of the Himley Colliery District, who happened to be riding on the train. Cotton persuaded the girl to go home. Ropes were then obtained, and Candlin, gallantly, and veritably at the risk of his own life, offered to descend the pit. Eighteen feet the woman had fallen, and the walls of the hole broadened towards the bottom. This caused the sides to crumble in, and the body lying at the bottom was being covered with quantities of earth. Regardless of this danger, the engine driver lowered himself to the depths, and grasping the woman, hung on to the rope, while Buxton, with the assistance of several other men who by this time had arrived at the spot, hauled the couple to the surface. The plucky man landed his burden safely on the ground, but not without a very painful injury to his side, in consequence either of the falling earth or being rubbed violently against the wall of the cavity. There are various reports as to the death. One states that it was instantaneous, while others say that after deceased was at the bottom of the cavity the daughter shouted to her mother and received the reply 'All right Edith.' At the most life was not prolonged for many minutes, as the back was found to be dislocated.

The body was carried home by some of the colliers. The FORGE INN, Gornal Wood, the residence of deceased, overlooks a wide expanse of pit mounds and colliery stacks, with countless houses filling the dips. So serious and numerous have been the subsidences of the lands, and many of the houses are all aslant and cracked as a result. It is only a few months ago that a woman standing in the enclosure that serves for a garden not 100 yards away, was suddenly swallowed up by the ground, falling a distance of 25 yards. She happened to fall on her feet, and was merely shaken as a result of the experience, which, by the way, was caused by a derelict pit shaft. Many such stories could be related.

During Saturday evening, and the whole of Sunday, the place was visited by large crowds of people.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquiry at the FORGE INN, Gornal Wood, touching the death of *Emma Webb*, who met with her death on Saturday afternoon under circumstances detailed in the following evidence.

Mr. W. Waldron appeared on behalf of Lord Dudley, on whose private railway the fatality occurred.

Mr. J. Fullwood represented the colliery proprietors. Mr. Atkinson, HM Inspector of Mines, was also present.

Edith Helena *Webb*, daughter of deceased, stated that she resided with her mother (the deceased) at the FORGE INN. She identified the body just viewed as that of her mother, *Emma Webb*, who was aged 50 years. She was the widow of James Webb.

On Saturday afternoon she and her mother had been to Dudley, and were returning home about 12.30pm from Pensnett, down the incline. They were walking between the loop in the line, at the juncture of which there were three sets of rails. They were on the eight foot. The railway belonged to Lord Dudley, and it was at the bottom of the Barrow Hill incline where the accident happened. When they were walking along, the ground suddenly gave way, and she saw her mother fall into the hole. Her mother called to witness, and said 'I am all right.' Witness heard the engine coming, and she called to an engine man named Cotton. The engine was stopped and a man named Robert Candlin was on the engine. He came and shouted to deceased, but got no answer. He then called to the other men for some planks and ropes. The man Candlin fetched deceased out of the hole.

By Mr. Waldron, she waved her hand and screamed for Cotton.

Robert Candlin, engine driver, in the employ of the Earl of Dudley, and residing at 16, Chapel Street, Pensnett. He had been in the habit of driving engines with trucks over the place where the accident happened. Most of the trucks that went over that place were empty. About forty minutes before the accident he had driven near the place. He heard the last witness shouting, and he came to see what was the matter. When he got to the place he found the girl round a hole about 18ft deep. The hole was in the middle of the metals. He leaned over and saw the body of deceased lying at the bottom of the hole. There was a little dirt on her. Some ropes were procured, and he went down, fastened the rope around the body of deceased, and it was drawn up. No planks were procured up to the time he went down. He did not think life was extinct, as deceased moved. She did not speak.

By Mr. Atkinson, he had known the place for 20 years, and had not known any similar occurrence there before. The whole of the line had been raised about 18 inches some months ago. He had not noticed any cracking in the line.

By Mr. Waldron, he suffered a great shock, and had been ill since. When he got down the hole he moved the body, and that was when deceased opened her mouth. It is a private railway belonging to the Earl of Dudley. Many persons used the railway for a short journey from Dudley to Gornal Wood.

PC Lewis, Gornal Wood, stated that he first heard of the accident about 12.45pm, on Saturday. When he got to the place deceased was got out of the hole. Dr. Norwood, of Brierley Hill, was called in, made an examination of the body, and pronounced life to be extinct, the neck being dislocated. The body was quite warm then.

By Mr. Atkinson: The depth of the hole was 18 feet and 9 feet across.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.

The Foreman said it was the wish of the Jury that a recommendation should be sent to the Royal Humane Society with respect to the man Candlin, who acted so bravely in the matter. It was a very courageous act, and was done at great personal risk, and may have resulted in another death. Candlin was quite exhausted in getting the body out. He also proposed a vote of condolence with the bereaved children.

Mr. W. H. Shaw said he fully endorsed all that the foreman had said. The 'crownings in' were what was to be expected, but they were often filled with gas. The act of Candlin was very courageous.

The Coroner said he would lay the facts before the Secretary of the Royal Humane Society."

Tipton Herald 24/10/1903

"We are informed that Robert Candlin, the man who descended the hole at Gornal Wood and brought out Mrs. *Webb* – who was buried alive by the ground giving way beneath her – has received a sovereign from Mr. Henry Norman, MP of Wolverhampton. Candlin has also received the following letter.

Dear Sir – I have read in the newspaper an account of the terrible accident which killed Mrs. *Webb*, and your own attempt to rescue and recover her body. I am sorry to know that you have suffered in consequence of your brave act, and in case you should be inconvenienced by being out of work for a time, I beg you to accept the enclosed little gift with my best wishes. – Yours faithfully, Mr. Norman."

County Express 18/3/1911

“Mr. T. A. Stokes (coroner) held an inquest on Saturday afternoon, at the FORGE INN, Cooper’s Bank, relative to the death on the previous Wednesday of Mary Timmins, the three day’s old daughter of Sarah and Samuel Timmins, of 3, Smithy Lane. From the evidence it appeared that the child had been weakly from birth. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Misadventure.”

1911 Census

Chase Road

- [1] *Benjamin Evans* (36), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Evans* (36), wife, married 14 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Ann Evans (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Rodah May Evans (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Benjamin William Evans (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Sarah Marsh (16), servant:

Black Country Bugle

Letter from Mrs. Lester

“The FORGE pub was kept by Mrs. *Evans*, a relative to the Evans who kept the FIDDLERS ARMS in Gornal. I remember a fire at the FORGE when eight or nine cattle were burnt to death – it was terrible to hear their cries. I still recall them vividly although 55 years have passed since the event happened.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/1/1937

“Gornal, the mining village near Dudley, which has for centuries been famous for its ‘home brewed’ beer – practically every family brews, and the recipes are handed down from one generation to another – yesterday learned something new about the art, which it thought itself a past master. At least, William Jones, of Humphrey Street, did, and he has been brewing Gornal beer for 41 years, and claims – not without pride – to have ‘brewed as much beer as any man in the parish.’

‘You know, don’t you, that sugar is sometimes added to beer after it has fermented in order to stop it going bad?’ a London solicitor asked Mr. Jones at Sedgley Police Court yesterday.

‘I’ve bin brewin’ for 41 ’ear and I do three brewin’s a wik for publics. I’ve brewed as much beer as airra man in our parish and I’ve never ’eard talk of no such thing,’ was his reply.

‘I core say what they do in other places, but we dow do that in Gornal,’ rejoined Mr. Jones.

The case was one in which Mrs. *E. Evans*, of the FORGE INN, Chase Road, Pensnett, was summoned for increasing the gravity of beer after a sample had been taken for revenue purposes. It was stated that revenue was paid on a sample taken on 25 August, but a further sample taken when the beer was ‘on tap’ ten days later revealed that the gravity had been increased by 2.2 degrees and that sugar had been added after the beer had fermented.

Replying to Mr. O. L. Bergendorff, who defended, a Government analyst, Mr. G. W. E. McClenen, agreed that the increase might have been due to mixing it with a stronger beer, but said that would not account for the presence of sugar.

Mrs. *Evans*, who said she had kept the house for 25 years and had never had any complaint before, denied that she had added any sugar to the beer, and said that apart from Jones, who was her head brewer, no one else had access to it.

Jones, too, denied that he had added sugar.

Fining Mrs. *Evans* £5 and ordering her to pay £5 5s costs, the Stipendiary said he had to be guided by the scientific evidence. ‘I am not saying that Mrs. *Evans* knew that sugar was added, for in these cases, as in milk and added water cases, it is never quite clear how it gets there,’ he added.”

1939 Register

Chase Road – FORGE INN

- [1] *George W. Lawrence*, date of birth 25/10/1897, farmer and licensee, married;
- [2] Mary Lawrence, dob 24/11/1896, house duties, married;
- [3] Thomas Store, dob 17/10/1856, retired, widowed;
- [4] Irene (Annie Irene Bertha) (Slohn) Corbett, dob 28/04/1919, domestic help, single;
- [5] Frank Boden, dob 7/4/1920, farm labourer, single:

It was renamed POACHERS POCKET [2004]

It closed for a £500,000 refurbishment in 2006.

It reopened in June 2006 as the FORGE.

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.....
FORGE, Pensnett.”

Express & Star 17/4/2023

“Pensnett pub the FORGE has closed its doors for two weeks while it undergoes a £125,000 refurbishment. The revamp is set to elevate the Chase Road pub’s interior to suit all occasions, from casual lunches to special celebrations. The refurbishment will also create new job opportunities, including a supervisor, assistant manager plus front and back of house roles. *Theresa Babic*, general manager of the FORGE, which is owned by Marston’s, said, ‘We are so excited to announce that the FORGE will be receiving a refresh. We have invested over £125k into breathing new life into the FORGE. Our pub is the perfect location for a pit-stop on a visit to the nearby Barrow Hill Local Nature Reserve or a relaxed family meal and is much loved by its regulars. We can’t wait to welcome everybody back’. The FORGE, which is a dog-friendly pub, will reopen to customers on Monday May 1.”

Express & Star 4/5/2023

“A Dudley pub has reopened following a huge £125k investment. The FORGE on Chase Road was closed for around two weeks and reopened on May 1 with a new look. The pub’s refresh has seen the introduction of new wallpaper, lighting, seating, a new colour scheme and an updated bar area. Staff have also received updated team training. *Theresa Babic*, general manager of the FORGE said, ‘We are so excited to open the doors of the FORGE and to show our guests the result of our refresh.’ The FORGE, which is part of the Marston’s pubs collection, is described as having a ‘traditional cosy pub’ feel and has an outdoor patio dining area and a child’s play park. Shaz Saleem, founder of the Saleem Foundation Charity was chosen as the pub’s community hero to pour the first pint in celebration of the pub’s reopening. Offering a varied menu of pub favourites such as steak and ale pie along with new additions such as loaded fries, customers can also enjoy a Sunday Roast each week.”

[2023]

FOUNDRY TAVERN

Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Turner [1845] – [1848]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/10/1845 - Advert

“Stolen or Strayed, last Wednesday night week, a Dark Brown Mare Pony, about 13½ hands high, with a lump under her lower jaw in the near side, and a blemish on her right hip, switch tail, five years old, out of a field at Coseley, near to Darkhouse Chapel. Whoever will bring her to *James Turner*, FOUNDRY TAVERN, will be paid reasonable expenses.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/9/1848

“At the Bilston Public Office, on Tuesday last, before James Loxdale and John Foster, Esqrs, a young girl, only twelve years of age, named Emma Hadley, was charged with stealing half a sovereign, the property of Mr. *James Turner*, of the FOUNDRY TAVERN, Deepfields, in this parish.

It appeared that she had been sent by her father with a shilling to the house of the prosecutor for three half pints of fourpenny, and in giving change for the shilling Mrs. *Turner* gave her half a sovereign in mistake for sixpence. The girl appeared to have discovered it immediately, but instead of going back to Mrs. *Turner*, as she ought to have done, she endeavoured to get change for the half sovereign at a neighbour’s, and failing in this she took it home to her father. Shortly afterwards Mrs. *Turner* discovered the mistake she had made, but the parents of the child denied all knowledge of it.

The Bench at first were about to convict the girl under the Juvenile Offenders’ Act, but ultimately ordered that the half sovereign and other expenses should be given to the prosecutor, and bound the girl over in sureties of good behaviour for three months.”

FOUNTAIN

Dimmocks Lane, Rounds Hill, (Brierley), (Princes End), COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Sarah Hipkins [1833] – [1835]
Joseph Hipkins [1836] – [1842]
John Hipkins [1849] – [1865]
William Jones [1866] – [1868]

NOTES

Sarah Hipkins, flour dealer and retail brewer, Princes End. [1833]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 8/8/1836 - Advert

“Freehold Building land, at Mamble Square, near Coseley Chapel.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, on Tuesday, the 23rd day of August inst., at the house of Mr. *Joseph Hipkins*, FOUNTAIN INN, near the Bloomfield, Bradley Moor, in the parish of Sedgley, either in one or more lots as may be agreed at the time of sale.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/8/1843 - Advert

“Freehold and Leasehold Buildings, at Deepfields and Princes End, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction.....

and a large plot of Garden Ground thereto belonging, situate near the FOUNTAIN public-house, in Dimmocks Lane, Princes End.....”

John Hipkins was also a chain manufacturer. [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/3/1849 - Advert

“Freehold Property.

To Be Sold By Auction, By William Cluett at the house of Mr. *John Hipkins*, known by the sign of the FOUNTAIN, near Princes End, on Tuesday, the 27th day of March, 1849, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.....”

John Hipkins was also a manufacturer of flat and round pit chains, boilers, bouks, water barrels, spades, shovels, iron buckets, baskets, air pipes etc. [1851]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/3/1852

“An adjourned inquest was held on Monday last, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the FOUNTAIN INN, in Princes End, on the body of Isaac Skeldon, 13 years of age, who met with his death in the workings of a coalpit, near the Three Locks, in the parish of Tipton, on the previous Tuesday, by about seven or eight tons of coal falling upon him whilst he was at work. Richard Bowen, who has been a miner upwards of thirty years, also had a very narrow escape of his life, being underneath the coal as it was falling, but by suddenly drawing backwards he succeeded in escaping unhurt. The coal was removed from the boy as soon as possible, but it was found he was quite dead. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/7/1856 - Advert

“For Sale, apply to Mr. *John Hipkins*, FOUNTAIN INN, Princes End, Tipton, four acres of Vetches; one Boiler, 14 feet long, 3 feet 10 inches diameter, nearly new; one large Brewing Furnace, new; one new 4½ inch Cart; one 3 inch double-shafted Waggon, for drawing iron, 16cwt weight, nearly new.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/11/1856 - Advert

“For sale, a useful Waggon Horse, 15½ hands high, coming 5 years old.

Apply to *John Hipkins*, FOUNTAIN INN, Princes End.”

1861 Census

Dimmocks Lane

[1] *John Hipkins* (45), victualler, grocer, blacksmith, chainmaker, employing 6 men 4 boys, born Sedgley;

[2] Hannah Hipkins (44), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Hannah Hipkins (19), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] William Hipkins (17), son, born Sedgley;

[5] John Hipkins (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Sarah Hipkins (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Joseph ___ Hipkins (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

- [8] Stephen Hipkins (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
[9] Henry Hipkins (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
[10] Ann Elizabeth Hipkins (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
[11] Maria Haine (17), house servant, born Tipton:

John Hipkins was also a spade and shovel maker. [1864], [1865]

London Gazette 18/8/1865

“*John Hipkins*, of Princes End, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Chain, Spade, and Boiler Manufacturer, and also of the FOUNTAIN INN, Princes End, in the said county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in Her Majesty’s Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, on the 17th of August, 1865, is hereby required to surrender himself to Alfred Hill, Esq., a Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 1st day of September next, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, at the said Court, at Birmingham. Mr. George Kinnear, of No.17, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. Caldicott and Canning, of Dudley, and Messrs. Hodgson and Son, of Birmingham, are the Solicitors acting in the bankruptcy.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/9/1865 - Advert

“FOUNTAIN INN, Princes End, Tipton.

To be Let, with immediate possession, the above Old-licensed Inn, with the Grocer’s Shop attached, has not changed hands for seventeen years. In-coming low. Stock and Fixtures at valuation.

Apply on Premises; or to Mr. Joseph Hipkins, Auctioneer and Surveyor, Princes End.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/4/1866

“Hall Green Race Ground, Wednesbury. Mr. Westley, the proprietor, will give £12 as the first prize, £2 for the second, and £1 for the third, to be run for in an All England Handicap Race of 120 yards, to come off on Whit Monday and Tuesday, May 21 and 22; entrance 1s 6d (and no acceptance), to be made to Mr. Westley as above; at Rickaby’s Lamp Tavern, Snow Hill, Birmingham; J. Williams’s, LEOPARD INN, Great Bridge; Rowley’s, BUSH, Leabrook; *Jones*’s, FOUNTAIN INN, Princes End; and T. Danks’s, BRITISH QUEEN, Wednesbury, on or before Monday, May 14. Mr. Westley will also give £2 10s as money prizes for a Handicap of 120 yards, for novices who have never won £5; entrance 1s (and no acceptance), to be made to Mr. Westley, &c, as above, on Wednesday, May 2. Any one entering falsely will be disqualified. The Novice Handicap to come off on Saturday, May 5 – final heats on Monday, May 7.”

London Gazette 7/1/1868

“*William Jones*, now and for three months last past living in furnished lodgings at the OLD CROWN INN, Oldbury Green, Oldbury Retail Brewer, previously thereto living at the OLD CROWN INN, Oldbury Green and previously thereto living at the FOUNTAIN INN, Princes End Retail Brewer, and Licensed Victualler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition filed in the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Oldbury on the 1st day of January 1868.....”

FOUNTAIN

8, Temple Street, (Church Street), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Mrs. Hannah Raybould

Elisha Marsh

Messrs. Showell Ltd.

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd, Aston Park Brewery, Birmingham. [1901]

Plant’s Brewery Ltd., Netherton (acquired in 1920)

Ansells Ltd. [1936]

Peter and Sue Rawson

Allan Brookes (acquired in 1993)

Alan Davis and Amy Knowles (acquired in 1998)

Westbourne Leisure (acquired in 2018)

LICENSEES

John Cox [1851]

Eli Bradley [1864]

John Jones [1869] – [1870]

Mrs. Hannah Raybould [1870] – 1877);
Job Raybould [1875]
Elisha Marsh (1877 – 1901);
William Plant (1901 – 1902);
Benjamin Boden (1902 – 1905);
Eli Flavell (1905 – 1906);
Hannah Jane Flavell (1906 – 1907);
Enoch Smart (1907 – 1910);
Harley Chamberlain (1910 – 1912);
William Nock (1912 – 1914);
Thomas ‘Tom’ Griffiths (1914 – 1947);
Ida Griffiths (1947 – [1972])
Arthur Frederick Keaton [] – 1973);
Leonard Christopher Steel (1973 – 1974);
Fred Shorthouse (1974 – 1975);
Antonio Cardellino (1975 – 1976);
Arthur William Cooknell (1976 – 1978);
Roy James Hackett (1978 – 1980);
Mary Elizabeth Farrell (1980 – 1986);
Gertrude Browne (1986 – []
Peter Rawson (1991 – []
Allan Brookes (1993 – 1998);
Alan Davis (1998 – [2017])
Bill Redwood [2018]
Mike Boulton [2023] manager

NOTES

Church Street [1861]
8, Temple Street [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
12, Temple Street [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

Beerhouse / grocer’s shop [1851]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.

Mr. Brevitt applied on behalf of Mr. John Raybould, for a license with respect to the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Gornal.”

Stourbridge Observer 26/3/1864 - Advert

“To be let and may be entered upon immediately, the FOUNTAIN INN near the Church, Lower Gornal, now doing a large and profitable business. The present proprietor now giving up on account of ill health. The Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a fair Valuation. For particulars and to treat, apply on the premises to Mr. Hinton, Auctioneer &c.”

Birmingham Journal 13/8/1864 - Advert

“Freehold Dwelling House And Premises, situated at Red Hall, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Bateman, on Friday, the 26th day of August instant, at Six o’clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *Eli Bradley*, the NEW FOUNTAIN INN, at Lower Gornal aforesaid, subject to conditions then to be produced, and either in one, the following, or such other lots as may be determined upon at the time of sale.”

John Jones was fined 1s and costs for serving during prohibited hours in July 1869.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.

For keeping open during prohibited hours *John Jones*, FOUNTAIN, Lower Gornal, 20s and costs; and another occasion, 1s and costs.

The licenses of the following beerhouse keepers were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting *John Jones*.”

[License granted at the adjourned licensing meeting.]

Dudley Herald 30/7/1870 - Advert

“To be let and may be entered upon immediately, a public house and premises known as the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Gornal.

Apply to Mrs. *Raybould*, Lower Gornal.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

“The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30 Beerhouse Keepers.....

John Jones, FOUNTAIN, Gornal.”

1871 Census

Temple Street – FOUNTAIN

- [1] *Hannah Raybould* (44), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Raybould* (20), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Job Raybould* (17), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Hannah Raybould* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *John Raybould* (10 months), son, born Sedgley:

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks.....

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given.....

No.10 Lodge, FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Gornal; 70 members. Three blacklegs. The rest will play on.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

“Yesterday, at the Bilston Police Court, the annual Brewster Licensing Sessions came off.....

A six-day wine and spirit license was applied for the FOUNTAIN, Lower Gornal, tenanted and owned by Mrs. *Anna Raybould*.

The house had been built some fourteen years back by the applicant's husband, and during that time it had been a public house, and there had never been any complaint. Mr. Alexander David, district supervisor, proved that the rating qualification of the house was too low. Mrs. *Raybould*, however, offered to remedy this. Refused.”

Elisha Marsh = Elijah Marsh

1881 Census

8, Temple Street

- [1] *Elisha Marsh* (40), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emma Marsh* (38), wife, fruiterer, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Anne Marsh* (19), daughter, fruiterer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Elisha Marsh* (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Benjamin Marsh* (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Thomas Marsh* (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Emma Marsh* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Henry Marsh* (7 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Daniel Clarke* (17), brewer, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Mary A. Bunn* (22), house servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 9/4/1881

“On Wednesday night a large and well-attended meeting of miners was held at the house of Mr. *E. Marsh*, the FOUNTAIN INN. A miner was voted to the chair, and in a few appropriate remarks pressed upon the men this fact: that if they desired their condition to be improved they must do it themselves, by organization and union. Other speakers having spoken to the same purpose, a resolution was passed denying the truth of the master's statement that the men were willing to work an extra hour, and pledging those present to abide by the short time system, let wages be reduced as low as they may. It was elicited that the newly formed Union for the Gornal district shews about 20 members on the books.”

Dudley and District News 21/10/1882

“*Elisha Marsh*, publican, Sedgley, and *Thomas Marsh*, his son, were charged with trespassing in pursuit of game at Himley. Mr.

Holberton prosecuted on behalf of Lord Dudley, and Mr. Waldron defended.

John Bowen, a gamekeeper, gave evidence to the effect that, on the 22nd ult, defendants were driving along the road which borders upon Himley wood, and the younger defendant, at the instigation of his father, alighted from a cart, and threw a stone at some partridges which were on a grass plot near the wood. It was alleged that the son broke one of the bird's legs with a stone, but failed to catch it, and it was found dead three days later in the wood.

Mr. Waldron contended that no trespass had been committed, and the Bench dismissed the case, believing it to be of a trifling nature."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1885

"At the Stipendiary's Court, yesterday, David Collins, publican, Dibdale, was fined £5 and costs for keeping his house open on Sunday, the 13th inst. The defendant supplied drink to a number of men who assembled in a private house on Sunday morning. *Elisha Marsh*, licensed victualler, Church Road, Lower Gornal, was fined 20s and costs for a similar offence. On Sunday, the 13th inst. defendant permitted two customers to remain on his licensed premises after closing time."

Lichfield Mercury 12/11/1886

"At Sedgley, yesterday, *Elisha Marsh*, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Gornal, was fined £20 for concealing 48 gallons of wort. Defendant laid all the blame on his son, who acted as brewer."

1891 Census

8, Temple Street – FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *Elisha Marsh* (50), publican, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Emma Marsh (47), wife, commission agent, born Sedgley;
- [3] Thomas Marsh (17), son, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Polly Marsh (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Henry Marsh (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] May Marsh (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Balie (23), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Worcester Journal 24/9/1892

"On Wednesday an inquest was held at the Guest Hospital, respecting the death of James Cartwright (17), who resided with his parents in Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal. A young man named Thomas *Marsh*, of the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Gornal, said on Thursday afternoon deceased called upon him with a pigeon, which he purchased for four pence. Witness fetched his gun and they went to a shed in the yard, where they released the bird, which was a young one, to see if it could fly. When the pigeon was about to escape deceased shouted, 'No, Tom, the pigeons going,' whereupon witness fired at the bird killing it. Immediately after this deceased said he had received some shot in the leg, and caught hold of witness for support. The gun was a breach-loader for No.6 small shot. In his opinion some of the charge rebounded from a wall and entered deceased's legs. Dr. Biggam stated that on going to see deceased at his home on the evening of the day of the accident he found him suffering from gun-shot wounds, principally in the back of the left thigh. Some of the pellets entered the back of the left ankle, and also the back of the right thigh. Deceased died from the effects of blood poisoning caused by the gun-shot wound. Practically the whole of the contents of the cartridge was embedded in deceased's limbs. He believed it was quite possible for the discharge to have rebounded off the wall. Deceased died on Sunday morning. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned. *Marsh* was subsequently called before the jury, and was censured by the Coroner for the reckless manner in which he had used his gun."

Birmingham Daily Post 18/7/1894

"Yesterday, at the County Court – before his Honour Judge Griffiths – John Flavell, miner, Upper Gornal, brought an action against *Elijah Marsh*, landlord of the FOUNTAIN INN, Church Lane, Upper [sic] Gornal, to obtain £50 damages in respect of the defendant's alleged illegal entry to plaintiff's dwelling, and unlawful seizure of, and damage to, his goods. Mr. Bliss Hill (Wolverhampton) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Foster (Sedgley) defended.

Mr. Hill stated that plaintiff lived in a house owned by the defendant, to whom he owed £1 14s 6d arrears in rent. On the 16th April plaintiff went away, and his house was locked up; but on his return a few days afterwards, he found that the house had been forcibly entered and the goods taken, some of which he subsequently ascertained had been damaged.

Plaintiff stated that he obtained the goods on the hire system, contracting to pay for them by instalments, and to keep them in good repair. He left home on the 15th of April to go to Derbyshire, to try to obtain work, and he returned on the following Sunday. The goods, which were to have been sold a week following the seizure, were redeemed by Mr. Thompson, from whom he had hired them, and the latter subsequently handed them over to witness again.

Hannah Flavell stated that in consequence of her son's absence his wife went to live with her, and the house was locked up. After seven o'clock on the evening of the day on which plaintiff left she saw defendant, his son, and a bailiff effect an entrance to the house by forcing the door, and seize the goods, doing considerable damage to some of them. Defendant told her he wanted £2 16s and 16s expenses, and in order to prevent her home from being broken up she got a person named Wilkes to offer to advance £2 15s, but defendant, she alleged, refused to accept this sum.

Defendant stated that he instructed the bailiff to levy distress, but admitted that he did not give plaintiff written notice for the payment of the arrears prior to taking this action.

Replying to the judge, defendant said he and the bailiff got into the house by means of a key, which he borrowed from another of his tenants.

His Honour said that in levying distress they had the right to enter the house, but not by means of a false key. Defendant had no right to distrain unless he did do so legally, and this he appeared not to have done. A verdict was given for the plaintiff for 45s and costs.”

[In November 1894, John Flavell sued William Short, bailiff, for £5 5s damages for ‘illegal seizure’ and won.]

Birmingham Daily Post 19/11/1895

“At the Police Court yesterday, *Elisha Marsh*, a well-known publican, residing at Lower Gornal, was charged with assaulting a married woman, named Alice Short, on the 12th and 13th inst. Mr. Ward defended. Prosecutrix having stated her case, the magistrates dismissed both cases, and remarked that the defendant left the court without a stain on his character. Mr. Ward said the allegations were entirely unfounded.”

1901 Census

8, Temple Street

- [1] *Elisha Marsh* (60), publican, born Coopers Bank;
- [2] Emma Marsh (57), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] May Marsh (14), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Leah Jones (15), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/8/1910

“Joseph and Samuel Middleton, miner, both residing at Lower Gornal, were yesterday charged before the Stipendiary at Sedgley with being drunk and creating a disturbance on August 20. The defendants went into the FOUNTAIN INN, Red Hall, Lower Gornal, in a drunken state and created a disturbance, during which it was alleged the defendant assaulted the landlord and landlady. When they were ejected from the premises they renewed the disturbance. Joseph Middleton, who had been previously convicted, was fined 20s and costs, and Samuel Middleton 10s and costs.”

1911 Census

8, Temple Street

- [1] *Harley Chamberlain* (45), licensed victualler, born Merton, Herefordshire;
- [2] Edith May Chamberlain (39), wife, domestic, born Tipton;
- [3] Ernest Victor Allen (17), son, tinworker, born Willenhall;
- [4] Beatrice Victoria Allen (13), daughter, school, born Willenhall;
- [5] Harley Chamberlain (11), son, school, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Elizabeth Webster (50), visitor, widow, domestic, born Gornal;
- [7] Frederick Webster (17), visitor, tinworker, born Willenhall:

William Nock, beer retailer, Fountain Street. [1912]

Bilston & Willenhall Times 25/4/1925

“Sedgley Police Court.....

The Stipendiary intimated that he would give his adjourned decision in the cases of four defendants concerned in the licensing prosecution held in Bilston on March 31st.

The defendants were *Thomas Griffiths*, the licensee of the FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Gornal, who was summoned for selling and supplying during prohibited hours; Ada Holloway and Wm. Bennett for consuming; and Herbert John Holloway for aiding and abetting.

The Stipendiary said in the case of *Griffiths* he would dismiss the case of selling, for the police had said they only heard a ‘chink’ which sounded like money, and he could not accept that. On the charge of supplying, however, he would convict, and he was only sorry that the first charge was for selling and not supplying. *Griffiths* would be fined £5.

In respect of the case against Mrs. Holloway of consuming, it was not reasonable to suppose that she went there to obtain drink, for her husband was a licensee [*Herbert John Holloway*, NEW INN, Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal], and she could have as much as she wanted at home. Therefore she was doubtless a friend of *Griffiths*’ who was quite entitled to entertain a guest, so the charge against Mrs. Holloway was dismissed.

Wm. Bennett, however, was a man of some position in the district. He did not regard him as a friend of *Griffiths*, but no doubt while he was waiting for his daughter to leave the dance which was going on upstairs, the licensee asked him to have a drink and Bennett agreed. The latter was there for his own purpose and not as a guest of the landlord. There would be no conviction, but Bennett would have to pay the costs (5s 6d).

A 40s fine was imposed upon Holloway, the Stipendiary saying a licensee ought to have known better.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 26/9/1925

“A duck supper was held at the FOUNTAIN, Lower Gornal, on Wednesday, when friends and relatives of the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Thomas Griffiths*, attended. A most enjoyable evening was spent.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor

C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions FOUNTAIN INN, Lower Gornal, 12s 7d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

Temple Street – FOUNTAIN INN

[1] *Thomas Griffiths*, date of birth 5/3/1869, beer retailer, married;

[2] Emma Griffiths, dob 14/6/1874, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Ida C. (Griffiths) Keeton, dob 1/5/1915, unpaid domestic duties, single;

[4] Jesse Rollason, dob 24/12/1900, coal mine pike man, underground, heavy worker, married:

Thomas Griffiths was a boxer.

He sparred with Jack Johnson. [World heavyweight champion 1908 to 1915]

He was born in Gornal in 1869.

He was vice president of the Gornal Branch of the British Legion.

He died in 1947.

Closed

Alterations were made from December 1990.

It reopened in February 1991, as a free house.

Sandwell Evening Mail 30/1/1991

“Budding Black Country entrepreneur *Peter Rawson* has revealed ambitious plans to build up a mini pub empire. Mr. Rawson, who officially re-opened his second pub, the FOUNTAIN INN in Temple Street, Lower Gornal, is aiming to acquire several more pubs. Mr. *Rawson*, who used to run the SHOVEL INN at Lye and now owns the WAGGON AND HORSES in Church Street, Oldbury, said he was aiming to give beer drinkers a wide choice of real ales. He and his partner Sue Burton have spent over £20,000 refurbishing the FOUNTAIN.”

Peter Rawson was married to Sue.

Allan Brookes originally trained as a crystal glass decorator at Royal Brierley Crystal.

Refurbished

It was reopened on 8th December 1998.

Alan Davis married Amy Knowles.

It was extended to include “The Pen” (outbuilding) and a kitchen.

It reopened in February 2001.

Dudley & South Staffordshire CAMRA Pub of the Year 2002, 2003.

Alan Davis – see also WATERFALL, Old Hill.

Express and Star 9/5/2015 - Advert

“Assistant Manager/Chef to manage front of house. Chef experience, live in or out. Good salary.”

It closed in January 2018, when Greene King bailiffs turned up and emptied the tills, and locked it up.

London Gazette 22/3/2018

“FOUNTAIN INN Limited.

Registered office: C/o MB Insolvency, 11 Roman Way, Berry Hill, Droitwich WR9 9AJ.

Principal trading address: Temple Street, Lower Gornal, Dudley, West Midlands, DY3 2PE.

At a General Meeting of the Members of the above-named Company, duly convened, and held on 20 March 2018 the following Resolutions were duly passed, as a Special Resolution and as an Ordinary Resolution.

That the Company cannot, by reason of its liabilities, continue its business, and that it is advisable to wind up the same, and accordingly that the Company be wound up voluntarily.

That Mark Bowen be appointed as Liquidator for the purposes of such winding up. . . .

Mr. Alan Davis, Director/Chairman.”

Express & Star 25/9/2018

“A former brewery operations director is opening his first pub in the Black Country. Bill Redwood is leasing the FOUNTAIN INN in Temple Street, Lower Gornal. He plans to restore the fortunes of the popular real ale pub which shut suddenly in January. Mr. Redwood, as managing director of newly-formed Fountain Leisure Group is spending £70,000 on refurbishing the premises including re-painting the exterior and putting in a new kitchen. He aims to have in back in operation for October 15 with the number of real ales on sale increased from nine to a dozen.

Before working for Sadler’s Ales in Lye, Mr. Redwood ran a nightclub in Kidderminster and bars at Moseley Rugby Club and was a consultant for Cadbury’s Social Club. ‘This is the first pub that I will have operated myself and I will be putting a manager in,’ he said.

The FOUNTAIN has twice been a winner of the Dudley and South Staffordshire branch of the Campaign for Real Ale’s annual pub of the year competition.”

It reopened on 17th October 2018 after a £70,000 refurbishment.

Express & Star 24/4/2023

“A Dudley pub is to start producing its own beer. *Bill Redwood*, who owns the FOUNTAIN INN in Temple Street, Lower Gornal, has bought a brewery to help supply the pub. The former Morton Brewery at Essington will be changing its name to Fountain Ales. *Mike Boulton*, who manages the FOUNTAIN, will be brewing there with the help of a brewing expert. *Bill*, who has owned the pub for just over four years, said that the first beer, which is to be called Fountain Ales Bit of Citra will be brewed on Friday. ‘We hope to have it on the bar in two to three weeks time,’ he said.

The FOUNTAIN offers a choice of 10 real ales to its customers. All the Morton brewing equipment has been bought and the lease of the premises at Essington Light Industrial Estate, Bognop Road, has been taken on. Morton, which was started by beer enthusiasts Gary and Angela Morton has closed after 16 years in business. The three-barrel brewery equipment including fermenters and casks. Although Mr. Morton has retired from brewing he is continuing to run his micropub HAIL TO THE ALE in Pendeford Avenue, Claregate, Wolverhampton.”

[2023]

FOUNTAIN

Coseley Road, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Jones [1866]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday, when the Magistrates present were – The Revs. J. Y. Rooker, and W. Lewis, and J. Perks, H. D. Best, A. Sparrow, H. Ward, and W. Hatton, Esqs. At the commencement of the proceedings, the superintendent of Police presented the following report.

Bilston Division, August 31st, 1866.

‘I beg to submit to the Magistrates the attached list of licensed victuallers who have been complained about during the year. Twenty-five have been convicted, and three have paid costs; one had been convicted three times and five twice. This is a large increase on last year’s list; but I think it has arisen from the police being more particular in reporting cases of permitting drunkenness – as it was found to be an evil rather on the increase. I believe it has caused landlords to be more careful in supplying drink to persons intoxicated.’

H. McCrea, Superintendent.

Black List.....

William Jones, FOUNTAIN, Coseley Road, Sedgley License renewed.”

FOUR WAYS

1+2, Caddick Street / Bond Street, Coppice, COSELEY

OWNERS

John Whitehouse, solicitor, Tipton (conveyance)
Charles Colonel Smith, brewer, Worcester Street, Wolverhampton
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Levi York [1871] – 1874);
Mrs. Elizabeth York (1874 – 1876);
John Clark (1876 – 1878);
Edward Sheldon (1878 – 1885);
Martha Ann Cooper (1885);
William Smallman (1885 – 1892);
Joseph Love (1892 – 1896);
Samuel Howley (1896 – 1897);
Edward Green (1897 – 1898);
James Cox (1898 – 1899);
John Clark (1899 – 1900);
William Love (1900);
Albert Ezar Bradley (1900 – 1902);
Joseph Richard Lovatt (1902);
George Bradley (1902 – 1905);
Richard Mills (1905 – 1906);
Samuel Shone (1906);
Blanche Elizabeth Ashcroft (1906 – 1908);
Alfred Davis (1908 – 1909);

NOTES

Built c.1850

It had an ante'69 beerhouse license.

Levi York = Levy York

1871 Census

1+2, Caddick Street

- [1] *Levy York* (73), publican, born Madeley Shropshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth York* (68), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary Turley (20), granddaughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Turley (16), granddaughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Richard Turley (13), grandson, errand boy, born Sedgley;
- [6] Thomas Turley (8), grandson, born Sedgley;
- [7] Joseph Turley (5), grandson, born Sedgley;

Levi York, beer retailer, Coppice. [1872]
He died in 1874.

Birmingham Daily Post 18/4/1874

“At the Special license Transfer Sessions yesterday.....

The license of *Levi York* from his executors to his widow, *Elizabeth York*, of Coseley.”

Mary Turley married *Edward Sheldon* in the 3rd quarter of 1874.

County Express 19/8/1876

“David West, labourer, was fined 10s 6d and costs, or, in default, fourteen days’ imprisonment, for being drunk on the premises of

the FOUR WAYS INN, Coseley.”

Dudley Herald 30/9/1876

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Bilston licensing division were held at the Bilston Police Court, yesterday week, the justices present being H. Ward and W. Hatton, Esqs, and the Rev. J. Y. Rooker.

....licences which were ordered to stand over from the annual licensing day.....

Edward Jones, WHITE HORSE, New Village, and *John Clarke*, FOUR WAYS, Sedgley, did not attend, and their licences were accordingly held over for a week.”

1881 Census

1+2, Caddick Street – FOUR WAYS INN

- [1] *Edward Sheldon* (32), moulder and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Sheldon* (30), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Harry Sheldon* (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William Sheldon* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary Elizabeth Sheldon* (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Thomas Turley* (19), wife’s brother, iron worker, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Joseph Turley* (15), wife’s brother, iron worker, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Eliza Collins* (15), general servant, born Sedgley:

Martha Ann Cooper married *William Smallman* in the 1st quarter of 1885.

1891 Census

1, Caddick Street – Public House

- [1] *William Smallman* (27), clerk and brewer’s agent, born Coseley;
- [2] *Martha Ann Smallman* (26), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] *Leonard Smallman* (4), son, born Coseley;
- [4] *Ann Maria Cooper* (20), sister in law, unmarried, general servant, born Coseley;
- [5] *Albert Smallman* (23), brother, clerk, born Coseley:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/2/1894 - Advert

“Three Pieces Shafting, 6ft to 20ft long, 9in to 5in diameter; Couplings, Carriages, Brasses for Sale.

Mr. J. Love, FOUR WAYS INN, Caddick Street, Coppice, Coseley, near Bilston.”

John Clark = John Clarke

Dudley Herald 5/5/1900

“*John Clarke*, landlord of the FOUR WAYS, Caddick Street, Coseley, was charged with being drunk on his own licensed premises on April 17th. PS Shaffery stated that on the date in question he saw the defendant in the tap-room among the other customers. He told defendant he was drunk and he replied ‘If you say I am drunk then I will fill no more.’ Witness then said to defendant ‘You understand that you are drunk and if any customers think you are sober, let them say so.’ To that there was no reply. Defendant pleaded guilty and was fined 5s and costs.”

1901 Census

1, Caddick Street

- [1] *Albert Ezar Bradley* (29), brass bedstead fitter, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Jane Bradley* (27), wife, born Sedgley:

George Bradley, beer retailer, Caddick Street. [1904]

Black Country Bugle

‘Coseley Pub To Barber’s Shop’ – letter from *G. McClay*

“The FOUR WAYS INN was at the corner of Caddick Street and Bond Street, opposite the COSELEY TAVERN. The last licensee was a *Mr. W. Ashcroft* (?) who, after it closed, went back to Australia, where he came from originally. It was later *Mr. Hewitt*’s barber’s shop.”

Black Country Bugle

‘Jobey Remembers The Fourways’ – letter from *N. Walters*

“....it was closed around 1916, and was bought by *Mr. E. Hewitt* who turned the Bond Street entrance into a barber’s shop and the other entrance in Caddick Street into a general shop.”

[It actually closed in 1909]

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd March 1909.

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/5/1909

“Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the County of Stafford, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at 10.30 o'clock am, on Friday, the 11th day of June, 1909.

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 Licences of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing Act, 1904, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

FOUR WAYS, Caddick Street, Coseley. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Alfred Davies*.”

The license was refused by the Compensation Authority on 11th June 1909.

Lichfield Mercury 18/6/1909

“The members of the Staffordshire Licensing Committee sat on Friday at the Shirehall, Stafford, to consider the question of the renewal of the licenses of the sixty-eight public houses referred to them under the Licensing Act, 1904.....

No opposition was offered in the cases of FOUR WAYS INN, Caddick Street, Coseley and the renewal of the licenses was refused.”

Lichfield Mercury 7/1/1910

“The Quarter Sessions of the peace for the county of Stafford commenced on Tuesday at the Shirehall, Stafford.

The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority was held on the 11th June, and by adjournment on the 12th and 17th June, when the Committee, after careful consideration of each case referred, refused to renew 62 licenses.

The Committee, at a supplemental meeting, went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The Committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the Compensation Fund. In the following 60 cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

FOUR WAYS, Caddick Street, Coseley, £700.

.....the money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties.”

Compensation of £700 was paid on 4th December 1909.

It was acquired by Eber Hewitt in 1909, who was a barber, newsagent and tobacconist.

It was demolished in the 1960s.

FOXYARDS

4, Sedgley Road West, (Sedgley New Road), (74, Sedgley Road), (Foxyards), Swan Village, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

Earl of Dudley

Mary Page, widow, Foxyards

George Plant (leased)

North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. (leased)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1910)

LICENSEES

James Page [1845] – **1858**;

Mrs. Mary Page (**1858** – [])

Mrs. Elizabeth Fletcher [1860] – **1866**;

William Punter (**1866** – [1870])

Mrs. Mary Page [1871]

John Mucklow [1872] – **1873**;

Mrs. Mary Mucklow (**1873** – **1874**);

Samuel Wesson (**1874** – **1875**);

Mary Ann Nuttall (**1875** – **1876**);

Edward Turley (**1876** – **1877**);

William Jevon (**1877** – **1878**);

George Halford (**1878** – **1879**);

George Plant (1879 – 1897);
George Sedgwick (1897 – 1900);
Isaac Hughes (1900 – 1908);
Mrs. Sarah Hughes (1908 – 1910);
James Turner (1910 – 1913);
John Thomas Hughes (1913 – 1915);
Albert Hughes (1915 – 1924);
Cecil Crowther (1924 – 1928);
Thomas McCloud (1928 – 1932);
James William ‘Jim’ Stanton (1932 – 1934);
William Arkinstall (1934 – [1940])
William Mark Earle []
Mick Bishop (1994 – [])
Paul Turton [2006]

NOTES

Sedgley New Road [1849]
74, Sedgley Road [1891]
Sedgley Road West [1940]

It was known locally as the “Rag and Mop.”

FOXYARD [1864], [1865]

James Page was also a wheelwright. [1845], [1849], [1850]

Birmingham Journal 7/6/1845

“Sedgley. Perambulating the Parish Bounds. On Thursday and Friday last, the Vicar (the Rev. W. Lewis), accompanied by the overseers, some of the old inhabitants, and the children of the National Schools, walked in procession round the bounds of the parish. The procession started from the school room at nine o’clock, to Woodhouse Mill, on the borders of Wombourne; here, according to ancient custom, the Vicar read the Gospel for the week. During the first day they perambulated the borders of Wombourne, Himley, Kingswinford, Dudley, and part of Tipton, and dined at Mr. *Page*’s, Old Fox Yards. On the second day, they perambulated on the borders of Tipton, Wednesbury, Darlaston, Bilston, Wolverhampton, and Penn, and dined at Mr. Thomas Ferreday’s, Gospel End. The Vicar presided at both dinners, and the utmost harmony and good feeling characterised this ancient celebration.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/6/1849

“On Tuesday night the house of Mr. *James Page*, of the FOX YARDS INN, was attempted to be broken into, by removing a shutter, but the thieves were disturbed by the barking of a house dog, and decamped without accomplishing their object.”

Birmingham Journal 17/8/1850 - Advert

“Building Land, at the Fox Yards, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bateman, on Wednesday, the 28th of August, 1850, at six o’clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. *James Page*, Fox Yards.

Sundry lots of excellent Building Land, as may be seen on plans deposited at Mr. *Page*’s, and at the Estate Office, Dudley. The lots adjoin the Turnpike Road. Plans will be ready for diminution in two or three days.

The Sale will not be delayed after half-past six o’clock.”

1851 Census

Foxyards

[1] *James Page* (46), timber merchant and victualler, employing 9 labourers, born Albrighton, Shropshire;

[2] *Mary Page* (38), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Mary Page* (16), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] *William Page* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] *John Aston* (30), lodger, grocer, shopman, born Burbury, Cheshire;

[6] *Sarah Foster* (30), house servant, born Tipton;

[7] *Samuel Houston* (40), widower, brewer, born Lutterworth, Staffordshire:

James Page was described as also being a timber merchant. [1854]

James Page died in the 3rd quarter of 1857.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/11/1858 - Advert

“To Timber Dealers And Others.

To be Disposed Of by Private Contract, by order of the Executors, the extensive Premises and Timber Trade, carried on at the Foxyards, near Sedgley, by the late Mr. *James Page*.

The Yard and Premises are situate in close proximity to many large works, adjacent to the canal and railway, and in every respect are well adapted for carrying on an extensive business.

The Stock of Timber &c to be taken by valuation.

For particulars apply to Mrs. *Page*, at the FOXYARDS; or to Messrs. Aston and Sollom, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/1/1859 - Advert

“To Timber Dealers And Others.

Sale Of Oak, Ash And Elm Timber, Canal Boats, &c, (by direction of the Executors of the late Mr. *James Page*) upon the Premises, at the Foxyards, near Tipton.

By Messrs. Aston and Sollom. To be Sold by Auction, about the middle of the present month, the extensive Stock of round and converted Timber, Sheds, Timber Carriages, Waggon Horse, the contents of the Blacksmith’s Shop, four Canal Boats, and other Effects.

Further particulars in next week’s paper.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/1/1859 - Advert

“To Publicans, Brokers, And Others.

Sale Of Well-Seasoned Ale Casks, Brewing Utensils, Hops, Furniture, And Effects, at the FOXYARDS, by order of the Executors of the late Mr. *James Page*, by Messrs. Aston and Sollom.

To be Sold by Auction, on Thursday, January 27th, 1859, Thirteen Pockets of Sussex Hops (1856), the well-seasoned Ale Casks, comprising four 500 hundred gallon casks, three 300 gallon ditto, four 120 gallon ditto, two 90 gallons ditto, five 80 gallons ditto, seven 60 gallons ditto, the capital Brewing Utensils, five-pull Beer Machine, the Household Furniture, including four-post bedsteads and bedding, oak wardrobe, mahogany chests of drawers, chamber chairs and tables, ten mahogany sitting room chairs, loo table, and oak dining table, capital eight-day clock, in mahogany case; eight day time-piece, public house benches, with backs; oblong tables, culinary articles, five dozen knives and forks, glass and earthenware, and miscellaneous effects, particulars of which are given in catalogues, to be had on the premises, or of the Auctioneers, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.

Sale to commence at eleven o’clock in the morning.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/1/1861 - Advert

“£1 Reward.

Lost, on the 20th of December, a Light-brindled Big, Bull and Terrier, 34 lbs weight with a white ring round the neck (does not hardly go through), white streak up the face, four white feet, and white tip of tail; ears cut.

Apply to Mr. W. Whitmore, SPREAD EAGLE, Moxley; or to Mrs. *Fletcher*, FOX YARDS INN, near Tipton.”

1861 Census

Foxyards – FOXYARDS INN

[1] *Elizabeth Fletcher* (50), widow, public, innkeeper, born Bewdley, Worcestershire;

[2] Thomas Cornes (29), servant, brewer etc, born Wombourn, Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/10/1861

“At the Wednesbury Police Court, before W. Partridge, Esq, George Brown and John Jones were charged with being concerned in uttering base coin. Mr. Inspector Phair asked for a remand, stating that he heard of some bad money being passed, and that he went to the FOX YARDS, on Monday, where he saw the prisoners, who had tried to pass a bad shilling. They gave false names, and did not tell a straightforward tale about themselves. A remand till Friday was granted.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/12/1861

“On Saturday evening last, Mrs. *E. Fletcher*, of the FOXYARDS INN, Coseley, went upstairs about nine o’clock, and in her bedroom she discovered that the drawer was open, and twenty-six sovereigns, 15s in silver and a £5 Bank of England note were missing; in addition to which a silver watch, a lady’s gold chain, two gold brooches, two gold locketts, six silver spoons (marked M.R.B.), two salt spoons (marked F.), and two small desert spoons were stolen. The estimated value of the above articles is at least £40. Mrs. *Fletcher* had been in the room at three o’clock and all was then safe. Sergeant Costello, on examining the premises, found also that a ladder had been placed at the bedroom window, and that the sash had been prised, as if with a jemmy.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1862

“The wife of James Elwell, a miner, of Coseley, has narrowly escaped death (though receiving serious injuries) in consequence of the ruffianly treatment of three fellows on Saturday evening last. About half-past eight on the above evening she was on her way to Tipton, having only a few minutes before left the FOXYARDS INN on the Tipton road, at which place she had been receiving her husband’s wages, amounting to 32s, and when about midway between the said inn and the railway bridge of the West Midland Railway, three men accosted her. One of them on passing grasped her foot, thereby throwing her to the ground. She screamed but another ruffian at once pressed something on her mouth to suppress her cries. They thereupon carried her up to the top of the colliery field, near Hodgetts’s, and having taken the thirty-two shillings from her, abused her by fearful ill-usage they threw her down an embankment several feet deep, and left the poor woman insensible. On recovery consciousness she made her way as

well as she could to the highway, but seems to have fallen several times from exhaustion. With much difficulty she reached the FOXYARDS INN again, and there related what had occurred. Pursuit was immediately made, but all attempts at detection of the offenders were futile. The poor woman has been seriously unwell ever since. Another woman was assaulted the same evening on the same road, and her market goods taken from her. She, however, fortunately escaped injury.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 5/1/1867

“T. Potts of Woodsetton, Coseley, will shoot pigeons against W. Nurse of Princes End, for the sum of £15 or £20 a side, guns not to exceed ¾-bore, 1½oz of shot, 20 yards rise, boundary to be agreed upon on the night of making the match. Potts will be at Mr. *W. Punter's*, FOX YARD INN, Woodsetton today (Saturday) or Monday next, between the hours of seven and ten, prepared to make the match.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/1/1871 - Advert

“To be Let, the Old-licensed Pubic House and Premises, known as the FOXYARDS INN, Sedgley Road, Tipton; now in good repair.

Apply to Mrs. *Page*, near the Premises; or Powell and Sons, Auctioneers, Tipton.”

1871 Census

Sedgley Road – FOX YARD INN, Fox Yards Cottage

- [1] *Mary Page* (57), widow, annuitant, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Mary Branson* (9), granddaughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Fanny Branson* (6), granddaughter scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Phoebe Broom* (37), general servant, born Wednesfield:

Dudley Herald 6/5/1871 - Advert

“Old licensed public house, the FOXYARDS INN, near Tipton. To be let. Enquire of Mrs. *Page* on the premises, or Powell and Son, Auctioneers, Tipton.”

1881 Census

FOX YARDS

- [1] *George Plant* (43), publican, born Summerhill, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Emily Plant* (41), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *William Plant* (20), son, coal miner, born Summerhill, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Sarah Plant* (16), daughter, domestic, born Summerhill, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Jane Plant* (14), daughter, scholar, born Summerhill, Staffordshire;
- [6] *John Thomas Plant* (5), son, scholar, born Summerhill, Staffordshire:

Dudley and District News 10/12/1881

“On Wednesday, Mr. E. F. Whitehouse (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the Guest Hospital, on the body of *William Brierley* (59), Dock Lane.

Deceased was an agent for Mr. M. Allen, ginger beer manufacturer, Dudley, and had been in his service about 22 years. On the 22nd November he was going his rounds with a horse and cart, and called at the home of *George Plant*, of the FOXYARDS INN, Woodsetton. It was his practice when leaving a place to start the horse and then spring into the cart, and on the date named, whilst doing this, he missed his footing and fell underneath the cart which must have passed over him, for he was found lying badly injured in the road, and the horse was proceeding with the cart in the direction of Dudley.

A verdict of Accidental Death was recorded.”

Evening Star 23/5/1882

“*William Taylor*, of Tipton, was charged with obtaining certain intoxicating liquor at the house of *George Plant*, the FOX YARDS INN, Swan Village, Woodsetton, on Sunday the 7th inst, during the hours when the house should have been closed, by falsely representing himself to be a traveller.

About eleven o'clock on the morning of the day named, the defendant, in company with a man named *Isaac Roberts*, called at the house named and represented he and his companion were travellers, had walked that morning from Oldbury and demanded refreshment. The landlady supplied the refreshment believing what was stated to be true.

The Bench informed the defendant that what he had done did not constitute being a traveller; but defendant said he was ignorant of it as he thought by walking three miles he could claim refreshments. The landlady also said she was ignorant of the law upon that point.

The Bench believing they acted in ignorance dismissed the case on payment of costs.”

Dudley and District News 30/9/1882

“*George Robinson*, Old Cross Street, and *James Roberts*, of Factory Road, Tipton, were charged with falsely representing themselves as travellers for the purpose of obtaining intoxicating drink, on Sunday 17th inst, at the FOX YARDS INN, Woodsetton, kept by *George Plant*. Fined 15s 6d each, or 14 days' imprisonment with hard labour.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/1/1884 - Advert

“To Let, an Old-licensed House, FOX YARDS INN, Sedgley Road, Tipton. Small capital required.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/8/1886

“On Sunday evening two youths were passing along the Old Park on the Wren’s Nest when they saw the body of a man lying at the foot of a tree. Upon examination they found that the man had cut his throat in a very shocking manner, the head being nearly severed from the body. A razor was lying at the man’s feet in a pool of blood. The police were communicated with, and the body was removed to the FOX YARDS INN near, to await an inquest. The body is that of a middle-aged man, apparently belonging to the working classes although his clothing was good. There is evidence that the death had taken place some hours previous to the finding of the body.”

1891 Census

74, Sedgley Road

- [1] *George Plant* (52), widower, publican, born Tipton;
- [2] *John Plant* (14), son, moulder, born Tipton;
- [3] *Jane Rowbottom* (24), daughter, assistant in house, born Tipton;
- [4] *Moses Rowbottom* (31), son in law, painter, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 9/8/1892

“Last evening Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) opened an inquest at the FOX YARDS INN, Coseley, on the body of Joseph Green (45), Fox Yards Cottage, who met with a terrible death under circumstances reported in the *Post*.

The wife of deceased stated that for many years her husband had been engaged in the manufacture of fireworks, of which she believed he had a thorough knowledge. He was formerly a safe maker. The firework manufactory was situated at the rear of his residence, was registered in accordance with the Explosives Act, but for some reason or other, the authorities had not sent a license this year. Whilst in the house on Saturday night she heard a terrible explosion, and on going to the scene of the accident found her husband rolling on the floor and bleeding profusely from several parts of the body. She did not think anyone was to blame, as the greatest care had always been exercised in the manufacture of the fireworks.

Dr. Johnson stated that he had examined the body of the deceased. A portion of the exploded firework entered the right thigh, tearing away the flesh and severing one of the main arteries, which was the cause of death. Deceased was also badly injured in other parts of the body, his right hand being completely shattered.

Two of the deceased’s sons, one of them being the lad George who was working in close proximity to his father and had a very narrow escape, gave evidence. They stated that they were helping their father to make some fireworks to be used at Lower Gornal and Sedgley Flower Show that evening, and that while deceased was in the act of filing a ‘five-point star’ the firework exploded. At this stage the inquiry was adjourned until Friday for the attendance of an inspector from the Home Office.”

[At the adjourned inquest the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.]

1901 Census

Fox Yard

- [1] *Isaac Hughes* (39), haulier and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Hughes* (37), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *John T. Hughes* (17), son, holloware turner, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Albert Hughes* (15), son, horse driver, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Lillian M. Hughes* (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Elsie A. Hughes* (6), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Gertrude A. Hughes* (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Nellie Asdell* (18), servant, born Tipton;
- [9] *George A. Hughes* (2), son, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Sedgley Road – FOX YARDS INN

- [1] *James Turner* (30), licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Mary E. Turner* (33), wife, married 1 year, born Wednesfield;
- [3] *Abigail Turner* (62), mother, widow, born Coseley;
- [4] *Sarah Turner* (32), sister, costumier, born Coseley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/2/1916

“At Tipton Police Court yesterday *Albert Hughes*, FOX YARD INN, Tipton Green, was charged with neglecting to treat a horse, thereby causing unnecessary pain and suffering. He was fined £5, special costs £1 1s, and solicitor’s fee. Inspector Brodie, of the Birmingham Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, prosecuted.”

South Staffordshire Times 17/9/1921

“At Sedgley Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. Jordan and Fithern, *Albert Hughes*, licensee of the FOX YARDS INN, Woodsetton, was summoned by Superintendent Higgs for being drunk in charge of a horse and trap on the 8th September. Mr. J. A. Shephard defended.

Superintendent Higgs said that on the night of September 8th he saw the defendant in charge of a fast-trotting horse. He was

swinging about the road and pulling the horse from one side to the other. There were several women and children in the road, and they were rushing about to get out of the way of danger. Witness followed him down to the SUMMER HOUSE HOTEL [Gospel End], and there got him into a motor and brought him to the Police Station and locked him up.

Mr. Shephard: You had no difficulty with him? – Oh, no.

Mr. Shephard: He was kept in the police cell for about three hours? – Yes.

Mr. Shephard said the defendant was the license holder and kept the FOXYARDS INN, Woodsetton. That particular afternoon the defendant went out with his trap to see some friends who were at Pattingham. He certainly had taken one or two drinks, perhaps more than was good for him. He had been kept in the police cell for about three hours, so that although he might have been under the influence of drink, when the Superintendent saw him he could not have been so very drunk or he would not have been allowed to be out after so short a time. Then he walked home from Sedgley to Woodsetton, and got home safely, although he had pretty well of money on him. As the defendant was a license holder he asked the Bench to take a lenient view of the matter, having regard to what would be the probable consequences. It was not the case of a man being drunk on his own premises and being found there. Defendant had held the license for five years without complaint. It would be inflicting a harsh punishment if after the magistrates had taken a serious view of the case and the defendant would probably lose his license.

Mr. Jordan said it was a very serious matter to be drunk in charge of a horse and trap, and serious consequences could have occurred. The least the magistrates could do was to inflict a fine of 20s, or __ days in default.”

‘Tipton In Old Photographs’ by John Brimble and Keith Hodgkins

“Georgina the Gipsy lived [1920s] in a wigwam type tent next to her father’s caravan at the rear of the public house and was a colourful character who toured the local streets selling clothes pegs.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/7/1923

“Joseph Ballet (44), Simon’s Passage, Bell Street, Tipton, charged with the manslaughter of Elijah Paskin (69) hawker, of 36, Chapel Street, Tipton, was committed for trial, and bail was allowed, defendant in £25 and two sureties of £25 each.

Elijah Paskin, jun., said on July 9, he and his father were at the FOXYARDS INN, Coseley, and three gipsies were there. Just before two o’clock witness’s father and Ballett came out. Ballett said ‘I will fight the old man.’ Witness alleged that Ballett was drunk, and said his father had had some beer, but was not drunk. Witness was absent for a time, and when he returned his father was lying on his back.

George Smith, a hawker, said there was a fight, and Paskin fell on his back.

Medical evidence was to the effect that death was due to a fracture of the base of the skull.

PS Lycett said Ballett, when spoken to on the subject, said ‘We have been fighting.’ When charged, he said ‘I don’t think I did strike him. They gave me one or two punches on the mouth.’

Witness said he examined defendant and found abrasions inside the upper and lower lips, on each elbow, and on the left shoulder. To PS Flavell defendant said ‘I would not have it happen for millions. We have been drinking together. He struck me first.’ Later defendant said ‘I did not strike the old man.’

Mr. F. W. Green (Dudley) submitted there was not a prima facie case to answer.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted, and Mr. A. D. Dallow held a watching brief.”

South Staffordshire Times 28/7/1923

“At Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, *Albert Hughes*, licensee of the FOXYARDS INN, Woodsetton, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house on the 9th July.

When the case was called on about 1.30pm, Mr. Ward asked the stipendiary if it would be possible to have it adjourned. He said that he himself had several witnesses to call, and he understood that Mr. Sharpe had nine. It would be impossible for the case to conclude that day, and he thought it would be inadvisable to adjourn it when it had only been partly heard. It would be better to have the whole case heard on a special day.

Mr. Sharpe said he agreed with this view and had no objection to an adjournment.

The Stipendiary said he was willing to grant adjournment, but it must not be for too long.

In the end it was agreed that the case should be taken on a date after August, this to be fixed by the police.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/10/1923

“A recent case of alleged manslaughter at Coseley had a sequel at Bilston, when a charge of permitting drunkenness was heard against *Albert Hughes*, licensee of the FOXYARD INN, Woodsetton, Coseley, on 9 July last.

After a hearing lasting five hours, the Stipendiary (Mr. Graham Millward) imposed a penalty of £4 and £16 9s special costs.

The case was a sequel to one which came up at Sedgley on 10 July, when a man named Ballott was committed to the Assizes with the manslaughter of a man named Elijah Paskin. It has since been adjourned.

It is alleged that six men, including Ballott and Paskin, remained drinking at the inn until two o’clock closing time, apparently getting as much beers as they wanted without any supervision on the part of the landlord.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/11/1923

“Staffordshire Autumn Assizes.

Joseph Ballott, 37, haulier, pleaded not guilty to the manslaughter of Elijah Paskin, aged 69, at Coseley, on July 9. Mr. A. F. Clements prosecuted, and Mr. H. Maddocks defended.

The evidence for the prosecution showed that the prisoner, with Paskin and other men, were drinking together in the FOXYARDS INN, Coseley, staying there from 11am till 2pm. Whilst at the inn Paskin and the accused had a quarrel, went into the yard, took

off their coats and waistcoats, and started to fight. After two or three blows Ballott knocked Paskin down, and the latter became unconscious, death ensuing the same evening from a fractured skull.

After medical evidence, PS Taylor said the accused made the following statement ‘Sergeant, this is awful. I would not have had it happen for millions. We had been drinking together. He struck me first.’

When charged by PS Lycett, accused said ‘I don’t think I did strike him. They struck me several blows in the mouth.’

In the witness-box Ballott said Paskin was the aggressor, and struck him two blows in the mouth. Witness got out of the way and Paskin fell down, but got up and went for him again. At no time had he any desire to fight deceased, who was very quarrelsome. The jury found Ballott ‘guilty under great provocation’ and strongly recommended him to mercy.

The Judge: My course is quite clear. I shall bind this man over. I understand he is a man of perfectly good character.

In discharging the accused his Lordship said, ‘Don’t fight anybody again for another twelve months’.”

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

“Bilston Licensing.

The licenses for the BULLS HEAD, Sedgley; the FOXYARD, Woodsetton; and the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, to which objection had been made on the ground of convictions, were renewed, and the license of the FOXYARD was transferred to *Cecil Crowther*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/1/1930

“Valentine Smith, the famous Black country gipsy known as ‘Val the Pegman’ has died at the age of 103 in his wigwam near the FOXYARDS INN, Woodsetton, between Tipton and Coseley.

His rough shanty was constructed of corrugated iron and canvas, and his claim to be the oldest gipsy in the country was never disputed.

During his last illness, Mr. Smith was nursed by his daughter, a sprightly woman of about 75, who lives in a caravan not far away from the old man’s wigwam.

For 80 years Valentine was known throughout the Black Country as a maker and hawker of clothes-pegs. Until a year or two ago he enjoyed good health, and even when he had passed the age of 102 was in the habit of taking a daily constitutional in the fields adjoining his shanty. He attributed his longevity to his healthy occupation and an open-air life. He never smoked, and had lived more than a century before he touched alcoholic beverages.

A native of the Black Country, ‘Val the Pegman’ began work before he was 10 years old, and obtained unofficial recognition as the champion clothes-peg maker. During all his days he lived the free and easy life of a gipsy. At the back door of his wigwam geese and fowls pecked at scraps of food, a cat lazed by the open brazier, and a friendly goat walked in and out displaying no sign of nervousness while the old man was about.

Mr. Smith was a commanding figure, with flowing locks and a clean shaven face, and he was known to and liked by thousands of Black Country house-holders.

He will be buried at Sedgley Parish Church tomorrow.”

Jim Stanton was married to Gladys.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/10/1933

“‘You turned them out in mass formation this time’ said the Chairman (Mr. T. Rogers) at Tipton Court when fining Mathew Lovelidge, aged 45, living in a caravan at the back of the FOXYARDS INN, Sedgley Road East, 25s for allowing five horses to stray on the highway.”

1939 Register

Sedgley Road West – FOXYARDS INN

[1] *William Arkinstall*, date of birth 26/11/1889, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Clara Arkinstall*, dob 28/1/1899, assistant victualler, married;

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

Birmingham Daily Post 30/6/1962

“At a meeting of Coseley Urban Council a bookmaker’s application to erect a timber betting office on a car park was agreed by under the building bye-laws, but was rejected later, at the same meeting under the Town and Country Planning Act. Refusing planning consent, the council said that it would reduce the amount of parking space behind the FOXYARDS INN, Sedgley Road West, and was ‘unrelated to any existing or proposed group of shops’. The bookmaker has lodged an appeal with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/1/1975

“Other Midland Wills.

William Mark Earle, of the FOX YARDS INN, Sedgley Road, Tipton, left £11,517 (£11,422 net).”

Closed

Reopened as RAG AND MOP TAP HOUSE in August 1994.

It closed in 2007.

It was demolished in 2007.

Express & Star 14/9/2007

“A Black Country boozier featuring a striking mural on its end wall has been flattened for redevelopment in a trend which is leading to the loss of traditional water holes all over the Midlands. The RAG AND MOP pub in Sedgley Road West, Tipton, was demolished yesterday. The Campaign for Real Ale’s preservation officer, Tony Hitchmough, said it was sad as there had been a pub on the site since at least 1845 when it was known as the FOXYARDS. In 1994 it was relaunched as the RAG AND MOP tap house with the striking mural on the front featuring a Victorian drinking scene. The artwork was created by Alan Neachell from Birmingham. Owners, the Tap House company, wanted to offer drinkers an old-fashioned atmosphere with open fires and traditional pub games. Beers were served in the usual measures but customers with a real thirst could also get stuck into two-pint mugs and four-pint jugs.....”

GATE

19, Ward Street, Mount Pleasant, COSELEY

OWNERS

Isaac Bennett
Sarah Cartwright

LICENSEES

Isaac Bennett [1871] – **1895**);
Mrs. Sarah Cartwright (**1895 – 1905**);
Thomas Cartwright [1901]
James Richards (**1905 – 1914**);
Joseph Cresswell (**1914 – 1916**):

NOTES

It was originally an unnamed ante’69 beerhouse.

1871 Census

19, Ward Street – GATE INN

- [1] *Isaac Bennett* (43), publican and wheelwright, born Kings Heath;
- [2] *Hannah Bennett* (42), wife, born Branston Heath, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Sarah Bennett* (18), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Elizabeth Bennett* (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Joseph Bennett* (15), son, labourer in ironworks, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Selena Bennett* (12), daughter, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

19, Ward Street

- [1] *Isaac Bennett* (52), carpenter, beer seller, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Hannah Bennett* (51), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Bennett* (25), daughter, tailoress, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Selena Bennett* (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Rose Parry* (6), granddaughter, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 17/2/1883

“On Saturday afternoon last, Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft (Deputy Coroner) held an inquest at the GATE INN, Ward Street, Coseley, respecting the death of John Wilkes (24), miner, who was killed at the Priorfield Colliery. The evidence showed that on Tuesday last a royalty master decided to move a pit frame from a disused pit on the Priorfield Colliery estate. When in the act of removing a pulley – which weighed 15cwt – by means of poles and a guide rope, it was found necessary to obtain further assistance, and deceased and two other men who were standing near the engine house were called to assist in the removal of the frame. When the pulley was lowered to within three feet of the ground the rope broke and the poles fell on the four men, fatally injuring Wilkes, and seriously injuring *Isaac Bennett*, the field carpenter.

In reply to the Deputy-Coroner, Mr. Timmins stated that the rope used as a guide rope was, in his opinion, strong enough for the job. In fact he would have no objection to being lowered down a pit on it. He could not say what caused the rope to break. There might have been a flaw in it. The pole which fell on deceased was 28ft long.

Mr. Francis Wilkes, a brother of the deceased, submitted that had the poles been lashed to the frame the accident would not have occurred. Then, again, he had been informed by his father, who had inspected the rope, that in the portion that broke there was but one good strand.

The Deputy-Coroner: Do you know of your own knowledge there was but one strand? – Mr. Wilkes: From what I have been informed I am fully convinced that the rope was not strong enough for the job, for it broke near to the knot. One of the men named Thomas Nicholls, said he did not think the poles long enough, as it was found necessary to put bricks under them.

Mr. Timmins: The bricks were put under the poles in consequence of the ground being soft through the heavy rain.

The Deputy-Coroner said in his opinion he did not think the jury would be justified in coming to the conclusion that Mr. Timmins through any neglect, caused the death of the deceased.

Mr. Aaron Turner (the foreman of the jury), having consulted with the jury, said half the jury were practical colliery men, and they were of opinion that Mr. Timmins adopted the proper means to move the frame. He employed Mr. *Isaac Bennett*, the field carpenter, who was a practical man, to superintend the removal of the frame, and they were of opinion that the occurrence was a pure accident.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 22/6/1885

“This (Monday) morning Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the GATE HANGS WELL INN, Ward Street, Coseley, touching the death of Daniel Allen (56), miner, Ward Street, who died suddenly on Friday afternoon. Deceased returned home from work about two o’clock on Friday afternoon, when he complained of a pain in the stomach, and his wife gave him some whisky, after which he said he felt better. He had another attack in about two hours after and died. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased Died from Natural Causes.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 28/8/1885

“Bilston general annual licensing meeting.

Mr. Greenway (Wolverhampton) applied to the Bench on behalf of *Isaac Bennett*, beerhouse keeper, Ward Street, Coseley, for a spirit license. His client had occupied the premises for many years without complaint being lodged against him, and as regarded the locality, many new houses had been erected, the population of the neighbourhood had very largely increased, and the nearest licensed house to the applicant’s was at a distance of upwards of 300 yards. Mr. R. A. Willcock opposed the application, contending that the district already had sufficient licensed accommodation. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 14/4/1887

“Shortly before twelve o’clock on Tuesday night, as Mr. *Isaac Bennett*, of the GATE INN, Ward Street, Coseley, was passing through Tipton, he was assaulted by two men, who robbed him of his watch and other articles, valued at £18, and some 17s in money. After the robbery the men kicked Mr. *Bennett* until he was insensible.”

1891 Census

Ward Street – GATE INN

[1] *Isaac Bennett* (63), widower, beer seller, born Warwickshire;

[2] *Thomas Cartwright* (36), son in law, collier, born Ettingshall;

[3] *Sarah Cartwright* (36), daughter, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Post 14/8/1891

“Yesterday afternoon, Mr. E. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the GATE INN, Ward Street, Coseley, on the body of Isaac Wright (57), an experienced collier, who was killed on Tuesday last, in the Fox Yards Colliery. Mr. W. B. Scott, the Government Inspector, attended the enquiry, and Mr. Joseph Taft was present from the colliery for the Factory Firebrick Company.

Richard Oakley, horse-driver in the pit, where the fire-clay was being obtained, said he was with Wright, the doggy or deputy manager, when the accident happened. Witness was cogging, under the instructions of the deceased, who was breaking down rock. A large mass of rock fell without warning and struck Wright, killing him on the spot. There was some timber to protect the roof, and Wright had placed some himself that very day. The trees were not crushed out; the rock fell between them. Witness considered the place quite safe, and there was plenty of timber within easy reach.

Mr. Taft: Wright was about to put a tree under the piece which fell; he had actually sent for some timber.

John Ganderton, pikeman, said Wright examined the place on the Monday, and there was timber placed up the rock near where the fall took place. The deceased had the management of the place, and it was fit to work in.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1901 Census

19, Ward Street

[1] *Thomas Cartwright* (48), beer seller, born Sedgley;

[2] *Sarah Cartwright* (46), wife, born Sedgley:

Nottingham Evening Post 6/11/1901

“Yesterday an adjourned inquest was held at the GATE INN, Coseley, by Mr. A. T. Stokes (Coroner), respecting the death of Sol. Weaver, 64, miner, Ward Street, Coseley. It appeared from the evidence that on the 30th ult. deceased was engaged driving a heading at Mr. Latham’s pit, Foxyards, when a ‘slip’ in the roof occurred, and a mass of coal weighing about 5cwt fell and killed deceased almost instantly. A man named Absolom Smith, who was working near at the time, escaped uninjured. There was plenty of timber for use close at hand, and the place had been previously examined, when there was nothing to indicate the presence of the ‘slip.’

Mr. W. H. Pickering (Assistant Government Inspector of Mines) said he had inspected the place, and was of opinion that another ‘sprag’ should have been put in. Deceased was a qualified miner, holding a second-class certificate, but he did not hold any responsible position. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Mrs. *Sarah Cartwright*, beer retailer, Ward Street. [1904]

1911 Census

19, Ward Street

[1] *James Richards* (64), beerhouse keeper, born Woodsetton, Coseley;

[2] Sarah Ann Richards (64), wife, married 42 years, born King Street, Coppice;

[3] Sarah Ann Pinches (37), niece, born King Street, Coppice:

James Richards, beer retailer, Ward Street. [1912]

Joseph Cresswell, beer retailer, Ward Street. [1916]

License refused by Compensation Authority on 8th July 1916.

Compensation of £500 was paid on 23rd December 1916.

Lichfield Mercury 14/7/1916.

“The Staffordshire Licensing Committee held their principal meeting at Stafford on Saturday.....

The renewal of the licenses of the GATE INN, Ward Street, Coseley, the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Chapel Street, Coseley, and the SHAMROCK INN, Temple Street, Bilston, in the Bilston Petty Sessional Division, were refused, it being stated that agreements had been entered into.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1916

“The Licensing (Consolidation Act), 1910.

Notice As to Sending In Claims To Be Treated As Persons Interested In Licensed Premises. County of Stafford.

Notice is hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting held on the 8th day of July, 1916, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licences 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 Act together with the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises are requested to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims.....

GATE, Ward Street, Coseley, Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee *Joseph Cresswell*. Registered Owner, Sarah Cartwright.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/1/1917

“Report Of The County Licensing Committee.....

Supplemental Meeting. This meeting was held on the 14th of October, and by adjournment on the 11th of November and 9th of December. The committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the Compensation Fund.

In the following nine cases the committee fixed the compensation, viz.....

GATE, Ward Street, Coseley, beerhouse, ante 1869, £500.....

In all cases (except the two referred to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue) the money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties.”

GATE HANGS WELL

128, (7), Hurst Road, (Can Lane), (7, (8), Hurst Hill Road), Hurst Hill, COSELEY

OWNERS

Thomas Salt, colliery clerk, Holly Hall, Dudley

Hannah Salt, widow, Wednesbury

Sarah Ann Mountford and Elizabeth Hannah Lowe, 165, Holyhead Road, Wednesbury

William Clift

John Rogers and Calcutt Ltd., brewers, Steelhouse Lane, Wolverhampton
Joseph Bryan
Thomas Booth, Red Lion Brewery, Gornalwood
Julia Hanson and Son Ltd. (acquired in 1959)
Union Pub Co. (W&D) [2004]

LICENSEES

Mark Eley [1835] – [1841]
Thomas Salt [1845] – 1852);
Joseph Rudge (1852 – 1874);
Mrs. Elizabeth Rudge (1874 – 1884);
John Danks Lowe (1884 – 1886);
Francis Potts (1886 – 1888);
Mrs. Rebecca (Potts) Jones (1888 – 1896);
William Clift (1896 – 1921);
George Mills (1921 – 1922);
Joseph Bryan (1922 – 1938);
Thomas Slater Snr. (1938 – 1945);
Florence Slater (1945 – 1964);
Thomas Slater Jr. (1964 – 1978)
John Kelly [1995]
George Gilbert Hodgetts [2003] – [2005]
Karen Young [2005]

NOTES

Can Lane [1849], [1862], [1866], [1867], [1872], [1879]
8, Hurst Hill Road [1871], [1881]
7, Hurst Hill Road [1891]
Hurst Hill [1896], [1904], [1908]
7, Hurst Road [1901], [1932], [1940]
128, Hurst Road [1990], [2003]

NEW GATE [1849], [1860], [1868]
GATE [1851], [1852]
OLD GATE [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/4/1852

“The license of *Thomas Salt*, of the GATE, Can Lane, Sedgley, was indorsed to permit *Joseph Rudge*, the new tenant, to sell until the next special sessions for the transfer of licenses, to be held on the 26th of April.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/4/1852

“At an adjourned special sessions for the transfer of victuallers’ licenses, within the division of Seisdon North.
GATE, Cann Lane, Sedgley, from *Thomas Salt* to *Joseph Rudge*, of Gornal.”

Joseph Rudge was also a brickmaker. [1854], [1860]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1855

“*Joseph Rudge*, licensed victualler, of Can Lane, and *John Clay*, licensed victualler, of Wednesfield, pleaded guilty to informations charging them with having used grains of paradise in the brewing of ale, and were each convicted in the mitigated penalty of £50.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/1/1867

“S. Beach of Woodcross will run *J. Pugh* of Can Lane 440 yards and give him 10 yards start. Money ready at *J. Rudge*’s, GATE INN, Can Lane.”

1871 Census

8, Hurst Hill Road

- [1] *Joseph Rudge* (59), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Rudge* (59), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Joseph Rudge* (29), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Samuel Rudge* (18), son, miner, born Sedgley;

- [5] Enoch Rudge (16), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [6] Mary A. Rudge (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Rudge (6), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Express and Star 17/6/1879

“William Cowell, secretary to the GATE HANGS WELL Lodge of the United Order of Free Gardeners, held at Can Lane, Sedgley, was summoned for refusing to pay 12s, two weeks’ sick pay, to John Hill, a member.

The complainant said he declared on the fund on the 28th ultimo, and remained on for a fortnight. On asking for the sick pay defendant refused to give it him.

Defendant contended that complainant had violated the 11th rule, and it had been resolved that on no future occasion should he receive sick pay.

Mr. Corser, having examined the rules, said he considered the members of the society had dealt very leniently with the complainant.

The Bench held that complainant had obtained 8s by unlawful means by receiving sick pay when at work, and consequently made an order for the balance of 4s to be paid, and disallowed the costs.”

Dudley Herald 29/11/1879

“On Monday, at Sedgley Police Court, before Captain Pudsey, the Rev. W. Griffiths, and Mr. F. A. Homer, James Waterhouse, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the GATE INN, Can Lane, when requested to do so.

The case having being proved, Police-sergeant Ellis said the defendant had been several times convicted of a similar offence.

Defendant said that during the past six months he had been a teetotaler, and broken the pledge on the 16th inst. If the Magistrates would forgive him he would be a teetotaler as long as he lived.

The Bench said that as defendant had pledged himself to be a teetotaler they would simply order him to pay the costs.”

1881 Census

8, Hurst Hill Road – GATE HANGS WELL

- [1] *Elizabeth Rudge* (69), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Joseph Rudge* (39), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Enoch Rudge* (25), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Elizabeth Griffiths* (25), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Rudge* (16), general servant, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

7, Hurst Hill Road – GATE

- [1] *Francis Potts* (41), coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Rebecca Potts* (42), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Florence Mills* (17), niece, general servant, born Sedgley:

Rebecca Potts married *Edward Jones* on 25th June 1894.

1901 Census

7, Hurst Road

- [1] *William Clift* (38), widower, licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Florence Mercy Clift* (15), daughter, assistant bar waitress, born Coseley;
- [3] *Rebecca Elizabeth Clift* (12), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] *Mary Morris* (19), domestic servant, born Coseley:

1911 Census

Hurst Road – GATE HANGS WELL

- [1] *William Clift* (48), widower, brewer, born Coseley;
- [2] *Mercy Clift* (25), daughter, assist at home, born Coseley;
- [3] *Lizzie Clift* (22), daughter, assist at home, born Coseley;
- [4] *Mary Morris* (28), domestic servant, born Coseley:

William Clift was also a brewer. [1916]

South Staffordshire Times 8/7/1922

“Before Messrs. V. Hickman and G. H. Sankey.

A large number of applications for licenses transfers or for full ones were dealt with.

The only objection made was with regards to the GATE HANGS WELL, Hurst Hill. At a previous court Supt. Higgs had objected to an open convenience in front of the house, and said it ought to be properly enclosed or removed. The representative of the owners then said that that should be done, and the license was granted on those conditions.

Inspector Young now stated that a door had been added to the structure, but it was not considered sufficient and if a proper arrangement was not made before the annual licensing meeting objection would be taken to the renewal of the licenses.

The chairman said the full transfer would be granted, but the work referred to must be carried out in a satisfactory manner.”

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Bagatelle League. [1928]

Dudley Herald 25/4/1931

“Bagatelle. The customers of the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, visited the GATE HANGS WELL on Monday evening, and an enjoyable game ended in the home team winning by eight games to two. The winners for the successful side were J. Turner, J. Phillips, C. Baker, W. Aston, B. Sheppard, *J. Bryan*, N. Hyde and S. Weaver, while E. Elwell and J. Bird were the only winners for the visitors. A smoking concert followed, presided over by Mr. G. Lawrence, the licensee of the WHITE LION.”

Dudley Herald 2/5/1931

“Bagatelle. Customers at the WHITE LION entertained a team representing the GATE HANGS WELL, on Tuesday last, in a return match. After a number of interesting games the home team ran out the winners by six games to three, thus avenging the defeat sustained a week ago. The winners for the WHITE LION were N. Adams, H. Fownes, G. Lawrence, F. Richards, E. Woodhall and H. Lane, while C. Bird, T. Bird and J. Phillips were successful for the visitors. A smoking concert followed under the chairmanship of Mr. C. Bird and items were rendered by Messrs. W. Wasdell, J. Beardsmore, T. Jeavons and C. Bird. Mr. B. Baker was the accompanist.”

1939 Register

Hurst Road – GATE HANGS WELL

- [1] *Thomas Slater*, date of birth 8/11/1890, hydraulic press worker and publican, married;
- [2] *Florence Slater*, dob 4/1/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Thomas Slater*, dob 23/3/1920, fettling shop (shaper), single;
- [4] *Kenneth Slater*, dob 15/4/1924, coremaker, single;
- [5] *Wilfred John Slater*, dob 27/10/1930, at school, single:

Evening Despatch 25/9/1942

“Messrs. A. W. Dando and Co. of Dudley have acquired from Messrs. Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd., Dudley, the RED LION INN and Brewery, Lower Gornal; also the OLD ROYAL OAK, Lye; the GATE INN, Hurst Hill, Coseley; the BLUE BOAR INN, Cradley; and the CROWN INN, Ruiton.

Messrs. Dando have sold to the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. the RED LION INN, Wordsley, which belonged to Mr. Andrew Marks. The transactions were carried through privately.”

Tipton Herald 16/7/1960

“Two policemen and an army absentee rolled along the pavement outside a Coseley public house when the soldier, handcuffed to one of the policemen, tried to escape arrest, Bilston magistrates were told at a special court on Wednesday afternoon. In the struggle one policeman’s full uniform and the other’s trousers were damaged beyond further use, it was stated.

Derek Norman Martin (21), of 22, Woodfield Road, Lower Gornal, a private in the 1st Battalion, Staffordshire Regiment, admitted being absent without leave from Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, since June 7th, unlawfully resisting PC Alan Dowling in the execution of his duty and wilfully damaging police uniforms. He was remanded in custody to await a military escort on the first charge, and fined £2 on each of the other two charges and ordered to pay the amount of damage, £6.

Chief Inspector P. R. James said that Martin, a national serviceman, was seen by PC Dowling in the GATE HANGS WELL INN, Hurst Road, Hurst Hill, at 2.20pm on Tuesday. Telling him he would be arrested as an absentee, Dowling took hold of Martin, who immediately struggled and tried to break free. Both fell to the floor where PC Dowling managed to contain Martin until the arrival of a police car that had been summoned before Dowling went to the public house. The car crew, PC Butler and PC Turley, went to Dowling’s assistance and eventually PC Butler managed to handcuff Martin’s right wrist to his own left wrist.

As Martin was being taken out of the public house he made another violent attempt to escape and dragged PC Butler with him. There followed, said the chief inspector, a violent struggle in which Butler, Martin and Turley were rolled along the pavement and the uniforms of both officers were damaged to an extent rendering them quite unfit for further wear. PC Butler’s jacket was torn completely and his trousers ripped down the right leg, while PC Turley’s trousers were also torn practically from seam to seam.

‘Considerable force had to be used, as a result of which the prisoner unfortunately received some facial damage,’ Chief Inspector James said. He added that when charged after being locked up at Bilston Police Station, Martin made no reply.

Martin was represented by Mr. J. R. Scott, who told the court there was no suggestion of any assault or attack either by Martin on the police or by the police on Martin. It was, he said, an extremely foolish thing for Martin to have done and the bench might have gathered from the violence of the struggle that there was something more to it than a desire not to be in the army. Martin had, in fact, been in the army since October last year and had settled down and got used to it. His trouble was domestic; he had a feeling that his two-years-old child, who had been seriously ill, had not been properly looked after by his wife, and the matter had preyed on his mind. It was because of the child that he absented himself on June 7th. He had been home on official leave the previous weekend and the child seemed to have been getting worse. He was so worried that he did not even think of applying for compassionate leave. Mr. Scott said that Martin’s behaviour when apprehended by PC Dowling was the result of his desire to get away and retain his freedom. The past few weeks had been very unhappy for him. ‘It’s a sad story, and possibly something can be done to help him in his difficulty,’ Mr. Scott added.

An army officer said that Martin had not mentioned his domestic difficulties to the authorities.”

Florence Slater died in 1965.

Closed
Demolished

It was rebuilt on the opposite side of the road in 1966.
The new building opened in December 1966.

George Hodgetts was born c.1956.

It closed in November 2012.

It was converted into a shop. [2013]

GATE HANGS WELL

Mamble Square, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Jeavons [1851] – [1865]

NOTES

Mumble Square [1865]

1851 Census

Mamble Square

- [1] *Thomas Jeavons* (42), publican and miner, born Coseley;
- [2] *Sarah Jeavons* (46), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] *Job Jeavons* (22), son, miner, born Coseley;
- [4] *John Jeavons* (18), son, miner, born Coseley;
- [5] *Sarah Jeavons* (14), daughter, at home, born Coseley;
- [6] *Joshua Jeavons* (16), son, miner, born Coseley;
- [7] *Mary Ann Jeavons* (12), daughter, at school, born Coseley;
- [8] *David Jeavons* (10), son, at school, born Coseley;
- [9] *Esther Jeavons* (6), daughter, at school, born Coseley;
- [10] *Betsy Lloyd* (18), house servant, born Coseley;

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1852

“Thursday last was the general annual licensing day of the division of Seisdon North, when there were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses The successful applicants for new licenses were

Thomas Jeavons, Coseley, Sedgley.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted

An application made by Mr. Whitehouse on behalf of Mr. Joseph [sic] *Jeavons*, of Mamble Square, in the parish of Sedgley, was granted.”

Birmingham Journal 7/6/1856

“On Saturday afternoon last the Coroner, T. M. Phillips, Esq, held an inquest at the GATE HANGS WELL INN, Mamble Square, near Sedgley, (Mr. *Thomas Jeavons*’s), on the body of Mr. William Hobdey, druggist, and ale and porter dealer, who resided near Coseley Church, and who committed suicide on the previous day. The matter has created much interest in the locality.

During the preceding three or four days Mr. Hobdey was somewhat indisposed and did not leave home. On Friday morning, the 30th ult, Mrs. Hobdey rose before her husband, and at the desire of the latter, descended to a lower room to procure him some

coffee, he being at that time in bed. She returned in a short time with the beverage, but was surprised to find the bed room door fastened. She knocked and called to her husband, but received no answer. Repeating her knocks, and no attention being paid to them, she procured the assistance of a man engaged about the premises, and after reiterated knocking, she told him to break open the door. This was accordingly done. On entering the room they were horrified to observe the deceased lying upon the bed with his throat cut, and a razor in his right hand. The blood was streaming from the wound in the neck, and the head being placed on one side of the bed, it was flowing into a wash-hand basin at the side. The assistant seized hold of the deceased's hand, he being still alive, and he immediately dropped the razor. Medical aid was immediately sent for, and Mr. John Smith and Mr. Kettle were speedily on the spot. This was about eight o'clock in the morning. The deceased was then foaming at the mouth, and still bleeding from the neck, in which a wound had been inflicted four inches long, cutting through the muscles, severing some important blood vessels, and passing between the superior parts of the larynx and the root of the tongue into the mouth. It was also thought that the deceased had imbibed some poison.

The medical gentlemen succeeded in finding and securing the severed arteries, and antidotes for the poison were then administered. As soon as Mr. Smith first entered the room, the deceased, who was lying in the position described, exclaimed in a disjointed manner, 'Smith, you were sent for – you're too late – I must die.' On a doubt being expressed as to whether the deceased had really taken poison, the latter again succeeded in ejaculating, 'I have taken poison enough to kill a horse – I must die – I chewed it.' He continued occasionally to make an inarticulate sound or growl, and continued growing worse up to within a few minutes of eleven o'clock that (Friday) morning. He then with great effort succeeded in jumping out of bed, and by coming in contact with a woman in the room knocked her down. He himself fell upon his face, and the body extended itself to its full length on the floor, his hands grasping the carpet, his body resting upon his elbows, abdomen, feet, and toes; his eyes as it were starting from their sockets; his face and forehead bedewed with a cold and clammy perspiration; respiration abnormal, and the fingers and hands tightly clenched; blood and a frothy mucus were flying from his mouth, the ligatures being forced from his neck, and hemorrhage once more came on. Several men's strength had to be procured ere he could be removed into his bed, and in a few minutes thereafter he ceased to exist. He died in about three hours and a half after he was left by his wife.

There was found a paper near the deceased's bed, which, however, had only contained carbonate of soda. There was no poison found in the bedroom, but on the vomiting being tested by Mr. Smith, he found a large quantity of corrosive sublimate, of which the deceased must have taken nearly half an ounce. Corrosive sublimate was found upon the premises, it being kept for the ordinary purposes of trade by the deceased.

It was stated by the deceased's brother, who attended the inquest, that the former had lately been labouring under depression of mind from religious causes, and that he having within a few years taken to the ale and porter trade, a business he did not like, it weighed upon his mind. There was no pecuniary embarrassment as was at first stated, for the Jury were informed that pecuniarily the trade was prospering. A document was found which had been written by the deceased, in which it was stated that he must have been aware for a long time that he was a ruined man; but the terms must have been used in a religious and not in a commercial sense.

The Jury returned a verdict of Temporary Insanity."

Birmingham Journal 29/7/1861 - Advert

"Freehold Dwelling Houses And Land, at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, and at Princes End, in the parish of Tipton. To Be Offered For Sale By Auction, by Messrs. Richards and Turley, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Jeavons*, Mamble Square, Coseley, on Thursday, the 11th day of July, 1861, at Seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions....."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/1/1865 - Advert

"Freehold Property, Coseley, near Sedgley.

Mr. Samuel Baker will Sell by Auction, at the GATE HANGS WELL, Mamble Square, Coseley, on Thursday, the 22nd day of February, 1865, at six for seven o'clock in the evening precisely.

Lot 1. All that commodious and well-accustomed Old Licensed Public House, known by the sign of the GATE HANGS WELL, situate in Mamble Square (near the Church), at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, and in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Jeavons*. The house, which has a frontage to the road of 36 feet 8 inches, contains parlour, tap room, bar, back kitchen, pantry, large club room, three bed rooms, and has three good cellars, brewhouse, malt room, and other appurtenances. Two lodges hold their meetings here. And also all that convenient parcel of Garden Land, adjoining to and occupied with the said public house, and having a frontage to the road of 41 feet 4 inches, with the walling and outbuildings erected thereon, which have been for eighteen years in the occupation of the current tenant, comprise an area of 557 square yards or thereabouts, and produce an annual rental of £18 14s....."

London Gazette 14/5/1867

"*Thomas Jeavons*, in furnished lodgings at the GATE HANGS WELL INN, Mamble-square, Coseley, in the county of Stafford, out of business, and previously of the same place, Licensed Victualler, and also part of the time of the Bloxwich Colliery, Bloxwich, in the said county of Stafford, Royalty Master, and other part thereof of the same place, Colliery Manager, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in Her Majesty's Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, on the 10th day of May, 1867, is hereby required to surrender himself to Owen Davies Tudor, Esq., a Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 24th day of May instant, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, at the said Court, at Birmingham. Mr. George Kinnear, of Waterloo-rooms, Waterloo-street Birmingham, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. R. Duke, of Birmingham, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy."

Birmingham Daily Post 18/9/1867 - Advert

“The GATE HANGS WELL, Mambles Square, Coseley, Under A Bill Of Sale, on Friday next, September 20. Mr. Thomas Skidmore will Sell by Auction, positively without reserve – the whole of the Public House Effects, on the Premises, the GATE HANGS WELL, Mambles Square, Coseley, near Deepfields Station; comprising 10 capital Cooperage-made Barrels, from 36 to 200 gallons; 12-bushel Mash Tub, pair Vats, oval Coolers, gathering and cooling Tubs, 4-pull Ale Machine and Piping, Benches, Drinking Tables, set Jugs, Cups, Ale and Spirit Measures; also the Household Furniture, Bedsteads, Paillasses, feather Beds, Sofas, mahogany Tables, 8-day Clock, Bureau, Chimney Glass, Fenders, Fireirons, with other useful Kitchen Requisites, &c, &c.
Sale punctually at Eleven o’clock a.m.
Catalogues at the Offices of the Auctioneer, 2, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.”

GATE HANGS WELL

7, Pear Tree Lane, Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

Matilda Sheldon, out of business, Roseville, Coseley

LICENSEES

Henry Carter [1869] – **1871**);
William Carter (**1871 – 1873**);
David Walters (**1873 – 1874**):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 20/5/1869

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, before the Stipendiary (Mr. I. Spooner), *Henry Carter*, chartermaster, and landlord of the GATE HANGS WELL INN, Coseley, was charged with paying £4 6s 6d wages to James Adams, a butty of Cinderhill, in that public house. Mr. Turner prosecuted, and Mr. Langman defended.
Complainant said that on the 17th April defendant paid him the amount named just outside the door of his house, ‘but on the premises,’ on the defendant’s flags. In cross examination, Adams said that he had brought the proceedings against *Carter*, who, he said, had ‘sacked me because I would not go and spend my money in the public-house.’ It was not on account of a dispute in reference to who should find powder for the work in the pit.
Complainant’s brother, who was called to corroborate witness, said, in cross examination, that he was in partnership with Adams under *Carter*, and that they left him because of a question as to who should find powder.
On behalf of the defendant witnesses were then called, and deposed that the money was paid to complainant in the hovel of the pit, and not at the public house.
The Stipendiary, in giving judgment, said that the case was under a very valuable Act of Parliament, and one which might be made more useful if it was put in force more extensively. It was to secure the payment of a man’s wages in money, and to prevent a master compelling his workmen to lay out a certain part of his wages in drink at a public house. It enacted that for such an offence a person should be liable to a penalty not exceeding £10, and not less than £5. It also provided that any wages or money paid at a public house could be recovered by the person receiving it, as if they had not been paid. His judgment was that the payment was made in the public house, and he should fine the defendant the lowest penalty, that of £5, but he questioned whether or not he ought to impose the higher amount.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/6/1870 - Advert

“Found, on the 24th, at Coseley, a brown Spaniel Bitch, with white breast. If not owned in three days will be sold to pay expenses. Apply, Mr. *Carter*, GATE HANGS WELL, Coseley, near Bilston.”

1871 Census

7, Pear Tree Lane

- [1] *William Carter* (21), unmarried, miner, born Princes End;
- [2] *Mary A. White* (25), housekeeper, born Llangollen, Wales;
- [3] *William Cook* (25), lodger, miner, born Dudley:

David Walters was convicted on 30th May 1873 for permitting gaming.

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1873

“Mr. *David Walters*, landlord of the GATE HANGS WELL INN, Coseley, was charged with having suffered gambling in his house, and was fined £2 and costs. Police-constable Leason proved that at ten o'clock at the night of the 22nd of May, he found two men playing at ‘knock penny’ in defendant’s house.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

“Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court..... The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent McCrea presenting his annual ‘black list.’ In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act. The names of the offending beerhouse keepers were..... *David Walters*, GATE HANGS WELL..... The committee stated that the licenses of all the persons contained in the ‘list’ would be suspended until the adjourned licensing sessions, to be held on the 26th proximo.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions. These Sessions were held yesterday..... There were in the list of applicants two more names, those of Caroline Oakley, CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Lower Gornal; and *David Walters*, GATE HANGS WELL, Coseley; but these licenses were not renewed because the parties did not appear in Court to answer their names.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/12/1873

“Yesterday, at the Bilston Petty Sessions, before the Stipendiary, David Evans, landlord of the YEW TREE public house, Coseley, was convicted of permitting drunkenness in his house on the 2nd inst, and was fined £2. *David Walters*, landlord of the GATE HANGS WELL, Coseley, was charged with a similar offence on the 6th. Mr. Fellows defended. Sergeant Harrison, in proving the offence, said that he saw a drunken man come out of the house, and on entering found a second there. Mr. Fellows admitted that the men were drunk; but pleaded that they had been in the house only a short time, and that the drink was not supplied to them, but to a companion. The Stipendiary remarked that the defendant was convicted in June for permitting gambling, and he seemed to be utterly setting the law at defiance. Drunkenness was a disease whose evil he could not too much magnify, it was worse than a plague. His worship should fine the defendant £10 and costs, and order his license to be endorsed. *Walters* had had a narrow escape of being fined £20.”

The license was taken away on 25th September 1874.

Birmingham Daily Post 28/8/1875

“Yesterday, there was an annual Licensing meeting for the Bilston Petty Sessional Division, at the local Police Court..... Applications were then made for new licenses..... Mr. James Onions, the GATE HANGS WELL, Wallbrook, desired a license to sell spirits, to be drunk on the premises. His application was supported by Mr. Waterhouse, who explained that for many years the house had been old licensed, but had been disqualified last year, the then tenant having been twice convicted. Inspector Harrison deposed that the house was over 200 yards distant from any licensed premises, and that new buildings were being erected near the GATE HANGS WELL. Mr. Ward: I think there are many licenses which might be taken away with advantage.”

GATE HANGS WELL +

COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Grainger [1869] – [1870]

NOTES

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court..... The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year. Open During prohibited Hours *Samuel Grainger*, GATE HANGS WELL, 1s and costs.”

GEORGE AND DRAGON

104, (105), Broad Lanes, (Lady Moor Road), COSELEY

OWNERS

John Baugh, basket maker, Wednesbury
Edward Potts, licensed victualler, Broad Lanes, Bilston
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1903]
Innspring plc [2000]

LICENSEES

Letitia Adderley [1828] – [1830]
Benjamin Adderley [1834] – [1842]
Bailey [1842]
Thomas Shaw [1851] – [1854]
William Millership [1862]
Henry Millership [1861] – **1866**;
William Wootton (**1866** – [])
William Clift [1871]
Edwin Newton [1872] – [1874]
Joseph Rudge [];
Edwin Newton [] – **1877**);
Harriet Coley (**1877** – **1878**);
John Hand (**1878**);
Joseph Dickin (**1878** – **1880**);
Richard Wild (**1880** – **1885**);
Thomas Robinson (**1885** – **1890**);
John Clews (**1890** – **1891**);
James Robinson (**1891**);
Joseph Bunce (**1891** – **1893**);
Richard Wilde (**1893** – **1894**);
John Hassall (**1894** – **1895**);
Samuel Ratcliff (**1895** – **1896**);
John Spencer (**1896** – **1897**);
William Swan (**1897** – **1903**);
John Bate (**1903** – **1904**);
Joseph Smith (**1904** – **1907**);
Ellen Smith (**1907** – **1911**);
George Frederick Liddiatt (**1911** – **1926**);
John Henry Swan (**1926** – **1930**);
Thomas Wilkinson (**1930** – **1938**);
George Henry White (**1938** – [1940])
John Stockton [1985]
Jovan Lazic [2001]
Balwinder Singh Thukral and Robert Boyle [2005]

NOTES

105, Broad Lane [1871], [1891], [1901]
104, Broad Lanes [1881], [1939], [2001], [2012]

OLD GEORGE AND DRAGON [1851]

It was known locally as “The Clog”.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/6/1842 - Advert

“House and Land, at Broad Lanes, near Bilston.

To be Sold by Auction at Mr. *Bailey*'s, the GEORGE AND DRAGON public house, Broad Lanes, in the parish of Sedgley.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1846

“An inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on Monday last, at the GEORGE AND DRAGON, Ladymoor, on the body of William Jewitt, a lad about thirteen years old, whose death was caused by an explosion of sulphur, while making a culvert in the hollow of a coal pit t Ettingshall. The deceased and his master were both badly burnt; they had gone into the place with lighted candles, not considering there was danger, although the safety lamp had been previously used. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/4/1848

“On Saturday last as John Smith, about 31 years of age, was at work throwing down coals in a pit in Capponfield Colliery, about seven or eight tons suddenly fell upon, and crushed him to death. He was one of the doggies in the pit. An inquest was held on his body yesterday (Tuesday), at the GEORGE AND DRAGON, at Broad Lane, Bilston, before W. W. Ward, Esq, coroner, acting for T. M. Phillips, Esq, when the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Henry Millership = Henry Milership

1861 Census

Broad Lane

- [1] *Henry Millership* (42), inn keeper, furnace man, born Tipton;
- [2] Eliza Millership (37), wife, born Ettingshall;
- [3] Sarah Millership (16), daughter, born Broad Lane, Sedgley;
- [4] Josiah Millership (13), son, born Daisy Bank, Sedgley;
- [5] John Millership (11), son, born Daisy Bank, Sedgley;
- [6] Ann Smith (45), boarder, born Ettingshall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/1/1868 - Advert

“To Let, that capital Old-licensed House, the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston. Incoming £40. Rent £25. Apply, Francis Payton, Auctioneer, 1, High Street, Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/10/1870

“Last night an inquest was held by Mr. Phillips, Coroner, at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston, on the body of John Newton, aged 60 years, who was found dead in the ‘sump’ at the bottom of Mr. Bagnall’s pit at Bradley, on Sunday night, with one of his legs broken, it is supposed by the water barrel striking against it.

Jane Lewis stated that deceased had lodged with her for two years, and on the previous Saturday he was tipsy, and lay down during the day. In the evening he went to his work.

Thomas Mason, engineer, said Newton’s duty was to pump in the pit; and it was part of his (witness’s) work to go down in order to see that the pumps were all right. The pit was 150 yards deep, and the stable was 15 yards from the bottom of it. When deceased went to his work he seemed all right, and was not tipsy, but he had two bottles with him, in each was about a quart of beer. Before he left the pit he saw deceased feed the horses, and he left him sitting down upon a bench which was about six yards from the bottom. It was deceased’s custom to go up at one o’clock, and there was a wire down the shaft, and a clapper, so that he could communicate with the engineer if he desired. There was communication between this pit, which was used as a pumping pit, and the coal pit. He had no communication with the deceased that night, and did not call to him in the morning, as he did not feel alarmed as he gave no signal. He could not account for the accident in any way. He was in the company of deceased at about half-past eight on Saturday evening, when he fetched him from a public-house belonging to Mrs. Briarwood, in Hall Street. There were five of them in the house, and they had three pints between them. He had known deceased be down the pit four or five turns together. It was the duty of deceased to see to the pumps and pipes, and if they were not all right he was to signal the engineer. Peter Westwood said that on Sunday night he was asked to go down the pit by the chartermaster to see if he could find deceased. He found his billycock, and a little bottle lying by the side of it. He saw there one bottle full of ale, another bottle, and a basket containing victuals, which were scarcely touched. He found deceased’s body amongst the ‘sump’ with a rake, with his left leg broken. He appeared to have been crushed by the cage. The ‘sump’ was fenced round, and in order for Newton to have got in he must have been asleep, and fallen in under the fence.

Several other witnesses were called, from whose statements it appeared that deceased was, in all probability, drunk on the day when he was last seen alive.

Police-constable Parsons said he happened to be near the two pits referred to at nearly two o’clock on Sunday morning, and he heard the clapper ringing of the pit next to the one in which the deceased was found. He went to see what was the matter, and he could not find the engineer, after which he went to Mr. Harris, the chartermaster.

Mr. Harris said the fact of the man being away from his post could not possibly have had to do with the deceased being killed.

The Coroner said he was of opinion that the proper course for the jury would be to return an open verdict, but at the same time he thought there was no doubt that there had been neglect on the part of the engineman. However, it was not proved that the neglect was the cause of death, or he should most assuredly have directed them to return a verdict of Manslaughter. He believed that, according to the colliery rules, the man was liable to be fined for his neglect of duty. The agent of the colliery endorsed this statement, and said that proceedings would be taken against him.

The jury returned an Open Verdict.”

1871 Census

105, Broad Lanes

[1] *William Clift* (43), widower, publican, born Oldbury;

[2] Edith Clift (19), daughter, born Oldbury;

[3] Mary Johnson (25), domestic servant, born Bilston:

London Gazette 15/2/1878

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by John Smith [?], of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad-lanes, in the county of Stafford, dealing as a Licensed Victualler.

Notice is hereby given, that a General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of Mr. William Bowen, Solicitor, Mount Pleasant, Bilston, on the 28th day of February, 1878, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 9th day of February, 1878.

Wm. Bowen, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Joseph Dickin = Joseph Dicken

Birmingham Daily Post 31/10/1878 - Advert

“Dog. Lost, a white Scotch Terrier; ears on, short tail; answers to the name of Spot.

Finder rewarded on bringing it to *Joseph Dicken*, GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston. If kept after this notice will be prosecuted.”

London Gazette 20/8/1880

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Staffordshire, holden at Walsall.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Joseph Dicken*, now of 82, Stafford-street, Wednesbury, in the county of Stafford, out of business, formerly of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, near Bilston, in the said county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

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 Mr. Robert Radnall Rhodes, Solicitor, 53, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford, on the 2nd day of September, 1880, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 17th day of August, 1880.

Robt. R. Rhodes, 53, Queen-street, Wolverhampton, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Dudley Herald 21/8/1880

“A petition was filed on Tuesday, in the Walsall County Court, by *Joseph Dicken*, of 82, Stafford Street, Wednesbury, out of business, but formerly of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, near Bilston, in the county of Stafford, licensed victualler. The liabilities are estimated at £300. The assets are not stated. Mr. Robert R. Rhodes of Queen Street, Wolverhampton, is solicitor to the debtor.”

Richard Wild = Richard Wyld = Richard Wilde

Richard Wilde brewed his own beer.

1881 Census

104, Broad Lanes

[1] *Richard Wyld* (29), licensed victualler, born Bilston;

[2] Roshannah Wyld (28), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] Eliza Wyld (6), daughter, born West Bromwich;

[4] James Wyld (3), son, born West Bromwich;

[5] Maria Wyld (1), daughter, born Bilston;

[6] Ann Jones (17), general servant, born Sedgley:

London Gazette 30/10/1883

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Richard Wild*, of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad-lane, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler.

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. Jackson and Sharpe, Solicitors, situate in High-street, Westbromwich, in the county of Stafford, on the 13th day of November, 1883, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 26th day of October, 1883.

Jackson and Sharpe, Heath-chambers, Westbromwich, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/3/1890

“*Thomas Robinson*, late of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston, now residing at a house near the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN aforesaid, late a publican, now out of business. Deed of composition, dated 21st, and filed March 25, which provides for the payment to creditors of 7s 6d in the pound; payable 2s 6d on execution hereof, 2s 6d on June 24, and 2s 6d on September 24, the last two instalments secured. The unsecured liabilities are £1,172 11s 7d.”

Thomas Robinson – see also CHURCH, Bilston, and PLOUGH, High Street, Bilston.

1891 Census

105, Broad Lanes – GEORGE AND DRAGON

[1] *John Clews* (56), widower, publican, born Walsall Wood;

[2] Clara Baldwin (28), servant, housekeeper, born Walsall Wood:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/5/1891 - Advert

“To Let, old-licensed Inn, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Broad Lanes, Bilston; good business, and satisfactory reason for leaving. Immediate possession.

Apply, *James Robinson*, GEORGE AND DRAGON, Broad Lanes, Bilston.”

Walsall Advertiser 3/12/1892 - Advert

“Valuable Old-Licensed Public-House, situate in Broad Lanes, Bilston (close to Coseley Road Station, G.W.R.).

To be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood, at the GLOBE HOTEL, Bilston, in the County of Stafford, on Monday, the 19th day of December, 1892, at Seven o’clock in the evening (subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).

All that Full-Licensed Public-House known as the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston, situate fronting the road leading from Bilston to Deepfields, and now occupied by the Cannock Brewery Company, or their under-tenant, Mr. *Joseph Bunce*, as yearly tenants, at a rental of £25. The house contains tap room, smoke room, parlour, kitchen, brewhouse, with malt room over, 4 bed rooms, pigstyes, and other outbuildings, and the site of the building cover an area of 330 square yards or thereabouts.

There is a large enclosed yard, and the premises are supplied with South Staffordshire water.

For particulars, apply to the Auctioneers, Bridge Street, Walsall; or to Messrs. S. Pearman & Sons, Solicitor, Bridge Street, Walsall.”

Walsall Advertiser 24/12/1892

“On Monday evening last, Messrs. Watkins, Powell, and Wood sold by auction at the GLOBE HOTEL, Bilston, the full licensed public house known as the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lane, Bilston, now in the occupation of the Cannock Brewery Company as a yearly tenants at a rental of £25. The house, which is in a very dilapidated condition, contains tap-room, smoke-room, parlour, kitchen, brewhouse, and malt room, four bedrooms and outbuildings. Biddings commenced at £200, and the property was sold for £390. Messrs. S. Pearman-Smith and Sons were acting as solicitors to the vendors.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/10/1894

“Bankruptcy Proceedings.....

Re *Thomas Robinson*, licensed victualler, Shale Street, Bilston.

A meeting of the creditors was held at the Official Receiver’s office, Wolverhampton, yesterday.

Liabilities £356 18s 7d, and assets £3 4s 9d.

The debtor was an engine-driver until 1883, when he became tenant of the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston, having borrowed £100 from his brother. He left in 1888 owing £1,800, and the creditors agreed to accept a composition of 7s 6d in the pound. The bankrupt afterwards took to the CHURCH INN, High Street, Bilston, and subsequently the PLOUGH INN, High Street, Bilston, but gave up possession to a brewery company, and subsequently filed his petition. His failure was, he said, due to want of capital, bad trade, and bad debts.

The estate was left in the hands of the Official Receiver.”

Samuel Ratcliff = Samuel Ratcliffe

1901 Census

105, Broad Lanes

[1] *William Swan* (38), publican, born Bilston;

[2] Alice Swan (38), wife, born Gloucestershire;

[3] John Henry Swan (10), son, born Priestfield;

[4] George Edwin Swan (4), son, born Priestfield;

[5] Alice Maud Swan (2), daughter, born Ladymoor;

[6] (Baby) Swan (under 1 month), daughter, born Ladymoor;

[7] Counce Hinds (18), domestic servant, born Priestfield:

William Swan – see also TRUMPET, Bilston.

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/2/1904

“Wolverhampton County Court, before his Honour Judge Roberts.

An application was made for the discharge in bankruptcy of *Thomas Robinson*, formerly a licensed victualler at Bilston. Mr. Page, Official Receiver, said the debtor failed in 1894 with debts £356 and assets only £2 10s. He had borrowed money to take to the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston, and after selling his stock, &c for £120, offered the creditors 7s 6d in the pound, which was accepted. He then took another house with borrowed money. He disposed of that, and subsequently speculated with other public houses while he was insolvent, and incurred other debts until compelled to file his petition. His Honour held that it was a bad case of bankruptcy, and said that if after twelve months the debtor satisfied him that he had made a bona fide attempt to earn his living in a business-like way he might apply again for his discharge. He dismissed the present application.”

1911 Census

104, Broad Lanes – GREEN [sic] DRAGON INN

[1] Joseph Smith (25), inn keeper, born Coseley;

[2] John Smith (31), brother, brewers assistant, born Coseley:

1939 Register

104, Broad Lanes

[1] *George H. White*, date of birth 11/6/1875, publican, married;

[2] *Mary Ann White*, dob 1/7/1880, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Violet M. (White) Hipkins*, dob 7/12/1913, unpaid domestic duties, single;

[4] *George F. White*, dob 25/11/1915, builder’s carpenter and joiner, single;

[5] *Clarice Ivy (White) Phillips*, dob 5/4/1919, stenographer (boiler maker), single;

It closed in 1991.

It reopened in 1997.

It was renamed the CLOG in 2008.

[2009]

Closed [2011], [2012]

Andrew & Ashwell Catalogue (2012)

“The CLOG, 104 Broad Lanes, Bilston, West Midlands, WV14 0RH.

An established 2 storey public house with basement cellarage, together with various single storey rear outbuildings, which provide additional storage and toilet facilities. The first floor provides living accommodation with two bedrooms.

235 Sq M (2,527 sq ft). £95,000.”

It was converted into a shop [2013]

GOLDEN LION

Old Green, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Clemson [1842]

NOTES

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/8/1933

“Staffordshire Compensation Authority at their principal meeting at Stafford yesterday refused to renew the licences of a number of houses referred to them on the ground of redundancy. In these cases only formal application for renewal was made. The houses to go for compensation are.....

GOLDEN LION, Coseley.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/1/1934

“County Licensing Report. At the supplementary meeting held on October 7, the Committee fixed compensation as follows.....
GOLDEN LION, Coseley, beerhouse, £1,425.”

GOOD INTENT

21, (28), (27+28), Vale Street, (Park Street), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Benjamin Nicholls, beerhouse keeper, Vale View
Elizabeth Nicholls, widow
Hannah Watton, spinster, Wolverhampton
Samuel Nicholls, coal dealer, Upper Gornal
Elizabeth Nicholls, widow
John Turner
Henry Ward
Frederick William Jones, gentleman, New Oxley, Wolverhampton
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd. (acquired in 1937)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Avebury Taverns [1998]
David Mitchinson

LICENSEES

Benjamin Nicholls [1851]
Samuel Nicholls [1871] – 1884);
Joseph Nicholls (1884 – 1892);
Joseph Harper (1892 – 1899);
John Turner (1899 – 1919);
Henry Ward (1919 – 1932);
Emma Ward (1932 – 1933);
Leonard Ward (1933 – 1936);
Victor Harold Freeman (1936);
Bert Jones (1936 – 1937);
Harold Guest (1937 – 1974);
Gemma Guest (1974 – 1976);
Alan Smith (1976 – 1977);
George Joseph Dowling (1977 – 1978);
Veronica Shiels Dowling (1978 – 1986);
Christine Witton (1986 – 1990);
Bryan Douglas Bayley (1990 – 1992);
Peter Jackson (1992 – 1994);
Maurice Gerald Davey (1994 – 1998);
Kerry Ealing (1998);
Thelma Truett (1998 – 1999);
Andrew Philip Sharples (1999 – 2000);
Bernadette Christina Flannery (2000 – []
Ken and Dinah McGaghey [2002]
Bob Edmiston (2005 – []

NOTES

27+28, Park Street [1871]
27+28, Vale Street [1881]
28, Vale Street [1901], [1911]
21, Vale Street [1939], [1940]

It was built in 1820 as a terrace of three houses.

It had a small brewery at the rear.

It had a beerhouse license.

Benjamin Nicholls = Benjamin Nichols

1851 Census

Ruiton

- [1] *Benjamin Nichols* (57), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Maria Nichols (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Benjamin Nichols (19), son, chain maker, born Sedgley;
- [4] Henry Nichols (17), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Nichols (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Simon Nichols (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Hatton (12), daughter in law, scholar, born Sedgley:

Samuel Nicholls = Samuel Nichols

1871 Census

27+28, Park Street

- [1] *Samuel Nichols* (53), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Nichols (49), wife, housewife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Benjamin Nichols (26), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Emma Nichols (17), daughter, serves in house, born Sedgley;
- [5] Samuel Nichols (15), son, serves at house, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Joseph Nichols* (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] James Nichols (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Eliza Nichols (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Henry Nichols (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

1881 Census

27+28, Vale Street – GOOD INTENT

- [1] *Samuel Nicholls* (63), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Nicholls (59), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Benjamin Nicholls (36), son, general labourer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Joseph Nicholls* (23), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [5] James Nicholls (21), son, carter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Eliza Nicholls (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Henry Nicholls (15), son, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 16/4/1881

“Desirable Freehold Property at Upper Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Richards will offer for Sale by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Samuel Nicholls*, the GOOD INTENT INN, at Upper Gornal, on Tuesday, the 26th day of April, 1881, at six o’clock in the evening.

Lot 1. All that Freehold Beerhouse and Premises situate in Vale Street, Upper Gornal, aforesaid, known by the sign of the GOOD INTENT INN, in the occupation of Mr. *Samuel Nicholls*, with the 5 Cottages, numbered 23 to 27 both inclusive, adjoining, in the occupations of Smith, Payton, Bradley, and Nicholls, together with the 2 Brewhouses, 3 Nail Shops, Stable, Piggeries, Yard, and large Gardens, the whole occupying a site of 2,760 square yards or thereabouts. Annual rental, £39 13s 4d.”

Joseph Nicholls = Joseph Nichols

Birmingham Daily Post 22/4/1890

“Yesterday, at the Sedgley Police Court – before Mr. Neville (stipendiary magistrate) – *Joseph Nicholls*, the GOOD INTENT, Upper Gornal, was charged with mixing 14lb of sugar with ninety-eight gallons of wort to increase the weight and gravity of the same, after an account had been taken of them by an officer of Inland Revenue. Mr. Barradale prosecuted for the Crown, and Mr. Tinsley defended.

Mr. Henry Garland, supervisor, Dudley, said the defendant only entered in his book malt to be brewed. No sugar was mentioned, and witness had never known him enter sugar. On January 27 he called at the place and saw two vessels in which worts were placed. A second fermentation seemed to be set up, and witness tasted the mixture. He then called Mrs. *Nicholls*, the landlady, and in her presence took samples.

By Mr. Tinsley: If the case was proved the revenue would be defrauded of about 1s 6d.

Mr. James Cameron, FTC, Somerset House, said the samples gave 14.88 per cent of sugar, and 21.76 per cent of sugar, showing that 7lb of sugar at least had been added to each of the samples taken by Mr. Garland.

By Mr. Tinsley: It was not malt sugar, but 'invert' sugar, which meant cane sugar acted upon. For the defence Mr. Tinsley complained that he could not put the defendant or his wife into the box. He was, however, instructed to say that no sugar had been added to the worts. The evidence against *Nicholls* was purely scientific, and there might be circumstances which altered the gravity of the worts. The slight divergence in the chemist's evidence was in the defendant's favour, and he should have the benefit of it. It was no use keeping the fact back that the defendant had been previously convicted, but that had been a lesson to him.

The Stipendiary said he often felt sorry for men coming before him on charges of drunkenness when they had had but little beer. If publicans would brew good beer there would be less drunkenness and better health among the working classes. The fraud was small, but the Government evidently thought heavy penalties should be placed upon brewers because of the mischief done. A fine of £25 was inflicted."

1891 Census

Vale Street

[1] *Joseph Nichols* (33), publican, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Sarah Nichols (36), wife, born Upper Gornal;

[3] Sarah Nichols (5), daughter, scholar, born Upper Gornal;

[4] Elizabeth Nichols (3), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[5] Vellory Lloyd (44), unmarried, sister in law, living on her own means, born Upper Gornal:

Dudley Herald 22/10/1898

"At Sedgley Police Court on Monday, *Joseph Harper*, landlord of the GOOD INTENT beerhouse, Vale Street, Upper Gornal, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on October 10th. He was further charged with selling intoxicating ales to a drunken person. Mr. Turton prosecuted on behalf of the Chief Constable.

Defendant, upon being charged, said, 'I wasn't aware the man was drunk – he was very quiet.'

Mr. Turton said that on the date named PC Bayley visited defendant's house and in the tap-room he found a man named Joseph Bagley in a helpless state of drunkenness. A conversation took place between the officer and defendant's wife, who said she had ordered the man to leave the house and said he had only been there a little over an hour. He would be able to prove that in consequence of the drink supplied by defendant or his servant, the man Bagley got drunk in the house. He described it as a serious offence against the licensing laws and suggested that exemplary punishment was necessary to put a check to such offences.

PC Bayley said that on October 10th he visited the GOOD INTENT about 2.30 in the afternoon. In the tap-room he saw a man named Joseph Bagley in a state of intoxication. The man was able to speak, but could not speak very clearly. Witness said 'Bagley, you're drunk?' The man replied 'I'm all right. As well as could be.' Bagley had got a pint jug on the table before him and drank from it several times whilst witness was in the room. Witness then called defendant's wife and told her the man was drunk and asked her how she accounted for it. She said, 'Yes, he is drunk. I have ordered him out several times.' She also said 'My husband told him to go before he went to lie down.' Witness asked how long the man had been in the house and she said 'Well, it may be a little over an hour.' She then ordered Bagley out and he staggered out, but in consequence of his incapable condition the man had to be taken to the police station at Sedgley.

PC Ray corroborated this evidence. He was in company with PC Bayley and saw the man Bagley very drunk. The landlady said the man had been in the house about an hour.

Arthur Hickman, labourer, Upper Gornal, said that he was in the GOOD INTENT public house on the Monday morning in question. The man Bagley came in about 12 o'clock and paid for two pints of ale. On his request witness took a horse and cart to Bagley's premises.

The Bench fined defendant 40s and costs for permitting drunkenness, and also ordered him to pay the costs for selling ale to a drunken man.

Joseph Bagley was then charged with being drunk on licensed premises, and fined 10s and costs."

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/9/1899

"Bilston Police Court Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

Joseph Harper, of the GOOD INTENT INN, Upper Gornal, who had been fined for permitting drunkenness, was warned, and his licence renewed."

John Turner, beer retailer, Ruiton. [1896], [1912]

1901 Census

28, Vale Street – GOOD INTENT

[1] *John Turner* (44), beer seller (brew), haulier, born Coseley;

[2] Jane Turner (44), wife, born Tipton;

[3] Annie Whitehouse (20), domestic servant, born Tipton:

1911 Census

28, Vale Street – GOOD INTENT

[1] *John Turner* (54), publican, born Coseley;

[2] Jane Turner (54), wife, married 16 years, born Tipton;

[3] Eliza Grainger (19), servant, born Upper Gornal:

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions GOOD INTENT, Upper Gornal, 1s 9½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/11/1932

“Midland Bankruptcies.

Henry Ward, residing at 45, Salop Street, Dudley, formerly a beerhouse keeper, but now of no occupation, lately residing at the GOOD INTENT INN, Vale Street, Upper Gornal, in the county of Stafford, and carrying on business at the same address as a beerhouse keeper. Court: Dudley. Debtor’s petition.”

Emma Ward died in 1933.

Harold Guest was married to Emmie.

1939 Register

21, Vale Street

[1] *Harold Guest*, date of birth 26/7/1900, motor lorry driver, heavy, married;

[2] *Emma Guest*, dob 6/11/1902, public house duties, married;

[4] *Betty N. (Guest) Rayner*, dob 9/4/1929, at school, single:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1944 - Advert

“Estate of F. W. Jones, Deceased.

Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Six Freehold Licensed Properties and Various Dwelling Houses, at Wall Heath, Pensnett, Wordsley, Lower Gornal & Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Monday, October 23, 1944, at 3.30 o’clock in the afternoon precisely, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced, as follows.

Lot 1. The PRINCE ALBERT INN, Wall Heath (Fully Licensed), situate in a bold corner of High Street and Enville Road, with good Draw-in and Car Park, and of modern construction.

Lot 2. The KINGS HEAD INN, Pensnett (Fully Licensed), situate at the corner of Commonside and Bromley Lane, with Draw-in, and occupying a large area of land.

Lot 3. The GLADSTONE INN, Audnam, Wordsley (Beerhouse On with Wine License), situate on an important main road from Brettell Lane to Kingswinford, and occupying a large area of land.

Lot 4. The GOOD INTENT INN, Vale Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse On), of modern construction, with Draw-in at side.

Lot 5. Corner Retail Shop and Two Dwelling-Houses, Nos.23, 25 & 27, Vale Street, Upper Gornal (adjoining the above Lot).

Lot 6. The SWAN INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal (Beerhouse On), occupying a Corner Position, with Draw-in.

Lot 7. Three Brick-Built and Slate-Roofed Dwelling Houses, Nos.76, 77, & 78, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, adjoining the above Lot, let and producing £38 14s gross per annum.

Lot 8. The NOAHS ARKS INN, Wood Street, Tipton, (Beerhouse On), with large area of land having approach from the rear.

Lot 9. Two Dwelling-Houses, Nos.51 & 52, Wood Street, Tipton, adjoining the above Lot, let and producing the gross annual rent of £31 17s 0d.

The Auctioneers direct attention to the foregoing Licensed Properties, which are all situate in good trading positions, they are let on lease for ten years from September 29, 1939, and should command attention of brewers and others looking for houses for post-war development.

Detailed particulars are in the course of preparation and, when ready, may be obtained of Messrs. W. A. and H. M. Foster and Co., Solicitors, 31, Queen Street, Wolverhampton (Tel. No.20215); or of the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (Tel. No.2256).”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/10/1944

“Property Market. . . .

By Messrs. Alfred W. Dando and Co., Dudley, at Wolverhampton.

Six licensed houses, let on lease to Messrs. Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd., for ten years from September 29, 1939, at a total rent of £1,100 a year, the PRINCE ALBERT INN, Wall Heath (fully licensed), £17,750; the KINGS HEAD INN, Commonside, Pensnett, near Dudley (fully licensed), £11,000; the GLADSTONE INN, Audnam, Wordsley (beerhouse-on with wine license attached),

£3,750; the GOOD INTENT INN, Vale Street, Upper Gornal (beer-house-on), £6,000; the SWAN INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal (beerhouse-on), and three houses Nos.76, 78, and 80, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, £2,750; the NOAHS ARK, Wood Street, Tipton (beerhouse-on), with two houses, 51 and 52, Wood Street, £5,750. The total realised by the sale was £47,650.”

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/3/1951

“Another Haul for Elusive Prowler.

Sedgley’s ‘featherfoot’ burglar, whose night prowlings have made residents demand police protection, got away with another £150 yesterday – from an upstairs bedroom in a public house.

As Mr. *H. Guest*, licensee of the GOOD INTENT INN, Upper Gornal, and his wife slept, the burglar entered the room and took the money from three beer glasses in which it was kept. The entire Easter takings vanished with ‘Featherfoot’ as Mrs. *Guest* awakened and screamed.

‘He broke a pane of glass in the back door and came up to the bedroom,’ Mr. *Guest* told the *Birmingham Gazette* last night. ‘My wife heard noises, saw I was still in bed, and then screamed. The burglar ran out leaving the door open, but he took with him the money which I’d hidden.’

Despite many complaints from householders and owners of business premises who have either been robbed or awakened by a prowler the police still have no clues.

‘We think it is all the work of the same person,’ said a police officer, ‘but there is little to go on.’

Meanwhile, in an all-out effort to catch the man, who is making all Sedgley cautious, police are appealing to the public for information.”

London Gazette 24/2/1997

“*Jackson, Peter* formerly of and formerly trading with another, at the GOOD INTENT, Vale Street, Upper Gornal, Dudley, West Midlands, as a Publican Date of Bankruptcy Order 12th February 1997.”

Ken McGaghey was married to Dinah.

Bob Edmiston disappeared, leaving behind a number of debts.

It closed in 2010.

GOSPEL END

Gospel End, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

John Hickman, timber merchant and licensee

LICENSEES

John Hickman [1861] – [1866]

Thomas Tilley Illiffe [1871] – [1872]

John Hickman Jnr. [1873] – 1877);

John Hickman Snr. (1877 – 1891):

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

John Hickman, the GOSPEL END INN, Gospel End. Supported by Mr. Waterhouse; opposed by Mr. F. A. Homer. Refused.”

John Hickman, retailer of beer, Gospel End. [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Waterhouse then applied on behalf of *John Hickman* for a license with respect to a house he had recently erected at Gospel End. No fresh license had been granted in the neighbourhood for twenty-six years, and during that time twenty-six new houses

had been put up. The license was granted.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/10/1866 - Advert

“Gospel End, Sedgley. Sale of Fat and Store Farming Stock.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 22nd day of October, at the GOSPEL END INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, the following valuable Fat and Store Stock belonging to Mr. *John Hickman*, Mr. Millard, and others, namely, 50 Capital Fat and Store Shropshire Down Ewes, 12 Prime Fat Ewes, 68 Excellent Yearling Shropshire Down Wethers, 3 Superior and well-bred Rams, 2 Fat lambs, 2 Capital In-Calf Cows, 1 Two-year-old Heifer, 31 Capital Store Pigs, 2 Sows and Two Pigs, 3 Prime Porket Pigs, 1 Capital Sow.

Particulars of the respective lots will be given in catalogues of sale to be distributed, and which may be obtained ten days prior to the sale, with any further information, upon the Premises, and from the Auctioneer, Dudley.

Sale to commence at 12 o'clock precisely.”

Thomas Iliffe = Thomas Iliff

1871 Census

Gospel End Road – GOSPEL END INN

[1] Thomas L. Iliff (48), innkeeper, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Catherine Iliff (40), wife, born Gnosall, Staffordshire;

[3] Sarah A. Iliff (7), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Annie Lees (15), domestic servant, born Burslem, Staffordshire:

The license was refused at the Licensing Meeting on 21st August 1891.

GRAND JUNCTION

1, High Holborn, (Dudley Road) / Tipton Street, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Thomas Marsh, Sedgley
Thomas Inkerman Chambers
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Punch Taverns [2006]

LICENSEES

Thomas Marsh [1851] – 1873);
George Beech (1873 – 1890);
Thomas Inkerman Chambers (1890 – 1893);
Phoebe Chambers (1893);
Maud Marion Burton (1893 – 1894);
Samuel Porter (1894 – 1912);
William Alfred Frazier (1912 – 1923);
Mabel Adelaide Frazier (1923 – 1925);
Thomas Davis (1925 – 1927);
Robert Turley (1927 – 1940);
Elsie Turley (1940 – 1941);
Arthur Edgar Jacobs (1941 – 1948);
Walter James Saunders (1948 – 1954);
Walter David Eades (1954 – 1956);
Jack Robinson (1956 – 1959);
George Edwin Cowell (1959 – []
Ben Russell [1980] – [1981]
Tom Farrar (1984 – [1987]
Carolyn May Blower [] – 1992);
Tyrone Steadman (1992 – 2002)

NOTES

Sedgley Heritage Trail (August 2019)

“The GRAND JUNCTION was built in Gornal stone and probably named after Stephenson’s railway that reached Birmingham from Crewe. In 1967 it was refurbished in the style of a railway carriage and is said to have sold 80 different types of whisky. It was a well-known pub until 2006. It is now a private dental practice but still retains its interesting yard with stables, pitching ring and coach house.”

Thomas Marsh was also a butcher. [1851], [1860], [1861], [1864], [1865], [1870]

1851 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Thomas Marsh* (22), butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Marsh (25), sister, dress maker, born Sedgley;
- [3] Daniel Marsh (14), brother, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [4] Richard Marsh (8), brother, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [5] Selina Marsh (11), sister, born Sedgley;
- [6] Eliza Rabould (18), house servant, born Sedgley;

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/8/1851

“The annual assembly of magistrates for granting victuallers’ licenses within the hundred of Seisdon North, took place on Thursday last, at the Magistrates’ Office, Bilston Street.....

There were thirty-six applications for new licenses, thirty of which were refused, and one deferred (that of Elisha White, Daisy Bank, Sedgley), and five granted, viz.....

Thomas Marsh, retail brewer, GRAND JUNCTION, Sedgley.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 24/3/1852 - Married

“Lately, at Sedgley Church, Mr. *T. Marsh*, of the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, to Mary, third daughter of the late Mr. Isaac Thompson, farmer of Lower Gornal.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/11/1853

“Mr. Fowler, a publican of Bridge Street, Bilston, for selling after licensed hours; and Mr. *Thomas Marsh*, the proprietor of the GRAND JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, for permitting drunkenness in his house, were, at the Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, each fined 40s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/5/1858 - Advert

“To Be Let, at Bunker’s Hill, Sedgley, three Cottages, containing Entrance Hall, Parlour, Sitting Room, and Kitchen, with Lock-up Yard. Rent £15 per annum.

Apply to Mr. *Marsh*, JUNCTION INN, Sedgley; or to A. Palmer, Builder, Willenhall.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Thomas Marsh* (32), butcher and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Marsh (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Hannah Jane Marsh (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] William H. Marsh (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary A. Marsh (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth Brittle (22), general servant, born Sedgley;

Hereford Times 26/10/1867

“On Thursday Wm. Clinton alias Trevor, of Birmingham, was brought up in custody, before G. C. Wicksted, Esq, charged with stealing from the saddle room of Mr. W. Mathews, of Chilton Farm, near this town, a saddle value £1. It appears that on Sunday afternoon the saddle was hung up in the saddle room by Mr. Mathew’s servant, who fastened the door, but about six o’clock the following morning the saddle was not to be found. It would appear that from seeing an account of a similar robberies in the *police gazette*, Sergeant Davies of the Dudley police was on the look out, and on the 21st inst. he saw prisoner in the shop of Mr. Chambers, a saddler of that town. On inquiry he found that the prisoner had been offering a saddle for sale. On being questioned as to how he came by the saddle, prisoner stated that it belonged to his brother-in-law, Mr. *Marsh*, who lived at the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, and who had commissioned him to sell it. The sergeant, after taking the prisoner to the station, hired a cab and signified his intention of fetching ‘Mr. *Marsh*’ to the station, whereupon prisoner admitted that there was no truth in his tale, and that he had stolen the saddle from Mr. W. Mathews, of Neen Savage. A communications was made to the police here, when Sergeant Collis went to Dudley, and succeeded in obtaining also from different places in the town, another saddle, belonging to W. Edmonds, of Overwood, and a set of harness value £3, belonging to Mr. Millward, of Baveny, near this town. The whole of the property having been identified by the several prosecutors, the prisoner (who has, until recently, been in the employ of Mr. W. Edmonds, of Overwood) was committed for trial on the three charges.”

[On 31st December 1867, at the Sessions, William Clinton, alias Trevor, pleaded guilty to ‘breaking and entering a

building within the curtilage and stealing therein' and was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.]

Dudley Herald 27/2/1869

"On Monday afternoon last, the members of Court 'Foresters Oak' No.4048 of that Ancient Order, assembled at the house of Mr. *Thomas Marsh*, GRAND JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, to partake of a dinner on the occasion of the removal of the Court from the house of Mr. Joseph Walker, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal to the above named house....."

1871 Census

1, High Holborn

- [1] *Thomas Marsh* (42), butcher and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Marsh* (45), wife, bar waiter, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] *Hannah Jane Marsh* (18), daughter, bar waiter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William Henry Marsh* (15), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary Alice Marsh* (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Myra P. J. Marsh* (9), daughter, born Sedgley;

Dudley Herald 19/8/1871

"Ancient Order of Foresters the members of Court No.4048 held at the house of Mr. *Thomas Marsh*, JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, had their annual dinner....."

George Beech = George Beach

George Beech issued tokens from here.

Dudley Herald 1/4/1876

"A shocking discovery was made on Wednesday, at a place known as Woodsetton, near Sedgley, which at first led to the suspicion that a cruel murder had been perpetrated on a child, whose dead body was found partly eaten away. It appears that a man named William Jordan was engaged by his master in scattering manure over a field at Woodsetton, close to the roadside of the Sedgley and Tipton turnpike road, a short distance from the late Bunker's Hill tollgate, and there found a dead child lying on the ground in such a shocking state that he scarcely knew what to do with it, as may well be imagined from the following description of its condition. The body had no covering whatever, and had partially been devoured by rats or other vermin. The body, which proved to be of a female child, lay at length on the ground, fully exposed to view, and without any attempt at concealment. It was placed not far from the side of the wall, in a part of the field which would not be much frequented. It was at once seen that the flesh of one shoulder and arm of the deceased had been lacerated by some animal's teeth, and nearly the whole of the flesh in those parts so eaten away as to show the naked bones. Around the thigh and hip the flesh was torn away in a similar manner and consumed. One of the arms appeared to have been broken by the teeth of some animal, and the face was so mutilated as to present the appearance of having been trodden upon or crushed. At the back of the head was a scalp wound evidently the result of a blow or dash, and at the place there appeared to be a presence of blood. An alarm was speedily given to the police, and Inspector Tomlinson is already causing diligent inquiries to be made with a view to unravelling the matter. A man named George Smith, a blast furnace-man, stated that when returning home from his employment at Tipton, at twelve o'clock on Sunday night, he saw a woman run away from the road near the place. Her head at the time was covered with a shawl. A man wearing a pilot jacket, was also seen by Smith loitering about, and this man halted his walk when he met Smith.

On Thursday afternoon, Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an inquiry at the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, as to the cause of death of the child. The Jury having viewed the body, heard the following evidence.

William Jordan, a gardener, of Tipton Street, stated that on Monday last, while engaged in a field for his master, he saw something strange, but did not go close to it, thinking it might be a dead young lamb. On Tuesday he was again in the field, and he then inspected the object and found what proved to be the dead body of a child lying on its side. It was quite naked, and no clothes were near, but he noticed a dirty piece of rag, which the police officers had now in their possession. He did not examine the body when he saw what it was, as 'he did not like the job.' It appeared as if it had been eaten in parts by rats, and the flesh of the shoulder and one arm being gone. The child was disfigured by some means, and witness had no suspicion how it got there, nor of anyone who was likely to dispose of it.

The Coroner said he had ordered a post mortem examination of the body to be made at once, before decomposition set in, Dr. Ballenden, who had made it, would now state the result.

Dr. Ballenden stated from appearances he should say about ten days had elapsed since the child was born. The body was much mutilated. He considered it a child of premature birth, and it had never breathed. There were indications that no medical man had been engaged at the birth, the child had no existence separate from its parent.

The Coroner explained that it was necessary to carry the inquiry further, so far as related to any suspicion of murder. It might, however, be case of concealment of birth.

Police-constable Parton produced the rag which was near the subject of the inquiry, but there was no mark on it other than dirty stains. The officer was told to take care of the rag, as it might be useful in case of other proceedings.

The jury returned a verdict that the child was stillborn, and found exposed in a field."

Birmingham Daily Post 11/5/1878 - Advert

"Eligible Freehold Property, situate in Bilston Street, Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the House of Mr. *George Beech*, the GRAND JUNCTION INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley, on Friday, the 28th day of May, 1878, at 6 o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

1881 Census

1, High Holborn – GRAND JUNCTION INN

- [1] *George Beach* (34), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sophia Beach* (34), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Bertha Goodman* (18), general servant, born Pensnett:

Dudley and District News 9/6/1883

“The annual dinner of the Woodsetton Football Club took place on Tuesday last at the GRAND JUNCTION INN, Sedgley. Upwards of thirty gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner which reflected most creditably on the host and hostess.....”

Dudley and District News 17/5/1884

“The annual dinner of the Woodsetton Football Club came off at the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday evening last. Between twenty and thirty sat down to an excellent repast, served in host *Beach*'s best style.....”

County Express 21/5/1887

“Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the GRAND JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, on Thursday concerning the death of Mrs. Hannah Church, aged 70 years, Tipton Street, Sedgley, who was found drowned at Turl's Hill. Mr. G. Church, timber merchant, son of deceased, said deceased was not healthy and suffered from nervous disability. Other evidence was given, and a verdict of Committed Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity was returned.”

1891 Census

JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Thomas I. Chambers* (33), licensed victualler, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] *Phoebe Chambers* (32), wife, born Harts Hill;
- [3] *Arnold Chambers* (10), son, scholar, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] *Frank Chambers* (9), son, scholar, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] *Wilfred Chambers* (4), son, scholar, born Coseley;
- [6] *Alma Madeline Chambers* (2), adopted daughter, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Annie Gripton* (19), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Thomas Inkerman Chambers was an ex-iron shingler.

His brother Sir Cornelius Chambers was chairman of Gaskell and Chambers.

He died of meningitis in 1893, aged 36.

Birmingham Daily Post 28/8/1893

“On Saturday, at the GRAND JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest relative to the death of a male child of a single young woman named Lillie Holtom (23), who is a cripple and an imbecile, and resides with her parents at No.4 Gate Street, Sedgley. It appears that the girl's family had no knowledge of her being enceinte. The Coroner commented upon the painful nature of the case, and the jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/10/1894 - Advert

“Public-House. Strong Girl Wanted.

Apply, JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, near Dudley.”

Dudley Herald 6/1/1900

“The War...

On Friday sen'night, a farewell supper and presentation was given by his friends at the GRAND JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, to James Edwards, a reservist, who is leaving to rejoin the 2nd Battalion Manchester Regiment. The presentation consisted of a meerschau pipe, and quantity of tobacco and cigars, and a sum of money. Mr. D. Price made the presentation.”

Dudley Herald 27/1/1900

“Joseph Walters, of Holyhead, but formerly of Sedgley, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, and also with assaulting the landlord, *Samuel Porter*, on December 14th. Mr. W. A. Foster presented the evidence, and Mr. J. B. Marson defended.

For the prosecution Mr. Foster stated that defendant was a Sedgley man. The circumstances of the case were short and simple, and he had no doubt that when the bench had heard the evidence they would have no difficulty in convicting. On the date of which the alleged offence was committed the attention of Mr. *Porter* was called by his daughter to a disturbance in the bar. On Mr. *Porter* entering he found defendant had violently struck a respectable man, named Carmel, three times in the face. Mr. *Porter* requested defendant to leave, at which the latter made use of very bad language and tried to trip Mr. *Porter*, who only saved himself by taking hold of the counter. Defendant had been requested to leave the premises several times, but refused to go. Mr. *Porter* went to fetch a police officer, and in the meantime defendant disappeared.

Samuel Porter, landlord of the JUNCTION INN, stated that on the date in question defendant, in company with several others, came to his house and was supplied with a quart of ale. He was taking some refreshments to the smoke room when his daughter made a communication to him in consequence of which he went into the bar and saw defendant and two or three companions there. He ordered defendant out of the house, but he refused to go. Having refused twice, defendant walked to Carmel and struck him. Witness then took hold of defendant and pulled him to the middle of the room, and again requested him to leave. Defendant again refused, and tried to throw witness down by tripping him. He prevented himself from falling by taking hold of the counter. He afterwards went for the police, but when he returned with Sergeant Moss defendant had gone.

John Carmel stated that on the date in question he was in the JUNCTION INN, and remonstrated with the defendant on the ill-treatment of a dog. He then struck witness three times. Mr. *Porter* ordered him to leave two or three times. After Mr. *Porter* came into the room, defendant struck witness, cutting his lip, which caused him to have four stitches in his lip, and also lost two teeth. Mr. *Porter* pulled him away, and then defendant tried to trip Mr. *Porter* up.

Sergeant Moss stated that on the date in question Mr. *Porter* came to the police station and made a complaint in consequence of which he went to the JUNCTION, but when he got there defendant had gone.

For the defence Mr. Marston pleaded that there was no refusal to quit, inasmuch that as soon as his client was at liberty he went, and with regard to the assault on the landlord all Walters did was to take hold of the landlord to prevent him falling down, when he was dragged into the middle of the room.

To corroborate this he called several witnesses, who all stated that the defendant left as soon as he could, and did not trip the landlord.

The case of refusing to quit was dismissed, and for the assault he was ordered to pay the costs.

Defendant was then charged with an assault on John Carmel at the same time and place. Defendant was fined 2s 6d and ordered to pay Carmel 10s compensation."

1901 Census

1, High Holborn

[1] *Samuel Porter* (58), publican, born Kingswinford;

[2] Martha Porter (65), wife, born Kingswinford;

[3] Agness Jane Porter (29), daughter, born Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia;

[4] Beatrice M. Porter (22), daughter, born Kingswinford;

[5] Betsey Turner (23), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/12/1905

"At the JUNCTION HOTEL, Sedgley, last night, the South Staffordshire Coroner (Mr. T. A. Stokes) held an adjourned inquest with respect to the death of Harriet Bowyer, aged thirteen months, the infant daughter of Augustine and Martha Bowyer, who reside in Kings Road.

The husband stated that on the night of December 6, he returned home at 8.20 and found the whole of the doors locked. After forcing his way into the house he discovered that it was full of gas. When the wife's bedroom door was forced open a large quantity of gas had accumulated and was found to be escaping from a pipe, a bracket having been torn down.

He then found the wife and child on the bed, the former being unconscious and the later dead.

His wife had been for a short time in an asylum, and had previously attempted suicide, while a recent illness of the child had considerably tried her.

The jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder while of Unsound Mind against Martha Bowyer, and she was committed by the Coroner to the Staffordshire Assizes."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/3/1906

"At the Staffordshire Assizes, yesterday, Martha Bowyer, the wife of a clerk, was found guilty of the murder of her thirteen months' old child, and ordered to be detained during his Majesty's pleasure."

Tipton Herald 29/5/1909

"An inquest was held at the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, on Monday afternoon, on the body of a man on whom it was necessary to make a post mortem examination. The coroner was Mr. T. A. Stokes.

It appeared that there were only two bedrooms in the house, which had been occupied by the deceased. Mr. R. A. Willcock pointed out that in the district of Sedgley there was not a mortuary, and he had been informed that the post mortem examination on the deceased man had been made in a small bedroom without any convenience whatever for such an operation. In his opinion some consideration should be shown the relatives – (hear, hear) – and nothing was more likely to grate on their feelings than a proceeding of this kind. At this time of day there should be a proper building in which post mortem examinations could be made, and he hoped those who represented Sedgley would take good care that some provision in this respect was made before the extreme heat of the summer, and that no post mortem examination would be made under such circumstances as the one in the present case.

Mr. W. A. Foster said they in Sedgley knew the importance of a public mortuary, but they had to recognise that Sedgley was a large and straggling parish. There had been some discussion as to whether there should be one mortuary or two or three mortuaries, and the question therefore resolved itself into one of expense. Sedgley was not the only district without a building of this description; in fact, outside of the large towns there were only three mortuaries in the whole of the coroner's district. It was all very well for Mr. Willcock to tell Sedgley people their business. They had humanitarian feelings towards relatives of deceased persons just as he had, but the matter was one largely of expense. Personally, he was anxious that a mortuary should be provided, and he would undertake to bring the subject to the notice of the District Council – (hear, hear).

The Coroner (Mr. T. A. Stokes) remarked that from time to time he had expressed his opinion on the subject of a mortuary at Sedgley. He believed there was some sort of jealousy respecting the matter between Sedgley and Upper and Lower Gornal; but it was a scandalous shame that in that densely populated district there should be no mortuary. It was not healthy to conduct examinations under the conditions which sometimes prevailed, and it was scarcely fair to ask medical men to make them. In some cases it was too disgusting for words; in fact, he believed the last post mortem examination that was made in that district the doctor engaged complained that the place was verminous. It was a matter entirely for the District Council, but he did hope after Mr. Foster's expression of opinion that something would be done to remedy the existing state of affairs. It was quite true that in the whole of his district, which extended from Kinver to Great Wyrley, there were only three mortuaries apart from the mortuaries at workhouses, but that scarcely exonerated Sedgley from making the provision suggested – (hear, hear).

Mr. Foster: Your recommendation shall have proper weight, and I will bring it before the District Council at the next meeting.....”

AND

“A workman named Benjamin Cole (37), of 16, School Street, Sedgley, died under somewhat singular circumstances late on Friday night. The deceased, who was a blast furnaceman in the employ of Alfred Hickman Limited, Spring Vale, finished work at 10.30 o'clock on Friday night, and boarded a tramcar for Sedgley at Millfields. During the journey a fellow workman called the attention of the conductor to Cole, who was riding on the top of the car. He seemed to be very ill, and the conductor spoke to an inspector concerning him. Later on PC Edwards was called to Cole, and he expressed the opinion that he was dead. When the car arrived at Sedgley the unfortunate man was carried into the surgery of Dr. Ballenden, who pronounced life to be extinct. The police then removed the body to the deceased's home in School Street, where a post mortem was made.

An inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the death was opened on Monday afternoon by Mr. T. A. Stokes (county coroner) at the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley.

Mr. R. A. Willcock appeared for the widow of the deceased man, and Mr. W. A. Foster represented the Wolverhampton and District Tramway Company.

At the outset of the inquest, the Coroner intimated that after taking evidence of identification he should adjourn the inquiry in order that he might communicate with the Board of Trade, the suggestion being that the man was electrocuted. He directed that the tramcar on which the man was found dead should remain at the depot till after the inspection by the Board of Trade representatives.

Ann Cole, the widow, said that her husband was in the employ of Alfred Hickman Limited, Bilston. She last saw him alive at dinner time on Friday, when he left home to go to work. The same night he was brought home dead. He was in good health when he went to work, and during the last fifteen years he had had only one week's sickness.

The inquest was then adjourned till June 11th.”

1911 Census

1, High Holborn

[1] *Samuel Porter* (68), widower, publican licensed victualler, born Pensnett;

[2] *Agnes Jane Porter* (39), daughter, house keeper, born Australia, resident;

[3] *Samuel Shilton Henshaw* (17), grandson, general clerk, born Halifax, Yorkshire;

[4] *Jemima Archer* (19), domestic servant, born Gornal:

South Staffordshire Times 16/7/1921

“Sedgley Petty Sessions..... Mr. A. M. Foster, of Wolverhampton, applied on behalf of Mr. *W. A. Frazier*, of the JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, for an occasional license on August Bank Holiday and the following day, on the occasion of the Sedgley and District Flower and Allotment Show. It was stated that the license had been granted before, and the licensee obtained no benefit from the sale of liquors, that going to the society. The license had not been granted during the war.

Supt. Higgs raised no objection, but said whatever was done by the committee, the licensee was responsible.

Mr. Foster explained that the law required the license be granted to the licensee and Mr. *Frazier* was ready to accept the responsibility.

The Chairman: The license will be granted, but the licensee is responsible for what occurs.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 1/11/1924

“Alfred Hickman (26), 31, King's Road, Sedgley, was summoned for being drunk on licensed premises.

Police evidence was given to the effect that defendant was, at 10pm, on October 24th, in a drunken condition, and using bad language on the GRAND JUNCTION INN, Sedgley. He was threatening to strike people with a glass. He came to the public house at 9.45pm, and when his condition was seen, drink was refused him.

Defendant said he was sorry for what had happened, but he had met a pal or two.

Defendant, who had been convicted before for a similar offence, was committed to prison for 14 days.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN

boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time. It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.
The Contributions JUNCTION INN, Sedgley, 9d.”
[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

1, High Holborn – GRAND JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Robert Turley*, date of birth 16/3/1891, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Elsie (Turley) Jesson*, dob 28/4/1892, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [4] *Charlotte S. Southall*, dob 16/7/1899, bar general, single:

Tom Farrar was married to *Marcia*.

It reopened in October 1967, after a £100,000 refurbishment.

Ben Russell was the brother of *Jack* (WHITE HORSE).

Tyrone Steadman was married to *Sue*.

A fire destroyed an annexe in November 2001.

It closed in 2006.

Express & Star 21/12/2007

“A string of traditional Black Country pubs will remain shut over Christmas because of a lack of landlords. At least five in Dudley alone have been hit by the shortage.

One in Willenhall stopped serving when the landlord suddenly walked out and another was forced to close by a family row. The DOG AND PARTRIDGE and BAR 148, formerly The TURKS HEAD, in Brierley Hill High Street are boarded up. The RED LION and The GRAND JUNCTION in Sedgley also remain shut with no-one to run what were popular pubs.

Marston’s, which owns The DOG AND PARTRIDGE and BAR 148, said it had to shut the pubs because of a shortage of licensees.

Another of its pubs, The BELL HOTEL in Market Street, Stourbridge, also remains closed. Campaign for Real Ale West Midlands area organiser Steve Thompson said, ‘It is a great shame that these pubs are sitting empty.’ Mr. Thompson said the main problems forcing licensees out were supermarkets selling low-priced alcohol and pub companies not allowing tenants to source their beers locally.....”

It was converted into a dentists’ surgery. [2009]

Express & Star 15/7/2015

“Sedgley has become a hive of Pokemon Go activity with a range of Poke Centres, gyms and Pokemon hotspots all in close proximity, ideal for players to level up.

The WHITE HORSE, The GRAND JUNCTION, The COURTHOUSE, the local Scout hut and Sedgley Library are all Poke Centres which offer the opportunity for players to collect Poke balls and other useful items quickly.”

GREEN DRAGON

50, (51+52), Kent Street, (52, Sheepcotwall), (Dudley Road), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joseph Round Cartwright, gentleman, Claverley

John Peacock

James Arthur Fullwood, Furlong House, Sedgley

Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1997]

LICENSEES

John Cartwright [1826] – [1861]

Richard Cartwright [1860] – 1865);
Joseph Wellings (1865 – [1871]
John Peacock [1872] – 1887);
James Walker and William Edward Tithern (1887);
James Arthur Fullwood (1887 – 1895);
John Waterfield (1895 – 1901);
Henry Addenbrooke Clarke (1901 – 1902);
John Rowe (1902 – 1903);
Herbert Harrison (1903 – 1907);
Herbert Green (1907 – 1909);
Mrs. Rachel Westwood (1909 – 1913);
Ruth Shingleton (1913 – 1914);
Thomas Salt (1914 – 1915);
Joseph William Homer (1915 – 1920);
Mrs. Sarah Homer (1920 – 1924);
George Spears (1924);
Frederick John Gash (1924 – 1927);
Edward Samuel Kimberley (1927 – 1931);
Howard Smith (1931 – 1940);
Mrs. Beatrice Alice (Smith) Williams (1940 – 1952);
William Blackford (1952 – 1958);
John Marsh (1958 – [1960]
Joanne Rowley [2000]

NOTES

Dudley Road [1851], [1861]
52, Sheepcotwall [1874]

It had a pigeon flying club.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/5/1826 - Advert

“Freehold At Gornal.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, at the house of *John Cartwright*, the sign of the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on Wednesday next, May 17, at five o'clock in the afternoon, the undermentioned Freehold Property, part of Pale Piece, in the village of Upper Gornal, and the parish of Sedgley, which will be offered in lots under the usual conditions.

Lot I. A roomy and convenient Dwelling House, with Nailshop and Garden adjoining thereto, in the occupation of Isaac Parker.

Lot II. Another Dwelling House, opposite the above lot, in the holding of Ambrose Gage.

Lot III. And eligible piece of Building Land, containing in front eighty yards, and the whole 504 square yards.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneer, or to Mr. Fellowes, Solicitor, both of Dudley.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/1/1830

“Staffordshire Assizes.....

Elisha Caddick, for stealing a saddle, the property of William Morris. The owner of the saddle had left it on the back of a pony whilst he went into the GREEN DRAGON, at Gornal, to drink some ale. On coming out, he found his pony had been stripped of the saddle, and in a little time afterwards it was found on the prisoner's back, about half-a-mile from the public house. The prisoner said, 'he had found the saddle,' and to support this assentation, a young woman named Hadon, who called herself 'a single woman,' but who appeared far advanced in pregnancy, swore that she was with the prisoner when he picked up the saddle; but the main part of her evidence was completely overturned by another witness. Guilty. To be imprisoned for 2 months; one week in solitary confinement.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 29/6/1835 - Advert

“Valuable Properties, at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, under the directions of the Trustees of the Will of the late John Fereday, Esq., of Cotwall End, on Tuesday the 14th day of July next, at the house of *John Cartwright*, the DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, at four o'clock in the afternoon, in suitable lots, under the usual conditions.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/5/1839

“Sedgley Operative Conservative Association. This association held their meeting at Mr. Whitehouse's, the KINGS ARMS, Princes End, on Tuesday evening. Mr. W. S. Naylor was called to the chair.....

The next meeting will be held at Mr. *John Cartwright's*, GREEN DRAGON INN, Gornal, on Tuesday.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/3/1841

“One of those brutal exhibitions denominated a prize fight took place in Gornal, Monday the 15th ult, between Joseph Braynell and Thomas Burton, and was attended with a fatal result. After fighting for about three quarters of an hour, the parties acting as seconds to Braynell put an end to the combat. He was shortly afterwards carried to the GREEN DRAGON, and attended by a surgeon, and in the course of the evening was removed in a spring cart to Dudley, where he lingered until Wednesday night. An inquest was held on the following day before W. Robinson, Esq, when a verdict of Manslaughter was returned against Burton and the seconds, one of whom, and Burton surrendered themselves to a constable on Wednesday evening, on finding that no hopes were entertained of Braynell’s recovery.”

[At the Worcestershire Summer Assizes the Grand Jury threw out the bills against Thomas Burton, 21, puddler, charged with killing and slaying Joseph Brazenall, at Dudley; and Edward Ball, 23, nailor, Joseph Farrell, 23, hawker, and Wm. Perry, 12, labourer, charged with aiding and abetting the said Thomas Burton in killing and slaying Brazenall.]

1841 Census

Sheepcotwall

- [1] *John Cartwright* (50), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Cartwright (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Richard Cartwright* (23), maltster, born Staffordshire;
- [4] John Cartwright (17), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Caroline Lloyd (18), fs:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/12/1841 - Advert

“Twenty-Five Pounds Reward.

Whereas some malicious and evil disposed person or persons did, on or about the 17th day of December instant, Poison a valuable brown and white Greyhound Dog, called Waterloo, the property of a gentleman in the immediate neighbourhood, and kept at the house of Mr. *John Cartwright*, the GREEN DRAGON INN, Gornall; whoever will give such information as will lead to the discovery of the person or persons guilty of the said offence shall, on application to the said *John Cartwright*, receive the above reward.

Gornall, December 28, 1841.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/2/1842 - Advert

“Twenty-Five Pounds Reward.

Whereas some malicious and evil disposed person or persons did, on or about the 13th instant, Poison a valuable fawn-coloured Greyhound Dog, called Ketch (brother to the dog poisoned at the same place in December last), the property of a gentleman in the immediate neighbourhood, and kept at the house of Mr. *John Cartwright*, the GREEN DRAGON INN, Gornall; whoever will give such information as will lead to the discovery of the person or persons guilty of the said offence shall, on application to the said *John Cartwright*, receive the above reward.

Gornall, February 15, 1842.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/12/1842

“Inquisition before T. M. Phillips, Esq.

On Saturday at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on the body of Mr. Zachariah Parkes. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. Browne, surgeon, that the deceased had been afflicted some years with an ulcerated leg, and that his death, which took place very suddenly (deceased having as was his habit, gone to bed after dinner, and been found a corpse in an hour and a half afterwards), was caused by the too sudden absorption of the issue from the leg, which had been caused by the application of dry lint. Verdict, Died by the Visitation of God.”

AND

“On Monday, at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on the body of Sarah Ann Aston, an infant seventeen months old, whose death was caused by the ignition of some matches, with which her little brother was playing. Verdict, Accident Death.”

The Era 30/4/1843

“On Tuesday last, the following match was run between the Shaver’s End Greyhound and Joshua Cartwright of Gornall, for one sovereign a side, amidst a great concourse of people. The distance was 100 yards, and after a severe race, Joshua Cartwright was declared a winner. Joshua Cartwright is ready to run Eli Black, of the Lie Waste, for 5 or 10 sovs a side; distance 100 or 200 yards. His money is always ready at the GREEN DRAGON, Gornall.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/9/1844

“Inquests before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner.

On the third instant, at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornall, in the parish of Sedgley, on Mary Ann Parkes, aged 10 years. It appeared from the evidence that the parents of the deceased had gone to market, leaving her to take care of an infant, and that having occasion to go up stairs for something, she, in coming down with the baby in her arms and carrying a lighted candle, set her clothes on fire, and in her excitement and confusion threw the candle into the fire and the infant under the grate. The screams of the latter awoke her brother, a little boy about seven years old, who was sleeping on a chair by the fire-place, and he rescued the infant, and obtained assistance for his sister, but she was so dreadfully burnt that she only lived about twelve hours. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

John Cartwright was also a maltster. [1845], [1849]

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/3/1846 - Advert

“Valuable Public House and Premises, at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction (Without Reserve), by Mr. Thomas Stokes, on Tuesday, the 7th of April, 1846, at the house of Mr. *John Cartwright*, known by the sign of the GREEN DRAGON, at Upper Gornal, at five o'clock in the afternoon, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

A Valuable old-established and well-accustomed Public-House, with a large Garden, excellent Cellaring, and capital pump of water, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, and known by the sign of the ROYAL OAK, fronting the turnpike road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton, in the occupation of Mr. Thomas Page, at the rent of £16 per annum.

The Property is Free Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley.

A Plan of the Property may be seen and all further particulars obtained on application to the Auctioneer, or at the Offices of Messrs. Bourne and Wainwright, Solicitors, Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/5/1846

“A silver watch, the property of John Smith, was stolen from his bedroom, at the GREEN DRAGON, Gornal, on the 39th ult. A double German-silver chain, with two keys and a seal were attached, and the glass was broken.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/2/1847

“On Saturday last, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the GREEN DRAGON, Gornal, on the body of Edward Clarkson, a bricklayer, about twenty-six years of age. The deceased was one of the men killed by the fall of brickwork of an engine house, at the Nine Locks, Kingswinford. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/2/1847

“On Thursday last an inquest was held before T. M. Philips, Esq, coroner, at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal on the body of John Naylor, a miner employed at the Wren’s Nest Hill limestone mine. The deceased, on Thursday week, had prepared ‘a shot;’ he fired it, but it missed; on firing it the next time, it went off, and he was much cut and bruised by pieces of the mine which were blown against him, and also badly burnt. Notwithstanding surgical aid he died on Wednesday last. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

AND

“On Wednesday week an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the house of Mr. *Cartwright*, the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, to enquire into the death of the illegitimate child of a young woman named Mary Harris, which occurred under circumstances which were deemed sufficient to call for an investigation. It appeared from the evidence of the mother that the deceased was only six weeks old, and had been ailing from birth, in consequence of which she had on more than one occasion obtained from a druggist’s, at Dudley, a mixture called ‘child’s cordial,’ of which she was directed to administer half a tea spoonful once or twice a day. This she did, and the child seemed relieved by the medicine, but, becoming again ill, she took the child to the druggist’s on the Saturday previous, when he gave her some more medicine, and told her to administer half a teaspoonful every other day. She got home the same night at about ten o’clock, but did not give the child any of the physic, as it appeared to be getting better. It took a change, however, about twelve, while she was nursing it on her lap, and grew gradually worse till six the following morning, when it died in her arms. The infant, the mother added, had received no injuries from a fall or other accident. As some rumours were afloat in the neighbourhood, respecting the cause of death, the coroner adjourned the inquest, in order to afford time for further inquiry.

On Thursday last the inquest was resumed, when Mr. Joseph Webster Browne, surgeon, residing at Upper Gornal, stated that he performed a post mortem examination on the body of the deceased child, and found that he died from inflammation of the mucous membranes of the intestines, caused by diarrhoea. A verdict of Natural Death was accordingly returned.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 29/9/1847

“On Thursday an adjourned inquest was held at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, on the body of Hannah Hartson, a child about two years old, who was killed on the previous Saturday morning by the wheel of a cart passing over her head on the road leading from Upper Gornal to Dudley. At the time of the accident the driver, Richard Edwards, was a considerable distance behind the vehicle, and the only person in the cart was a boy, who was looking over the country on the opposite side of the road, when the wheel of the cart passed over the body of the child, who was in the act of crossing the road. The accident was seen by several persons, who immediately went to the spot, when they found that the wheel had passed over the child’s head, and her brains were scattered upon the road. The jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against the driver of the cart, who was committed for trial at the next assizes.”

[At the Staffordshire Spring Assizes in 1848 Richard Edwards was acquitted of the manslaughter of Hannah Marston.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/10/1847

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, since our last.....

On Tuesday, at the GREEN DRAGON, Gornal, on the body of Phoebe Ann Darby, a girl eleven years old, employed to carry bricks in and out of an oven, and whose clothes, it is supposed, caught fire while emptying the ash-hole, by which she was so badly burned that she died in about three days afterwards. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

John Cartwright was also described as a maltster and hop dealer. [1851]

1851 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *John Cartwright* (59), victualler and farmer 21 acres, 3 labourers, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Cartwright (58), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Richard Cartwright* (32), son, unmarried, born Sedgley;
- [4] Phoebe Ann Cartwright (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Cartwright (33), daughter, married, visitor, born Sedgley;
- [6] Julia Cartwright (11 months), granddaughter, visitor, born Birmingham;
- [7] Joannah Wedge (19), house servant, born Bilston;
- [8] Sarah Ann Cook (15), house servant, born Deepfields;
- [9] Phoebe Cartwright (9), granddaughter, visitor, scholar, born Birmingham:

Northern Star and Leeds General Advertiser 25/10/1851

“On Monday last an inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on the body of Thomas Oakley, a boy thirteen years of age, employed at a stone pit at Deepdale colliery, belonging to Mr. B. Gibbons, jun. It appeared from the evidence of William Bradley, another boy employed at the same pit, that the deceased had several times taken hold of the skip as it was ascending the shaft, and dropped from it when it was a few yards up. On Thursday last he was at work filling a skip, and when it was drawn up laid hold of it, and continued hanging from it until the skip was within a few yards of the top of the pit; he then let go, and fell with great violence to the bottom of the pit, about thirty-seven yards. One of his thighs was broken, and he was otherwise so much injured that when he was taken up he was dead. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/3/1857

“On Tuesday last a concert was held at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on behalf of John Pugh, who had lost his sight by an explosion of gunpowder. The proceeds amounted to upwards of £13.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/6/1858

“Edward Langford of Parkeshall will fly his cock Fisherman 80 miles on the Oxford and Worcester line against any bird John Harper, has, according to his own challenge, for £5 or £10 a side, Harper allowing 10 minutes start, or he will fly Langford from Stafford, for the same sum each bird; both matches to come off on one day, no start will be required. If Harper does not accept this challenge, any fancier within five miles of Parkeshall can be accommodated, on the same terms. Money ready at Isaiah Richard's, PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton, or *John Cartwright's*, GREEN DRAGON, Gornal, any time next week.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/7/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Houses, at Upper Gornal, in the County of Stafford.

Mr. T. P. Stokes will Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 19th day of July, 1858, precisely at seven o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *J. Cartwright*, the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/12/1858 - Advert

“To be Sold, at Ruiton Quarry, lately worked by Messrs. William Tompson and Co, a large quantity of Ruiton Stone, in lots to suit purchasers, consisting of Logs, Coping, Steps, Hook Stones, Sills, Window Sills, Walling, Top Stones, Tomb Steps, Sink Stones, Hearth Stones, Trough Logs, Troughs, Edging Stones, and other valuable Stones, the whole to be sold cheap. For price and particulars, apply to Mr. *Richard Cartwright*, GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/7/1859

“Wolverhampton Police Court The Magistrates on the Bench were J. Leigh, J. Walker, and S. Cartwright, Esqs.....

James Toy and Benjamin Brown, stewards of a certain society called the Church of England Friendly Society, held at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, were summoned for having refused to pay to Alexander Hartill, one of the members, the sum of 8s per week, which he had become entitled to receive by virtue of the rules of the said society. The complainant, who is a miner, swore that he was a member of the above society and that he was unable to follow his employment; he also handed in a copy of the rules of the society. Mr. Thomson, surgeon, also stated that the complainant was unable to work. The defendants alleged that the treasurer was the proper person to apply to, but Mr. Leigh said that according to the rules of the society they were the responsible parties. An order was made for the amount, and the defendants were adjudged to pay the costs of the proceedings.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1860 - Advert

“To Ironmasters, Furnace Builders, Quarry Masters, and Others.

To be Sold, a large quantity of Gornal Stone, suitable for furnace hearths &c and other purposes; a capital Horse Winch and Chain, and other Tools and Winches.

Also To Be Let, at Upper Gornal, a Malthouse, capable of wetting 23 bags.

Apply to Mr. *Richard Cartwright*, GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Richard Cartwright* (44), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Julia Blissett* (35), sister, widow, born Sedgley;
- [3] *John Blissett* (16), sister's son, clerk in iron works, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Thomas Blissett* (13), sister's son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Mary Smith* (22), general servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/4/1861 -Advert

“Valuable Meadow Land, Mines and Minerals, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.
John G. Wright will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, the 16th of April, 1861, at the house of Mr. *Cartwright*, the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal aforesaid, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced and read.
All that valuable Piece or Parcel of Meadow Land, called the ‘In Hedge,’ near to the Parsonage, Upper Gornal aforesaid, and the adjoining Land belonging to *Frederick Smith, Esq.*, *Mr. Sheldon*, and others, containing admeasurement, 3a 3r 11p or thereabouts.
Also the Mines of Coal, Ironstone, Fire Clay, &c, lying under the same.
The above described Piece or Parcel of Land is Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley.
For further particulars, apply Mr. S. P. Smith, Solicitor, Walsall; or the Auctioneer, King Street, Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/8/1861 - Advert

“Upper Gornal, Sedgley, Staffordshire.
Mr. John G. Wright will Sell by Auction, by order of the Mortgagees and Assignees of *Mr. John Peacock*, a bankrupt, at the house of Mr. *Cartwright*, the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal aforesaid, on Tuesday next, the 27th day of August, 1861, at six o'clock in the evening subject to conditions then to be produced.
All that valuable Piece of Freehold Building Land, with two cottages, Stable, and other outbuildings standing thereon, situate in the centre of Upper Gornal, near to the Church, having an extensive frontage to the turnpike road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton, and containing the whole 1,500 square yards or thereabouts.
The above land is desirably situated for building purposes, and affords an excellent opportunity for investment.
For particulars apply Messrs. Bolton and Sanders, Solicitors; or the Auctioneers, all of Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/1/1862 - Advert

“Monday, January 20, 1862.
Important To Coalmasters, Chartermasters, Quarrymen, and Others.
Mr. Thomas Cook begs to announce that he has received instructions to Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 20th January, 1862, at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, aforesaid, a large assortment of Colliery Effects, Household Furniture, Brewing Plant, and several tons of Hay and Straw, which have been removed to the GREEN DRAGON INN for convenience of sale.....”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/5/1862

“*W. Naylor* and *T. Hall*. These midland district men have signed articles to run 120 yards, for £10 a side, at Aston Cross Grounds, on Monday May 12. £4 a side is deposited in the hands of *R. Cartwright*, of the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, who is final stakeholder and referee, to whom a further deposit must be made tomorrow (Monday).”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/5/1865 - Advert

“To be Sold, a Silver-plated Harness little used.
Apply to Mr. *Wellings*, GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/6/1866 - Advert

“To Wheelwrights. Wanted, a good Workman.
Apply to *Joseph Wellings*, GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, near Dudley.”

Joseph Wellings was also a blacksmith. [1868]

Joseph Wellings was fined £1 and costs for permitting drunkenness in May 1867.
Joseph Wellings was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness in April 1868.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/4/1868

“At the Police Court, on Monday, *Thomas Hampton*, MOUNT PLEASANT, was fined £2 and costs for permitting drunkenness; *Joseph Willing*, of the GREEN DRAGON INN, was fined £5 and costs; *Thomas Percival*, of the ROYAL HOTEL, was fined £1 and costs; and *Joseph Taylor*, proprietor of the SEVEN STARS INN, was fined 1s and costs for similar offences.”

Dudley Herald 16/7/1870

“*Joseph Wellings* permitting gaming dismissed.”

Dudley Herald 25/2/1871 - Advert

“To be sold by auction all that freehold and old-licensed inn and premises called the GREEN DRAGON situate at Upper Gornal and now in the occupation of Mr. *Joseph Wellings* at the yearly rent of £36.”

1871 Census

Sheepcotwall – DRAGON INN

- [1] *Joseph Wellings* (50), blacksmith, born Middleton Scribben, Shropshire;
- [2] Sarah J. Wellings (49), wife, born Wombourne;
- [3] George Wellings (17), son, blacksmith's assistant, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joseph Wellings (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas O. Wellings (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Emma Wellings (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Mary Page (16), general servant, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 5/9/1871

“*Joseph Wellings*, landlord of the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, was charged with permitting gambling in his house. James Walker, a puddler, proved the case, and defendant was fined £5 and costs, and his license was endorsed. Mr. Spooner telling him that he was a very lucky person to have got a license.”

John Peacock was also a builder. [1873]

Birmingham Mail 29/12/1874

“The Wreck of the *Cospatrick*.

The young man, *Alfred Peacock*, included in the list of passengers in the ill-fated ship *Cospatrick*, is the son of Mr. *John Peacock*, builder and publican, GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, near Dudley. The deceased was a carpenter, and was on the way to seek his fortune. The young fellow had worked in Dudley.”

County Advertiser 2/1/1875

“The *Daily Telegraph* has received the following sub-marine telegraph from a correspondent at Madeira.

Madeira, December 28. The ship *British Sceptre*, bound from Calcutta to Dundee, put into St. Helena on the 6th December, having picked up at sea, on the 27th of November, in latitude 21deg. 50min. South, longitude 12deg. 44 min East, boat containing Macdonald, the second officer; Thomas Lewis, seaman; James Cotter, seaman; and R. Hamilton, seaman, of the ship *Cospatrick*, Captain Elmslie, which had caught fire on the 17th November, in latitude 38deg. 15min South, longitude 12deg. 25min East. The four men had been in the boat for ten days without water or any kind of food, and after being taken on board the *Sceptre*, Hamilton died raving mad. It appears from the statements of the survivors that during those ten days they had existed solely on the dead bodies of their companions, of whom there were originally thirty in the same boat.....

The town of Dudley has acquired additional interest in the loss of the ill-fated ship, by the sacrifice of four persons.....

Upper Gornal, two miles distant from Dudley, has lost an inhabitant in the person of *Alfred Peacock*, twenty-one years of age, a son of Mr. *John Peacock*, publican and builder.....”

[The *Cospatrick* was bound for Auckland, New Zealand and had 361 adults, and a crew of 44.]

Dudley Herald 15/1/1876 - Married

“On the 8th inst, at St. Mark's, Cheltenham, by the Rev. G. P. Griffiths, John Guest, eldest son of Mr. *John Peacock*, of Upper Gornal, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. John Gibbs, of Cheltenham.”

Dudley Herald 22/4/1876 - Advert

“Wanted. Young man, to assist in Brewing and make himself useful in the house. Good character required. Apply, GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal.”

Dudley Herald 29/4/1876

“Joseph Meredith was fined 7s, including costs, for refusing to quit the licensed premises of Mr. *John Peacock*, Upper Gornal, on the 18th inst.”

Dudley Herald 20/5/1876

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before the Rev. J. Y. Rooker and F. A. Homer, Esq, George Smith, alias Withers, was charged with disorderly conduct at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, on the 9th inst. It appeared that defendant became so very disorderly whilst in the house that he was ordered to leave. This he refused to do, but upon calling a policeman he went away. Fined £1 and costs, or twenty-one days in default.”

Dudley Herald 1/7/1876 - Advert

“Freehold Property, Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal, near Dudley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, at the house of Mr. *Peacock*, the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on Monday, July the 3rd, 1876, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.....”

Dudley Herald 8/7/1876

“Mr. John Bent offered for sale on Monday, at the house of Mr. *John Peacock*, Upper Gornal, four cottages at Lower Gornal, which realised £330.”

County Express 2/9/1876

“At the Police Court on Monday, James Naylor, aged 19, was charged with stealing a hammer, belonging to Mr. *John Peacock*, builder, Upper Gornal. The prisoner took the hammer out of the workshop, and afterward sold it. Mr. Spooner sent prisoner to prison for fourteen days with hard labour.”

Dudley Herald 18/11/1876 - Married

“On November 14th, at the Parish Church, Sedgley, by the Rev. W. Griffiths, Edwin, only son of John Palmer, of Leyton, in Essex, to Sarah, eldest daughter of *John Peacock*, the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal.”

The Story of the Ancient Manor of Sedgley by Edwin Albert Underhill (1941)

“Upper Gornal. To Alleviate the distress in this place, a meeting was convened by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. H. Lewis, the Rev. Ed. Hughes, Minister of Ruiton Chapel, and other influential gentlemen, in the National Schools, when it was proposed to have a soup kitchen. The Rev. E. Hughes was appointed Secretary, and E. H. Howl, Esq. of ‘The Quarries’ Treasurer, and a Committee formed. Mr. *Jno. Peacock* offered his premises and undertook to make 100 gallons of soup twice a week, which was accepted, and has now been done, to a great relief of many, who appeared truly thankful for it. January 11, 1879.

Sir H. St. Paul offered 10s per week for three months and £5 as an instalment. E. H. Howl guaranteed £12, and others responded. The Dowager Lady Ward sent a cheque for £40, and G. Smith, Esq. £10. It is proposed to add to the soup 200 loaves at the distribution today to the most needy cases.

Note. The soup and loaves were distributed at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN and GREEN DRAGON INN. My sister and I carried most of the loaves to those places.”

Aberdeen Peoples Journal 10/7/1880 - Advert

“30th June 1880. 121, Park Road, Liverpool.

Close of Stewart, Dawson, & Co.’s First Grand Prize Distribution of their Celebrated English Lever Watches.

Fifty Gold Watches (Ladies’ and Gentlemen’s) Given Away Gratis On The Above Date.

Stewart, Dawson, & Co., in returning their cordial thanks to the many customers who have so liberally patronised them, have pleasure in presenting a list of successful numbers, together with the names and addresses of the recipients of the Fifty Handsome Gold Watches. In doing so, S. D. & Co. would impress upon their customers that this is no feat of jugglery – taking away with one hand to give with the other....

Ticket Number 1167. Chas. E. Peacock, GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, Dudley, Staffordshire.....”

1881 Census

Kent Street – GREEN DRAGON INN

[1] *John Peacock* (64), widower, victualler and builder, born Sedgley;

[2] Charles E. Peacock (22), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;

[3] George W. Peacock (17), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;

[4] Mary Perry (34), niece, house keeper, born Sedgley;

[5] Hannah J. Poulter (?) (17), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 12/7/1881

“William Tattishall, carter, of Burnt Tree, was charged with being drunk while in charge of a horse and cart in Kent Street, Upper Gornal, on the 6th inst.

The Rev. W. A. H. Lewis said he saw defendant in charge of a horse and cart. He was quite drunk, and the horse ran away and kicked the front of the cart in. He (Mr. Lewis) sent for a policeman, because he was afraid defendant would get run over, as he could hardly stand.

Police-constable Sutton stated that he went to Kent Street, and found defendant sleeping in the stables of the GREEN DRAGON INN, and he was then incapable, and witness had to send his horse and cart home by another man.

Defendant was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days’ hard labour.”

Dudley and District News 11/10/1884

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court, on Wednesday, James Marsh (37), Jews Lane, and John Jones (21), labourer, Cricket Meadow, Upper Gornal, were charged with stealing four fowl belonging to *John Peacock*, landlord of the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal.

On Saturday night PC Gibbs received information of the robbery, and arrested Jones who at first said he knew nothing about it, but afterwards admitted that whilst he was in Jews Lane with Marsh the latter asked him ‘to go and have some of *Peacock*’s fowls.’

Witness then went and fetched some of the fowls off the prosecutor’s premises. Subsequently Marsh was arrested.

One of the prisoners stated that they had eaten the birds.

Upon the application of Chief Superintendent Longden the prisoners were remanded until Monday, to be then brought up at Sedgley Police Court.”

Dudley and District News 18/10/1884

“John Jones and James Marsh, of Jews Lane, Upper Gornal, were charged with stealing three fowls, the property of Mr. *John Peacock*, of the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal.

Both pleaded guilty, and were sentenced to three months’ hard labour each.”

Smethwick Telephone 25/7/1885 - Advert

“The Magnetaire.....

Testimonial from *John Peacock*, Esq, GREEN DRAGON HOTEL, Upper Gornal, near Dudley, July 1st, 1885.

To Mr. Lonsdale.

Dear Sir, The belt I purchased from you has proved very beneficial in an attack of Rheumatism, which gave me a great deal of pain and inconvenience in my shoulders and arms. I have now nearly recovered, for which I feel very thankful, and shall recommend your appliances to any I come into contact with who suffer from the same cause.

Yours respectfully, *John Peacock*.”

John Peacock died in 1887.

James Arthur Fullwood was born in 1853, the son of Henry and Ann of Dudley.

He married Phoebe Meanley.

They lived in Furlong House, Sedgley.

He died in 1905.

1891 Census

51+52, Kent Street – GREEN DRAGON INN

[1] *James A. Fullwood* (38), mining engineer and publican, born Sedgley;

[2] Phoebe Fullwood (36), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Joshua H. Fullwood (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] Florence M. Fullwood (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] Harold A. Fullwood (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Frederick F. Fullwood (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Percy L. R. Fullwood (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] Clifford Fullwood (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[9] Leah Reynolds (19), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 5/2/1898 - Advert

“To Small Capitalists and Others.

Notice of Sale by Auction of Freehold Dwelling Houses in Pale Street, Upper Gornal.

Alfred W. Dando has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, on Monday February 14th, 1898, at Seven o'clock in the evening precisely.....”

1901 Census

50, Kent Street – GREEN DRAGON

[1] *John Waterfield* (31), widower, licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;

[2] Naomi Duggan (21), domestic servant, born Ombersley, Worcestershire;

[3] Hannah Trevis (16), domestic servant, born The Oak Farm, Staffordshire:

Tipton Herald 27/11/1909

“Charles Bodenham, James Bodenham, Samuel Price, Thomas Bradley, and Benjamin Cook, all living at Lower Gornal, were charged with disorderly behaviour in Jews Lane, Upper Gornal, on the 1st inst.

PC North said the defendants were guilty of brawling, shouting, and making use of bad language. The defendants created a disturbance in the GREEN DRAGON INN, and the landlord was compelled to turn the gas lights out before closing time in order to get them out of his house.

The Stipendiary said that on the day on which the offence was committed the whole of the defendants had been bought before the magistrates for similar conduct and were leniently dealt with. Having more money in their pockets than they anticipated they indulged in a spree.

Charles Bodenham, who had been several times convicted, was fined 20s and costs; Price and Bradley 10s and costs each; James Bodenham 5s and costs; and Benjamin Cook 2s 6d and costs.

We are informed that the defendants are not connected with the family of E. Bodenham, ROYAL OAK, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.”

Birmingham Journal 12/2/1910

“Mr. T. A. Stokes (county coroner) held an inquest at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on Monday evening, on the death of Thomas Smith (33), no fixed abode, formerly a blacksmith employed at Wolverhampton, whose lifeless body was found in a ditch in a field. The evidence showed that Smith had been recently employed in doing odd jobs at the PARKFIELD TAVERN. Last Friday he visited some friends at Upper Gornal, and complained that he had lost his situation. He was provided with food, and subsequently he stated that he was going to Bilston, intimating that he should go a near way to Woodsetton across some fields. A woman named Martha Jeavons urged him to go by the main road, but he did not follow her advice. He left the house at about 8pm to go across the fields. At about nine o'clock the following morning his body was found in a ditch in a field about forty yards from the footpath. There was a depth of water in the ditch of about four inches, and the man's legs and body were embedded in the

mud to the extent of 3ft. The head was quite free of either the mud or water. There was a severe frost during the night in question. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Exposure, the result of Misadventure.”

1911 Census

Kent Street – GREEN DRAGON INN

- [1] William Henry Westwood (32), brewer, born Quarry Bank;
- [2] *Rachel Westwood* (42), wife, married 11 years, licensed victualler, born Netherton;
- [3] Elizabeth Waterhouse (22), stepdaughter, assists in business, born Netherton;
- [4] Ethel Waterhouse (19), stepdaughter, assists in business, born Netherton;
- [5] Lily Homer (21), adopted, housemaid, born Netherton:

Dudley Chronicle 26/7/1923

“Upper Gornal is developing in the direction of Dudley. Mrs. *Homer*, of the GREEN DRAGON, is erecting a private residence, and a number of other private houses are to be started in the near future on the opposite side of the street.....”

South Staffordshire Times 23/2/1924

“Before Messrs. E. Hickman (chairman), M. Wilks, J. A. Jordan and S. Davis. Mr. R. R. Twist (Birmingham) applied for the transfer of the license of the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, from *George Spears* to *Frederick John Gash*, and the application was granted. Supt. Higgs, referring to the general condition of the house, said that certain renovations and improvements were required, and Mr. Twist said the owners of the house proposed to have the whole of it renovated. The Chairman expressed the hope that this would be done. A large number of complaints had been made all over the Division about the state of some licensed houses, particularly their sanitary conditions.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 7/2/1925

“Last Tuesday evening a carnival dance was held at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal. Over 100 people were present. The dance was organised by Mr. *Gash*, the host. A number of prizes were offered, and the music was provided by W. and H. Grainger’s Novelty Jazz Band. Mr. A. Hancox was M.C.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 7/3/1925

“Another successful grand carnival dance was held at the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL, Upper Gornal, on Tuesday night. Mr. A. Hancox was M.C. The prize winners both pupils of Mr. Hancox were: Miss L. Dudley; M. Dudley; and Mr. G. Oliver, of Upper Gornal. The music was provided by W. and H. Grainger’s novelty jazz band. Fancy dress was optional and many appeared in delightfully conceived dresses.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 25/4/1925

“A most enjoyable class dance was held at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, on Tuesday, when the prize-winners were: Miss Sarah Bodman of Dudley, and Mr. H. Jeavons, of Lower Gornal. The music was rendered by Messrs. Graingers Bros’ jazz band, and the M.C. was Mr. Albert Minton. There were over 100 present.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 18/7/1925

“A grand carnival dance was held at the assembly room of the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL, Upper Gornal, for the benefit of Mr. Harold Grainger, who had been unable to work over a long period. He has been to the Middlesex Hospital, London, to which institution it is necessary for him to return. The following ladies and gentlemen gave the prizes: Mr. Round and Mrs. Round (Lower Gornal), Mr. D. Field (Pensnett), and Mr. H. S. Smith (Netherton). Mr. E. G. Green (Dudley) acted as M.C., and the prize winners were: Miss Gladys Bennet (Lower Gornal), Mr. Gilbert Cookson (Dudley), Miss F. Farnes (Woodsetton), and Mr. W. Brown (Woodsetton). The prizes were presented by Mr. L. Bradley, of Lower Gornal. A substantial sum was raised.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 15/8/1925

“GREEN DRAGON Sick and Dividend Society held on Saturday night their first benefit smoking concert for the benefit of a non member’s wife and children. The father, a collier, almost died at his work. The artistes were all voluntary workers and were composed of the Upper Gornal Appollo Glee Party There were 428 3d tickets sold and the amount realised was £6 11s 2½d, which was handed over to the chairman of the Sick and Dividend Society to be sent to the widow immediately after the concert. The evening closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, vice-chairman and artistes.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 14/11/1925

“A successful dance was held at the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL, Upper Gornal, on Tuesday evening, to celebrate Armistice Day. There was a large attendance and the lucky prize winners were Miss E. Walker, of Smethwick, and Mr. E. Webb, of Sedgley.”

Dudley Chronicle 18/2/1926

“The GREEN DRAGON (Upper Gornal) dancing class held their monthly novelty and carnival dance last week, when there were between sixty and seventy present.....”

Dudley Chronicle 18/2/1926

“On Saturday week the GREEN DRAGON (Upper Gornal) Sick and Dividend Society held their first annual smoking concert in aid of the Dudley Guest Hospital and Dudley Dispensary, and the sum of £3 12s 6d was raised, £2 2s being allotted to the hospital and £1 10s 6d to the dispensary. Councillor Watton presided, and the company numbered over 150. The jazz band was greatly enjoyed, and Councillor Watton’s songs were encored. Mr. J. Hartill, who is a master of the concertina, gave a splendid rendering of ‘Poet and Peasant.’ Mrs. Bradley, a great favourite in the district, also received unstinted applause for her songs.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d.”

[WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Howard Smith =Harold Smith

Evening Despatch 14/2/1939 - Advert

“Domestic, willing to learn Bar Work; good home, liberal outings, holidays with pay.
GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, near Dudley.”

1939 Register

Kent Street – GREEN DRAGON

- [1] *Howard Smith*, date of birth 25/10/1897, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Beatrice A. (Smith) Williams, dob 1/7/1894, help for above, married;
- [3] Blanch J. (Blanche Jean) (Smith) Clark, dob 24/9/1927, school, single;
- [4] Joan E. (Beeston) (Carven) Carver, dob 21/3/1922, bar general, single:

Bilston & Willenhall Times 16/3/1946

“At Bilston Adjourned Licensing Sessions, on Friday of last week, among the applications was one for the removal of the license of the RAILWAY INN, Bradley, to premises proposed to be erected at the junction of Burton Road and Broadway, Sedgley, or alternatively, for a new license at the site.

It was intimated that there was opposition from local residents, who appointed Mrs. J. L. Cort, of 270, The Broadway, to speak for them. Mr. A. D. Dallow also opposed on behalf of the GREEN DRAGON, a licensed house some 700 yards away.

Mr. O. L. Bergendorff, who appeared for the applicants, said a canvas in the area had been taken and this showed an overwhelming majority of people in favour of a public house being erected on the site and he submitted that a more ideal spot for one could not be found.

After hearing witnesses for the applicants and also the opposition, the justices declined to sanction the removal for a new license.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 27/4/1946

“St. Matthews Church, Tipton, was filled to capacity on Thursday of last week for the wedding of Mrs. *Beatrice Alice Smith*, licensee of the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, and Mr. William Edward Williams, of 5, Park Lane, Tipton. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar, the Rev. John Cotton, who was assisted by the curate.

Mrs. *Smith*, who has been licensee of the GREEN DRAGON for 15 years, is a popular personality in Upper Gornal and district and Mr. Williams belongs to a well-known Tipton family.

The bride was given away by her nephew, Mr. Albert Rhymer, and the best man was the bridegroom’s brother, Mr. Arthur Williams. After the ceremony there was a reception at the ROYAL OAK HOTEL, Tipton, attended by about 50 guests.”

It had a darts team. [1948]

Birmingham Daily Post 28/11/1956

“In spite of the refusal of the Ministry of Transport to agree to a pedestrian crossing at the GREEN DRAGON, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, Sedgley Urban Council last night decided to make another attempt to get such a crossing.”

Tipton Herald 19/3/1960

“Burton Road Hospital Branch of the National Union of Public Employees met on Thursday week at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal. Bro. Harrison (Chairman), presided, supported by Bro. A. Tyler (Secretary). Members stood in silence in respect of Bros. G. Rastall (Area Organiser) and Samuel Gilbert, late porter at Burton Road Hospital.

The Secretary referred to the successful claim for Bro. Tipping, who was presented by Area Officer Bro. J. H. Plant with a cheque for £200.

The Secretary read a letter received from the union headquarters in respect of the union's wage claim, stating the management side asked for more time to study it.

The Secretary stated he would move again on the question of six weeks' annual holiday claim, and forward the resolution to the Area Conference, to be held in Birmingham next month, and he hoped this would in turn persuade all branches of the union to move in the matter."

Tipton Herald 22/10/1960

"Two local harvest homes held at the GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, licensee Mr. *J. Marsh*, and the ROSE AND CROWN, Netherton, licensee Mr. A. Millward. Both of these annual events were held on Sunday evening and will help to swell old people's funds."

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1974

"Mixing business with pleasure was the only way the Clarke Chapman Group of Essington, near Wolverhampton, decided it could recruit labour for its factories. The headquarters for the interviews was the GREEN DRAGON public house, Sedgley."

Express and Star 24/11/1997 - Advert

"Three rooms – large bar, snug, lounge. Good community local."

[2003]

Closed [2005]

It became a restaurant in 2006.

GREEN MAN

Gospel End, (Gospel Wood), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Lester [1833] – [1834]

NOTES

Gospel End [1833]

Gospel Wood [1834]

John Lester, retail brewer, Gospel End. [1833]

HILLYFIELDS

82, Parkes Hall Road, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Ron George Murley [1984]

NOTES

[1982]

[2006]

Closed

It was demolished in 2008.

HOLLY BUSH

Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Aston [1818]

HOLLY BUSH

Straits, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Alexander Gordon

LICENSEES

Josiah Hickman [1849]

Joseph Hickman [1854]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/6/1849 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Estate And Mines, The Straits House, and Property, situated in the parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. J. Bateman, by direction of the Devisee in Trust under the will of the late Alexander Gordon, Esq, at the SWAN INN, Dudley, on Tuesday, the 26th day of June, 1849, at five o'clock in the afternoon.....

Lot II. Three Fifth Shares of and in all those two Closes of excellent Grass Land, and an Enclosure adjoining, fronting the road leading from Straits Green to Dudley, and contiguous with lot I, with the Old-Licensed and well-accustomed Public House, called the HOLLY BUSH, and also two Cottages, thereon, in the occupation of *Josiah Hickman* and others, containing together 4a 9r 6p, with the like proportion of the valuable Mines and Minerals lying in and under the same.....”

London Gazette 4/5/1854 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Estates of the late Alexander Gordon, Esq, Dudley, Worcestershire.

To be sold, pursuant to an Order of the High Court of Chancery, made in a cause of Perks v. England, Same v. Mainwaring, by Mr. John Bateman, at the SWAN INN, Dudley, in the county of Worcester, on Monday the 22nd day of May, 1854, at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, in the following lots.

Lot 1. A freehold residence, known as the STRAITS HOUSE, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, and nearly adjacent to Himley Park, the residence of the Right Honourable Lord Ward, with gardens, shrubberies, pleasure grounds, stable, outbuildings, cottages, and gardens, the whole containing 12a 24p of land, or thereabouts, with all the valuable mines of coal, iron, stone (if any), and other mines and minerals under the same; also three undivided fifth shares in two closes of freehold grass land, and an in-closure adjoining, containing 4a 6p or thereabouts, fronting the road leading from Straits Green to Dudley, and in the licensed public house, called the HOLLY BUSH, occupied by *Joseph Hickman*; and two cottages adjoining, in the occupation of Job Hickman and Benjamin Hickman, with the like proportion of valuable mines and minerals (if any) under the same.....”

HOP AND BARLEYCORN

42, Mason Street / Providence Place, (42, Masons Bank), (West Coseley), COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Wright, painter, Providence Row, Coseley
Ellen Wright, Providence Place, Coseley
Darby's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Joseph 'Joe' Nicholds [1842] – [1844]
John Richards [1851] – [1864]
Mrs. Elizabeth Richards [1865]
John Mason [1871] – 1875);
John Plant (1875 – 1878);
John Powell (1878 – 1884);
John Halford (1884 – 1895);
Benjamin Hall (1895 – 1899);
John Halford (1899 – 1904);
Thomas Gorton (1904 – 1906);
William Henry Whitehouse (1906 – 1908);
Joseph Nicholls (1908 – 1909);
William Sutton (1909 – 1910);
Maurice Gabriel (1910 – 1936);
Joseph Mansfield (1936 – 1939);
William Henry Attwell (1939 – [1940]
Resham Singh [1983]
Paul Harper (2004 – []

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1841 Census

Coseley

- [1] *Joseph Nicholds* (55), born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Nicholds (55), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Joseph Nicholds (30), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary Plat (15), born Staffordshire:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/5/1842 - Died

“On the 12th inst. in his 32nd year, Joseph, the only son of Mr. *Joseph Nicholds*, of the HOP AND BARLEYCORN, Coseley, near Dudley, and for many years a musician to Mr. Wombwell.”

Joseph Nicholds was also a composer of religious songs and cantatas.

Freeman's Black Country Folk

'Two Old Musicians'

“.....For a time *Joe [Nicholds]* was landlord of the HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN, West Coseley, and his house was the gathering place of the members of the local church and chapel choirs.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/9/1844

“On Tuesday last we went to the Music-hall, to hear an Oratorio entitled ‘The Triumph of Zion,’ which had been announced for performance with upwards of 50 performers, under the directorship of the composer *Joseph Nicholds*. Who the author really was we were somewhat at a loss to divine; but on enquiry, found that he was a person in humble life, and (if we understand aright) had been director of Wombwell's celebrated band.....”

[The reviewer was a bit uncomplimentary about the orchestra, describing the violins as ‘defective.’ He liked the music

though 'triumph'.]

Birmingham Daily Post 24/9/1955

"A faded oratorio manuscript, which will be one of the features of an exhibition shortly to be opened in Coseley showing the history and development of the town, will revive many memories of the 'characters' of the area.

It is the original manuscript composed by *Joseph Nicholds*, musician and publican. *Nicholds*, who was born in 1784, was taught music by a local man, and soon far out-stripped his master. He wrote, in addition to this surviving oratorio, many other hymns and religious pieces, some of which were collected and published under the title of *The Monmouthshire Melodist*.

Incidentally, the first tune in this book is still known as the 'strike tune' – although its correct title is Hope – because it was used by the Coseley coal strikers in 1874 as the tune for their 'freedom song.'

Nicholds, in addition to being a composer, was a first-class executant. At one time he was not only a member of the Providence Church String Band, but also played with a brass band which toured with a circus!

He was a brilliant bugler, and he had also an ophiceide – that almost obsolete instrument – that was made for him by another musician in the district from the wood of a local cherry tree.

Although the first performance of *Babylon* was probably at Coseley Ebenezer Chapel soon after that chapel had been completed in 1858. Its first rendering was probably at the HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN, for *Nicholds* at this time had become 'mine host' at this inn, and it is presumed that it was tried over there before the actual publication and performance."

Staffordshire Sentinel 3/3/1860

"*Joseph Nicholds*, and old and well known composer and instrumentalist, who travelled for several years with Wombwell, as a bugle player, died in Dudley Workhouse, on Saturday week. He had been an inmate of the Union for two years, and during the greater part of that time had been severely afflicted with rheumatism and bedridden."

[Mr. G. Wombwell operated a travelling menagerie.]

1851 Census

Coseley

- [1] *John Richards* (36), agent and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Richards* (29), wife, house work, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Richards* (14), son, apprentice, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John Richards* (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Isaiah Richards* (20), brother, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Matilda Hampton*, (21), house maid, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

"The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. *John Richards*, of Masons Bank, in the parish of Sedgley. Mr. Underhill opposed the application, which was refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/5/1858

"An inquest opened on Wednesday last, at the HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN, at Coseley, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy-coroner, on the body of a man named Richard Evans, a butty collier, who, as stated in the Chronicle last week, committed suicide in a hovel in Spring Vale. The inquest was adjourned until Monday last, when the Jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased was shot in a hovel with a pistol, but by what means the pistol exploded there was no evidence to show."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

"The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Waterhouse made application, on behalf of Mr. *John Richards*, for a license to the HOP AND BARLEYCORN beerhouse, Coseley. Mr. J. E. Underhill opposed for Mr. Thomas Turley, of the DUKE OF YORK public house. The Magistrates, after hearing the arguments on each side, said there was already an old licensed public house 250 yards from the applicant's house on the one side, and another 200 yards distant in the opposite direction. It was not shown to their satisfaction that there were any additional exigencies in that locality, but rather a stagnant state of things, where no further accommodation was required."

1861 Census

HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN

- [1] *John Richards* (46), retail brewer, born Tipton;
- [2] *Elizabeth Richards* (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *John Richards* (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *James Richards* (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Martha Richards* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Mary Richards* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Betsy Harris* (14), general servant, born Tipton;

[8] Ruth Webb (13), nurse, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

Mr. Underhill applied for a license [Wines and Spirits License] to the HOP AND BAR UNICORN INN [sic], occupied by Mr. *John Richards*, Coseley. Mr. Waterhouse also applied for a license to a house in the same locality, kept by Mr. Thomas Percival. Both applications were opposed by Mr. Bowen, on behalf of Mr. C. Guest, of the VINE TAVERN. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

“The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

Mr. Underhill made application on behalf of Mr. *Richards*, of the HOP AND BARLEYCORN, Old Coseley. It was a large and commodious house, and the population of the locality round about was very large. His application was backed by Dr. Ballenden.....

The Magistrates refused to grant any one of these applications.”

John Richards died in the 4th quarter of 1864.

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1865

“Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division of the county of Stafford was held.....

Mr. Thurstans applied on the behalf of Mrs. *Elizabeth Richards*, of the HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN, situated on the road leading from Tipton to Bilston. This application was made last year, when he believed his learned friend Mr. Underhill, who now opposed, made the application.

Mr. Underhill: And my learned friend opposed the year before. (Laughter.)

Mr. Thurstans, continuing, said that the application was now opposed on behalf of Mr. Turley, who was the occupier of the old-licensed house, the DUKE OF YORK INN, a house which he could not better describe than by using the words of his learned friend Mr. Underhill, who said that it was situated in a hollow or hole, away from the main road, and that Mr. Turley, who was an ironmaster, was so ashamed of it that he had removed the sign from the front to the back of the house. The truth was that Mr. Turley did not find it necessary to keep the DUKE OF YORK as a public house, and it was now, therefore, virtually that gentleman’s private residence; and the stables, which could stall only four horses, were required by Mr. Turley himself. Mrs. *Richards*, on the contrary, had ample stabling; the house was otherwise commodious, and had been conducted creditably by his client for twenty years. Her application was supported by all the surgeons in the neighbourhood; for there was no house in the whole of Coseley having a wine license; and a large number of travellers, who constantly passed that way, also supported her application.

Mr. Underhill, in opposing for Mr. Turley, said that his client had stable accommodation for ten horses; and whatever stabling there was at the house of the applicant he understood it contained only three sleeping rooms. A wine license could be obtained by any person who would apply for it. The applicant’s house belonged to Mr. Samuel Wright, who kept a licensed house in another part of the parish, and the applicant herself was the owner of a public house there. The DUKE OF YORK supplied all the accommodation that the locality needed. Application refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/2/1869 - Advert

“Sale by Auction, on Monday, the 1st day of March, 1869.

To Brewers, Licensed Victualler, Grocers, and Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Powell and Son, at the HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN, Coseley, near Sedgley – Six large and well-seasoned Ale Casks, in capital condition, and of the following dimensions, viz. 960 gallons, 860 gallons, 600 gallons, 500 gallons, and 300 gallons. Also a quantity of Shop Fixtures, comprising Counter with mahogany top, Nest of thirty-two Drawers, Shelving, with turned pillars; Iron Pump, 30 yards long; a quantity of Household Furniture, and other Effects.

Sale to commence at 11 a.m.”

1871 Census

42, Masons Bank

- [1] *John Mason* (32), butcher, born Coseley;
- [2] James Kendrick (62), step father, cow keeper, born Sardon, Staffordshire;
- [3] Eliza Kendrick (51), wife, born Coseley;
- [4] James H. Kendrick (5), grandson, scholar, born Gornal;
- [5] Sarah Holland (15), general servant, born Gornal:

John Mason, beer retailer, Masons Bank. [1872]

1881 Census

42, Mason Street

- [1] *John Powell* (27), publican, born Dudley;
- [2] Hannah Powell (26), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] Annie Powell (6), daughter, scholar, born Coseley;
- [4] Eliza Powell (4), daughter, born Coseley;
- [5] Sarah Edith Powell (2), daughter, born Coseley;

[6] Phoebe Davis (17), general servant, born Coseley:

Dudley and District News 28/5/1881

“On Tuesday afternoon, Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an inquest at the HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN, West Coseley, touching the death of Edwin Joseph Willetts, aged thirteen months, the son of Cornelius Willetts, of Mason Street, who was found dead on the 21st inst. There were no bruises or wounds on the body, and the jury returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes.”

John Powell was convicted on 24th April 1882 for permitting drunkenness.

Dudley and District News 14/6/1884

“*John Powell*, landlord of the HOP AND BARLEYCORN, INN, West Coseley, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house on the evening of the 31st ult.

PS Williams and PC Booth, stationed at Brierley Hill, visited the house in plain clothes, and found three men who were drunk. Defendant denied that the men referred to were drunk, but admitted that one was disorderly.

In reply to the Stipendiary, Chief Superintendent Longden said it had been found necessary to send strange officers to the public-house in consequence of complaints having been made of an increase in drunkenness in the district.

The Stipendiary stated that two years ago defendant was fined £5 and costs, and his license endorsed for a similar offence to that which he was now charged. He would be fined £5 and costs and his license endorsed.

Defendant: I decline to pay the fine, and I have no effects.

The Stipendiary: Then you will be committed to prison for two months, and that will mean the closing of your house.

After being locked up for a few minutes defendant paid the fine and costs, amounting to £5 19s 6d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/12/1888

“Mr. W. H. Phillips yesterday held an inquest at the HOP AND BARLEYCORN, West Coseley, on the body of Joseph Webb (35), a pikeman, who was killed on Monday at the colliery of Mr. Wones. It would appear that the man had his proper timbers set, but a bump came and dislodged the coal from a fault. Some three tons fell on Webb killing him. The Government assistant inspector had seen the place, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

42, Mason Street

[1] *John Halford* (41), publican, beer seller, born Dudley;

[2] Elizabeth Halford (45), wife, born Coseley;

[3] Elizabeth Halford (20), daughter, domestic servant, barmaid, born Coseley;

[4] Rebecca Halford (14), daughter, domestic servant, born Coseley:

1901 Census

42, Mason Street

[1] *John Halford* (51), married, publican, born Dudley;

[2] Rebecca Halford (23), daughter, housemaid, born Swan Village;

[3] Rose Ratcliff (16), general servant, born Wallbrook:

John Halford, beer retailer, Mason Street. [1904]

1911 Census

42, Mason Street – HOP AND BARLEYCORN INN

[1] *Maurice Gabriel* (34), publican / licensed victualler, born Coseley;

[2] Florence Gabriel (37), wife, married 6 years;

[3] Joseph Gabriel (5), son, school;

[4] Freda Gabriel (2), daughter;

[5] Elizabeth Skidmore (53), domestic servant:

Maurice Gabriel, beer retailer, Mason Street. [1916], [1921]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/4/1939

“The County Licensing Confirmation Committee for Staffordshire, at their meeting at Stafford yesterday.....

The following applications were granted.....

William Henry Attwell, removal of the beer license of the HOP AND BARLEY CORN INN to premises proposed to be erected at the rear of the existing premises.”

1939 Register

Mason Street – HOP AND BARLEY CORN

[1] *William H. Attwell*, date of birth 8/1/1890, beerhouse manager, married;

[2] Sarah Attwell, dob 7/3/1887, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Hilda (Attwell) Salter, dob 30/12/1918, green grocer, manageress, single;
[4] Gwendoline (Attwell) Millard, dob 30/4/1922, unpaid domestic duties, single;
[5] Raymond R. Attwell, dob 28/6/1924, wire spring winder, single;

William Henry Attwell was a Coseley councillor.

A team from here took part in the Tipton Dominoes League. [1948]

Demolished
Rebuilt in 1957.

Refurbished in 1974.

It had a pigeon flyers club. [1980s]

It underwent a £40,000 refurbishment in 2004.

[2007]

It was renamed NEW HOP AND BARLEYCORN. [2008]

Closed [2009]

It was converted into housing in 2015.

HOP AND BARLEYCORN

New Street, (Barrs Meadow), Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Thomas Barr
Thomas Gordon Bunch

LICENSEES

Thomas Gordon Bunch [1859] – [1864]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/7/1853

“At the Petty Sessions, on Tuesday last, *Thomas Gordon Bunch*, of Sedgley, parish constable, made a complaint against the keeper of a small beerhouse at Tipton, for keeping his house open in unlicensed hours; and he also charged the landlord’s son-in-law with assaulting him in the execution of his duty. It appears that the constable was at first refused admission into the house, but afterwards let in, when he assaulted the landlord’s daughter. The young woman’s husband interposed, and put out the constable into the street, when *Bunch* struck him on the head with a pair of handcuffs. Under these circumstances cross-summons had been issued. The magistrates dismissed the summons obtained by the constable, and fined him 1s for assaulting the young woman, and 20s for assaulting her husband.”

Birmingham Journal 16/4/1859 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Valuable Properties, at Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Capitalists, Speculators and Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, (by order of the Assignees of the Estate of Mr. Thomas Barr) by order of Mr. Solomon Powell, at the house of Mr. Thomas Cartwright, the HORSE SHOE INN, at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, on Wednesday, the 4th day of May next, at Six o’clock in the evening, and subject to conditions the undermentioned valuable Freehold properties.....

Lot 9. All that Ten-quarter malthouse and Public House adjoining, situate at Lower Gornal, with the Stables, Out-buildings, and excellent Well of water, together with the land thereto, containing, inclusive of the Site of the Buildings, 1,766 square yards or thereabouts, and now occupied by *Thomas Gordon Bunch* and Hughes. This lot, which is a corner Property, with three frontages,

is situate at an angle of the Roads, leading out of the Turnpike Road towards Upper Gornal and Sedgley.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for the purpose of the renewal and granting of licenses for the township of Bilston and the neighbourhood was held at the Bilston Police Court, on Friday last.....

Mr. T. M. Whitehouse next addressed the Bench on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Gordon Bunch*, who was an applicant for a license to the HOP AND BARLEYCORN public house, Gornal Wood. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. T. M. Whitehouse applied for a license to the HOP AND BARLEYCORN beerhouse, Barr’s Meadow, Gornal Wood, kept by Mr. *Thomas Gordon Bunch*. The applicant is a maltster, and it was urged that his premises were commodious, and well adapted for a licensed house. License refused.”

1861 Census

New Street – HOP AND BARLEY CORN

- [1] *Thomas Gordon Bunch* (33), publican and malster, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Ann Bunch (33), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Mary Ann Bunch (15), daughter, scholar, born Tipton;
- [4] Matilda Bunch (10), daughter, scholar, born Tipton;
- [5] Henry Bunch (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] John G. Bunch (6), son, scholar, born Tipton:

London Gazette 9/7/1861

“*Thomas Gordon Bunch*, heretofore of Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Butcher and Parish Constable, then of Dudley-road, in the parish of Tipton, in the county aforesaid, carrying on the businesses of a Butcher, Maltster, Licensed Brewer, and Retailer of Beer and Tobacco, and Commission Agent, then of Gornal-wood, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county aforesaid carrying on the businesses of a Malster, Licensed Brewer and Retailer of Beer and Tobacco, and late of Gornal-wood, in the parish of Sedgley, and county aforesaid, out of business, and in lodgings.”

London Gazette 25/7/1861

“*Thomas Gordon Bunch*, late of Gornal-wood, Sedgley, Staffordshire, out of employment. In the Gaol of Stafford.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Gordon Bunch*, for a license to a house, in Barr’s Meadow, Lower Gornal; and Mr. Waterhouse made a similar application on behalf of Mr. Cornelius Guest, each learned gentleman urging on behalf of their several applications that the Meadow had become quite a new town. Both applications were refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

Mr. Waterhouse made application for a license for a house, occupied by Mr. Thomas Gore, at Lower Gornal; and Mr. J. E. Underhill made a similar application for a house now in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Bunch*, of the same place. Both houses were in close proximity, and the latter was formerly carried on as a public house, known by the name of the HOP AND BARLEYCORN, but no license has been taken out for the last two years. The applications were made simultaneously, in order that the Bench might choose between the two, but after a short deliberation, they were both refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/2/1864

“*Bill v. Bunch*. This case was heard at the Dudley County Court, before Rupert Kettle, Esq, a Judge, and a Jury. The plaintiff, William Harper Bill, a minor, through his nearest relative, Mr. William Bill, sued Mr. *Thomas Gordon Bunch*, maltster of Sedgley, for damages alleged to have been sustained in consequence of defendant having driven his vehicle against one which defendant was driving, and causing plaintiff to be thrown out. Mr. Joseph Stokes conducted plaintiff’s case, and Mr. Underhill, of Wolverhampton, defended.

It appeared that on the 16th of September last, in the evening, defendant was driving towards Sedgley, and complainant was driving the opposite way. Defendant’s trap came into contact with the wheel of plaintiff’s and plaintiff was thrown out and severely bruised. It was proved by Mr. Horton, surgeon, that plaintiff had required medical treatment for many weeks in consequence of the injuries he had received. The defence was that there was no culpable negligence, but the affair was purely accidental. Defendant stated that he could not see plaintiff’s vehicle until he was within ten yards of it, and that he did his best to pull up.

The Jury returned a verdict for plaintiff, damages £5. The amount sued for was £10.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

Mr. Underhill in making the first application for a license to the HOP AND BARLEYCORN beershop, Lower Gornal, the property and in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Bunch*, alluded to the want of some defined principle of procedure in the granting of victuallers' licenses, and advocated the throwing open of the trade as far as possible, by the Bench being content with taking two securities from the applicant for a license; one that his house was suitable and convenient for business; and the other that his character guaranteed the proper and orderly conduct of his business. This would be reasonable in principle and sound in practice, as it would enable the proprietors of beer-houses to become publicans, and thus give to the Magistrates a control over such houses they did not at present possess. It would also strengthen the hands of the Bench in dealing with offences against the licenses, for granting licenses to all who gave surety for good conduct they could readily and justly withhold the license where and whenever the surety was forfeited. After pointing out that the plan had been adopted by the Liverpool licencing Magistrates, Mr. Underhill concluded by urging the claims of his client to a license. Application refused."

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

"The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

Mr. H. Underhill made an application on behalf of *Thomas Bunch*, of the HOP AND BARLEYCORN, Lower Gornal. He could implicitly rely on the recommendation of one of the Magistrates, the Rev. Mr. Rooker, as to the character of his client. The parish of Lower Gornal was rapidly increasing in population, and the accommodation of another licensed house was greatly needed..... After the Magistrates had deliberated, Mr. Perry said that they had gone carefully into the four applications, but had decided not to grant either of them."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/4/1865 - Advert

"Unreserved Sale At Gornal Wood, This Day (Saturday), April 29.

To Brewers, Brokers, Families Furnishing, and Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Powell and Son, upon the Premises of Mr. *Thomas Gordon Bunch*, (by order of the Trustees of Mrs. *Bunch*) – all the superb and modern Household Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Horses, Carriage, Carts, Float, Trap, Harness, Pigs, and other Effects; comprising superb Telescope Dining Table, 16ft by 4½ft, superb Sideboard, Sofa, Chairs, Chimney Glass, Pictures, Piano-forte, Cornices, Books, eight-day Clock, Oil Cloth, Kitchen and Culinary Articles, Feather Beds, Toilet Tables and Glasses, Chamber and other Chairs and Requisites; six-pull Beer Machine, Tap and other Tables, excellent and new Ale Casks, varying from 300 to 9 gallons each, about 600 gallons of Prime Ale and Porter, Port and Sherry Wine, 50-bushel mash Tub, large Working and other Tubs, Brewing Vats, three large Boilers, two useful Horses, Cart and Carriage Harness, light Spring Float, light Spring Cart, light Spring Trap, a very superior built four-wheel carriage, in excellent condition, Breeding Sow, and Three Store Pigs, and numerous other Effects.

In consequence of the number of lots, the Sale will commence punctually at Ten o'clock in the morning."

Birmingham Journal 27/5/1865 - Advert

"Important Sale Of Freehold Business Premises, Malthouse, Flour Mill, Brewery, Public House, and Building Land, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley. (By order of the Mortgagees, of *Thomas Gordon Bunch*).

By Messrs. Powell and Son, at the BUSH HOTEL, High Street, Dudley, on Thursday, the 15th day of June next, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions – the undermentioned Properties.

Lot 1. All that Freehold Public-House, Twelve-quarter Malthouse, Brewery, Steam Flour Mill, with three pairs of Stones, horizontal twelve-horse high-pressure Steam Engine and Boiler, Smut Mill, Dresser, Grinding Gear, Store Rooms, Stabling, with Loft over, Harness Room, Sheds, large Yard, Garden, and Out-offices, situate at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley aforesaid; the whole containing inclusive of the site of the Buildings 1,766 square yards or thereabouts, and now or late in the occupation of the said *Thomas Gordon Bunch*.

This lot is a corner Property, with three frontages, and is situate at an angle of the road leading out of Dudley and Himley Turnpike Road towards Upper Gornal and Sedgley.

Lot 2. All that desirable Piece of Freehold Building Land, situated opposite and nearly adjoining Lot 1, having a frontage of twenty-three yards to the road, and containing 514 square yards.

For further particulars and plans apply to Mr. F. H. Neville, Solicitor, 25, Colmore Row, Birmingham; or to the Auctioneers, High Street, Tipton."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/1/1866 - Advert

"To Millers, Maltsters, and Others, Valuable Freehold Property, comprising Public House, Malthouse, Brewery, Steam Flour Mill, Building Land and Premises, Situate at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction (by order of the Mortgagees of Mr. *Thomas Gordon Bunch*) at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, on Tuesday, the 13th day of February, 1866, at six o'clock in the evening, and subject to conditions, the above Valuable Freehold Business premises.

Full and descriptive particulars will be given in Bills of Sale, and for further information and to view a plan of the Property, apply to Mr. F. H. Neville, Solicitor, 25, Colmore Row, Birmingham; and to the Auctioneer, Dudley."

It is possible that this pub became the PEAR TREE.

HORSE AND JOCKEY

4, (60), (46), Ivy House Lane / Fullwoods End (Fullers End), (Fullards End), Deepfield Bank, COSELEY

OWNERS

Daniel Groucutt, ironmaster, Coseley
Mrs. Boycott, Northampton
Bindley and Co. Ltd., Burton on Trent
Ind Coope and Co. (1912) Ltd.
Kate Goodreid
Truman, Hanbury and Buxton Ltd.
Courage Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Stanford [1849] – **1852**;
Samuel Stanford (**1852** – [1854]
Joseph Stanford [1856] – [1858]
Joseph Collins [1860] – **1864**)
Joseph Ford [1868] – **1871**);
John Smout (**1871** – **1883**);
Thomas Fernihough Hill (**1883** – **1884**);
Henry Jakeman (**1884** – **1887**);
Mary Ann Jakeman (**1887**);
Jane Flintoff (**1887** – **1889**);
Thomas Pardoe (**1889**);
Mrs. Mary Ann Pardoe (**1889** – **1896**);
William Ames (**1896** – **1899**);
Henry Robson Ward (**1899** – **1904**);
Henry William Cole (**1904** – **1908**);
John Sidney Kemp (**1908** – **1909**);
James Fellows (**1909** – **1913**);
Thomas Talbot (**1913** – **1916**);
Isaac Goodreid (**1916** – **1922**);
Harry Griffiths (**1922** – **1929**);
Frederick Bishton (**1929** – [1940]
Henry Hardy (**1967** – []
Eric Kirk [] – **1985**)
Andy Flute (**1998** – [2004])

NOTES

Fullards End [1843], [1887]
Fullers End [1851], [1858]
Fullwoods End [1856], [1861], [1880], [1884], [1896], [1904], [1912], [1932]
46, Ivy House Lane [1871], [1881]
60, Ivy House Lane [1901], [1911], [1939]
4, Ivy House Lane

The original pub stood in front of the later one.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/4/1843

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On the 29th ult, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Fullards End, Sedgley, on Hannah Griffin, whose clothes had taken fire. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Morning Advertiser 12/9/1849

“An accident from choke damp, occurred at a coal-pit in Priorfields Colliery, Coseley, on Wednesday morning last. Four lives were lost.

On the morning named, at about six o'clock, John Millard, Samuel Weston, Timothy Flavell, and Ishmael Grainger, got into a skip for the purpose of descending the pit, to go to their work. They took with them lighted candles, to light them when they got

to the bottom. When the skip had gone about twelve yards down they felt the damp, which put out their candle. They all hooted up the pit the usual signal, 'Hold,' that the whimsey might be stopped, and the skip drawn up again. No one heard it, and the poor fellows were lowered into the deadly vapour, until the skip reached the bottom. They continued 'hooting' and were heard at last by those above. Then someone called from the top of the pit, and asked if they were on again (meaning on the skip). As they were all in it, they hooted 'Go on,' and the whimsey immediately started to draw them up. Millard became insensible, but fortunately did not fall from the skip, and in a state of insensibility was brought to the pit bank. Weston, Flavell, and Ishmael Grainger, however, overcome by the bad air, had fallen from the skip before it had been drawn up more than three yards, and remained at the bottom of the pit, which was about 50 yards deep. William Jeavons, the butty, and George Grainger, who were on the bank, immediately decided on descending, in order, if possible, to rescue Weston, Flavell, and Grainger. They were repeatedly asked to allow themselves, for their own safety, to be lashed to the skip, but refused. When they got to the bottom they hooted 'Hold' and the engine was stopped. They then hooted 'Go on' and the engine started to draw them up. Before the skip, however, had ascended half way up the shaft, something was heard to fall heavily to the bottom, and the skip brought up Ishmael Grainger in a helpless and insensible state. Jeavons, George Grainger, Weston, and Flavell, remained at the bottom of the pit. Thomas Wild, Joseph Griffiths, and Edward Hill, miners, immediately and boldly, and at the imminent risk of their lives, went down, and found Jeavons, Grainger, Weston, and Flavell, all lying upon their faces at the bottom, and apparently dead; they brought Grainger up in a dying state, and in the course of a few minutes he expired from the cuts and bruises he had received by falling from the skip. Wild and his companions were too much affected by the damp air to descend again. Wm. Ford, Wm. Clark, and Thos. Davies, were then lashed to the skip, and, like Wild, and Griffiths, risked their lives to save, if possible, those of their fellow-labourers. They brought up Jeavons, who, however, was dead; the state of the air in the pit was so bad that they were obliged to relinquish an attempt to bring up Weston. He was brought up shortly afterwards, but dead, by John Ford, brother of William Ford. Flavell was the last brought up, and he was also quite dead. The names of the persons who brought up Weston and Flavell, except that of John Ford, are not known to us, but their title to commendation is the same. In about half an hour, the lifeless bodies of all the sufferers, Weston and Flavell, who first descended, and Jeavons and Grainger, who so unhappily lost their lives endeavouring to rescue their fellow workmen, were on the pit bank. Millard, it may be noticed, when he fell in the skip from suffocation, fell with his hands between two pieces of iron attached to the baby, which prevented him from falling out, and he was thus miraculously saved. The facts of this remarkable and deplorable accident were fully sated at the inquests held on the bodies of the sufferers before the Coroner, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Coseley, on Thursday and Friday last. The Jury in each instance returned a verdict of Accidental Death. The pit, it is stated, was well ventilated, and many miners stated it to be their opinion that the heavy state of the atmosphere occasioned the damp air to remain in the pit. Jeavons was about 32 years of age, and Grainger about 25; Weston and Flavell were boys, the former about 13 and the latter about 15 years of age. *Wolverhampton Chronicle.*"

Joseph Stanford was also a horse dealer. [1851]

1851 Census

Fullers End

- [1] *Joseph Stanford* (52), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Charlotte Stanford (50), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Samuel Stanford* (30), son, horse dealer, born Sedgley;
- [4] James Stanford (11), son, at school, born Sedgley;
- [5] Jonathan Stanford (13), son, at school, born Sedgley;
- [6] Noah Stanford (8), son, at school, born Sedgley;
- [7] John Wright (23), nephew, moulder, born Sedgley;
- [8] Mary Fellows (42), house servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/1/1852

"At the Petty and Special Sessions on Monday last, being the day appointed for transferring victuallers' licenses, the following changes took place.....

Joseph Stanford, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Coseley, to *Samuel Stanford*, of the same place, horse dealer."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/6/1854

"An inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on Monday last, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Deepfield Bank, touching the death of John Breardmore, thirteen years of age, who, whilst loading a skip in a fire clay pit, the property of B. Gibbons, jun. Esq, was killed by a quantity of clod suddenly falling from the roof of the workings upon him, which caused his death in a few minutes. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/12/1854

"Yesterday (Friday) afternoon, a number of gentlemen assembled at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, and partook of a very excellent and substantial dinner, which had been provided by Mr. *Stanford*, the landlord. The object of the meeting was to present to Mr. M. Costello, Inspector of police, a valuable lever watch, with gold dial and gold chain, which was purchased by the subscriptions of the coal and ironmasters and other respectable inhabitants of the district, and which was furnished by Mr. Hyatt, watch and clock maker of Wolverhampton. The watch bore the following inscription, 'Presented to M. Costello, by the respectable inhabitants of Coseley, for his valuable services as Inspector of police, during the period of twelve years.' S. Grocutt, Esq, presided, the vice-chair being filled by Thomas Turley, Esq. In the course of the evening the chairman, in appropriate terms presented Mr. Costello with the watch and chain adding that a purse would hereafter be presented to him, but the subscription list had not been

closed. Mr. Costello, in suitable terms, acknowledged the mark of respect which had been paid to him. We shall give a report in our next paper.”

Bolton Chronicle 7/6/1856

“On Tuesday, an inquest was held at the house of Mr. *Joseph Stanford*, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Coseley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, on the body of a banksman named Samuel Webb, aged 27, who lived at Fullwood’s End, Coseley, and who died on the previous Saturday, under the following circumstances.

It would seem that the deceased lived in a house next door to one occupied by his brother, William Webb, a man about 22 years of age, and who was a moulder. In the early part of the day a quarrel took place between the wives of the two brothers, respecting their respective children, who were not more than two or three years old. On the arrival of their husbands from the reckonings, on Saturday night, at about ten o’clock, the wives told them what had taken place, and the deceased seemed to have been exasperated thereby. According to the evidence of David Clarke, with whom the deceased resided, the former (Clarke), apprehending that a row would take place, locked the door upon the deceased to keep him safe. But, the deceased, by forcing back the bolt of the lock managed to get out of the house, and then, according to Clarke, went down the road, met his brother William Webb, and struck at him with his fist. A fight ensued, and three rounds were fought; in the first round the brother went down, and in the two succeeding rounds they both fell. The deceased did not rise after the third round, and he was taken up by some bystanders, and conveyed to Clarke’s house. On arriving there it was thought that he would be able to stand, but he fell backwards upon the foot road, exclaiming ‘I am ——.’ The concluding word was not distinctly heard, but one of the witnesses, Ann Green, said she understood him to say ‘I am kicked.’ He never stirred or spoke afterwards, and died upon the spot. Mr. John Smith, surgeon, of Wallbrook, was immediately sent for, and attended, but the deceased was then dead. The brother was taken into custody the same day. Several witnesses were examined who saw the fight but they gave their evidence very reluctantly, and in a very unsatisfactory manner. After consulting, the Jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against the brother, who was then committed to Stafford. *Birmingham Journal.*”

[At Stafford, on 16th July 1856, William Webb was found not guilty of Manslaughter.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/9/1856

“An accident, attended with the loss of a life, occurred on Thursday morning last. It appears that about ten o’clock, a young woman named Ann Jones, aged nineteen, of Fullwood’s End, was at work in the brickyard belonging to Benjamin Whitehouse, Esq, of Priorfield Coal and Ironworks, Deepfields, where clay is ground by machinery, and while she was in the act of picking up the riddlings under the sie, and close to the upright shot of the driving wheel, her clothes became entangled with the machinery, and the unfortunate girl, by being drawn into the machinery, was injured fearfully. Some females, who were working close to her, immediately gave an alarm. The engine was stopped, and the girl extricated. Mr. Smith, surgeon, of Wallbrook, was sent for, and shortly afterwards was in attendance; also Mr. Haden, surgeon, of Sedgley. Jones was immediately removed to her parent’s house at Fullwood’s End, where, strange to say, she lingered until one o’clock the same day. An inquest was held on Friday last, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Stanford*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned, with a request from the Jury that Mr. Whitehouse would cause a guard to be erected round the wheels. The manager, Mr. Job Smallman, who was in attendance at the inquest, and was one of the first to render assistance to the unfortunate sufferer, promised, on behalf of Mr. Whitehouse, that the recommendation should be immediately attended to. It should be explained that in this and similar works the masters do not employ the workpeople themselves, but let the brickmaking at so much a thousand, and the contractors employ whom they think proper, and that too, as a matter of course, at the lowest rate of remuneration. The unfortunate sufferer was not quite compos mentis, and would be likely to go incautiously into places where danger did exist. She had been only five days occupied at the work at which she was engaged on the day of the accident.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 20/12/1856

“The body of a female infant child was found in the Birmingham Canal at Deepfields, between nine and ten o’clock on Thursday morning week, by David Elwell, a labourer, who works for Messrs. Groucutt. His attention was called to it by a traveller who was walking along the towing path of the canal. Sub-Inspector Costello was sent for, and attended immediately, and on examination found the child to be dressed in the Wolverhampton Union clothes. The body was immediately removed to the house of *Joseph Stanford*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Fullwoods End, where an inquest was opened on Friday, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner. The inquest was adjourned until the 26th inst, for the purpose of a post mortem examination of the body, and in order to give Mr. Costello, who is busily engaged in the case, an opportunity of apprehending the mother.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/3/1858 - Advert

“HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Fullers End, Coseley.

Mr. W. Ashcroft will Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 5th day of April, 1858, all the Brewing Plant, ale barrels, beer machine, Fixtures, and Stock In Trade; also a portion of the Household Furniture, strong and useful Carts, spring Trap, and a variety of Farming Implements, capital Sow and Pigs, 13 store Pigs, and two in-pig Sows, and a great variety of useful effects, of Mr. *J. Stanford*, who is leaving.

Sale to commence at eleven o’clock precisely.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/5/1859

“The body of a man, which was afterwards identified as that of John Davies, who formerly worked at Mr. H. B. Whitehouse’s furnaces was found in a branch of the Birmingham Canal, at Deepfields, on Monday morning last, by two men belonging to the canal company. An inquest was held on the same day, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Fullwood End, before W. H. Phillips, deputy

coroner, when from the evidence it appeared that deceased was last seen drinking at a public house in the neighbourhood on the previous Thursday week, and as he was intoxicated at the time he left, it is supposed he must have fallen into the canal in endeavouring to reach his own house. There were no marks of violence, and his pockets seemed to have been undisturbed. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased was Found Dead in the Birmingham Canal, but by what means he came there, there was no evidence to show.”

Joseph Collins = Josiah Collins

1861 Census

Fullwoods End – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN
[1] *Josiah Collins* (59), victualler, born Sedgley;
[2] Eliza Collins (64), wife, born Willenhall;
[3] Mary Groucutt (18), servant, born Sedgley:

Village Voice April 2016

“In September 1863 Maurice Costello, the Superintendent of Police for Coseley died after 23 years of sterling service. He left a wife and eight children. Nine years before Costello had been presented with a gold watch and chain by the people of Coseley in recognition of 12 years loyal service to the local community. The presentation took place at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN in Coseley and was attended by many of the leading industrialists in the area.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/4/1864 - Died

“On the 14th instant, Mr. *Joseph Collins*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Coseley, aged 62.”

1871 Census

46, Ivy House Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN
[1] *Joseph Ford* (34), victualler, born Wolverhampton;
[2] Mary Ford (29), wife, born Wales;
[3] Mary E. Ford (9), daughter, scholar, born Australia;
[4] Lilly A. Ford (7), daughter, scholar, born Australia;
[5] Elizabeth M. Ford (4), daughter, born England;
[6] Anna Taylor (27), general servant, born Sedgley:

John Smout was also a horse dealer.

See also SPREAD EAGLE.

Dudley Herald 18/11/1876

“An inquest was held at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Coseley, on Saturday morning, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, touching the death of Frederick Lewis (58), builder, of Tipton Road, Sedgley. The evidence showed that the deceased had been engaged at work at Hednesford, and on the 24th ult. booked at the railway station for Deepfields. He was seen to get on the train at Hednesford, but was not noticed to get out at Deepfields. On Thursday the deceased’s body was found floating on the water by some boatmen; but as to how or when he was drowned there was no evidence to show. The jury returned a verdict that deceased was Found Drowned but by what means there is no evidence to show.”

Dudley Herald 6/11/1880

“On Saturday, W. H. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Fullwoods End, on the body of George Bromley (53), who was found dead in bed on Saturday morning. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1881 Census

46, Ivyhouse Lane
[1] *John Smout* (65), coal miner, born Sedgley;
[2] Nancy Smout (63), wife, born Sedgley;
[3] Mary J. Reynolds (17), domestic servant, born Hogley Hay [Ogley Hay]:

Birmingham Daily Post 20/11/1882 - Advert

“Whitechapel Gig, Clarke builder; equal to new; cost £35. Also, set Harness (new), silver mountings. Lot £22. Inspection invited.

John Smout, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Coseley, Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1884

“On Monday, Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an adjourned inquest at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Fullwoods End, on the body of Isaac Grainger (52), who was fatally burnt in Messrs. Grazebrook and Satin’s Colliery at Gospel Oak. Mr. W. B. Scott, the Government inspector was present, as was Mr. Terry, the mining engineer for the South Staffordshire Mines Drainage Commission.

The Coroner explained that an explosion occurred on the 15th August, and that three men were burnt, Grainger fatally.

Thomas Clark, one of the injured men, said he was a bricklayer's labourer employed with others to put a dam in the pit about fifty yards from the shaft. Deceased was the 'competent' man under the act, and he examined the pit in the morning and night whilst the work was being done. He examined it on the morning of the explosion. When the gas fired, witness flung himself down, and attributed his escape to this, and the fact that he had on a muffler and a vest. The deceased was horribly burnt, and died the same day. Witness had not heard of any gas in the pit. In reply to Mr. Scott, he said there were five men working with naked lights. Mr. Edward Terry said that during the past two months men had been constructing a water-level through the workings at the colliery for the purpose of draining the adjoining collieries. Air throughs had been placed along the level from the up-cast to the dam. A man named Gothing had been employed at weekly wages, and not as a contractor, to do the work. Witness had never seen any gas in the colliery, and a visit the next day showed that the ventilation was very good, and there were no indications as to why the explosion had occurred. There had been gas in the pit since the explosion. Mr. Scott said he had visited the colliery, and found nothing to show that an explosion had taken place. There was plenty of ventilation by the place where the men were erecting the dam. The air was, however, cut off beyond the dam. No gas was visible, and, as a matter of theory, he thought perhaps the gas had generated in the pump, and escaped through the bye-pit. If an upright pipe had been provided the explosion might have been prevented. The air should have been taken all along the level, especially as new strata were being opened. Had there been a large accumulation of gas it must have blown all the men out of the pit. Benjamin Gothing, 'the competent man,' said he had never had any difficulty with the air pipes. Since the explosion gas had been found within 130 yards of the dam. He had taken upon himself the responsibility of taking off the air behind the dam, in order to facilitate the building of the dam. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Birmingham Daily Post 28/1/1887 - Advert

"HORSE AND JOCKEY, Fullards End, Coseley, near Bilston.

Well-known and long-established Old-licensed Inn and Liquor Vaults; capital situation; roomy premises. Full particulars, Powell and Brown, Tipton."

Henry Jakeman died in 1887.

Thomas Pardoe was married to *Mary Ann*.
He died in 1889.

1891 Census

Ivyhouse lane

- [1] *Mary A. Pardoe* (52), widow, licensed house manager, born Tipton;
- [2] *Florence Pardoe* (23), daughter, assistant, born Dudley;
- [3] *Benjamin Pardoe* (21), son, carpenter, born Walsall;
- [4] *Edith Pardoe* (19), daughter, assistant, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Charles Pardoe* (17), son, carpenter, born Dudley;
- [6] *Garnett Pardoe* (4), son, scholar, born Willenhall:

1901 Census

60, Ivy House Lane

- [1] *Henry R. Ward* (56), married, licensed victualler, born Swinfin, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Annie Ward* (21), daughter, barmaid, born Pattingham, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Nellie Ward* (19), daughter, school teacher, born Pattingham;
- [4] *William Gibson* (10), grandson, schoolboy, born Cheadle, Staffordshire:

1911 Census

60, Ivy House Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

- [1] *James Fellows* (54), publican, born Upper Ettingshall;
- [2] *Sarah Jane Fellows* (49), wife, married 27 years, assisting in the business, born Upper Ettingshall;
- [3] *Thomas Gutteridge* (27), nephew, widower, grinder, born Coseley;
- [4] *Katherine Gutteridge* (23), niece, servant, born Coseley:

James Fellows was fined £1 and costs, on 21st April 1913, for permitting drunkenness.

Evening Despatch 11/3/1914

"At the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Coseley, Mr. Coroner Stokes held an inquest yesterday, relative to the tragic death of Martha Smith, aged 34, wife of Joseph Smith, Tunnel Street, Coseley, an annealer. Mr. W. Lees represented the husband of the deceased.

William Gabriel, aged 14, son of a coal dealer, stated that on Saturday he was driving a horse and cart along Tunnel Street when the horse suddenly shied and bolted. Directly afterwards witness saw deceased crossing the road, pushing a perambulator. He shouted, but the woman was struck by the left cart wheel, and knocked down. When witness first saw Mrs. Smith, she was in the gutter, and she then crossed the road.

Replying to Mr. Lees, witness said he could not say what caused the horse to shy. He was on his proper side at the time of the

accident.

Peter Hand said he saw Mrs. Smith lying on the right side of the road, about five feet from the gutter. He picked her up, and she gave a gasp and died.

After hearing further evidence, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and expressed opinion that there was no blame attached to anyone.

Mr. Lees: That means no blame that you can take cognizance of.

The Coroner: Certainly, so far as I am concerned.”

Thomas Talbot was fined £6 and costs, on 8th June 1915, for selling whisky under strength.

Gertrude Berry and *Isaac Goodreid* were both fined £1 on 11th March 1921. She for selling beer to a person under 14 in a vessel not sealed and corked, and he for allowing it.

South Staffordshire Times 4/2/1922

“Bilston Licensing Sessions.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Coseley. Supt. Higgs drew attention to a conviction against the licensee, but said he had no objection to the renewal of the license.

Mr. R. Harris, on behalf of the owners, said the offence referred to was of a technical description, and arose through the error of a barmaid. Considerable renovation of the house was contemplated, and he asked the Bench to pass the plans now submitted to them.

The license was renewed and the plans passed.”

Black Country Bugle

Letter from Arthur Aston, Cannock

“.....the HORSE AND JOCKEY at Roseville. This was a lock-up pub would you believe, and *Harry [Griffiths]* caught the same Midland Red bus to Bilston at 10.20pm. He lived in Stowheath Lane, I believe.....”

Black Country Bugle

Letter from G. E. McClay, Coseley

“.....the tavern [RAILWAY TAVERN] was purchased by Mr. *Harry Griffiths* who was licensee of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Roseville. The local council told Mr. *Griffiths* to do repair work but afterwards, Mr. *Griffiths*, went as licensee of the BRITISH QUEEN, Parkes Hall.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/6/1932

“Midland luck continued on a considerable scale when the prize draw in connection with the Irish hospital sweepstakes was continued yesterday £100 each....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Coseley, near Bilston.”

1939 Register

60, Ivyhouse Lane

[1] *Frederick Bishton*, date of birth 2/11/1877, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Violet M. Bishton, dob 14/8/1892, licensed victualler, married;

Closed

Demolished

Rebuilt

Reopened in March 1940.

It was struck by a bomb on 30th August 1940, but no damage was done.

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1954

“Mr. Conrad S. Rowberry, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Ivyhouse Lane, Coseley, a fifth year student at Birmingham School of Architecture, who has been awarded the Pugin Scholarship by the Royal Institute of British Architecture. For this he will receive a silver medal and a monetary prize. The award was given for a study of medieval architecture of Great Britain and Ireland. There were 589 competitors for the R.I.B.A. prizes and scholarships, which were valued in all, at £3,000.....”

Eric Kirk died in March 1984.

Andy Flute was a super middleweight boxer.

[2011]

Closed [2012], [2018]

HORSE AND JOCKEY

64, Robert Wynd, (12, (13), Hall Lane), (Johnson Street), Cinder Hill, (Woodcross), (Coppice), Hurst Hill, Ettingshall, COSELEY

OWNERS

Absalom Carter, blacksmith, Sedgley
James Fellows
Sarah Fellows
Thomas Alfred Webb, steel agent, 70, Broad Lanes, Bilston
Frank Myatt Ltd.
Ansell's Ltd.
Holt, Plant and Deakin
Pubmaster Ltd. [1996]
Punch Taverns [2005], [2011]

LICENSEES

Abraham Carter [1854] – [1865]
Thomas Rudge [1867]
John Smout [1870] – [1872]
Benjamin Dicken [1871] – **1874**;
Mrs. Amelia (Dicken) Hawkes (**1874 – 1876**);
James Fellows Snr. (**1876 – 1900**);
Mrs. Sarah Fellows (**1900 – 1916**);
Miss Jane Fellows (**1916 – 1925**);
Harry Bradford (**1925**);
Michael Hanrahan (**1925 – 1926**);
William Fletcher (**1926 – 1929**);
Henrietta (Hall) Bevan (**1929 – 1931**);
James Sidney Mitton Turley (**1931 – 1935**);
Mrs. Mary Martha Naylor (**1935 – [1940]**)
Freddie Naylor []
Keith Roberts [1989]
Ann D Neal [1995]
Tony Neal [1997]
Mark Edward Howl [2004]
Paula Howl [2005]
Paul Reynolds (**2007 – [2008]**)
Ron Reynolds [2011] – [2014]
Chris Caldwell (**2015 – [2022]**)

NOTES

Cinder Hill [1862], [1896], [1904], [1908], [1932]
13, Hall Lane [1871], [1881]
12, Hall Lane [1891], [1901]
Johnson Street [1940]

It was known locally as the “Jockey”.

The original pub still stands opposite to the present building.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/8/1854

“Last week, William Robinson was brought up before Thomas Walker, Esq, on the charge of stealing a hundred pound note, the property of Mr. *Abraham Carter*, licensed victualler, Cinder Hill, near Sedgley. Mr. Henry Minors, draper, of Owen Street, Tipton, said: On Monday evening, about seven o’clock, the prisoner came to my shop, and purchased a silk handkerchief, a neck-tie, and two pairs of stockings, in payment of which he tendered me a bank-note, and asked for the change. I looked at the note, and asked him where he got it. He replied from Mr. *Abraham Carter*. I asked him if he knew what note it was, and he answered

yes, a five pound note. I then told him the value of the note was £100, and that I could not feel justified in parting with it until I had inquired further into the matter. I sent for a car, and took the prisoner to Mr. *Carter's*, and he, on being informed of what had taken place, denied having given the accused a note of any kind. Mrs. *Carter* went up stairs, and shortly returned, and stated that a £100 note, which had been placed in a box between the bed and the mattress, had been stolen. On our way back from Cinder Hill, the prisoner gave me the box in which Mr. *Carter's* note had been placed. Mr. *Carter* deposed to placing the note in the box, and concealing it under the bed, on the preceding Saturday. The prisoner had lodged with them for the past twelve months, and returned home on Monday, just before dinner time. He washed himself and changed his clothes, and went out between four and five o'clock, and was brought back to the house about three hours afterwards by Mr. Minors. Mr. and Mrs. *Carter* both identified the note produced by the officer, and the prisoner was fully committed to take his trial at the ensuing assizes."

Staffordshire Sentinel 5/8/1854

"South Staffordshire Assizes.....

William Robinson 28, labourer, confessed himself guilty of stealing on the 24th of July, 1854, at the parish of Sedgley, one box containing a bank of England note, value £100, the property of *Abraham Carter*, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment."

Benjamin Dicken and *John Smout* both appear in the same 1872 Directory at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Cinder Hill.

1871 Census

13, Hall Lane

[1] *Benjamin Dicken* (36), public house, HORSE AND JOCKEY, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Amelia Dicken* (32), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Joseph Henry Dicken (10), son, born Bilston;

[4] Elizabeth Millington (17), general servant, born Tipton:

Mrs. *Amelia Dicken* married, secondly, Mr. *John Hawkes*.

Dudley and District News 14/8/1880

"On Thursday morning the district coroner (W. H. Phillips, Esq.) resumed an inquiry at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Cinder Hill, Sedgley, touching the death of Joseph Darby (27), miner, Beacon Street, Cinder Hill. The deceased was fatally injured on the previous Thursday by being precipitated to the bottom of a pit shaft at the colliery of Mr. George Wellings, Priorfields, whilst he was ascending the pit in a skip along with five other fellow workmen, who were likewise more or less injured. The facts will be gathered from the evidence adduced. Mr. W. B. Scott, assistant Government Inspector of mines was in attendance.

George Wellings, jun., Princes End, the deputy at the pit was called. Having explained that a tackler skip, drawn up by a gin, was used, he said on the day of the accident the gin was at work winding up coal to three o'clock in the afternoon. At that hour he went to the bottom of the shaft, the tackler skip having been sent down for that purpose. Edward Harper, James Jones, John Evans, Joseph Worrall, witness, and the deceased, all got into the skip to ascend the shaft. Three of those named were men, and three were boys. A shout was given from the bottom as a signal that men were in the skip, and the ascent was commenced. They were drawn up steadily until the top was nearly reached, but before the wagon for landing then could be pushed under the skip the latter suddenly dropped about half way down the shaft, then received a check, and afterwards fell to the bottom, a portion of the ropes falling with the skip. Witness was injured in the left side, and all in the skip were injured by the fall, the deceased fatally. John Marsh was the banksman at the time of the occurrence, and Hezekiah Rollason was driving the gin horse. When witness was brought to the bank he saw that the gin was upset, and had fallen on its side a little to the right of the pit mouth. Witness could not account for the accident, except that the gudgeon had fallen out. Had known the gin to be pulled down by accident at a pit where it was previously used. Witness considered that the gin was quite safe for performing its work at the pit, and it had never undergone any repairs since it was erected. The rope used was of hemp 1¼ inches thick. The tackler skip measured about 2ft 10in across. Did not think the weight of the skip could have pulled the pin out of the cup. Within the last week, prior to the accident, the same number of men and boys had daily ascended the shaft together.

Mr. Scott remarked that he never previously knew of such a large number ascending together.

Thomas Caswell, another royalty master under Mr. Whitehouse, was of opinion that the occurrence was caused by the gin gudgeon working out.

By Mr. Scott: Did not think anyone, by looking at it, could have detected that it was loose.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said he had seen scores of gins and gudgeons, but had never seen one placed in the same manner as this one was.

John Marsh, banksman, stated that he saw the men fall down the shaft, and, turning, saw that the gin had fallen. The same night he noticed that the gudgeon had fallen out.

By Mr. Wellings: Had never known since he had been in his (Mr. Wellings') employ that he had allowed anything to be worked out of order. Had no knowledge that the gudgeon was loose.

Mr. Wellings here observed that he asked the questions because reports had been circulated that the witness had been seen on the top of the gin knocking the gudgeon down.

George Wellings, who works the pit on royalty, said that on the day of the accident he did not go on top of the gin to examine it, but walked round it, and saw the machinery generally was right. Never knew the gudgeon to get loose, and when the occurrence happened it must have accidentally come out.

In reply to Mr. Scott, the witness said he did not believe he could have detected that the gudgeon was loose if he had got on the top, because the weight would hold it in its place. It was not loose the same morning. If there had been anything amiss it would

have caused the gin to vibrate.

Mr. Scott: Has it been pointed out to you that the Act of Parliament requires the machinery to be examined every 24 hours? –

Witness: Yes, sir.

Hezekiah Rollason, the boy who was driving the gin at the pit, and Thomas Caswell were also examined, the latter saying he was of opinion that a careful examination of the gudgeon would have detected that it was working loose.

The Coroner, addressing the jury, said they had to consider whether the occurrence was purely accidental, or whether there was any neglect on the part of Mr. Wellings, whose duty it was to superintend the machinery. If they thought there was neglect, they would have to consider whether it was ordinary carelessness, amounting simply to a verdict of accidental death; or whether it was such gross neglect as amounted to manslaughter.

The jury, after consulting for some time, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and appended to it the recommendation that Mr. Wellings should have a careful examination of the gin made daily, and before working another one, ascertain how it was constructed and to adopt the best means for keeping the gudgeon in place.

Mr. Wellings promised to do this.

The Coroner, addressing him, said, for his own protection he would tell him that had it appeared that he had not made an examination of the machinery of any kind on the day of the accident the inquest would have most certainly resulted in a criminal charge being made against him. The Coroner also endorsed the recommendation of the jury as to the more frequent examination of the machinery, and ascertaining whether the gins he purchased were constructed in the best way for avoiding the risk of human life.”

1881 Census

12, Hall Lane – Brewhouse

13, Hall Lane – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

- [1] *James Fellows* (48), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Fellows* (42), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Peter Fellows (22), son, clerk, station, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Fellows (19), daughter, no occupation, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Jane Fellows* (18), daughter, no occupation, born Sedgley;
- [6] Fanny Fellows (15), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Sarah Fellows (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] James Fellows (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Frances E. Fellows (2 months), daughter, born Sedgley:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/7/1881

“John Leicester, of Can Lane, Bilston, and Robert Birdin, of Cinder Hill, Sedgley, run at the Victoria Grounds, Rough Hills, Wolverhampton, for £5 a side, 100 yards, on Monday next, July 25. Final deposit to be made this day (Saturday) at *James Fellows's*, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Cinder Hill.”

1891 Census

12, Hall Lane

- [1] *James Fellows* (58), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Fellows* (52), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Elizabeth Fellows (29), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Jane Fellows* (25), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [5] Fanny Fellows (25), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [6] Sarah Fellows (20), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [7] James Fellows (17), son, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [8] Ethel Fellows (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Walsall Advertiser 21/1/1899

“Mr. Arthur J. Richards held a very successful sale of property at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Cinder Hill, Coseley, on Tuesday evening last, the whole of the lots being disposed of at remarkably good prices. Messrs. Wilkinson and Walford being the solicitors acting in the matter.”

Sarah Fellows was also a brewer.

1901 Census

12, Hall Lane

- [1] *Sarah Fellows* (62), widow, born Coseley;
- [2] Elizabeth Fellows (39), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Jane Fellows* (38), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Fellows (30), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] James Fellows (27), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Frances Ethel Fellows (20), daughter, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Cinderhill – HORSE AND JOCKEY

- [1] *Sarah Fellows* (72), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Fellows* (49), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Jane Fellows* (48), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Frances Ethel Fellows* (30), daughter, born Sedgley:

Jane Fellows was also a brewer.

The license was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd March 1922.
Compensation Authority renewed the license on 20th July 1922.

South Staffordshire Times 27/7/1922

“The principal meeting of the County Licensing Committee was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday morning, Colonel R. C. Clive presiding....

‘This is rather an extraordinary case,’ commented Mr. Pratt (Clerk to the Bilston Justices), in regard to the case of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Cinder Hill, Coseley (*Jane Fellows*). He said that there had been no sales of intoxicating liquor on these premises for the past five years. The house belonged to a family named Fellows, one of whom kept another hotel, from which he had been in the habit of supplying beer to the HORSE AND JOCKEY. When the war restrictions came in, he had not sufficient beer in his own house to continue that supply, with the result that they had none at all. They did not even sell spirits, and after the termination of the war there was no attempt made to buy either spirits or beer. Until the justices visited the house with a view to referring it to the committee, nothing had been sold at the house for at least five years. Since then, however, Mr. Fellows had put the brewing plant into repair, and he was doing a fair trade.

Inspector Parsons, in cross-examination, agreed that if there had been beer at the house there would have been no difficulty at selling it.

Mr. O. L. Bergendorff (for the owner): Had the beer been there they would have had a crowd every night? – Yes; they were going about in crowds to try and find it.

James Fellows, the owner of the house, said he was now taking from £50 to £60 a week. His best day was Sunday, when the takings averaged £17 10s. For the four months since March last he had brewed 4,237 gallons of beer at this house. He put in a petition signed by 157 customers in support of the renewal of his license.

The license was renewed.”

Henrietta Hall married Joseph Richard Bevan on 12th May 1930.

A pet chimpanzee named Josie was kept here until 1947.

It was refurbished by Holt, Plant and Deakin at a cost of £100,000 and opened in 1989.

Keith Roberts was married to Pat.

It underwent a refurbishment in 1997.

Tony Neal was married to Ann.

It underwent a £300,000 refurbishment in 2007.

Ron Reynolds was the son of John Thomas and Annie Ada Reynolds – see BIRD IN HAND, Hill Street, Bilston.

Ron Reynolds was the father of *Paul Reynolds*.

Ron Reynolds was the father of Mark Reynolds – see HOP VAULT, Stourbridge.

Dudley 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 Dudley 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 Dudley town centre.....

HORSE AND JOCKEY, Robert Wynd, Woodcross.”

Express & Star 10/12/2022

“As pubs continue to battle the cost of living crisis, the *Express & Star* continues its Love Your Local series which celebrates our local inns. Meet the couple that run the HORSE AND JOCKEY, a pub with some of the best reviews in the Black Country. The HORSE AND JOCKEY on Robert Wynd, Bilston, is famous for its food with more than 150 reviews on Tripadvisor. The pub has the second best rating for Wolverhampton pubs on the comparison site’s website, and it’s something landlord *Chris Caldwell* is

especially proud of. ‘We are very popular with locals and have a loyal support who are proud to support us,’ he says. ‘We have been number one or two on Tripadvisor in Wolverhampton for restaurant and pubs and that is something we are especially proud of. We’re proud to be rated the best-rated pub in Wolverhampton, and it’s because of the good food we serve. We tend to focus on good food and drink rather than putting on events, and so the food along with the great service we provide makes it a fantastic experience to come and get here.’

Chris, 39, runs the pub with his wife *Laurna Caldwell*, 38, and the couple have done so for over seven years. *Chris* has worked in the hospitality sector for a large part of his life while *Laurna* has been on and off in the industry, but both now commit full-time to the HORSE AND JOCKEY. The couple met whilst working for a pub company, and were living in Scotland before an opportunity arose to take over the pub where *Chris* initially grew up. Once they took over in 2015, they completed a full refurbishment of the place and it has completely taken off since then. Speaking about the experience since taking over, *Chris* explains, ‘It was a fantastic local pub when we took over, but we added our own touches, developed the food side of the business and it has since taken off. We launched our own food menu when we took over – adding our own touches. It’s traditional British pub grub with our own touch and it is really popular and tastes good. Everything is home-cooked with a great team of chefs we have working in the kitchen. Another thing we do to help the local micro-economy is we support cask ale brewers from the local area, we use local butchers, veg shops and a fishmonger all close by, which helps everyone all round. This is a big part of our selling point. We’re a small independent business but thankfully people want to support businesses like ourself and in return we make sure we provide a fantastic service and serve great food and drink.’

Landlords and ladies often say that in order to successfully run a pub, you have to love the job and cannot do it half-hearted, and that is the case with *Chris* too. He said, ‘You have to love what you’re doing when running a pub, and we both do! We want to remain here for the rest of our careers, along with the great staff we have who have been here for years. Having a fantastic team along with brilliant customers, we couldn’t ask for a better group of people and it really makes the job so much easier. We daily deal with a great bunch of people and it truly makes the job a pleasure.’”

[2022]

HORSE AND JOCKEY

181, (26), (25), Dudley Road, (Sheepcotwall), Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Thomas Adey
Benjamin Bagley, Sedgley
John Millard, Hope Tavern, Netherton
John Rolinson and Son Ltd. (leased) [1912]
Ansell's Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Watton [1833] – [1842]
Edward Williams [1845] – [1850]
Edward Hickman [1851]
Edward Williams [1851] – 1859)
John Collins [1860] – [1862]
Joseph Walker [1864] – 1871);
Thomas Greaves (1871 – []
Thomas Adey [1872] – 1875);
John Baggott (1875);
Benjamin Bagley (1875 – 1880);
William Henry Waterfield (1880 – 1888);
James Hinley (1888);
John Kimberley (1888 – 1889);
Thomas Benjamin Wall (1889 – 1891);
James Joseph Lowe (1891 – 1892);
Mrs. Mary Marsh (1892 – 1902);
Richard Marsh [1901]
Mrs. Phoebe Darby (1902 – 1905);
Isaac Millard (1905 – 1911);
William Gerrard (1911 – 1912);
Robert Dawson (1912);

Daniel Greenway (1912 – 1913);
Joseph Watton (1913 – 1928);
Lawrence ‘Lol’ Abbiss (1928 – 1933);
John William Millard (1933 – [1940])
Eddie O’Neill (1983 – [1986])

NOTES

26, Dudley Road [1871], [1874], [1881], [1911], [1939]
25, Dudley Road [1891]
181, Dudley Road

OLD HORSE AND JOCKEY [1833], [1835], [1841], [1845], [1849], [1850], [1851], [1854], [1860], [1861]

Joseph Watton = Joseph Walton

1841 Census

Sheepcotwall

- [1] *Joseph Watton* (45), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Watton (40), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Joseph Watton (20), born Staffordshire;
- [4] William Watton (15), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Hannah Watton (10), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Jane Watton (10), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Ann Watton (5), born Staffordshire;
- [8] Moses Watton (5), born Staffordshire;
- [9] Mary Watton (4), born Staffordshire;
- [10] Sarah Watton (1), born Staffordshire:

1851 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Edward Williams* (50), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Williams (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Edward Williams (20), son, hawker, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Williams (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas Williams (16), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Sarah Williams (3), granddaughter, born Sedgley:

Worcester Journal 21/11/1857

“At the County Court, on Friday, the trustees of the Lodge of the Royal Waterloo Heroes, viz, Jonah Hickman, William Watton, and Samuel Nicholls, and the secretary, Joseph Hickman, brought an action against *Edward Williams*, landlord of the OLD HORSE AND JOCKEY public house, at Lower [sic] Gornal, for the recovery of £1 2s, the value of certain paraphernalia belonging to the society, which, it was alleged, he refused to deliver to the plaintiffs. Mr. Boddington appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Warmington for the defendant. The lodge having determined to leave the defendant’s house, they proceeded to remove the articles on the 18th of August, but the defendant said they should not be removed, and forcibly took away from one of the members who was removing them, an axe, a board, and a copper can, valued at £1 2s. The defendant said the lodge had been held at his house for upwards of thirty years, but denied having offered any opposition. The Judge gave a verdict for the plaintiffs for 20s.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/3/1859 - Died

“On the 15th inst, at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, in the 60th year of his age, Mr. *Edward Williams*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/11/1861 - Advert

“Monday, November 26, 1861. Upper Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Cooksey, has received instructions to Sell by Auction, on Monday, November 25, at the house of Mr. *John Collins*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal, aforesaid, all the Household Furniture, consisting of several sets of mahogany four-post bedsteads, wool mattresses, three excellent feather beds, several pairs of large blankets and sheets, mahogany chest of drawers, washstands, dressing tables, swing glasses, dining tables, large kitchen tables, mahogany cupboards, parlour and sitting room chairs, two clocks, six oil paintings, five carpets, easy chairs, mahogany bureau, a quantity of books, ornaments, quantity of glass, bed and table linen, kitchen and culinary articles; also 130-gallon copper furnace, iron furnace, 12-bag mashing tub, twelve large barrels, with everything else necessary for brewing, and a large quantity of miscellaneous property.

In consequence of the lots being numerous the sale will commence at ten o’clock. Further particulars, with catalogues, may be had from Mr. John Bradley, Ruiton; or at the Offices of the Auctioneer, Spring Field House, Sedgley.”

John Collins, retailer of beer, Upper Gornal. [1862]

'Foresters Hope' Court (No.4048) of Ancient Order of Foresters met here until 1869.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

"The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....
The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.
Permitting Drunkenness *Jos. Walker*, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, to pay costs."

Joseph Walker was fined £1 and costs and his license was endorsed for permitting drunkenness in January 1870. He was ordered to find two sureties of £10 for breach of the peace after fighting his nephew Thomas Walker in June 1870.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

"The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....
All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30 Licensed Victuallers.....
John [sic] Walker, HORSE AND JOCKEY, Gornal."

1871 Census

26, Dudley Road

- [1] *Thomas Greaves* (25), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Catherine Greaves* (22), wife, born Bridgnorth;
- [3] *William F. Greaves* (1), son, born Cardington, Shropshire;
- [4] *Thomas C. Greaves* (2 months), son, born Worcester;
- [5] *Eliza Fowler* (25), general servant, born Chelmarsh, [Shropshire];
- [6] *Harriet Wilson* (23), nurse, born Sedgley:

Thomas Greaves was fined £1 and costs and had his license endorsed for permitting drunkenness in June 1871.

Birmingham Daily Post 5/12/1871 - Advert

"Capital Roadside Public-House, the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, near Sedgley.
The above Old-established Roadside Public-House to be Let, and may be entered upon immediately. An excellent trade has been carried on for many years, and satisfactory reasons assigned to the present Proprietor in leaving. The Premises are very compact and healthy, with an excellent garden attached. Rent Moderate. In-coming about £120.
For further particulars, and to treat, apply to Mr. John Bent, Auctioneer and Publicans' Valuer, No.205, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley."

Midland Counties Evening Express 11/5/1875

"*John Baggott*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, was charged with allowing liquor to be consumed on his premises within prohibited hours. An officer heard the noise of glasses and loud talking in the house at a quarter past one on the morning of the 26th ult. After knocking at the door and waiting ten minutes, the door was opened. He then found three men, with glasses before them, all of which, however, were empty, but they had the smell of whisky. Evidence was given that the three men were all lodgers, and the case was dismissed, but the Stipendiary said the officer had acted properly for bringing the case before them."

Midland Examiner 12/6/1875

"*Martha Baggot*, wife of Mr. *Baggott*, the keeper of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, was charged with being drunk in her husband's house on the 26th ultimo. Fined 10s, or seven days in default."

Midland Examiner 10/7/1875

"*John Baggot*, proprietor of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal, was charged with being drunk on his own premises, and on the offence being proved, the Stipendiary said there was a diversity of opinion as to the liability to fine of a landlord found drunk in his own house, but in his opinion the Act clearly provided that a person drunk in a public place became an offender. Defendant would be fined 10s 6d."

London Gazette 27/7/1875

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley.
In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Baggott*, of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, 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, in Union-chambers, Stourbridge, on the 3rd day of August, 1875, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 17th day of July, 1875.

Thomas Wall, Union-chambers, Attorney for the said *John Baggott*.”

Benjamin Bagley = Benjamin Bayley

Benjamin Bagley was married to Hannah.

Dudley Herald 28/10/1876 - Advert

“First Monthly Sale.

Messrs. Rees and Raybould will offer for Sale by Auction in the Cricket Fields adjoining the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley, on Tuesday, the 7th day of November, 1876, at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon, several Cart and Hack Horses, Fat and Milking Cows, Pens of Ripe Sheep, Fat and Store Pigs.

Full particulars in Sale Bills.

Auctioneer's Offices, 2, Kidderminster Street, Kidderminster.

Entries are respectfully requested to be sent to Mr. W. Sheen, 37, New Street, Lower Gornal; and to Mr. *Benjamin Bagley*, HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley; or to the Auctioneers.

The December Sales will be held on the 6th and the 9th.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/4/1877

“At the Sedgley Police Court yesterday, before the Rev. G. Y. Rooker and Mr. F. A. Homer, *Benjamin Bagley*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, Upper Gornal, and a marine store dealer, was summoned for having bought a quantity of iron he knowing it to have been stolen. The evidence showed that a little boy went to Mr. C. Hartland's Brickworks and stole a quantity of iron rods and afterwards sold them to the defendant.

Mr. Barrow ably addressed the Bench for the defence, and the Bench taking into account that defendant had hitherto borne a very good character, only fined him 1s and costs, and his license to be registered for three years.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/6/1877

“At the Sedgley Police Court yesterday afternoon, before the Rev. J. Y. Rooker and Mr. F. A. Homer, John Smith, general dealer, Ruiton, was summoned for assaulting Hannah *Bagley*, landlady of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, Upper Gornal, on the 18th ult.

The evidence showed that the prisoner was very quarrelsome and assaulted the complainant by striking her in the face.

The Bench fined defendant 5s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/12/1877

“John Hartell (19), labourer, was also fined 10s and costs for a similar offence [refusing to quit when requested to do so] at the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, on the 3rd inst.”

County Express 5/7/1879

“At the Sedgley Police Court, on Monday, before Messrs. Haden Corser (Deputy Stipendiary) and F. A. Homer, *Benjamin Bagley*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, Upper Gornal, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house. Mr. Stokes appeared for the defendant.

Ann Partridge stated that in consequence of her husband drinking at the defendant's house she visited the premises on the 12th ult, and found her husband drunk. She remonstrated with the defendant for allowing her husband to get drunk, when he struck her a violent blow with a pewter measure, at the same time remarking that he could have twenty-four pints if he pleased.

Police-sergeant Walters seeing Partridge drunk in his own house on the same day.

Mr. Stokes submitted that if he proved that Partridge was sober when he was supplied with the ale the Bench would have no alternative but to dismiss the case.

A number of witnesses having stated that Partridge was sober when he was supplied with the ale, the Bench said there was a doubt in the case, and the defendant would have the benefit of it.”

Dudley and District News 6/3/1880

“William Rudge, miner, Upper Gornal, was charged with stealing a coat, the property of John Bowyer, wagoner, Penn Common. While the prosecutor was staying at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, the prisoner took the prosecutor's coat and pledged it for 3s. Prisoner said the prosecutor and several other men were drinking in the public house the whole of the afternoon, and when under the influence of the drink the prosecutor sent him to a pawnbroker's shop to pledge the coat. The money received was spent in drink, and the prosecutor partook of part of the ale. The magistrates dismissed the case.”

Dudley and District News 7/8/1880

“Emma Flavell, who has been before the Court many times before, was charged with refusing to quit the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal, when ordered by Mr. *Bagley*, the landlord. When ejected she became very violent, and behaved very badly to the proprietor and broke some things.

Fined £2 and costs, or one month in default.”

Dudley and District News 13/11/1880

“Edward Evans, of Duck Lane, Sedgley; James Tandy, Penn; and William Rudge, Penn, were charged with stealing, on the 3rd inst, two geese, value 14s, the property of Edward Collins, cow keeper; and *Benjamin Bagley*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, was charged with receiving the geese, knowing them to have been stolen. Mr. Tinsley defended *Bagley*. On the 2nd of November, prosecutor had eight geese, kept in an open shed. On the following morning two were missing. PC Wright, stationed at Penn, from information he received of the robbery, on the 3rd of November, went to *Bagley*'s house. In reply to him *Bagley* said he had not seen any geese or a goose feather. A day or two after witness went to the TURF TAVERN, Penn, and Tandy, who was there, voluntarily said, ‘I am sorry for what I have done.’ Witness subsequently took him to Sedgley police station to make a statement which he volunteered. On the way Tandy remarked that he could not sleep at night, being afraid he would be apprehended. He made the following statement: ‘I, James Tandy, of Penn Common, voluntarily make this statement to Sergeant Goodall and others in consequence of being very uneasy in my mind to think that I should have assisted in committing such an offence. On Tuesday night the 2nd instant, I, William Rudge, of Penn Common, and Edward Evans of Duck Lane, Sedgley, were drinking together in a public house in Sedgley till closing time. We then left Sedgley and went to Penn Common and lay in a loft over a shed belonging to my father. About five o'clock in the morning Evans said where is there anything that we can take, I said Collins has got some geese. He said, all right, we will have a couple of them, I can sell them. We all agreed to fetch them, I went into the shed and fetched them, Evans stood a little distance away. Rudge went into his mother's house, which was close to. He then came out and helped us carry the geese. We came across the common and up Red Lane. As we came along, Evans said which is the best place to take them to. Rudge answered and said *Bagley*'s. We then went across the fields to *Bagley*'s; *Bagley* was up, and bought them off us. He gave me and Rudge three shillings and sixpence each. We all said that was not enough. He then gave us all another sixpence each. He did not ask us where he had them from. *Bagley* keeps the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, near Upper Gornal, Sedgley.’

Further testimony was taken, but after the preceding statement, it is quite unnecessary to repeat it.

Mr. Tinsley addressed the Bench at length on behalf of *Bagley*, pleading the absence of guilty knowledge.

The Bench, however, committed him, as well as the other three defendants, to take their trial at the next Quarter Sessions at Stafford, bail being allowed.”

[At the Quarter Sessions at Stafford, on 3rd January 1881, the prosecution withdrew the charge against James Tandy, who was subsequently called as Queen's evidence. Edward Evans and William Rudge were found guilty and sentenced to six months' hard labour. *Benjamin Bagley* was found not guilty.]

Dudley and District News 20/11/1880 - Advert

“Sedgley. HORSE AND JOCKEY, Dudley Road, Sedgley. An Old Full-Licensed Road-side Inn, with Good Stabling, Brewhouse, large Yard and Garden, &c. Rent moderate. In coming low. Immediate possession. Apply on the premises.”

London Gazette 10/12/1880

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869 in the matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement of Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Benjamin Bayley*, of 23, Dudley Road Licensed Victualler and Butcher.

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. H. Tinsley, Solicitor, 31, Priory Street, Dudley On the 23rd day of December 1880.....”

Dudley and District News 12/3/1881

“John Bennett, Woodsetton, and John Beach, Tipton, were charged with stealing two fowls, the property of Mr. *W. H. Waterfield*, the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal.

Jane Flavell, a servant in prosecutor's employ, saw defendants go out of the house into the road, and afterwards saw Bennett in her master's yard close to the fowl pen. When asked what brought him there, he got over the fence and went away.

Another witness, named Mary Baker, afterwards saw Bennett with the two fowls, going into his own house.

Bennett, who expressed his sorrow to the Court, and said he was drunk at the time, was sentenced to two months' hard labour, and Beach was dismissed.”

1881 Census

26, Dudley Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY

[1] *William H. Waterfield* (32), licensed victualler and stone merchant, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Louisa L. Waterfield (28), wife, born Upper Gornal;

[3] John G. Waterfield (6), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;

[4] Jane Guest (19), domestic servant, born Upper Gornal:

Dudley and District News 11/2/1882

“George Williams, a soldier on furlough, was charged with refusing to quit the house of Mr. *W. H. Waterfield*, landlord of the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal.

It appeared that Williams was in the house on Wednesday drunk, and in consequence of some language he addressed to the servant girl, there was a very disgraceful row. Defendant was then requested to leave, but he refused.

He was fined £1 for refusing to quit, and 5s for being drunk, or, in default, one months' hard labour.”

Dudley and District News 14/10/1882

“William Guest, bricklayer, of Ruiton, was summoned for violently assaulting *William Henry Waterfield*, landlord of the HORSE

AND JOCKEY INN, Dudley Road, Upper Gornal. Mr. W. H. Tinsley appeared on behalf of the complainant. The Bench adjourned the case for a fortnight.”

Dudley and District News 28/10/1882

“William Guest, bricklayer, of Ruiton, was summoned for violently assaulting *William Henry Waterfield*, publican, of Upper Gornal.

Mr. W. H. Tinsley, who appeared for the complainant, said that when his client was walking up the Dudley Road, on the 7th inst, he was met by the defendant, who, without any provocation, struck him a violent blow on the head, which caused him to fall on some stones and to sustain serious injuries.

Defendant said he committed the offence in consequence of receiving great provocation, and the Bench dismissed the case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/1/1890

“On Sunday night a landau, containing Mr. Sharman, house furnisher, Wolverhampton, and a lady, was upset near the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, by a tramcar. It is said that the driver, Chapman, from the CLARENDON HOTEL, was trying to cross the metals when the accident happened. The vehicle was badly damaged, and the driver was thrown off, sustaining cuts and bruises. The horses and the occupants were uninjured, although it is reported that the lady had one of her boots torn off, without, however, injuring her foot. The driver was afterwards taken to his home in Wolverhampton, where he is progressing favourably.”

1891 Census

25, Dudley Road

[1] *Thomas Wall* (24), publican, born Dudley;

[2] *Eliza Wall* (24), wife, born Dudley;

[3] *Ellie Wall* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] *Elizabeth Humphries* (19), domestic servant, born Rose Hill, Staffordshire:

Dudley Herald 29/10/1898

“The annual dinner in connection with the Sedgley Cricket Club was held on Monday evening at the HORSE AND JOCKEY INN, Upper Gornal. After an excellent repast, reflecting credit on the host and hostess, had been done full justice to, Mr. Leonard Foster was voted to the chair.....”

1901 Census

26, Dudley Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY

[1] *Richard Marsh* (44), publican, born Upper Gornal;

[2] *Mary Marsh* (42), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Richard Marsh* (20), son, born Upper Gornal;

[4] *Mary E. Marsh* (22), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[5] *Florence Marsh* (14), daughter, born Upper Gornal:

1911 Census

26, Dudley Road – HORSE AND JOCKEY INN

[1] *Isaac Millard* (33), publican, born Coseley;

[2] *Mary Ann Millard* (35), wife, married 12 years, assistant in the business, born Lower Gornal;

[3] *Ada Elks* (29), general servant, born Kingswinford:

Daniel Greenway was fined £5 and costs, on 23rd December 1913, for permitting gaming.

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, £1 12s 9d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/9/1931

“Three months’ hard labour in each case, the sentences to run concurrently, was the penalty inflicted by the Bilston magistrates yesterday upon Albert Ernest Astley, aged 38, 37, Hurst Lane, Tipton, on three charges of obtaining money by false pretences.

It was alleged that the prisoner introduced himself as a representative of a Birmingham publishing firm to *Lawrence Abbis*,

licensee of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, and Robert Charles Plumb, farrier, Bull Stake, Darlaston. He offered to

sell them a book, 'Every Man's Own Lawyer,' the price of which was 21s, on the instalment system, and receiving 3s from *Abbis* and 10s from Plumb as deposit, promising to forward the books within a few days. The books, however, were not received and nothing more was seen of Astley.

In the third case it was stated that in January, while he was employed at the publishing firm, he sold a similar book to Frederick Goodridge, licensee of the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley. Goodridge paid 3s deposit and sent several instalments to the firm. On 15 July he saw the prisoner and decided to pay off the remainder. He, therefore, handed 9s to Astley, who, however, was not then employed by the firm, having ceased on 25 April.

It was stated that in the receipt book found on him there was evidence of numerous other offences of a similar nature."

Black Country Bugle (1983)

'Saved From Oblivion'

"Through succeeding decades the HORSE AND JOCKEY became the Mecca of local hard-working nailers and miners. They flocked to Sedgley Wakes which was held on the field adjoining the pub and then into the pub itself where they were regaled with foaming tankards and with free helpings of traditional roast beef Licensees are fondly remembered from the era including nature lover *Lol Abbiss* and the lovable, if eccentric, *Jack Millard*. *Jack's* rabbits, stewed in port wine, provided a mouth-watering delicacy. . . ."

John Millard = John Millward

1939 Register

26, Dudley Road

[1] *John Millard*, date of birth 12/7/1875, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Gertrude E. Millard, dob 4/4/1877, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Elizabeth Brettell, dob 23/3/1846, retired, widowed;

John (Jack) William Millard was born in 1875.

He had lived at 346 Stourbridge Road, Harts Hill.

He married Gertrude Brittle (b.1878) in 1905.

He was the organist at St. Chad's Church, Coseley.

He died on 15th March 1954.

See also HOPE, Netherton.

Closed

Demolished

HURST HILL TAVERN

21, (27), Caddick Street, (Hursthill (Road) Street), (27, Hurst Hill), (Coppice), COSELEY

OWNERS

Sarah Hughes

Honor Meddings

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Hughes [1848] – **1869**)

Mrs. Sarah Hughes (**1869 – 1885**);

Mrs. Honor (Hughes) Meddings (**1885 – 1919**);

William Meddings (**1919 – 1938**);

Thomas William Hughes Meddings (**1938 – [1940]**)

Thomas 'Tom' Slater (**1978 – 1986**)

R T Poole [1995]

NOTES

Hurst Hill Street

Hurst Hill, Coppice [1862]

27, Caddick Street [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901]
Hurst Hill Road [1896]
21, Caddick Street [1939]
27, Hurst Hill

It had a bow window either side of the door. [1957]

Thomas Hughes issued tokens from here.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/11/1848

“*Thomas Hughes*, publican, of Coseley, was charged by the police, in compliance with the directions from Dudley Fereday, Esq, with allowing fighting and keeping a disorderly house. The first witness called said two men were fighting in the house, and the defendant ‘pushed one of them down, and bullocked the other out.’ The next witness declared the defendant said he would not have his things knocked to pieces, and ‘winged one of the men towards the door.’ Mr. Leigh observed that Mr. Fereday most likely had been informed of the fighting at the house, but not informed of the conduct of the landlord, who had interfered to stop it. The case was discharged.”

1851 Census

Coppice

- [1] *Thomas Hughes* (29), brickmaker, born Gornal Wood;
- [2] *Sarah Hughes* (29), wife, born Old Park;
- [3] Nancy Hughes (14), daughter, born Coppice;
- [4] Sarah Ann Hughes (12), daughter, scholar, born Coppice;
- [5] Daniel Hughes (10), son, born Coppice;
- [6] William Hughes (8), son, born Coppice;
- [7] Isaac Hughes (6), son, born Coppice;
- [8] Eliza Jane Hughes (4), daughter, scholar, born Coppice;
- [9] Louisa Hughes (2), daughter, born Coppice;
- [10] Eliza Morgan (22), niece;
- [11] Daniel Mason (4), nephew, born Coppice:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/8/1851

“The annual assembly of magistrates for granting victuallers’ licenses within the hundred of Seisdon North, took place on Thursday last, at the Magistrates’ Office, Bilston Street.....

There were thirty-six applications for new licenses, thirty of which were refused, and one deferred (that of Elisha White, Daisy Bank, Sedgley), and five granted, viz.....

Thomas Hughes, brickmaker, Coppice, Sedgley.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 28/7/1855

“On Tuesday, an inquest was held at the HURST HILL TAVERN, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy-coroner, on the body of Thomas Bayliss, a miner, aged 22 years, who came to his death under the following circumstances.

The deceased was employed getting stone in the Prior Field Colliery, on Wednesday three weeks, placing a shot for the purpose of blowing it up, when some powder near the spot ignited, and fired the shot off before the deceased could get out of the way. He was immediately taken home, and attended by Dr. Ballenden, but died on Saturday last from injuries he had received. Deceased, before his death, stated that he had placed his candle upon what he thought was some black soil, but which he recollected after the accident was some black powder he had deposited there himself a short time previously. The powder, he added, immediately exploded and caused the shot which he had laid in the stone close to explode.

The jury having heard the evidence of several witnesses, returned a verdict that deceased died in consequence of injuries he had received from the powder and the shot exploding in the mine.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....

The following licenses were withheld until the adjourned licensing day for further consideration of the Magistrates, in consequence of the respective applicants having been convicted of offences against their license during the past year.....

Thomas Hughes, HURST HILL TAVERN, the Coppice.”

Birmingham Daily Post 11/5/1859

“An inquest was held on Monday, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, Deputy Coroner, and a respectable Jury, at the house of Mr. *Hughes*, Hurst Hill, on the body of Mary, daughter of Wm. Harper, miner, of the Coppice. The child had fallen into a bucket of wort during its mother’s absence down the yard. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1861 Census

Coppice

- [1] *Thomas Hughes* (49), brickmaker, born Sedgley;

- [2] *Sarah Hughes* (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Daniel Hughes* (20), son, brickmaker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William Hughes* (18), son, brickmaker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Isaac Hughes* (16), son, brickmaker, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Eliza Jane Hughes* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Louisa Hughes* (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Thomas Hughes* (7), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Joseph Nicholls* (20), son in law, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Sarah Ann Nicholls* (22), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [11] *Thomas Nicholls* (), grand daughter, born Sedgley;
- [12] *Priscilla Yates* (18), general servant, born Potteries, Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/8/1864

“At the Police Court yesterday Mr. *Hughes*, landlord of the HURST HILL TAVERN, at the Coppice, was complained against by the excise for brewing twelve bushels of malt without making the necessary entry of the brewing. The omission was admitted, but it was pleaded it arose from the forgetfulness of the defendant’s son. The bench, Messrs. Sparrow and Ward, had no alternative but to inflict a fine of £50. They promised, however, to recommend the excise authorities to further mitigate the legal penalty to £25.”

Thomas Hughes died in 1869.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court. The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year. Permitting Drunkenness *Sarah Hughes*, HURST HILL TAVERN, Coppice, Sedgley, £5 and costs.”
AND
“The licenses of the following publicans were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting. *Sarah Hughes*, HURST HILL TAVERN.”

1871 Census

27, Caddick Street
[1] *Sarah Hughes* (59), widow, publican, born Sedgley;
[2] *David Hughes* (29), son, brickmaker, born Sedgley;
[3] *Honour Hughes* (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
[4] *Thomas Hughes* (17), son, carpenter, born Sedgley:

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 17/3/1877 - Deaths

“On the 6th inst, aged 23 years, *Thomas Hughes*, son of the late *Thomas Hughes*, of the HURST HILL TAVERN, Coppice, Coseley.”

1881 Census

27, Caddick Street – HURST HILL TAVERN
[1] *Sarah Hughes* (69), widow, publican, born Sedgley;
[2] *Honor Hughes* (29), daughter, born Sedgley;
[3] *James Nicholls* (18), grandson, brickmaker, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

27, Caddick Street – HURST HILL TAVERN
[1] *William Maddings* (26), steel blower and publican, born Wolverhampton;
[2] *Honor Maddings* (39), wife (?), publican, born Sedgley;
[3] *Sarah Hughes* (20), niece, general servant, born Sedgley;
[4] *Charlotte Fletcher* (20), niece, barmaid, born Sedgley:

Honor Hughes married *William Meddings* on 14th April 1891.

1901 Census

27, Caddick Street
[1] *William Meddings* (36), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
[2] *Honor Meddings* (48), wife, born Sedgley;
[3] *Thomas William Hughes Meddings* (5), son, born Sedgley;
[4] *Mary Elizabeth Chisworth* (34), niece, married, general servant, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Hurst Hill – The TAVERN

- [1] *William Meddings* (46), brewer, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Honor Meddings* (54), wife, married 19 years, licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [3] Thomas William Hughes Meddings (15), son, born Coseley;
- [4] Harriet Caddick (18), domestic servant, born Coseley:

Mrs. *Honor Meddings*, beer retailer, Clifton Street. [1912]

Mrs. *Honor Meddings*, beer retailer, Hurst Hill. [1916]
She was also a brewer.
She died on 4th August 1919.

South Staffordshire Times 3/1/1920

“Hurst Hill Bowling Club. The annual dinner and distribution of prizes in connection with the above club was held at the headquarters (the HURST HILL TAVERN) when between 30 and 40 members sat down to do justice to the excellent spread provided by the host, Mr. *William Meddings*.....”

William Meddings, beer retailer, Hurst Hill. [1921]
He was also a brewer.

South Staffordshire Times 26/2/1921

“Hurst Hill Bowling Club. On Saturday last, the members of the above club held their annual dinner and distribution of prizes at their headquarters, the HURST HILL TAVERN, when about 40 members sat down to an excellent repast, served by the landlord, Mr. *William Meddings*. Afterward Mr. Fred Mills occupied the chair, and asked Councillor E. Millard to present the prizes, and also on behalf of the club, to make a presentation of a gold signet ring (engraved) and gold mounted umbrella to the old secretary, Mr. Joseph Heywood.....”

South Staffordshire Times 6/1/1923

“Hurst Hill Bowling Club. The annual smoking concert, prizes and medals distribution with the above club was held at headquarters, the HURST HILL TAVERN, on Saturday last.....”

1939 Register

21, Caddick Street – HURST HILL TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas W. Meddings*, date of birth 8/10/1895, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Dora Meddings, dob 14/6/1896, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] John W. Lewis, dob 22/6/1906, loader, steel trade, heavy worker, married;
- [4] Rose Lewis, dob 11/1/1910, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [7] Ernest Lewis, dob 11/5/1936, under school age, single:

Thomas W. H. Meddings was also a brewer.

Birmingham Daily Post 12/6/1961

“Mr. *Thomas Meddings*, for more than 40 years organist and choirmaster at St. Mary’s Church, Hurst Hill, Coseley, collapsed and died at a Sunday School anniversary service last night. He had trained the children’s choir for the service. The Rev. T. F. Wooley, Vicar of Kingswinford and Rural Dean of Kinver, continued with the service while the Vicar of St. Mary’s, the Rev. R. A. Mountford, went into the vestry, where Mr. *Meddings* had been carried. A doctor was called but Mr. *Meddings* was dead. Mr. *Meddings* retired a few years ago after being proprietor of the HURST HILL TAVERN, Coseley. Mr. *Meddings*, who leaves a widow, had a heart attack last year, and spent a short time in hospital.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/10/1961

“Other wills *Meddings, Thomas William Hughes*, of Turls Hill Road, Hurst Hill, near Bilston, formerly proprietor of the HURST HILL TAVERN, Coseley, and for more that 40 years organist and choirmaster at St. Mary’s Church, Hurst Hill, Coseley. £8,336 (£8,228 net).”

Sports Argus 22/12/1979

“In League Three, BUILDERS ARMS, made the ‘short’ trip over to the HURST HILL TAVERN and they soon went ahead with goals from Dawes and Venables. The response to this was immediate by Hurst Hill as Dereck Morgan rapped in no less than three goals. With goalkeeper Cartwright playing a ‘blinder,’ Hurst Hill held on and eventually clinched a thrilling match by 4-3.”

[2007]

Closed [2008], [2009]

It was converted into housing. [2011]

IVY HOUSE

61, (22), Ivy House Lane (Coseley Lane) / 22, Birmingham New Road, (Fullards End), COSELEY

OWNERS

Henry Bickerton Whitehouse
Benjamin Whitehouse, ironmaster, Sedgley
Ansell's Brewery Ltd.
Samuel Jones, Painters Arms, Coseley
James Cahill, brewer, Heath Town
W. Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Whitehouse [1833] – [1836]
Henry Hunt [1851] – 1856);
Joseph Collins (1856 – []
Samuel Jackson [1860] – 1873);
David Evans and Samuel Jackson (1873 – 1897);
Elizabeth Jackson (1897);
Charles Dyer Whitehead (1897);
William Norris (1897 – 1899);
John William Davies (1899 – 1901);
James Davies (1901 – 1902);
William Church Payne (1902);
John Henry Philby (1902 – 1903);
Samuel Jones (1903 – 1906);
William Bowyer (1906 – 1907);
Joseph Colbourne (1907 – 1908);
Samuel Jones (1908 – 1911);
John Henry Tate (1911 – 1926);
George Emmerson (1926 – 1930);
Herbert Arthur Tomlinson (1930 – 1935);
Mrs. Mary Jenkins (1935 – [1940])
William Tate [1940s]
L Mossop [1976]
M A Merriman [1983]

NOTES

Coseley Lane [1865]
22, Ivy House Lane [1881], [1891], [1911]
61, Ivy House Lane
22, Birmingham New Road [1939]
Birmingham New Road, Roseville [1940]

OLD IVY HOUSE [1835]

Joseph Whitehouse, victualler, Fullards End. [1833]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1833

“Inquisitions before H. Smith, Esq.....

At the IVY HOUSE, Sedgley, on Joseph Parton, who was killed by the falling in of rubbish, &c, at Walbroth colliery. Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/5/1834 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Residence and Land, Cottages, Malthouse, &c, at Pattingham and Wolverhampton; and Copyhold Mines, Messuages, Lands, &c, at Caponfields and Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. R. S. Walker, at the NEW HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, the 28th day of May instant, at four o’clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as shall be then and there produced.

Lot V. All that Messuage or Public-House, called the IVY HOUSE with Two Cottages and other buildings, good garden, and appurtenances, situate at or near Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, and adjoining the road leading from Sedgley to Coseley, and now in the occupation of *Joseph Whitehouse*.

This lot is copyhold within the manor of Sedgley, and the mines under the same are reserved.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/5/1835 - Advert

“Eligible Residence, Malthouse, Mines, &c &c.

The property of the late Mr. Sparrow, consisting of a capital Messuage, Land, and Premises, now respectably tenanted; Four Newly-Erected Cottages, all tenanted, with good gardens and a small piece of land adjoining, in the pleasant village of Pattingham, six miles from Wolverhampton; a large and commodious Malthouse, now occupied and in full work, in Wolverhampton; several acres of different stratas of Coal and Ironstone, and Eighteen Cottages, all tenanted, and several eligible Building Sites, at Caponfield, near Bilston; and a Public House and premises, called the IVY HOUSE, near Coseley, is now to be disposed of in Lots by Private Treaty.

For printed particulars of the property, and to treat, apply to Mr. J. B. Adams, Walsall; Mr. Edwin Sparrow, Penn, near Wolverhampton; or to Mr. Pickin, solicitor, Wellington, Salop.

May 1, 1845 [sic].”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/2/1836 - Advert

“Bilston. Valuable Mines of Coal and Ironstone, &c.

Lot 11. A Public House, called the IVY HOUSE, with the cottages, buildings, garden, and appurtenances, well situated for business, near Coseley, and adjoining the road leading from thence to Sedgley and close to the proposed railway from Birmingham, through Dudley to Wolverhampton, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Joseph Whitehouse*. This lot is copyhold of inheritance, within the manor of Sedgley, and the mines under it are reserved.”

1851 Census

Ivy House Lane

- [1] *Henry Hunt* (40), victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] Ann Hunt (38), wife, born Greathall, Shropshire;
- [3] Mary Hunt (9), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Henry Hunt (6), son, born Wolverhampton:

Worcester Journal 14/4/1855

“An inquest was held at the IVY HOUSE INN, Coseley, on Wednesday last, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, DC, on the body of Simon Peters, a sinker, aged 39 years, who was found by his wife, on Saturday morning, hanging in his back kitchen by a rope from a beam in the ceiling. She immediately made an alarm, and with the assistance of a police officer he was cut down, but life was extinct. The deceased had for some time been in a low state of mind, and for five months he had been confined in Birmingham Lunatic Asylum. After hearing a number of witnesses, the Jury returned a verdict, that the deceased hung himself whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/7/1856 - Advert

“An Old Licensed Public House.

To Be Let, the IVY HOUSE, situate in Ivy House Lane, Coseley, and may be entered upon at Michaelmas next.

For particulars apply to Isaac Fullwood, Prior Fields Furnaces, near Bilston.”

1861 Census

Ivy House Lane

- [1] *Samuel Jackson* (31), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Jackson* (27), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Samuel Jackson (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Martha A. Jackson (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Lockby (21), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/1/1865 - Advert

“Monday next, January 23. IVY HOUSE INN, Coseley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Charles Round.

All the Colliery Implements, consisting of Tacklers, Shovels, Skips and Rings, Baskets, Bars, Doghooks, Rakes, Axletrees, Dressers, Hammers, Cross Plates, Pikes, Blowing Tools, useful Pony, 13 hands high, rising 5 years old; Horse Tackle, Collars and Cruppers; Pit Timber, Pike Helves, Powder, 5 gallons Oil, and Sundries, belonging to the late firm of Messrs. David Millard and Joseph Morris.

Sale to commence at half-past Eleven o’clock punctually.

Auctioneer's Offices, Owen Street, Tipton."

Dudley Herald 12/9/1868

Samuel Jackson was fined 1s and costs for allowing drunkenness.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

"The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *Samuel Jackson*, IVY HOUSE, Sedgley, 1s and costs."

1871 Census

22, Ivy House Lane – Inn

[1] *Samuel Jackson* (41), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Elizabeth Jackson* (38), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Samuel Jackson (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] Martha Jackson (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] Clara Jackson (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Emily Jackson (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Albert E. Jackson (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] Alfred E. Jackson (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[9] Agnes Jackson (4), daughter, born Sedgley;

[10] Thomas Jackson (3), son, born Sedgley;

[11] Elizabeth Jackson (10 months), daughter, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/11/1871 - Advert

"Wanted, a Country Girl, used to Children, for a Public House.

Apply, 22, IVY HOUSE, Coseley, Deepfields."

Birmingham Daily Post 30/5/1873 - Advert

"To be Sold by Private Contract, Freehold Buildings and Land, at Ogley Hay, Brownhills, formerly used as a chapel. The land contains about 600 square yards. Also, the seats and forms used in the chapel. Part of the purchase money may remain on mortgage.

Apply to Mr. *Samuel Jackson*, IVY HOUSE, Coseley."

An inquest was held here in March 1877 on Joseph Peters (23), killed in a rock fall at Wednesbury Oak Colliery.

Dudley Herald 7/6/1879

"Mr. J. G. Deeley, eldest son of Mr. G. Deeley, of Priorfield Foundry, Deepfields, and Landsdown Villa, Smethwick, attained his majority on Friday last, and the event was celebrated with much rejoicing. On Saturday the workmen were entertained at the IVY HOUSE INN, and the toast of 'Success to Mr. Deeley' was proposed by Mr. E. Gough, who presided, and received with much heartiness. A pleasant evening was spent."

Wellington Journal 27/12/1879

"On Friday night week Mr. Robert W. Eaton, who had been the esteemed agent to the London and North-western Railway Company at Deepfields during the past 14 years, and is about to leave the district for Smethwick, was entertained at the IVY HOUSE INN, Deepfields. The chair was occupied by Mr. Job Smallman. Mr. Clayton of the Cannon Inn Foundry, on behalf of the leading firms of the district, presented Mr. Eaton an address and a purse containing £20 5s."

1881 Census

22, Ivyhouse Lane

[1] *Samuel Jackson* (51), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Elizabeth Jackson* (48), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Albert Jackson (17), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] Agnes Jackson (14), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] Thomas Jackson (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Alfred Jackson (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Elizabeth Jackson (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

22, Ivyhouse Lane

[1] *Samuel Jackson* (61), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Elizabeth Jackson* (58), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Alfred E. Jackson (25), son, painter, born Sedgley;

[4] Elizabeth Jackson (21), daughter, born Sedgley:

Samuel Jackson was also a firebrick maker of Can Lane. [1892]

James Davies = James Davis

1901 Census

22, Ivy House Lane

[1] *James Davis* (21), publican, licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] Kathleen Davis (21), wife, born Birmingham:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/1/1902

“Yesterday at Sedgley *James Davies*, landlord of the IVY HOUSE INN, Mount Pleasant, Coseley, was summoned for being drunk on his licensed premises on the 31st ult.

Police-sergeant Shaffery and Police-constables Johnson and Bate visited the defendant’s premises, and each stated he was drunk. Police-sergeant Shaffery stated that when he told the defendant he was drunk he denied the allegation, and said he was suffering from nervous disability. He asked two customers to express their opinion with respect to the defendant’s condition, and both stated that they believed him to be drunk. Defendant then stated he would be examined by a medical man, and sent for three, but not one attended while he remained on the licensed premises.

Mr. R. A. Willcock, who defended, stated on the night of the alleged offence defendant saw Dr. Clendinnen, who had regularly attended him, but declined to examine him, stating that he should decline to go to the Police Court, as he was unable to devote any time. Defendant tried hard to get three medical men to examine him, which fact was certainly in his favour.

The Stipendiary said he did not think the defendant had had much to drink, but being in a delicate state the little he did have overcame him. He should have to convict.

Mr. Willcock: The defendant has been connected with the licensed trade all his life, and no previous complaint has ever been made.

The Stipendiary said he must convict, as he believed the offence to be fully proved, and inflicted a fine of 5s and costs.”

John Henry Philby = John Henry Filbee = John Henry Filby

Leominster News 6/3/1903

“On Monday, at Sedgley, *John Filby*, holder of the license of the IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy Lane, Coseley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. Mr. A. Turton prosecuted, and Mr. R. A. Willcock defended.

It was alleged that on the 7th ult. a man named William Taylor went to the IVY HOUSE INN at 2.15pm, and six hours later was found there by the police drunk. Taylor now stated that during the time he was in defendant’s house he had eleven pints of ale. In cross-examination, witness said he was capable to drinking four pints per hour for six hours in succession. Mr. Willcock, who did not deny that the man was drunk, stated that a Miss Sheldon had charge of the house whilst he was not there, and she tried to persuade him to leave, but he would not do so. A fine of £5 and costs was imposed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/3/1904

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Sedgley were held on Tuesday.....

Mr. R. A. Willcock, applied for the renewal of the licenses of the IVY HOUSE, Coseley, and the GOLDEN LION, Bradley, to which the police objected on the grounds that they were not required and that convictions had been recorded against former licensees The magistrates granted the applications.”

1911 Census

22, Ivyhouse Lane – IVY HOUSE

[1] *John Henry Tate* (36), boiler maker and licensed victualler, born Coseley;

[2] Jessie Tate (37), wife, married 16 years, born Coseley;

[3] Sarah Tate (12), daughter, school, born Coseley;

[4] John Tate (10), son, school, born Coseley;

[5] William Tate (6), son, school, born Coseley;

[7] William Fleet (70), boarder, iron worker, born Coseley:

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o’clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beehouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. John Groves.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together

with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. Davies.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. Enoch Smart.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Isaac Smart.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Joshua Bradley.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Beerhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley."

Herbert Arthur Tomlinson = Albert Arthur Tomlinson

1939 Register

22, Birmingham New Road

[1] *Mary A. Jenkins*, date of birth 5/7/1881, licensed trade manager, widowed;

[2] *Louis Mossop*, dob 31/10/1913, haulage contractor single:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/12/1958

"At her head lay her few pitiful belongings – a handbag on which the frost had gathered so that it sparkled in the morning light; a few coins scattered on the garden path; some odd things from the bag. At her feet, a small hole was scraped in the path, as though her feet had 'scrabbled' at the earth as she lay there, trying to get up.

It was a tragic tale of Black Country independence that was told to the Dudley Coroner, Mr. Malcolm Wright, yesterday at the inquest on Eliza Parsonage (82), a widow, of Ivy House Lane, Coseley. She was found lying on the garden path of her home on Monday morning, obviously having lain there all night.

Her grandson spoke of her independence. 'She would have no one live with her,' he said. 'She had had lodgers, and we were trying to get some others to live with her when this happened.'

The licensee of the IVY HOUSE INN, who found her – her cottage is just behind his public house – said that she had lived in the cottage 'for 50 years or more.'

She had been a widow for many years and had perhaps sought a solace that others in loneliness have sought.

Insp. R. A. Bond, of the Coseley police, said that he found a 'slight trace of life' in her body when he was called to the scene at 8.50am on Monday. There were signs that she had lain there all night vainly trying to 'help herself.' She was carried to her cottage, where the 'light was still burning as though she had left it on for her return.'

It seemed a bitter end to a life of frugal independence, for she had died in the Guest Hospital, Dudley, soon after admission on Monday from 'exposure to the cold.'

The verdict was Death by Misadventure."

It closed in 1985.

It became an Italian restaurant in 1987.

It reopened

Closed

It was demolished on 1st January 1992.

The site was occupied by McDonalds.

JEW INN

Swan Village, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Evening Express 3/12/1881

“W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquest on Wednesday, at the JEW INN, Swan Village, Coseley, touching the death of a child named Alice Hobson, aged 11 weeks, whose parents reside in Fox Street.

The mother of the child put it to bed on Monday morning, and shortly afterwards found it dead.

The jury came to the conclusion that the child had been Accidentally Suffocated by the bedclothes getting over its head.”

JOLLY COLLIER

Daisy Bank, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Walters [1861]

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 5/1/1861 - Advert

“Lost, on the 8th of December, a small Red Bitch, a little white on the end of the tail, with one toe off the right fore foot. Any one finding her, and will take her to Mr. *James Walters*, JOLLY COLLIER INN, near Daisy Bank station, Bilston, shall be rewarded for their trouble.”

JOLLY CRISPIN

25, (11), (10), (14), Clarence Street, (Dudley Road), (Sheepcotwall), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Elisha Meanley

Ann Meanley

John Foley, brewer, Kates Hill, Dudley

Kates Hill Brewery [1902]

Joseph Hartshorne, 133, Cinder Bank, Netherton [1907]

Joseph Clarence Guest, licensee, Hilly House Inn, Corser Street, Dudley

Simpkiss Brewery (acquired in 1940)

Greenall Whitley (acquired in 1985)

Philip Bellfield (acquired in 1997)

Lyn and Keith Anthony Garbett (Keilyn Enterprises) (acquired on 8th December 1999 for £150,000)

Julie Rowe and Stuart Griffiths (acquired on 7th March 2002)
Newport Pub Co. (acquired in 2006)
InnDeeD (acquired in 2007)
Allied Bank of Ireland (acquired in 2012)
In Administration [2012/13]
Lone Star Estate [2013/14]
Red Oak Taverns [2014/15], [2021]
Red Pub Company (leased from 24th January 2021)

LICENSEES

John Lewis [1831] – [1833]
James Meanley [1835]
William Lewis [1838] – [1841]
James Meanley [1841] – [1842]
William Lewis and Son [1842] – [1845]
William Lewis [1849] – [1850]
Elisha Meanley [1850] – [1870]
Thomas Greaves [] – 1871);
Elisha Meanley (1871 – 1874);
Ann Meanley (1874 – 1879);
William Griffin (1879 – 1885);
Charles Evans (1885 – 1891);
Reuben Bennett (1891 – 1896);
Isaac John Mills [1896] ?
Thomas Hughes (1896 – 1897);
John Short (1897 – 1901);
Luke Dovey (1901 – 1909);
Charles Henry Guest (1909 – 1910);
Isaac John Mills (1910 – 1925);
Alice Mills (1925 – 1927);
William Isaac Mills (1927 – 1929);
Charles Clarence Guest (1929 – 1939);
William Richard Easthope (1939 – 1940);
Charles Evans []
Sidney Morris (1940 – 1948);
Annie Morris (1948 – 1957);
Sidney Eugene Morris (1957 – 1976)
Percy Leslie ‘Les’ Skitt (1976 – 1984);
Gordon Peter Bentley (1984 – 1985);
Arthur Harold ‘Harry’ Grant (1985 – 1989);
Frances Jeanette Woods (1989 – 1990);
Doreen Louise Street (1990 – 1991);
Mavis Joaquin (1991);
William Henry ‘Bill’ Stelling (1991 – 1992);
Peter Turner (1992 – 1996);
Susan Mary Catherine Grajnet (1996);
James ‘Jim’ Lonsdale (1996 – 1997);
John Thomas Megeary (1997);
Philip Charles Bellfield (1997 – 2000);
Sarah Jane Voice (2000);
David Spencer (2000 – 2001);
Keith Anthony Garbett (2001);
Rachel Frances Ferguson (2001);
Keith Anthony Garbett (2001 – 2002);
Natasha Vaughan (2002);
Andy Bracken (2002 – 2003);
Julie Rowe (2003 – 2006);
Robin Arthur ‘Rob’ Carey (2006 – 2021);
Tracie Bassett (2021 – [] manager

NOTES

14, Clarence Street [1881]
11, Clarence Street [1891], [1911]
10, Clarence Street [1901]
25, Clarence Street [1939]

JOLLY CRISPIN AND CARPENTER [1845], [1849]
CRISPIN [1841], [1843]
JOLLY CRISPIN [1835], [1841]

It had a 6-day license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/4/1838 - Advert

“Freehold And Copyhold Property, at Dudley and Gornal.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesses Wright, this present Monday, April 2, at the house of Thomas Yardley, the WINDMILL INN, Stafford Street, Dudley, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to such conditions as will then be produced.

Lot 2. All that excellent and well-built Messuage, consisting of front and back kitchens, three lodging rooms, brewhouse, pump of excellent water, and other conveniences, situate at Upper Gornal, adjoining the JOLLY CRISPIN Public House, fronting the road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton, and now in the occupation of Mr. *William Lewis*.

The tenure of the above lot is Copyhold of the Mayor of Sedgley.

For other particulars apply to the Auctioneer, or at the offices of Messrs. Robinson and Fletcher, Solicitors, Dudley.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/11/1839

“James Bowyer of Sandy Fields, will run James Steward, of Wolverhampton, ten score yards, and give him two yards start for any sum from £5 upwards or should this not suit, Bowyer will run him six score yards. The money is ready at Mr. *Lewis*'s, the JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper Gornal.”

AND

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/11/1839

“James Steward, of Wolverhampton, accepts the challenge of James Bowyer, provided the race be five score yards, and for £10 a side. His money is ready at the ROEBUCK, Penn, as he does not feel inclined to go to Gornal. If this does not suit Bowyer, he will run any other man within ten miles of Wolverhampton, on the same terms.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/1/1841

“James Bowyer of Sandyfields, informs James Steward of Wolverhampton, by whom he was defeated, that he has not been able to find friends to back him again, but he has it in his power to back himself at the present time, for £10 a side, five score yards. Should Steward refuse he will accommodate Bloomfield of Wolverhampton, for the like sum, five score and ten score yards. His money will be ready at Mr. *Lewis*'s, JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper, Gornal, on Monday evening, between six and eight o'clock.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/3/1841

“James Bowyer, of Sedgley, and Onessimus Jones, of the Lye, are matched to run five score yards for £15 a side on the first Monday in May, to come off at Wombourn Common; win or lose, Bowyer will run Griffiths, of Birmingham, or any man in Staffordshire, with the exception of Steward, of Wolverhampton, five score yards for their own sum. His money is ready at the TURF TAVERN, New Street, Dudley.”

1841 Census

Sheepcotwall

- [1] *William Lewis* (25), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Lewis (20);
- [3] Mary Jane Lewis (3), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Mary Clifford (20), fs:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/6/1843

“William Askey was charged with stealing a silver watch, value £2 the property of Thomas Pye. The prisoner and the prosecutor, it appeared, were together at the JOLLY CRISPIN public-house, Upper Gornal, on Thursday, when the prosecutor, who, it seems, had been there the whole day, at about nine o'clock in the evening missed his watch. The next day it was ascertained that it had been pledged by the prisoner, as early as eight o'clock in the morning, at the shop of Mr. Lee, pawnbroker, in this town. The prisoner was taken into custody the same day by Wolverson, the constable, while at work at Gornal. Committed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/7/1843

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

To be imprisoned for four months William Askey, for stealing a silver watch, the property of Thomas Pye, at Sedgley.”

James Meanley = James Meanly

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/9/1844 - Advert

“Caution.

Take Notice, that I, *James Meanly*, of Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, will not be accountable for any debt or debts my wife Hannah Meanly, of Kates Hill, in the parish of Dudley, may contract after this public notice.

As witnessed by my hand this 14th day of September, 1844.

James Meanley.”

Chester Chronicle 18/10/1844 (from the Stafford Advertiser)

“An inquest has been held on the body of a woman named Prudence Hughes, who had lived at Sedgley, and whose death, it was supposed, was occasioned by ill-treatment from a man named Joseph Penn, who cohabited with her. The deceased, who was 35 years of age, was about six months advanced in a state of pregnancy, and her death, it is presumed, was caused by kicks from Penn, with whom she had left Dudley, late on the night of Monday the 23rd ult. to return to her home at Sedgley. The inquest commenced on Tuesday the 24th ult., and after being adjourned to the Tuesday following, was resumed on Friday last. Martin Carter stated that he lived at Gornal, and knew the deceased who obtained her living by selling coal for Joseph Penn. She lived at Sedgley. At about two o’clock on the morning of the 24th ult. he heard a scream from the turnpike-road, and got up, and drew up the blind of his room when he saw a man dressed in a white smock frock near to a female. He said to her, ‘You d——d bitch, I’ve been watching you.’ She did not reply, and the man immediately got up his fist and struck her somewhere behind. She reeled, the man struck her again, and she fell under witness’s window insensible. Witness spoke to the man, but he did not reply. The man arranged the woman’s clothes, and then dragged her along in the direction of Sedgley. She wanted to stop saying, ‘It’s no use; I can’t go any farther.’ The man, however, persisted in dragging her along. In the morning witness found a quantity of blood where the woman had been lying, and also about twelve yards further on, in the direction of Sedgley. Some persons passed while the man was dragging the woman, and he (witness) then went to bed. He had known Penn and Hughes many years, and he believed that they were the persons under his window. It was a light night, and the parties were about four yards from witness’s window. Isaac Tomkinson stated that he was a police officer, stationed at Coseley. Gornal was within his beat, and at about two o’clock on the morning in question he was proceeding through Gornal, with another policeman named Eager, when they heard a groan from a person in the road. They saw a female lying on the road, and a man in a white smock frock standing near her. The man was Joseph Penn, and the woman was Prudence Hughes; she was insensible and unable to speak. Witness asked Penn the cause of the blood, and he said Hughes was his wife, and was miscarrying. He also said that she lived with her mother near the OLD BUSH, Sedgley, and witness fetched her mother. On their way back they met Ann Slater, and desired her to fetch Mr. Bellenden, a surgeon. Witness then obtained an ass and cart, for the purpose of removing the woman to her own house; but upon getting to Gornal found she had been removed to the JOLLY CRISPIN, and was unfit to be removed further. Mr. Bellenden was in attendance upon the deceased from that time till about seven o’clock, and then he left. In about an hour and a half or two hours afterwards witness fetched Mr. Browne, another surgeon, but upon returning with him Hughes was dead. There was a great quantity of blood upon the woman’s clothes; there was blood also upon Penn’s smock. Penn was taken to the Coseley station. John Hill, a stonemason, stated that he knew Hughes and Penn, and saw them together at Dudley, on the 23rd ult. when Hughes appeared to be in good health. Witness and Slater were with them at the HARE AND HOUNDS, Dudley, until about twelve o’clock, when they left, all quite sober. When they were near the gate at Shaver’s End, Hughes said that Penn has struck her and cut her lip. The witness then detailed at great length their progress on the road, and stated that he saw Penn and Hughes together on the road opposite Mr. Cartwright’s malthouse, but before he could get up to them Penn had left Hughes and gone in the direction of Dudley. Hughes was sobbing and crying, and said Penn had kicked her three times, besides beating her with his fists. In about a quarter of an hour Penn returned, and went past witness and Hughes in the direction of Sedgley. Witness subsequently saw Penn and Hughes together, as he believed, near Sedgley. Maria Cartwright stated that she kept the Post Office, and on the morning of the 24th ult. heard talking opposite her house, and a heavy blow struck, which was repeated; when she heard a moan, and a third blow. The person who received the blow was a female, and cried out faintly ‘Murder’; she did so with difficulty, and the cry, witness was sure, was a stifled cry. Francis Eager, a police officer, gave testimony similar to that of Tomkinson, and spoke to an attempt by Penn, when in custody, to get rid of an apron which was stained with blood. Ann Slater gave a long account of the proceedings of the parties at Dudley, and on the road so far as they fell under her observation, but did not see Penn strike Hughes. Maurice Costello, a police officer, narrated a statement made to him by Penn, in which he admitted that he might have struck Hughes, but he was tipsy, and did not know. Col. Hogg spoke to finding marks of blood on the shirt of the prisoner, who repeated to him (Col. Hogg) that he never beat or ill-treated the woman. Mr. John McNab Bellenden, surgeon, residing at Sedgley, stated that he attended the deceased, whom he found in an apparently dying state. He administered some medicine, and found the deceased was pregnant, and had not miscarried. He found some marks of severe external violence: the upper lip was cut, there was a severe bruise upon the back of the right thigh, and the private parts were much bruised. The deceased had evidently bled very much. He made a ‘post mortem’ examination, and was of the opinion that death was caused by the rupture of the uterine vessels producing haemorrhage. Several kicks or blows would cause such appearances, and he was of opinion they could not have been caused otherwise. The prisoner after being cautioned, made a long statement, in which he denied striking the deceased, and alleged that the deceased complained of ‘stitches’, said she was going to miscarry, and fell down. The blood upon his clothes, he said, was caused by helping to carry her to the house. The coroner having gone through the evidence and pointed out its bearings, the jury returned a verdict of ‘wilful murder’ against John Penn. The jury at the same time expressed their unqualified approbation of the conduct of the two police officers. Tomkinson and Eager, on the morning of the unfortunate occurrence, in promptly procuring the attendance of a surgeon for the deceased, and yielding her every assistance in their power; and they therefore recommended them to the attention of Col. Hogg; and the jury also begged to tender their best thanks to Col. Hogg for his valuable assistance in getting up the evidence, and to Mr. Bellenden, surgeon, for his unremitting attention to the deceased. The coroner also complimented the police for the vigilance and attention they had shown in the case.”

London Morning Chronicle 20/12/1844

“OXFORD CIRCUIT – Stafford, Dec 18.

[Before Mr. Justice Coltman.]

Joseph Penn, aged 52, was indicted for the wilful murder of Prudence Hughes on the 24th of September last, in the parish of Sedgley, in this county.

Mr. Yardley and Mr. Huddleston conducted the case on the part of the prosecution; and Mr. Allen (with whom was Mr. Keyson) appeared for the prisoner.

The prisoner, whose occupation was that of drawing coals, resided at Caddick’s End, near Dudley; and it appeared that an illicit connection had for some years existed between him and the deceased, who lived at Sedgley, and that by her he had several children. On the night of the 23rd of September last the prisoner and the deceased were at a public-house in Birmingham Street, Dudley, called the HARE AND HOUNDS, where there was a woman named Ann Slater, who lived with the deceased, and three men, Hill, Walker, and Ball. At about midnight the prisoner, the deceased, Ann Slater, and Hill, left the HARE AND HOUNDS, and proceeded along the road towards Sedgley. There was much discrepancy in the testimony of the witnesses as to the state in which these four persons were at that time, some declaring that neither of them were sober, and the others positively denying that any one of them was in the slightest degree intoxicated. Slater and Hill walked first, and the prisoner and the deceased followed. After they had proceeded some distance along the road the deceased came up to Ann Slater and Hill and showed her lip, which was cut through and slightly bleeding; at this time the prisoner was about five yards behind them. Shortly afterwards Ann Slater stopped at the house of a Mr. Cartwright, which was on the road, and the deceased and Hill went on about forty yards, when the prisoner came up with them. Hill walked after this time as far as a public-house called the GREEN DRAGON, and on turning and retracing his steps in about ten minutes, saw the prisoner and deceased on opposite sides of the road, and heard him say to her ‘d— your eyes, you ought to be ashamed of yourself.’ The prisoner then went towards Dudley, and Hill immediately approached the deceased, who was crying, and he remained with her for about ten minutes, and just before she parted from him he noticed the prisoner walking on the opposite side of the road, in the direction of Sedgley, and about five minutes afterwards the deceased left him and proceeded on her way home. Hill and Ann Slater went along a different road. The prisoner was dressed in a white smock-frock. About two a.m. on the 24th, that is on the same night, or rather following morning, a man, named Carter, who lived at Gornal, hearing a scream proceed, as he thought, from a woman, rose up, and going to his window, saw a man in a white frock, and a woman with him. The man said to the woman ‘You d— b—, I’ve been watching you,’ and then struck her with his fist between the shoulders, but rather lower down on the back. The blow sent her reeling. The woman said nothing then. The man then struck her again with his fist in nearly the same place, and she fell to the ground. Carter, on seeing this, opened his window, and cried out, ‘My man, you had like to have done it,’ but received no answer. The woman said, ‘It’s of no use, I cannot go any farther.’ Carter then heard a trickling, as of water. The man laid hold of the woman’s left arm and helped her along. Carter saw another man, and then a man and a woman pass his window. At seven o’clock Carter got up, and saw on the road under his window, where the woman had been lying, some blood, and about twelve yards further on, found traces of blood, and in one spot the track was about one foot in width. The woman had on a dark shawl, and this the man removed and threw over his own shoulder. Maria Cartwright, the post mistress of Gornal, on the morning of the same day, heard under her window, which fronted the road, a man’s voice in anger, and heard a blow, in a moment afterwards she heard a second blow, and a stifled cry of oh, in a female voice. She described it as if the person who uttered the sound had her mouth covered with the hand. Mrs. Cartwright heard a third blow, which was followed by another stifled cry, in a female voice, of ‘murder.’ This occurred at about two o’clock. Two policemen, Isaac Tomkinson and Francis Eager, who were on duty that morning, found on the road near a field, the prisoner and the deceased. The deceased was lying across the side of the path, and resting on a bundle containing blankets, and the prisoner was standing beside her. Tomkinson asked the prisoner what was the matter, and he said that she had been drinking in Birmingham Street, and was intoxicated. Tomkinson, however, perceiving some blood, inquired what was the meaning of that; when the prisoner stated that the woman was his wife, and was miscarrying. Tomkinson then went for a cart, and meeting Ann Slater, sent her for a surgeon. While Tomkinson was absent, Eager (the other policeman), with the assistance of the prisoner and of a man named Wilcox, carried the deceased to a public-house called the JOLLY CRISPINS, and soon after the surgeon’s arrival and the return of Tomkinson, conveyed the prisoner to the station at Coseley. Both the policemen stated that the prisoner had on a white smock-frock, and the deceased a dark-coloured shawl. There were marks of blood on the prisoner’s dress, which however might, as it was suggested, have been received while he was assisting in the removal of the deceased, and holding her legs, as during that time she was bleeding profusely. While at the station-house at Coseley, the prisoner made a statement to Maurice Costello, a policeman there, the substance of which was that he accidentally came into the company of the deceased and Ann Slater at Dudley - that they partly forced, partly induced him to go and drink with them at the HARE AND HOUNDS. That he wished the deceased to go home and mind her children, and watched her on the road to see whether she would do so. That at Gornal he went into a dark corner to see whether she would go home, and in a few minutes, on coming back, saw her leaning against a wall, and a man kneeling or sitting within a yard of her. The prisoner further stated that he then asked her why she did not go home, and put his hand to her and pushed her. That he might have struck her, but that he did not think he had done so, and that he was very tipsy at the time. Having said this, the prisoner began to cry, and expressed a hope that Costello would do the best he could for him. The prisoner appears to have supported his children to the best of his ability, and it was proved that he rendered every assistance in carrying the unfortunate woman from the road into the JOLLY CRISPINS. On the other hand, it was stated by Walker and Ball, the two men who were at the HARE AND HOUNDS on the same night as the prisoner and the deceased, that he had said respecting her ‘She is a rum one, and I’ll make a rum one of her; I’ll commit a hard by murder before I go to bed.’ The injuries were described by Mr. Ballender, the surgeon, who was called upon to attend the deceased on the morning of the 24th of September, as of a very serious nature. The deceased stated to Mr. Ballender, that the injuries were not done to her by the prisoner, but caused by a fall, and this statement she made very soon after he was called in, but he gave it as his opinion that they could not have resulted from a fall.

The immediate cause of her death, which took place at nine o'clock on the same morning, was hemorrhage, produced by the rupture of two arteries, one of which, however, the surgeon considered, could not have been injured by the external violence alleged to have been used towards the deceased.

Mr. Allen addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner.

The learned Judge summed up, and after a short deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter. The sentence was deferred."

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/12/1844

"Oxford Circuit – Stafford, Dec 20.

Crown Court.

(Before Justice Coltman)

At the sitting of the court, this morning, the learned judge directed Joseph Penn (who, on Wednesday last, had been convicted of the manslaughter of Prudence Hughes, at Sedgley) to be placed at the bar. Whereupon his lordship said, 'You have been found guilty, upon the clearest possible evidence, of the manslaughter of Prudence Hughes. The jury, by their verdict, have evidently taken a most merciful view of your case, and have acquitted you of the more serious crime of murder. The sentence of this court is, that you be transported for the term of ten years'."

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/3/1846

"Joseph Penn, who was convicted at the last Spring Assizes for this county of the manslaughter of Prudence Hughes, and who was sentenced to ten years transportation, has recently died at one of her Majesty's hulks. It will be remembered that the unfortunate woman (with whom Penn had cohabited) was kicked and beaten by him on the road from Dudley to Gornal, and died shortly afterwards."

[Joseph Penn was apparently transported on the SS Theresa on 28th March 1845, and arrived at Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) on 3rd July 1845. He may have died on one of the ships moored in Hobart harbour which were used as prison hulks. Apparently many convicts were held on them and were taken ashore to work in chain gangs etc.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/9/1847

"On Friday last an inquest was held at the JOLLY CRISPIN at Upper Gornall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Ann Hill, 52 years of age, who was found dead on the previous Wednesday night in a field adjoining the turnpike road leading from Gornal to Dudley.

Elizabeth Hatfield, keeper of the turnpike gate at Little Worth, stated that the deceased passed the gate on Wednesday night in company with a man, but declined to stop to rest as she had been in the habit of doing, saying that she had company. She (witness) had no reason to believe that deceased had come to her death otherwise than from natural causes. Upon several occasions she had heard the deceased complain of pain in her head and stomach.

The jury returned a verdict of Found Dead in a Field."

Elisha Meanley = Elisha Menley = Elijah Meanley

Worcestershire Chronicle 4/9/1850

"Wordsley Petty Sessions, August 26, before J. King and G. Bate, Esqrs.....

Elisha Meanley, of Sedgley, brewer, was charged by Mr. Shacklock, the collector of excise, with having grains of paradise in his possession, and also with using the same in beer on the 19th July last. The defendant pleaded guilty, when, Mr. Shacklock pressing for a conviction on one count only in the information, *Meanley* was fined £50 and costs (one-fourth of the full penalty). The magistrates observed that if defendant had resided within their division they should have refused the renewal of his license, and expressed their indignation at such practices."

1851 Census

Dudley Road

[1] *Elisha Meanley* (27), carpenter, born Dudley;

[2] *Ann Meanley* (28), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Sarah Jeavons (18), servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/11/1856 - Advert

"Sale of Freehold Property, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by John Mason, (by the direction of the Trustees of the will of the late Mr. William Hartill, deceased), on Tuesday next, the 11th day of November, 1856, at the house of Mr. *Elisha Meanley*, JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, at six o'clock in the evening, and subject to conditions then to be read....."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/9/1858 - Advert

"Valuable Freehold and Copyhold Property, in Upper and Lower Gornal, near Sedgley.

Mr. Solomon Powell will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, October the 5th, 1858, at the house of Mr. *E. Meanley*, the JOLLY CRISPINS INN, Upper Gornal, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced and read.....

Lot 2. A small Freehold Messuage, adjoining the JOLLY CRISPINS aforesaid, with the Stabling, Shop, and premises thereto

belonging, occupied by Pointer and *Elisha Meanley*, producing the annual rental of £7 3s, and comprising, with the site of the buildings, 219 square yards or thereabouts.

Lot 3. A piece of Freehold Land, situate at the back of the lastly-described premises, now occupied by Messrs. Clark, Evans, and Pointer as garden ground, and comprising 465 square yards or thereabouts.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Elisha Meanley* (36), victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Ann Meanley* (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Ann M. Westwood (19), servant, born Sedgley;
- [4] Eliza Jane Bradley (13), niece, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/9/1862

“Cricket. An interesting game was played on Saturday last, September 13, between the Upper Gornal Club and the United Schoolmasters of the Midland District on the ground of the former. The game throughout was well contested, and ended in favour of the Upper Gornal Club in one innings and 48 to spare. The slow bowling of the Revs. C. G. Woodhouse and H. Hughes, of the Upper Gornal Club, told greatly in both innings. After the game the members of both clubs retired to Mr. *Meanley*'s, JOLLY CRISPIN INN, and there partook of the good things the worthy host provided for them in abundance. A very peasant evening was spent by all parties.”

Birmingham Journal 7/5/1864 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Freehold Dwelling Houses, Garden, And Premises.

Situate at Mowden Hill, near Cotwell End and Upper Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Monday Next, May 9, at the house of Mr. *Meanley*, the JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper Gornal, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/6/1870 - Advert

“To be Let, an old-established and most respectable Wayside Inn, at Upper Gornal on the highway from Dudley to Wolverhampton.

Apply, Mr. *Meanley*, JOLLY CRISPIN INN, who has occupied the building for the last twenty years.”

1871 Census

Clarence Street – JOLLY CRISPIN

- [1] *Elisha Meanley* (48), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Ann Meanley* (42), wife, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] Louisa Jones (18), general servant, born Gornalwood:

Elisha Meanley died, in his 52nd year, on 14th January 1875 after a short illness.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/12/1877

“At Sedgley Police Court yesterday, William Waterfield and George Hebbetts, both tradesmen of Upper Gornal, were charged with assaulting Mary Ann Walters, domestic servant at the JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper Gornal, on the 26th ult. The case was proved, and Mr. Spooner let off the defendants on their promising to give the plaintiff £5 and pay costs.”

The Story of the Ancient Manor of Sedgley by Edwin Albert Underhill (1941)

“Upper Gornal. To Alleviate the distress in this place, a meeting was convened by the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. H. Lewis, the Rev. Ed. Hughes, Minister of Ruiton Chapel, and other influential gentlemen, in the National Schools, when it was proposed to have a soup kitchen. The Rev. E. Hughes was appointed Secretary, and E. H. Howl, Esq. of ‘The Quarries’ Treasurer, and a Committee formed. Mr. Jno. Peacock offered his premises and undertook to make 100 gallons of soup twice a week, which was accepted, and has now been done, to a great relief of many, who appeared truly thankful for it. – January 11, 1879

Sir H. St. Paul offered 10s per week for three months and £5 as an instalment. E. H. Howl guaranteed £12, and others responded. The Dowager Lady Ward sent a cheque for £40, and G. Smith, Esq. £10. It is proposed to add to the soup 200 loaves at the distribution today to the most needy cases.

Note. The soup and loaves were distributed at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN and GREEN DRAGON INN. My sister and I carried most of the loaves to those places.”

Dudley Herald 20/3/1880 - Advert

“Upper Gornal Cricket Club.

A Grand Concert will be given in the Bilston Street Board Schools, Sedgley, on Monday Evening, April 5th 1880, in aid of the above Club, by the following ladies and Gentlemen – Miss L. G. Fellows (of Alexandra Palace, London), Miss. S. Cox, Miss Malpass, Mr. W. H. Tinsley, Mr. Grundy, Mr. S. Bradley, Mr. Millington, Mr. J. H. Walker, Mr. E. Till (comic, of Wolverhampton), and Mr. J. Grout.

Doors open at 7, commence at 7.30. Reserved Seats (numbered), 1s 6d; Reserved Seats (not numbered), 1s; Back Seats, 6d. Carriages at Ten.

Tickets may be obtained from Mr. Thompson, Bull Ring, Sedgley; Mr. Walker, School House, Upper Gornal; Mr. *Griffin*, JOLLY CRISPIN INN, or from any Member of the Club.”

Dudley and District News 29/5/1880

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an inquiry last night week at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Dudley Road, relative to the death of Stephen Howells (46), ironworker, who died suddenly. Early on the previous Monday morning the deceased was seized with an apoplectic fit, and afterwards expired. The jury returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes.”

AND

“On Tuesday night Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an inquiry at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, as to the death of John Nicholls (56), labourer, Vale Street, who committed suicide on the previous day. The evidence showed that during the past thirty years the deceased had been in the habit of getting drunk, the consequence being that he had a most miserable home, there being no furniture in any of the rooms, and recently very little food in the house. During the temporary absence of his daughter on Saturday deceased procured a rope, attached one end of it to a nail in the bedroom wall, and hanged himself. Several jurymen said it was the most miserable home they had ever seen, and considered that the house was unfit for habitation, the bedroom floor being decayed.

The jury afterwards returned a verdict that the deceased committed suicide when in a state of Temporary Insanity.”

Evening Express 8/3/1881

“Thomas Addenbrooke, of Lower Gornal, secretary of a death club held at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, was summoned by Mary Hickman, a member, for refusing to pay £5 due upon the death of her stepson.

Mr. Tinsley, who appeared for complainant, stated that the 1st rule of the society provided that every member of a family remaining single was entitled at his or her death to benefit. It was, however, contended in the present case that the person who had died being a stepson was not entitled to any such benefit. In reply to the Stipendiary complainant stated that deceased was 46 years old, he had never been married, and that she considered him to be a member of the family at the time of his death.

Mr. Addenbrooke said the deceased had been a soldier, and on that ground alone was disentitled to benefit.

The Stipendiary, however, made an order for the full amount claimed, and the costs.”

1881 Census

14, Clarence Street

[1] *William Griffin* (56), contractor and publican, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Ann Griffin (55), wife, born Upper Gornal;

[3] Thirsa Bird (19), general servant, born Upper Gornal:

Dudley and District News 25/6/1881

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an inquest on Monday, at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Dudley Road, touching the death of Arthur E. Rollason, aged five weeks, the son of Arthur Rollason, clerk. The evidence showed that the mother placed the deceased in a cradle near the fire-place in the kitchen, and while she was upstairs a short time it is supposed a spark from the fire fell into the cradle and ignited the linen. Upon the mother returning she found the child shockingly burnt. Medical aid was promptly obtained, but the child succumbed to the injuries. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Lichfield Mercury 31/7/1885

“On Monday afternoon, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest, at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, on the body of Beatrice Ann Dowes (2), the daughter of a bricklayer, who was killed by being run over by a horse and cart driven by a carter named Piggott, of The Dock, Dudley.

There appeared to be no blame attached to anyone, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/9/1885

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

Charles Evans, of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, who was the holder of a six days' license, was granted a seven days' license.”

Charles Evans acquired the CHAPEL HOUSE, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, on 21st January 1891, for £700.

Birmingham Daily Post 24/1/1891

“At Bilston yesterday, *Charles Evans*, landlord for the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, applied for the license of the CHAPEL HOUSE, Ruiton, to be transferred from Thomas Fox to himself. It was explained that the applicant had bought the CHAPEL HOUSE, and intended to live there, and obtain a tenant for the JOLLY CRISPIN INN. Chief-superintendent Longden objected to the transfer, on the ground that the applicant intended to hold both licenses. The application was refused.”

1891 Census

11, Clarence Street

[1] *Reuben Bennett* (36), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] *Martha Bennett* (38), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Eliza Bennett* (15), daughter, scholar, born Tyldesley, Lancashire;

[4] Catherine Bennett (13), daughter, scholar, born Tyldesley, Lancashire;

[5] Enoch Bennett (11), son, scholar, born Tyldesley, Lancashire;

[6] Percy Bennett (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] May J. Flavell (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

County Advertiser 25/7/1896 - Advert

“Upper Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To Brewers, Licensed Victuallers, and Others.

Important Sale of a Valuable Freehold Home-Brewing Free Public House, called the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, with the Two Cottages and Gardens adjoining.

Messrs. Thomas Skidmore and Son have received instructions to Sell by Auction, on the Premises of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, on Tuesday, August 11th, 1896, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions of Sale, which incorporate the Common Form Conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Association.

All that Freehold Stone-built and Tiled Full-Licensed Free Public House, called the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the occupation of *Reuben Bennett*, and containing Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Club Room, 46ft long; Two Bed Rooms, Clothes Closet, Coach-house, Stable, Carpenter's Shop, Glass Greenhouse, Closet, Yard, Cistern, Pigstye, Brewhouse, Cellar, with rolling way; Hard Water Pump, large Garden, Side Entrance, &c; also, the Two Cottages adjoining, each containing Kitchen, Two Bed Rooms, Pantry, Closet, Garden, and use of Hard Water Pump.

The Property is well set back from the Dudley and Wolverhampton Road, and has a frontage of 58ft 6in thereto. It contains, with the site of the Buildings, ___ square yards of Land, or thereabouts, and is let at the aggregate rental of £39 2s per annum.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. Bourne and Co, Solicitors, Birmingham Road, Dudley; Mr. J. A. Fullwood, Mining Engineer, Sedgley; Mr. W. Cartwright, Maltster, Upper Gornal; or to the Auctioneers, 1 and 2, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton.”

John Short was a licensed brewer.

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/6/1899

“*John Short*, landlord of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, was charged with permitting gambling for drinks on the 8th and 13th ult. Two detectives stated that they saw card playing for beer on each occasion. Mr. Foster who defended, denied that any gambling took place. The defendant was fined £5 and costs in each case.”

1901 Census

10, Clarence Street – JOLLY CRISPIN

[1] *John Short* (29), publican, born Dudley;

[2] Miriam Short (28), wife, born Netherton;

[3] Harry Short (6), son, born Dudley;

[4] Mary Short (9), niece, born Dudley;

[5] Minnie Short (19), servant, born Dudley:

Alcester Chronicle 17/5/1902

“At Sedgley on Monday *John Short*, for some time landlord of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal was charged on a warrant with embezzling in October last the sum of £13 3s 8d, the property of the members of a Sick and Dividend Society.

Mr. Lees, who prosecuted, pointed out that the prisoner was the treasurer of a Sick and Dividend Society held at his house, and in October last year he absconded with the money.

In Reply to Mr. Tinsley, who defended, John Raybould, the secretary, said the society was not registered, the prisoner was a member, and was in no way remunerated for performing the duties of treasurer.

Mr. Tinsley submitted that the magistrates could not convict; neither would they be justified in committing the prisoner for trial because it was an unregistered society.

The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Waterhouse) said fortunately for the prisoner the offence was committed last year. Had it been this year an amended Act would have reached the prisoner.

Dr. Ashley Smith (magistrate) said there were hundreds of such clubs in the Black Country, and it was hoped that they would heed the warning.

Short was discharged.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/6/1902

“At Dudley Court yesterday, *John Short*, professional jumper, Flood Street, Dudley, came up for his public examination in bankruptcy before Mr. Registrar Young. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £565 14s 2d, and there were no assets. Debtor attributed his failure to bad debts, insufficient profits, losses on engagements obtained on the Continent for jumping, and losses on unsaleable beer.

Debtor in reply to the Official Receiver (Mr. E. P. Jobson) said he gave up professional jumping because the game was played out. He took the JOLLY CRISPIN public house at Gornal, and there he lost money in the first twelve months.

Debtor was examined at some length as to the purchase of jewellery to the extent of about £19, which had been pledged, and the examination was adjourned.”

County Advertiser 26/7/1902 - Advert

“To Brewers And Wine And Spirit Merchants.

Announcement Of Highly Important Sale By Auction, of The Kates Hill Brewery, Dudley, with the 10-quarter Fixed Plant, and Five Old-licensed Freehold Houses, and One Short Leasehold Beerhouse, viz.

The MALT SHOVEL INN, Office, and Dwelling-House adjoining the Brewery.

The JUNCTION INN, Watsons Green Road, Dudley.

The BIRD IN HAND, High Street, Kates Hill, and adjoining Houses and Premises.

The JOLLY CRISPIN, Gornal, and Two Cottages adjoining.

The LION, Old Hill.

The LEVIATHAN, Summerhill, near Princes End (Short Leasehold).

The Freehold 15-Quarter Malt House, Residence, Stabling, Coach-houses, and other Buildings and Land running through from George Street to Owen Street, Kates Hill, Dudley.

The Freehold 10-Quarter Malt-House, immediately opposite.

Alfred W. Dando had received instructions to Sell By Auction, at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, in One Lot, on Tuesday, August 12th, 1902, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely (unless in the meantime an acceptable offer is made by private treaty), subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, the above very important Trading Concern.

The average payments for Beer Duty the last three and a half years have exceeded £1,000 per annum; in addition a considerable Malting and Wine, Spirit and Cigar Trade is done.

The Licensed Houses are situated in good populous districts, within easy reach of the Brewery, the concern being of genuine character and particularly worth the attention of those desirous of embarking in the trade, or established companies wishing to increase their businesses.

Further particulars may be obtained of Mr. Thomas Cooksey, Solicitor, Old Hill; Messrs. Smith, Bagott, and Co., Solicitors, High Street, Dudley; Messrs. Jobson and Marshall, Solicitors, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley; or the Auctioneers, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. Telephone No.56.”

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper Gornal.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required; difficult of police supervision; back premises in a dilapidated and insanitary condition.

Inspector Moss said a new wall had been erected which made the premises self-contained. New out offices had been erected.

The license was renewed.”

Tipton Herald 19/9/1903

“On Tuesday last upwards of 100 friends sat down to an invitation supper promoted by Mr. *Luke Dovey*, landlord of the JOLLY CRISPIN. The supper was served up in admirable style, and after the removal of the cloth Mr. Thomas Watton was elected chairman, and Mr. Norris, of Netherton, vice chairman.....”

Luke Dovey was born in 1867 at 5, High Holborn, Sedgley.

He married Emily Guest on 21st August 1893.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/2/1907

“According to the report of Police-Superintendent Spendlove read at the annual brewster sessions for the Bilston Petty Sessional Division yesterday, there are 356 licenses of all kinds within the division, or one to every 174 of the population.

The Clerk (Mr. Pratt) said the Bench had decided to recommend the following eleven houses on the ground of redundancy to be referred for compensation, and the cases would be adjourned to the adjourned meeting, and in the meantime notices would be given to the owner.....

JOLLY CRISPIN, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal.”

License referred to Compensation Authority on 6th March 1907.

License renewed by the Compensation Authority on 18th June 1907.

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“County Licensing Compensation Authority.

The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford on Tuesday.....

The cases which had to be discussed on the question of renewal were....

JOLLY CRISPIN, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, full license, *Luke Dovey* (licensee).....

Mr. Foster appeared for the tenant and Mr. Marshall for the owners of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, which Supt. Spendlove said was an old house in fair structural condition. The net rateable value was £25 10s per annum. The parish was not densely populated, and there were six full-licensed and four beerhouses within 500 yards. In cross-examination, he did not deny that the house was doing a steady, respectable trade. In reply to the Chairman, witness said he believed the house had been licensed for about half-a-century. Mrs. *Dovey*, wife of the licensee, said the house was entirely free and was situate on the main road from Wolverhampton to Dudley. Their takings were from £10 to £12 weekly, and the trade had greatly improved since Christmas; they did not give the ‘long pull.’ Mr. Jos. Hartshorn (Netherton), the owner, deposed that in 1903, at the request of the police and the sanitary

authorities, he made considerable structural alterations at a cost of £300 to make the premises self-contained and improve the sanitary accommodation. Mr. A. W. Dando (Dudley) was about to be called in support, when the Chairman said the committee had decided to grant the renewal. Mr. Lawrence said it was only right to say, on behalf of the justices, that they would have not reported this house at all if the fact of the improvements having been made had been brought to their notice.”

Tipton Herald 20/2/1909

“The public examination of *Luke Dovey*, of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, was to have taken place in the Dudley County Court on Thursday, but as defendant did not put in an appearance the examination was adjourned to a date to be fixed. The observations of the Official Receiver (Mr. E. P. Jobson) showed that debtor was 41 years of age, and through being an invalid had been unable to assist in the business or follow any employment for a number of years. Up till 1901 he was employed as a brass turner, but was compelled to give up his situation through ill health. In October 1901, he became the tenant of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, paying £150 for the in-going, including stock, fixtures, and goodwill. The business was managed entirely by his wife and it was not until her death, which occurred a few weeks ago, that he was aware that any accounts were owing. Debtor owned two houses in Gate Street, Sedgley, which he built about seven years ago, with money obtained on mortgage from a building society. The property was offered for sale on the 7th December 1908, but it was not sold, and it was doubtful whether it will realise the amount of the mortgages. Debtor was unable to prepare a statement of his affairs, it would, however, appear that the unsecured liabilities amount to between £100 and £150, and the available assets consisted of fixtures, fittings, trade utensils, and household furniture.”

Tipton Herald 27/3/1909

“At Dudley Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday (before the Registrar, Mr. C. Young), *Luke Dovey*, licensed victualler, JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, underwent his public examination in bankruptcy. The debtor, 41 years of age (an invalid), said his business had been carried on by his wife until her death a few weeks ago. He was compelled in 1901 to give up his occupation as a brass turner, and paid £150 for the ingoing, stock and fixtures at the JOLLY CRISPIN, this money being found by his wife. His unsecured liabilities amounted to £150, and the assets consisted of the trade fittings and household furniture. He had built two houses with money obtained from a building society, but they had passed into the hands of the mortgagees. He had some money from a money lender in 1908. The examination was closed.”

1911 Census

11, Clarence Street

- [1] *Isaac John Mills* (44), licensed victualler, born Woodsetton;
- [2] *Alice Mills* (45), wife, born Kates Hill;
- [3] *Edward Mills* (19), son, brewer, born Dudley;
- [4] *Elsie Mills* (17), daughter, domestic at house, born Dudley;
- [5] *Hannah Mills* (14), daughter, domestic at house, born Dudley;
- [6] *Sarah Elizabeth Mills* (12), daughter, school, born Dudley;
- [7] *William Isaac Mills* (7), son, school, born Dudley;

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper Gornal, 5s.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/12/1936

“Fire completely gutted the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, yesterday, ruined hundreds of gallons of beer, and threatened adjoining houses, the occupants of which dragged their furniture out, blocking the main Dudley-Wolverhampton Road.

One of the best-known ‘Gornal home-brewed’ houses, the JOLLY CRISPIN was owned by Mr. *Clarence Guest*. He was at work in the rear premises when he saw water running into the cellar. When he investigated he found that the clubroom above was ablaze and that the heat had burst a water tank.

Bilston and Coseley brigades were called out.

Volunteers from among the crowd removed the furniture from nearby cottages after smashing in the windows.

The brigades were, however, able to confine the outbreak to the inn.”

[The fire started in the oak panelled smoke room.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/3/1937

“Bilston Fire Brigade’s protest against the allegations of insufficiency when it attended a fire at the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, has been successful.

The allegations were made at a meeting of the Sedgley Urban Council two months ago, but when the Council meets again next Tuesday it will have before it a report from its Public Works Committee which absolves the fire brigade, and declares it showed it ‘considerable alacrity.’

The Post Office Telephones Department has satisfied the committee that the brigade was at the blaze within 13 minutes of receiving the call, and not in three-quarters of an hour. Other allegations included the suggestion that the brigade was not properly equipped. The committee find on this point ‘that the other matters commented upon are, in the opinion of this committee, not such as to affect the brigade’s efficiency.’

It is understood that in view of the committee’s findings the members who made the allegations of inefficiency will be asked to withdraw their statements at the Council meeting on Tuesday.”

1939 Register

25, Clarence Street

[1] *William R. Easthope*, date of birth 27/4/1892, manager of licensed premises, married;

[2] *Alice L. Easthope*, dob 13/2/1893, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] *Clarence E. Easthope*, dob 15/11/1924, grocery assistant, single:

Birmingham Daily Post 9/4/1957

“Three men lodging in Birmingham appeared at Bilston yesterday charged with robbing 72-year-old Mrs. *Ann Morris* with violence. It was alleged that they took £17 from Mrs. *Morris*.

Supt. Gregory said Mrs. *Morris*, the licensee of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, was tied up and gagged in her cellar on Thursday.

The men, Reginald Osman (43), a gas works employee, of Bowyer Road, Alum Rock; Thomas Reynolds (34), a fitter of Ombersley Road, Balsall Heath, and Patrick Nolan (40), a pavier, of Glover Road, Small Heath, were remanded in custody to Sedgley court next Monday.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/5/1957

“A magistrates’ court was held in the bedroom of Mrs. *Ann Morris*, licensee of the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal, who is ill after being attacked a month ago.

Among those present to hear her evidence were Reginald Cain Osman (41), of Bowyer Road, Birmingham and Thomas Joseph Reynolds (34), of Ombersley Road, Birmingham, who are charged with causing her bodily harm and stealing property worth £20 2s 3d from the inn on April 4.

Patrick Nolan (40), of Glover Road, Birmingham, was charged with being an accessory after the fact.

Police Supt. T. H. Gregory said at Bilston Magistrates’ Court yesterday that the police had decided to offer no evidence on a charge of robbery with violence, which had previously been brought against Osman and Reynolds. A charge against Nolan of being an accessory before the fact on this charge would be dropped.

The three men were remanded until Wednesday. Nolan was allowed bail.”

Birmingham Daily Post 9/5/1957

“Two Birmingham men attacked a 72-year-old woman and left her bound and gagged in the cellar of a public house because another man had told them that she never banked money and there were thousands of pounds upstairs, Mr. Ernest Brown, prosecuting, alleged at Bilston, yesterday.

Reginald Caine Osman (42), of Bowyer Road, and Joseph Reynolds (34), of Ombersley Road, were charged with causing Mrs. *Anne Morris* bodily harm and stealing money and articles worth £20 from the JOLLY CRISPIN INN, Upper Gornal.

Patrick Nolan (40), of Glover Road, Birmingham, was charged with commissioning and procuring the theft. The prosecution asked for committal to Staffordshire Assizes. The hearing continues today.

Mr. Brown said that Nolan was a regular customer at the JOLLY CRISPIN, when he was working in Upper Gornal four years ago. He visited the inn on April 3 for the first time for about a year. Osman and Reynolds were seen in his company in a neighbouring public house, but they gave the impression of having just met.

At 2pm the next day, Mr. Brown alleged, Osman and Reynolds attacked Mrs. *Morris*, who was gagged, tied hand-and-foot, and put into the cellar, where she was found four hours later by her daughter-in-law.

She spent four days in hospital and is still not well enough to give evidence in court. Her deposition was taken at the inn last week.

In alleged statements, Osman and Reynolds said that Nolan told them there were thousands of pounds in the inn. They failed to find the money and left the inn after taking cash from the till, and cigarettes.”

[At the Assizes, Reginald Caine Osman was sentenced to ten years’ and Thomas Reynolds three years’ imprisonment, Patrick Nolan was sentenced to eighteen months’ imprisonment.]

Sidney E. Morris married Molly Isobel Haden. She was always known as Isobel.

He died in November 1985.

Gordon Bentley once held the World 24 Hour Marathon record.

Harry Grant was married to Jean.

Closed

Reopened after a facelift costing £20,000 in September 1986.

Sandwell Evening Mail 5/8/1986

“A striking model of a famous Black Country narrowboat will take centre stage in a boating display at a Dudley pub. The 3ft 6ins model of the boat Redshank was a gift from a customer to *Harry* and Jean *Grant*, who run the JOLLY CRISPIN pub in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal.

The pub is having a £20,000 facelift and when improvements are completed, the couple plan to put their collection of canal and Royal Navy relics on display. *Harry*, who has run the pub for just over a year, said, ‘Although Dudley is further from the sea than almost anywhere else in Britain, the area has more miles of canals than Venice. We hope that a lot of canal enthusiasts and Royal Navy veterans will pop in to see us.’

Harry, who was an award-winning silver bugler during his nine years with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, became a landlord 15 years ago.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 12/8/1986

“A Black Country licensee is hoping to trace a former landlady to perform an unusual ceremony – opening the first indoor ladies loo at his 14th century pub. *Harry Grant* wants Mrs. Isobel *Morris* to cut a ribbon across the new toilet door to mark the official opening of a £20,000 extension at the JOLLY CRISPIN pub in Upper Gornal. Mrs. *Morris* kept the Clarence Street pub for many years during the last war, and although she is a customer, *Harry* doesn’t know her address. ‘She will represent tens of thousands of women who have shivered in the outside loo over the six hundred years since the pub was built,’ he said. ‘Our official launch is only a week away so we’re desperate for her to contact us. We understand she lives in the Tipton Road area of Sedgley,’ he added. The new extension, which will be opened on August 22, also includes a dining room, new bars and a carvery.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 28/8/1986

“A champagne celebration at the JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, marked an historic occasion – the first indoor ladies loo in the pub for 600 years. And there to cut the tape was 89-year-old Mrs. Agnes Yates, a customer at the pub for 70 years.

The unusual celebration was staged to mark the completion of a £20,000 extension at the historic pub, parts of which date back to the 14th century. In all that time there has never been a ladies toilet indoors and licensee Mr. *Harry Grant* is hoping his women customers will enjoy their new comfortable surroundings.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 17/9/1991

“Raiders carried a safe out of a Dudley pub in broad daylight, police revealed today. The two feet square grey safe contained £1,878 when it was stolen from the JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, on Sunday afternoon.

Police today appealed for anyone who may have seen men carrying the safe or a vehicle entering or leaving the pub’s side car park on Sunday afternoon to come forward.

Det. Chief Insp. Vic Green of Dudley CID said the safe went while the licensee was out of the premises between 3.45pm and 6.55pm.”

Dudley Chronicle 25/7/1997

“An historic Upper Gornal inn will become a real ale pub if a sale to a local businessman goes through. Owners Greenalls confirmed that a sale price had been agreed for the JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street. The former Simpkins Brewery house, which has been owned by Greenalls for 12 years, has been on the market for more than 6 months.

The buyer is Sedgley businessman *Philip Bellfield*, former owner of the BRITANNIA INN in Upper Gornal. Mr. *Bellfield* sold the BRITANNIA to Brierley Hill-based Bathams earlier this year. He plans to re-open the JOLLY CRISPIN in September, specialising in serving a range of real ales, following refurbishment of the frontage and bar. ‘My aim is to restore the pub to its former glory,’ he said.”

Philip Bellfield was married to June.

Philip Bellfield – see also BRITANNIA and MOUNT PLEASANT.

Sarah Voice was married to Paul.

Black Country Bugle 9/11/2000 - Advertising Feature

“Keilyn Enterprises is a modern day success story, set right here in our own region, with all the parts played by a Black Country family. *Keith* and *Lyn Garbett*, from Bradley and Bilston respectively, have built their own little empire of four fine pubs, from a grass roots beginning. They started it all with Bradley ale-house the CROWN AND CUSHION. The couple originally owned the pub during the early nineteen-nineties, before selling it to Banks’s Brewery in 1996. Though they missed the place, *Keith* and *Lyn* consoled themselves by buying another, the OLD CHAINYARD in the centre of Coseley. Their new acquisition had originally been called the RED LION, at least officially, but locals had always known it better as the ‘OLD CHAINYARD’, a nickname it had taken from the smithy which once stood behind it. The pub’s pseudonym finally became its official title less than ten years ago, when it was transformed from an old-fashioned drinking den to a more open-plan, altogether brighter house. It was at this

point that the *Garbetts* took over, and a pub that was finally on the up after so many years as an also-ran became one of Coseley's best-loved meeting places. Lyn and *Keith* performed a similar feat with the RED COW in nearby Edge Street, though most emphasis here was to retain its most appealing, traditional aspects. It remains to this day a typical Black Country boozier, with darts, darts, crib; and of course gray pays.

By now though, *Keith* tell us, the couple had come to realise that they were still very much attached to the CROWN AND CUSHION – in fact they couldn't bear to see it in someone else's hands. So, some two years after selling it, they bought it back and added it to what could now be called their own chain of public houses. Team games and entertainment four nights a week are among its major attractions now. The most recent addition has been a little further afield, though still within the borders of the Black Country. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Upper Gornal's Clarence Street has always been a popular haunt of local ale enthusiasts, but never has it been in such fine form. A grand total of fifty different cask ales from around the country are served up at the CRISPIN each month, with at least nine on offer at any one time. And with food having been added to the list of attractions, the pub is far from short of temptations. So the Keilyn empire now boasts four pubs, each with its own unique, highly individual appeal. But the key to their success couldn't be simpler. 'We offer nice, friendly pubs with a warm atmosphere,' says Lyn, 'and serve a good pint for a good price.'"

Julie Rowe's partner Stuart Griffiths.

A new sign was painted by Dudley artist, Gary Tilyard, in 2003.

Dudley & South Staffordshire CAMRA Pub of the Year 2005, 2006, 2007.

CAMRA West Midlands County Pub of the Year 2005, 2007.

CAMRA West Midlands Regional Pub of the Year 2005.

Dudley News 22/10/2009

"An upper Gornal pub is urging drinkers to show their strength by raising money for charity. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street is inviting customers to help 'Raise the Titanic.' The novel fundraiser, which is raising money for Help the Heroes, a charity set up to help provide better facilities for wounded British servicemen and women, invites drinkers to lift as much weight as they can on a multi gym in the bar. The weight lifted will be converted into the equivalent weight of barrels of house bitter, the Crispy Nail. Each barrel weighs 190kg and landlord *Robin Carey* is asking volunteers to get sponsorship for each barrel lifted with a minimum amount of a £1a barrel. The fundraiser is set to run until Saturday, November 1. Sponsorship forms are available from the bar and everyone is welcome to go along and test their strength."

Robin Carey married Tracey Moore on 5th July 2010.

Dudley News 25/9/2010

"The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street is now renowned for its unusual fundraising activities, in its bid to raise thousands of pounds for good causes each year.

Over the years, game for a laugh pub goers have taken part in a weight lifting challenge in a bid to Raise the Titanic, cycled the distance from John O'Groats to Land's End on exercise bikes and took part in a cross country skiing adventure on a cross trainer. This year, landlord *Robin Carey* is hosting 'I can walk 500 miles' with volunteers encouraged to walk the distance on a treadmill. Participants need to sign up to walk at least five miles with £2 sponsorship for every mile, with all money raised being split between Sedgley's Beacon Centre for the Blind and Help for Heroes. However, *Robin* is appealing for sporty residents to loan a treadmill for the duration of the event, which will run from Sunday, October 17 until Sunday, October 31. *Robin*, who has signed up to walk 100 miles himself, said, 'If anyone has got a treadmill that we could borrow, that would really be appreciated as it is all for great causes. We do have one, but 500 miles is a lot to do on one, so it would be better to have two going at the same time, as we've worked out it should take about 15 minutes to do a mile.'"

Dudley Chronicle 11/10/2012

"Beer making will be back at a pub in the Black Country after plans were approved for a new brewery.

Fownes Brewing Company will produce eight casks of ale from outbuildings at the JOLLY CRISPIN.

Plans for the new development at the pub in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal were approved by Dudley Council. Officers at the council ruled the brewery would not have an adverse impact on neighbours.

Once production starts at the historic site it will be the first time beer has been brewed at the pub since the 19th century.

The company aims to have the brewery officially opened later this month on October 18.

To mark it, a launch event will be held at the pub on the same evening, from 7pm. The celebration will see beer tasters on offer and food laid on by the pub.

Brothers Tom and James Fownes, who are launching the brewery, will be on hand on the night itself to talk about each of the beers they are producing."

Dudley News 13/11/2012

"An Upper Gornal landlord is on the lookout for craft groups, charity groups, musicians and singers to take part in his fundraising Victorian Craft Fair. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street is holding the event on Thursday December 6, which landlord *Rob Carey* hopes will become an annual fundraiser.

The event which is a first of its kind will take place in the pub's car park from 6pm until 10pm will raise money for Beacon Centre

for the Blind and Help for Heroes and will include craft and gift stalls, as well as mulled wine, hot chestnuts and carol singing. *Rob* said, 'As it is coming up to Christmas we hope that stallholders will bring things along that could be used as presents rather than a car boot type sale.'

Stalls cost £10 and participants are being encouraged to dress in period costume."

Dudley News 28/7/2013

"Westminster MPs have been getting a taste of the Black Country to lubricate debate in the corridors of power. The Fownes Brewing Company's Crispin's Ommor is the latest midlands ale to be on tap in Strangers' Bar in the Palace of Westminster and MP Ian Austin was among the first customers to have a swig. The Dudley North MP suggested the ale be served as a guest beer in the bar after getting a taste for it during a visit to the Fownes brewery at the JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street, Gornal. Mr. Austin said, 'The Black Country is home to the country's best ales and Fownes' beers were no exception when I tried them earlier this year. James and Tom Fownes have done a great job setting up the brewery. I want to help support local businesses like theirs so I'm delighted that MPs from across the country will now have the chance to sample our award-winning local brews.'"

Dudley News 4/6/2014

"The Sedgley and Gornal Darts League held their finals and presentation night at Gornal Labour Club. The singles and doubles knockout finals were keenly fought with some fantastic darts being thrown by all concerned at the event on May 27. Ant Naylor from the RED COW eventually won the singles for the second time whilst Danny Gray and Mark Doherty from Gornal Labour won the doubles. League champions were Gornal Labour with the JOLLY CRISPIN as runners up. League secretary *Rob Carey* said, 'Our 301 league has developed really well in this second year, with great friendships forming and fantastic hospitality from all the teams involved. The quality of darts has improved so much that we saw many 180s and four players achieved nine dart finishes. Let's hope that we can persuade more teams to join in next year.'"

Dudley News 10/6/2014

"An Upper Gornal boozer is in a glass of its own after being named best cider pub of the year. Members of the Campaign for Real Ale's (CAMRA) Dudley branch have announced the JOLLY CRISPIN on Clarence Street is the best in the region for the traditional drink.

JOLLY CRISPIN gaffer *Rob Carey* said, 'The award was the second time we have received it in three years and is due to the fact that we always have Scrumpy Ciders on the bar and run twice yearly cider festivals for charity, the latest of which was last weekend when we were presented with the award.'"

Dudley News 3/6/2015

"Upper Gornal landlord *Rob Carey* has good reason to be proud of his pub – it has been crowned Dudley and South Staffs Cider Pub of the Year for the third time.

The popularity of traditional cider and perry served at The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street has developed sufficiently to justify holding two cider festivals a year. That, in addition to the fruity beverages regularly on sale in the pub, was enough to convince judges it deserved the top title for the second year in a row.

Mr. *Carey*, who has run the pub for nine years, was over the moon to reclaim the title that he first received in 2011. The 63-year-old said, 'We are part of a very strong cask ale orientated area but I have always worked hard to make sure our standards and quality and quality are the best they can be. The staff play a big part in that, they work as a team.'

Stan Stephens, from Dudley and South Staffs CAMRA, said, 'The cider/perry is always presented in good condition and the large variety on offer at the festivals held in the rear garden, combined with the ancillary entertainment and food always attracts a good attendance. Based on the above and judged over the past year it was felt that the CRISPIN came out on top of the pubs offering a similar experience in the Dudley and South Staffs CAMRA branch area.'"

Express & Star 2/7/2015

"A beer made by a Black Country brewery has landed a regional award less than three years after it was launched. The 5.4 per cent strength King Korvak's Saga, porter, which is brewed by brothers James and Thomas Fownes at the Fownes Brewing Company in Upper Gornal, won the West Midlands Campaign for Real Ale porter competition. Blind tasting of the six finalists took place at the Bromsgrove Beer Festival on Thursday. King Korvak's Saga now goes through to the overall West Midlands beer of the year judging, which will take place at Dudley Winter Ales Fair being held at Dudley Town Hall on November 26. 'Winning a regional award is a huge achievement for such a small brewery,' said James, of The Ridgeway, Sedgley. It was not King Korvak's first award. It was voted beer of the festival by the public at the 2014 Wolverhampton and 2013 Stafford Campaign for Real Ale beer festivals. Porter is a dark style of beer, made using roast malts and well hopped. Originally made popular in London, the name is thought to come from the beer's popularity with street and river porters in the 18th century. 'Korvak is a very traditional porter, founded on a solid, complex malt base providing hints of roast coffee and chocolate, then rounded out with hops from the Herefordshire,' said brewer Tom, of Wolverhampton.

The award-winning beer will be available to try at the brewery's own beer festival being held from July 10 to 12 to celebrate its third anniversary and Black Country Day. It is being held at the back of the JOLLY CRISPIN pub in Clarence Street where the brewery is based."

Ales & Tales (Spring 2016)

'Have you seen our elephant?' by Gavin Lawson

"It is with deep regret that we have to report that elephant poaching is rife in the Gornals. It appears that during the festive period

(the season of goodwill!) Jumbo, one of the pair of brass elephants that stand guard over the lounge at the JOLLY CRISPIN public house, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, was purloined by persons unknown. Whether this was done in a state of intoxication, when the stupidest of ideas can seem to be brilliant, or a deliberate attempt to put the internationally renowned brass elephant breeding programme at the JOLLY CRISPIN in jeopardy, is unknown, but no ransom demand has been received. The elephant's companion, Nellie, is now lonely and pining, and there are fears for her well-being. Any information as to the identity of the poachers, or the return of the elephant will be very much appreciated.

NB. If Jumbo is returned and found to be pregnant on its return there will be consequences!"

Ales & Tales (Summer 2016)

"JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper Gornal. It is with great pleasure that we can report that Jumbo, a brass elephant who went missing (featured in our last edition) has been safely returned to the pub, and is once again keeping company with his mate Nellie. Many thanks to the anonymous person who posted him back."

[Several other elephants, during Jumbo's absence, gathered to provide comfort to Nellie, and have remained in residence.]

Express & Star 21/7/2016

"A cider festival run by a Black Country pub is to be incorporated into a new beer event being run in Brierley Hill. The Dudley Beer Festival is being held in Brierley Hill Civic Hall, Bank Street, from July 29 to 31 as part of the wider Black Country Festival. Licensee of the JOLLY CRISPIN, Upper Gornal, *Rob Carey*, said, 'The CRISPIN will not be running our regular cider festival in October because we are developing our Christmas fair, but we are proud to be having our cider festival, in conjunction with the festival at Brierley Hill Civic Hall. The CRISPIN bar will also be selling a range of fruit wines and is raising funds for Compton Hospice....."

Express & Star 29/11/2017

"A pub's Christmas lights and cider festival is supporting Dudley's White House Cancer Support charity. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, is staging the event on Friday from 7pm with the switching on of its festive display. Black Country Brass will be performing festive music and faggots and grey paes, mulled wine and cider will also be on sale. Fownes Brewing Company, based at the rear of the pub, is also holding a pop-up bar on Friday and Saturday with four winter ales on sale. The pub also has a choir day with the Gentlemen Songsters on Sunday, December 10, from 2pm to 4pm."

Edith 'Edie' Halford retired in 2017 after twenty years' service as the cleaner at the pub.

Darts Captain, Scott Hartshorne, married barmaid, Lyndsey Coxhall, on 16th June 2018.

It was voted Pub and Brewery of the Year in 2019.

In the autumn of 2019 Fownes Brewing Company moved to larger premises in Brierley Hill.

Express & Star 11/6/2020

"While some support the idea other pub bosses in the region have said as long as the two-metre distancing rule is still in place opening would not be viable.....

Rob Carey, from the JOLLY CRISPIN in Upper Gornal, said it was a case of waiting. 'There's a lot of problems about getting stale beer out of the cellars,' he said. 'There's no way I would put myself or my customers at risk, I want it to be safe to reopen. I couldn't afford to part reopen.'"

Express & Star 24/10/2020

"An Upper Gornal pub is celebrating its 200th anniversary tomorrow. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street was a cobblers shop before brewing was also started on the premises in 1795. It became a pub in 1820 and licensee *Robin Carey* has chosen St. Crispin's Day to mark the occasion. 'We didn't know exactly when the licence originally started and chose St Crispin's Day as he is the patron saint of shoemakers,' explained *Robin*. He said that they had not been sure whether they would be able to hold a celebration because of the coronavirus restrictions. As Dudley is still in Tier 1 it has been decided to go ahead with social distancing firmly in place. Customers can sit in 'bubble' table spaces with no more than six in each bubble. Those attending will still have to wear masks until they are seated. *Robin* is giving away £200 worth of beer vouchers on the day with the pub open from noon to 9.30pm. 'We will be carrying out a draw each hour with the winning bubble receiving £25 of vouchers which can be used in the pub any time up to Christmas,' he said. The real ale pub has won numerous awards from the Campaign for Real Ale over the years."

Express & Star 3/11/2020

"A Dudley real ale pub has cut its cask beer price to £1 a pint in a bid to sell all its remaining stock on the pumps before it has to close due to the new lockdown. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, celebrated its 200th anniversary on October 25. Licensee *Robin Carey* said the pub would be open from 4pm-9.30pm today and Wednesday, with Tier 2 restrictions in force. He said they hoped to sell out so they did not have to end up pouring good beer away down the drain."

AND

Halesowen News 3/11/2020

“A pub in Upper Gornal has slashed its cask beer price to £1 a pint before the new lockdown on Thursday. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street has made the offer in a bid to sell its remaining stock on the pump. The real ale pub is open from 4pm-9.30pm today (Tuesday November 3) and Wednesday, adhering to Tier 2 restrictions before it closes due to the national month-long lockdown. It put out an appeal on Facebook stating, ‘All cask beer £1 a pint off (pints only) while stocks last. We have Oakham, Kelham, Enville, Fownes, Titanic available. Still in tier 2 so you can join us. Lots of fantastic cask ales that we don’t want to pour down the drain. HELP!!’

The pub celebrated its 200th anniversary on October 25.

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.”

In January 2021 Robin Carey retired and the lease was taken over by Red Pub Company.

Express & Star 27/1/2022

“Former Wolves goalkeeper Carl Ikeme is appearing in a charity event at a pub in the Black Country. The evening event is at the JOLLY CRISPIN in Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, on Monday, January 31 at 7pm. Tickets are £10 from the pub. All ticket money raised is going to Support Futures which provides sports scholarships for young people in the Black Country. Carl, aged 35, will be talking about his career which was cut short due to leukaemia. He played 10 times for Nigeria before he retired in 2018. He is now in complete remission after intensive treatment.”

[2022]

JUNCTION

1, (2), Abbey Street (2, Abbey House Road) / 25, (26), Louise Street, Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Ann Guest, widow, Sedgley
Thomas Guest, Abbey Street, Lower Gornal
Elizabeth Guest, Abbey Street, Lower Gornal
William Parrish
Wordsley Brewery Co. (until 1906)
Joseph Tomlinson
Clara Tomlinson
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Guest Snr. [1868] – [1869]
Thomas Guest Jnr. [1880] – **1895**;
William Parrish (**1895 – 1897**);
John Marsh (**1897 – 1906**);
Joseph Tomlinson (**1906 – 1931**);
Mrs. Clara Tomlinson (**1931 – 1942**);
Francis William Tomlinson (**1942 – 1943**);
William Pritchard (**1943 – 1944**);
Joseph Leadbeater (**1944 – 1950**);
Cyril Joseph Wilkins (**1950**);
Stanley Rew (**1950 – 1953**);
Samuel Groom (**1953 – 1961**);
Bert Miller (**1961 – []**)
M J Southall [1976]
Graham Long [1987]
Peter Whitehead [1990s]

NOTES

2, Abbey House Road [1881]
26, Louise Street [1901]
25, Louise Street [1891], [1911]
1, Abbey Street [1939]
Louise Street [1940]

It was originally known as the BUSH.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was reputedly haunted by a small, grey miner, who caused some cellar disruption.

Thomas Guest, butcher and beer retailer, Gornal Wood. [1868]

Dudley Herald 10/4/1869

“*Thomas Guest*, beerhouse keeper, Lower Gornal, was fined 1s and 9s 6d costs open on Good Friday.”

Dudley Guardian 27/5/1875

“John Kirby was charged with an assault on John Tomlinson at the JUNCTION INN, Lower Gornal, on the 15th inst. Police-constable Moffatt proved the offence. Defendant was fined 5s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/9/1877

“The annual licensing sessions for the Bilston division were held at the Public Office, Bilston, yesterday.....
Thomas Guest, beerhouse keeper, Gornal Wood, applied for a wine license Refused on the ground of insufficient qualification.”

Dudley Herald 17/7/1880

“The monthly meeting of the Sedgley Local Board was held on Tuesday.....
A letter was read from Mr. *Guest*, of the JUNCTION INN, Gornal Wood, asking what action the Board intended to take with respect to the water in his cellar, it being knee deep. He threatened that if the Board would not see to the matter he would write to the Local Government Board.
Mr. Fithern said that he and other members of the Board paid a visit to Mr. *Guest*’s house and inspected the cellar, and an arrangement would have been made, only Mr. *Guest* refused to bear his part of the expenses.
The Chairman said the Board some time ago proposed to carry the drain within 100 feet of Mr. *Guest*’s house, and he to bear the expense of connecting, but this he would not agree to.
Mr. Bassett suggested that the Board should supply Mr. *Guest* with pipes to drain his cellar and he to do the work himself.
Mr. Fithern said the Board must be very careful what they were doing, or else they would be impossible to stop the many applications of that kind that would be made. If they were not careful they would have to make all the connections themselves.
The Chairman suggested that it would be well for Mr. Bassett to see Mr. *Guest* before any other arrangement was made. The Board had, on other occasions, tried to meet Mr. *Guest* on the matter, but had failed. He then read a former resolution of the Board to the effect that the Board would lay down drainage pipes within 100 feet of the JUNCTION INN, on the understanding that Mr. *Guest* extended his drain into their pipes.
It was decided that Mr. Bassett should see Mr. *Guest* about the matter, and report the result to the next Board meeting.”

Evening Express 7/2/1881

“Mr. *Thomas Guest*, landlord of the JUNCTION INN, Gornal Wood, was charged with having his house open for the sale of beer after 11 o’clock on the 24th ult.
Police-constable Worcey, who proved the offence, said he found a number of persons drinking in the house about half past eleven at night.
The defence was that owing to the frost the clock had stopped.
The Stipendiary considered that was no excuse, and fined defendant 10s and costs.”

Dudley and District News 26/3/1881

“A special meeting of the Sedgley Local Board was held in the Temperance Hall on Tuesday evening.....
A letter was read from the Local Government Board, stating that a letter had been written to them by Mr. *Thomas Guest*, of the JUNCTION INN, Gornal Wood. Mr. *Guest* stated that he had complained for many years to the Upper Sedgley Local Board, of the want of drainage at his premises, the cellars being frequently filled with water.
The Chairman thought they had a perfect answer to that. They had offered to do the work several times on the usual conditions. He moved that the clerk acknowledge the letter, and state that the Board had offered to do the work, but Mr. *Guest* refused to do his part.
Mr. Church seconded, and the resolution was carried.”

1881 Census

2, Abbey House Road

- [1] *Thomas Guest* (30), butcher and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Thirza Guest* (30), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Alice Guest* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Ernest Guest* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Sarah Jane Flewel* (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 21/5/1881

“On Saturday afternoon, *John Bennett* (30), contractor, Barrs Meadow, Lower Gornal, was killed whilst engaged at work in Messrs. Newey and Woodhall’s Colliery, Coopers Bank, Lower Gornal. The deceased was a contractor under Messrs. Woodhall and Newey, and on Saturday afternoon he descended the pit for the purpose of inspecting the gate road. Whilst engaged in removing some coal a ‘bump’ occurred, and a large quantity of coal fell upon him, killing him instantaneously. About four years ago a brother of the deceased was killed in the same colliery. The inquest was held on Wednesday at the JUNCTION INN, before Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner), when a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/12/1884

“Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest yesterday afternoon at the JUNCTION INN, Lower Gornal, respecting the death of *Albert Edward Greenway* (17), horse driver, who had died from the effects of injuries received at the Birds Leasowe Colliery. Mr. W. B. Scott, the Government inspector of coalmines, and Mr. Barnes, miners’ agent, were in attendance. When the deceased and two others were being drawn up the pit shaft in a cage the chain came off the gin drum, which is used in place of an engine, the result being that the deceased was jerked out of the cage, and fell to the bottom of the shaft. When found he was dead, his head and arms being shockingly injured. Mr. W. B. Scott said he visited the colliery on the day previous to the accident, and noticing that the upright which supported the drum was rotten, he directed Mr. James Hale, one of the proprietors of the colliery, to have it repaired. He again visited the colliery on Thursday, and found that the upright had not been in any way repaired. In his opinion the accident was caused through the upright becoming displaced. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and the Coroner severely censured Hale for neglecting to carry out Mr. Scott’s instructions, and stated that he deserved to be put upon his trial for manslaughter.”

1891 Census

25, Louise Street

- [1] *Thomas Guest* (47), widower, butcher and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Martha Alice Guest* (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Ada Krunus Guest* (9), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Annie Guest* (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary Timkys* (16), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 16/1/1894

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, the magistrates were engaged until an advanced hour in the evening investigating a case in which a young man, named *Moses Williams*, Gornal Wood, was charged with unlawfully wounding *Francis Wood*, butcher, High Street, Gornal Wood. Mr. Foster appeared on behalf of the prosecutor, and Mr. Tinsley defended. Complainant stated that on the 27th December, at the JUNCTION INN, Lower Gornal, he and defendant chaffed each other about a servant girl, which led to angry words. Complainant was provoked by an allegation defendant made and he kicked Williams’s hat. Williams retaliated by kicking prosecutor’s hat, and the quarrel resulted in a struggle, in which several blows were struck by both of them. Complainant knocked defendant on the table, when the latter exclaimed, ‘Where’s my knife? He shall have it,’ and followed up the threat by striking him on the back of the head and arm with the blade of a large pocket knife, inflicting such injuries as to necessitate him taking to his bed for a fortnight. Replying to Mr. Tinsley, complainant denied that he said anything disrespectful about defendant’s wife, who was dead. Mr. Tinsley: Was the knife used simply because defendant was provoked by the joking about the servant girl? Complainant: He used the knife because he could not get anything else to defend himself with. The Bench drew complainant’s attention to the fact that this was an admission in defendant’s favour, when he stated that he did not understand the meaning of the word ‘defend’. Corroborative evidence having been given by *Joseph Edwards*, miner, Jews Lane, Lower Gornal, Dr. Pyburn stated that he was at Dr. Billingham’s surgery, at Gornal Wood, when complainant called. He was suffering from a severe wound in the head, from which he lost a large quantity of blood. Mr. Foster: Was it such a wound that if it had not been attended to complainant might have bled to death? Witness: That was quite possible. For the defence, Mr. Tinsley said defendant was attacked by the complainant and others, and was compelled to defend himself. Defendant, he alleged, was not quite compos mentis at times, and the use of the knife, he contended, was the result of this temporary mental affliction, which was brought on by the excitement engendered by the quarrel. Police-constable Heappy stated that defendant told him that he used the knife to defend himself, and he and Police-sergeant Sutton gave evidence confirming Mr. Tinsley’s statement and to Williams’s mental condition. Witnesses were also called who made statements showing that defendant received great provocation at the hands of complainant; and the magistrates reduced the charge to one of common assault, on which they sentenced defendant to two months’ hard labour.”

Thomas Guest issued tokens from here.

Dudley Herald 13/1/1900

“Invitation Supper. On Saturday evening last upwards of 40 were entertained to supper by Mr. *J. Marsh* at the JUNCTION VAULTS, Gornal Wood. After the disposal of the well-served repast, prepared in the Misses Marsh’s usual excellent style, Mr. R. Marsh was voted to the chair. ‘The Army and Navy’ was proposed by Mr. W. Hughes, and the toast was received with applause. A hearty vote of thanks to the host and hostess was proposed by Mr. J. Malpass, to which the Host suitably replied. The remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, the following gentlemen kindly obliging in a very able manner – Messrs. J. Witton, J. Marsh, T. Hughes, J. Malpass, S. Cook, and J. Hughes. Miss Marsh presided at the piano.”

1901 Census

26, Louise Street – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *John Marsh* (41), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Myra Marsh (37), wife, born Cradley, Staffordshire:

John Marsh, beer and wine retailer, Lower Gornal. [1904]

John Marsh was fined 10s and costs, on 8th August 1904, for keeping open during prohibited hours.

1911 Census

25, Louise Street

- [1] *Joseph Tomlinson* (35), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Rhoda Tomlinson (25), wife, married 5 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] Joseph Tomlinson (5), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Tomlinson (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Tomlinson (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Eliza Tomlinson (6 months), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Mary Archer (18), servant:

Joseph Tomlinson, beer retailer, Louise Street, Gornal Wood. [1912]

A billiard license was granted on 9th March 1912.

South Staffordshire Times 22/5/1920 - Advert

“Alfred W. Dando and Co. have received instructions from the representatives as above.

To Sell By Auction, at the Licensed House, on Monday June 7th, 1920 at seven o’clock in the evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.

Lot 1. The important double-fronted Beerhouse On with Wine License, know as the JUNCTION INN, Louise Street and Abbey Street, standing in a bold situation, and containing Entrance Passage, Vaults, 19ft x 16ft, with Outdoor Department; Smoke Room, 16ft x 12ft; Club Room, 21ft x 13ft; Kitchen; Scullery, Four Bedrooms and Cellar, together with Two-floor Brewery, Licensed Slaughter House and the usual Out-buildings in large enclosed yard, having double gateway approach; also Lock-up Shop adjoining, being Number 25 Louise Street, the whole let on lease to Mr. *Joseph Tomlinson*, expiring June 24th, 1921, at a rental of £45 0s 0d per annum, being one of the best known oldest established and well-situate Corner Licensed Properties in this prosperous location.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions JUNCTION INN, Lower Gornal, 15s.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

1, Abbey Street – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Clara Tomlinson*, date of birth 2/10/1881, licensee of public house, widowed;
- [2] Francis W. Tomlinson, dob 13/11/1913, general labourer, single;
- [3] James H. Tomlinson, dob 28/4/1919, electrician, single:

Graham Long was married to Jenny.

[1990]

Closed

It was converted into a shop.

KING WILLIAM

Can Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Richards [1836]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

LEOPARD

127, (16), Dudley Road, (Clarence Street), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

John Kimberley, the licensee.

W. Cutlack [1892]

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Black and White Pub Co. [2006] until April 2008

LICENSEES

Theophilus Tinsley [1833] – [1835]

William Lowe [1841] – [1854]

Thomas Hyde [1856]

Samuel Lear Stanton [] – **1860**);

John Jones (**1860** – []

Benjamin Smith [1862] – **1868**);

Zachariah Parkes (**1868** – **1871**)

John Kimberley [1872] – **1893**);

Herbert Cutlack (**1893** – **1894**);

William Ford (**1894** – **1895**);

James Osborne (**1895** – **1899**);

Fanny (Osborne) Rowley (**1899** – **1902**);

Daniel Rowley [1901] ?

William Godridge (**1902**);

William Hartshorn (**1902** – **1903**);

Thomas Worthington (**1903**);

Albert Bradley (**1903** – **1906**);

Howard 'John' Darby (**1906** – **1925**);

Eli Flavell (**1925** – **1927**);

Thomas Fellows (**1927** – **1933**);

Lawrence 'Lol' Abbiss (1933 – [c.1962])
Paul Lesniewski (1981 – [])
Liz Greatholder [1991]
David Pyke [1995]
Dianna Bradley [1996]
Lisa Oakley (2003 – [])
Joanne Lewis (2006) manager
Shaun Carrott (2006 – [2007])
Emma Aston [2012] manager

NOTES

16, Dudley Road [1874], [1881], [1901], [1911], [1939]
127, Dudley Road [1990], [1993], [1996], [1999], [2003]

Theophilus Tinsley, nail factor, grocer and victualler, Upper Gornal. [1833]

London Gazette 6/6/1843

“Notice is hereby given, that the Partnership Heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned, *Theophilus Tinsley* and Thomas Tinsley, carrying on the business of Nail Ironmongers, at Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, under the firm of *Theophilus Tinsley and Son*, was dissolved, by mutual consent, this 5th day of June 1843.

Theophilus Tinsley. Thomas Tinsley.”

1851 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *William Lowe* (50), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sophia Lowe* (53), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Edwin Lowe* (18), son, saddler's apprentice, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Elizabeth Lowe* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/10/1854 - Notice

“All persons indebted to the late Samuel Benson, of Dudley, deceased, are requested to pay the amount of their debts; and all persons having any claim on the same S. Benson, are requested to send particulars of the same thereof to Thomas Ward and William Hewitt, both of Dudley.

N.B. Any person having left either Gun or Pistol at the above Samuel Benson's are hereby requested to apply to *William Lowe*, at the LEOPARD, Upper Gornall, on or before January 1855.”

Thomas Hyde was also a carter.

Worcester Journal 1/3/1856

“Joseph Tonks, described on the charge sheet as a collier, and who has just come out of gaol, to which he was committed for six months, at the last assizes, was charged with stealing £13 from the person of *Thomas Hyde*, of the LEOPARD INN public house, Upper Gornal. On the evening of the previous day (Sunday), the prosecutor in company with a witness named Sadler, paid a visit to Dudley, and among other places visited was the HORSE AND JOCKEY public house, King Street, from thence they were induced to go to a house of ill-fame, in the immediate neighbourhood, where they met with the prisoner and another person named Enoch Harrison, not in custody. They remained there till two o'clock on Monday morning; whilst in the house prosecutor borrowed Sadler's handkerchief in which he tied his money, eight sovereigns and five pounds in silver. On leaving the house they were followed by the prisoner and his companion, who after knocking him about, the prisoner put his hand into his breast pocket and took out the handkerchief containing the above money. The prisoner and his companion then returned to the house and the prosecutor went in search of a policeman and returned to the house. When near the Mambles, Tonks was seen to run off. He was pursued and caught. Prisoner denied the charge but was committed to the assizes, bail being refused.”

AND

“Enoch Harrison, brothel-house keeper, who was connected with the robbery of £13 from *Thomas Hyde*, on Sunday last, and heard before the magistrates on Monday, having been apprehended the previous day, was brought up fully committed for trial. Bail was refused.”

[At Worcester City and County Assizes, Tonks was sentenced to four years' penal servitude and Harrison to one year's hard labour.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/3/1860 - Advert

“Sale To-Morrow. The LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, Sedgley.

Mr. John Cassere will Sell by Auction, upon the premises as above, on Thursday next, March 29th, 1860, the whole of the Stock-In-Trade, Brewing Plant, Fixtures, Licenses, and Possession, furnaces, cooling vats, nearly new; lead piping, brass taps, 14 strike mash tub, several capital ale casks, perfectly sweet; four-pull ale machine, complete; ale, wines, and spirits, pocket of hops, 1859;

very fine sow and pigs, Whitechapel trap; also part of the Household Furniture, two superior cottage pinaofortes, 6 $\frac{7}{8}$ octaves, by Nutting and Addison, and Allison and Allison; music stools, bookcase, chairs, tables, noble set of four-post bedsteads, two time pieces, stands, bed, blankets, and immense number of other useful articles. All of which will be sold without reserve, the proprietor having entered into other engagements.

Sale at twelve o'clock to a minute.

Auctioneer's Offices, No.51, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton.

The House to Let, with immediate possession."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/7/1860 - Advert

"The LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal. To Publicans.

By Charles Round. To Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the above well-known old-established Inn, situate fronting the turnpike road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton. Rent very moderate.

For further particulars apply to Charles Round, Surveyor and Auctioneer, Tipton."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/7/1862 - Advert

"Farming Implements, Household Furniture, &c.

By Messrs. Aston and Sollom. To be Sold by Auction, on Monday next, July 14th, 1862, at the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, (where they have been removed for convenience of sale), two useful Waggon Horses, three sets of Gears, single Iron Ploughs, several sets of Wood Harrows, set of Chain Harrows, Iron Scuffles, Wincrowing Machine, Two-knife Chaff Engine, Broad-wheel Cart, three Narrow-wheel Carts, Ladders, Cart Ropes, Sheep and Pig Troughs, and a variety of other Implements and Tools; also neat and useful Household Furniture and Effects, particulars of which are given in catalogues, which may be had at the Offices of the Auctioneers, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.

The Sale to commence at eleven o'clock in the morning."

Benjamin Smith was also a horse dealer. [1864]

Birmingham Journal 19/10/1867 - Advert

"Peremptory Unreserved Sale, at the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, on Monday Next, October 21.

The Brewing Plant, Public-House Fixtures, Household Furniture, and other Effects belonging to Mr. *Benjamin Smith*, who has taken the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley; comprising Spirit Bottles, pewter Measures, Drinking Tables, Benches, brass-mounted Curtains, large deal Corner Cupboard, four-pull Ale Machine, with Piping and Taps complete; Tap Table, with metal top; deal Partition, Gas Pendants and Brackets, deal Counter 7 feet long; Shelving, deal Screen, 6 feet long; Bedsteads and Mattresses, prime goose-feather Bed, 150-Gallon Copper Boiler, nearly new, with Fire Doors, Bars, and Brickwork complete; twelve-bushel Mash Tub, 350 to 36 gallon Barrels, Tubs, pair of Glass Doors and Fittings, Stable Manger, 23ft long, two-knife Chaff Engine, Turnip Pulper, in good condition, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 3in-wheel Carts, capital Whitechapel Trap, set of brass-mounted Harness, Two strong Store Pigs, and a quantity of other Effects, which will be sold without any reserve.

Sale to commence at half-past Ten o'clock punctually.

Auctioneer's Offices Owen Street and Bloomfield, Tipton."

Dudley Herald 25/2/1871

"Death on the 23rd inst, aged 40 years, of consumption, Frances Sarah, the beloved wife of Joseph Walker, and second daughter of *Zachariah Parkes* of the LEOPARD INN, Sedgley."

1871 Census

Dudley Road – LEOPARD INN

[1] *Zachariah Parkes* (70), widower, publican, born Gornal Wood;

[2] Jane E. Parkes (25), daughter, born Sandyfields;

[3] Eliza A. Parkes (23), daughter, born Sandyfields;

[4] Zephaniah Parkes (55), brother, farm bailiff, born Holly Hall:

Dudley Herald 4/11/1871

"Died on 1st inst. aged 71 years, *Zachariah Parkes* at the LEOPARD INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley."

Dudley Herald 24/6/1874

"John Peacock, jun., was charged with assaulting Job Slater, jun., and keeping a dog of a ferocious character. Slater said he was at the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal where Peacock invited him into the bar, when he threatened him. Subsequently he fetched his dog into another room where complainant was, and urged the dog to bite him, and the dog – a black retriever – bit him across the calf of his leg in three places.

It came out in cross-examination that the defendant had offered to make the matter up by giving complainant £2.

A witness named Fores said he assisted in pulling the dog from Slater, but was sure that Peacock did not set the dog on Salter.

Mr. Spooner ordered the dog to be destroyed forthwith. The stipendiary said he had no power to give compensation, which was a matter for the County Court. He trusted the defendant would consider this, and profit by the horrible danger in which Slater had been placed. As to the assault, the defendant agreed to pay the doctor's expenses and costs, and thus the case ended."

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/12/1876

“Ezekiel Elwell was fined £1 and costs for refusing to quit the LEOPARD INN, at Upper Gornal.”

1881 Census

16, Dudley Road – LEOPARD

- [1] *John Kimberley* (39), brewer, employing 10 men, born Walsall;
- [2] Elizabeth Kimberley (40), wife, born Llandwsill, Montgomeryshire;
- [3] Annie Kimberley (12), daughter, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] Amy Kimberley (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Gertrude Kimberley (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Maude Kimberley (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Nellie Kimberley (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Edith Kimberley (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Mary Hale (17), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [10] Clara Griffiths (15), domestic servant, born Manchester;
- [11] Richard Griffiths (19), brewer’s labourer, born Manchester;
- [12] John Tilley (16), brewer’s labourer, born Caunsall, Staffordshire:

Dudley and District News 28/1/1882

“On Monday evening an influential meeting was held at the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, for the purpose of considering the advisability of floating a company for purchasing a plot of land and erecting thereon a suitable building for a public hall. Dr. Ballenden presided.....”

Dudley and District News 19/7/1884

“The Attorney General sued by way of information three brewers, for penalties for breach of certain Excise regulations relating to the tax on beer.....

Penalties were claimed on nine counts against *John Kimberley*, brewer, of Upper Gornal, Sedgley.

1. For using 200lbs of sugar in brewing on the 14th September 1883, without entry.
2. For not keeping grains untouched for an hour after the time entered for the worts to be drawn off.
3. For not removing 2,000 gallons of worts successively and in the customary order of brewing to the underback coppers, coolers, and collecting and fermenting vessels before an account had been taken by an officer.
4. Removing 2,000 gallons of worts from the collecting and fermenting vessels before an account had been taken by an officer.
5. Concealing 2,000 gallons of worts.
6. Brewing without any entry as to the hour and day of brewing.
7. Mashing 56 bushels of malt and corn without making any entry of the quantity.
8. Using 400lbs of sugar in brewing without making an entry.
9. Keeping and using a concealed vat.

.....The Attorney General said he need not go into the details of this case, because he believed that the defendant had made full admission that the law had been broken. It had, therefore, been decided to take a verdict for the sum of £350 on the first, second, fifth, and ninth counts. The defendant consented to a verdict for the sum named, expressed his regret for the offences, and promised not to offend again.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/6/1890

“Yesterday morning, shortly after ten o’clock, Mrs. Cozens, wife of the late vicar of Dudley (the Rev. W. R. Cozens, DD), who preached his farewell sermon on Sunday last, and Mrs. J. W. Downs, the wife of the curate at the parish church at Dudley, started from that town to Wolverhampton for a drive in a four-wheel vehicle. The two ladies had with them a baby, the son of Mrs. Downs, and all proceeded well until the party reached a point between the workhouse at Shaver End and Upper Gornal, about two-and-a-quarter miles from Dudley. Here the horse, alarmed, it is said, by a sudden noise, bolted towards Sedgley, but not at any great speed at first. Mrs. Cozens, who was a good driver, guided the animal fairly well, and as there was an ascent from the GREEN DRAGON to Dr. Biggain’s no danger seemed to be imminent. When, however, the horse increased its pace Mrs. Cozens called for help, but stuck bravely to her post. An unsuccessful attempt was made by a man to catch the reins, and the animal dashed off after that more furiously. One of the ladies – presumably Mrs. Downs – threw the baby out of the vehicle, and the horse rushed on. Near Mr. Homer’s house Mrs. Cozens was flung out of the carriage, and her head coming into contact with the tramway or the kerbing she was killed instantly. The affrighted horse, with only Mrs. Downs in the vehicle, ran on to the Bull Ring, and when near Mr. Thompson’s the reins became entangled in the horse’s hind legs, with the result that the animal fell, throwing the lady into the gutter. She was conveyed to the house of Mr. Astley, near the place. In the meantime the baby was picked up and found to be unhurt, with the exception of a few bruises and scratches. The spectators of the accident had also taken Mrs. Cozens to Dr. Ballenden’s surgery, which was near, and the surgeon pronounced her dead from concussion to the brain. Dr. Ballenden was then summoned to Mrs. Downs, and he was joined by Mr. Bradley, surgeon, Dudley, Mr. Johnson, surgeon, and Mr. St. Clair Ballenden. They found the lady unconscious, with a serious wound on her head, and it was uncertain whether she would live or die. The surgeons ordered that she should not leave the house for at least twenty-four hours. The Rev. Mr. Downs and Mr. R. W. Cozens came from Dudley very speedily, and the former carried his child to Dudley. Mr. Cozens afterwards left to communicate the sad news to his father, who was at West Norwood, London, awaiting his induction today. The accident created a

painful sensation in Dudley and district. It was only on Sunday that Dr. Cozens complained that his domestic troubles were such that he could hardly bear, and he was leaving at great pecuniary cost because he wished to escape from his surroundings. During the afternoon the flag at the Liberal Club was hoisted to half mast.

Last night Mr. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, on the body of Mrs. Cozens, who was aged fifty-five years. Mr. Walter Smith represented the family.

The Rev. Reyner Cozens, the eldest son of the deceased, gave evidence as to his mother starting from Dudley for Wolverhampton for the purpose of shopping. The horse was attached to a four-wheeled phaeton, and was the one which she had driven many times previously. His mother was well used to horses, but she had a weakness of one hand, which would render her rather helpless with a frightened horse. He had no reason to blame anyone.

Mr. William Henry Wilcox, plasterer, High Street, Dudley, said he saw Mrs. Cozens's horse on the gallop at Upper Gornal, and followed her with his pony and trap. He saw lots of people about, but he was sorry to say they were such cowards they made no attempt to stop her horse. One man made an attempt, but it was too much trouble for him to step off the footpath. He saw Mrs. Downs attempt to jump out near the Catholic Chapel, and she was thrown out. Near the National Schools Mrs. Cozens fell from the vehicle, the carriage, however, caught the footpath and tilted. The lady was insensible when picked up, and witness took her to Dr. Ballenden's surgery. The horse was hurt and the carriage damaged, but the harness was intact. He saw no tramcar on the road. Joseph Marsh, High Holborn, said he saw Mrs. Cozens upset in the road. She never spoke or moved afterwards. There was no tramcar about at the time.

Thomas Foster, nailmaster, corroborated. The horse had a snaffle-bit, with the reins through both rings. He would recommend only one ring.

Mr. John MacNab Ballenden, surgeon, Sedgley, said the deceased lady was brought to his surgery insensible. She moaned a little, and died in about a quarter of an hour. She had a slight bruise on her forehead, and a severe scalp wound on the back of her head. There was a fracture of the base of the skull.

Mr. St. Clair Ballenden said he saw the runaway horse with the two ladies in the carriage. Mrs. Downs was thrown out, and had not up to that time recovered consciousness. She had received an injury likely to cause death.

Police-sergeant Goodall said enquiries had been made all along the line, and nothing had been heard of a tram-engine startling the horse.

The Coroner summed up, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

1891 Census

Dudley Road – LEOPARD INN

[1] *John Kimberley* (45), brewer, born Walsall Wood;

[2] Elizabeth Kimberley (35), wife, born Dudley;

[3] Maud Kimberley (17), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Nellie Kimberley (15), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Edith Kimberley (13), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] Jane Kimberley (23), niece, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Journal 23/5/1891

"At the Wolverhampton Police Court, before Mr. N. C. A. Neville, Stipendiary, *John Kimberley*, brewer of Sedgley, was summoned for causing a horse to be worked whilst suffering from sores on the shoulder and back, and his nephew, a young man, also named John Kimberley, was summoned for working the horse. Mr. W. A. Foster defended.

PC Raybould stated that on the 13th inst. he saw a horse belonging to the elder defendant outside the THREE CROWNS INN, Park Street, Wolverhampton, and attached to a cart heavily laden with barrels. The animal had a wound under the collar and another underneath the saddle. The young defendant was in charge of the horse, and the elder one, who was in the public house was called out, and on the witness calling his attention to it, he said he wanted it to draw barrels to Sedgley.

John Stoker, a brewer, gave evidence that he had seen the horse being worked for the past month.

In cross-examination witness admitted that he was formerly employed by the elder defendant, but he denied that he had been discharged for dishonesty, or that he was the informer in the case.

Mr. Foster pleaded guilty on behalf of the young defendant and with respect to Mr. *Kimberly*, sen., he stated that he was under the impression that the horse had recovered from the sores, and consequently permitted it to be worked. It was a hot day, and the skin must have worn off the sores again.

Evidence having been given on behalf of the defendant, Mr. Neville said that it was an exceedingly bad case of cruelty. He had seen the horse, and found the sores were the worst he had ever seen, for the animal flinched when anyone went near it. He fined *John Kimberley*, senior, £5 and costs, and the younger defendant 20s and costs."

John Kimberley was also a brewer.

He was convicted, on 2nd May 1892 for opening the premises during prohibited hours.

Birmingham Daily Post 16/6/1892 - Advert

"To Brewers, Wine And Spirit Merchants, And Others.

Valuable Ten-Quarter Plant Brewery, Situate at Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, 11½ miles from Birmingham and three miles from Wolverhampton; together with Five Valuable Licensed Houses, Land, and Cottages.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Edwin Belfield & Co. (by direction of the Owner, W. Cutlack, Esq), at the WHITE HART HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, the 5th day of July, 1892, at Five for Six o'clock in the evening, in the following or such other

lots as may be decided upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be then produced.

Lot 1. All those Important Freehold and Partly Copyhold Premises, known as the Sedgley Brewery, situate in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, aforesaid, with Ten-quarter Brewery Plant, Cooper's Shop, Stores, Cellars, Sheds, Offices, and other Buildings thereupon erected; also the Engine, Boiler, Machinery, and other Fixed Plant. Also, all those Fully-Licensed, Copyhold Premises, known as the LEOPARD INN, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Kimberley* as annual tenant, at a nominal rental of £25 a year, together with Three Cottages adjoining the said Brewery, producing £12 2s 6d, now in the respective occupation of Messrs. Evans and others.

The Brewery has been carried on by the Vendor for several years.

There is an unlimited supply of pure Water from a very deep well on the premises.

The connection is established and very well tied.

Early possession can be had.

Certain rights as to Water Supply to several Cottages are reserved.

The Casks, Horses, Harness, Vehicles, Loose Plant, Stock, Fixtures and Fittings in Managed Houses, and other general Effects will have to be taken in the usual manner, which will probably amount to £1,000.

The purchaser of Lot 1 will take the benefit of the vendor's interest in Six Licensed Houses held by him on annual tenancies, which said Houses are tied to the Brewery.

Lot 2. A Capital Freehold, Fully-Licensed House, known as the STAMFORD ARMS, Shutend, near Kingswinford; together with Two Cottages, now in the occupation of Hickman and other.

This Lot contains about 2,755 square yards, and produces £38 a year.

Lot 3. All that Well-frequented Freehold Beerhouse, situate in Stafford Street, Dudley, in the county of Stafford, and known by the sign of the DUKE OF SUSSEX, together with Four Cottages.

The Beerhouse is in management.

Lot 4. A Valuable Plot of Building land, being part of the Land, formerly called Gray Stone Field, late in the occupation of Mr. John Gould, situate and being at Queen's Cross, in the town of Dudley aforesaid, having a frontage of 32 yards to the road, and containing 665 square yards or thereabouts.

Lot 5. All that Valuable Freehold Fully-Licensed Public-House, situate in Wood Street, Woolaston, near Stourbridge, and known as the RIFLE MANS ARMS; together with the Dwelling Houses adjoining thereto, and producing together the sum of £54 per annum.

Lot 6. The Lease of the COCK INN, Hart's Hill, in the county of Worcester, for a term of ten years from the 24th day of June, 1890, at a yearly rental of £30.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. Evans and Son, Solicitors, Ely; or to the Auctioneers, 14, Temple Street, Birmingham and Copthall House, London, EC."

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/7/1892 - Advert](#)

"To be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Edwin Belfield and Co., by direction of the Owner (W. Cutlack, Esq), at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Thursday Next, the 28th day of July, at Five o'clock to a minute (railway time), if not previously disposed of by Private Contract.....

Lot 1. All those Important Partly-Freehold and Partly-Copyhold Business Premises known as the Sedgley Brewery, situate in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, with the 10-quarter Brewery Plant, Cooper's Shop, Stores, Cellars, Sheds, Offices, and other Buildings thereupon erected; also the Engine, Boiler, Machinery, and other Fixed Plant.

Also, all those Fully-Licensed Copyhold Premises known as the LEOPARD INN, now in the occupation of Mr. *John Kimberley*, as annual tenant, at a nominal rental of £25 a year, together with the Three Cottages adjoining the said Brewery, producing £12 2s 8d.

The Brewery has been carried on by the Vendor for several years.

There is an unlimited supply of pure water from a deep well on the premises.

The connection is thoroughly established, and is very substantially tied.

Early possession can be had.

Certain rights as to water supply to several of the Cottages are reserved.

The Casks, Horses, Harness, Vehicles, Loose Plant, Stock, Fixtures, and Fittings in managed Houses, and other General Effects will have to be taken at valuation in the usual manner, which will probably amount to about £1,000.

The purchaser of Lot 1 will take the benefit of the Vendor's interest in six Licensed Houses held by him on annual tenancies, which said houses are tied to the Brewery."

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/7/1892](#)

"Last evening Messrs. Edwin Belfield and Co. submitted to public competition a number of public houses, a brewery, &c, at the Grand Hotel, Colmore Row.....

The copyhold premises, known as the Sedgley Brewery, situate in the parish of Sedgley, Staffordshire, was withdrawn, the bidding being below the reserve price. Withdrawn in like manner, the copyhold premises, known as the LEOPARD INN, adjoining the brewery, and three cottages, producing £37 2s 8d per annum."

[Staffordshire Advertiser 11/11/1893](#)

"*Herbert Cutlack*, LEOPARD INN, Sedgley, was summoned for selling drink during prohibited hours. Mr. A. Whitehouse prosecuted. In defence, Mr. Deeley, contended the men were bona fide travellers and had travelled more than three miles. The Stipendiary said that publicans must find out whether men only went to get a drink, and fined defendant 20s and costs."

John Osborne was convicted, on 8th September 1896, for two cases of “suffering gaming”.

The license renewal was refused at the Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting on 25th September 1896. It was renewed, on appeal to the Quarter Sessions, on 24th October 1896.

Fanny Osborne married *Daniel Rowley* on 11th May 1900.

1901 Census

16, Dudley Road – LEOPARD

- [1] *Daniel Rowley* (49), publican, born Coseley;
- [2] *Fanny Rowley* (51), wife, born Clay Hills, Shropshire;
- [3] *Annie Westwood* (25), domestic servant, born Gornal:

Howard Darby = *Howard Darbey*

1911 Census

16, Dudley Road – LEOPARD INN

- [1] *Howard Darby* (34), saddler, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Jane Darby* (30), wife, married 7 years, born Claverley;
- [3] *Howard Darby* (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Beryl Darby* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Marie Horton* (15), servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Express and Star 27/11/1909

“An exciting experience befell Mrs. Darbey, wife of the landlord of the LEOPARD INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley, on Friday afternoon, and she may be complimented on the plucky manner in which she met the situation. During a brief absence from the bar she heard the clink of money, and knowing that the till was being tampered with hurried back. To get to the bar again she had to go through a passage at the front of the premises, and there met a man rushing from the bar. He was in the act of placing the money in his pocket. Mrs. Darbey, without the least hesitation, seized the thief, and a severe struggle ensued. The man, however, overpowered Mrs. Darbey and fled from the spot. He leapt over a wall and into a field and vanished. In the struggle Mrs. Darbey succeeded in getting a portion of the money from the thief. Now the police are on the look-out, and would very much like to bring him to book.”

Howard Darby was also a saddler and harness maker, High Street. [1912], [1916]

Wolverhampton Express and Star 13/12/1912

“A meeting of hairdressers of the Coseley, Princes End, Roseville, Hurst Hill, Sedgley, and Upper and Lower Gornal districts, was held at the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, on Thursday afternoon, Mr. J. Haselock (Wolverhampton) presiding. The question for consideration was the increased prices which have been adopted throughout the other South Staffordshire districts, and it was unanimously agreed to fall into line, the new scale to come into operation on Monday next for the first four districts, and Monday week for the others.”

South Staffordshire Times 18/8/1923

“Sedgley Police Court.....

James Harwood, Sedgley, was charged with being drunk and disorderly. Defendant was further charged with assaulting *Sergt. Pitt*, with assaulting *Thomas Loftus*, and also with assaulting *PC Wood*, on July 28th. Defendant pleaded not guilty to all charges. *John Hunt*, Coseley, was charged with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty, namely *Sergeant Pitt* and *PC Wood*, on July 28th. Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Mr. F. W. Green defended and elected to have the cases taken together.

PS Pitt said the defendants were surrounded by people opposite the LEOPARD INN, Dudley Road. He advised the men to clear off, and *Harwood* then said what he would do if the policeman had not the law on his side. When an attempt was made to arrest *Harwood* there was a violent struggle. *Hunt* then came and tried to rescue *Harwood*, saying he should not be taken. Witness then received blows which floored and exhausted him, and he had to release the men. They were afterwards arrested by *PC Dimpleby* and *PC Wood*. *Hunt* had had beer but was not drunk. Witness said the crowd did not assist him, and prisoners were afterwards identified by a little boy who ran to the police station for help.

In answer to *Mr. Green*, witness said one of the defendants took toy cats from a tray. He gave *Harwood* every chance to go away, but after the arrest *Hunt* helped *Harwood* to get away. He did not knock the men about. The assaults were deliberate, and included a blow on the mouth and forehead.

By the Superintendent: He had arrested the defendant for being drunk and disorderly after he had been told he was drunk.

Thos. Loftus, peddler, 23, Cleveland Street said he was selling toys at 10.15 outside the LEOPARD. *Harwood* came across, took hold of several of his black cats, threw some on the floor, and started shoving him about, and calling him a —— German. His reply was that he was a discharged soldier, and he was again pushed about. The cord of the tray on which the black cats were was broken, and then *Harwood* gave him two blows to the face. *PS Pitt* then came up and spoke to the man quietly, and advised him

to go home. He told the sergeant that he would go 'when he —— liked.' Later on Harwood struck a deliberate blow on the face, and knocked him down. Both men ran away after that.

By Mr. Green: Harwood did not offer to pay for the cats, nor did he call the cats German make; but says he (witness) was a German, using a foul expression. No man who was sober would have done as Harwood did. When the sergeant was struck in the mouth the sergeant and the two defendants were struggling, Hunt hanging round Harwood and the sergeant, pulling at the former and pushing at the latter.

Elsie Hickman, 26, Inhedge Street, Upper Gornal, said Harwood was drunk and tumbling about when he came out of the LEOPARD. He knocked the tray of cats out of the pedlar's hands, and struck the man. The sergeant told him to go away, but the only answer was bad language, and a blow to the side of the face, which made the sergeant fall to the ground. Hunt came up, caught hold of the man, and told sergeant, 'If you take him you will have to take me.' While the sergeant was getting up the men ran away.

By Mr. Green: It was after the flower show she saw Harwood, and quite a lot came out of the public-house. Harwood hit the pedlar in the face but it was not much of a blow. He stood arguing, and would not go away. Then the sergeant took hold of the man, and they struggled for ten minutes. The sergeant called for help, and Hunt came, linked his arm to the palings, and pulled at Harwood. Both men ran down the fields at the side of the LEOPARD. The sergeant had Harwood round the neck, and was pulling him about.

By Mr. Green: The men were both drunk by the way they were carrying on. They were both as drunk as one another. She heard nothing about Germans at all. The pedlar called the sergeant. It was after the man had struck the sergeant that he was taken by the collar, and the struggle began.

The Stipendiary: Whose side was Hunt taking?

Witness: Harwood's

The Stipendiary: Why not the policeman's?

Witness: Because he pulled Harwood away, and said, 'If you take him you will have to take me.'

Deborah Flavell, 130, Dudley Road, Sedgley gave similar evidence, adding that the sergeant told Harwood, 'If you lose your temper, I will lose mine.' Then there was a struggle, and the sergeant was struck in the face.

PC Wood, was fetched from the Police Station by a schoolboy, said the lad pointed to Harwood and said: 'That's the man who hit the sergeant.' The crowd hindered him, but he followed through the hedge and over-took Harwood at the other side of the field, when he was kicked on the shin, causing a wound. Eventually witness got the man on the floor, and put one handcuff on. A man came and helped him to get the other cuff on. Hunt came and laid hold of the arm of the witness, and said, 'Let him go, he's my pal; you are not going to take him.' Hunt followed for a 100 yards and tried to get between the prisoner and witness, and only desisted when witness threatened to draw his staff. Hunt came to the station and said, 'I'm going to fetch him out; I'm going to get him.' He was then arrested, and charged with obstruction. He was not drunk, but under the influence of drink.

James Mulvaney, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, gave evidence of assisting Wood to handcuff Harwood, who was kicking Wood and biting his hands.

PC Dimbleby described how he saw Wood and Mulvaney holding Harwood on the ground, where he was acting like a madman. He also describes how Hunt tried to get Harwood away. Witness then had to draw his staff, but the hostility ceased then, and he did not have to use it.

The defence of Mr. Green was that a misunderstanding had occurred as to whether it was the toys or the man who were described as Germans. The assault on the sergeant was brought about by his own fault. Hunt did nothing to impede the police, and his aggression at the Police Station was due to the fact that he wanted to bail his companion out.

Harwood, in the witness box, denied any assault, and said both his arms had been wounded in the war, and had lost a finger. He worked at Hickmans, and on July 28th (the date of the charge) he had had no drink until 8.30pm. In the LEOPARD, from 8.30 till 10, he had only had four half-pints. He came out with Hunt, asked the toyman the price of the cats, and offered him a shilling to pay for two. When he said they were German toys Loftus got excited. When the sergeant told him to go away he was going away, but in a few yards the sergeant took him by the throat and back of the neck and started to knock him about. Then the sergeant called for assistance 'in the name of the King,' and Hunt came to help the sergeant. Hunt held him for some time, then loosed him, and he ran away down the lane. He had not struck the sergeant at all. He did not strike Wood while lying in the ditch being handcuffed.

In answer Superintendent Higgs, witness admitted Mulvaney had to assist him getting second handcuff on, but he did not resist. He denied all that had been said about the pedlar, about kicking and biting Wood, and declared he was not drunk.

The Stipendiary elicited that the three men had three rounds in the LEOPARD, or nine pints apiece.

Hunt, in the witness box, said Harwood was quite sober when they went, with a man named Sault into the LEOPARD. Up till 10 o'clock they had four half-pints. He never saw the gollywog man, but went forward when the sergeant called for help. He held Harwood till he was exhausted, and had to loose him, but he did all in his power to assist the sergeant in his duty. Afterwards he never went within ten yards of either of the policemen.

Joseph Sault said Harwood was obliged to be sober, because he could run a mile. (Laughter.)

John Darby, licensee of the LEOPARD, who said he was a teetotaler, swore that all the drinks had by the men was four half-pints each, and the defendants gave no evidence whatever of being drunk.

By the Superintendent: He had been summoned, but did not want to give evidence one way or another. He supervised the room in which the men were, but would tie himself down to the fact that only four half-pints had been supplied.

By the Stipendiary: The defendants were not regular customers, and he had never seen them before. He could distinguish what they had, because they had half-pint glasses and the regulars had pint jugs.

The Stipendiary said it was an unsatisfactory case, but he had not the slightest doubt that the defendants had had too much to drink. To that he thought was due the attack on the pedlar. He was satisfied that Harwood was drunk, that he assaulted the ser-

geant and PC Wood. He was not satisfied at all with the evidence of the licensee. It was in a way something in Harwood's favour that he was drunk, or he never could have acted in such a beastly way. Hunt seemed to have changed his mind once or twice, got angry and obstructed the police. There would be a conviction on all charges.

Mr. Green put in several characters in favour of Harwood, and also 16 years' character for Hunt.

In reply to the Stipendiary, Superintendent Higgs said assaults on the police were not so common as they once were.

Harwood was fined 10s for being drunk and disorderly; for assaulting Sergeant Pitt the fine was 20s; for assaulting Loftus 10s; and for assaulting PC Wood the fine was 20s, and the proportion of special costs. Hunt was fined 10s in each case of obstructing the police.

The special costs in each case were 15s 6d. Hunt was given 14 days in which to pay, and Harwood was given a month in which to pay the £3 15s 6d.

The hearing lasted over three hours."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 22/8/1923

"There was an unusual feature about the case in which *Howard Darby*, licensee of the LEOPOLD [sic] INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley, was at Bilston yesterday fined £2 and £6 13s 6d special costs, charged with permitting drunkenness on 28 July.

It was a sequel to a prosecution heard a week before at Sedgley, in which a man who was found drunk outside the house at closing time, and afterwards created a disturbance, was convicted for being drunk.

It was admitted that the man had had four half-pints in the house, but the defence urged that the landlord was ignorant that he was drunk, and also submitted that there was no evidence that defendant was negligent.

The Stipendiary said he thought the landlord, being busy, chanced a bit."

AND

South Staffordshire Times 25/8/1923

"At Bilston Police Court, before the Stipendiary (Mr. Graham Milward) on Tuesday, *John Darby*, licensee of the LEOPARD INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley, was summoned for permitting drunkenness to take place on his licensed premises on 28th July.

Mr. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. A. R. Churchill (instructed by Messrs. Higgs and Son, Brierley Hill) appeared for defendant.

Mr. Sharpe explained that the charge was a sequel to a case which came before the Stipendiary at Sedgley last week, when a man named Harwood was fined for being drunk and disorderly outside the LEOPARD INN. It was alleged that Harwood was in a very drunken condition when he left the inn about ten o'clock on the night of 28th July. Not only was he very drunk, but also violent, and directly coming out of the inn he picked a fight with a pedlar named Thomas Loftus, who happened to be in the road, and behaved very roughly towards him. Sergeant Pitt was called to the spot, and he gave Harwood every opportunity of going quietly away, but he said he would stay where he was. He assaulted the sergeant, and gave a great deal of trouble. Through the interference of a man named Hunt, Harwood got away, but was chased by constables and arrested.

The landlord was now charged with permitting drunkenness on his premises, and with allowing Harwood to be on his premises while in a drunken condition. The police had no direct evidence as to what had actually taken place in the house before Harwood went outside. It was a difficult matter to obtain evidence from persons who were in the house at the time, and he (Mr. Sharpe) could only ask the Stipendiary, from the evidence which would be adduced, to infer that when Harwood left the house he was drunk. When defendant in this case was served by Inspector Parsons with a summons as a witness in the previous case, defendant made this significant statement, quite voluntarily: 'Harwood came into the house between eight and half-past, and sat on the seat under the clock in the tap room. He and two friends (of whom Hunt was one) had four half-pints each. I served them with them. No one else was serving. Harwood never said a miss word to anyone while he was in the house. He sang a song about ten minutes to ten, and was one of the last to go out. I did not want to be mixed up in it, but now I have got to go, I shall go and speak the truth. I think you were mistaken, sergeant, when you charged him with being drunk. He was not drunk. Four half-pints would not make him drunk, I heard them acting 'looby' outside, but I did not go outside, as I had other work to do, and what they do outside has nothing to do with me. The customers were watching it all, and they say the men were acting 'looby.' I have kept the house 17 years without a stain, and I have never had any difficulties with the police.'

A young woman names Elsie Hickman, who lives at Inedge Street, Upper Gornal, said that about 10pm on 28th July she and another woman named Alice Green were standing outside the LEOPARD INN. Witness saw a number of men coming out of the house, among them being Harwood and Hunt. Harwood was staggering about, and seemed to her drunk. She saw him go up to a man who was selling something on a tray, and he behaved roughly to the man, knocking the tray out of his hand. Sergeant Pitt then came up, and the pedlar complained to him. The sergeant and Harwood appeared to be having an argument, and afterwards Harwood ran away down the side of the LEOPARD INN.

Cross-examined by Mr. Churchill:

Did you see what happened inside the public-house? – No.

Did you see a man named Henry Guest there? – Yes, he stood by me.

Did you say to your friend, Alice Green, 'What's up?' – I did say 'What's the matter?' but nobody answered.

Did you see Green press forward to see what was going on? – Yes.

Why did you say 'What's the matter?' – Because we did not quite know what was going on.

Am I right in saying that you said at Sedgley that you could not say whether Harwood or Hunt was the worse of the two so far as being drunk was concerned? – I think Harwood was the worst, but there did not seem to be much difference.

At Sedgley did you hear a policemen say that Hunt was not drunk? – Yes.

As far as you consider, was that true? – Yes.

Alice Green, Inedge Street, Upper Gornal, said that while out with the last witness she saw Harwood coming out of the LEOPARD INN. He appeared to be drunk.

Cross-examined by Mr. Churchill, witness said that Harwood was staggering about when he approached the pedlar. He afterwards ran away without any assistance. Harwood appeared more drunk than Hunt. It was true that at Sedgley she said 'Both appeared to be as drunk as one another.'

Mr. Churchill: Do you want to alter your statement now? – Witness: No.

Thomas Loftus, pedlar, Cleveland Street, Wolverhampton, said that about ten o'clock on the night of the 28th July he was standing outside the LEOPARD INN selling things. He saw Harwood come out of the house. Harwood was drunk, and used filthy language to witness. Sergeant Pitt came up and endeavored to take Harwood into custody, but he struggled with the sergeant, and afterwards ran away along the side of the LEOPARD INN.

Deborah Flavell, Dudley Road, Sedgley, gave similar evidence.

Sergeant Pitt, Sedgley, stated that about 10.15pm on July 28th, he went to the outside of the LEOPARD INN, and in consequence of a complaint from Loftus he spoke to Harwood about his conduct, and asked him to go home. Harwood, who was drunk, said he would go when he was ready to go. As he further refused to go away, witness attempted to arrest him, but Hunt interfered, and Harwood slipped away. Witness intended to charge him with being drunk and disorderly.

Mr. Churchill: After Harwood was in custody was he examined by a doctor at all? – Witness: No, he did not ask for one.

PC Wood, PC Dimpleby, and James Mullaney repeated the evidence they gave at Sedgley, each saying Harwood was drunk when he was finally arrested.

Inspector Parsons read the statement which defendant made when he was served with a witness's summons for the previous case. He also stated he saw Harwood about 12.20 on the night of 28th July. He then appeared to be recovering from the effects of drink, and smelt of it.

This concluded the evidence for the prosecution.

Mr. Churchill for the defence, submitted that there was no evidence that defendant knew Harwood was drunk; that he had no way connived at his drunkenness; or was in any way negligent in conducting his business. Therefore he held that defendant could not be convicted.

The Stipendiary said he was against Mr. Churchill on that point, but he would take a note of the objection, and state a case if Mr. Churchill would like him to do so.

Mr. Churchill then said that before he addressed the court he would call his evidence.

Defendant said he was 46 years of age. He had been in the licensing trade for 26 years, and licensee of the LEOPARD INN for 17 years. There had been no conviction against him, nor had he ever received complaint from the police. He himself was a total abstainer. Harwood, Hunt, and a man named Salt came into his house about half-past eight on the night of 28th July. They were strangers to him. They sat together in the taproom, of which he (defendant) had the entire supervision. When the men came in they were sober. During the whole of the night none of the men had more than four half-pints of beer each. A number of other people came into the taproom. In the course of the evening songs were given by Harwood, the last one being a little before ten. There was nothing in Harwood's manner to suggest that he was drunk. He stood up to sing, without the slightest assistance. Witness saw Harwood leave the house at ten o'clock, and he walked perfectly straight. He (defendant) saw nothing of the scene outside the house but he did hear some noise. When Harwood went out of the house he could not be described as being under the influence of drink. He (defendant) had taken steps to prevent drunkenness from taking place in the house, and also to stop bad language.

Cross-examined by Mr. Sharpe: Can you explain why Harwood should be drunk outside if immediately before he was sober inside? – No.

Do you not think that on hearing a row outside it was your duty to go out and see what was going on? – I don't think so.

You think that when a man goes out of your house your duty ceases? – I do think so, he was sober inside.

What do you mean by the word 'looby?' Do you mean that a man who is 'acting looby' is drunk? – No; acting foolishly – 'playing the goat.'

Maurice Lewis, Upper Gornal, said he was in the LEOPARD INN from about 8.15 till 10 on July 28th. He saw Harwood there, and he also saw him leave the house. Harwood was then quite sober. He did not stagger, nor did he show any signs of being the worse for drink.

Thomas Cox, Gospel End Road, said he saw Harwood in the LEOPARD INN, about 9.45. He was then quite sober. Witness next saw him about half-past ten, being charged by two policemen. Harwood was running very fast. He was in no way wobbling. He was running in style, and very good style too. (Laughter). He could not have gone at such a pace if he had been drunk. Witness had never seen a drunken man like Harwood run.

Enoch Bradley, Upper Gornal, said he was in the LEOPARD from 8.20 till 10pm on July 28th. He saw Harwood there, and he was quite sober during the whole time.

Oswald Thelwall, William Porter, Joseph Porter, Clifford Fellows, John Hunt, and John Salt gave similar evidence.

John Guest said he saw Harwood running away from the Police. He ran faster than any of those who had been competing in the Flower Show did, and could not have been drunk to be able to do that. (Laughter).

Harry Guest, William Guest, John Evans, and William Guest also spoke of the athletic activity displayed by Harwood, and each said that he considered Harwood quite sober.

Mr. Churchill then submitted that it was a case in which summons ought to be dismissed. He said the particular proceeding made it difficult for the defence, because they had the licensee and the man alleged to have been drunk on his premises both charged with the same case, but appearing before the court on different occasions, with the case against the man having already being decided. The Stipendiary had already decided the question on one half of the facts relating to the case. Defendant was now in that position, and he would have to abide by it. Usually the licensee and the man alleged to have drunk were charged together, and they had the volume of evidence on each side. If the twelve witnesses called for the defence that day had been heard at Sedgley it was possible that the decision might have been different. He (Mr. Churchill) made three submissions. First, that the man was not

drunk; second, if he was worse for drink there was nothing to show it while he was on the premises; and third, that in this case no such inference that he was drunk could be drawn. All the things happened after the men had left the public-house, and there was nothing in Harwood's previous conduct which called for the licensee to eject him. The evidence which had been called was very strong on that point.

The Stipendiary said this was a very difficult case. It was all the more difficult because he had already decided at Sedgley that Harwood was drunk, and the question he now had to decide was whether there were any such new facts as would warrant him holding a just and honest inference that the man must have been drunk to the knowledge of the landlord, and that the landlord had not exercised proper supervision in the house. He must hold that there were such facts to force him to draw that inference. The evidence for the prosecution was that Harwood on coming out of the public house was seen to reel and stagger in the road. In addition to that, the man's own behaviour was very much against him. There was evidence of extraordinary behaviour. Unless the man was drunk, it was difficult to say what his condition really was. He (the Stipendiary) was satisfied that he was drunk in the street. Then what was the evidence to his condition inside the house? Mr. Churchill stated that there was no evidence by the police. He (the Stipendiary) thought there rarely could be, and it was very unlikely the customers would give evidence against the landlord, unless they had some quarrel with him. Unfortunately for the landlord the evidence of customers must always be received with a certain amount of doubt. In this case there was also this difficulty. None of the witnesses for the defence had been asked to give evidence until a few days ago, and he did not like the manner in which they now came forward. With regard to the point which had been raised as to the way the man ran away, and his athletic performances, he had known drunken men do the most extraordinary things – climb a steeple, or go up a ladder without touching the sides – feats which they could not do when they were sober. He thought it was probable that the 28th July was a busy evening at the house, because of the Flower Show, and that the licensee consequently did not take as much care as he ought to have done. Justice, however, would be done by the imposition of a fine of 40s, the amount being less because the special costs were so heavy, amounting to £6 13 6d.”

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

“Bilston Licensing.....

The licenses for the BULLS HEAD, Sedgley; the FOXYARD, Woodsetton; and the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, to which objection had been made on the ground of convictions, were renewed, and the license of the FOXYARD was transferred to Cecil Crowther.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal, £3 19s.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Thomas Fellows married *Priscilla Cox*.

1939 Register

16, Dudley Road – LEOPARD INN

[1] *Lawrence Abbiss*, date of birth 11/4/1899, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Florence R(hoda May) Abbiss*, dob 20/6/1900, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Black Country Bugle (January 1982)

“.....*Lol Abbiss*. He retired around 1962 after spending about 32 years at the LEOPARD. *Lol* was a true country-mon in the mould of the celebrated TV personality *Phil Drabble*. Pigeon flyer, dog-mon, ferret mon, game expert, snare setter and knowledgeable on all aspects of wildlife, *Lol* was revered by both poacher and gamekeeper.”

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Lisa Oakley's partner was *Paul Shepherd*.

Joanne Lewis's partner was *John Bird*.

It closed in 2015.

It was demolished in 2016.

Housing was built on the site.

LIMERICK

42, (17+18), (17), Summit Place, (Gornalwood), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Ann Hughes
George, and George Frederick Thompson, maltsters, Dudley
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Isaac Hughes [1849] – 1863);
Mrs. Ann Hughes (1863 – 1877);
Isaac Jones (1877 – 1898);
John Guest (1898 – 1900);
Robert Robinson (1900);
William Richard Astley (1900 – [1903]
Richard Elwell Astley [1901] – 1904);
Samuel Glover (1904);
Henry Barrasford [1904] ?
David Winwood (1904 – 1905);
Isaac Smart (1905 – 1907);
Samuel Cotton (1907 – 1908);
John Meredith (1908 – 1910);
Enoch Smart (1910 – 1912);
William Stoddart (1912);
Isaac Bradley (1912 – 1913);
Moses Marsh (1913 – 1915);
Thomas Smith (1915 – 1921);
Charles Evans (1921);
Abel Ball (1921 – 1924);
George Henry Freeman (1924 – 1925);
Ben Hawkins (1925 – 1926);
Frank Tromans (1926 – 1931);
James Francis Winmill (1931 – 1933);
John Arnold Lodge (1933 – 1939);
William Leonard Bradley (1939 – 1961);
Arthur John Love (1961 – 1965)
Jack Booth [] – 1967);
George Booth (1967 – 1968);
Leonard Wilfred Clee (1968);
Alan John Cox (1968 – 1969);
George Thomas Allen (1969 – 1971);
John Turner (1971 – 1972);
William Frederick Haste (1972);
Derek William Matthews (1972 – 1976);
James Gould (1976 – 1979);
Arthur John Kelsey (1979 – 1980);
Pauline Elizabeth Adderley (1980 – 1981);
Eric Reynolds (1981 – 1989);
Rita Love (1989 – [1995]
Margaret Mary 'Maggie' Alliband (1996 – 1997)
Alfred Rowley [1998]
Louise Cox (1998 – 1999)

NOTES

17, Summit Place [1881]
17+18, Summit Place

42, Summit Place

It had a bull terrier club.

Isaac Hughes, beer retailer, Gornal Wood. [1849], [1850]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1849

“Annual Licensing Day For Seisdon North.....

As the number of applications for fresh licenses was very considerable, it was arranged by the legal gentlemen that in addressing the Bench they should confine themselves to a simple statement of facts of each case, and not occupy more than two minutes. Under this arrangement between thirty and forty applications were heard, most of which were opposed. The statements in support of the applications were almost uniformly to the effect that the applicant had for many years kept a beerhouse without complaint, and that the premises were suitable for a public house, which was required in the neighbourhood. Licenses were granted to the following persons.....

Isaac Hughes, LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood.”

1851 Census

Gornal Wood

- [1] *Isaac Hughes* (36), brickmaker, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Ann Hughes* (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Herbert Hughes (12), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Thomas Hughes (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Hughes (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Joseph Perry (15), son in law, labourer, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/12/1851

“A coroner’s inquest was held on Thursday last, at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, on the body of John Wakelam, a miner, about 25 years of age, whose death was occasioned by a fall of coal, whilst he was at work in a coal pit belonging to Messrs. Blackwell and Co., on the preceding Sunday. About a ton of coal fell upon the deceased, and when it was removed he was found dead; the pit is stated to be properly worked. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/7/1852

“An inquest was held on Tuesday, at the LIMERICK INN, Gornall Wood, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Thomas Jones, 23 years of age, who was killed on the previous Saturday by a large quantity of coal falling upon him, when at work in a coal pit at Shut End. It was stated that it would have been almost impossible to have propped the place where the coal fell, as it was about sixteen feet high, and in a peculiar position. The doggy of the pit and the deceased had examined the spot about three quarters of an hour before the coal fell, and they both thought it quite safe. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/10/1856

“On Saturday Mr. T. M. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the LIMERICK INN, Gornall Wood, on the body of Joseph Cartwright, a collier, aged thirty-five years, who was killed in a coal pit situate in the Old Dock, in the parish of Dudley, the property of S. H. Blackwell, Esq, on Saturday last. No blame was attributed to any one, and a verdict of Accidental Death was therefore returned.”

Birmingham, Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Wainwright (of the firm Bourne and Wainwright, Dudley) applied on behalf of Lord Ward for a license to the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, occupied by Mr. Fisher. The house had been formerly used as a public house. He (Mr. Wainwright) had authority to state that if the license were granted no application would be made for the renewal of the license to the STRAITS INN (also belonging to Lord Ward) which would be quitted by the present tenant at Michaelmas. Mr. *Isaac Hughes*, of Gornal Wood, victualler, personally opposed the application, and said that the license formerly belonging to the house had been sold. The Magistrates intimated that they would grant the license on the adjourned licensing day (the 22nd September) on condition of the license of the STRAITS INN being given up.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/7/1859

“The investigation into the cause of the death of the boy Flavell, who died last Wednesday from the alleged effect of a dose of whisky, was resumed at the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal. The medical evidence went to show that a post mortem examination being made, the brain was very soft and congested, and the left side of the lungs gorged with blood. In the stomach were large particles of inflammation; and it contained about three ounces of fluid, but no spirit. On opening the abdomen, it was found to be healthy, but the bladder was distended with clear urine. The jury after a short deliberation, returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence, which was, that the deceased died from taking about half a glass of whisky and water. The gentlemen alluded to in our previous report were exonerated, but it was thought the father of the boy was blamable for not sending for medical aid sooner.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/8/1859

“H. Hughes of Gornal will run his late opponent Rigby of Ettingshall 160, or Plant of Wordsley 130 yards, for £15 a side. Money ready at *Isaac Hughes*’s, Gornal Wood, or at James Williams’s, HOPE AND ANCHOR, Bond Street, Dudley.”

1861 Census

From Himley Road to Cock Pits

- [1] *Isaac Hughes* (46), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Ann Hughes* (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Herbert Hughes (21), son, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Thomas Hughes (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Joseph Perry (25), son in law, unmarried, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Honor Guest (15), niece, visitor, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/5/1863

“During the night of the 15th inst, eleven ducks were stolen from the premises of Mr. *Isaac Hughes*, the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal. Information was given to the police, and the next morning Police-constable Sheldon discovered some of the birds ‘planted’ in an adjoining field, ready for removal. The officer watched the place, and was rewarded for his trouble by the advent of two men named John Clark and John Brockley, fishmongers, from Dudley, who, when in the act of removing the birds, were pounced on and secured by the constable. The prisoners were examined before the Sedgley magistrates on Monday, and committed for trial at the Sessions.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/7/1863

“John Clark and John Blockley were indicted for stealing, on the 15th May, at Gornal Wood, near Dudley, eleven tame ducks, the property of *Isaac Hughes*. Mr. Brindley conducted the prosecution and Mr. Hill defended the prisoners. The evidence being inconclusive, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 19/12/1863

“At Bilston Police Court yesterday, the license of the LIMERICK INN, Sedgley, was transferred from *Isaac Hughes* (deceased) to *Ann Hughes*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/8/1864

“At the Police Court on Monday, before the Rev. W. Lewis and Benjamin Whitehouse, Esq, John Tomlinson, Lower Gornal, was charged with stealing a sovereign from Elizabeth Fellows of the same place, under the following singular circumstances. On Saturday last Tomlinson and Fellows were at the LIMERICK INN, at Lower Gornal, and complainant being ‘hard up’ for cash, said she could easily borrow a sovereign from another publican. Upon this prisoner offered to bet her 3s to 2s 6d that no one could be found who would be so fool enough to lend her one. Complainant accepted the challenge and ‘handed out’ her half-crown. She then left the LIMERICK, but shortly afterwards returned and exhibited a sovereign. Prisoner asked to see it, and when she showed it again to him he ‘wrestled it out of her hand’ and he had not returned it to her. In reply to Mr. Stokes, who appeared for the defendant, complainant denied throwing the sovereign on the table, and that there was a ‘general scramble’ for it. Three witnesses swore they saw the prisoner take the sovereign, and Mr. Joshua Cartwright spoke to the complainant borrowing a sovereign of him on the day in question, and that about one o’clock on that day he heard the prisoner say, when in custody, ‘I have got the sovereign, and I mean to stick to it.’ Mr. Stokes ingeniously endeavored to prove that the prosecution had been dictated by ill-will, and elicited from the complainant that the prisoner’s brother, with whom the complainant had been cohabiting, had turned his back on her. Committed to the Sessions.”

[At Stafford, on 17th October 1864, John Tomlinson, was found guilty of ‘larceny’ and imprisoned for six months.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/10/1865 - Advert

“Lost, on Wednesday night, October 11th, a White Wipett Bitch, brindled ears and black nose. Any one returning her to Mrs. *Ann Hughes*, LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, shall receive ten Shillings Reward.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *Ann Hughes*, LIMERICK, Gornal Wood, 1s and costs.”

AND

“The licenses of the following publicans were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting.....

Ann Hughes, LIMERICK, Sedgley.”

1871 Census

17, Summit Place – LIMERICK INN

- [1] *Ann Hughes* (59), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Joseph Perry (35), son, master carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Thomas Hughes (24), son, labourer, born Sedgley:

Ann Hughes died on 26th September 1876.

Dudley Herald 11/11/1876 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Sale Of A First-Class Old-Licensed Public House, Known by the sign of the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood. Mr. John Bent has received instructions from the representative of the late Mrs. *Ann Hughes*, to Offer for Sale, upon the above premises, on Tuesday, November 28th, 1876, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions to be then produced, incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

All that compact and well established Freehold Old-Licensed Public House known by the sign of LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood in the Parish of Sedgley. The Premises comprise a Front Bar, Front Tap Room, Hall, three good Chambers, Large and Commodious Club Room, 60’ long and 17’ wide wainscoted all round, Back Parlour and Kitchen, good dry Cellar, large Brewhouse fitted up with Two good boilers, and Soft Water Cistern underneath, Two-stalled Stable, with Malt Room, Store Room, Two strong built Piggeries and Wash Cistern, capital Garden, well planted with choice Fruit Trees, and other Outbuildings. Gas is laid throughout the premises which are well supplied with Hard and Soft Water. The whole comprises of an area of 744 square yards or thereabouts.

For further particulars apply at the Offices of Messrs. Robinson and Watts, Solicitors; or the Auctioneer, all of Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/4/1877 - Notice

“*Ann Hughes*, Deceased.....

Notice is hereby given that all Creditors and other Persons having Claims against the Estate of *Ann Hughes*, late of the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, and the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, deceased (who died on the 26th day of September, 1876, and whose Will was proved in the District Registry at Lichfield attached to the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice on the 12th day of October, 1876), are hereby requested, on or before the 5th day of May next, to send in the particulars of their Claims and Demands to us, the undersigned Solicitors for the Executors of the Will of the said *Ann Hughes*. And Notice is hereby also Given, that the said Executors will immediately after the said 5th day of May next proceed to divide the Estate of the said *Ann Hughes*, deceased, among the persons entitled thereto, and will not be liable to any person whose Claim of Demand should not then have been sent in.

Dated this 6th day of April, 1877.

Robinson and Watt, Solicitors, Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1879

“A large meeting of miners was held on Wednesday, at the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal.....”

Dudley Herald 20/12/1879 - Letters

“Meeting At The LIMERICK Public House, Gornal Wood.

Sir. Mr. Britain says I decline to meet him, and most certainly I do. He knows what I have said is true, and it is of no use his calling a meeting at a public house, and saying again what he knows is wrong. Saying a thing again and again does not make it right. He knows it was not the Liberal Guardians, but the whole of the Board, that closed the stoneyard; and he knows that the Local Government Board ordered them to do it. He knows, also, that he is always saying things against the Liberal Guardians, no matter what they do. I don’t wonder at his being so much in favour with the Earl of Dudley’s agents, and supporting them, and going against the Guardians who support the working men and us poor ratepayers; but I shall go on supporting those who support the poor, and leave the rich to take care of themselves. I shall take no more notice of Mr. Britain.

I am sure you will be fair Mr. Editor, and insert this last short letter, from Your Truly. John Mason.”

Dudley Herald 14/8/1880

“Following the example of their Dudley brethren, the members of the Upper and Lower Gornal Foresters’ Friendly Societies had a ‘Hospital Sunday,’ on behalf of the Guest Hospital and Dudley Dispensary. Assembling at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, the various societies walked in processional order, headed by the South Staffordshire Victoria Brass band, to the Quarry bank, Ruiton, where a public meeting was held. At the commencement of the proceedings, the weather was beautifully fine, while the remarkably clear atmosphere enabled the assembled to enjoy the magnificent scenery stretching far away in the adjoining valley, and one might well have exclaimed

‘How lovely from this hill’s superior height,
Spreads that wide view before the straining sight!
O’er many a varied mile of lengthening ground,
E’en to the blue-ridged hill’s remotest bound.

The ken is borne.’

When, however, the service had proceeded about half way, a heavy shower came on, and drove hundreds hurriedly away; and to this unfortunate circumstance is to be attributed the very small sum collected.

After the usual devotions, the Rev. E. Hughes, pastor of the Independent Chapel, Ruiton, in a few words, expressed sympathy with the object of the gathering, and proceeded to give an address of ‘Efficacy of prayer,’ which he earnestly exhorted his hearers to practice.....”

Dudley and District News 5/3/1881

“On Tuesday evening a large and enthusiastic meeting of miners was held at the house of Mr. *Jones*, the LIMERICK INN, Gornal

Wood. Mr. Alexander Paterson occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings referred to the pleasure it gave him to come and preside over meetings of working men held for the purpose of endeavouring to better their position. In his opinion the great question with them was organisation, without which they could never attain the object they had in view. If the miners in the district would only combine, they would soon be in a position to command proper wages as a return for their labour. He would like to see numerous lodges formed in the district, and every miner as member of one or other of them. A fair day's pay for a fair day's work ought to be their motto, which they would certainly obtain if they set about organising themselves.

He then called upon Mr. Breakwell, who, in the course of a long and powerful address, gave the men some very good and practical advice. Among other things the miners wanted were a good home and better wages to render their houses comfortable.

Thousands of miners in this district were destitute, he was sorry to say, and their homes presented little or no attractions for them, whereas the hearthstone ought always to recommend itself to the husband, and be able to keep him at home after his day's work.

It was no doubt true that to some extent they did not husband their means when times were good, and accordingly, when trade became bad, and wages came down, they had nothing to fall back upon, but he hoped they would improve in this respect in future. But to him the secret of the low wages in the coal trade was the result of over production, and the men themselves were to a large extent chargeable with their present position. If they had acted like the other organised societies, they would not have suffered as they had done. Such societies had paid something like £1,000,000 to keep the surplus labour out of the market and keep up the wages of their respective trades, and the result was that engineers, carpenters, bricklayers, &c, had comfortable homes and fair wages compared with colliers. Had the miners continued their association, the evil of surplus labour would not have grown up among them in the shape of 'odd men,' and skilled pikemen would have been better paid for their laborious work. They had objected to pay their contributions to the funds of the union, forgetting the privileges such a union conferred, and the consequences were manifest in their present helpless condition.

They were not now in a position to demand 4½d instead of 3d, of an increase which he considered too little, when the coal had been raised 1s per ton, simply because they had no organisation. They were organising in Yorkshire, where wages were considerably in advance of theirs; for he made bold to say that there was not a man in the room who on an average had earned 20s per week during the past year, and many far less. Their labour was their capital, and in such a state of things their capital was deteriorating. They ought to be able to lay up something for old age, in order to keep them out of the workhouse, but they could not. If they would do as the masters did, and have an organisation similar to the one they had, they would very soon see a better state of things in the district than was to be seen at present. But they must be prepared to make a sacrifice. The remedy lay with themselves, and if they determined to use the power they possessed when organised, they would certainly rise to the position which God intended they occupy as reasonable beings.

On the motion of Mr. Tomlinson, seconded by Mr. Hayward, a resolution, disapproving of the old system of the field pay, was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The meeting also decided to send two delegates to the conference at Wolverhampton, to be held on Monday, March 7th, and Messrs. Tomlinson and Davies were appointed to represent the district.

A list of lodges already formed was then read, any one of which the men were invited to join.

The usual vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the meeting to a close."

Evening Express 26/3/1881

"On Wednesday Mr. Horatio Brevitt, deputy coroner, held an inquest touching the death of Esther Guest, 50, the wife of Thomas Guest, a carpenter residing at Summit Place, Gornal Wood, under shocking circumstances.

John Morris stated that when passing the LIMERICK INN on Saturday afternoon, at about two o'clock, he heard someone shouting 'Murder' and upon looking down a yard he saw the deceased enveloped in flames. He raised an alarm, and Mr. *Isaac Jones* procured a number of hop bags and wrapped the deceased in them, but the flames were not subdued until her clothes were entirely destroyed. He could not say in what way the deceased's clothes became ignited.

Isaac Jones said the deceased was literally roasted to death, although every effort possible was made to extinguish the flames.

A married woman, named Mary Morgan, stated that the deceased's whole body, with the exception of the ends of the toes, was burnt.

In reply to the Deputy Coroner, the husband of the deceased said he had never heard his wife threaten to commit suicide.

The Deputy Coroner said there was no evidence to show in what way the deceased's clothes became ignited, and the jury, consequently, returned an Open Verdict."

1881 Census

17, Summit Place

- [1] *Isaac Jones* (31), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Matilda Jones (28), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Annie Jones (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joshua Jones (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Jones (3), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Selina Jones (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Eli Jones (6 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] Honor Massey (30), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [9] Mary Hickman (14), nurse, born Sedgley;

Dudley and District News 28/5/1881

"A miners' meeting was held on Monday evening at the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal, to receive a deputation from West

Bromwich. Mr. D. Davies occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance.

In opening the proceedings, the Chairman referred to the mutual insurance scheme which it was proposed to adopt. Messrs. Rust and Barnes had come as a deputation from West Bromwich to advocate its claims, as well as those of the West Bromwich Sick Society. He then called upon Mr. Rust to address the meeting. In doing so, he referred to the importance of the question they were met to consider. The Employers Liability Act came into operation at the beginning of the year and caused great dissatisfaction. The Act was good so far, but it did not meet the needs of the miners, as the employers could, in many ways get out of paying compensation.....”

Evening Express 17/9/1881

“A meeting of miners was held on Friday at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, with regard to the wages question, and the following resolution was carried: That this meeting is of opinion that the time has arrived when the coalmasters should be earnestly requested to call a meeting of the trade with the view of deciding on an advance in wages, and a revision of the sliding scale.”

Dudley and District News 28/10/1882

“On Monday night, at the LIMERICK INN, a mass meeting of colliers was held, to hear the result of the representatives’ meeting at Horseley Heath.

Mr. Rust, chairman of the Federation, addressed the meeting on the advantages of that body and other topics relating to over-production, and the Permanent Provident Society.

It was unanimously agreed to send a deputation to the employers on the subject of the insurance. The men also passed a resolution against the evils of over-production, as tending to lower miners’ wages, and expressing a belief that the best way of counteracting the evils of colliers’ hardships was the establishment of a solid union of all men in South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire.”

Dudley and District News 30/12/1882

“On Tuesday evening about 40 gentlemen sat down to a Christmas dinner at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, which was served in a most creditable manner by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Isaac Jones*. After the withdrawal of the cloth, Mr. John Guest was elected to the chair, and Mr. Turner of Himley to the vice-chair, among others present being Messrs. E. Oakley, Davies, Flowel, Greenaway, Pugh, Baker, Marsh, Holding, J. Smith, &c. Mr. Davies proposed ‘the health of the Queen and the Royal family,’ ‘The Army and Navy’ and other toasts. Mr. J. Smith proposed ‘The Coal and Iron Trade of the District.’ In doing so, said he was interested in the trade and congratulated them that things were looking better. He advised the miners and the working men to combine together. Mr. D. Davies suitably responded on behalf of the miners present. He said that he was very glad to hear gentlemen not connected with the coal trade speaking so highly of miners. The next toast proposed was ‘the Host and Hostess,’ which was drunk with musical honours. The proceedings were enlivened by Christmas carols and other Christmas pieces sung in a most excellent style by Messrs. J. Pugh, B. Phiebs, S. and E. Baker, and R. Parkes. Other toasts followed, and a most enjoyable evening was spent by all present.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1884

“Yesterday the adjourned Brewster Sessions was held.....

Mr. Thompson, of Dudley applied for the magistrates’ consent to certain structural alterations to the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal, now tenanted by *Isaac Jones*. The application was granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/10/1885

“On Saturday night Thomas Cox (33), miner, fell dead whilst dancing at the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/10/1888

“Last night a child named William *Jones*, the son of Mr. *Isaac Jones*, the landlord of the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, was killed through a colliery screen falling upon him and breaking his neck.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/11/1888

“Yesterday afternoon a well-attended meeting of miners was held at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, to consider the wages question.....”

Isaac Jones issued tokens.

1891 Census

17, Summit Place

[1] *Isaac Jones* (41), licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;

[2] Matilda Jones (37), wife, born Lower Gornal;

[3] Annie Jones (18), daughter, born Lower Gornal;

[4] Joshua Jones (16), son, born Lower Gornal;

[5] Selina Jones (12), daughter, born Lower Gornal;

[6] Eli Jones (10), son, born Gornal Wood;

[7] Isaac Jones (9), son, born Gornal Wood;

[8] Emanuel Jones (7), son, born Gornal Wood;

[9] Mary M. Jones (4 months), daughter, born Gornal Wood;

- [10] Laura Burn (26), domestic servant, born Gornal Wood;
[11] Beatrice Hatty Johns (3 months), daughter, born Gornal Wood:

Sporting Life 22/10/1892

“T. Moss, of Gornal, is surprised at Bruerton asking for such a start as five yards when one of his principal backers, Mr. Dainty, said he could beat Moss off the mark. Now if Bruerton wants a fair match Moss is still prepared to give him two yards in 100 or 120, for £25 or £50 a-side. No other terms will suit. A match can be made at the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal. *Sporting Life* to be stakeholder. An answer will lead to business.”

Dudley Herald 10/9/1898

“On Monday evening last, through the kindness of Mr. Greenaway, a supper was given to the ladies and others connected with the ladies mutual benefit club, held at the LIMERICK INN. About 30 sat down to an excellent repast, provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *John Guest*). When ample justice had been done to the viands, the company voted Mr. W. Guest (honorary secretary to the mutual benefit club) to the chair.....”

Dudley Herald 29/10/1898

Messrs. B. Turner, Brain, F. Bruton, and Peter Mason entertained a large company to dinner at the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal, on Thursday. A very enjoyable evening was spent.”

County Advertiser 22/4/1899

“On Tuesday, at the County Court, before Judge Young, a case in which plaintiffs were William Henry Wood and Lawrence Fargie, trustees of the Ancient Order of Foresters, and Thomas Henry Smith, Henry Dunn, and Thomas Clee, trustees of the Dudley and Cradley Heath District of the said order; and the defendants George Henry Raybould, Henry James Hughes, and John Harvey, trustees of Court ‘Pride of England,’ held at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, and J. A. Wood and Henry Bradley, persons in whose names the funds of the Court are invested. Plaintiffs asked for an injunction to restrain defendants from severing or attempting to sever, the Court from the districts, from continuing the Court as a separate society, and from applying the property of the Court and Order to the purposes of the new society. It appeared that on August 10, September 7, and November 2, 1897, resolutions were passed at meetings of the Court to secede from the Order, and on April 25 a certificate of secession was applied for, but not granted. The Court, however, was ultimately moved from the LIMERICK INN to the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood, and applied the sick and funeral funds to the purposes of the new society. Only when the application was made to the Registrar of Friendly Societies was it found out that any question was raised as to the Court being a separate society under the Friendly Societies Act.

It was contended, for the defence, that if the laws of 1891 governed these proceedings, the latter were ‘correct and legal’ but if the general laws of 1897 governed the proceedings of the Court did not act in accordance with the rules. A further point for the defence was that the action was misconceived, and not within Section 67 of the County Court Act.

Mr. Parfitt (instructed by Mr. Waldron), who appeared for the defence, said it had been decided, with the consent of all parties, that the case should be adjourned sine die, with a view to certain arrangements being carried out. Mr. S. Ward, who appeared for the plaintiffs acquiesced.”

1901 Census

17+18, Summit Place – LIMERICK INN

- [1] *Richard E. Astley* (34), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
[2] *Hannah J. Astley* (34), wife, born Sedgley;
[3] *Edwin H. Astley* (13), son, born Sedgley;
[4] *Bernard Astley* (5), son, born Sedgley:

Richard Elwell Astley – see also CROWN, Upper Gornal.

Tipton Herald 20/6/1903

“On Saturday last the members and friends of the Gornal Wood Amateurs football club were entertained to supper at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood. About 90 sat down. Mrs. Richard Bradley was elected to the chair.....”

Portsmouth Evening News 21/12/1903

“Football. Subsidence has been frequent through mining operations in south Staffordshire, and no little consternation was caused yesterday through a great ‘crowning in’ taking place on the football field near to LIMERICK HOTEL, Gornal Wood. Happily yesterday’s subsidence took place before either players or spectators had assembled in the football field. The local League match had to be played in another district.”

Nottingham Evening Post 2/3/1904

“The police objected at the Sedgley Licensing Sessions yesterday to the renewal of the license of the LIMERICK HOTEL, Gornal Wood, South Staffordshire, as it had been wrecked and made unfit for habitation by mining subsidence. The Superintendent said that there were holes on the roof and the occupants of the bedrooms were exposed to the sky. It was reported that Lord Dudley has agreed to repair the damage when the subsidence had ceased, and the license was renewed on the condition that the house should be restored within a year.”

AND

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/3/1904

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Sedgley were held on Tuesday.....

In regard of the LIMERICK, Gornal Wood, the police objected to the renewal on the ground that the premises were dilapidated and insanitary. Mr. R. Tildesley stated that the condition of the premises was due to mining operations, but the owners were willing to give an undertaking that the premises should either be completely renovated or entirely rebuilt before the next sessions..... The magistrates stated in regard of the LIMERICK that the renewal was allowed only on the condition that the undertaking given should be carried out.”

Tipton Herald 20/2/1909

“Edward Bowen, a miner, was fined 10s and costs for being drunk at the LIMERICK INN, Summit Place, Gornal Wood. PC Johnson proved the case.”

1911 Census

Lower Gornal

- [1] *Enoch Smart* (32), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Smart (33), wife, married 9 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] Alice E. Smart (9), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [4] Evelyn B. Smart (7), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [5] Richard N. Smart (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Betsy Smart (69), mother, widow, born Sedgley;
- [7] Emily Middleton (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/3/1913

“Bilston magistrates sanction was given to alterations at the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/3/1917

“A fire occurred yesterday at the LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, when the premises were gutted, the outer walls only being left standing.

The Dudley brigade arrived early, but through lack of water the firemen were handicapped, and their efforts were devoted chiefly to saving six adjacent cottages, the roofs of which they stripped off, whilst the tenants carried their goods into the street.

The landlord of the LIMERICK and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. *Smith*, escaped in their night attire through a bedroom window against which the neighbours had placed a ladder.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 16/3/1917

“The LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, with the whole of its stock and furniture were completely destroyed by fire early yesterday morning, and Mr. *Thomas Smith*, the landlord, was stated to have lost in the conflagration a considerable sum of money, most of which was in Treasury notes, representing his savings over a period of years. Beyond the fact that when the landlord and his wife retired to rest on Wednesday night there was some fire in the kitchen grate there was nothing to indicate the origin of the outbreak, which was discovered between one and two o'clock. The staircase was then in flames and the landlord and his wife, in their night attire, escaped from the burning building through a bedroom window.

The Dudley Fire Brigade, who were telephoned for, quickly arrived on the scene, but the turncock, who resides at Sedgley, had to journey to Tansey Green, Pensnett, to turn on the water at the main, and over three hours elapsed from the discovery of the outbreak until the firemen could get a supply. In the meantime the members of the brigade, acting under the directions of Inspector Burford, adopted means to prevent the flames from igniting a number of surrounding cottages, the roofs of some of which were stripped, while tenants removed their belongings into the street. Mainly owing to the delay in getting a supply of water the LIMERICK INN was gutted, only the outer walls remaining. The cracking of champagne bottles could be distinctly heard, and it was stated that the loss of spirits alone represented a considerable sum. The house belonged to the Dudley and Wolverhampton Breweries (Limited).”

AND

Black Country Bugle (April 1984)

‘Not A Whitley Court Gathering’

“.....Mr. *Tom Smith*, one time licensee of the LIMERICK INN He and his wife were fortunate to escape when the pub was destroyed by fire [1917] *Tom's* feet were badly injured making his escape via a back bedroom window and over the top of a verandah immediately beneath. His walking was affected for the remainder of his life. He was the accompanist to the Glee Party [Gornal Wood Kingstone Glee Party].”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/4/1917

“At Sedgley Police Court yesterday, James Smith, Himley Road, Gornal Wood, and Joseph Cox, Bank Road, Gornal Wood, were summoned for collecting money without a proper police authority.

Police-constable Johnson stated that on March 18 he saw defendants standing outside the LIMERICK INN, recently destroyed by fire, collecting in boxes from visitors. He enquired of defendants if they had official permission to collect, and they replied that Mr. Herbert Hickman told them it would be all right.

Herbert Hickman now stated that a fire demolished completely the LIMERICK INN, and the tenant and his wife lost their money

and property. As many people were attracted to the place, it was thought a good time to make a collection for the landlord and his wife. Defendant thought that they were well within the law, but when the police refused authority the collection was stopped. Defendants were each fined 10s.”

Ben Hawkins was the brother of Leonard.

South Staffordshire Times 7/2/1920

“Bilston Licensing Sessions....

During the past year plans had been passed for the reconstruction or alteration of the undermentioned houses; LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood; BUSH INN, Gornal Wood; 10, Cinder Road, Gornal Wood; and the WOOD CROSS INN, Cinderhill; THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield; CASTLE INN, Bilston; BULLS HEAD INN, Ettingshall.

The reconstruction or alterations in the case of the LIMERICK INN, BUSH INN, 10, Cinder Road, and WOOD CROSS INN, were in hand, but in the case of the other houses had not commenced In the case of the reconstruction of the THREE CUPS and CASTLE INN the contracts had been made in each for reconstruction.”

South Staffordshire Times 29/3/1924

“Bilston Police Court.....

The license of the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, was transferred from Henry Smith to George Henry Hill, and of the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal, from *Abel Ball* to *George Henry Freeman*. In each application the magistrates enquired whether the applicant would give his whole time to the business. Mr. Hill said he should, and Mr. *Freeman* said his whole time would not be devoted to the house. He was a miner working at Deep Pits, Shut End. The police did not object to the transfers in either case.”

Dudley Chronicle 7/10/1926

“At a Transfer Sessions at the Bilston Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. W. A Higgs applied, on behalf of the licensee of the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal, for permission for an alteration by providing a circular window in the smoke room. It was urged that the alteration would provide better light and more convenient accommodation. Superintendent Higgs expressed the opinion that the application was one which should come before the ordinary Licensing Sessions, and the application was adjourned to the Licensing Sessions in February.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal, 2s.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

Summit Place – LIMERICK INN

[1] *William Leonard Bradley*, date of birth 28/3/1891, builder’s labourer, air raid shelters, married;

[2] *Alice M. Bradley*, dob 26/9/1896, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Albert Joseph Bradley*, dob 12/9/1921, constructional engineering, plater’s assistant, single;

Agreement 2/11/1965

“Between the Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries Limited (hereinafter called the Landlords) and *Arthur John Love* of LIMERICK INN, Summit Place, Lower Gornal (hereinafter called the Tenant) whereby

1. Subject to the transfer of the necessary licenses and vacant possession of the premises being obtained the Landlords agree to let and the Tenant agrees to take in satisfaction of his rights (if any) in respect of any previous tenancy all that messuage or licensed house known by the name of GLYNNE ARMS, Himley, near Dudley, with the outbuildings thereto belonging from year to year from the 1st day of November 1965 at a yearly rent of £200.....”

Maggie Alliband was married to Ron.

Dudley News 4/3/1999

“Two Dudley licensees are vowing to fight to the bitter end to save their pubs after Banks’s Brewery decided to terminate their contracts. The OLD BUSH in Brierley Hill and the LIMERICK in Gornal Wood will be closed because the brewery says they do not make enough money.....

Louise Cox, aged 31, took up tenancy in the LIMERICK, Summit Place, last October but just four months later she was told her pub was to be sold for redevelopment. She said, ‘What gets me is some of the customers knew it was closing before me and the

brewery still hasn't given me a reason for its decision. This was my first pub – it really was my big break and I'm upset because I've worked hard to build the trade back up.'

Louise, backed by her regulars, is fighting the decision and has sent a 350-name petition to the brewery urging it to change its mind.

And Banks's says.....

Banks's believes by taking the decision to close the pubs it is working in the best interests of the tenants.

A spokesman for the brewery said, 'We are doing this because we are over-represented in the area and the customers aren't getting enough out of them. The pubs do not provide a reasonable level of trade and are not making enough money for the tenants. They are not sustainable businesses and we have a responsibility to any tenant not to leave them there if the long-term trend is downwards. It will only be when the licensees find a pub they're happy with and prepared to move to that the pub will be delicensed. It will not be sold as a going concern.'

The pubs could be demolished for redevelopment."

It closed in 1999.

Express & Star 17/4/2000

"A Lower Gornal pub is set to be demolished to make way for 15 new detached houses and one bungalow. An application from A. E. Hawkins (Properties) Ltd to develop the site of the former LIMERICK pub in Summit Place is being recommended for approval by Dudley Council's development control committee tonight. The scheme would also involve using land at the former Hawkins haulage site in Summit Place. Both businesses have been closed for some time and planning officers say the redevelopment meets Government guidelines on brown field sites."

Demolished

LIMERICK

106, Kent Street, (106, Sheepcotwall), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Hannah Fisher Hughes
Rowland Hughes, Upper Gornal
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

LICENSEES

Rowland Hughes [1851] – **1862**;
Mrs. Rachel Morgan (**1862** – [1865]
Rowland Hughes [1866] – [1871]
Hannah Fisher Hughes [1873] – **1874**;
Rowland Hughes (**1874** – **1896**);
Mrs. Phoebe Ann Hughes (**1896** – **1897**);
Jeremiah Guest (**1897** – **1898**);
John Edward Dalby (**1898**);
Joseph Ellerton (**1898** – **1902**);
William Bennett (**1902** – **1903**);
John Rowe (**1903** – **1904**);
Herbert Green (**1904** – **1907**);

NOTES

Rowland Hughes = Roland Hughes

1851 Census

Dudley Road

[1] *Rowland Hughes* (29), butcher and publican, born Sedgley;

[2] Jane Hughes (28), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Henry Smith Hughes (7), son, born Sedgley;

[4] *Hannah Fisher Hughes* (5), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Mary Thomas (15), house servant, born Sedgley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Applications were made by Mr. Hayes on behalf of Mr. Benjamin Fellows, for a license to a house at Gornall; by Mr. Whitehouse on behalf of Mrs. Ann Naylor, of Gornall; and by Mr. Underhill and Mr. Hayes on behalf of Mr. *Rowland Hughes*, of the same place. The applications were opposed by Mr. Fleetwood, who stated that within 150 yards there were five beershops and four old licensed houses. He handed in a memorial signed by the Rev. Mr. Hughes, the minister; Mr. Ritson, churchwarden; one of the overseers, and several of the inhabitants to the effect that there were more public houses in Upper Gornall than were required for the population, and they thought that if the number of such houses were increased, it would not tend to improve the morals of the people. The Magistrates refused all three applications.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/5/1855

“On Friday last, at the Petty Sessions, before E. Best, Esq, Richard Tay was summoned for maliciously damaging a lock upon the door of Mr. *Rowland Hughes*, of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, and also a key. The defendant went into the house on Monday night last, and being abusive and wanting to fight was ejected at the back door. He then went round to the front door and committed the damage complained of. The defendant was ordered to pay the damage and costs, amounting to 14s.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston..... Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of William Blackburn, for a license to a house at Upper Gornal. The house, he said, was eligibly situated, and its arrangements were convenient. The property belonged to the applicant, whose good character was testified to by numerous persons who had signed his certificate.

Mr. Waterhouse, on behalf of Mr. *Hughes*, of the LIMERICK INN, opposed the application, the applicant’s house being opposite the house of the opposing party. There were five or six public houses in the same locality.

The Magistrates said there was not the least necessity for the license.

Mr. J. Underhill applied for a license to the PAINTERS ARMS, beershop, on behalf of the occupant, Mr. Guest. At the last licensing day the Magistrates granted a license to a house in this locality, because (he believed) it was represented to them that the successful applicant’s house was larger than that of Mr. Guest’s. That was not the fact, his client’s house being the largest.

Mr. Hayes opposed the granting of the license on behalf of Mr. *Hughes*, observing with reference to the observations of Mr. Underhill, that Magistrates were too cautious to make mistakes of that kind. Both applications were considered; Mr. *Hughes*’s was granted, and Mr. Guest’s refused. Mr. *Hughes* had lately laid out nearly £100 in improving his premises. Refused. [?]”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/1/1857

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. F. Watkins, at the house of Mr. *Rowland Hughes*, the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, on Monday, the 2nd day of February, 1857, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read, in one or more lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, all those three Messuages or Dwelling Houses, with nail Shops, Stable, Outbuildings and Premises thereto belonging, situate in Pail Piece, at Upper Gornal.

Also, all the Plots of eligible Building Land, adjoining the above, and fronting the road, containing by recent admeasurement 325 square yards or thereabouts.

For further particulars apply to Mr. William Robinson, Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, Dudley.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 22/5/1859

“Herbert Hughes of Gornal and Adams (of Bilston) Novice are matched to run eight score yards, for £10 a side, to come off on Tuesday, the 24th, at G. Aston’s Grounds, YEW TREE INN, Wall Heath, near Kingswinford; to start by mutual consent in 20 minutes, or go by the first pull of handkerchief. £6 a side is down in the hands of *Rowland Hughes*, LIMERICK INN, Gornal, to whom the final deposit must be made on Monday evening.”

Rowland Hughes was also a butcher. [1860]

1861 Census

Dudley Road – LIMERICK INN [sic]

[1] *Rowland Hughes* (39), victualler and cattle dealer, born Sedgley;

[2] Jane Hughes (38), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Henry Hughes (17), son, born Sedgley;

[4] *Hannah Hughes* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Emma Harper (14), general servant, born Sedgley:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/5/1862

“Thomas Worton, the Bristol Youth, and Reuben Harper, the Sedgley Antelope, are matched to run eighty yards, for £5 a-side, at the Wallheath Grounds, on Monday next, May 5. £2 10s a-side was made good on Saturday night last; and the remaining stakes to be made this (day Saturday), at Mr. *Rowland Hughes*’s, LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/6/1862

“Bilston. At the Police Court, on Friday, the following intermediate transfers were made...
LIMERICK, Lower (?) Gornal, *Roland Hughes* to *Rachel Morgan*, widow.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/11/1866

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before I. Spooner, Esq, Jane Allen, of Upper Gornal, was charged by Mr. *Roland Hughes* with ill-treating a pony. Mr. *Hughes* stated that on the 9th instant the pony was drawing some soil into a hole, at the back of his premises, in the Club Row, when it seemed not to have pleased defendant and she got a shovel and beat the pony on the hip. The poor animal had since suffered much from the ill-treatment. The defendant, who made a rambling statement, was fined 1s and costs.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 17/12/1870

“E. Langford of Park Hall, Woodside, will match his pup Sam against any dog or bitch 21 inches, 13 months old, to run the best of 15 or 21 courses, for from £5 to £15 a side. A match can be made any time at the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal.”

1871 Census

106, Sheepcotwall – LIMERICK INN

- [1] *Rowland Hughes* (49), butcher, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] *Jane Hughes* (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Hannah Hughes* (24), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Robert Morgan* (15), nephew, butcher’s assistant, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Fellows* (15), servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Polly Morgan* (13), niece, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Hannah J. Hughes* (4), granddaughter, born Coopers Bank:

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/9/1873

“*Hannah Fisher Hughes*, landlady of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, was fined £5 and costs, for permitting drunkenness in her house on the 15th ult. She was fined a further £5 for not producing her license.”

Dudley Herald 13/5/1876 - Advert

“Found, on the 9th inst, near Upper Gornal, small Brindle Dog. Owner may have it by paying expenses, if not claimed in Three Days will be sold.
Apply, LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal.”

County Express 28/2/1880

“County Court. Hand v. Passmore.

In this case Joseph Hand, hop merchant, Wordsley, claimed, the sum of £5 5s from John Passmore, butcher, of Upper Gornal. It appeared that on the 14th of October last, the plaintiff called at the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, and left his horse and trap at the side of the street in the care of a boy named Hickman. The defendant’s son who was driving his father’s horse and trap came near and deliberately drove his horse into plaintiff’s trap. He did considerable damage. A number of witnesses were called in support of the plaintiff’s case. After hearing the evidence, the Judge said the plaintiff’s case was clear, and he gave a verdict for the plaintiff. Mr. Waldron was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Stokes for the defendant.”

Dudley and District News 21/8/1880

“*Rowland Hughes*, licensed victualler, LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, was charged with selling liquor during prohibited hours. PC Sutton deposed that at half-past one on Sunday morning, the 8th of August, he went to the premises of the accused, and found three men, Benjamin Westwood, Moses Westwood, and William Rollason, with part of a jug of ale beside them. On calling the attention of Mrs. *Hughes* to this, she said that the men been called to pump some water, and she had drawn them a quart of ale in return for their services. Mr. Harper, who appeared for the defendant, admitted that the men were there, but said they had been called in as Mrs. *Hughes* had said to the constable, to pump some water, the lad who generally did so having been bitten by a dog, and was unable to work.

William Rollason, who was called for the defence, said that he was passing the house of Mrs. *Hughes* on Sunday morning in company with two other men. Mr. *Hughes* asked them if they would come in and pump some water for him, and having given them a quart of ale, they consented. While they were at work the constable came in and found them with part of the ale in a jug. Mr. Harper contended that no sale had taken place, but the Bench considering the case suspicious, and that giving a quart of ale for pumping water was an afterthought, and constituted a sale, fined defendant 40s and costs.

Benjamin Westwood, Moses Westwood, and William Rollason, were then charged by PC Sutton with being on licensed premises at unlawful hours at the same time and place. The same evidence was given, and the defendants were fined 1s each and costs.”

1881 Census

106, Kent Street – LIMERICK INN

- [1] *Rowland Hughes* (59), butcher and publican, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] *Phoebe A. Hughes* (35), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Ellen Matthews* (30), domestic servant, born Coven;

[4] William E. Carrick (18), inn servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 24/12/1881

“A Gornal Interpleader. This case was tried by a jury, the claimant, Charles Green, butcher, Upper Gornal, being represented by Mr. Tinsley; and the defendant, *Rowland Hughes*, butcher, and licensed victualler, of the same place, by Mr. Stokes. It appeared from Mr. Tinsley’s statement that some time ago *Hughes* obtained a judgement in this [County] Court against Joseph Green, the father of the claimant in the present action, and issued an execution against his goods. Instead, however, of the bailiffs seizing the goods of Joseph Green, it was alleged that they seized the goods of the claimant, and the question at issue was who the goods really belonged to.

The claimant, alleging that they were his, claimed damages to the amount of £10. With reference to the facts, it transpired that it was previous to the 3rd of August that *Hughes* levied upon the goods of Joseph Green, and a few weeks after the landlord de-strained upon his goods for rent. It was, however, contended that the goods had then been purchased by the claimant, who cleared his father out, took possession of the house, became tenant, paid the rent as such, and started as a butcher on his own account. He carried on business for two or three months, and also had a stall in Bilston Market. One day, whilst at the latter place, this execution was levied upon his stock at Gornal. On hearing of the circumstances, he at once drove to the Court to serve the bailiffs with notice that it was his stock they had seized, whereupon they also seized the cart and harness, which had been lent by a Mr. Turley. Mr. Stokes, addressing the jury, remarked that it would be paying them a very great compliment to suppose for one moment that they would entertain the idea that there had been a bona fide dealing with the property as to give the claimant the right to come and ask them to say that the goods were his. Really, in the whole course of his experience he had never seen or heard of anything so wretchedly barefaced as the scheme that had been palmed on to them. The jury at once gave their verdict for the defendant without waiting to hear any testimony.

His Honour remarked that their judgement was perfectly right. Had the case been carried on he should have been able to satisfy them that ‘this was a fraud from beginning to end.’ There could be no doubt about it.

A juror: We are quite satisfied on that point, your Honour.”

Dudley and District News 21/4/1883

“Mr. *Rowland Hughes*, of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, was charged as follows: ‘That on the 27th Feb. last he did conceal certain worts and beer, to wit, nine gallons of wort, so as to prevent certain officers of Inland Revenue, to wit, James Blake Davies, and William Bone Young, from taking an account of the said worts and beer.’ Mr. James B. Davies, supervisor, conducted the prosecution.

William Bone Young said: I am an officer in the Inland Revenue and Mr. *Rowland Hughes* is licensed as a brewer of beer for sale at premises known by the sign of the LIMERICK INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, and is under my survey. I produce the brewing book which I delivered to him in accordance with the Act, and in which he should make the various entries required. On Tuesday, the 27th of February last, I went with the supervisor to Mr. *Hughes*’s brewery at 10.30am. The supervisor and I took account of No.2 fermenting vessel in the brewhouse. We found 53 gallons of wort at the gravity of 10.36. Mr. *Hughes*’s entry book showed 51 gallons at a gravity of 10.34 degrees. We then went to the cellar in which No.1 fermenting vessel was situated, and took that account, and found 153 gallons of wort at a gravity of 10.72. Our gravity accounts agreed, but he had five of wort more. There ought to have been no more vessels on the premises containing wort of that particular brewing, but as we were leaving I saw the supervisor taste some wort from the end of his stick. We turned back, and I saw him put his hand in a funnel which was lying at the top of a large covered cask. The supervisor asked defendant what was in the cask, and he replied that it was some ale he had racked off from another cask, which he pointed out, and which was on the other side of the cellar. By the side of the cask he pointed out there stood a tub of liquor which Mr. *Hughes* said was the same kind as in the cask on the opposite side. I tasted it and found it, however, quite sour. The supervisor said he must have a sample from the cask first referred to, upon which defendant said he had taken a little drop out of vat No.1, which he put into the cask with some barm. We then had the bung knocked out of the cask and emptied the contents. I had been previously told it only contained some ale. We took the gravity and found it was the same as in No.1, viz, 10.72. The quantity was nine gallons. We took samples of it, and placed the remainder under seal. Samples were also sealed and forwarded to Somerset House. I produce the book kept by Mr. *Hughes*, in which the various entries should be made. The vessel containing the nine gallons of wort is not entered at all. The defendant’s previous brewing entry was made on the 21st of February, at 11am, and therefore any beer upon the premises would be seven days old. The wort we found was fresh, and could not possibly be the same producible on the 21st of February. Witness was cross-examined at considerable length, but adhered to all his statements.

Mr. J. B. Davies, supervisor, said he had heard the evidence of Mr. Young, and could corroborate him in every particular.

After other witnesses had been examined, Mr. Boughey said it was clear to his mind there had been a concealment of wort. The full penalty was £100, and forfeiture of vessels, but he should inflict a penalty of £25, and costs £5 5s.”

County Advertiser 5/5/1883 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Upper Gornal and Sedgley. Valuable Freehold and Copyhold properties.

To be Sold by Auction by Messrs. Hawkins and Son, on Tuesday, the 8th day of May, 1883, at the house of Mr. *Rowland Hughes*, the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

Lot 1. All that Free Copyhold Old-Licensed Public-House, situate at Upper Gornal, and known as the LIMERICK INN, comprising Tap Room, Parlour, Bar, Assembly Room, Lodge Room, Four Bed Rooms, Kitchen, Brewhouse, Maltroom, Good Cellars, Two Stables, large Yard, and Outbuildings, now in the occupation of Mr. *Rowland Hughes*, at an annual rent of £40.....”

Dudley and District News 22/3/1884

“John Bennett, ironworker, was sentenced to six weeks’ imprisonment with hard labour, for indecent behavior in the LIMERICK INN, Dudley Road, on Saturday, the 8th inst.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 14/5/1887

“At Sedgley, on Monday, *Rowland Hughes* of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, was convicted for concealing sixteen gallons of wort with intent to defraud the Inland Revenue of the sum of three shillings, and was fined £50, including costs.”

1891 Census

106, Kent Street – LIMERICK INN

[1] *Rowland Hughes* (70), publican, born Gornal;

[2] Phoebe R. Hughes (42), wife, born Tipton;

[3] Sarah Harrison (19), domestic servant, born Tipton:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/1/1893

“An enquiry was also held on Saturday by Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) at the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, relative to the death of Alice Bate (8), whose parents reside in Rock Street. Deceased had put her hand up the chimney to get some soot, when her clothes ignited. She ran out of the house, and a neighbour succeeded in putting out the flames. The injuries, however, were of such a nature that she succumbed the following day. The jury found that deceased died from injuries occasioned accidentally.”

Rowland Hughes died in the 4th quarter of 1896.

He was married to *Phoebe Ann*.

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/5/1897 - Advert

“Thomas J. Barnett and Son, are directed to Submit for Sale by Auction, on Wednesday Evening, May 19, 1897, at Six o’clock prompt time, at the Auction Mart, 25, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton, Two well-known Fully Licensed Houses, both doing a good trade, viz.....

The LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal (By Order of the Trustee, to Close the Estate).

The valuable Freehold Full-Licensed House, known as the LIMERICK INN, situate in Upper Gornal, on the main Wolverhampton and Dudley Road, with Brewhouse, Stabling, and other Outbuildings, Yard. Garden, &c, the whole occupying an area of 812 square yards or thereabout.

The House is very commodious, containing large clubroom, taproom, parlour, kitchen, four bedrooms, brewhouse, maltrooms, large cellars, &c. has for many years been occupied by the owner, Mr. *Rowland Hughes*, and being in a thickly populated district, a large brewing trade has been carried on.

A Purchaser will be required to take at a valuation the Brewing Plant and Public House Fixtures, &c.

This is a good opportunity to acquire an old-established home brewing house. Early possession may be had.

Solicitor – Mr. W. A. Foster, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.

For further particulars, apply to the respective Solicitors, or to the Auctioneers, 25, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton. (Telephone, No.7096).”

Catalogue for sale by auction on 19th May 1897

“By order of the Trustees of the late Mr. *Rowland Hughes* to close the estate.....

Lot 2. The Valuable Freehold full-licensed Public House, known as the LIMERICK INN, situate at Upper Gornal, on the main Wolverhampton and Dudley Road, with the brewhouse, stabling and other outbuildings, yard, garden etc; the whole occupying an area of 812 square yards or thereabouts.

The house has excellent accommodation for a large trade, comprising:- on the ground floor, Passage with side entrance, large Tap-room, Parlour, Bar, Pantry, Club Room and Kitchen with Oven and Boiler; on the first floor, a large Club Room, Four Bedrooms and a Spirit Room; and there are extensive cellars in the basement.

There is a large Brewhouse with Malt Room over, and the Outbuildings comprise Piggeries and Boiler, Stable and Cow-house with Loft over etc.

The water supply is ample, there being a capital Well, and a large Soft-water Cistern.

For many years there has been carried on a large and profitable Home-brewing business, the house being in a thickly populated district.

A purchaser will be required to take to at a valuation, in the usual way, the Brewing Plant, and Public House Fixtures, Fittings etc.”

[It was acquired by Mr. Hanson for £1,850.]

Dudley Herald 7/5/1898

“*Jeremiah Guest*, landlord of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, was summoned by PC Wright for using obscene language to his wife, at 12.30am on the 26th ult. Mr. W. A. Foster, who defended, denied that any kind of bad language was used in Kent Street, and evidence to this effect was given by Maria Flavell and Thomas Tomlinson. The magistrates said they quite believed that the language was used, and defendant would be fined 20s and costs.”

Phoebe Ann Hughes was convicted, on 9th February 1899, for keeping open and selling intoxicating liquor during prohibited

hours.

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/6/1899

“*Joseph Ellerton*, landlord of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, was fined 40s and costs for permitting gambling. Supt. Walters said the Chief Constable had found it necessary to institute proceedings owing to wholesale complaints. The magistrates regretted to hear the complaints and also to have to inflict such heavy penalties.”

1901 Census

106, Kent Street – BRITANNIA [sic]

- [1] *Joseph Ellerton* (48), licensed victualler, born Pensnett;
- [2] Elizabeth Ellerton (47), wife, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] Isaac Smart (25), son in law, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Smart (25), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Abigail Ellerton (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth Baker (16), niece, domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [7] Enoch Smart (5), grandson, born Sedgley;
- [8] Joseph Smart (3), grandson, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/7/1901

“Yesterday, at Sedgley, *Joseph Ellerton*, landlord of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, was charged with selling ale to a drunken person, named Levi Price, on the 1st inst. The Bench held that an offence had been committed and fined defendant £5, including costs.”

Wednesbury Herald 27/7/1901

“At Sedgley Police Court on Monday, *Joseph Ellerton*, LIMERICK INN, Lower [sic] Gornal, Sedgley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. Mr. Waldron, who defended, contended that there was no evidence of permitting, as there was no connivance or knowledge on the part of the landlord. Defendant said he did not know Price was in the village. On account of his bad character he had refused to have him on the premises, drunk or sober. Fined 10s and costs.”

William Bennett was convicted, on 29th September 1902, for permitting drunkenness.

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required; difficult of police supervision; conviction.

Mr. W. A. Foster appeared for the owners.

Inspector Moss proved the conviction, and in reply to Mr. Foster said the alterations, which were being carried out would make it satisfactory.

Mr. Foster explained that the conviction against the late licensee took place on a day when a man went to get married, but was disappointed, and with an idea to drown his grief got drunk.

The license was renewed.”

John Rowe = John Lowe

Tipton Herald 3/10/1903

“*John Lowe*, landlord of the LIMERICK INN, Upper Gornal, applied to the justices for a separation from his wife on the grounds that she was an habitual drunkard.

Mr. A. W. Barradale (Dudley) appeared for the applicant.

Mr. Barradale said it was an application for separation under the Licensing Act of 1902. The applicant came to the Bench after six years' trouble. His wife was repeatedly drunk and six months ago a separation by agreement was made, the applicant paying his wife 10s per week. After a time she came back to him, promising most earnestly to become a total abstainer. She had not, however, been in the house many days before she was drunk again. She was totally incapable of conducting the business, and was also detrimental to it.

Applicant was called, and stated that he had been married 22 years, and for six years she had been an habitual drunkard. She got into such a drunken condition that they had to pull her upstairs out of the way of the trade. When drunk she seemed to go mentally wrong, and had threatened to murder him. About 18 months ago he went to bed. His wife got up in the early hours of the morning and reached a carving knife from a drawer, muttering to herself that ‘she would cut his —— head off.’ He, however, was awake, and spoke to her, when she put the knife back in the drawer. The next morning he told her about it, when she replied that he had been dreaming. She did no such thing. Again at night, when she thought they were all asleep she got up and reached the knife and called to see if witness was asleep. He, however, was not asleep, but did not answer whereupon she said ‘she was all right now, and would cut his —— head off.’ As she was proceeding towards him he jumped out of bed and pushed her out of the room. He called his sons, and had since then slept with them. There were five children, and he claimed the custody of them. He was earning at the present time £2 per week.

The Bench made an order for the applicant to pay his wife 8s per week, he to have the custody of the children.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/2/1907

“According to the report of Police-Superintendent Spendlove read at the annual brewster sessions for the Bilston Petty Sessional Division yesterday, there are 356 licenses of all kinds within the division, or one to every 174 of the population. The Clerk (Mr. Pratt) said the Bench had decided to recommend the following eleven houses on the ground of redundancy to be referred for compensation, and the cases would be adjourned to the adjourned meeting, and in the meantime notices would be given to the owner.....
LIMERICK INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1907

“County Licensing Compensation Authority.

The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority under the Licensing Act, 1904, was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford on Tuesday.....

The cases which had to be discussed on the question of renewal were....

LIMERICK, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, full license, *Herbert Green* (licensee).....

Mr. Thompson, on behalf of the owners and licensee, applied for the renewal of the full license to the LIMERICK INN. Supt. Spendlove said the net rateable value of this tied house was £27 10s. The tenant paid a weekly rent of 27s, which included all out-goings. There had been seven transfers of the license within the last ten years. Witness added that there were far too many licensed houses in the district. Mr. Thompson contended that if any licenses were to be taken away the beerhouses should be first selected. The committee, after retiring, decided to refuse the renewal.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/7/1907

“A supplemental meeting of the County Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Wednesday and Thursday, to consider the amount of compensation to be awarded in the case of licenses the renewal of which was refused at the principal meeting.....

LIMERICK, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (owner, *Julia Hanson and Sons Limited*), £2,050.”

Compensation of £2,050 was paid on 12th October 1907.

The site became a Coop store in 1909. It was built by Joseph Buxton of Lower Gornal.

LION

LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Percy Hickman []

NOTES

Check RED LION

Percy Hickman was known as “Pokey Mon”.

LION

16, (16+17), Kent Street, (Sheepcotwall), (Dudley Road), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

William Blackham, gentleman, 54, Heath Street, Birmingham
William Meanley Cartwright (acquired in 1890)
Robert Thomas Clews, Park Road, Wolverhampton

W. Butler and Co. Ltd. [1924]
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Hyde (1859 – 1881);
William Blackham (1881 – 1884);
Joseph Guest (1884);
William Stanley (1884 – 1886);
William Allen (1886 – 1888);
William Roper (1888 – 1889);
John Hyde (1889 – 1890);
William Meanley Cartwright (1890 – 1904);
John Halford (1904 – 1905);
Thomas Millard (1905 – 1906);
Mrs. Ada Elizabeth Cartwright (1906 – 1923);
Alfred James Adey (1923 – 1925);
John Share (1925 – 1926);
Fanny Parkes (1926 – 1930);
Frederick William Fell (1930 – 1931);
George Willetts (1931 – 1932);
George Alfred Harvey (1932);
John Thomas Hill (1932 – 1934);
Thomas Hateley Sims (1934 – 1937);
Harold Bullock (1937 – 1938);
Mrs. Julia Laura Wheelwright (1938 – 1944);
Albert Frederick Jones (1944 – 1947);
Benjamin Hadley (1947 – 1950);
George Pearson (1950 – 1952);
Charles Frederick Gwilliam (1952 – 1957);
Nancy Gwilliam (1957 – 1958);
William Williams (1958 - [1963])

NOTES

Dudley Road [1861]
Sheepcotwall [1871]
16+17, Kent Street [1881], [1891]
16, Kent Street [1911], [1939], [1940]

It stood next door to the Wesleyan Chapel.

It was originally called the EXHIBITION INN.

EXHIBITION INN and provision shop.

It had a beerhouse license.

John Hyde = John Hide

John Hyde, beer retailer and tea dealer. [1861]

1861 Census

Dudley Road

[1] *John Hyde* (29), shopkeeper and publican, born Sedgley;
[2] Anne Hyde (18), wife, born Tray____, Montgomeryshire;
[3] Mary Jane Hyde (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
[4] Bithia Evans (16), general servant, born Sedgley:

John Hide, retailer of beer, Upper Gornall. [1862]

John Hyde was described as a beer retailer and shopkeeper. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872]

He married Ann Jones.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.....

For keeping open during prohibited hours *John Hyde*, EXHIBITION, Upper Gornal, to pay costs.

Obstructing Police *John Hyde*, EXHIBITION, Upper Gornal, 40s and costs.....

The licenses of the following beerhouse keepers were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting *John Hyde*.”

1871 Census

Sheepcotwall – EXHIBITION INN

[1] *John Hyde* (39), licensed victualler and provision dealer, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Ann Hyde (38), wife, born Tiggun____, Montgomeryshire;

[3] Mary Jane Hyde (11), daughter, scholar, born Upper Gornal;

[4] Sarah Hyde (8), daughter, scholar, born Upper Gornal;

[5] Harry Hyde (6), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;

[6] John Frederick Hyde (4), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;

[7] Lilly Hyde (9 months), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[8] Sarah Worton (20), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks.....

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given.....

No.25 Lodge, EXHIBITION INN, Upper Gornal; 93 members. The men will carry on the struggle until they get their rights.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

County Express 25/10/1879

“*John Hyde*, landlord of the EXHIBITION INN, Kent Street, was summoned for selling ale during prohibited hours on the night of the 6th inst. Mr. Gould, of Lower Gornal, appeared for the defendant.

PC Sutton said that on the night of the 6th inst he saw the defendant bring a quart of ale out of the house at twenty minutes to twelve o'clock. On remonstrating with the defendant he took the ale back again.

For the defence Mr. Gould said defendant was out to supper on the night in question, and he went across to his own house to fetch a quart of ale, as he did not wish his friends to supply the whole of the ale.

The Stipendiary said he considered the police had acted very properly in bringing the case before the Court, and ordered the defendant to pay the costs.”

1881 Census

16+17, Kent Street – EXHIBITION INN

[1] *John Hyde* (49), married, publican, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Mary Hyde (21), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[3] Sarah Hyde (18), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[4] Henry Hyde (16), son, stone mason, born Upper Gornal;

[5] John F. Hyde (14), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;

[6] Thomas Nickols (20), lodger, butcher, born Sedgley;

[7] Thomas Jones (55), lodger, labourer, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1890

“At the adjourned licensing sessions.....

William Cartwright, landlord of the EXHIBITION INN, Upper Gornal, applied for a wine license in addition to his beer license.

This application was refused, Mr. Holmes observing that if there was any place in the district that was over-done with public-houses it was Upper Gornal.”

The name was changed to LION in the licensing register on 29th September 1890.

1891 Census

16+17, Kent Street

- [1] *William Cartwright* (35), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Eda E. Cartwright* (34), wife, assistant, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William B. J. Cartwright* (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John H. Cartwright* (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Howard V. Cartwright* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Joshua L. Cartwright* (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Frank A. Cartwright* (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Hannah Bradley* (17), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Mary Hale* (14), nurse, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

Kent Street – LION INN

- [1] *William Cartwright* (44), maltster and innkeeper, born Upper Gornal;
- [2] *Ada E. Cartwright* (43), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *William B. Cartwright* (18), son, barman, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] *Joshua Cartwright* (12), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] *Vincent Cartwright* (16), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] *Frank Cartwright* (10), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [7] *James Cartwright* (6), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [8] *Hilda Cartwright* (14), daughter, born Upper Gornal;
- [9] *Comfort Price* (17), born Upper Gornal:

Ada Cartwright was a licensed brewer.

1911 Census

16, Kent Street – LION

- [1] *William Cartwright* (54), retired maltster, born Upper Gornal;
- [2] *Ada Eliza Cartwright* (52), wife, married 32 years, licensed brewer, born Coseley;
- [3] *Hilda Eliza Cartwright* (23), daughter, barmaid, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] *Frank Arnold Cartwright* (20), son, fitter, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] *Frederick James Cartwright* (16), son, miner (coal), below ground, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] *Leah R. Mason* (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

Mrs. *Ada E. Cartwright*, beer retailer, Kent Street. [1912]

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1918 - Advert

“Notice of Sale by Auction of a Valuable Freehold Beerhouse, in the centre of Upper Gornal.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Tuesday, September 24, 1918, at Seven o’clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced.

The Excellent On Beerhouse, situate in Kent Street, Upper Gornal, known as the LION HOTEL.

Containing Entrance and Inner Halls, Bar Parlour, large Tap Room, Smoke Room, Sitting Room, four capital Bed Rooms on one floor, living Kitchen, and six arched and other Cellars in basement. There is a capital Three-floor Brewery and a two-stall Stable, and other Buildings in the Yard, approached from covered Cartway Entrance, in the occupation of Mrs. *Ada E. Cartwright*.

The foregoing is one of the oldest-established and best-known ante-’69 Beerhouses in the thriving and populous district of Upper Gornal, about midway between Dudley and Wolverhampton, on the main tramway route, and well worth the attention of brewers and others.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. W. A. and H. M. Foster, Solicitors, Queen Street, Wolverhampton; or of the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/9/1918

“Messrs. A. W. Dando and Co. sold by auction at Dudley, the LION HOTEL, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, an ante-’69 beerhouse, for £1,560.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 6/12/1924 - Advert

“To Home Brewers, Metal Merchants and Others.

Notice of Sale By Auction of an excellent small Home-Brewing Plant upon and about the LION INN, Upper Gornal.

Alfred W. Dando and Co. have received instructions from Messrs. Butlers and Co. Ltd., to Sell By Auction at the house above, on Tuesday Next, December 9th 1924, the useful Home-Brewing Plant comprising: 200-Gallon Copper Boiler, Copper Refrigerator, 3ft 6in x 3ft; Copper Bottom Sieve, Steel 300-Gallon Boiler, with all Fittings; 12-Bushel nearly new Mash Tun with Copper False Bottom in sections, Wood Cooling Vessels, Iron and Lead Piping, various cooper-made Casks, including seven Hogsheads and Barrels, equal to new; Wrought Iron riveted Water Tank on strong supports, with semi-rotary Pump to well, and other Effects.

On view Morning of the Sale, or previously by appointment.

Sale to commence at 11 o’clock in the morning precisely.

Auctioneers offices, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (Tele.2256).”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions LION INN, Upper Gornal, £5 13s 9½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Letter 2/1/1930

“Re Julia Hanson & Sons Limited.

We beg to give you notice that the undermentioned licensed properties formerly belonging to Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd., but now belonging to Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Limited, of Tower Street, Dudley, were by a Mortgage dated the 10th day of September 1929, charged by Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd., with other property to secure the repayment to our Mr. A. M. Fairbairn and Others of the principal sum and interest therein mentioned.

FIVE WAYS INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal.

LION INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.

NEW INN, fronting North Street and Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal.

Please also accept this as notice that the Off-Licensed premises, No.3, Church Street, Lower Gornal, belonging to Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd., was by a Mortgage dated the 1st December 1929 charged by them with other property to secure the repayment to our Mr. A. M. Fairbairn and Others of the principal sum and interest therein mentioned.

We shall be glad if you will have a note of the above entered in the License Register.

We enclose Postal Order value 4/- your fee in the matter.

Yours faithfully, Hooper & Fairbairn, Solicitors. 1, Priory Street, Dudley.”

1939 Register

16, Kent Street – LION INN

[1] Frederick Wheelwright, date of birth 29/10/1906, capstan lathe hand, married;

[2] *Julia L. Wheelwright*, dob 9/12/1880, licensee, widow:

Tipton Herald 14/1/1956

“Twelve Sedgley and Upper Gornal men, who were all in the LION INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, when police raided the premises on November 5th, appeared before Sedgley magistrates on Monday to answer 56 summonses alleging betting on the premises, gaming and circulating football coupons.

After an all day sitting, lasting nearly seven hours, the magistrates convicted on only 12 of the summonses, the remainder either being dismissed or withdrawn.

Mr. Ernest Brown, who prosecuted, said he wanted to make it quite clear that the police observations were carried out as a result of a complaint sent to them. The police had in no way become ‘nosey parkers,’ he added.

Pleading guilty to using the premises for betting between September 24th and November 5th, Andrew Jeavons (40), foundry worker, of 57, Gibbons Hill Road, Sedgley was fined £20 with £27 3s special costs. Summonses of circulating football coupons and aiding and abetting the licensee in allowing gaming, to which he pleaded not guilty, were either withdrawn or dismissed.

Stated to be an employee of Staffordshire Education Committee, Thomas Sankey (32), also of 57, Gibbons Hill Road, Sedgley, pleaded not guilty to three summonses of using the premises for betting, and was found not guilty. On other summonses of circulating football coupons and aiding and abetting the licensee in allowing gaming, no evidence was offered by the prosecution and the cases were withdrawn.

The licensee, *Charles Frederick Gwilliam* (69), pleaded not guilty to four summonses of allowing gaming on his premises on dates in September, October, and November, but was found guilty and fined a total of £3, with £5 17s costs.

After a submission by Mr. M. S. P. Hathway that the cases were of a trivial nature and that *Gwilliam* was never in the smoke room while the officers kept their observations, the Chairman, Mr. W. R. Mobberley, told *Gwilliam*, ‘The Bench have no desire that you should lose your licence. In future, though, we feel you should pay a little more attention to rooms other than the bar.’

Other defendants included Elisha Bennett (35), of 12, Mill Close, Upper Gornal, fined £1 after he pleaded guilty to using the premises for betting on November 5th, six other cases being withdrawn; William Henry Fones (45), 6, The Square, Upper Gornal, fined £1 for a similar offence between October 1st and November 5th; Ronald Bayliss (28), of 3, Edmund Road, Upper Gornal, fined £1 for aiding and abetting Jeavons to use the premises for betting.

Four men who denied playing cards when the police raid took place were each fined £1 for aiding and abetting the licensee to permit gaming were Joseph Parker (22) and Peter Parker (19), both of 41, Glen Road, Upper Gornal; William Thomas Parker (34), of 79, Kent Street, Upper Gornal; and Bernard Elwell (24), of 22, Highgate, Upper Gornal.

Reggie Nicholls (28), of 11, Hill Street Upper Gornal, pleaded not guilty to seven cases of using the premises for betting, and all were dismissed. A summons against Samuel Parker (24), of 41, Glen Road, Upper Gornal, for aiding abetting Jeavons to circulate

football coupons were withdrawn.

Mr. Brown said the officers, S.Cons. T. Rochelle and P.Cons. J. Nixon, visited the public house seven times, either together or separately. On the occasions when Jeavons and Sankey were present together, other customers wrote and handed to both of them betting slips, which they accepted. He said that on each occasion the officers were present for about an hour and a half, and betting slips were handed over at various intervals during that time.

S.Cons. Rochelle said there was no secrecy about either the writing of the betting slips or the passing of them to Jeavons and Sankey. On one occasion, he said, there were about 28 people in the room and Jeavons and Sankey both joined in a game of cards, but continued to receive bets.

Rochelle said when other officers came to the premises on November 5th with a warrant, the wife of the licensee came into the smoke room and said, 'Put them up quick – police.'

When Chief Inspector Hinckley came into the room he, Rochelle, pointed out Jeavons and Sankey as the men who had been receiving bets that day.

Replying to Mr. Douglas Draycott, defending Sankey, Rochelle said he was quite sure he had seen Sankey receive betting slips on four or five occasions. He agreed that when Sankey was searched there were no betting slips in his possession other than those he had written himself for another purpose. Asked if he could name anyone who had handed a betting slip to Sankey, Rochelle said he could not.

P.Cons. Nixon corroborated the evidence of S.Cons. Rochelle and said he visited the premises for observation on five occasions. He was not present when the public house was visited by the other officers on November 5th.

Chief Inspector W. E. T. Hinckley said when he arrived at the public house he went into the smokeroom. As he did so S.Cons. Rochelle, previously unknown to him, stood up and, pointing to Jeavons, said, 'That man has received bets here today.' He made a similar remark in respect of Sankey.

Insp. Hinckley said, after caution, Jeavons replied, 'You'll find nowt on me.' Thereupon he was asked to stand, and beneath his seat a packet of papers was found containing 24 betting slips relating to horses running that day at Windsor, Liverpool and Wincanton.

He was arrested and taken to Sedgley, where he replied, after being cautioned and charged, 'I ain't saying owt.'

Jeavons declined to give evidence, saying he had nothing to say.

When Sankey went into the witness box he explained that the three betting slips which had been found in his possession related to bets he had had with a credit firm in London. They were copies of his bets. He went on, 'I have never taken bets for anyone, and I have never had a bet in my life in a public house.' He said he thought the two police officers had made a genuine mistake when they said they saw him pass betting slips. 'I am in the habit of making notes on dialogue for local conversation and colour,' he said, explaining that he might have been seen noting things on scraps of paper.

Mr. Draycott said that it was not an unnatural assumption that seeing bets passing to Jeavons, who was sitting near Sankey, the officers came to the conclusion they were working together. 'If these two men were working together, why was it found that Jeavons only had betting slips in his possession when searched?' he asked.

Dismissing the summonses, Mr. Mobberley told Sankey they thought the police had done right in bringing the case, but as they felt there was a slight doubt he was entitled to the benefit of it.

The same evidence was offered by the prosecution in respect of the summonses against *Gwilliam*, and S.Cons Rochelle admitted to Mr. Hathaway that the whole of the time he had kept observation at the public house he had never seen the licensee. As far as he knew, *Gwilliam* had spent all the time in the bar. There was no attendance in the smokeroom, customers having to fetch their own refreshment.

Mr. Hathaway, addressing the Bench, said a licensee could not stand in a room all the time watching customers to see if they were gaming at cards. There were notices in the room telling people it was prohibited to bet, and it was significant that the time the police kept observations, during Saturday lunchtimes, happened to be the busiest time of the week. He submitted the case was of a trivial nature compared with the other offences which had been brought before that day, many of which had fallen through."

Birmingham Daily Post 12/12/1963

"Three men said to have been chased by police and gamekeepers on a private shooting estate at Kinver appeared before Rowley Regis magistrates yesterday accused of trespassing in search of game and conies.

Mr. Norman Bayley, prosecuting explained that the case had been transferred to Rowley Regis because Mr. E. Marsh, a Brierley Hill magistrate, had the shooting rights of the land.

William Williams (51), of the LION INN, Upper Gornal, and George Smith (36), of Foxglove Road, Dudley, denied the poaching, but Roy Hickman (19), of Tile House Lane, Pensnett, pleaded guilty.

Williams and Hickman were each fined £5 and ordered to pay £2 12s costs and Smith was ordered to pay £10 17s in fines and costs.

Mr. Bayley said that Police-sgt. Baker of Kinver, heard a shot on the private estate. Six men were seen with sticks and dogs. They were systematically beating the area to put up rabbits and hares for the dogs to retrieve. During the subsequent chase three of the men escaped.

Williams said in court that he was looking for his lost dog, and Smith said that he was helping him. Hickman said that he was looking for chestnuts and found a rabbit in a snare."

Closed

Demolished

LORD COLLINGWOOD

Cann Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Salt [1833] – [1835]
Thomas Screw [1841] – [1842]

NOTES

Benjamin Salt, retail brewer, Can Lane. [1833]

MILL

6, Windmill Street, Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

John Hyde
Mary Hyde
Enoch Hyde, stone mason
Henry Rolinson (acquired on 24th March 1875 for £520)
Isaac Clark (acquired on 17th July 1886)
William Parrish, coal master, Pensnett
Peter Walker & Son, Liverpool (acquired for £1,800)
Frederick Smith Ltd. (acquired in 1898)
William Naylor (acquired on 20th October 1919 for £2,250)
Holdens Brewery Ltd. (leased from November 1946) (acquired on 30th September 1981)

LICENSEES

John Hyde (1852 – [1869])
Mrs. Mary Hyde [1870] – 1874);
Enoch Hyde (1874 – 1875);
Henry Rollason (1875 – 1884);
Isaac Clark (1884 – 1892);
Thomas Nicholls (1892 – 1895);
John 'Jack' Halford (1895 – 1898);
William Hale (1898);
Samuel Towle (1898 – 1900);
James William Brown (1900 – 1901);
Benjamin Whitehouse (1901);
Albert Priest [1901]
Thomas Henry Beal Bird (1901 – 1906);
Rachel Bird (1906);
Thomas Naylor (1906 – 1909);
William Naylor (1909 – [1911])
William Naylor (1919 – [1940])
Norman Richards []
William Williams [1950s]
Vera Marion Flavell [] – 1967);
Raymond Kinsell (1967 – 1976);
Patricia Kathleen 'Pat' Green (1976 – 1989);

John Midwood (1989 – [1992])
Simon Flavell [1993] – [1996]
Jan Anslow (1999 – [2000])
Clive Vasey (2014 – [])
Sam Vasey and Charlotte Smith [2021]
Jon Steventon and Ryan Bissell (2023 – [])

NOTES

It had a small brewery at the rear.

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/3/1846

“Stafford Spring Assizes.

John Dennis M’Carthy, aged 48, was indicted for cutting and wounding John Jones, with intent to do him grievous bodily harm, at Sedgley.

John Jones, the prosecutor, stated that he was a miner, and on the evening of the 5th of August was at the MILL public-house, in the parish of Sedgley. The prisoner was there also, and was accusing him of being a highway robber and a thief, upon which he told him that he was no more a thief than he was. Prisoner said, if he talked to him he would let his entrails out. They had a scuffle, and the prisoner stabbed him with a knife on the shoulder, from which the blood flowed freely.

Cross-examined by the prisoner: I never said I would knock you down, as you were a d—d thief. I did not strike you, before you struck me with a knife.

By his Lordship: I was neither drunk nor sober. I don’t consider I was drunk.

Edward Willetts was at the MILL public-house on the evening in question. The prisoner and prosecutor were quarrelling, upon which the prisoner took out an awl, and said he would run him through. He afterwards took out his knife, and told him he would ‘rip his guts out.’ The prosecutor then got up and struck the prisoner, and they had a struggle, and immediately afterwards he saw blood running down at the end of his fingers. After the struggle the prisoner shut his knife, and put it in his pocket.

By his Lordship: The prosecutor first struck the prisoner. They both fell down together.

Mr. Hodgkins, surgeon, Bilston, stated that he was called in to attend the prosecutor. He found him faint through loss of blood.

The prosecutor had received a wound on his right shoulder, which was about 1½ inch to 1¾ inch deep.

In reply to a question by his Lordship, the witness said that the wound was not a serious one. It might have been accidentally inflicted in the struggle.

The prisoner made a long defence, in which he stated that the prosecutor was making use of language that he should be ashamed to name, upon which he asked him whether he had received his education at Cambridge or Oxford. In the scuffle that took place, the knife was ran accidentally into the prosecutor’s shoulder, who, he asserted, was the aggressor, and he was the sufferer.

His Lordship summed up, the jury, after a brief consultation, acquitted the prisoner.”

John Hyde = John Hide

1861 Census

Ruiton – OLD MILL

- [1] *John Hyde* (62), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Hyde* (52), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Enoch Hyde* (22), son, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Cain(?) *Hyde* (17), son, born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Mary Hyde* (10), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Harriet Law* (16), general servant, born Staffordshire:

John Hyde Snr., beer retailer, Ruiton. [1864]

Dudley Herald 27/1/1868

“Members of the Courts ‘Band Of Hope’ No.2982 and ‘Miners’ Hope’ No.4477 of the Ancient Order of Foresters met at the house of Mr. *Hyde*, OLD MILL INN, Ruiton.”

Mary Hyde = Mary Hide

Dudley Herald 2/1/1869

“The members of Courts ‘Band Of Hope’ No.2982 and ‘Miners’ Hope’ No.4477 of the Ancient Order of Foresters assembled on Saturday last at the Court House, OLD MILL INN, Ruiton, to celebrate their annual winter feast given by the landlady Mrs. *Hyde*.”

Mrs. *Mary Hide*, beer retailer, Ruiton. [1870]

Dudley Herald 30/7/1870

“Monday last, the members belonging to the Courts ‘Band Of Hope’ No.2982 and ‘Miners’ Hope’ No.4477 of the Ancient Order of Foresters met at the house of Mrs. *Hyde*, OLD MILL INN, Ruiton.....”

1871 Census

6, Windmill Street

- [1] *Mary Hyde* (62), widow, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Littleton (76), widow, pauper, born Sedgley:

Mary Hyde died in 1874.

Dudley Herald 30/1/1875

“.....valuable freehold public house and cottage public auction by Mr. John Bent on Tuesday 19th February 1875 by order of the representatives of the late Mr. *Hyde* at the OLD MILL INN, Ruiton, Upper Gornal front parlour, tap room, bar, smoke room, large club room, two chambers, two cellars, compact brewhouse, capital stabling, extensive garden with carriage drive in front.”

1881 Census

6, Windmill Street – WINDMILL INN

- [1] *Henry Rollason* (33), publican and stone mason, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Elizabeth Rollason* (30), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Ada Millicent Rollason* (9), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Linda G. Rollason* (5), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Muriel Rollason* (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Lancelot Rollason* (10 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Sarah A. Price* (16), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Mary A. Brown* (13), nurse maid, born Sedgley:

Isaac Clark = Isaac Clarke

County Advertiser 22/5/1886 - Advert

“Ruiton, Upper Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

Sale of a Freehold Public House, Dwelling House, Gardens, &c.

Messrs. Sollom and Barnett will submit for Sale by Auction, by order of the mortgagees, at the GREEN DRAGON INN, Gornal, on Thursday, May 27th, at Six for Seven o’clock in the Evening punctually, subject to conditions of Sale, in one or two lots, as may be determined upon at the time of sale, the well-frequented Licensed Beerhouse, known as the OLD MILL INN, situate in Windmill Street, Ruiton, with the Out-offices, Yard and Garden adjoining, and at the rear thereof, as now occupied by Mr. *Isaac Clarke*, and also the two-storey Dwelling House, being No.5 in Windmill Street, aforesaid, with the Out-offices and Garden belonging thereto, as now occupied by Mr. Joseph Stanley; the gross annual rental being £32.

The Beerhouse contains Bar, Kitchen, Tap Room, Smoke Room, Club Room, 60 feet long; Two Bed Rooms, Two Attics, Pantry, Two Cellars, with rolling way, &c. There are also Brewhouse, Workshop, Piggery, Shedding, &c outside, and the whole property which is walled in contains an area of 900 square yards of land or thereabouts. There are two wells of water.

For further particulars apply to Mr. H. C. Owen, Solicitor, or the Auctioneers, all of Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

1891 Census

6, Windmill Street – OLD MILL

- [1] *Isaac Clark* (44), beerhouse keeper and bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Julia Clark* (41), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Clara Clark* (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Ellen Clark* (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary J. Clark* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Ernest Clark* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Gertrude Clark* (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Fred Clark* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

Black Country Bugle - Pub Of The Month

“.....Tom has been a regular at the OLD MILL ever since he was a toddler. The first licensee whom he remembers – about 1891 – was *Jack Halford*. ‘It wuz an ode pub in them days’, and was owned by William Parrish who, besides owning the JUNCTION INN, Gornal Wood, was also a colliery owner who kept racehorses.

Later, Tom’s bosom pal, *Will Naylor* moved into the OLD MILL. Before that *Will* had been licensee of the BULL AND BUTCHER a pub which once stood in nearby Vale Street *Will Naylor* continued to dispense his own special brand of wum-brewed for the best part of 45 years before he eventually sold the OLD MILL to Holdens Brewery.”

1901 Census

6, Windmill Street

- [1] *James Brown* (30), publican, born Doddington, Cambridgeshire;
- [2] *Clara Brown* (30), wife, born Coleshill, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Gladys Brown* (27 months), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Doris Brown* (17 weeks), daughter, born Birmingham:

Lichfield Mercury 28/6/1901

“At Sedgley, *Albert Priest*, landlord of the OLD MILL, Ruiton, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on the 27th ult. The defence was that the man alleged by the police to be drunk only had a portion of a pint of cider. Defendant was fined £4 18s 6d.”

1911 Census

Ruiton – WINDMILL INN

- [1] *William Naylor* (35), publican, brewer, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Naylor* (33), wife, married 14 years, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] *Esther Naylor* (13), daughter, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] *John Naylor* (11), son, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] *Benjiman [sic] Naylor* (8), son, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] *William Naylor* (6), son, born Upper Gornal:

Blackcountryman Summer 2014 - “Wilf Barratt”

“He [father of Wilf Barratt] thought he would try his luck in South Staffordshire where he had a sister living in a small village called Upper Gornal. She had moved there during the 1914-18 war as a land girl and had married the son of the landlord of the public house called the OLD MILL Until the age of seven we lodged with my Aunt Lil in Windmill Street and it was from there that I went to the Board school in Clarence Street into the infant class where the teacher was a Miss Baker. . . .”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions WINDMILL INN, Upper Gornal, 4s.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

6, Windmill Street

- [1] *William Naylor*, date of birth 26/4/1875, brewer’s beerhouse, married;
- [2] *Mary Naylor*, dob 15/3/1878, unpaid domestic duties, married:

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

It had a darts team. [1948]

It had a pigeon flying club based here.

Express and Star 12/1/1985

“Top of the Mill Steak Bar. Now open Sunday Lunchtime and Tuesday to Saturday Evening. For reservations ring. . . .”

John Midwood was married to Carol.

He became chairman of Stourbridge Branch of CAMRA.

It closed for refurbishment on March 17th 2014.

It reopened on 24th September 2014, as the MILL.

Clive Vasey was married to Sue.

Express & Star 26/1/2023

“A pub that closed down shortly after Christmas has reopened with new bosses. New managers *Jon Steventon* and *Ryan Bissell* have taken over at the MILL in Windmill Street, Upper Gornal. Woodsetton-based Holden’s Brewery has given the pub a spring

clean after the previous tenant left, and it will now be a managed venue. National sales manager Phil Britton said the pub had been shut for about three weeks and would initially be drinks only with a food operation opening later in the year. *Jon and Ryan* have come from the King's Arms in Worcester and reopened the pub on Wednesday.....”

[2023]

MILLWRIGHTS ARMS

High Street, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Henry Wall, beerhouse keeper, Sedgley

LICENSEES

Frederick Harris [1849] – [1868]

Richard T Froggatt [] – **1871**);

Thomas Stanford (**1871 – 1875**);

Thomas Wright (**1875 – [1877]**)

NOTES

London Gazette 6/3/1849

“*Frederick Harris*, of the MILLWRIGHT ARMS, Sedgley, Stafford, retail brewer, dealer in tobacco, and saddler.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/8/1866 - Advert

“MILLWRIGHTS ARMS, Sedgley. To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the above named Beerhouse, in consequence of the present tenant’s ill-health. The House is situate in the main road leading from Wolverhampton to Dudley. For particulars, apply on the Premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/2/1868 - Advert

“Bankruptcy Act 1861. Unreserved Sale, MILLWRIGHTS ARMS, Sedgley.

To Publicans, Brokers, and Others, To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, This Day (Friday), February 17.

The whole of the Brewing Plant; consisting of 12-bushel Mash Tub, Oval Coolers, Gathering Tub, well-seasoned hogshead and half-hogshead Casks, two-handed Tubs, four-pull Beer Machine, Stock of fresh Ale, Drinking Tables, Tap Tables, metal Pipe, pewter Measures, Jugs, Cups, and Glasses; together with the Household Furniture consisting of wood and iron Bedsteads, straw Mattresses, feather Beds, Bed Linen, mahogany Chest of Drawers, Washing Stand, Dressing Tables and Chairs, with the usual Kitchen Requisites, belonging to Mr. *F. Harris*, a Bankrupt.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

London Gazette 28/2/1868

“*Frederick Harris*, of the MILLWRIGHT ARMS, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Retail Brewer, Dealer in Tobacco, and Saddler, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 5th of February, 1868, 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 Dudley, on the 28th day of March next, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Thomas Walker, Esq., of Dudley, is the Official Assignee, and John Edward Fellows, of Bilston, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

London Gazette 1868

“*Frederick Harris*, of the MILLWRIGHTS ARMS, Sedgley Retail Brewer, Dealer in Tobacco, and Saddler, adjudicated bankrupt on the 5th day of February 1868. An Order of Discharge was granted by the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 14th day of April 1868.”

Birmingham Journal 16/5/1868 - Advert

“Sale On Tuesday next, May 19, at the MILLWRIGHTS ARMS, Sedgley.

To Publicans, Farmers, Parties Furnishing, Brokers, and Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Tuesday Next, May the 19th.

The whole of the excellent Brewing Plant, consisting of 14-bushel Mash Tub, pair Cooling Vats, Drinking Tables, oval Coolers,

Hop Press, well-seasoned Ale Casks, hogshead and half-hogshead ditto, four-pull Beer Machine, pewter Ale Measures, Glasses, Jugs, &c, copper-bottomed Sieves, portable Rat Pit (8ft square), Housekeeper's Cupboard, Plate Rack, two sets Gig Harness, Loose Gearing, &c, three Garden Engines (suitable for washing the front of Gentlemen's Houses), &c; together with a portion of the Household Furniture, set massive four-post Bedsteads, straw Mattresses, feather and flock Beds, handsome and massive mahogany Centre Table (on pillar and claws), belonging to Mr. *Harris*, who is leaving the neighbourhood. Sale to commence precisely at Ten o'clock in the morning."

Dudley Herald 30/5/1868 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction on 9th June.....

All that compact Public House and Premises situated in High Street, Sedgley, on the Dudley and Wolverhampton Road. Comprising front tap room, saddler's shop, bar, parlour, club room and chambers, good cellar, brewhouse and store room over, piggery and other outbuildings, soft water cistern, together with an excellent well of water. Now in the occupation of *Frederick Harris* at the low rent of £16 per annum....."

Thomas Stanford was convicted, on 3rd August 1874, for permitting drunkenness.

London Gazette 14/8/1874

"The Bankruptcy Act, 1869. In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley.

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Thomas Stanford*, of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Horse Dealer and Beerhouse Keeper.

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 Dallow, Solicitor, 15, Queen-square, Wolverhampton, on the 25th day of August, 1874, at three o'clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 10th day of August, 1874.

Tho. Dallow, 15, Queen-square, Wolverhampton, Attorney for the said *Thomas Stanford*."

Dudley Herald 21/10/1876

"At the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, on Tuesday.....

James Badham (18), carter, was charged with stealing, on the 12th of July last, at Sedgley, one mare, the property of Andrew Jeavons. Mr. Underhill was for the prosecution, and Mr. E. Rose defended.

Prosecutor said the mare was in an open field adjoining his residence on the day preceding the 12th of July, on which day he went to fetch it, and found that it had been taken away.

A young man named Smith said he was at *Wright's* beerhouse at Sedgley on the day named, when he saw the accused riding on the mare. Being a horse dealer, he asked prisoner what he would take for the horse. Prisoner said he would take £3, on which witness said he would give him 25s for it. He did not, however, pay the money, but informed the police, as he was suspicious that the horse had been stolen.

Prisoner was subsequently apprehended, and when charged, gave his correct name and address.

The learned counsel called evidence as to character.

Found guilty, with a recommendation to mercy, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment."

County Advertiser 4/8/1877 - Advert

"Sedgley, Staffordshire. Important to Brewers, Maltsters, Innkeepers, and Others.

Messrs. Sollom and Barnett are instructed to Offer for Sale by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Friday, the 24th day of August, 1877, at Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Association, the following very valuable Freehold Properties, which will be Offered in One Lot; if not then Sold, in the following or such other Lots as may be arranged at the time of Sale.

Lot 2. The valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Premises, called the PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley, situated fronting the Turnpike Road from Wolverhampton to Dudley, together with the Stabling, Yard, Garden, Front and Back Gateway Entrances, and other Appurtenances, now in the occupation of Mrs. Elydia Rudge, the owner thereof.

The House contains Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, large Club Room, Six Bed Rooms, Kitchen, Brewhouse, Malthouse, and Three Cellars, and is most substantially built in every respect. The Land, including the site of the buildings, contains 1,090 square yards or thereabouts.

A very good business has for some years past been carried on upon these Premises, the Goodwill of which will be included in the purchase.

Lot 3. The valuable Freehold Beerhouse and Premises, called the MILLWRIGHTS ARMS, situate adjoining Lot 2, containing Bar, Tap Room, Parlour, Club Room, Three Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, and Cellaring, now in the occupation of *Thomas Wright*, at the low annual rental of £18.

Lot 4. All that Piece of Freehold Building Land, situated at the back of Lot 2, fronting to Castle Street, Sedgley, and containing 1,454 square yards or thereabouts.

Possession of all the Lots can be given upon completion of the Purchase.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Stephen J. Walker, Solicitor, 54, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton, or the Auctioneers, 66½, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton."

The license was abandoned.

MINERS ARMS

61, Hurst Road (Hurst Street), (61, Hurst Hill Road), (82, Hursthill Road), (82, Can Lane) / Hollywell Street, Hurst Hill, (Coppice), COSELEY

OWNERS

John Edward Stanley, butcher, Sedgley
Richard Weed (acquired 20th May 1888)
Mary Ann Swann
W. Butler and Co. Ltd.
William Tranter Jnr.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Edward Stanley [1851] – [1854]
Elizabeth (Stanley) Hobday [1855] – [1862]
Jabez Stanley [1864] – **1881**;
Moses Henry Stanley (**1881 – 1883**);
William Davis (**1883 – 1884**);
Jonathan Williams (**1884 – 1886**);
Noah Williams (**1886 – 1888**);
Richard Weed (**1888 – 1893**);
Mary Ann (Adams) (Weed) Swann (**1893 – 1920**);
Alfred Swann [1911] ?
Joseph Wood (**1920 – 1922**);
William Henry Southall (**1922 – 1926**);
Benjamin Butler (**1926**);
John Leonard Fellows (**1926 – 1927**);
William Tranter Jnr. (**1927 – 1944**)
William Taylor [1948]

NOTES

82, Can Lane [1871]
82, Hursthill Road [1881]
61, Hurst Hill Road [1891]
61, Hurst Road [1901], [1939]

It was originally an unnamed beerhouse.

It was a home brew house.

John Edward Stanley was also a butcher.

John Edward Stanley, son of Moses Stanley, married Elizabeth Onions in the 1st quarter of 1847.

1851 Census

Can Lane

- [1] *John Stanley* (29), butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Stanley* (27), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] John Edward Stanley (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Jabez Stanley* (16) brother, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [5] Louisa Ray (16) general servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on

Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Hayes made an application on behalf of Mr. *John Stanley* for a house at Cann Lane, which he remarked cost more than £1,000. There was ample stabling, and altogether the premises were of a superior character. The applicant's certificate was signed by eight victuallers of the district, and also by the vicar of the parish, the Rev. W. Lewis.

Mr. Whitehouse opposed on the ground that there was no necessity for any additional licensed houses in the neighbourhood. Mr. Hayes replied, contending that the population was rapidly increasing, observing that upwards of two hundred new houses had been built in the immediate neighbourhood of Mr. *Stanley's* house Refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

"The annual meeting of Magistrates for granting and renewing publican's licenses in the parish of Bilston and Sedgley was held on Friday last, in the Bilston Police Court. The magistrates on the Bench were J. Loxdale, Esq, John Foster, Esq, J. N. Bagnall, Esq, and the Rev. J. B. Owen Sedgley.....

Mr. Whitehouse made an application for a license to the house of Mr. John Mills, Can Lane, describing the extent and comfort of the house, the beauty of the garden attached, so excellently adapted for the enjoyment of horticultural pleasure and alcoholic amusement. Mr. Waterhouse opposed, on the part of Mr. Screen of the BOAT INN, immediately in front of Mr. Mills's house. Mr. Waterhouse likewise applied for a license to the house recently in the occupation of the late Mr. *John Stanley*, of the Coppice, in the immediate neighbourhood. It appeared that Mr. *Stanley* had died within the last fortnight, and Mr. Waterhouse now contended that the widow was entitled to apply for the license on the notices which had been given by her husband. The Bench were of a different opinion, and deferred the consideration of the applications until the next annual licensing day."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

"The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston..... Mr. T. M. Whitehouse said he had been instructed to apply for a license on behalf of Mr. John Mills of Can Lane, in the parish of Sedgley, and perhaps before he entered into a statement of the circumstances under which, in all probability, the magistrates would grant the license, he had better mention that he appeared for Mr. Mills to make a similar application last year, and on that occasion the application was adjourned, inasmuch as Mr. *Stanley*, who had given notice of an application he intended to make for a license to a house in his occupation at Can Lane, died between the time of giving the notice and the day of the application. The Bench thought it would only be acting right to the representative of Mr. *Stanely*, to give Mrs. *Stanley* the opportunity of renewing the application, and therefore postponed the consideration of that case. Mr. Mills now came to renew his application, and when he (Mr. Whitehouse) had laid before the Bench the circumstances of the case, he thought they would have no doubt that the application should be favourably received. He intended to rest the case of Mr. Mills on three points; first he should have to satisfy the Bench that the house was wanted on public and social grounds; next, the character of the applicant, which he (Mr. Whitehouse) should prove by certificate; and thirdly, the character of the house in respect of which he made the application. In regard to the first point he would remark that no old license had been granted in the locality for a least twenty years. Within a period of six years no less than 108 (for he had counted them particularly) houses had been erected in the locality, Lord Ward having introduced a good deal of land into the market, which had been bought by small purchasers. To show the progressive character of the locality, he might observe that within the last two or three months sixteen new houses had been erected; in fact since the last license was granted the population had increased by 500; there had been almost time for a new generation to arise. He did not know that he had needed to mention any other facts in order to show that another license was wanted in the neighbourhood on the ground of public necessity alone. Mr. Whitehouse contended that on social grounds it was desirable the license should be granted. Mr. Mills's smoke room was respectably attended, and it was an inconvenience to him not to be able to supply his customers with anything else but ale. When he mentioned the character of the house and premises he thought the Bench would consider that persons would resort thither not so much for drinking and smoking – though, of course, they would like a little of both – as to enjoy the recreation which a garden like that of Mr. Mills's would afford. Mr. Mills had been a beershop keeper many years, and no complaint had been made against him. Mr. Whitehouse then read a respectably signed certificate, and afterwards proceeded to refer to the opposition to the application by Mr. Underhill – no doubt on behalf of Mr. Screen – with a view of supporting that the application of Mrs. *Stanley*, and opposing that of Mr. Mills. He (Mr. Whitehouse) had, however, been informed that Mr. Screen was unable to attend the Court that day, in consequence of an injury which he had received in a row which took place in his public house. If that were true he apprehended Mr. Screen was not a person qualified to oppose the application – at least he did not come into Court with clean hands. If the Magistrates considered two licenses necessary, they would perhaps grant Mr. Mills's and Mrs. *Stanley's*, but if only one, they would no doubt give the license to the house most suited for that purpose. The BOAT INN (Mr. Screen's house) stood upon 160 yards of land only, and yet it was a licensed house. Mr. Whitehouse then produced a large and elaborate plan of the premises, stating that in the erection of the house, and the formation of the garden, with its fishpond and greenhouse, £2,000 had been laid out by the origin proprietor, Mr. Joseph Fletcher. It afterwards fell into the hands of Mr. Robinson, solicitor, and had been subsequently purchased by Mr. Mills. He had no hesitation in saying that the house and garden were worth £1,000. He had recently visited the place himself, and found the greenhouse abounding in plants, and the garden in various productions of the horticultural and floral world. Mr. Whitehouse concluded by saying that whilst the Bench would enhance the value of the property by granting the license, they would not be injuring the property of Mr. Mills's neighbours, but would confer an advantage upon the persons who visited the applicant's house, particularly the working classes, who would resort thither for a little relaxation after the labours of the day.

In reply to Mr. Loxdale, it was stated that two or three similar applications to the Wolverhampton Bench had not been granted, Sub-inspector Costello saying that at the time of the making of one or two of the applications, part of the premises were used as a chandler's shop.

Mr. Underhill opposed the application of behalf of Mr. Screen, whose house, he said, was next door to the applicant's. It did not surprise him that three or four similar applications by Mr. Mills had been refused, when he knew within 300 yards from applicant's house, there were three public houses, besides Mr. Screen's. Mr. Mills's house was not even situated on the highway, but persons wishing to go to it had to turn up a small lane. The great point for the Magistrates to consider was whether another license was required in the locality. Magistrates seldom granted, even in large towns, licenses to houses next door to which licensed houses existed.

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to a beerhouse in Can Lane, the property of, and occupied by Mrs. *Stanley*. He said that in case the Magistrates consider only one license in that district necessary, they would no doubt appreciate the advantage of his client's premises over those of Mr. Mills and grant her the license. His client came into court without opposition. The population, as had been stated by Mr. Whitehouse, had increased in such a ratio since the granting of the last license to that neighbourhood as to render another licensed house absolutely necessary. He thought the Bench almost assumed that fact last year; but it was decided that he (Mr. Waterhouse) in applying for a license for the widow of Mr. *Stanley*, who had just before died, had no locus standi, and consequently no license was granted – the consideration of both Mr. Mills's and Mrs. *Stanley*'s application being adjourned until the present year in order that both applicants might appear in court on the same day. There had not only been an increase in the population at Can Lane, but also at the Coppice. One fact in favour of his client's application was that she was a widow, and that her late husband had expended all his means in erecting the premises, for the conveniently carrying on of his trade – that of a butcher – combined with the business of a beerseller. The applicant had four children, whose ages varied from six years to five months. Unless she obtained a license she would be unable in future to maintain her family in the respectable manner she had hitherto done. He had nothing to say against Mr. Mills; but his house was hidden from view by Mr. Screen's house. The applicant's house cost £900 or £1,000 (inclusive of the land), and the outbuildings were extensive. The certificate bore the signatures of respectable persons, and she had kept the house three or four years without complaint. The Magistrates, after a short consultation, said they were unanimous in their opinion that both licenses must be refused.”

Elizabeth Stanley married *William Hobday*.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/3/1856 - Marriages

“February 28, at Coseley Church, Mr. *William Hobdey*, of Coseley, to *Elizabeth*, daughter of the late Mr. *Edward Onions*, of *Ladymoor*.”

Birmingham Journal 31/5/1856

“At about eight o'clock yesterday (Friday) morning, considerable excitement was produced in the neighbourhood of Coseley Church, by a report that Mr. *William Hobday*, a chemist and druggist, and ale and porter dealer, of that place, had committed suicide. Such was found to be the case; at about eight in the morning the deceased desired his wife (he had been married but a few months) to procure him a cup of coffee, he being at that time in bed. She procured the coffee, and on her return perceived a quantity of blood upon her husband's neck, and also blood upon the bedclothes. An alarm was made, and assistance was speedily procured, medical aid being also in immediate attendance. A quantity of poison, we are informed, was found near Mr. *Hobday*'s bed, and a portion of this had been imbibed by him. The necessary means were employed by the medical gentlemen in attendance to staunch the blood, &c, and the deceased lingered until about eleven o'clock when he expired. It is stated that he was in embarrassed circumstances, and that a letter has been found, written by the deceased, in which this is affirmed as the cause of the suicide. It is expected that the inquest will be held today (Saturday).”

Birmingham Journal 7/6/1856

“On Saturday afternoon last the Coroner, T. M. *Phillips*, Esq, held an inquest at the GATE HANGS WELL INN, Mamble Square, near Sedgley, (Mr. *Thomas Jeavon*'s) on the body of Mr. *William Hobdey*.....

It was stated by the deceased's brother, who attended the inquest, that he had lately been labouring under depression of mind from religious causes, and that he having within a few years taken to the ale and porter trade, a business he did not like, it weighed upon his mind. There was no pecuniary embarrassment as was at first stated, for the Jury were informed that pecuniarily the trade was prospering. A document was found which had been written by the deceased, in which it was stated that he must have been aware for a long time that he was a ruined man; but the terms must have been used in a religious and not in a commercial sense. The Jury returned a verdict of Temporary Insanity.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. *Whitehouse* applied on behalf of Mr. *Mills*, of Can Lane, for a license to the SUMMER HOUSE INN, of which the latter is owner and occupier. The applicant had occupied the house in respect of which he (Mr. *Whitehouse*) applied for a license for six or seven years, and no complaint had been made as to the manner in which it had been conducted, and further, Mr. *Mills*'s certificate was numerously signed. As regarded the house itself, it cost Mr. *Mills* at least £1,000, and possessed such accommodation as was highly necessary for a public house. The last license to the neighbourhood was granted twenty-five years ago, to a most miserable house. Since that time 238 houses had been erected, 130 of them within a period of six years. Between twenty and thirty had been erected since last year, and a large piece of land had been divided into building lots, and would, no doubt, be built upon in the course of next summer. Mr. *Loxdale* observed that the Bench had decided upon granting one license in the neighbourhood; the question was whether it would be to the house of Mr. *Mills*, Mrs. *Hobday*, or Mr. *W Jones*. Mr. *J. E. Underhill*, on behalf of Mr. *Screen*, of the BOAT INN, the next house to Mr. *Mills*'s, opposed the application, principally on the ground that no other licensed house was required.

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license on behalf of Mrs. *Hobday*. The buildings which Mr. Whitehouse had said had been recently erected stood at the Coppice, and he apprehended that it was in respect to that district that the license was required. He therefore contended that the house of Mrs. *Hobday* stood in the most convenient situation.

Mr. Waterhouse then applied for a license to the house of Mr. Jones, at Wood Cross, one of the three cases selected by the Magistrates. The grounds of the application were the increase of population and the great probability of a further increase, and that there was no public house in the village. The nearest inns were at Cinder Hill, one 493 and the other 517 yards from the applicant's house. Mr. Whitehouse opposed the application on the part of the inn-keepers of Cinder Hill, the ground of the opposition being that a sufficient increase had not taken place in the population to demand further public house accommodation, or render another licensed house necessary. Mr. Whitehouse added that there were already three licensed houses and five beer-houses in the neighbourhood.

The Bench granted the application of Mr. Jones, and refused that of Mr. Mills and of Mrs. *Hobday*."

Birmingham Journal 10/4/1858 - Advert

"To Innkeepers.

To be Let, an excellent Old-licensed Public House, with or without Ten Acres of Land, near the Church at Coseley, with capital Brewhouse, extensive Yard, Sheds, and Cellars, well adapted for a small Brewery, Porter Dealer, or Spirit Merchant. The Proprietor will sell the unexpired Lease of thirteen years for £30. Rent to the Purchaser of the Lease would be £28; without the purchase £35. No Furniture, Fixtures, or Stock to be taken to. Two Spirit Vaults to be Let, in Wolverhampton.

Apply to Mr. Ashcroft, Auctioneer, 38, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton; or to Mrs. *Hobday*, Can Lane, Sedgley."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

"Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. Mills, of Can Lane, for a license to the SUMMERHOUSE INN, of which the latter is owner and occupier. This, Mr. Whitehouse said, was the ninth or tenth application which he had made for Mr. Mills; three times he had applied at Wolverhampton, and since that time he had appeared year after year before the Magistrates at Bilston; but notwithstanding previous applications, Mr. Mills had such firm reliance on the merits of his case, that he appeared again with confidence to submit it to the Bench. Having known the parish of Sedgley for something like thirty years, he could confidently assert, having himself inspected Mr. Mills's premises, that no other licensed house in that locality afforded equal accommodation. The last license to the neighbourhood was granted thirty years ago, and so rapidly was that district increasing that as many as 300 houses had been erected in that neighbourhood in the last three years. He (Mr. Whitehouse) did not consider that the license granted last year to Mr. Screen would at all affect the present application, because Mr. Screen's house was situated some distance from the house of Mr. Mills, and no traveller who could be accommodated at the house of Mr. Mills would ever go to the house of Mr. Screen.

Mr. H. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mr. Screen, of the BOAT INN, and contended that his client's house was quite commodious enough to accommodate all travellers to that district, and that there was no necessity for another licensed house. Mr. Underhill pointed out that the applicant's house could only be approached by a narrow road, scarcely wide enough for one carriage, and still further urged that passengers must pass the BOAT INN in order to reach the house of Mr. Mills. With respect to the stabling accommodation set forth by the plan, Mr. Underhill said that the applicant was a butty collier, and required a large number of stables for his own horses. Mr. Underhill also urged that the applicant being a butty collier, and having in his employ a large number of men in his employ, it would, by granting a license, be affording an indirect medium for the applicant to compel his workmen to expend a portion of their wages in drink.

Mr. Whitehouse asked that before the magistrates decided upon the application of Mr. Mills they should hear an application which he had to make on behalf of Mrs. *Hobday*, who is also the occupier of a house in that neighbourhood. Mr. Waterhouse stated that Mrs. *Hobday*'s house was situated in the main thoroughfare, while the house of Mr. Mills is some distance from the public road.

As regarded the house itself it was originally built for a public house, while the house of the other applicant was formerly the private residence of Mr. Fletcher, and by no means adapted to the requirements of a licensed house.

Mr. Underhill opposed for Mr. Rudge, of the GATE INN, Can Lane. Mr. Underhill remarked that there seemed to be a remarkably pretty quarrel between Mr. Mills and Mrs. *Hobday*, and he was therefore very desirous neither party should gain a victory over the other. The houses of both applicants were situated only sixty or seventy yards distant from those of Mr. Rudge and Mr. Screen, the opposing parties, and he (Mr. Underhill) contended that no reasons had been shown why there should be any additional licenses granted for that district. After a short consultation the Magistrates decided to refuse both applications."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/10/1858

"Two men named John Harper and William Dudley were brought before Mr. Leigh yesterday charged with stealing a sovereign from a companion named John Reynolds. It appeared that all three parties were drinking together at a public house at Can Lane, kept by Mrs. *Hobday*, and the prosecutor pulled out a sovereign, when one of the prisoners said that it was a bad one. Reynolds threw it upon the table saying, 'You cannot find any bad ones like that,' upon which Dudley picked it up and ran off with it; Harper at the time holding the prosecutor back to prevent him following. The prisoners admitted having taken the money and said they had spent it, but Harper further stated that the prosecutor in conjunction with his (Harper's) own brother had taken his watch and pawned it, leaving him to redeem it, and that he had taken the prosecutor's money as a kind of compensation. The prisoners were remanded for a week to inquire into the truth of Harper's statement."

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

"Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers' licenses.....

Mr. T. M. Whitehouse applied for Mr. John Mills, and Mr. Waterhouse for Mrs. *Hobday*, for licenses for houses in Can Lane.

Each applicant keeps a beerhouse and opposed the application of the other; and in addition Mr. Hayes opposed Mrs. *Hobday's*, and Mr. J. E. Underwood opposed Mr. Mills's application, on behalf of the neighbouring licensed victuallers. The decisions were adjourned to the adjourned licensing day, on the 2nd September."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1859

"At the Bilston petty sessions on Friday.....

Applications for spirit licenses which had been made by Mrs. *Elizabeth Hobday* and Mr. John Mills, of Can Lane, were refused."

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/10/1859

"Whether from the repression of ordinary fighting or the large addition of Irish to the population of this country, or from whatever cause, it is undoubtedly a fact that the use of the knife is becoming much more frequent in England. During the present week a man was stabbed in a most dangerous part of the body in Wolverhampton, and the slightest change in the point struck would have resulted in almost instant death, recovery being still almost doubtful. On Saturday night, in the course of a ridiculous quarrel, a man was stabbed in the heart at Coseley, and died almost instantaneously. It is hardly necessary to say that the exciting cause of both these rash and heinous acts was the dire curse of this land – strong drink. The circumstances of the latter case are as follows. The deceased, John Reynolds, was spending his Saturday night in the fatal indulgence which degrades so many of the working men of this country, and after being for some hours at Mrs. *Hobday's* public house, in Can Lane, went to another public house at Coseley, kept by Joseph Rudge [OLD BLUE BELL], which he and his companions only left at a few minutes before twelve, on the landlady insisting that they should go. In the street they met with Thomas Wilkes, a youth of 19, who afterwards committed the fatal act. Several of those present subscribed 6d each to buy some ale, but neither Wilkes nor Reynolds contributed; the latter accompanied a man named Cox to buy the ale, which, however, was refused at that late hour. All the sixpences were returned except one belonging to a man named Beck, a companion of Wilkes, and on Beck pressing for his money, Reynolds 'chaffed' him, and on Wilkes taking up Beck's claim, Reynolds said, 'Give me a shilling, and I'll give you sixpence,' and held out his hand to Wilkes, giving him a gun wadding instead of sixpence. Wilkes was annoyed at this, and cursed Reynolds, and repeated his demand for the sixpence, but Reynolds stood with his hands in his pockets. At length Wilkes suddenly struck Reynolds on the left chest, and the latter immediately asked, 'What have you struck me with?' Wilkes answered, 'Nothing.' The deceased called his antagonist a liar, and shortly afterwards fell to the ground. Wilkes went away, but returned, as deceased was lying bleeding, and again demanded the sixpence, but was advised, in vulgar slang, to 'hook it' and went away. Deceased was carried to his lodgings, but died before his arrival there. On examination it was found that he had been stabbed with some sharp instrument, which it was supposed had entered his heart. On Monday, an inquest on the body was opened at Mrs. *Hobday's* public house, at Can Lane, before Mr. T. M. Phillips, coroner, and a jury, of which Mr. Garmi Rollason was the foreman, and it was adjourned to the following day. The clothes of the deceased were produced. They were much torn. Wilkes was apprehended by James Fellows, parish constable, and said he had only struck deceased with a cinder. He showed where his knife was, at the top of the cupboard where it was found stained with blood.

Dr. Ballenden, surgeon, said that he had made a post mortem examination on the body of Reynolds. On the left side of the chest, between the third and fourth ribs, he found a clean cut wound of almost an inch in width, penetrating the heart. The wound in the heart was seven-eighths of an inch long. This wound was the cause of death, which must have been almost instantaneous. Such an instrument as the knife produced would be likely to inflict the wound. He did not believe such a wound could have been produced by a furnace cinder – it must have been done with a sharp instrument.

The coroner having explained the difference between wilful murder and manslaughter, the jury briefly considered as to their decision, and returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Thomas Wilkes. The coroner then committed the prisoner for trial at the next assizes."

[There is another version of this under the OLD BLUE BELL.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1859

[At the Staffordshire Winter Assizes Thomas Wilkes was found guilty of manslaughter.]

"....His Lordship, in passing sentence, observed that it was necessary, in order to prevent other persons using the knife, to pass a heavy sentence. The penalty, in such cases, was the extreme punishment after death itself. It would be trifling with such a case to pass a light sentence; but still, looking at the fact of the previous good character of the prisoner and at his only being eighteen years of age, he should abstain from ordering him to be kept to penal servitude for life. The sentence would be penal servitude for ten years."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

"The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. T. M. Whitehouse again applied on behalf of Mr. John Mills, for a license to the COTTAGE SPRING [sic] beerhouse, Can Lane. Mr. Whitehouse, in urging this, his tenth application, strongly pressed his suit, enlarging upon the requirements of the neighbourhood and the advantages offered by his client's premises. Mr. J. E. Underhill opposed for Mr. Screen of the BOAT INN. Mr. Whitehouse then, with Mr. Underhill, applied for a license to the house kept by Mrs. *Hobday*, in Can Lane, near to Mr. Mills's premises. Both applications were recommended by influential persons. The Bench thought there had not been a sufficient increase in the population to warrant the granting of additional licenses in that neighbourhood, and refused both applications."

Birmingham Journal 13/10/1860 - Advert

"To be Let, a capital Old-licensed Public House, near the Church, Coseley, with or without three Cows, Land, and Milk-walk.

Immediate possession may be had.
Apply on the Premises; or to Mrs. *Hobday*, Cann Lane.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/12/1860

“On Tuesday last, an adjourned inquest was held at Mrs. *Hobday*’s, Can Lane, on the body of William Smith, a miner, aged 26 years, of the Coppice, Coseley, whose death took place through falling down a pit in the Priorfield Colliery, on the 29th ult, as is alleged through the negligence of John Mason, of Bilston, an engineer, in overwinding the skip in which the deceased was. Mason was present, in the custody of Mr. Costello, serjeant of police, by whom he had been apprehended on the charge of manslaughter. Mr. Baker, the Mine Inspector, who had examined the pit, was also in attendance. Ultimately the inquest was further adjourned.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/12/1860

“The inquest on the body of William Smith, who jumped out of a skip as he was being raised from a pit in the Prior Field Colliery, the property of Messrs. Whitehouse, was brought to a conclusion on Friday evening, at Cann Lane. The engine, it appeared, worked three pits, and the engine driver was John Mason. It was known by Mason that a man was coming up one of the shafts, yet he went down to fire, in the hope of returning to his engine in time to prevent the loaded skip from reaching the pulley. Meanwhile the deceased, fearing that the skip in which he was being drawn up would go over, jumped out, and fell down the shaft. After he had jumped out the empty skip went over the pulley. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Mason, who was committed for trial. He was, however, admitted to bail.”

[At the Stafford Assizes, on 11th March 1861, John Mason was found not guilty.]

1861 Census

Can Lane

- [1] *Elizabeth Hobday* (36), widow, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] John Edward Stanley (11), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] Jabez Henry Stanley (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] John Stanley (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas Hollis (29), boarder, shopman, born Brewood:

AND (next entry)

- [1] *Jabez Stanley* (27), butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Ann Stanley (25), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Moses H. Stanley (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Thomas Stanley (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Jabez Stanley (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Martha Clark (14), servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

John Mills, the SUMMERHOUSE INN, Can Lane, Sedgley. This was the 12th application. Supported by Mr. Whitehouse. Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mrs. *Hobday* and Mr. Screen, publicans in the same locality, the one to oppose the application of Mills’s and the other to apply for a license. Both applications were refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Whitehouse then for the 14th time applied on behalf of Mr. Mills for a license for the SUMMER HOUSE, Can Lane. The application was refused.

Mr. Waterhouse, for the twelfth time, made a similar application on behalf of Mrs. *Hobday*, with respect to a house about 100 yards from the SUMMER HOUSE. This application was also refused.”

Elizabeth Hobday died in the 4th quarter of 1862.

Jabez Stanley, beer retailer, Can Lane. [1864]

1871 Census

82, Can Lane – Public House – no name

- [1] *Jabez Stanley* (37), butcher and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Ann Stanley (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Moses Henry Stanley* (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Thomas G. Stanley (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Jabez Stanley (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Joseph B. Stanley (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] John S. Stanley (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] George F. Stanley (11 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] Phoebe Ann Strawford (16), general servant, born Sedgley:

Jabez Stanley, beer retailer and butcher, Hurst Hill Road. [1872]

Midland Examiner 20/3/1875

“Unjust Scales and Weights.....

Jabez Stanley, also of Sedgley, a butcher, was fined £5 and costs for having a scale an ounce against the purchaser. It appeared that defendant was stopped by Mr. Horder’s officer.”

1881 Census

82, Hursthill Road

- [1] *Jabez Stanley* (47), widower, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Jabez Stanley* (21), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Benjamin Stanley* (17), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John Stanley* (15), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Stanley* (8), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Betsy Screen* (35), housekeeper, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Frederick Screen* (3), son, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/12/1881

“At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, the following licenses were fully transferred.....

Jabez Stanley, Cow Lane, to *Moses Henry Stanley*, butcher.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/1/1891

“An inquest was held at the MINERS ARMS INN, Can Lane, yesterday afternoon, by Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner) touching the death of *Sarah Aston* (54), who had died from the effects of a fall. Deceased, after returning from a funeral, fell down-stairs. She sustained shocking injuries to her head, and died before medical aid could be obtained. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

61, Hurst Hill Road – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Richard Weed* (64), licensed victualler, born Market Drayton, Shropshire;
- [2] *Mary A. Adams* (36), single, boarder, housekeeper, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Margaret Weed* (62), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [4] *Richard Weed* (16), son, stove pot moulder, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Joseph Weed* (14), son, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/10/1892

“*Richard Weed*, landlord of the MINERS ARMS INN, Hirst Hill, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 9th inst. It was stated by two police officers who visited the house on the night in question that they found a man named *Richard Mills* asleep, and on his awakening it was ascertained that he was drunk. When the defendant’s attention was called to *Mills* he said, ‘I am entirely innocent of the man being drunk, and I hope it will not be reported.’ Mr. S. Ward, who defended, said his defence was, in the first instance, that *Mills* was not drunk, and, secondly that the defendant exercised ordinary supervision, and could not be held to have knowingly permitted drunkenness. The defendant stated that *Mills* had a fall in consequence of dancing, and that when the police came in he was suffering from the effects of the fall, which was not caused through drink. Several witnesses having been heard, the Stipendiary said although he fully believed that *Mills* was drunk he did not think the defendant had knowingly permitted drunkenness, and the case would be dismissed. *Mills* was fined 5s and costs for being drunk on the premises.”

Margaret Weed died in the 1st quarter of 1893.

Richard Weed married *Mary Ann Adams* in the 1st quarter of 1893.

Richard Weed died on 15th May 1893.

See also DRUIDS HEAD.

Mary Ann Weed married *Alfred Swann* in the 3rd quarter of 1895.

Mary Ann Swann = *Mary Ann Swan*

Alfred Swann = *Alfred Swan*

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/12/1895

“Lichfield Election Petition.....

Alfred Swan was the first witness called. He said that he now lived at the MINERS ARMS INN, Hurst Hill, near Bilston, and on May 29th he attended a meeting at the Staffordshire Memorial Schools, Norton Canes. Mr. Fulford was there and spoke.....”

[There was an inquiry into illegal election practices.]

Dudley Herald 27/8/1898

“Isaac Collins, Cinder Hill, Coseley, was charged with refusing to quit the MINERS ARMS, Cann Lane, on August 16th. Mr. W. A. Foster appeared for the defence.

Alfred Swann, landlord of the MINERS ARMS, prosecuted, and stated that the defendant behaved in an unseemly manner, and upon being requested to leave refused to do so.

Defendant made a long statement, but was fined 40s and costs.”

1901 Census

61, Hurst Road

[1] *Alfred Swann* (38), caretaker, born Lichfield, Staffordshire;

[2] *Mary A. Swann* (46), wife, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[3] *Martha Turner* (20), general servant, born Sedgley:

Mrs. Mary Ann Swan, beer retailer, Hurst Hill. [1904], [1912], [1916]

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1910

“Col. T. E. Hickman, MP for Wolverhampton South, made a tour of part of his constituency on Saturday night, several dinners were held in celebration of the victory in the General Election. At each of these the Member was accorded an enthusiastic reception.....

The workers of the No.1 section of the Hurst Hill Polling District Committee assembled at the MINERS ARMS, Hurst Hill.....”

1911 Census

Hurst Hill – MINERS ARMS

[1] *Alfred Swann* (48), publican, born Lichfield;

[2] *Mary Ann Swann* (55), wife, married 15 years, assisting in the business, born Sedgley;

[3] *Lily May Guest* (15), general servant, born Sedgley:

South Staffordshire Times 10/7/1920

“Mr. W. Lee applied for permission to effect structural alterations at the PARK INN, Woodsetton, to extend the living accommodation. A copy of the plan had been submitted to the superintendent of police, who now stated that alterations were absolutely necessary. Granted.

Similar permission was granted in respect of the GREAT WESTERN, Bilston, the alterations being in the direction of better police supervision.

On the application of Councillor Swan, Coseley, permission was given to effect alterations at the MINERS ARMS.”

William Tranter Jnr. was married to Florence.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/9/1936

“‘The duty involved is only £1, but it is grossly unfair to people in the same business and his competitors who are abiding by the law,’ said Mr. Leslie Pocock at Bilston Police Court yesterday, prosecuting on behalf of the Customs and Excise authorities.

William Tranter, licensee of the MINERS ARMS, Hurst Street, Coseley, was fined £5 for making a false entry in a book as to the quantity of sugar used for brewing beer, and £10 for adding sugar to increase the gravity of the beer after an account had been taken by an Excise officer.

Tranter said he had been brewing beer for nine years and never before had any suggestion been made that there were discrepancies in his brewing. He denied that he added any sugar to the brew.”

1939 Register

61, Hurst Road – MINERS ARMS

[1] *William Tranter*, date of birth 18/6/1893, steel furnaceman and licensee, married;

[2] *Florence Tranter*, dob 26/1/1894, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Gladys Tranter*, dob 11/10/1921, unpaid domestic duties, single;

[4] *William D. Tranter*, dob 10/5/1923, fitter, constructional engineer, heavy worker, single;

[5] *Horace Tranter*, dob 11/5/1925, riveter, constructional engineer, heavy worker, single;

Black Country Bugle 10/10/2002

‘When Tranter’s Ales Helped Their Customers’ by Jenny George

“My grandparents [*William* and *Florence Tranter*] were brewing at the MINERS ARMS during World War Two and it could be said that their beer contributed to the war effort! A slogan painted on the side of the pub declared ‘Tranter’s beer will keep you fit and help you do your little bit’. When the pub was sold to Mitchells and Butlers they tried hard to remove the advert by painting over it several times, but it proved resilient and always showed through.

The appearance of the pub was dark and dull, but the atmosphere seems to have been lively. The regulars made their own entertainment.....”

Tipton Herald 16/10/1948

“An accident involving a motor car and a pedal cyclist at Deepfields, Coseley, on August 15th, had a sequel at Sedgley Magistrates Court on Monday, when *William Taylor* (38), licensee of the MINERS ARMS, Hurst Road, Hurst Hill, Coseley, was charged with driving the car in a manner dangerous to the public. *Taylor*, who pleaded not guilty to the charge, also entered a similar plea to an alternate charge that he drove without due care and attention.

The cyclist, it was stated, sustained severe head injuries as a result of the accident, and his condition for a time had been such that it had been considered inadvisable to bring the charges before the court at an earlier date.

Prosecuting, Mr. E. E. Brown said that at 10.20pm on August 15th *Taylor* was driving in Anchor Road, Coseley, with his near side lights and head lamp burning. He had come from the direction of Bilston and coming towards him were two cyclists travelling from the Dudley direction. They were riding side by side with one slightly in front of the other. The car came into contact with the outer cyclist, who was thrown from his machine to the road and sustained severe head injuries.

Mr. Brown said the allegations were that defendant drove at too fast a speed and that he was towards the wrong side of the road. Cyril Green, of Meadow Lane, Deepfields, said he was walking along Anchor Road towards Deepfields Post Office when he noticed the two cyclists riding close together. Both of the cyclists had their lamps alight. He saw the car cut across the crown of the road and come into contact with the outer cyclist. Following the collision the car went over to its correct side and carried on for about eight yards before pulling up. Witness examined the cyclist in the light of the front cycle lamp and saw that he was injured. PC Baines said that in a statement made after *Taylor* had taken the cyclist to Dudley Guest Hospital *Taylor* said he was traveling at about 20mph in Anchor Road. At a point 20 yards or so past the bridge, where the road began a sharp bend, he suddenly felt a slight bump. He heard someone shout and braked immediately. He found that he had bumped into a cyclist.

Mr. R. N. D. Walker, appearing for *Taylor*, said his client was absolutely frank and candid in his statement that he had not seen the two cyclists on the road.

The Bench found *Taylor* guilty of driving to the danger of the public and imposed a fine of £15 with £5 1s 6d costs. His license was suspended for 12 months.”

Black Country Bugle 24/10/2002

‘Sad Demise Of The Miners Arms’

“.....During the sixties when the pub was run by ‘Syd’ it was a beacon in the wilderness with its coloured lights hung around the outside. Inside you passed through beaded curtains and encountered rooms which resembled a cross between a coffee bar and a posh lounge with settees and comfortable armchairs, contemporary tables and plush carpets. The music was Latin American or Ray Charles style, not too loud, an ideal place to take your latest date.....”

Birmingham Mail 30/9/1964 - Advert

“Where You Can Get Draught Guinness.

Some places where you can enjoy this superb drink.....

MINERS ARMS, Coseley.”

Closed

Demolished c.1970.

MONTY’S BAR

High Street, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Mark Bradley [2010]

LICENSEES

Jackie Young [2004]

Jason Cooper [2023]

NOTES

It was previously a branch of the grocery chain George Mason.

Express & Star 16/8/2010

“Police who seized more than £30,000 cash from a Black Country wine bar have been forced to hand it back by a court, it

emerged today. Police took the cash from MONTYS WINE BAR in High Street, Sedgley, when they raided the popular nightclub last Tuesday. They had been acting on tip-offs about drug use but no drugs were found in the raid.

Owner Mark Bradley today accused the police of being 'too fast' to tarnish his reputation after Walsall Magistrates Court threw out an application from police to keep hold of the seized cash on Thursday.

'The magistrate ruled that there was nothing relating to drugs or drug dealing found on the premises, and he was not convinced that the cash was the proceeds of crime or was it in any way used or intended to be used for any unlawful conduct,' claimed Mr. Bradley, who also owns The SWAN Bed and Breakfast and The COURTHOUSE pub in Gospel End and the RED LION in Bull Ring, Sedgley.

'That money was my takings from all the businesses I run in Sedgley, along with a small amount of personal cash. I know the police were just doing their job and I can't blame them for that, but they were too fast to target me and the bar when they hadn't got the evidence.'

Mr. Bradley, who has run MONTYS for 12 years as well as sitting as chairman of the Sedgley and Gornal Pub Watch for eight years, said he wanted to emphasise that the money was not being kept on the premises. 'I have the safety of my staff to think about,' he added.

Officers swooped on MONTYS BAR last Tuesday in a shock lunchtime raid. Startled customers were ushered off the premises at about 2pm. More than 30 police officers stormed in following tip-offs about alleged drug use at the venue. Customers were escorted out in small groups and searched while eight officers guarded the front entrance. Several police vans set up camp on the car park at the rear of the building. There were no arrests and no drugs were found but police seized £30,000 cash under the Proceeds of Crime Act.

No one from West Midlands Police was available for comment today."

MARLEY'S BAR [2023]

[2023]

MOUNT PLEASANT

Ivy House Lane, (Ivy Lane), COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Hampton [1851] – [1855]

Sarah Wellsbury [] – **1856**;

Thomas Hampton (**1856 – 1866**);

James Dainty (**1866 – []**)

John Hampton [1868]

Thomas Hampton [**1868**] – **1869**);

NOTES

1851 Census

Ivy House Lane, Mount Pleasant, Village of Coseley

[1] *Thomas Hampton* (34), mason, born Sedgley;

[2] Elizabeth Hampton (34), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Andrew Hampton (13), son, born Sedgley;

[4] Sarah Hampton (9), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Hannah Hampton (7), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] Mary Hampton (5), daughter, born Sedgley;

[7] William Hampton (2), son, born Sedgley;

[8] Thomas Hampton (5 months), son, born Sedgley;

[9] Sarah Dunn (13), servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

"The annual meeting of Magistrates for granting and renewing publican's licenses in the parish of Bilston and Sedgley was held on Friday last, in the Bilston Police Court. The magistrates on the Bench were J. Loxdale, Esq, John Foster, Esq, J. N. Bagnall, Esq, and the Rev. J. B. Owen Sedgley.....

A license was granted to Mr. *Thomas Hampton*, MOUNT PLEASANT, Ivy Lane."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1855

“Yesterday (Tuesday) at the Public Office, before E. Best, Esq, and the Rev. H. S. Fletcher, eight women were brought up, charged with having enticed children of Mr. *Hampton*, licensed victualler, of the MOUNT PLEASANT TAVERN, Coseley, to rob their parents of money, and with receiving the same knowing it to be stolen. The evidence brought to light one of the most systematic courses of robbery, practised through the innocence of young children, which has been for some time found out. A charge against a woman named Mary Fryer was proceeded with. The children, it appeared, were in the habit of taking their parents’ money, and giving it to the prisoners, sums of 10s and other amounts having been taken and given to the prisoner. The defence was that the money had been borrowed. The Magistrates said that there was a sufficient prima facie case, and committed the prisoner for trial. Mary Hart was committed on a similar charge, and the six other prisoners were remanded for a week.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/1/1856

“Staffordshire Epiphany Sessions.

Mary Hart, on bail, was indicted for stealing four shillings, the property of *Thomas Hampton*, publican, at Sedgley. Mr. Vaughan conducted the case for the prosecution; the prisoner was defended by Mr. Kenealy.

The case excited some interest at the time, from the peculiar feature it presented, that money was taken by the daughter of the prosecutor to a very large extent, and six women were charged with receiving money from these children. Two were committed, but when the other four were again brought up, the charge was not pressed. The prosecutor keeps a public-house at Coseley, called the MOUNT PLEASANT INN, and the money was missed from time to time from a drawer which was kept locked, but to which it was afterwards discovered access should be obtained without opening the drawer.

Sarah Hampton, the prosecutor’s daughter, a girl about eleven years old, stated that she took four shillings from the drawer, and on hearing the police were sent for by her father, she took the money to the prisoner, having heard her ask her mother to lend her some on the previous night. She now denied that the prisoner had asked her for the money, or that she had said anything respecting it.

Mrs. *Hampton* was also examined, and her evidence was to the effect that the prisoner did ask her to lend her money on the previous night; and she had been in the habit of lending money.

Mr. Vaughan said, after the evidence had been given, he should not proceed with the case; and a similar charge against a woman named Fryer was also withdrawn.”

Sarah Wellsbury = Sarah Welsbury

1861 Census

Mount Pleasant

- [1] *Thomas Hampton* (43) bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Hampton (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Salmon W. Hampton (22), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Hannah Hampton (16), daughter, tailoress, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary Hampton (15), daughter, tailoress, born Sedgley;
- [6] William Hampton (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Ann Hampton (5), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Eliza Taylor (30), general servant, born Shropshire;
- [9] Mary Ann Wyld (12), visitor, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/7/1863

“Staffordshire Summer Assizes. Perjury at Sedgley. William Caswell (55), collier, was indicted for wilful and corrupt perjury, at Sedgley, on the 25th of May. Mr. Staveley Hill appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Pritchard for the prisoner.

On the 25th of March, *Thomas Hampton*, of the MOUNT PLEASANT TAVERN, Sedgley, was summoned before the magistrates on a charge of knowingly suffering gambling in his house on the 10th of March. The principal witness against the defendant, and the informant in the case, was the prisoner, who swore that on the evening of the day named he played two games at cards at the MOUNT PLEASANT TAVERN with a man named Jesse Weaver, that there were seven or eight other men playing cards there, that the landlord saw them playing, and that they stayed in the house until half-past twelve o’clock. Mr. Thomas Whitehouse, Clerk to the Magistrates at Sedgley, produced his minutes of the evidence given by the prisoner in the case against *Hampton*. Jesse Weaver was called and he swore that he did not play cards with the prisoner. Other witnesses were also called and declared that no cards were played at *Hampton*’s house on the night in question. Mr. Pritchard addressed the Jury for the prisoner, and called two witnesses, who gave him a very good character. The Jury found a verdict of Not Guilty.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1863

“At Bilston Public Office, yesterday, the undermentioned licenses were suspended.....

Thomas Hampton, MOUNT PLEASANT, Sedgley.....

The Bench remarked that so many complaints had been made against the manner in which *Thomas Hampton* had conducted his house, as to render it a matter for very grave consideration whether they should not take the license away from him altogether.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

The following is a list of those who had been proceeded against and fined in the past year.....

Thomas Hampton, MOUNT PLEASANT, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/9/1863

“The adjourned licensing meeting for the Bilston division of the county was held on Friday.....

Licenses suspended at the annual licensing meeting were now renewed to the following houses, the landlords being cautioned to conduct them more creditably for the future.....

MOUNT PLEASANT TAVERN, Coseley, kept by *Thomas Hampton*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/4/1868

“At the Police Court, on Monday, *Thomas Hampton*, MOUNT PLEASANT, was fined £2 and costs for permitting drunkenness; Joseph Willing, of the GREEN DRAGON INN, was fined £5 and costs; Thomas Percival, of the ROYAL HOTEL, was fined £1 and costs; and Joseph Taylor, proprietor of the SEVEN STARS INN, was fined 1s and costs for similar offences.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *Thomas Hampton*, MOUNT PLEASANT, Coseley, £5 and costs.”

AND

“During the day the license of *Hampton*, of the MOUNT PLEASANT INN, Coseley, was taken away altogether.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/5/1870

“Mount Pleasant Grounds, Coseley. Mr. *Hampton* had a very large attendance yesterday, for an interesting dog race, of 200 yards, between Mr. Cooper’s brindle dog Tiger, of Wednesbury, and Mr. Lloyd’s Pink, of Spon Lane.....”

[Were these grounds owned by *Thomas Hampton*?]

MOUNT PLEASANT

144, (51), (198), High Street, Mount Pleasant, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Henry John Johnson
Charles Henry Johnson
Frank Myatt Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.
Holt, Plant and Deakin
Philip Bellfield [2003]
Stan Owen Group [2010]

LICENSEES

James Johnson [1851] – [1861]
Sarah Johnson [1871]
Henry John Johnson [1873] – **18__**); [1891]
Charles Henry Johnson (**18__** – **1912**);
Hugh Richard Fellows (**1912** – **1915**);
Louis Isaiah Davies (**1915** – **1921**);
James Thomas Wardell Barnett (**1921** – **1922**);
Arthur Perks (**1922** – **1923**);
William Henry Burton (**1923**);
Bert Wilson (**1923** – **1929**);
Arthur Perks (**1929** – **1930**);
Violet Jones (**1930** – **1937**);
Daniel Marsh (**1937** – **1938**);
George Short (**1938** – **1939**);
Ernest Eric Moore (**1939** – **1941**);
Elsie Mary Moore (**1941** – **1946**);
Ernest Eric Moore (**1946** – **1950**);
Leonard Owen (**1950** – **1956**);

Henry Grosvenor (1956 – 1957);
Ernest Edward Marshall (1957 – []
William Hadley [] – 1972);
Sandra Derbyshire (1972 – []
John Anthony Derbyshire [] – 1982);
Michael ‘Mick’ McHale (1982 – 1986);
Terence ‘Terry’ Windsor (1986 – 1989);
Peter Alfred Lamb (1989 – 1990);
Gordon Tranter (1990 – 1991);
Keith Anthony Corbett (1991 – 1992);
Michael Anthony Richards (1992 – 1993);
Keith Garbett (1992 – 1993) ?
Anthony Kirk (1993 – []
Philip Bellfield [] – 2005)

NOTES

198, Mount Pleasant [1861]
51, High Street [1871]
144, High Street [1939]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as “The Stump”.

1851 Census

Mount Pleasant, Sedgley

- [1] *James Johnson* (56), lime master and innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Johnson* (54), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *James Johnson* (28), son, bellows maker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sarah Johnson* (24), daughter, house maid, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Ann Maria Johnson* (22), daughter, straw bonnet maker, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Phoebe Johnson* (20), daughter, dress maker, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Eliza Johnson* (18), daughter, cook, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Henry Johnson* (16), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Thomas Johnson* (14), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Julia Johnson* (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [11] *Elizabeth Hilton* (2), granddaughter, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1859 - Advert

“To Small Capitalists, Members Of Building Societies, And Others.

Desirable Freehold Public House and Premises.

Messrs. Walker, Lloyd, and Walters, will Sell by Auction, on Tuesday, the 23rd day of August, 1859, at the house of Mr. H. O. Wal-lens, the SWAN INN, Sedgley, at Six o’clock in the evening, by order of the Mortgagees, and subject to conditions of sale, all that Freehold Public House, called MOUNT PLEASANT, situate fronting the turnpike road leading from Sedgley, in the occupation of Mr. *James Johnson*, together with the Cottage and other Appurtenances, Garden, &c, at the back of the above, the whole contain- ing, with the site of the buildings, 553 square yards of land.

The above Premises are in good repair, and well supplied with hard and soft water.

Further information may be had at the Offices of Messrs. Whitehouse Brothers, Solicitors, Queen Street, or of the Auctioneers, Exchange Street, Wolverhampton.”

1861 Census

198, Mount Pleasant

- [1] *James Johnson* (64), lime master, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Johnson* (63), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Maria Johnson* (34), daughter, house maid, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Phebe Johnson* (33), daughter, dress maker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Henry Johnson* (23), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Thomas Johnson* (24), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Julia Johnson* (22), daughter, house maid, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Elizabeth Hilton* (11), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court. The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years..... For keeping open during prohibited hours.....
James Johnson, MOUNT PLEASANT, Wolverhampton Road, 1s and costs.”

1871 Census

51, High Street

- [1] *Sarah Johnson* (75), widow, beer retailer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Henry Johnson* (39), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Johnson* (37), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Phoebe Johnson* (44), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Hilton* (21), granddaughter, housemaid, born Sedgley;
- [6] *David Baker* (57), unmarried, brother, lime burner, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

51, High Street

- [1] *Henry J. Johnson* (49), unmarried, beer retailer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Thomas Johnson* (46), brother, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Phoebe Johnson* (53), sister, housekeeper, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sarah Johnson* (86), mother, formerly domestic servant, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

High Street

- [1] *H. J. Johnson* (59), unmarried, beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Ann M. Naylor* (64), sister, married, house keeper, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 4/7/1893

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. A. B. Smith (district coroner) held an inquest at the MOUNT PLEASANT INN on the body of Charles Jones (59) Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley, who had been a gamekeeper in the employ of the Earl of Dudley for seventeen years. Deceased, it appeared, was suddenly taken ill on Sunday morning, and shortly afterwards fell off the sofa dead. Dr. Ballenden was called in, and stated that death was due to apoplexy. A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1901 Census

51, High Street

- [1] *Charles Henry Johnson* (53), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Jane Johnson* (44), wife, born Tipton:

Charles Johnson, beer retailer, High Street. [1904]

Charles Henry Johnson was fined £3 and costs, on 23rd March 1908, for permitting drunkenness.

1911 Census

High Street – MOUNT PLEASANT INN

- [1] *Charles Henry Johnson* (66), brewer and beer retailer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Jane Johnson* (57), wife, married 34 years, born Tipton;
- [3] *Mary Jane Whitehouse* (16), domestic servant, born Tipton:

Hugh R. Fellows, beer retailer, High Street. [1912]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 29/4/1920

“A Sedgley licensee, *Louis Isaiah Davies* of the MOUNT PLEASANT TAVERN, was at Wolverhampton yesterday fined 40s in each case, with 3 guineas costs, for selling ale during prohibited hours and permitting consumption on the premises. Two police officers, it was stated, looked through a hole in the blind and saw six men drinking after nine on a Sunday evening. The landlord said they were friends, and the ale was served before closing time.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time. It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the

bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions MOUNT PLEASANT, Sedgley, 5s 10½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Lichfield Mercury 15/4/1932

“County Licensing Committee.....

The committee granted an application by *Violet Jones* for removal of the full license of the COMMERCIAL INN, Bradley, Coseley, to licensed premises at Sedgley, known as the MOUNT PLEASANT TAVERN (a beerhouse).”

[The premises then became an alehouse.]

1939 Register

144, High Street

[1] *Ernest E. Moore*, date of birth 26/7/1907, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Elsie M. Moore*, dob 28/2/1907, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[4] *Elizabeth Talbot*, dob 1/11/1876, unpaid domestic duties, widowed;

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Express and Star 21/2/1984

Holt Plant and Deakin advertisement feature

“.....It once stood on the drovers’ road between Wales and the Black Country and sheep were driven past on their way to market, the shepherds presumably pausing for refreshment.”

It closed in 2002.

It was reopened in 2005 by *Philip Bellfield*.

Philip Bellfield was married to June.

Philip Bellfield – see also BRITANNIA and JOLLY CRISPIN.

[2018]

NAVIGATION

Can Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mary Nock [1822]

John Shelton [1828] – [1830]

Henry Nock [1833]

John Shelton [1834]

Miss Francis Nock [1836]

NOTES

Henry Nock was also a carpenter. [1833]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/3/1836 - Advert

“Notice To Debtors And Creditors.

All Persons to whom the late *Henry Nock*, Can Lane, Wolverhampton, joiner and carpenter, was indebted at the time of his decease are requested to send in their accounts immediately to Miss *Francis Nock*, at the NAVIGATION INN, Can Lane, Wolverhampton, that the same may be examined and discharged; and all persons indebted to the estate of the deceased are requested to pay their respective accounts to the said Miss *Francis Nock*, who is duly authorised to receive the same.

March 21, 1836.”

NEW BUSH

Canal Street, Roseville, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Rose [1861] – [1862]

NOTES

1861 Census

Canal Street – NEW BUSH INN

- [1] *Joseph Rose* (42), boatbuilder, born Sedgley;
- [2] Teresa Rose (46), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Elizabeth Rose (21), daughter, milliner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Susannah Rose (18), daughter, milliner, born Sedgley;
- [5] Ann Rose (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Teresa Rose (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Catherine Rose (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 9/3/1862

“E. Howell, of Coseley, near Bilston, will run any of the following men: Perry of Tipton, 120 yards, with three yards start, or will take two yards start in 100 of T. Baker, of Coseley, or run him 120 yards level. Either match can be made for £5 a side. Money ready at any time, at *J. Rose's*, NEW BUSH INN, Roseville.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.

Mr. Waterhouse appeared on behalf of Mr. Thomas Percival for a license to a beerhouse [ROYAL HOTEL] in New Walbrook, Coseley, and Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. *Joseph Rose* in respect of another beerhouse in the immediate vicinity. The two applications were taken together, and were opposed by Mr. Bowen on behalf of Mr. W. Roland, who applied, as owner, for a renewal of the license to the RED LION, Five Ways. It appeared that the license was last year granted to Charles Guest, who gave up possession of the house at the beginning of last January, and it had since remained closed and untenanted. Mr. Underhill contended that Mr. Guest having neglected to get his license transfer, the present was not the time nor the place for the application on behalf of Mr. Roland. Mr. Waterhouse contended that the premises were not of a character in respect to which a license would in these days be granted. The Bench acquiesced in the latter objection to the RED LION, and deemed it a favourable opportunity for withdrawing the license, which they did accordingly, granting the application of Mr. Percival, whose premises they considered were more suitable of the two houses, with respect to which the application for two new houses were before them.”

London Gazette 9/9/1864

“*Joseph Rose*, of Coseley, in the county of Stafford, Journeyman Boat Builder, formerly of the NEW BUSH INN, at Coseley aforesaid, Retail Brewer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in Her Majesty's Court of Bankruptcy for the Birmingham District, on the 7th day of September, 1864, is hereby required to surrender himself to Alfred Hill, Esq., a Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 10th day of October next, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, at the said Court, at Birmingham. Mr. George Kinnear, of No.37, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, is the Official Assignee.”

NEW INN

60, Broad Street, Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

Charles Simmonds
Mrs. Ann Wilson
George Simmons, miner, West Bromwich

LICENSEES

Charles Simmonds [1871] – **1882**;
George Simmonds (**1882 – 1884**);
Ann (Simmonds) Wilson (**1884 – 1896**);
Mary Ann Dicken (**1896**);
David Millard (**1896 – 1921**);
John Thomas Wilson (**1921 – [1940]**)

NOTES

NEW INNS [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Charles Simmonds = Charles Simmons

1871 Census

Broad Street

- [1] *Charles Simmons* (52), colliery manager, born Brosley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Ann Simmons* (47), wife, beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary Ann Simmons (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Charles Simmons, beer retailer, Walbrook. [1872]

1881 Census

60, Broad Street

- [1] *Charles Simmons* (62), innkeeper, born Broseley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Ann Simmons* (58), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Ann Horton (28), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [4] Martha Howells (17), general servant, born Sedgley:

Charles Simmons died on 7th June 1884.

Ann Simmons married Samuel *Wilson* on 29th September 1888.
She died in 1896.

1891 Census

60, Broad Street

- [1] Samuel Wilson (73), retired boiler maker, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Ann Wilson* (68), wife, born Ladymoor;
- [3] Charles Baker (19), servant, brewer, born Coseley;
- [4] Ada Baker (15), domestic servant, born Coseley;
- [5] Anne Flavell (19), domestic servant, born Gornal:

David Millard was born in 1852.
He married Ruth Webb in 1873.

1901 Census

60, Broad Street – Public

- [1] *David Millard* (48), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ruth Millard (50), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Maude Gertrude Millard (22), daughter, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] David Millard (19), son, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas Millard (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Louisa Millard (16), niece, cook, born Sedgley;
- [7] Isaac Millard (13), nephew, scholar, born Sedgley:

David Millard, beer retailer, Walbrook. [1904]

1911 Census

60, Broad Street

- [1] *David Millard* (58), married, publican, born Coseley;
[2] *Gertrude Millard* (32), daughter, house work, born Coseley:

David Millard, beer retailer, Broad Street. [1912], [1916], [1921]

John Thomas Wilson was a colliery proprietor of Wesley Street.

He married *Gertrude Maud Millard* (b.1879, the daughter of *David* and *Ruth Millard*) in 1916, at Christ Church, Coseley.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/3/1936

“Damages of £25, with costs, were awarded at Birmingham Assizes yesterday, in a case in which *John Thomas Wilson*, keeper of the NEW INNS home-brewed beerhouse, Coseley, Staffs., sued for slander *Charles Turner*, sub-postmaster.

It was stated that in January 1931 defendant alleged that plaintiff, when given a money order for £52 10s 5d, gave him £5 short.

In October when plaintiff went to defendant’s sub-post office for a money order for £3 14s 7d defendant said in the hearing of others: ‘You are nothing but a thief and you have done me down for five quid. I could tell you a lot. I’ve told everyone about it. You are nothing but a thief and always have been. You are a twister, and I have spoken to say the same!’

Defendant said when he pointed out to *Wilson* the money tendered for the £3 14s 7d order was 1s short *Wilson* said: ‘I am going to watch thee.’ Witness replied: ‘If you do I am honest; I am not a thief or a twister and shall not do you down.’ *Wilson* said: ‘I don’t know. You have been in trouble in the B.C. (Bankruptcy Court) at Dudley and done one of my relatives down.’ Witness denied that.

Winifred Barnsley, Coseley, sub-post office clerk, said that the words complained of were not uttered by *Turner*.”

1939 Register

60, Broad Street

[1] *John T. Wilson*, date of birth 21/5/1877, publican and brewer, (own account), married;

[2] *Maud G. Wilson*, dob 1/1/1879, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Express & Star 27/2/2013

“Colourful, charismatic and fully committed to the people he represented – long-serving Dudley councillor *Jack Wilson* MBE was ‘one of a kind in politics’ to most people who knew him.....

Mr. Wilson was born at the NEW INN in Broad Street, Coseley – the pub his parents *John* and *Maud* ran together.”

NEW INN

Cann Lane, Coppice, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Stanley [1843]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/4/1843 - Advert

“House And Land At Cann Lane.

To be Let, and entered upon immediately, all that convenient House, Shopping, Stabling, and Out-buildings, with large productive Garden, and excellent piece of old Turf Land, situate at Cann Lane, near Sedgley.

For further particulars, and to view the same apply to *Mr. Benjamin Stanley*, NEW INN, Cann Lane, near Sedgley; or to *Mr. Smith*, solicitor, Rushall Street, Walsall.”

NEW INN

35, (25), Ward Street, (Ebenezer Street), (Mount Pleasant), COSELEY

OWNERS

David Jackson
George Jackson, iron worker, West Bromwich
Samuel Timmins Snr. (acquired in 1894)
Samuel Timmins Jr., Turls Hill Road, Sedgley
Sarah Elizabeth Timmins
Holdens Brewery Ltd. (acquired in 1944 for £2,500)

LICENSEES

David Jackson [1868] – **1879**);
Mary Potts (**1879**);
William Worton (**1879 – 1881**);
Samuel Timmins Snr. (**1881 – 1909**);
Samuel Timmins Jr. (**1909 – 1936**);
Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Timmins (**1936 – [1940]**)
William Thomas ‘Bill’ Cattell [1973] – **1979**);
Robert Caulcott (**1979 – 1984**);
Reginald Barnsley (**1984 – 1989**);
Robin Bruce Dearden (**1989 – []**)
Janet Rosemary Gazey [2008] – [2010]
Alan Clouds [2014]
Nick Hawkes (**2017 – [2023]**)

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a pigeon club.

David Jackson, was fined 40s and costs, for permitting drunkenness, in June 1868.

1871 Census

25, Ward Street

- [1] *David Jackson* (64), grocer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Jackson* (54), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Eliza Titley* (25), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

William Worton = William Warton

William Worton married *Mary Jackson*.

1881 Census

25, Ward Street

- [1] *William Worton* (50), bricklayer, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Mary Worton* (65), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Jackson* (38), widow, born Coseley;
- [4] *Sheba Jackson* (15), daughter, born Coseley;
- [5] *George Jackson* (12), son, born Coseley;
- [6] *Louisa Jackson* (10), daughter, born Coseley;
- [7] *Mary Jackson* (4), daughter, born Coseley:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/12/1881

“At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, the following licenses were fully transferred.

William Warton, NEW INN, Coseley, to *Samuel Timmins*, chartermaster.”

Dudley and District News 6/10/1883

“At the NEW INN, Ebenezer Street, Coseley, W. H. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest on Saturday afternoon respecting the death of *James Webb* (14), who was killed on Thursday whilst following his employment. Mr. W. B. Scott, Government Inspector of Coal Mines, attended the inquiry on behalf of the Home Office. A loaded tub accidentally got off the rails in a gate road, and pitched against one of the trees which supported the roof, knocking it down. Immediately afterwards two or three tons of earth and coal fell upon the deceased and buried him. When he was extricated it was discovered that deceased had been suffocated. In reply to the coroner, *Benjamin Reynolds*, the deputy-manager, stated that the tree which was knocked down was not broken, and

in fact there was nothing to indicate the least danger. Mr. Scott said on previous occasions he had complained to the managers of the colliery that the trees were not set close enough. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

Ward Street – Public House

- [1] *Samuel Timmins* (52), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hariett Timmins* (55), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Harriett Timmins* (28), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John Timmins* (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Samuel Timmins* (6), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

35, Ward Street

- [1] *Samuel Timmins* (62), widower, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *John Timmins* (23), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Jeavon* (18), servant, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Ann Jeavon* (16), servant, born Sedgley:

Samuel Timmins, beer retailer, Ward Street. [1904]

1911 Census

Ward Street

- [1] *Samuel Timmins* (72) retired licensed victualler, born Can Lane, Coseley;
- [2] *Florence Timmins* (33), wife, married 1 year, born Coseley:

AND

Coseley – NEW INN

- [1] *Samuel Timmins* (44), licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] *Sarah Elizabeth Timmins* (46), wife, married 24 years, born Coseley;
- [3] *Samuel Henry Timmins* (24), son, moulder, born Coseley;
- [4] *William Timmins* (22), son, moulder, born Coseley;
- [5] *Harriett Timmins* (20), daughter, born Coseley;
- [6] *Sarah Timmins* (18), daughter, born Coseley;
- [7] *Joseph Edward Timmins* (9), son, school, born Coseley;
- [8] *Harold Timmins* (6), son, school, born Coseley;
- [9] *John Timmins* (15), son, moulder, born Coseley:

Samuel Timmins, beer retailer, Ward Street. [1912], [1916], [1921]

Bilston & Willenhall Times 20/6/1925

“Members of the club at the NEW INNS, Roseville, had their annual outing on Saturday, and went by char-a-banc by way of Sedgley, Ombersley and Kidderminster to Worcester, which was reached about five o’clock. Here the party dispersed, some taking trips on the river and others visiting the Cathedral. The return journey was made via Hartlebury, where a halt was made, and opportunity taken to make a presentation to Mr. Albert Webb, the secretary, who was responsible for the arrangements for the outing.”

1939 Register

35, Ward Street

- [1] *Sarah E. Timmins*, date of birth 17/7/1864, beerhouse keeper, widowed;
- [2] *Agnes E. (Baggott) Fellows*, dob 20/12/1865, domestic servant, single:

It had a brewery attached, which was damaged by a bomb during World War 2 and was subsequently demolished.

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

Express & Star 7/11/2020

“A brewery has launched a ‘beer at home’ service from five of its pubs in the Black Country, Shropshire and Staffordshire. Holden’s Brewery has created a new Beer@Home app available through the Apple app store and Google. The service launches on Thursday and enables people to order and collect beer from the pubs. Director Abi Kemp said that the Woodsetton business had been all set to launch the app on Tuesday before the new lockdown was announced. Initially it prevented takeaway alcohol from pubs and Holden’s faced having to scrap its plan. ‘Fortunately the u-turn announced on Tuesday night was very happy news and meant we could get back on track. We got the technology last week and had trained staff so everything was in place,’ said Mrs Kemp.

Holden’s is also talking to other breweries in the area about adding their beers to the service as well. The pubs that will initially be involved are NEW INN, Birmingham New Road, Coseley; Bell, Trysull; Codsall Station; Golden Lion, Bridgnorth and Robin

Hood, Ironbridge.....”

[Express & Star 26/1/2023](#)

“*Nick Hawkes*, who manages Holden’s NEW INN at Birmingham New Road, Coseley, has also taken on the management of the PARK INN in George Street, Woodsetton, next to the brewery.....”

[2023]

NEW INN

Lower Ettingshall, COSELEY

OWNERS

Joseph Pritchard
James Pritchard, licensee

LICENSEES

Joseph Pritchards [1873]
James Pritchard [1873] – **1875**);
Sarah Chevasse (**1875 – 1877**);
James Hill Bate (**1877**);
Thomas Martin (**1877 – 1878**);
William John Fellows (**1878 – 1886**):

NOTES

Joseph Pritchards was also a hay and straw dealer. *[1873]*

The license was abandoned in 1886.

NEW INN

47, (13), Humphrey Street / North Street, (Coopers (Coops) Bank), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joseph Waterfield
Lydia Waterfield, Lake Street, Lower Gornal
John Downing, brewer, Black Horse Inn, Dudley
W. Butler and Co. Ltd.
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Zachariah Parkes *[1835] – [1854]*
Joseph Waterfield Snr. [1863] – **1892**);
Mrs. Lydia Waterfield (**1892 – 1901**);
Joseph Waterfield Jnr. (**1901 – 1906**);
Miss Florence Waterfield (**1906 – 1908**);
Lydia Waterfield (**1908 – 1910**);
Henry Kennedy (**1910 – 1912**);
Thomas Joseph Timmins (**1912 – 1913**);

Joseph Waterfield (1913 – 1915);
Joseph James Stevens (1915 – 1921);
William Cox (1921 – 1923);
Herbert John Holloway (1923 – 1934);
William Jones (1934 – 1939);
Ernest Clarke (1939 – 1960);
Marion Maud Clarke (1960 – []
Robert Caulcott [1984]

NOTES

Coopers Bank [1837], [1849]
Coops Bank [1851]
13, Humphrey Street [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
47, Humphrey Street [1939]

It was known locally as the “Sunshine”.

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a brewery attached.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/3/1837

“*Zachariah Parkes*, a beer-shop keeper at Coopers Bank, was called to answer an information preferred by Mackie, the informer, charging him with allowing card-playing in his house, when Mrs. *Parkes* appeared, and said she had not received the summons until eight o’clock last night, and she therefore wished the case to stand over that she might have time to bring forward evidence for the defence. It was settled that the case should be heard at three o’clock on Tuesday.

Another information against a beer-shop keeper, preferred by Ball (formerly one of Mackie’s witnesses), was also put off, the witness who was to prove the case being obliged to attend before Lord Dartmouth. Fresh summonses, it was understood, would be required in this case.”

Zachariah Parkes was also an auger maker. [1845], [1849], [1854]

1851 Census

Coops Bank

- [1] *Zachariah Parkes* (58), retired auger maker, born Dudley;
- [2] Elizabeth Parkes (46), wife, preceptors, born Alderney;
- [3] May Ann Parkes (22), daughter, preceptoress, born Kidderminster;
- [4] Louis[a] Parkes (15), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Phoebe Lowe (78), widow, mother in law, born Kidderminster;
- [6] Francis E. Becket (11), lodger, scholar, born Bilston;
- [7] Frances Fillis (6), lodger, scholar, born Dudley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license for Mr. *Waterfield*, of the NEW INN, Lower Gornal. Mr. Stokes of Dudley, opposed, and it being proved that there was not the least necessity for another house in this locality, the application was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/10/1863

“Mr. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest on Tuesday afternoon, at Mr. *Waterfield*’s, Lower Gornal, on the body of Isaac Hopson, son of Mr. Joseph Hopson. It appeared that the deceased came to his death on the 2nd instant, through being frightfully scalded on the face, arms, and body, on the previous day, through a pot containing scalding hot water falling on him. The evidence showed it to have been quite accidental, and a verdict to that effect was accordingly returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

“The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

Mr. Stokes also made application on behalf of *Joseph Waterfield*, of the NEW INN, about a quarter of a mile from either of his former applicants [HOP AND BARLEYCORN and QUEENS HEAD]. Mr. *Waterfield* also had built his premises expressly for the purpose of a licensed house, with every convenience. He had carried on his business for ten years, and not had a single complaint against him.....

After the Magistrates had deliberated, Mr. Perry said that they had gone carefully into the four applications, but had decided not to grant either of them.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1865

“Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting of the Bilston division of the county of Stafford was held in the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Stokes, solicitor, of Dudley, applied for a license each to Mrs. Guest, widow, Lower Gornal, *Joseph Waterfield*, mine agent, of the same place, and Daniel Jones of Gornal Wood, all of whom were keeping beerhouses in a most creditable way, and the application of neither of whom was opposed. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. Lowe applied for a license on behalf of *Joseph Waterfield*, Humphries Lane, Gornal. Having brought forward the three principal requisites for an applicant – good character, suitability of his house, and the requirements of the neighbourhood – he said he felt persuaded, if the Magistrates had visited the locus in quo, that they would grant the license. A license was granted.”

1871 Census

13, Humphrey Street

- [1] *Joseph Waterfield* (30), miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Lydia Waterfield* (36), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Elizabeth Waterfield (14), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Martha Waterfield (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Lydia Waterfield (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Dinah Waterfield (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Joseph Waterfield* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Jane Waterfield (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] John Waterfield (1), son, infant, born Sedgley;
- [10] Mary Fradgley (18), general servant, born Dudley:

Joseph Waterfield Snr. was also a brewer. [1872]

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks.....

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given.....

No.8 Lodge, NEW INN, Lower Gornal; 200 members. The feeling of the men has in no way altered since they resolved to resist the reduction. Three of our members have gone to work.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

Dudley Herald 20/12/1879 - Advert

“Notice Is Hereby Given that the Lower Gornal Friendly Society, Register No.2023, held at the NEW INN, Humphries Street, Lower Gornal, in the County of Stafford, is Dissolved by Instrument, registered at this Office, the 16th day of December, 1879, unless within three months from the date of the *Gazette* in which this advertisement appears, proceedings be commenced by a member or other person interested in or having any claim on the funds of the Society to set aside such dissolution, and the same be set aside accordingly.

J. M. Ludlow.

Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies.

298, Abingdon Street, Westminster, the 16th day of December, 1879.”

1881 Census

13, Humphrey Street

- [1] *Joseph Waterfield* (60), publican, born Gornal;
- [2] *Lydia Waterfield* (46), wife, born Gornal;
- [3] Martha Waterfield (21), daughter, dress maker, born Gornal;
- [4] Dinah Waterfield (18), daughter, domestic servant, born Gornal;
- [5] *Joseph Waterfield* (16), son, born Gornal;
- [6] Jane Waterfield (14), daughter, scholar, born Gornal;
- [7] John Waterfield (11), son, scholar, born Gornal;
- [8] Ann Waterfield (8), daughter, scholar, born Gornal:

Dudley and District News 22/10/1881 - Advert

“Sale of Two Freehold Cottages, situate at North Street, Lower Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley.

Mr. James Whitehouse has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Waterfield*, the NEW INN, Humphries Street, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday, the 1st day of November 1881, at Seven o'clock in the evening.....”

Dudley and District News 3/3/1883

“On Saturday afternoon Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the NEW INN, Lower Gornal, on the body of Abraham Hobson (18), of St. James's Street. It appeared that deceased was a horse-driver in No.1 fire-clay pit of the Upper Gornal Colliery, belonging to Messrs. E. P. Cartwright and Co, and at 1pm on Tuesday last about half a ton of fire-clay fell from the roof and buried him. He was got out alive, but died the same night from the injuries he received. Both legs were broken, and he was hurt very badly internally. The accident was attributed to a 'slip.' A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

County Advertiser 6/6/1885 - Advert

“‘Magnetaire’, (by letters Patent.) Safe! Simple! Sure!

Church House, 82, High Street, Dudley.

Mr. R. Lonsdale, M.E., or his qualified Assistant, will attend at his private Rooms, as above (Mr. Bill's next to St. Thomas's Church, Dudley), daily, until Saturday, June 13th, 1885, to Give Advice as to the application of his Patent Devices. Consultation Free.....

Selections From Local Testimonials.....

Dizziness, Rheumatism, and General Weakness.

NEW INN, 13, Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal. June 2nd, 1885.

Dear Sir. It is with gratitude that I tell you how good the 'Magnetaire' has done me. I came to you suffering with Rheumatism, Dizziness, and General Weakness, but having worn your appliances merely two months, I have during that time been rapidly improving, and I now find myself free from old complaints. None but those who have suffered as I have done, can appreciate my present feelings, and I wish you to publish this if you care to do so.

Yours truly, Mr. *Waterfield*.”

1891 Census

13, Humphrey Street

[1] *Joseph Waterfield* (70), innkeeper, born Sedgley;

[2] *Lydia Waterfield* (56), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Joseph Waterfield* (26), son, brewer, born Sedgley;

[4] Jane Waterfield (24), daughter, assistant school mistress, born Sedgley;

[5] John Waterfield (21), son, coach painter, born Sedgley;

[6] Ann Waterfield (18), daughter, born Sedgley:

Joseph Waterfield Snr. died on 8th September 1892.

1901 Census

13, Humphrey Street – NEW INN

[1] *Lydia Waterfield* (65), widow, licensed victualler, born Ruiton;

[2] *Joseph Waterfield* (36), son, brewer, born Lower Gornal:

Joseph Waterfield Jnr. married *Florence Ball* in the 4th quarter of 1901.

Joseph Waterfield Jnr. died on 30th December 1906.

County Advertiser 16/2/1907 - Advert

“Re *Joseph Waterfield*, Deceased.....

Notice Is Hereby Given, that all Creditors and other Persons having any Claims or Demands against the Estate of *Joseph Waterfield*, late of the NEW INN, Lower Gornal, in the County of Stafford, Innkeeper, Deceased (who died on the 30th day of December, 1906, and whose Will was proved in the Lichfield District Registry of Probate Division of His Majesty's High Court of Justices on the 7th day of February, 1907, by *Florence Waterfield*, the Widow, and relict of the said deceased, and Thomas Guest, of Lower Gornal, aforesaid, Retired Innkeeper, the Executors therein named), are Hereby Required to Send particulars, in Writing, of their Claims or Demands to us, the Undersigned, the Solicitors for the said Executors, on or before the 28th day of February, 1907, after which date the said Executors will proceed to Distribute the Assets of the said deceased among the Persons entitled thereto, having regard only to the Claims and Demands of which they shall then have had notice.

Dated this 8th day of February, 1907.

Gould & Elcock, Stourbridge. Solicitors for the Executors.”

Tipton Herald 20/2/1909

“Joseph Cartwright, residing next door to the NEW INN, Lower Gornal, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the NEW INN, when under the influence of drink.

PC Poulson said that defendant imagined he had a right to be there because he was a son in law of the licensee. A fine of 10s and costs was imposed.”

Tipton Herald 10/7/1909

“An inquest was held on Friday evening by Mr. T. A. Stokes (county coroner) at the NEW INNS, Lower Gornal, on the body of Emma Scranage (66), of 29, Lake Street, who was found drowned in a cistern near the back door early on Thursday morning. John Scranage, a miner, who was very deaf, stated that his wife retired to rest in her usual health at about 11.30 on Wednesday night, and at about one o’clock the next morning she said to witness, ‘Oh, Jack! I do sweat.’ He went to sleep again, and when he next woke he found that his wife had left the bed. Witness thereupon got up, and as he was unable to find her anywhere about he called up several neighbours, and one named Cox discovered her face downward in a cistern. Witness had never heard his wife threaten to commit suicide, and the only trouble he knew of was that a daughter had died about three months ago, and left a number of little children for her to look after.

William Cox, a neighbour, having spoken to finding the body, said the top of the cistern was only about two feet in diameter, and there was only about four feet of water in it.

The Coroner thought the jury would come to the conclusion that it was a very determined case of suicide, for, as they had seen, it must have taken the deceased some trouble to get into the cistern.

The jury returned a verdict that the Deceased Committed Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane.”

1911 Census

13, Humphrey Street

- [1] Henry Kennedy (45), licensed victualler, brewer, born Ironbridge, Shropshire;
- [2] Charlotte Kennedy (47), wife, married 26 years, assisting in business, born Kingswinford;
- [3] Edith Mary Kennedy (16), daughter, domestic, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] Elsie Kennedy (14), daughter, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] Joseph Kennedy (12), son, school, born Brierley Hill;
- [6] Dora Kennedy (8), daughter, school, born Brierley Hill;
- [7] Evelyn Kennedy (6), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [8] William Noel Kennedy (4), son, born Sedgley:

Lydia Waterfield died in the 1st quarter of 1914.

Birmingham Daily Post 20/3/1915 - Advert

“Estate Of *Joseph Waterfield*, Deceased. Estate Of *Lydia Waterfield*, Deceased.

Important Announcement Of Sale By Auction Of A Very Valuable Freehold Fully-Licensed Property, at Lower Gornal.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from the Trustees, as above, to Sell by Auction, at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Tuesday, March 30, 1915, at Seven o’clock in the Evening promptly, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced.

The NEW INN, Corner of Humphrey Street and North Street, Lower Gornal.

An exceptionally well-placed Old-Licensed Corner Property, containing Entrance Passage, Tap Room, Bar, Smoke Room, Living Kitchen, Sitting Room, spacious Club Room, with three Bed Rooms and Cellars, together with two-floor Brewery, Malt and Hop Rooms, Wash-house and Scullery; also a lock up Shop adjoining. The Outbuildings comprise two-stall Stable, Coach-house, Green-house, and Piggeries in spacious yard having double gateway approach, the whole occupying a considerable area of land. The foregoing Fully Licensed Property, which has been in the occupation of the present family for upwards of sixty years, is one of the best known houses in the district, free from opposition, situate in a populous locality, close to a large works, and in fine structural order and repair, with the advantage of possession upon completion, and should command the particular attention of those in search of a home-brewing house or of brewers wishing to increase their barrelage.

Further particulars may be obtained of William Lees, Esq., Solicitor, or the Auctioneers, all of Dudley.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions NEW INNS, Lower Gornal, 12s 2d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Letter 2/1/1930

“Re Julia Hanson & Sons Limited.

We beg to give you notice that the undermentioned licensed properties formerly belonging to Messrs. W. Butler & Co. Ltd.,

but now belonging to Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Limited, of Tower Street, Dudley, were by a Mortgage dated the 10th day of September 1929, charged by Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd., with other property to secure the repayment to our Mr. A. M. Fairbairn and Others of the principal sum and interest therein mentioned.

FIVE WAYS INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal.

LION INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.

NEW INN, fronting North Street and Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal.

Please also accept this as notice that the Off-Licensed premises, No.3, Church Street, Lower Gornal, belonging to Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd., was by a Mortgage dated the 1st December 1929 charged by them with other property to secure the repayment to our Mr. A. M. Fairbairn and Others of the principal sum and interest therein mentioned.

We shall be glad if you will have a note of the above entered in the License Register.

We enclose Postal Order value 4/- your fee in the matter.

Yours faithfully, Hooper & Fairbairn, Solicitors. 1, Priory Street, Dudley.”

William Jones was nicknamed “Billy on th’Ob”.

See also RED LION.

Ernest Clarke was married to Maud.

1939 Register

47, Humphrey Street

[1] *Ernest Clarke*, date of birth 11/3/1902, coal and fireclay pikeman, heavy worker, married;

[2] *Marian Maud Clarke*, dob 4/2/1903, unpaid domestic duties, married;

It was altered and extended during 1983/4.

[1990]

Closed

Demolished

NEW INN

55, Regent Street, (55, Back Street), Foxyards, (Swan Village), WOODSETTON

OWNERS

Hannah Webb, no occupation, 53, Bank Street, Foxyards

Emanuel Whitehouse

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd. [1912]

LICENSEES

Emanuel Whitehouse [1871] – 1898);

William Henry Whitehouse (1898 – 1899);

Joseph James Dilger (1899 – 1900);

Joseph Bernard Porter (1900 – 1901);

Clifford Turner (1901 – 1902);

George Biddle (1902 – 1903);

Elizabeth Biddle (1903);

Frederick Robert Radford (1903 – 1904);

William Millington (1904 – 1905);

Charles Leach (1905 – 1910);

Walter William Nicklin (1910 – 1913);

NOTES

It had an ante’69 beerhouse license.

1871 Census

55, Back Street

- [1] *Emmanuel Whitehouse* (34), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Whitehouse (33), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Emmanuel Whitehouse (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William H. Whitehouse* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Joshua Whitehouse (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] John E. Whitehouse (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Hannah Webb (60), mother in law, widow, born Sedgley:

Emanuel Whitehouse, beer retailer, Swan Village. [1872]

County Advertiser 31/7/1880 - Births

“On the 21st inst, at The Foxyards, near Dudley, the wife of *Emanuel Whitehouse*, of a daughter.”

1881 Census

55, Regent Street

- [1] *Emanuel Whitehouse* (44), brewer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Whitehouse (43), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William Henry Whitehouse* (19), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Job Whitehouse (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] John Whitehouse (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] James Whitehouse (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Hannah Whitehouse (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Elizabeth Whitehouse (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Louisa Whitehouse (8 months), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] Jane Cadman (27), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [11] Mary Ann Church (14), nurse girl, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 5/3/1881

“An inquest was held on Wednesday, at the NEW INN, Regent Street, by Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner) on the body of William Henry Tippin, aged five years and ten months, who died from the effects of burns.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/10/1890 - Advert

“Brewer or Assistant wanted, with good character; must be useful. Good wages.

NEW INN, Foxyards, Dudley.”

County Express 27/12/1890

“Mr. E. Percy (coroner) held an inquest at the Guest Hospital on Monday, on the body of Joseph Duggan (30), brewer, Regent Street, Tipton, and employed at *Edward [sic] Whitehouse's*, of the NEW INN, Foxyards. Mr. C. Round appeared for Mr. *Whitehouse*.

On the 4th inst. the man went to work early in the morning, and whilst standing on the side of the mash-tub at the brewery his foot slipped and he fell in the liquor. This was the account he gave of the occurrence to his wife was he lay at the hospital. He also said there was no one present at the time of the accident.

A servant girl called Naomi Flavell said the man was sober whilst he was brewing. He blamed no one, and said he could not account for his falling in the tub.

William Whitehouse, a son of the employer, said the tap could be reached without stepping on the side of the tub; in fact, it was inconvenient to adopt that plan.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

55, Regents Street

- [1] *Emanuel Whitehouse* (53), beer seller, born Deepfields;
- [2] Elizabeth Whitehouse (51), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] James Enoch Whitehouse (18), son, clerk, born Coseley;
- [4] Hannah Whitehouse (16), daughter, born Coseley;
- [5] Elizabeth Whitehouse (13), daughter, born Coseley;
- [6] Eleanor Whitehouse (10), daughter, scholar, born Coseley;
- [7] John Whitehouse (4), son, born Coseley;
- [8] Naomi Flavell (21), domestic servant, born Coseley;
- [9] Mary Flavell (14), domestic servant, born Coseley:

1901 Census

55, Regent Street

- [1] *Joseph Bernard Porter* (38), bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Porter* (38), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Frederick A. Porter* (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sylvester Porter* (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Douglas Porter* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Eons Porter* (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Mary Meredith* (32), sister in law, school teacher, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Annie Share* (18), domestic servant, born Tipton:

1911 Census

Regent Street – NEW INN

- [1] *Walter William Nicklin* (43), innkeeper, born Tipton;
- [2] *Annie Nicklin* (40), wife, married 18 years, born Tipton;
- [3] *Ellma Nicklin* (16), born Tipton;
- [4] *Gladys Nicklin* (13), born Tipton;
- [5] *Harry Nicklin* (12), at school, born Tipton;
- [6] *Ida Nicklin* (6), born Tipton:

Staffordshire Sentinel 7/6/1913

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. Notice of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1901, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shirehall, Stafford, at 10-45 o’clock am on Thursday, the 24th day of July, 1913.

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 (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

NEW INN, Woodsetton, Coseley. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Walter W. Nicklin.*”

License refused by Compensation Authority on 24th July 1913.

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/7/1913

“The principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

Seven houses were scheduled in Bilston division.....

NEW INN, Woodsetton, Coseley, ante 1869 beerhouse.....

Renewal was formally applied for and refused.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/8/1913

“Staffordshire Licensing Committee.

Seven licenses were referred from the Bilson petty sessional division, namely, the BIRD IN HAND, the BOAT BUILDERS ARMS, the COTTAGE SPRING, and the OLD ROUND OF BEEF, Bilston; the NEW INN, Woodsetton, Coseley, and the WHITE LION, Upper Gornal. The last named was an alehouse, and the others were described as ante 1869 beerhouses. There being no opposition to the report of the justices below, the committee refused to renew the seven licenses.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/8/1913 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 24th day of July, 1913, 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 Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 7th day of September, 1913, for the purpose of enabling 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.....

NEW INN, Woodsetton, Coseley. Beerhouse ante 1869. Licencee, *Walter W. Nicklin.* Registered Owner, Atkinsons Brewery Ltd.”

Compensation of £550 was paid on 24th December 1913.

The house closed on 31st December 1913.

Lichfield Mercury 9/1/1914

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee fixed the following amounts.....

NEW INN, Woodsetton, Coseley, £550.”

OLD BLUE BELL

9, Hurst Road, (9, (11), Hurst Hill Road), (Can Lane), Hurst Hill, COSELEY

OWNERS

George Austin
Mr. Meredon, publican, Meredon Street, Wolverhampton
William Waterhouse, screw manufacturer, Can Lane, Coseley
Ellen Hawkesford, Hurst Hill, Coseley
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Jones [1859]
John Rudge [1861] – [1862]
John Skidmore [1863]
George Wheeler [1868] – **1871**);
John Matthey (**1871 – 1872**)
Charles Davies [] – **1873**);
Richard Percival (**1873 – 1904**);
Mrs. Betsy Percival (**1904 – 1905**);
Edward Jones (**1905 – 1906**);
Isaac Thomas Digger (**1906 – 1908**);
William Baker (**1908**);
Thomas Banks (**1908 – 1909**):

NOTES

11, Hurst Hill Road [1871], [1881]
9, Hurst Hill Road [1891]
9, Hurst Road [1901]

It had an ante'69 beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/3/1838 - Advert

“To be Let, and entered upon immediately, the well known public house called the BLUE BELL, situate in Can Lane. The house contains a good kitchen, two good parlours, a large garden, and a capital back yard. Rent £11 10s. For further particulars apply to Mr. W. Waterhouse, at the sign of the GATE, Can Lane.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/10/1858

“At the Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, Mr. Whitehouse applied for a transfer of the license of the ROYAL OAK, Wolverhampton Street, Bilston, to the ELEPHANT AND CASTLE, in Hall Fields, and from the tenant of one house to the tenant of the other. The application was opposed by Mr. Shipman, on behalf of Mr. Millward, who had the reversion of the ROYAL OAK property on the death of his mother, an old woman nearly eighty years of age. The transaction was also opposed by the landlords of the adjoining public houses to that to which it was proposed to transfer the license, and by a person named Fellows, who had a mortgage to the extent of £350 on the property. It was stated on the part of the applicant that owing to the effects of mining operations the house had been rendered unfit for an inn, and that the transfer was contemplated for the benefit of the life-renter. Mr. Shipman objected that the transaction was not bona fide, Legge, the tenant of the ROYAL OAK, being only the nominal tenant, not having occupied the premises for four or five years, his client, Millward, having kept up the licence during that period, except for the last year, when payment was forestalled by his mother, with a view to the present application. Mr. Shipman's objections were sustained, and the transfer refused.

A similar application, unopposed, to transfer the license of the GEORGE AND DRAGON, at Hall Green, to the BLUE BELL beerhouse, Can Lane, was likewise refused on the same grounds.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/7/1859 - Advert

“Freehold Public House, Dwelling Houses And Building Land, Can Lane, Sedgley.

By Messrs. Aston and Sollom. To be Sold by Auction, on Tuesday next, the 26th of July, 1859, at six o'clock in the evening, at the OLD GATE INN, in the occupation of Mr. William Waterhouse, Can Lane, Sedgley, subject to conditions of sale to be then produced, the following two Freehold Dwelling Houses and Building Land.

Lot 1. All that Public House and Premises, situate fronting Can Lane, called the BLUE BELL, comprising five bed rooms, bar, tap

room, and parlour, brewhouse, good cellars, and enclosed yard, now in the occupation of Mrs. Jones; also a Dwelling House, with Front Shop, adjoining the BELL, occupied by Mr. Wheeler, and two Messuages at the back thereof, on the occupation of John Kinsley, and one void....”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/10/1859

“On Saturday night several men were drinking in the BLUE BELL INN, Can Lane, amongst whom was John Reynolds and Thomas Wilkes. Reynolds is a man of about forty years of age, unmarried, but cohabiting with a woman, by whom he had had several children, all of whom are dead. He was a miner, residing in an entry in Can Lane, BLUE BELL. Wilkes lives in the same lane, but just below Reynolds, with his father, who is a brickmaker. On leaving the BLUE BELL at twelve o’clock, seven of the company, on the proposition of Reynolds, agreed to contribute 6d each, so that they might take a quantity of ale down in a field below. Each person gave his 6d to Reynolds, and they tried to get ale to the value of the money subscribed – viz, 3s 6d. The landlord refused to ‘fill any more.’ Wilkes then asked for his 6d, but Reynolds, instead of giving it up, began to put his hand in his waistcoat pocket, and tendered him a gun wadding. Wilkes became exasperated, but after some cavilling went down the road towards his own home. On reaching Stanley’s public house, which is about 30 yards, he returned, and going up to Reynolds, made a rush at him, and seemingly struck him with something. Reynolds said, ‘What have you struck me with?’ and Wilkes made another rush at him, but was prevented by a blow from a man named Harper, which sent him reeling. Reynolds had fallen to the ground. He was lifted up by his companions. Finding, on raising him, that a quantity of blood had completely saturated his clothes about his breast, they at once made an effort to convey him home, but he died without uttering another word. It was ascertained that a knife had been thrust into him on the left breast. The wound is about an inch in extent, and is in a slanting direction, and appears to have penetrated deeply. Mr. Ballenden, surgeon, Sedgley, was soon in attendance, but all medical expedients were unavailing. On a notification of the awful affair, Constable Fellows made a search for Wilkes, who, as soon as he became cognisant of Reynolds’s death, had decamped. He was found hid in bed in his father’s house, by Police constable Fellows, and when accused of the crime, said, ‘I did it with a cinder,’ but denied having used a knife; and further said, ‘I keep my knife in the cupboard to cut bread and cheese with, and do not carry it with me.’ He was at once taken into custody.”

[There is another version of this under the MINERS ARMS.]

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/12/1859

[At the Staffordshire Winter Assizes Thomas Wilkes was found guilty of manslaughter.]

“....His Lordship, in passing sentence, observed that it was necessary, in order to prevent other persons using the knife, to pass a heavy sentence. The penalty, in such cases, was the extreme punishment after death itself. It would be trifling with such a case to pass a light sentence; but still, looking at the fact of the previous good character of the prisoner and at his only being eighteen years of age, he should abstain from ordering him to be kept to penal servitude for life. The sentence would be penal servitude for ten years.”

1861 Census

Can Lane – BLUE BELL INN

- [1] John Rudge (42), coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] Eliza Rudge (38), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Rudge (19), son, coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joseph Rudge (17), son, coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas Rudge (17), lodger, coal miner, born Sedgley:

John Rudge, retailer of beer, Can Lane. [1862]

It seems to have been known as the STAR briefly.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/9/1863

“The adjourned licensing meeting for the Bilston division of the county was held on Friday....

Licenses suspended at the annual licensing meeting were now renewed to the following houses, the landlords being cautioned to conduct them more creditably for the future....

STAR, Coseley, kept by *John Skidmore*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/9/1864 - Advert

“The BLUE BELL, Can Lane, near Sedgley.

To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately.

Apply Mr. George Austin, maltster, Church Street, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/2/1868

“Mr. *George Wheeler*, the proprietor of the STAR HOTEL, was charged with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty. On Sunday week PC White went to the defendant’s public house, and was prevented from going into a room he was desirous of entering, to see what was being done, during prohibited hours. Fined £5 and costs.”

1871 Census

11, Hurst Hill Road

- [1] *George Wheeler* (37), grocer and publican, born Oxford;
- [2] *Mary M. Wheeler* (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *George J. Wheeler* (14), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Edward M. Wheeler* (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary M. Wheeler* (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Jane Wheeler* (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Arthur Wheeler* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Frederick J. T. Wheeler* (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Lizzy L. Wheeler* (5), daughter, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 20/1/1872

“In liquidation. Re *John Mattey*, BLUE BELL INN, Can Lane, Sedgley To be sold by auction 23/2/1872 the whole of the stock in trade, public house and shop fixtures etc. failure of *John Mattey*, of Can Lane, Sedgley, grocer and beerseller a resolution passed winding up the estate in liquidation.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/3/1873 - Advert

“Messrs. Walker and H. J. Lloyd beg to announce their instructions from the Trustees of the will of the late Mr. George Austin to Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 24th day of March, 1873.....

Lot 7. All that Freehold Public House, called the BLUE BELL, situate at Can Lane, in the parish of Sedgley, containing taproom, smoke-room, club-room, two bedrooms, three attics, brewhouse, two cellars, yard, side entrance, piggery, and well of hard water. Also the Retail Shop and two Tenements adjoining, the whole in the occupation of Mr. Edward Bishop, and producing a gross annual rental of £22.....”

1881 Census

11, Hurst Hill Road – Public House

- [1] *Richard Percival* (40), blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Betsy Percival* (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mercy Percival* (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Betsy Clift* (19), boarder, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

9, Hurst Hill Road – Public House

- [1] *Richard Percival* (51), blacksmith, born Coseley;
- [2] *Betsy Percival* (50), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] *Mercy Webb* (23), daughter, married, assists in house, born Coseley;
- [4] *Job Webb* (25), son in law, roller in iron works, born Coseley;
- [5] *Thomas William Webb* (1), grandson, born Coseley;
- [6] *Margaret Richards* (17), general servant, born Coseley:

1901 Census

9, Hurst Road

- [1] *Richard Percival* (61), brewer, born Bilston;
- [2] *Betsy Percival* (60), born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sarah Nicholls* (26), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Richard Percival, beer retailer, Hurst Hill. [1904]

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 3rd March 1909.

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/5/1909

“Notice is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1904, by the Compensation Authority for the County of Stafford, will be held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, at 10.30 o’clock am, on Friday, the 11th day of June, 1909.

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 Licences of the several Premises specified in the subjoined list, all those Persons to whom under the Licensing Act, 1904, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

OLD BLUE BELL, Hurst Road, Hurst Hill, Coseley. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Thomas Banks*.”

The license was refused by the Compensation Authority on 11th June 1909.

Lichfield Mercury 18/6/1909

“The members of the Staffordshire Licensing Committee sat on Friday at the Shirehall, Stafford, to consider the question of the renewal of the licenses of the sixty-eight public houses referred to them under the Licensing Act, 1904.....

No opposition was offered in the cases of OLD BLUE BALL, Hurst Road, Coseley and the renewal of the licenses was

refused.”

Lichfield Mercury 7/1/1910

“The Quarter Sessions of the peace for the county of Stafford commenced on Tuesday at the Shirehall, Stafford.....

The principal meeting of the Compensation Authority was held on the 11th June, and by adjournment on the 12th and 17th June, when the Committee, after careful consideration of each case referred, refused to renew 62 licenses.

The Committee, at a supplemental meeting, went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard, upon oath, evidence put forward by the claimants. The Committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the Compensation Fund. In the following 60 cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

OLD BLUE BELL, Hurst Road, Hurst Hill, Coseley, £1,000.

.....the money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties.”

Compensation of £1,000 was paid on 4th December 1909.

The house closed on 11th December 1909.

OLD BULLS HEAD

1, Red Hall Road / Temple Street, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Eli Bradley

Emanuel Bradley and Isaac Jones (trustees under the will of Eli Bradley during minority of children)

Emanuel Bradley

Millward Bros., maltsters, Leabrook, Wednesbury

Grigg and Brettell Ltd., brewers, Holt Street, Birmingham

Ansells Ltd. [late 1920s]

Holt, Plant and Deakin (acquired in 1984)

Dorbier Ltd, c/o Royal Hotel, Altrincham Road, Manchester [1995]

Gibbs Mew plc [1996]

Enterprise Inns

Black Country Traditional Inns (acquired September 1999) [2018]

LICENSEES

Edward Guest* [1834]

Edward Francis Guest* [1841] – 1860);

Henry Guest (1860);

John Lewis (1860 – []

James Edward Guest [1860]

John Jones [1861] – 1866);

Eli Bradley (1866 – 1887);

Emanuel Bradley (1887 – 1896);

Katherine Bradley (1896);

Daniel Bradley (1896 – 1901);

John Bradley (1901 – 1906);

Isaac Bradley (1906 – 1924);

Thomas ‘Tom’ Bailey (1924 – 1927);

John Oliver Newey (1927);

James Henry Dawes (1927 – 1929);

Daniel Henry Marsh (1929 – 1933);

Arthur Fieldhouse (1933 – 1935);

John Fleming (1935);

Thomas Copson (1935 – 1939);

John ‘Jack’ Oakley (1939 – 1941);

Rhoda Oakley (1941 – 1946);

John ‘Jack’ Oakley (1946 - 1975);

Samuel Noel ‘Sam’ Browne (1975 – 1981);

Alan Thomas Henry Beighton (1981 – 1983);

Michael Terence Bradburn (1983 – 1984);
Bonell ‘Bon’ Hopla (1984 – 1986);
Nevill David Cooper (1986 – 1987);
David Eric Lee (1987 – 1988);
Brian Lawrence Smith (1988 – 1989);
Ronald Edward Knight (1989);
Raymond Blackmore (1989 – 1991);
Anna Maria Marczak (1991 – 1994);
Aubrey Mellors (1994);
Anthony Ronald Chapman (1994 – 1995);
Russel Lamb (1995);
Zandra Georgina Lee (1995 – 1997);
Terry Messer (1997);
Philip John Clayton (1997 – 1998);
Hilary Jane Windsor (1998);
Jenny Newton and Linda Chapman (1998 – []
Jean Thomas []
Gerry Jones [2000] – 2014)
Lyndsey Elizabeth (Morris) Bullock (2014 – [2018]
Jo Selman and Martin Cadman (2022 – [2023])

NOTES

It was known locally as the ‘Top House’.

Village Voice (November 2021)

“It seems that there is hardly a pub in the Black Country that doesn’t have its own resident ghost.....

In Gornal, at the OLD BULLS HEAD at the top of Redhall Road, it was said that for many years a poltergeist was present. In the middle of the night music could sometimes be heard coming from the bar. However, as soon as anyone entered the room to investigate, the music would stop.”

Edward Guest was also a butcher. [1834]

* possibly the same person

1841 Census

Red Hall

- [1] *Edward Guest* (27), butcher, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Martha Guest (24);
- [3] Henry Guest (3), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Ann Guest (1), born Staffordshire;
- [5] George Guest (3 months), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Mary Naylor (19), fs, born Staffordshire:

Edward Francis Guest was also a butcher. [1845], [1849], [1850], [1851], [1854]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/11/1847

“The following inquests have been held before W. W. Ward, Esq, officiating for T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

Yesterday (Tuesday) at the OLD BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornall, on the body of Joseph Westwood, a miner, killed by a fall of coal while at work in the Yew Tree Colliery. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/12/1850

“An inquest was held on the 10th instant, at the OLD BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on view of the body of Emma Glazard, a girl six years and two months of age, daughter of George Glazard, of Lower Gornal, in the above parish, who was taken suddenly ill while playing with some other children, about four o’clock p.m. on the 8th inst, and was carried home, when she expired a few minutes afterwards. The inquest was adjourned until the 17th inst, in order for a post mortem examination to be made.”

1851 Census

Redhall

- [1] *Edward F. Guest* (37), butcher and innkeeper employing one man, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Martha Guest (34), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Henry Guest (13), son, born Lower Gornal;

- [4] Anne Guest (11), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] George Guest (9), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [6] Thomas Guest (8), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [7] Martha Guest (3), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [8] Mary Guest (2), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [9] Edward Guest (2 months), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [10] Thomas Green (17), servant, born Alveley;
- [11] Eliza Guest (17), servant, born Dudley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/7/1851

“An inquest was held on Tuesday last, at the OLD BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, on the body of William Hanson, a miner, aged 30, who died on the 1st inst, from injuries received by a quantity of coal falling on him whilst at work at the Dock Colliery, belonging to Messrs. Blackwell. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

There were altogether 215 applications for renewals, of which number thirty-four of the applicants have been fined during the past year for offences against their licenses in the following cases the Magistrates deferred their decision until the adjourned licensing day, which is fixed to take place on the 21st of September.....

James Edward Guest, BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal.”

1861 Census

Red Hall – Public House

- [1] *John Jones* (34), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Jones (33), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Enoch Jones (13), son, coal miner, born Kingswinford;
- [4] John Jones (11), son, coal miner, born Kingswinford;
- [5] Abraham Jones (9), son, scholar, born Kingswinford;
- [6] Thomas Jones (2), son, born Kingswinford:

John Jones, retailer of beer, Lower Gornell. [1862]

John Jones was also a shopkeeper. [1864], [1865]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

John Jones, BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal.”

Dudley Herald 2/5/1868

“James Evans, employed as a coke burner at Russells Hall Works, committed suicide by hanging himself in the brewhouse on some premises near the BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *Eli Bradley*, BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, 1s and costs.”

1871 Census

Red Hall Road

- [1] *Eli Bradley* (38), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Bradley (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Matilda Bradley (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Margaret Bradley (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Eli Bradley (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Emanuel Bradley (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] John Bradley (7 months), son, born Sedgley:

Eli Bradley was also a shopkeeper [1870], [1872] grocer [1873]

Midland Examiner 13/3/1877

“On Monday Mr. W. H. Phillips, district county coroner, held an inquiry, at the OLD BULLS HEAD INN, Lower Gornal, touch-

ing the death of Jabez Hall, who had died from the effects of injuries received at the recent explosion at the Coppice Colliery, Cooper Bank. Mr. Stokes appeared on behalf of the friends of the deceased, and Mr. J. P. Baker, the Government Inspector, watched the proceedings.

Israel Hickman, one of the injured men gave evidence to the effect that he was in the pit on the day the explosion occurred, and he knew the spot where deceased was at work, but had not been at the spot on that day, and was thirty yards distant from it when the explosion occurred. He was in the main road in a position nearer the pit shaft than the deceased and his companions, and when the explosion took place, was badly burnt. He could not see anyone was to blame as he neither saw nor heard anything until enveloped in flame. He knew personally that the pit had been 'tried' that day by the lamps. Had worked there two years and had not seen any gas for months. Witness could not tell how the air was taken to the deceased and his companions who were in the back, but there was air there a fortnight previously, when he had occasion to go into that part of the workings. Air tows were taken within a short distance of the back.

The Coroner said the question to decide was whether the occurrence was the result of an accidental explosion, or whether it was caused by negligence. From the evidence, it appeared that there was a distance of ground of which the air had not been taken, but at the same time it had been stated that the explosion was the result of a bump which no amount of ventilation would have prevented. Although there might have been a breach of the Mines Regulations Act, by not carrying a sufficient supply of air to the back by artificial means, still unless that infringement of the Act of Parliament was the actual cause of this occurrence the jury had nothing to do with it; but on the other hand, if it arose from not taking air in, then it became a very serious charge. The mines inspector had said no amount of ventilation by artificial means under such circumstances would have prevented an explosion, and if the jury took the same view he could simply instruct them to return a verdict of Accidental Death.

John Humphries gave corroborative evidence to the first witness.

Joseph Smith, doggy, re-called, said it had been sixteen months since he discovered any gas at the end of the 'shut.' A road was cut through the 'flying red' which had been proving, but there was no gas in the road when this was proved, although there was some present in it weeks afterwards. A head was begun but not completed, and on the day of the explosion the deceased was working at it, but it was intended to dam it up the following day. The existing dams were very good at the time of the explosion. The Coroner observed that it was quite clear that the special rules had been infringed by the ventilation being inadequate, and hoped that the rules in future would be fully observed.

The jury after a short consultation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

The jury afterwards congratulated the Coroner upon his appointment. In thanking the jury for the compliment, the Coroner said he had always received the greatest kindness from his juries, and only wished that in future they were to be paid for their services."

County Express 15/6/1878

"An inquest was held on Monday at the OLD BULLS HEAD INN, Red Hall, Lower Gornal, before Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner), touching the death of Mary Parsons, aged 69, who died on the 7th inst. The deceased had for some time been addicted to very eccentric habits, and had lived by herself at Red Hall. For some years she had been in receipt of 2s a week as out-door relief, but unfortunately her house was almost devoid of furniture, and being under the impression that the officials of the Workhouse would molest her, she was never seen about after sunset; neither was she clean in her habits. On Thursday morning several persons noticed that the old woman's cottage door was not opened as usual, and thinking something was wrong, they burst the door open. On going upstairs they found the deceased lying on a very poor bed, in a most filthy condition, her body being literally covered with vermin. Upon examination it was found that the old woman was in a dying state, and Dr. Ballenden was sent for. On his arrival he ordered stimulants, but she refused to receive them, and died the following day. The inquiry was adjourned for Dr. Ballenden to make a post-mortem examination."

Dudley Herald 26/7/1879

"The members of the 'Daisy Lodge' of the United Order of Free Gardeners held their annual dinner at the house of Mr. *Eli Bradley*, the BULLS HEAD INN, Red Hall, on Monday, when there was a large attendance of members. An excellent dinner was provided, and after the removal of the cloth Brother *Eli Bradley* presided, and Brother John Marsh occupied the vice-chair. The loyal and patriotic toasts having been duly honoured, the Chairman proposed 'Success to the Daisy Lodge,' and in doing so said that although the lodge had only been in existence about twelve months it comprised about fifty members (hear, hear). He earnestly trusted that shortly the number would be considerably augmented, for he believed that by working men joining friendly societies they improved their positions and made their homes comfortable.

The toast having been responded to, other toasts were proposed. The remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, and an enjoyable evening was spent."

1881 Census

1, Red Hall Road

[1] *Eli Bradley* (48), widower, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Eli Bradley* (20), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;

[3] *John Bradley* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] *Emmanuel Bradley* (18), son, brewer, born Sedgley;

[5] *David Bradley* (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] *Martha Woodall* (23), domestic servant, born Sedgley;

[7] *Mary Bradley* (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Eli Bradley died in 1887.

Birmingham Daily Post 17/3/1891

“Yesterday Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest, at the OLD BULLS HEAD INN, Red Hall, Lower Gornal, on the boy of John Burrows (28), doggy, who was fatally burnt at the Oak Farm Colliery, belonging to John Walker, near Himley. Mr. W. B. Scott, Government inspector of mines attended, and Mr. Grocutt represented Mr. Walker.

The evidence showed that the colliery was taken to about six months ago by Messrs. Harvey and Burrows (not the deceased), and since that time preparations had been made for starting the pit. On the morning of the explosion Burrows, a doggy, made an inspection, and reported an absence of gas. Afterwards preparations were made to put a cog in the working. The men were using naked lights, and a fall of ‘shut’ occurring, some gas was liberated, and this exploded when it reached the light. The deceased and three men were seriously burnt.

Mr. Scott and two witnesses showed that there were no doors to provide artificial ventilation, but there was a damp sheet arrangement. The doors were being provided, and were nearly ready. No gas had been found in the place, except a very small quantity, for six weeks.

Mr. Grocutt, the ground bailiff, said no report had been made to him as to gas, and in his opinion the deceased had not made a proper inspection of the place on the morning when the explosion occurred, or he would have found the gas.

The Coroner, in summing up, said it seemed to him that the doors should have been erected sooner, and that the deceased had not made a full inspection of the place.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

1, Red Hall Road – OLD BULLS HEAD and Buildings

- [1] *John Bradley* (20), brewer, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Elizabeth Bradley (21), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] *Daniel Bradley* (18), brother, brewer, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Elizabeth Jones (20), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] Mary Ann Timmins (20), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

AND

2, Red Hall Road

- [1] *Emanuel Bradley* (52), publican, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Edna Bradley (51), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Frank Flavell (72), lodger, labourer, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Albert Marsh (58), lodger, coal miner, born Lower Gornal:

Emmanuel Bradley was also a butcher. [1892]

It was rebuilt in 1900.

Birmingham Daily Post 31/7/1900

“At the Sedgley Police Court yesterday, before Mr. Neville (stipendiary), *Daniel Bradley*, landlord of the OLD BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, was charged with assaulting his wife, Eliza Ann *Bradley*, on the 10th inst. Mr. Clulow, who represented the complainant, applied for the withdrawal of the summons, defendant having apologised for having struck his wife a back-handed blow in the face. The defendant, who was represented by Mr. W. A. Foster, was bound over to keep the peace for six months.”

County Express 4/8/1900

“Mr. T. Stokes (county coroner), opened an inquest on Thursday, at the OLD BULLS HEAD INN, Red Hall Road, Lower Gornal, concerning the death of Joseph Hoggins (32), miner, Red Hall Road, who had been killed at the Old Shut End Colliery, Pensnett, belonging to Messrs. Bennett and Bradley, colliery proprietors, Lower Gornal.

Upon the jury being sworn, the Coroner said it would be necessary to adjourn the enquiry, as the Government Inspector of Mines was unable to be present.

Sarah Hoggins, the widow, gave evidence of identification, and the enquiry was the adjourned until next Thursday.

It was stated two other men were injured by the fall of coal.”

County Express 11/8/1900

“On Thursday, at the OLD BULLS HEAD INN, Lower Gornal, Mr. T. A. Stokes (coroner) resumed the enquiry respecting the death of Joseph Hoggins, Red Hall Road, miner, who was killed by a fall of coal whilst following his employment at the Old Shut End Colliery, Pensnett, belonging to Messrs. Bennett and Bradley. Mr. W. B. Scott (Government inspector of mines) attended, and the firm was represented by Mr. E. Bennett.

Walter Smith, miner, stated that whilst they were ‘holing’ on the 31st ult, a ‘bump’ occurred, which was immediately followed by a fall of coal. Deceased was killed almost instantly, and witness was also injured. Witness had heard several ‘bumps’ previously in the morning. There was a ‘tree’ under the portion of roof that collapsed.

John Davies, miner, stated that three ‘trees’ were thrown out by the bump.

John Marsh, underground manager, stated that he thoroughly examined the place before the men commenced to working in the morning, and it appeared to be perfectly safe. The accident was due to a ‘slip thing’ which could not be detected until after the fall

had occurred.

Mr. Scott remarked that in the Black Country mining 'bumps' were most destructive. Unfortunately, they could not be controlled, and frequently cause loss of life in places which were well timbered. What was called a 'slip thing' was a black smooth-faced joint in solid coal, and in this instance it was dislocated by the 'bump' which was the settling strata. He had examined the place where the accident happened and there did not seem to have been any breach of the Coal Mines Regulation Act. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

1901 Census

1, Red Hall Road

- [1] *Daniel Bradley* (27), publican, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Eliza A. Bradley (29), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Emanuel Bradley (9), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Eli Bradley (8), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] Ann Bradley (5), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [6] John Bradley (3), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [7] Sarah A. Hickman (22), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

Tipton Herald 31/1/1903

"On Saturday evening the members of No.30 Lodge, Miners Union, Lower Gornal, were entertained to supper at the OLD BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Lower Gornal. Among the company present were Mr. Joseph Guest, Red Hall, Mr. *John Bradley*, WHITE CHIMNEYS, Mr. Isaac Bradley jun, and a host of influential mine owners in the district. When the company had partaken of the supper, Mr. George Brockton took the chair ably assisted by Mr. J. Hoggins in the vice chair....."

Tipton Herald 22/8/1903

"*John Bradley*, landlord of the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Gornal, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the licensed premises of the OLD BULLS HEAD on the 22nd day of July. He was also charged with selling to a drunken person, and, further with attempting to bribe a policeman.

Mr. A. Turton (Wolverhampton) represented the police, and Mr. W. Waldron (Brierley Hill) defended.

Mr. Waldron applied for an adjournment, stating that defendant wished to be represented by counsel, considering the seriousness of the charges. As endeavour had been made to get Mr. Plumtre, but, unfortunately he had not been successful, and therefore he had to apply for an adjournment. The police wanted them to pay the costs, but considering that the police would not be put to any inconvenience he did not think that the prosecution ought to be allowed costs.

Mr. Clayton: When was the summons served?

Inspector Moss: Ten days ago.

Mr. Waldron: Is it that long?

Mr. Waterhouse: It was served on the 7th of August.

Mr. Turton said he was instructed by the police to strongly oppose any such adjournment, which he considered most unreasonable when the length of time the summons had been served was taken into account.

Mr. Waldron said it was the police who were prosecuting, and not independent parties. They had nothing to gain, but if it was the wish of the Court he would pay the costs. He felt they were somewhat late in making the application, but if he was willing to pay the costs, he could not see any cause why the Bench should not grant the application.

Mr. Clayton: It is a very unusual ground for an application.

The Bench decided to go on with the case.

Mr. Turton dealt with the case of permitting drunkenness, and stated that on July 28th Police Constables Poulson and Challenor went to the OLD BULLS HEAD, a licensed house not kept by the defendant, but by a nephew named *Isaac Bradley*, for whom the defendant was trustee. When the police visited the house on the date in question they saw one William Horton, of Garden Walk, in the house. There were five persons in the same room, including the manager, who was only a youth about 19 years of age. As soon as Horton saw the police he said, 'I am going to drink my beer, I am going, whereupon he picked up a pint cup of beer and drank. When he got up from his seat the police noticed he was very drunk. The officers went out of the house, followed by Horton. When a few yards down the street Horton was taken home by a man who gave the name of Mark Dunn. The police then went in the house again, and some conversation took place between them and the young manager. The police told him that the man was drunk, and, sitting as he was, he (the manager) ought to have known that he was drunk. The manager replied, 'I know I had.' PC Poulson told him that he would report the case, when the manager said, 'I hope nothing will come of it. There is £2000 to wipe off this house, and it would be a serious matter for me.' As far as defendant was concerned he was trustee to the property. PCs Poulson and Challenor were called in support of this statement.

For the defence Mr. Waldron submitted that there had been a mistake with regard to the condition of the man.

The defendant was called, and stated that he visited the house twice a day, but on the date in question he was away from home.

The manager was the next witness, and stated that the man was not drunk. He was refused drink and requested to go.

In cross-examination by Mr. Turton witness said he considered that the man had had enough beer to carry him home safely. He was blind in one eye, while the other one was defective. It was a dark night, and the lamps were not lit that night.

Several witnesses were called, all stating that Horton was sober, but in cross-examination neither could say why the manager had ordered him out.

Defendant, re-called, said he could not offer any explanation why all the witnesses stated that he was on the premises on the date in question. He was in Birmingham all day, and did not go near the house.

The Bench considered the case proved, but it was not of a serious nature. Defendant would be fined 20s and costs.

John Bradley was then charged with attempting to bribe Thomas Poulson.

Mr. Turton prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

Mr. Turton stated that on the 29th of July, the day after Horton was found on the premises of the OLD BULLS HEAD, the officer visited the WHITE CHIMNEYS. He told the defendant that he would have to report the proceedings that took place the previous night. The defendant said he hoped that nothing would come of it as they had spent much money on the premises. He was instructed to press the charge.

PC Poulson was called, and stated that the defendant expressed a hope that nothing would come of it, and at the same time put a sovereign into his hand and asked him to have a drink, but he refused. He reported the case to the chief.

Defendant said he did not give the money to the constable for a bribe, but for the information the officer gave him in consequence with the previous case, which information he considered was valuable.

The Bench fined the defendant £5 and costs.

William Horton, Garden Walk, was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk on the premises.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/3/1904

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Sedgley were held on Tuesday.....

The same objection [the license was not required] was raised in regard of the OLD BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, the other ground being that the landlord, *John Bradley*, had been convicted of permitting drunkenness and also fined for having tried to bribe a constable. Mr. W. A. Foster, for the applicant, said that within the last few years the house had been rebuilt at a cost of £2,000, and *Bradley* was simply trustee for his nephew, whose money had been invested in the property.....

The magistrates granted the application, but cautioned *John Bradley*.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/4/1905

“At the Stipendiary’s Court at Sedgley yesterday Joseph Middleton was charged with refusing to quit the OLD BULLS HEAD, Gornal Wood, and with assaulting the landlord, *Isaac Bradley*. He was also charged with stealing a watch and chain. Mr. W. A. Foster explained that the defendant when he was requested to leave the house struck *Bradley* a violent blow in the face knocking out his teeth. He then tore his waistcoat off, and dashed his watch against the wall completely smashing it and damaging it to the extent of £3 10s. The Stipendiary ordered a warrant for the arrest of Middleton.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/4/1905

“At Sedgley yesterday afternoon Joseph Middleton, a miner, was sentenced to two months’ hard labour for outrageous behaviour in the BULLS HEAD HOTEL, Lower Gornal. Prisoner went into the hotel and created a disturbance by drinking the customers’ beer. When requested to leave he savagely assaulted the landlord, tore his vest from his back, and dashed his watch, valued at £3, against a wall, destroying it. Prisoner afterwards absconded. The Stipendiary characterised the prisoner’s conduct as outrageous.”

Tipton Herald 14/8/1909

“*Isaac Bradley*, of the OLD BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, was granted an occasional license to sell intoxicants in a field on August 23rd, on the occasion of the Glee Party’s sports at Coopers Bank, Lower Gornal, from 1 to 9pm.”

1911 Census

Red Hall Road

[1] *Isaac Bradley* (27), licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;

[2] Hannah Bradley (30), wife, married 6 years, assisting in business, born Gornal Wood;

[3] Alice Dawson (26), general servant, born Walsall;

[4] Martha Andrews (16), general servant, born Lower Gornal;

[5] John Bradley (5), son, born Lower Gornal:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/8/1917 - Advert

“Motor-Cars, Accessories, Etc, For Sale.

Star (15-h.p.), hood, screen, three speeds and reverse; tyres, &c, first class; excellent running order. Bargain; immediate sale.

Bradley, OLD BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, Dudley.”

The Gornal Branch of the Royal British Legion met here from 1921 to 1948.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 16/5/1925

“British Legion. About 60 ex-Service men belonging to the Lower Gornal District accepted an invitation to attend a dinner at the headquarters of the Legion (the OLD BULLS HEAD INN, Redhall Road) on Friday evening, May 9th, the chair being taken by the branch chairman (Mr. Jason Register).

Dinner was served in a very excellent manner by Mr. and Mrs. *Thomas Bailey*, and was thoroughly enjoyed by all.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 4/7/1925

“The annual meeting of the Lower Gornal Football Club was held at the OLD BULLS HEAD, on Wednesday evening, the chairman being Mr. B. Pearson.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 18/7/1925

“A smoking concert was held at headquarters, the OLD BULLS HEAD, Redhall Road, of the Lower Gornal and District Branch of the British Legion, last Friday, Dr. Gray Maitland, of Dudley, presided.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 14/11/1925

“An Armistice Day smoking concert was held by the Lower Gornal branch of the British Legion at their headquarters, the BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, on Wednesday evening. Mr. W. W. Burrows occupied the chair and there was a good attendance. A varied and entertaining programme was carried out. The opening selection was by the Gornal Wood Excelsior Brass Band, who gave another selection, ‘The Barber of Seville.’ Mr. W. Jones sang ‘Marguerite.’ A comic song by Mr. Showell, entitled ‘My wife makes me call her teacher,’ was followed by an encore, ‘I say I don’t like to do that.’ Mr. W. A. Fellows gave a cornet solo, ‘The Banderero.’ The first half of the programme concluded with a selection by the band, ‘Maid of Orleans.’ A further selection commenced the latter part of the entertainment, and Mr. Bradley sang ‘Roll on.’ A song, ‘Dr. Shelley,’ was rendered by Mr. S. Showell, who was again called upon for an encore and sang ‘I’m holding Mary’s hand.’ ‘The Lost chord’ was played on the cornet by Mr. B. Phipps, and Mr. H. Edwards sang ‘Paddy McGinty’s Goat.’ ‘One Touch of Nature’ was rendered by Mr. E. Hale, and Mr. Marsh sang ‘Until.’ The song ‘A Perfect Day,’ by Ben Williams concluded a most enjoyable programme. Mr. Williams appealed to the ex-Service men of Lower Gornal to support the British Legion and attend meetings held each Friday at the headquarters of the branch. He proposed a vote of thanks to the artistes and the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Bailey*) which was carried unanimously.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result. Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time. It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions. The Contributions YE OLDE BULLS HEAD (Red Hall), Lower Gornal, £3 6s.”
[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Bilston & Willenhall Times 29/9/1928

“Mr. J. T. Higgs (Coroner for South Staffordshire) held an inquest, at the OLD BULLS HEAD, Lower Gornal, on Wednesday evening, relative to the death of Florence Hickman (aged 15), of 9, West Street, Lower Gornal, who fell out of a swing-boat on the Lower Gornal Fair Ground on the previous Friday, and died half an hour later. A jury was empanelled and Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP, was appointed foreman. Mr. O. L. Bergendorff represented Mr. Williams, owner of the swing-boat. Samuel Hickman, father of the deceased, gave evidence of evidence, and Dr. D. E. S. Cunnington, practicing at Sedgley, said that death was due to a fractured skull. Florence Ball (aged 15), of 30, Brookdale, Lower Gornal, stated that she was a friend of the deceased, and on Friday evening they met and went to the Fair Ground at about 3.35. They went on to the swing-boats together, having a boat to themselves. They had both been on the boats on previous occasions. They were standing up and swinging when Mr. Williams told them to sit down, which they did. Mr. Williams’ daughter then stopped the boat, and told them they must not stand up. They started the swing-boat again, both of them having to stand up to do so. Questioned by the Coroner as to whether they could not start the boat when sitting down, witness said that there was only one rope in the boat instead of two, and they did not try to start it with that. When they were swinging again Mr. Williams’ daughter again shouted to them, and said, ‘One of you sit down.’ Witness then sat down, and a little later the deceased attempted to sit down, but in turning round to do so she fell out. They had been on the boats on other occasions, and had been previously told to sit down. Cross-examined by Mr. Bergendorff, witness said that she knew it was dangerous to stand up. Mrs. Bergendorff: You say that there was only one rope on the boat. Were there not two? – No. Are you quite sure? – Yes. You had seen three notices on the swings prohibiting standing? – Yes. You say that your friend turned round to sit down. Had she got her back to you? – No. She was standing at the side of the boat holding the two side bars. What I want to make clear is this: You first started the boat, and then because you were standing up Mr. Williams stopped it? – The girl stopped it. Then you sat down and started again? – Yes. Then you got up again and were told to sit down? – Yes. You sat down, and as your friend was going to sit down she fell out? – Yes. PC Warrender said that he examined the boats and found them securely hung. There were two ropes to each boat, and there were three notices on the swings that standing was strictly prohibited. The Coroner asked the jury if they needed any further evidence. He could call other witnesses if they wished it. The foreman said that the jury did not wish any more evidence.

The Coroner said that was a most unfortunate accident, and they were very sorry for Mr. Hickman, but they were also sorry for Mr. Williams that an accident of that nature should have happened in his business.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.

Addressing the girl Ball, the Coroner said, 'The next time you are told to do anything by anyone older than yourself try to obey. I am not saying that you were in any way to blame for your friend's death, but if you had done as you were told we should not be here today. You young people just leaving school think you know better than everyone else.'

On behalf of Mr. Williams, Mr. Bergendorff expressed sympathy with Mr. Hickman. Mr. Williams had been a showman for 60 years, and that was the first accident that had occurred on his ground.

The funeral took place at St. James' Church, Lower Gornal, on Wednesday, when there was a large crowd of sympathisers. The mourners included Mr. and Mrs. Hickman (mother and father); sisters Ruth, Hannah, Lizzie, Teresa and Eliza; aunts Eliza, Sarah Ann, Lizzie, Ellen, Alice, Emma, Fanny and Jane; cousin Phoebe, and Mrs. Greenaway; and the following girl friends of deceased Misses Florence Marsh, Florence Ball, Kitty Price, Mary Hickman, Florence Westwood, and Lottie Evans. Members of the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Lower Gornal, also followed.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. T. Powers, Red Hall Road, Lower Gornal."

Isaac Bradley issued tokens from here.

See also SWAN, Tettenhall.

He died in December 1929.

1939 Register

Redhall Road – OLD BULLS HEAD INN

[1] *John Oakley*, date of birth 7/4/1912, publican, married;

[2] Rhoda Oakley, dob 20/9/1911, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Black Country Bugle - Pub of the Month

"Here we must mention the Lower Gornal Athletic Football Club [founded here in 1947]. The OLD BULL was their headquarters during a chequered career which began here in the 1890s and remained at the pub until 1951 Jim [Ball] told us that the OLD BULL has its ghost a bald-yedded wench who wears a watch....."

Tipton Herald 22/9/1956

"Customers of the FIVE WAYS INN, Himley Road, Gornal Wood, gave grand support to the Lower Gornal Athletic Club when their harvest home, held during the weekend, raised more than £40.

The effort was given a grand start by eight-years-old Janet Wall, who organised a competition which raised more than £7 of the total.

A short service held on Sunday evening was presided over by Vice-President, Councillor A. Turner, with Mr. B. A. Buxton giving the address.

The auction on Monday evening was conducted by Mr. S. Wood and thanks to all the helpers was voiced by the club President, Councillor J. Timmins, and endorsed by the Secretary, Mr. A. Sargeant.

A further harvest home in aid of the Athletic Club funds is being staged this weekend by customers of the OLD BULLS HEAD INN. The service on Sunday evening will be conducted by the Rev. E. P. Waterhouse, curate of St. James, Lower Gornal, with Councillor J. Timmins officiating as chairman."

It closed in July 1984.

It reopened as a Holt, Plant and Deakin pub on 31st July 1984.

It was refurbished at a cost of £140,000.

It reopened on 16th September 1994.

Closed

Reopened [1999]

Gerry Jones was married to Avril on 3rd January 2001.

He was born c.1952.

He retired in February 2014.

Avril *Jones* was robbed of the pub's takings on her way to the bank on 17th June 2002.

Black Country Ales brewery opened in November 2004 in a building next door to the original Bradley's Brewery at the rear of the pub.

The original brewery was also renovated and put into production in 2006.

It reopened in December 2014 after a major refit.

Lyndsey Elizabeth Morris married Les Bullock on 1st June 2018.

Dudley Chronicle 26/7/2018

“An inn has scooped the Express and Star’s Most Popular Pub of the Year for the Dudley area for the third year running. The OLD BULLS HEAD INN, in Redhall Road, Lower Gornal, was crowned the winner after fending off fierce competition – for the third year in a row.

The competition, now in its third year, saw pubs enter the search to find the most popular pubs in the Black Country and Mid Staffordshire. Customers collected tokens in the Express and Star and placed their vote.

Lyndsey Bullock, landlady of the OLD BULLS HEAD INN, said, ‘I was quite overjoyed because it’s our third time, so it’s a triple whammy for us. I did not think I’d win and when we were told it was fabulous news, really amazing. The staff and customers are fantastic so it’s good for them because they are as pleased as me.’

Mrs. *Morris* has been at the pub for three and a half years and said she ‘loves it from the heart.’

She added, ‘I think it’s the customers. Pub work is not just a job, you have to love it from the heart which I do. People say to me ‘how do you do it?’, but I don’t think I could do anything else. We work hard. Not just me, but the staff, to keep standards up and everybody loves it. It’s clean, they love the beer and the atmosphere so we must be doing something right.’

Express & Star 13/7/2022

“Black Country Traditional Inns is looking for someone to take over the LYCH GATE TAVERN in the city centre The current licensees, *Jo Selman* and *Martin Cadman*, will be sad to see the back of the LYCH GATE TAVERN and its regulars. In an emotional message to regulars the pair said, ‘We have been asked to take on the OLD BULLS HEAD tap house in Lower Gornal.’”

Express & Star 11/7/2023

“A Lower Gornal pub has been praised as ‘a hidden gem’ ahead of its first tours for the public. The Victorian brewhouse at the OLD BULLS HEAD in Redhall Road is opening up as part of the Black Country Day weekend. The Mayor of Dudley, Councillor *Andrea Goddard*, was given a special tour of the brewery, which dates from 1834, ahead of the celebrations. The Dudley and South Staffordshire branch of the Campaign for Real Ale encouraged local breweries to put on events as part of Black Country Day on Friday, July 14. The brewhouse, which brews the beers for Black Country Ales, will be running four pre-booked tours on the day.

The Mayor, who has industry experience from running the Manchester Inn at Romsley, said, ‘It is like a little museum and has got so much potential. It is nice to be able to help showcase the heritage of brewing here in the Black Country. The Black Country Ales brewhouse is brilliant – it is a real hidden gem.’

Councillor *Goddard* also showed she still knows how to pull a pint behind the bar the pub with licensee *Jo Selman*, who has been at the OLD BULLS HEAD for 11 months.

Head brewer *Matt Pearson* said Black Country Ales had bought the building as a coach house in 2002 but had then discovered the brewery and decided to start brewing again in a traditional way. He said there were plans to run weekend tours on a regular basis in the future. *Matt*, who has been head brewer for a year after taking over from *Robin Shields*, and previously worked for *Sadlers* in *Lye*, said that demand for beers for the *BCA* pubs chain was growing and they had started doing night brews as well. The brewery has a capacity of 120 casks – 5,000 litres – a day. Beers brewed there include *BFG* (*Bradley’s Finest Golden*), *Fireside* and *Pig on the Wall*. ‘Our beers are getting known all over the country and even abroad. We have just sent a pallet of bottled beers to a customer in *Hong Kong*,’ added *Matt*.”

[2023]

OLD BUSH

Dark Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Isaac Richards [1849] – [1851]

OLD BUSH

1, Ebenezer Street, Roseville, COSELEY

OWNERS

William Flavell, miner, West Coseley
Emma Price, wife of licensee
Emma Price, Swan Street, Roseville, Coseley
Emma Jeavons, 149, Lodge Lane, Dukinfield, Cheshire
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Flavell [1859] – [1862]
Benjamin Porter [1868] – **1895**;
Emma (Porter) Price (**1895 – 1900**);
Emma Porter Jeavons (**1900 – 1902**);
Daniel Jeavons [1901]
Enoch Edward Price (**1902 – 1904**);
Thomas Porter (**1904 – 1919**);
Eder Porter (**1919 – 1935**);
Levi Hayward (**1935**);
Harry Whale (**1935 – 1936**);
George Ward (**1936 – [1940]**)

NOTES

BUSH [1891], [1916], [1921]

It had a beerhouse license.

Coseley Prize Band practiced in the yard here.

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers’ licenses. Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to the house [ROYAL HOTEL] of Mr. T. Percival, at Coseley, and Mr. J. E. Underhill applied for a license for the BUSH INN adjoining, on behalf of Mr. *W. Flavell*. Mr. Hayes opposed both applications, which were refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last. Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to a house [ROYAL HOTEL] kept by Mr. Thomas Percivall, at Rose-villa, Coseley; and Mr. Whitehouse made a similar application, on behalf of Mr. *William Flavell*, for another house, exactly opposite that of the former applicant. Mr. W. Bowen opposed both applications, which were refused by the Bench.”

1861 Census

Ebenezer Street

- [1] *William Flavell* (35), coal miner, born Coseley;
- [2] Sarah Flavell (37), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] John Flavell (11), son, born Coseley;
- [4] Elizabeth Flavell (10), daughter, born Coseley;
- [5] Benjamin Flavell (5), son, born Coseley;
- [6] James Flavell (2), son, born Coseley:

William Flavell, retailer of beer, Coseley. [1862]

Benjamin Porter, beerhouse keeper, was fined 40s and costs, for permitting drunkenness, in June 1868.

Benjamin Porter, beer retailer, Ebenezer Street, Roseville. [1870], [1872]

He issued tokens from here.

1871 Census

Ebenezer Street – OLD BUSH INN

- [1] *Benjamin Porter*, (38), coalminer unemployed and innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emma Porter* (36), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;

[3] Emma Teece (17), niece, born Dawley, Shropshire:

1881 Census

1, Ebenezer Street

- [1] *Benjamin Porter* (48), coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emma Porter* (46), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] Emma Thomas (13), niece, scholar, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [4] Matilda Wilkinson (11), niece, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Emma Wilkinson (6), niece, scholar, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 23/9/1882

“On Monday evening a meeting of the miners of the Coseley district was held at the OLD BUSH INN, Roseville, Coseley, when addresses were delivered by Messrs. W. Griffiths, of West Bromwich, G. Carter, of Darlaston, and L. Britain, of Lower Gornal. A miner presided. The first address was delivered by Mr. Griffiths. He said he was surprised at the coldness and indifference of the miners of that district in respect of their wages. It was to the interest of the masters to increase their wages because they increased the price of coal, but through competition they had to meet with, they were not eager to do so. He contended that the state of the trade would justify them demanding an advance of 4d per day upon thick coal miners’ wages, and 2d upon thin coal, until the trade so much increased as to warrant an additional advance. He thought it was the duty of every miner to say that on the 1st of October he should expect an advance in wages.

Mr. Carter spoke of the great hardships the miners were enduring, and had endured for years. The miners at Darlaston had agreed to ask for more than 4d and 2d advance. He should like to have a fair days’ wage for a fair days’ work, but they did not get that; they were in an unnatural state of things. The masters had been ruining themselves and starving their men, which they had no right to do; it was time they asked for an advance. (Hear, hear.) Miners were the worst paid men in the kingdom. The want of union had done a great deal of injury – (hear, hear) – underselling each other in the pit, and as a consequence the masters had brought down their wages to starvation. In some cases men had to take dry bread to work, which was a disgraceful state of things. Let them arise and say they must have an advance – (hear, hear) – they were entitled to something before the coal was advanced, and the employers knew it.

Mr. Britain followed. In the course of his remarks he said there had not been any such thing as bad trade known in England in the last eight years. In the year 1880 there were twenty-six million tons more minerals raised than in 1873, and when they considered trade very prosperous, and with 18,000 less employed. He contended that the miners in the northern counties should reduce output. At the present time a ton and a half of coal was being raised each day, from everyone engaged in and about the mines, and coal all round being sold for 8s a ton, which was equal to 12s for each one, whilst wages amounted to only 3s per head, so that 9s a head went somewhere. He earnestly hoped that very soon they would get an advance in wages. The Corporation Insurance Scheme, and the Provident Insurance Scheme were then explained and the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

‘That this meeting, after hearing the views of the deputation, considers that we are entitled to an advance upon our wages, and therefore request that masters do so advance the price of coal so to give us an advance of 4d per day in thick coal, and 2d in thin coal, on October 1st; and if it is not given on that date we shall take such steps as we think best to recover it.’

A resolution was also unanimously passed approving of the Corporation Insurance Scheme.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/10/1888

“Last night an inquest was held at the OLD BUSH INN, Ebenezer Street, by Mr. W. H. Phillips, on the body of Martin Smallman (53), miner, Ebenezer Street, who had committed suicide. The deceased had for some time been depressed through the death of his wife, and also through his own infirmities. After a long illness he resumed work in a limestone pit on Wednesday. During the morning he was struck on the head with a stone, and owing to the injury he sustained he was compelled to go home. On the following morning he was found hanging in the kitchen. The jury returned a verdict of Committed Suicide during a state of Temporary Insanity.”

Derby Daily Telegraph 4/9/1889

“On Tuesday at Bilston, *Benjamin Porter*, landlord of the OLD BUSH, Roseville, Sedgley, was charged with having a quantity of liquid containing sugar in a place not licensed for that purpose. An officer of the Excise, on visiting the defendant’s house, found on the cellar-steps a can containing three quarts of liquid with about three pounds of sugar in it. The defendant, who pleaded that the can had been placed in the position by his daughter, unknown to him, was fined £20.”

1891 Census

Ebenezer Street – BUSH INN

- [1] *Benjamin Porter* (58), charter master, born Coseley;
- [2] *Emma Porter* (56), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] Daisy May Jevons (5), niece, born Coseley;
- [4] John Teece (61), brother in law, married, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [5] Sarah Whitehead (23), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/6/1894

“At the OLD BUSH INN, yesterday afternoon, an inquest was held before Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner), respecting the death of John Gibbons, who resided at Castle View, Roseville. On the 17th ult, the deceased, who was a collier, but had been out of em-

ployment, was engaged in cleaning a spout on his house, when one of the two ladders he had tied together broke, and he was precipitated violently to the pavement. Deceased's brother picked him up in an unconscious condition, and Dr. Johnson was called in, but death took place on Tuesday from concussion of the brain. The Coroner observed that one of the ladders used by deceased was so rotten as not to be safe for a child to stand upon it. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

Dudley Herald 25/6/1898

"An Saturday last the remains of the late Mr. *Benjamin Porter*, of the OLD BUSH INN, Roseville, Coseley, were interred in the chapelyard of Providence Baptist Church, Coseley.....

The Coseley Prize Band played the 'Dead March' from Saul, to the grave where Mr. Wardell, of Coseley, conducted the burial service in an impressive manner. After the body had been interred the band played 'Lead Kindly Light.' The body was encased in a shell with outer coffin, fitted with silver mountings and suitably inscribed. Many wreaths and other floral tributes were sent, and crowds of people followed to pay their last tribute to their well-known friend. The local NUOFG lodge, in which the deceased took a very active part as honorary member, followed to the grave, and there was every manifestation of sorrow and regret."

Dudley Herald 13/8/1898 - Notice

"Re *Benjamin Porter*, Deceased.

Take Notice that all Creditors and Other Person having any Debts, Claims or Demands, against the Estate of *Benjamin Porter*, late of No.1 Ebenezer Street, Roseville, Coseley, near Bilston, in the county of Stafford, Coal Master and Beerhouse Keeper, deceased, are hereby requested to send in all particulars thereof to me the undersigned, the Solicitors for the Executrix.

Dated this 9th day of August, 1896.

W. Arthur Foster, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, Solicitor for the Executrix."

Emma Porter married *Enoch Edward Price* on 4th May 1899.

1901 Census

1, Ebenezer Street

- [1] *Daniel Jeavons* (42), beer retailer, born Coseley;
- [2] *Emma Jeavons* (34), wife, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Daisy M. Jeavons* (15), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] *Daniel Jeavons* (13), son, holloware moulder, born Coseley;
- [5] *Jane Jeavons* (12), daughter, born Coseley;
- [6] *Reuben Jeavons* (11), son, born Coseley;
- [7] *Elizabeth Jeavons* (10), daughter, born Coseley;
- [8] *Benjamin Jeavons* (8), son, born Coseley;
- [9] *John W. Jeavons* (4), son, born Coseley;
- [10] *John Thomas* (36), brother in law, brewer, born Dawley, Shropshire;
- [11] *Annie Moris* (20), domestic servant, born Coseley:

Tipton Herald 28/11/1903

"*Enoch Price*, landlord of the OLD BUSH INN, Coseley, was charged with being drunk on his own premises on the 17th.

PS Shaffery stated that on the day in question he visited the defendant's premises and there found him drunk. The owner of the house was his wife.

Defendant pleaded guilty and was fined 10s and costs."

Enoch Edward Price, beer retailer, Ebenezer Street. [1904]

Tipton Herald 30/10/1909

"Excelsior Prize Brass Band. The band held their 26th annual dinner at the OLD BUSH INN, this week, when a presentation was made to Mr. Porter (the conductor) for services rendered over 25 years."

1911 Census

Ebenezer Street – OLD BUSH INN

- [1] *Thomas Porter* (56), licensed victualler and brewer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Porter* (56), wife, married 39 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sidney Porter* (19), son, gas stove iron moulder, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Benjamin Porter* (17), son, gas stove fitter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Joseph Harper* (68), brother in law, widower, private allowance, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Maria Oliver* (25), servant, born Sedgley:

Thomas Porter, beer retailer, Ebenezer Street. [1912], [1916]

Eder Porter, beer retailer, Ebenezer Street. [1921]

Letter 30/8/1938

“To H. S. Pratt Esq, The Clerk to the Magistrates, Bilston, Staffs.

Dear Sir,

We beg to advise you, on behalf of our Clients Messrs. Andrew Martin Fairbairn of 1, Priory Street, Dudley, in the County of Worcester and Robert Gray of 17, Welbeck Street, London, that by a Legal Charge dated the 23rd August 1938 made between Julian Hanson & Sons Ltd. of the one part and Messrs. A. M. Fairbairn and R. Gray of the other part, the Property known as the OLD BUSH INN, Coseley, together with the Goodwill and license held in connection therewith was mortgaged by Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd. to the said A. M Fairbairn and R. Gray to secure the Principal Sum and Interest therein mentioned.

We should be obliged if you would make the necessary entry in your Register. We enclose herewith Postal Order for 1/- being the fee payable.

Yours faithfully, Hooper & Fairbairn, Solicitors. 1, Priory Street, Dudley.”

1939 Register

Ebenezer Street – OLD BUSH INN

[1] *George Ward*, date of birth 23/7/1878, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Mary J. Ward, dob 13/9/1881, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Kenneth E. Millard, dob 12/2/1913, builder’s contractor trade, carpenter, single;

Closed

OLD BUSH

23, Skidmore Road, (Skidmore Row), (Old End), (Fullard’s End), COSELEY

OWNERS

Benjamin Smith

Henry Fowler, ironmaster, Tettenhall (acquired in 1865)

The Barbers Field Iron Co., Bilston

Edward Ward, High Fields, Sedgley (acquired in 1898)

Mary Jane Ward

Thomas Ward

Joseph Adams (acquired on 10th October 1928 for £1,950)

Holdens Brewery (leased 1969–1974) (acquired in 1974)

LICENSEES

Richard Caddick [1832] – **1849**;

Isaac Richards (**1849** – []

James Lewis [1861] – **1875**;

Mary Elizabeth Lewis (**1875** – **1876**);

Samuel Martin (**1876** – **1900**);

John Hatton (**1900**);

Sarah Ann Butcher (**1900**);

Edward Ward (**1900** – **1909**);

Mary Jane Ward (**1909** – **1922**);

Edward Ward (**1922**);

Thomas Ward (**1922** – **1928**);

Joseph ‘Joe’ Adams Jnr. (**1928** – **1969**);

Robert Roy Guest (**1969**);

Dorothy Guest (**1969** – **1978**);

Roy Robert Guest [**1978**];

Anne Stephens (**1978** – **1980**)

Edwin ‘Teddy’ Garner (**1980** – **1982**);

Frederick Pritchard (**1982** – **1983**);

Peter Minton (**1983** – **1985**);

Robert ‘Alan’ Meadowcroft (**1985** – **1987**);

Stephen ‘Steve’ Gary Meadowcroft (**1987** – **1990**);

Ian Andrew Lancaster (**1990** – []

Roger Powell [1992] – [1994]

Melanie Jane Timmins []

NOTES

Fullard's End [1833]

Old End [1846]

23, Skidmore Row [1871], [1881], [1891]

23, Skidmore Road [1940], [1999]

BUSH [1832], [1833], [1881]

It was known locally as "Joey Adams's".

It had a beerhouse license.

It was reputedly haunted.

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 23/1/1832 - Advert

"Copyhold Property at Coseley, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, Tomorrow (Tuesday) the 24th day of January, at five o'clock in the afternoon, at the dwelling house of Mr. *Richard Caddick*, the BUSH INN, Coseley, in the following or such other lots and subject to conditions as will be then agreed upon...."

Richard Caddick, screw maker and victualler, BUSH, Fullard's End. [1833]

1841 Census

Old End

[1] *Richard Caddick* (65), farmer, born Staffordshire;

[2] *Mary Caddick* (70), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Mary Caddick* (30), born Staffordshire;

[4] *Rebecca Caddick* (25), born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/8/1843

"Inquests before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner.....

On Monday, at the OLD BUSH, Old End, in the parish of Sedgley, on a child named Daniel Stokes, who died from the effects of burns received by his clothes taking fire."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/10/1846 - Died

"On the 1st instant, aged 77, deeply regretted, *Mary*, the wife of *Richard Caddick*, OLD BUSH, Old End, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/12/1847 - Married

"On the 23rd instant, at the Collegiate Church, in this town, Mr. *Isaac Richards*, contractor of Coseley, to *Mary*, daughter of Mr. *Richard Caddick*, of OLD BUSH, of the former place."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/8/1849 - Died

"August 10, of apoplexy, Mr. *Richard Caddick*, of the OLD BUSH INN, Coseley, in the 76th year of his age, seventy-four of which he passed in that house. A man deservedly high in the estimation of a large circle of friends, whose loss to society will be severely felt."

Isaac Richards – see also SWAN, Woodsetton.

1861 Census

Skidmore Row

[1] *James Lewis* (38), grocer and beer seller, born Sedgley;

[2] *Hannah Lewis* (35), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Sarah Lewis* (15), daughter, servant, born Sedgley;

[4] *Joseph Lewis* (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] *Mary E. Lewis* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] *Enoch B. Lewis* (4), son, born Sedgley:

1871 Census

23, Skidmore Row

- [1] *James Lewis* (48), huckster &c, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Lewis* (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Joseph Lewis* (20), son, stocktaker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary E. Lewis* (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Enoch Bailey* (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

23, Skidmore Row – BUSH INN

- [1] *Samuel Martin* (57), engineer and licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Martin* (56), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Elizabeth Martin* (25), daughter, born Rowley, Worcestershire;
- [4] *Phoebe Martin* (23), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *John Martin* (16), son, unemployed, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 7/9/1881

“Free Gardeners, Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock District. The members and friends of the True Vine Lodge, No.1348, had a few evenings ago an excellent dinner at their lodge house, the OLD BUSH INN, Skidmore Row, Coseley. The chair was filled by Bro. William Davies, Master of the Lodge, and the vice chair by Bro. Robert Clifford, Deputy Master.....”

Benjamin Smith died on 18th July 1885.

1891 Census

23, Skidmore Row – OLD BUSH INN

- [1] *Samuel Martin* (67), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Martin* (65), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *John Martin* (26), son, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Florence Elizabeth Mason* (20), granddaughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Sarah Jane Caddick* (21), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/6/1900 - Advert

“Sales by Auction.....

Freehold Fully Licensed Inn, the SHIP AND RAINBOW; also the Beerhouse, called the BUSH, at Highfields, Bilston.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/6/1900

“Property Sale. On Monday afternoon An old licensed house, the SHIP AND RAINBOW, Highfields, Bilston, rented at £18 per year, fetched £1,000; and the BUSH INN beerhouse, in the same locality, rented at £30 per year, was sold for £955.”

It was a home brew house.

1901 Census

Skidmore Road – OLD BUSH INN

- [1] *Edward Ward* (48), blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Jane Ward* (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Edward Ward* (17), son, house painter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Thomas Ward* (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Sarah Ward* (8), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Joseph Ward* (5), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Matilda Thomas* (28), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Wednesbury Leader 26/10/1906

“The first annual dinner in connection with the Daisy Bank Bowling Club was held at the club house, the OLD BUSH INN, on Saturday. The club has had a most successful season, having defeated Princes End, the winners of the West Bromwich League, in one of their matches. They have 60 members on the books, and are in a favourable financial position.....”

Edward Ward who was also a brewer, owned the BRICKMAKERS ARMS, Brierley Lane, Daisy Bank.

Leominster News 4/2/1910

“In the Probate Court on Monday, before the President, Sir John Bingham, application was made for a grant of probate of a complete draft of a damaged will of Mr. *Edward Ward*, late to the BRICKLAYERS ARMS INN, Brierley Lane, Daisy Bank, Sedgley, beerseller, who died on July 17, 1909, at the OLD BUSH INN, Skidmore’s Row, Daisy Bank. Mr. Dudley Grazebrook, who appeared for the applicant – the widow, Mrs. *Mary Jane Ward* – said the application was in respect of a will dated April 14, 1898. It was found at the bottom of a safe, and there were stains on it which rendered part of it difficult to decipher. His lordship said he was willing to grant probate of the part he could read. Counsel, however, desired to have probate of the whole of the will. A legal argument took place on the matter, and the case was ordered to stand over for further consideration.”

1911 Census

Skidmore's Row – OLD BUSH

- [1] *Mary Jane Ward* (54), widow, born Coseley;
- [2] *Edward Ward* (27), son, painter, born Coseley;
- [3] *Mary Jane Tominson* (25), daughter, married, born Coseley;
- [4] *Annie Ward* (20), daughter, dressmaker, born Coseley;
- [5] *Thomas Ward* (23), son, wood pattern maker, born Coseley;
- [6] *Sarah Ward* (18), daughter, born Coseley;
- [7] *Joseph Ward* (15), son, fitter, born Coseley;

Mrs. *Mary J. Ward*, beer retailer, Skidmore Row. [1912], [1916], [1921]

A billiard license was granted on 6th February 1931.

1939 Register

Skidmore Road – OLD BUSH INN

- [1] *Joseph Adams*, date of birth 16/5/1897, brewer and licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Fleta Adams*, dob 2/2/1895, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Gwyneth (Adams) Jones*, dob 28/9/1922, barmaid, single;
- [5] *Joseph A. Adams*, dob 4/9/1925, brewer's help, learning trade, single;
- [6] *Major Adams*, dob 1/9/1931, at school, single;

Black Country Bugle

'Joe Adams – Noted Coseley Wum Brewer' – letter from F. Fellows

".....The OLD BUSH INN, Skidmore Road, Coseley, owned by the late *Joe Adams*, a very popular licensee who brewed one of the finest glasses of beer in Coseley. He was a great pigeon fancier. He had a corpulent figure that could put fear into any unruly customer if necessary The premises after many years have now been refurbished and purchased by a popular brewery, Edwin Holden's."

Joseph Adams was the son of *Joseph*.

Coventry Evening Telegraph 13/2/1962

"Mr. *Joseph Adams* is selling the OLD BUSH INN, Coseley, Staffs, where for 33 years he has sold beer he has brewed himself."

Birmingham Daily Post 13/2/1962

"The Black Country has always been identified with pigeon flying and 'Wum brewed' beer, and Mr. *Joe Adams*, licensee of the OLD BUSH INN, Daisybank, has always been true to type.

But soon he may lose one link, for Mr. *Adams* wants to sell his one-man brewery and inn. If he does he says he will be able to give more time to his racing pigeons.

Brewing has been a family tradition with the *Adams* family for three generations – starting with the grandfather Mr. *Joe Adams*, of the MINERS ARMS, Hurst Hill, then his father at the DRUIDS HEAD, Hurst Hill, and finally himself at the OLD BUSH, where he has been for 33 years.

He learned how to brew at the DRUIDS HEAD – still retained in the *Adams*'s family tradition by a niece of Mr. *Joe Adams* – when he was 13, and beer was a penny a pint.

Mr. *Adams* remembers when public-houses opened at 6am and closed 'when they felt like it.' He says that if he does sell his brewery 'you'll catch me coming in here again for the odd half pint' because he thinks too much money is wasted on drink."

Brewing ceased in 1962.

Joe Adams died on 10th February 1978 aged 81.

Birmingham Daily Post 15/5/1968

"A 41 year-old Coseley man taken seriously ill while being disconnected from a kidney machine, died from natural causes, a Dudley inquest was told yesterday.

He was *Robert Roy Guest*, of the OLD BUSH INN, Skidmore Road, Daisy Bank, Coseley, who was found dead on arrival at Dudley Guest Hospital on May 8, after being taken ill at home the same day while his wife was disconnecting him from a kidney machine.

Prof. J. M. Webster, pathologist, said Mr. *Guest* had a number of things wrong with him that put a strain on his heart. His kidneys weighed only a third of what they should have weighed.

The Deputy Coroner, Mr. Owen Griffiths, recorded a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

Anne Stephens was married to Stan.

Teddy Garner – see also WHEATSHEAF, West Bromwich.

Alan Meadowcroft was married to Dilys.
They moved from Lancashire in 1985.

Steve Meadowcroft was the son of *Alan* and Dilys.
He was married to Liz.

London Gazette 28/6/1999

“*Sweetland, Joanne Elaine* unemployed, lately residing at The OLD BUSH, 23, Skidmore Road Date of Bankruptcy Order – 11th June 1999.....”

[also *Lee Michael Sweetland*.]

[2002]

Closed [2005]

It was demolished in 2010.

Housing was built on the site. [2015]

OLD BUSH

Duck Lane, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Hickin [1833]

NOTES

Check Gospel End Street.

OLD BUSH

Gospel End Street / 2, Vicar Street, (Dudley Road), Bush Bank, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

John Jones
Messrs. Williams and Enson, Penn Brewery
South Staffordshire Brewery Co.
J. & J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Church [1828] – [1830]
Joseph Ikin [1834]
Thomas Baker [1851] – [1862]
John Jones [1864] – 1876);
Job Hickman (1876);
John Jones (1876 – 1882);
Edward White Davis (1882 – 1883);

John Cooper (1883 – 1884);
James Hinley (1884 – 1888);
Thomas Lane (1888 – 1893);
Thomas Farmer Draycott (1893 – 1901);
George Mills (1901 – 1905);
Phoebe Mills (1905 – 1907);

NOTES

Vicar Street [1861], [1871], [1881], [1891]
Gospel End Street [1851], [1881]
Dudley Road [1904]

OLD BUSH [1829], [1850], [1856], [1863], [1879], [1881], [1882]
BUSH [1850], [1871], [1874], [1880], [1882], [1884], [1891], [1901]

It stood at the top of Bush Bank (Gospel End Street) at the divide between Gospel End Street and Vicar Street.
It was situated next to the old cemetery.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/9/1829 - Advert

“Freehold Public House In Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Griffin and Marsh, on Thursday next, the 10th of September, on the premises, at four o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced – all that well accustomed Public House called the OLD BUSH INN, with brewhouse, outbuildings, and premises thereto belonging, situate in Sedgley, distant three miles from Dudley and Wolverhampton, and now in the occupation of *Thomas and George Church*.

The above property is freehold of inheritance, and pleasantly situated near the New Church, in the populous and thriving village of Sedgley.

Further particulars may be known by applying at the office of Thomas Goode, Solicitor, Dudley.”

AND

“OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley.

Notice is hereby given, that the above Property (advertised for Sale by Auction in the fourth page) has been sold and disposed of by private contract.

Thomas Goode, Solicitor, Dudley.”

Birmingham Journal 12/1/1850

“An adjourned inquest was held on Tuesday last at the OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner, on the body of Joseph Rudge, about sixty-three years of age, a labourer, who died from injuries received under the following circumstances. It appeared that on Saturday evening, the 22nd of last month, he was returning home from his work, and whilst he was walking up Cann Lane, by the side of a cart loaded with cinders, drawn by two horses, the stick with which he was walking slipped, and he fell under the near wheel of the cart, which passed over his body. There have been various reports as to the way in which deceased came to his death, but it appears from the evidence that the occurrence was quite accidental. He was afterwards attended by Mr. Hayden, surgeon, but died on the following Thursday from the injuries which he had received. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1850

“An adjourned inquest was held on Thursday evening, at the BUSH INN, Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Thomas Smith, about sixty-five years of age, a bricklayer, who had lived alone in a brickyard in Ettingshall colliery, and who died suddenly whilst at work in the brickyard. It appeared that a witness on the day in question saw him leaning with his hands upon the wooden spon he had been using, and heard him call out ‘Oh Lord, oh Lord!’ and he instantly fell upon his back. The deceased was taken to Sedgley workhouse, where a bruise was observed under his left ear, and blood flowed from that ear. By direction of the coroner and jury a post mortem examination was subsequently made by Mr. Henry Haden, surgeon of Sedgley, who stated that he had found considerable disease of the heart, which in his opinion caused death. Verdict Died from Disease of the Heart.”

1851 Census

Gospel End Street

[1] *Thomas Baker* (58), victualler, lime master, farmer occupying 30 acres of land, born Sedgley;

[2] Ann Baker (53), wife, born Brewood, Staffordshire;

[3] John Baker (30), son, farmer and lime burner, born Sedgley;

[4] James Baker (24), son, farmer and lime burner, born Sedgley;

[5] Phebe Baker (14), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] Mary Ann Baker (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/2/1856

“On Thursday last T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner, held an inquest at the OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley, the evidence adduced at which exhibited another instance of the danger to life by sleeping near a fire, whilst in a state of intoxication. The occurrence took place at Lower Gornall, on the night of Sunday, the 4th of November last, to a man fifty years of age, named William Limes, a labourer, who resided at Bromley, in the parish of Kingswinford. It appeared that on the evening named between six and seven o’clock the deceased paid a visit to his son-in-law, who lives at Lower Gornall. He was very much in liquor when he reached his relative’s house. He partook of supper, but refused to have anything to drink. Between nine and ten o’clock he was asked to go to bed but declined, preferring to lie upon a bench which stood about a yard from the fire-grate. In a short time after his son-in-law and wife had retired to bed, the deceased called out that his clothes were on fire, and on his relatives coming down stairs, they found the old man’s clothes were on fire. The fire was extinguished and his clothes removed. His body was dreadfully burnt. Mr. Thompson, surgeon, was fetched, after which he was removed to Sedgley Workhouse, where every attention was paid to him by Mr. Haden, surgeon. He died on Tuesday, the 5th instant. The deceased had been asked how his clothes became ignited, but he said that being tipsy at the time he could not tell. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased came to his death by Accidental means.”

1861 Census

Vicar Street

- [1] *Thomas Baker* (67), widower, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *John Baker* (40), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [3] *James Baker* (34), son, lime burner, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Phoebe Baker* (24), daughter, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/12/1863 - Advert

“An Opportunity Seldom To Be Met With.

To be Sold by Private Contract, all that Freehold Old-Licensed Public House, known as the OLD BUSH, Sedgley, situate close to the New Police Station and Magistrates’ Rooms.

Apply to *Thomas Baker*, Gospel End House, Sedgley.”

1871 Census

Vicar Street – BUSH INN

- [1] *John Jones* (43), blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Jones* (40), wife, born Wombourne;
- [3] *Thomas Jones* (16), son, painter’s assistant, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Richard Jones* (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Margaret Jones* (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Samuel Jones* (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Mary Cartwright* (33), domestic servant, born Wombourne;
- [8] *Elizabeth Hall* (22), visitor, born Sedgley:

John Jones was also a farmer. [1872]

Dudley Herald 20/3/1880 - Advert

“To be Let, good House and Premises, known by the sign of the VINE INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley; rent low.

Apply to Mr. *John Jones*, BUSH INN, Sedgley.”

1881 Census

Vicar Street – OLD BUSH INN

- [1] *John Jones* (53), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Jones* (49), wife, born Wombourne;
- [3] *Richard Jones* (24), son, painter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Margaret Jones* (21), daughter, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Samuel Jones* (17), son, safe maker, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Elizabeth Jones* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Elizabeth Smith* (14), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 12/9/1881 - Advert

“To be Sold, by Private Contract, the OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley; next to the magistrates’ room.

Apply on the premises, or to Messrs. T. M., J. and A. Whitehouse, solicitors, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.”

Dudley and District News 24/12/1881 - Advert

“Freehold Old-Licensed Inn, at Sedgley, Staffordshire.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 2nd day of January, 1882, at the COURT HOUSE HOTEL, Sedgley, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale, which will incorporate the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

All that Old-licensed Freehold Public-House and Premises, situate at the corner of Vicar Street, and Gospel End Street, at Sedgley,

known by the sign of the OLD BUSH INN, in the occupation of the Proprietor, Mr. *John Jones*.

The OLD BUSH INN contains Bar 17ft by 10ft, Tap Room 42 by 13, Kitchen 16 by 15, Smoke Room 16-6 by 11 on the ground floor, and Club Room and three Chambers on the first floor.

The Premises, which are immediately adjoining the Police Court, comprise in addition to the house, Stabling, Brewhouse, Coal-house, Closets, and Yard, and there is an ample supply of Water upon the premises.

The Fixtures attached to the Freehold will be sold with the Property.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. T. M., J. and A. Whitehouse, Solicitors, Queen Street; or to the Auctioneer, 6, King Street, both of Wolverhampton.”

Evening Star 28/4/1882

“A petition was filed in the Dudley County Court on Thursday, on behalf of *John Jones*, late of the OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley. The liabilities amounted to about £120. Messrs. T. M., J. and A. Whitehouse, of Tipton, are the solicitors acting for the debtor.”

London Gazette 2/5/1882

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Jones*, late of the OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Innkeeper and Blacksmith, but now residing at Gospel End-street, Sedgley aforesaid, Blacksmith.

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. T. M., J. and A. Whitehouse, Solicitors, 47, Dudley-road, Tipton, on the 15th day of May, 1882, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 27th day of April, 1882.

T. M., J. and A. Whitehouse. 47, Dudley-road, Tipton, Solicitors for the said *John Jones*.”

Edward White Davis = Edward White Davies

Dudley and District News 11/11/1882

“Thomas Guest, of Sedgley, was fined £2 and costs for assaulting *Edward White Davies* and refusing to quit his licensed premises, the BUSH INN, Sedgley.”

James Hinley = James Himley

Dudley and District News 9/2/1884

“At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, Mr. Collis, solicitor, of Stourbridge, made application for the transfer of the BUSH INN, Sedgley, from William *Cooper* to *James Himley*. He explained that *Cooper* had managed the house for Messrs. Williams and Enson, of the Penn Brewery, and had also travelled for them, but an investigation into his accounts proved that they were wrong, and when he heard inquiries were being made into his monetary transactions he absconded, and his whereabouts had not yet been traced. His wife was at present in the house, and, if she knew, she would not tell where her husband was. If her husband was found a guarantee society would at once take proceedings against him.

The magistrates' clerk (Mr. J. W. Hall) pointed out that the justices were being asked to try a criminal case in the absence of the accused. If the license was transferred and *Cooper* came back again he might object to the proceedings. Under the circumstances the magistrates had no right to grant the application.

Mr. Collis said the man was only a manager, and could be discharged, but Mr. Hall replied that the law would take no notice of that, but was bound to regard *Cooper* only as a licensed person. It would be useless to transfer the license under the circumstances.

The application was therefore refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1887 - Advert

“Freehold Full-Licensed Public-House, Sedgley, near Dudley.

By Roderick & Son. To be Sold by Auction, at the Property Mart, 6, Temple Row West, Birmingham, To-Morrow (Tuesday), August 23, at 6 o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be them produced – a capital Old-licensed Freehold Public-House, known as the BUSH INN, situate near to the Church and Bull Ring, in the centre of the town of Sedgley.

The Premises are convenient and well-arranged, and the Property is particularly well worth the attention of Brewers, as possession will be given.

The Public-house Fixtures and Effects will have to be taken at valuation, about £100.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Joseph H. Peace, Chartered Accountant, Temple Row; to Messrs. Jeffery, Parr, and Hassell, Solicitors, Colmore Row; to Mr. C. H. Jagger, Solicitor, Cherry Street; or to the Auctioneers, 2, Temple Row West, Birmingham.”

1891 Census

Vicar Street – BUSH INN

[1] *Thomas Lane* (34), victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Elizabeth Lane* (37), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *William H. Lane* (11), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *James Lane* (5), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton;

[5] May Lane (4), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

1901 Census

2, Vicar Street

[1] *Thomas Farmer Draycott* (50), tinsplate worker, born Hanley, Staffordshire;

[2] Sarah Ann Draycott (41), wife, born Walsall;

[3] Harold Thomas Draycott (18), son, tinsplate worker, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Amelia Orme Draycott (13), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[5] Minnie Jones (21), general servant, born Manchester:

London Gazette 11/10/1901

“*Draycott, Thomas Farmer*. The BUSH INN Sedgley, Staffordshire. Publican and Tin Plate Worker.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/10/1901

“Bankruptcy Proceedings. Examinations at Dudley.....

Thomas Farmer Draycott, of the BUSH INN, Sedgley, also came up to undergo Mr. Jobson’s examination. His statement of affairs showed liabilities £385 5s 2d, and the deficiency £379 2s 9d. The examination was closed.”

George Mills was convicted on 26th May 1902 for permitting drunkenness.

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions OLD BUSH, Sedgley.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the house was not required and conviction.

Mr. Foster appeared for the licensee Mr. *George Mills*.

Inspector Moss proved the conviction and in reply to Mr. Foster said the applicant was a very decent man, but was not fit to keep a public house. As a publican he was a failure, and would do better at tract distributing. Applicant had not enough discipline about him to keep a public house in order.

Mr. Foster said he did not like to differ with Inspector Moss, but he thought in these days it was of the highest importance to get the highest type of men they could. It seemed that Mr. *Mills* was objected to because he was too respectable and too good for the position. Mr. *Mills* was one of the most respectable men in the parish of Sedgley. He had been connected with the local Vol-unteers for many years and was at present a colour sergeant. He (Mr. Foster) asked them with absolute confidence to renew the license as Mr. *Mills* was a credit to the trade.

The license was renewed, the justices expressing a hope that some good would be the result of what had been said.”

It had an air gun shooting team. [1903]

The license was refused at the annual licensing meeting, on 8th February 1907, on the grounds of its structural unsuitability.

Lichfield Mercury 12/4/1907

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

Phoebe Mills, of the OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley, appealed against the decision of the Bilston justices not to renew the license.

Mr. Lawrence, who appeared for the respondents, said the only point was as to the structural condition of the premises, the justices having refused to renew the license on the ground that the premises were unsuitable for the purposes of a public-house.

Evidence was given that the premises were in a dilapidated condition, and it was not possible to effectively repair the structure.

For the appellants evidence was given that the house was substantially built, that the building, although tied together with rods, was safe, and that it was suitable as licensed premises.

The appeal was dismissed with costs.”

It closed in 1907

It was demolished in 1925.

OLD BUSH

Foxyards, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Turley [1834]

Isaiah Richards [1851]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/4/1851

“At a Special Sessions of County Justices, held on Monday last, the 28th instant.....

Isaiah Richards, of the OLD BUSH, near Princes End, Sedgley, made a special application to remove his license from his house, which had been thrown down by the working and getting the mines in and under the same, to a house in his occupation, situate a short distance from it, at the Fox Yards, in the same parish, and no opposition being made the application was granted.”

OLD CHAINYARD

63, Castle Street, Roseville, (Fullwoods End), COSELEY

OWNERS

Howard Price
Jane Bates
George Bates
Albert Ernest Prince, cabinet maker
Minnie Gertrude Groves, wife of licensee
H. and B. Woodhouse, Dudley (acquired on 2nd June 1915 for £850)
J. A. and A. Thompson Ltd., maltsters, Orchard St., Oldbury
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Jim Brightman (acquired in 1991)
Keith and Lyn Garbett (Keilyn Enterprises) (acquired in 1998) [2003]
InDeeD
London Taverns [2015], [2018]

LICENSEES

Abraham Grocutt [1855]
Charles Guest [1859] – **1861**
Thomas Prince [1863] – [1864]
Mrs. Hannah Prince [1866] – **1873**;
Thomas Prince (**1873 – 1883**);
Mrs. Jane Prince (**1883 – 1885**);
George Bates (**1885 – 1894**);
Hannah Prince (**1894 – 1895**);
George Bates (**1895 – 1905**);
John Groves (**1905 – 1913**);
Thomas Salt (**1913 – 1914**);
Walter William Nicklin (**1914 – 1916**);
Joseph Thomas Dilger (**1916 – 1922**);
Richard Trimble (**1922 – 1923**);
Frederick George Jackson (**1923 – 1929**);
John Frank Whitehouse (**1929 – 1932**);
Charles Thomas Ashwin (**1932 – 1933**);
Cuthbert Oswald Hampshaw (**1933 – 1938**);
Thomas Frederick Dudley (**1938 – [1940]**)
K Williams [1959]
M M Jenks [1983]
Phuman Sanghera (**1985 – []**)
John Anthony Wagstaff and Patricia Ann Wagstaff [1992]
Diane Westwood []
Tracey Slater [2000]
Nick Chapman (**2015 – []**)
Amanda Fisher [2017] – [2018]

NOTES

The original pub was set back a little further from the road.
It was originally the RED LION.

It was known locally as “The Chainyard”

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/2/1844

“The following inquests have been held before Mr. Phillips, Esq, coroner.

On Thursday last, at the RED LION, Coseley, on the body of a boy about twelve years old, named William Fisher; the deceased was sent on an errand to fetch some clay, and having to pass a coal pit he fell in it, in consequence as it is believed, of the dazzling light from a fire on an adjoining pit bank; he was seen by the banksman near the mouth of the pit, and in a moment after was heard falling down the shaft. Assistance was immediately procured, and the poor boy was brought out of the pit with his head smashed, and died in two hours afterwards. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/10/1855

“On Monday last there was a fine sheep and a large round of beef roasted at the house of Mr. *Abraham Grocutt*, RED LION INN, Coseley, in honour of the glorious capture of Sebastopol, of which a large number partook. After the cloth was drawn, David Grocutt, Esq, ironmaster, presided, the vice-chair being filled with Edward Jones, Esq. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and joyously drank; and the musical arrangements reflected credit on Mr. Henry Turby and Mr. William Wright, of Coseley. In the course of the day a cannonading was continually kept up, and in the evening a new balloon was sent by the landlord, which enlivened the harmony of the party very much. The health of the chairman and that of the vice-chairman were drunk with musical honours. Later in the evening Samuel Grocutt, Esq, came and was warmly received by the whole company. Everything went off in the most orderly and good humoured manner.”

Birmingham Journal 7/5/1859 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Land And Premises, situate at Fullwood’s End, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, on Tuesday next, the 10th day of May, at Six o’clock in the evening punctually, at the house of Mr. *Charles Guest*, RED LION AND FOUR WAYS INN, Fullwood’s End, Coseley, aforesaid, subject to conditions then to be produced and read.

Lot 29. All that very valuable Freehold Public House and Premises, situated at Fullwood’s End, Coseley, aforesaid known as the RED LION AND FOUR WAYS INN, together with the Blacksmiths’, Wheelwrights’, and Chain Makers’ Shopping, Stabling, Cottage, and large Garden, all in the occupation of Mr. *Charles Guest*, and his under-tenants, covering an area of 2,479 square yards or thereabouts.

The above Inn has been carried on very successfully by the late Mr. *Abraham Grocutt*, for a number of years, and is now doing a large and extensive business by the present Proprietor, and is most centrally situated at the junction of four important thorough-fares.”

Birmingham Journal 16/2/1861 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Houses, at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Charles Round will Offer for Sale by Public Auction, at the house of Mr. *Charles Guest*, the RED LION INN, Fullwoods End, Coseley, on Tuesday Next, the 19th day of February, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions – a Plot of Land, containing by recent admeasurement 393 square yards or thereabouts, with Four Dwelling Houses erected thereon, and the Out-buildings and boundary wall thereto belonging, situate at Coseley aforesaid, and having a frontage of 16 yards and 21ft, or thereabouts to a road leading into the Public Highway, from Old End to Fullwoods End and Bilston.

The Houses (three of which have been recently erected) are well supplied with hard and soft Water, and are now in the occupation of Thomas Jeavons, Isaac Clark, Richard Grocutt, and Widow Unitt.

Apply to Messrs. Lawrence, Smith, and Fawdon, Solicitors, 12, Bread Street, Cheapside, London; Messrs. T. M. and J. Whitehouse, Attorneys-at-law, Wolverhampton; or to the Auctioneer, Tipton.”

1861 Census

Fullwoods End – RED LION INN

- [1] *Charles Guest* (46), miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary A. Guest* (36), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Emma Guest* (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary Guest* (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Alexander Guest* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Charles Guest* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Harriett Gregory* (17), servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Waterhouse appeared on behalf of Mr. Thomas Percival for a license to a beerhouse [ROYAL HOTEL] in New Walbrook, Coseley, and Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. Joseph Rose in respect of another beerhouse [NEW BUSH] in the immediate vicinity. The two applications were taken together, and were opposed by Mr. Bowen on behalf of Mr. W. Roland, who applied, as owner, for a renewal of the license to the RED LION, Five Ways. It appeared that the license was last year granted to *Charles Guest*, who gave up possession of the house at the beginning of last January, and it had since remained closed and untenanted. Mr. Underhill contended that Mr. *Guest* having neglected to get his license transfer, the present was not the time nor the place for the application on behalf of Mr. Roland. Mr. Waterhouse contended that the premises were not of a character in respect to which a license would in these days be granted. The Bench acquiesced in the latter objection to the RED LION, and deemed it a favourable opportunity for withdrawing the license, which they did accordingly, granting the application of Mr. Percival, whose premises they considered were more suitable of the two houses, with respect to which the application for two new houses were before them.”

Thomas Prince = Thomas Price

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/8/1863

“Yesterday a special session was held for the renewal and granting of victuallers’ licenses.....

An application was made by Mr. J. E. Underhill for a renewal of the license of the RED LION, Coseley, which had lapsed through the house being untenanted, was adjourned until the 27th September, with an intimation that under the circumstances it would be renewed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.

Mr. J. E. Underhill applied for a license for the house known by the name of the RED LION, Fulwoods End, occupied by Mr. *Thomas Price*. The house, it appeared, had been one of the oldest in the neighbourhood up to last year, when it was vacant for some eight months. From some neglect of the landlord in not attending to his license at the annual meeting, it was of course withdrawn. There had never been any complaint against him, nor were there any stronger reason for withdrawing it than the one assigned.

The application was opposed by Mr. Waterhouse, and it was adjourned to the next meeting, to be held on the 25th September.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/9/1863

“The adjourned licensing meeting for the Bilston division of the county was held on Friday.....

Mr. H. Underhill applied for the renewal of the license formerly attached to a house at Coseley, kept by *Thomas Prince*. He stated that the license had been withdrawn in consequence of the unfitness of the house for the purposes of an inn, but it had in the meantime been repaired and rendered suitable. Mr. Waterhouse opposed the application on behalf of two or three victuallers of the neighbourhood, and the Bench declined to renew the license.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

Mr. Travers applied on behalf of *Thomas Prince*, for a license to the RED LION, Coseley. Application refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

“The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

Mr. Travis (of West Bromwich) applied on behalf of *Thomas Prince*, of the RED LION, Coseley; and also for Samuel Colbourne, of the BUSH INN, Coseley, both of whom were in a position to carry on the business of a licensed victualler, greatly to the advantage of the public, if the Magistrates granted the applications.....

The Magistrates refused to grant any one of these applications.”

Hannah Prince = Anna Prince = Annah Prince

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. Travis, of West Bromwich, made an application on behalf of *Hannah Prince*, of the RED LION INN, Fullards End, Coseley. For fourteen years, he said, the house had possessed a spirit license, but, unfortunately, in 1862 it was taken away because the house was found unfit for a place of public resort. Since then, however, it had undergone considerable alteration and was now as good as any public house in Sedgley.

Mr. Thurstans opposed on behalf of two licensed victuallers, and stated that there were at present four houses in the neighbourhood, and an additional one was not required. The license was not granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 31/8/1867

“Yesterday, the annual meeting of Magistrates for the granting of victuallers’ licenses, in the Bilston Police Division, was held at the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mrs. *Hannah Prince*, for a license to a house at the junction of five roads, in the parish of Sedgley, leading to Coseley, Princes End, Wallbrook, Deepfields, and Bilston. The house had formerly possessed a spirit license, but it was taken away sometime ago, in consequence of the premises having got out of repair, and it was given to the PAINTERS ARMS, occupied by a Mr. B. Jones. His client had kept another house in the neighbourhood for a period of nine years, and had kept that one she now applied for a license for about five years. He understood they were to be met with an opposition by the landlord of the PAINTERS ARMS, and also from the QUEENS HOTEL. The first-named public house was 250 yards away, and the second 150. Mr. Thurstans, of Wolverhampton, opposed on behalf of Mr. B. Jones, the PAINTERS ARMS, and also Mr. Percival, of the QUEENS HOTEL, and said that there were three other licensed houses within an area of 150 yards, in good condition, and capable of affording considerable accommodation. Application refused.”

Anna Prince was fined 1s and costs for opening during prohibited hours in January 1869.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.....

For keeping open during prohibited hours *Hannah Prince*, RED LION, Roseville, 1s and costs.....

Allowing Gaming *Hannah Prince*, RED LION, Roseville, to pay costs.....

The licenses of the following beerhouse keepers were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting.....

Hannah Prince.”

1871 Census

63, Castle Street

[1] *Annah Prince* (64), widow, publican, born Tipton;

[2] *Thomas Prince* (30), son, miner, born Sedgley;

[3] Mary Morris (34), daughter, born Tipton;

[4] Jane Nicholls (17), granddaughter scholar, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

63, Castle Street

[1] *Thomas Prince* (41), beer retailer, born Sedgley;

[2] *Jane Prince* (32), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Hannah Prince* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] *Thomas Prince* (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] *Albert Earnest Prince* (2), son, born Sedgley;

[6] *Seth Caddick* (43), boarder, coal miner, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 12/4/1881

“On Monday afternoon an inquest was held at the RED LION INN, Roseville, respecting the death of Benjamin Baxter, of Jevon Street, Coseley, who was killed on the Friday previous, at the Bloomfield Basin, belonging to the London and North Western Railway. Mr. Churnock, district goods manager, and Inspector Penderon, represented the company.

Alice Hughes, a married daughter of the deceased, identified the body, and said deceased was a watchman, but she did not know that he had any employment on the day of his death. She last saw him alive on Thursday, the 7th inst. He had been living with her and her husband for the last twelve months.

James Dickinson, in the employ of his father, a subcontractor at the Basin, said he saw the deceased at the Basin about eight o'clock on Friday evening, while he (witness) was loading some iron into a waggon on the siding. Witness engaged him to assist in loading two waggons, deceased having stated that he had nothing to eat at home. Witness saw the deceased killed. Just as the trucks were in motion, after being loaded, deceased got on to the back part of the first waggon, and endeavoured to reach some string from the landing stage for the purpose of tying on the sheets over the waggons, when he overbalanced himself and fell between the trucks. The deceased's body fell across the rails and stopped the trucks. Witness at once went for a doctor, but before the latter arrived the man was dead. Deceased was perfectly sober, and he was accustomed to such work.

Samuel Edwards, a boatman, having given corroborative evidence, a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Evening Express 24/8/1881

“W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquest this morning at the RED LION INN, Roseville, Coseley, on the body of Emma Mason (7), who resided with her uncle and stepfather, William Mason, at 21, Jeavon Street, Roseville, Coseley, and who was found dead in the Birmingham Canal near Fullwood's End Canal Bridge, Coseley, on Sunday evening last.

William Mason stated that the deceased was at home about 5.30 and had her tea, after which she and her little brother went out for a walk. Some time after, on account of her not returning, and hearing that she had been near the canal, not far distant, he went and dragged and found the body in the canal. There was no injury upon it, and he had no reason to blame anyone for her death.

The deceased's sister, Maria Mason, said she was playing with the deceased and others near the canal on the evening named, and saw the deceased, who had some clay on her boots, washing them in the water of the canal. Witness told her to come away, but she refused, and threw a stone at witness. Witness and others left the deceased and went home; it was then about six o'clock.

John Smout, a resident near the canal, said a number of children had been playing near the canal and, about six o'clock, he saw the deceased by the canal side washing her shoes in the water. He then went away, but did not hear any cry.

Rebecca Derbyshire said she was with the deceased and others, and went under the canal tunnel, and deceased got some clay upon her shoes, and she sat down to wash the clay off in the water of the canal. Shortly after witness heard the deceased cry out, 'Oh, Maria!' She did not go to her.

The jury returned a verdict of Found Dead in the Birmingham Canal, near the spot where deceased was seen washing her shoes, but no evidence to show how she came by her death."

Thomas Prince died on 28th June 1883.

Dudley and District News 14/6/1884

"On Tuesday W. H. Phillips, Esq, borough coroner, held an inquest at the RED LION INN, Roseville, Coseley, into the circumstances attending the death of John Ramsbottom, aged 54, miner, of 1, Jevon Street, Coseley, who died suddenly on Sunday morning last. After hearing the evidence of Mrs. Ramsbottom, the wife of deceased, and his eldest son, the jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes. The deceased was much respected."

Jane Prince married *George Bates* in the 3rd quarter of 1885.

1891 Census

Castle Street

- [1] *George Bates* (47), public house, born Alcester;
- [2] *Jane Bates* (43), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Hannah Prince (17), daughter, milliner's apprentice, born Coseley;
- [4] Thomas Prince (15), son, moulder's apprentice, born Coseley;
- [5] Albert E. Prince (12), son, scholar, born Coseley;
- [6] Minnie G. Prince (7), daughter, scholar, born Coseley;
- [7] Mary Granger (21), general servant, born Coseley;
- [8] Eliza Bates (36), visitor, cook, born Alcester;
- [9] Henry E. Sandy (21), visitor, holloware turner, born Liverpool:

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/9/1893

"Edward Lloyd Gatacre, of Gatacre Hall, near Bridgnorth, was summoned for furious driving and assaulting *Thomas Prince*, 18, pavior, RED LION INN, Roseville, Coseley, on the 15th inst. Mr. Wilcock defended.

Prince's statement was that he and a companion named Jones were riding on bicycles to Bridgnorth, when they overtook the defendant, who was driving a trap accompanied by a lady, a boy, and a groom. The defendant pulled up, and *Prince* and his companion passed, when the defendant started his horse and tried to run over them. He drove first on one side and then on the other, and Jones in endeavouring to get out of the way, came into collision with a trap in which Mr. Colman, surgeon, of Wolverhampton, was driving. *Prince* asked the defendant for his name, when he used bad language and struck several times with his whip. Joseph Mason, poultry dealer, of Willenhall, who was passing at the time, gave corroborative evidence as to the assault, and Mr. Colman said he had to drive into a by-way to avoid a collision owing to the rapid rate at which the defendant was driving. The defence was that the cyclists were careless in their method of riding and frightened Mr. Gatacre's horse.

The Bench held that the cyclists frightened the horse by behaving in a way which was only too common with such people and dismissed the charge of assault, which the defendant's groom said he had not committed; but for furious driving a fine of 1s and costs was imposed."

Dudley Herald 29/1/1898

"On Monday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips (corner) held an inquest at the RED LION INN, Roseville, respecting the death of a female child of Elizabeth Hortes, Bayer Street.

The child's grandmother said the baby was born on the 19th inst. and died on the 21st. The child slept between her and her mother, but it was not covered with bed clothes.

Ann Glover, a neighbour, said the child had been taken proper care of.

Dr. Clandinnon spoke to being present at the birth of the child. He attended the mother in the usual course, but nothing was said of the child till the Friday when he was informed that she was dead. He could not form any conclusion as to the cause of death which might have resulted in suffocation or convulsions.

The Jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes."

1901 Census

63, Castle Street

- [1] *George Bates* (57), widower, beer retailer, born Alcester, Warwickshire;
- [2] Albert Prince (22), stepson, cabinet maker, born Coseley;
- [3] Minnie G. Prince (17), stepdaughter, born Coseley;
- [4] Mary Grainger (30), housekeeper, born Coseley;
- [5] Lucy Saunders (19), domestic servant, born Willenhall:

George Bates, beer retailer, Castle Street. [1904]

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1904 - Advert

“To Brewers, Maltsters, Publicans, and Others. Coseley, near Bilston. Monday, November 14, 1904.

.....Messrs. Samuel Jones, Son, and Vernon, have received instructions to Sell by Auction All that Valuable and Important Old-Established and well-known Free Freehold Home Brewing Beerhouse and Extensive Premises, known as the RED LION INN, Castle Street, Rose Ville, Coseley together with the Goodwill and possession of the Lucrative Business carried on there-at.

The House contains: Front Tap Room, and large Parlour, which can be thrown into one room if required; through Hall, Bar, large Kitchen, 2 Pantrys, good Beer Cellars, with rolling way, and four good Bed Rooms, and Box Rooms. Outside are extensive and roomy Premises, which comprise Brewery with Malt Room over, Working Cellar, 2 Stall Stable, with Loft over, Loose Box, Coach House, Blacksmith's Shop, Fasting Pen, Slaughterhouse, Brewhouse, and other conveniences. Good Garden and Large Open Yard.

The premises have a long frontage to Castle Street, and extend back to, and have a frontage to Bank Street.

This house has every facility for the carrying on of a very remunerative trade, and at the present time is brewing from 6 to 8 bags per week, in addition to a very large bottle trade. The situation is one of the best in the district, and the house (which has been in the occupation of the present family upwards of forty years) one of the most popular.....”

Minnie *Prince* married *John Groves* in the 2nd quarter of 1905.

1911 Census

Castle Street – RED LION INN

- [1] *John Groves* (37), beerhouse keeper, born Coseley;
- [2] *Minnie Groves* (27), wife, married 6 years, assists in business, born Coseley;
- [3] *Dora Groves* (4), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] *Albert Groves* (2), son, born Coseley;
- [5] *Albert Prince* (31), brother in law, half share in business, born Coseley;
- [6] *Phoebie Sharkey* (18), domestic servant, born Coseley;
- [7] *Clarence West* (16), nurse, born Coseley:

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. *John Groves*.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. Davies.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. Enoch Smart.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Isaac Smart.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Joshua Bradley.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Beerhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill

of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/5/1915 - Advert

“Under A Deed Of Assignment.

Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Preliminary Announcement Of Sale By Auction of Eleven Freehold, Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises & Dwelling Houses in and around Darlaston, Sedgley, Coseley, Bilston, Tipton, Ackleton, and Bridgnorth.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from R. H. Jonson, Esq. (Messrs. Muras and Co., Chartered Accountants, Wolverhampton), the Trustees as above, to Sell by Auction early in June, the following Properties.

The PRINCE OF WALES INN, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-On).

The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (Fully Licensed), and Two Cottages.

The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (Fully Licensed), and Two Dwelling Houses.

The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-On).

The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and Two Cottages.

The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and five Dwelling Houses.

The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (Fully Licensed).

The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley, (Beerhouse-On).

The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-On).

The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-On).

The Folly Inn, Ackleton, 5½ miles from Bridgnorth and Albrighton, and about 10 miles from Wolverhampton (Beerhouse-On), with Cottage Residence.

The Castle Brewery, Bridgnorth, with Fixed Plant.

Further particulars will appear in future announcements.

Auctioneer’s Offices, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. (Tele.56).”

Catalogue for Auction on 2/6/1915

“Under a Deed of Assignment. Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Eleven Freehold Fully Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises and Dwelling Houses.....

The following Eleven Licensed Houses, Three of which are Fully-Licensed and Eight On-Beerhouses, together with the Brewery, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time and are situate in well populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of some of the largest works in Staffordshire, and as they are being offered by direction of the Trustee under a Deed of Assignment, a fine opportunity presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade, of acquiring houses which as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, doing genuine trades, and possession of which may be obtained in most cases upon completion and otherwise at early dates afterwards.....

Lot 8. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beerhouse-On). Under Management.

The substantially-erected Public House and Premises situate in the centre of the Village, having Entrance Passage, Bar 12’ x 12’, Club Room 12’ x 12’, Living Room, Upstairs Club Room approached by separate Staircase, Four Bedrooms, Brewhouse, excellent Cellars and the usual Outbuildings, together with Stabling, Coach-houses, Garden and open Yards the whole occupying a considerable area of land with excellent road frontages.”

[Sold to Woodhouse for £850.]

Birmingham Daily Post 4/6/1915

“At Wolverhampton on Wednesday Messrs. W. Dando and Co. of Dudley offered for sale a number of licensed houses in the Black Country, and the lots disposed of realised a total of £6,835....

A on-beerhouse, the RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley, was sold for £850.”

Joseph Thomas Dilger, beer retailer, Castle Street. [1916], [1921]

He was also a tailor of Avenue Road. [1916], [1921]

John Frank Whitehouse was usually known as Frank.

Dudley Chronicle 24/11/1932 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of 13 Freehold Fully Licensed and Beerhouse Properties, Dwelling Houses and Shops, a Valuable Freehold Property with full Off-License, a block of central business Premises and a Leasehold Property known as the Queens Cross Brewery with the LAMP TAVERN, Dwelling Houses, Offices and Land in Dudley, Stourbridge, Kingswinford, Rowley Regis, Coseley, and Ettingshall.

Alfred W. Dando and Co. have received instructions from Mr. Thomas Woodhouse and the Exors of the Will of the late Mr.

Benjamin Woodhouse (trading as Messrs. T. and B. Woodhouse) to Sell by Auction at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on

Tuesday, December 13th, 1932, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon precisely, subject to printed Conditions of Sale, as follows.
At Dudley.

Lot 1. The CASTLE AND FALCON INN, Wolverhampton Street. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 2. The ANGEL INN, Castle Street, corner of Fisher Street. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 3. The WHITE SWAN INN, Castle Street. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 5. The ALMA INN, Hall Street. (Fully-Licensed), with the Shop adjoining No.92, occupied by Mrs. Moule, and various ranges of Buildings at the rear, approached from Oakeywell Street.

Lot 6. The COACHMAKERS ARMS INN, Stafford Street. (Fully-Licensed). With the Shop and Dwelling House adjoining.

Lot 7. The DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Cromwell Street, Kates Hill. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 8. The CROSS GUNS INN, Cross Guns Street, Kates Hill. (Fully-Licensed). With the Dwelling House adjoining.
At Stourbridge.

Lot 10. The EAGLE VAULTS, High Street. (Fully-Licensed). With Blacksmith's Shop adjoining.

At Kingswinford.

Lot 11. The BRIDGE INN, Dawley Brook. (Fully-Licensed).

At Rowley Regis.

Lot 12. The HAILSTOINE INN, Springfield. (Fully-Licensed).

At Coseley

Lot 13. The RED LION INN, Roseville. (Beerhouse-On).

Lot 14. The SWAN INN, Deepfields. (Fully-Licensed). With Cottage and Land adjoining.

At Ettingshall.

Lot 15. The FORGE HAMMER INN, Manor Road. (Beerhouse-On). With large area of Land adjoining.

Lot 16. The Leasehold Interest in the LAMP TAVERN, Dudley, and the Brewery Premises with the two private Dwelling Houses adjoining.

Note: The Auctioneers have every confidence in directing the attention of Brewers and others to the sale of the foregoing licensed and other properties occasioned by the death of Mr. Benjamin Woodhouse, who managed the business. Eight of the houses are situate in prominent positions in and around the town of Dudley and the remainder within a radius of five miles and all will be found to be well chosen for trading purposes and in good structural order and repair.

Full particulars and conditions of Sale are in course of preparation and may be obtained when ready, and the lease of the Brewery Premises inspected, at the offices of Messrs. Jobson and Marshall, Solicitors, 199, Wolverhampton Street (Tele. No.2041); or of the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street (Tele. No.2256); all of Dudley."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/12/1932

"There was a large sale of Black Country licensed premises at Dudley yesterday. Thirteen properties realised £37,400, in addition to outgoing valuations. The houses sold were.

RED LION INN, Roseville, Coseley, £1,000."

Cuthbert Oswald Hampshaw was a retired jockey.

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1938

1939 Register

Castle Street – RED LION

[1] *Thomas F. Dudley*, date of birth 23/4/1895, baker and confectioner, married;

[2] *Elsie M. Dudley*, dob 31/12/1905, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Birmingham Daily Post 2/2/1959

"Twenty-four people in the Birmingham district who for the past three months have been studying inn-keeping at Birmingham College of Commerce have been awarded the Licensed Trade Diploma.....

K. Williams, RED LION, Castle Street, Coseley."

The name was changed to the OLD CHAINYARD in 1991.

London Gazette 9/10/1992

"*Wagstaff, John Anthony*, Publican, and *Wagstaff, Patricia Ann* (formerly *Connell*), Publican lately carrying on business as RED LION Public House, Castle Street, Coseley, West Midlands, and RAILWAY TAVERN Public House, Tividale Road, Dudley Date of Bankruptcy Order – 17th September 1992."

Black Country Bugle 7/1/1999

Pub of the Month. OLD CHAINYARD, Castle Street, Coseley.

"The RED LION had stood on Coseley's Castle Street for time out of mind, but the chances are that any visitors asking for the pub's whereabouts would be met with a shrug or a blank expression. The reason is that the LION, standing as it did in front of the site of an old chainmaker's works, was known by all and sundry as the ODE CHAINYARD When a local man, Jim Brightman, bought the LION some seven years ago, this alternative title at last became official.

The RED LION had been a typical old fashioned drinking den; a series of small rooms including a smoke room and outdoor. The CHAINYARD was to be a more modern, open plan affair – those small rooms were knocked into one, and the cobwebs blown away, to attract a wider range of customers. Sure enough, the pub began to liven up, and trade quickly took a turn for the better. But then, early in 1998, being bought by Bradley couple, Keith and Lyn Garbett, the OLD CHAINYARD's new owners decided to take John's idea of bringing the pub up to date and livening it up one stage further. Lyn's younger sister *Tracy Slater* and her partner Simon Lawrence moved the short distance from the WHITE ROSE in Bilston, and every aspect of pub hospitality, from food to music and television, was given a radical rethink. It seems to have had the desired effect.....”

Tracy Slater – see also WHITE ROSE, Temple Street, Bilston.

Black Country Bugle 9/11/2000 - Advertising Feature

“Keilyn Enterprises is a modern day success story, set right here in our own region, with all the parts played by a Black Country family. Keith and Lyn Garbett, from Bradley and Bilston respectively, have built their own little empire of four fine pubs, from a grass roots beginning. They started it all with Bradley ale-house the CROWN AND CUSHION. The couple originally owned the pub during the early nineteen-nineties, before selling it to Banks's Brewery in 1996. Though they missed the place, Keith and Lyn consoled themselves by buying another, the OLD CHAINYARD in the centre of Coseley. Their new acquisition had originally been called the RED LION, at least officially, but locals had always known it better as the ‘OLD CHAINYARD’, a nickname it had taken from the smithy which once stood behind it. The pub's pseudonym finally became its official title less than ten years ago, when it was transformed from an old-fashioned drinking den to a more open-plan, altogether brighter house. It was at this point that the Garbetts took over, and a pub that was finally on the up after so many years as an also-ran became one of Coseley's best-loved meeting places. Lyn and Keith performed a similar feat with the RED COW in nearby Edge Street, though most emphasis here was to retain its most appealing, traditional aspects. It remains to this day a typical Black Country boozier, with darts, doms, crib; and of course gray pays.

By now though, Keith tell us, the couple had come to realise that they were still very much attached to the CROWN AND CUSHION – in fact they couldn't bear to see it in someone else's hands. So, some two years after selling it, they bought it back and added it to what could now be called their own chain of public houses. Team games and entertainment four nights a week are among its major attractions now. The most recent addition has been a little further afield, though still within the borders of the Black Country. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Upper Gornal's Clarence Street has always been a popular haunt of local ale enthusiasts, but never has it been in such fine form. A grand total of fifty different cask ales from around the country are served up at the CRISPIN each month, with at least nine on offer at any one time. And with food having been added to the list of attractions, the pub is far from short of temptations. So the Keilyn empire now boasts four pubs, each with its own unique, highly individual appeal. But the key to their success couldn't be simpler. ‘We offer nice, friendly pubs with a warm atmosphere,’ says Lyn, ‘and serve a good pint for a good price’.”

It closed in 2014.

It reopened in January 2015.

Express & Star 1/2/2015

“The OLD CHAINYARD, in Castle Street, Bilston, has been brought back to life after a five-month absence thanks to new landlords *Nick* and *Elaine Chapman*.

Mr. *Chapman*, a local businessman who says he wanted to reopen the pub and build it up as a cornerstone of the community, guaranteed himself a successful opening day by offering a free drink to the first 60 customers to walk through the door.

He said, ‘I am a local lad and really wanted to get a proper pub open for the area. We are a real ale pub, we welcome families and everything is at a fair price, which is important. Me and my wife have put everything we have got into getting this place going again, so we will make sure it succeeds. I am very pleased with how our opening day went, the word had clearly spread around town and free drink is something that is bound to get people interested.’

Plans for the future of the pub are being made on a slow and steady basis, but Mr. *Chapman* insists it will not lose touch with its roots.

He said, ‘We are going to be what you could call an old fashioned pub, we want to serve quality beer and encourage regular customers and newcomers to feel at home while enjoying a drink. A lot of pubs these days are turning themselves into a restaurant but I say stick to what you are good at.’

Mr. *Chapman* says a big reason he brought the pub was its large garden, which he hopes will be a major draw for customers in the summer. He said, ‘A few people brought their children along today to see if they could use the garden. It is still in the process of being finished to the standard we would like, but come summer time I think customers will really take advantage of it. It will be great not just for children but for those who like to enjoy a drink in the sun and I can't wait to realise the full potential of this pub.’”

[2018]

OLD CROWN AND ANCHOR

COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Casswell [1842]

OLD GATE

116, Gorge Road, (3, Hurst Road), (3, Hurst Hill), (Hurst Lane), (Cann Lane), (3, Hurst Hill Road) / Clifton Street, Hurst Hill, COSELEY

OWNERS

William Waterhouse, screw maker, Can Lane, Sedgley
Ellen Hawkeswood, Hurst Hill, Sedgley
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
William Tranter
Bass Ltd.
Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

William Waterhouse [1825] – [1839]
Mrs. Mary Waterhouse [1841] – [1860]
William Waterhouse [1851]
William Waterhouse [1859]
Thomas Williams [1860]
William Williams [1861]
Mary Waterhouse [1861]
John Butler [1862]
Mrs. Sarah Jones [1863] – [1865]
Thomas Halford [] – **1866**;
William Fletcher (**1866** – []
Joel Ashcroft [1868] – **1880**);
Mrs. Elizabeth Ashcroft (**1880** – **1887**);
Joshua Cox (**1887** – **1898**);
James Jones (**1898** – **1900**);
William Marshall (**1900** – **1901**);
Harold Lester (**1901** – **1903**);
Charles Meller (**1903** – **1905**);
William Henry Norman (**1905** – **1908**);
William Edmunds (**1908** – **1909**);
Martha Maddock (**1909** – **1910**);
Richard Walker (**1910** – **1911**);
John Thomas Yale (**1911** – **1913**);
John Thomas Naylor (**1913** – **1914**);
Joseph Richard Lovatt (**1914** – **1915**);
William Tranter Snr. (**1915** – **1927**);
Albert Meese (**1927** – **1928**);
William Tranter Jnr. (**1928** – [1940]
Bob Mason [1987]
Kerrie Henderson (**1998** – []

NOTES

Can Lane [1841], [1849], [1862], [1865]
Cann Lane [1845], [1868]
3, Hurst Road [1871]
3, Hurst Hill Road [1891]
Hurst Hill [1896], [1904], [1912]
3, Hurst Hill [1901]
Gorge Road [1940]

GATE [1825], [1838], [1839], [1851], [1863], [1865], [1873], [1892], [1930]
NEW GATE [1845], [1850], [1854], [1870]
OLD GATE HANGS WELL [1891]
OLD GATE [1841], [1849], [1859], [1861], [1862], [1865], [1881], [1904], [1908], [1911], [1912], [1933]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 14/2/1825 - Advert

“Freehold Building and Land at Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction by R. Corbett, on Monday next, February 21, at three o'clock in the afternoon, at Mr. *William Waterhouse's*, the GATE Public House, Can Lane, near Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, subject to conditions then to be read, in two or four lots, as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/3/1838 - Advert

“To be Let, and entered upon immediately, the well known public house called the BLUE BELL, situate in Can Lane. The house contains a good kitchen, two good parlours, a large garden, and a capital back yard. Rent £11 10s.

For further particulars apply to Mr. *W. Waterhouse*, at the sign of the GATE, Can Lane.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/12/1839 - Died

“On the 9th instant, Mr. *William Waterhouse*, of the GATE INN, Can Lane, Sedgley, brickmaker, aged 48.”

1841 Census

Can Lane

[1] *Mary Waterhouse* (45), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] Thomas Waterhouse (20), born Staffordshire:

Mary Waterhouse was also a screw manufacturer. [1845], [1849]

1851 Census

Can Lane – GATE INN

[1] *Mary Waterhouse* (56), victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *William Waterhouse* (34), screw manufacturer employing 4 boys + 10 men, born Sedgley;

[3] Thomas Waterhouse (31), agent for the sale brick, born Sedgley;

[4] Hannah Waterhouse (16), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Benjamin Collins (40), general servant, born Bridgnorth;

[6] Pamela Thomas (16), servant, born Level:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/5/1851

“On Friday last an inquest was held before W. W. Ward, Esq, coroner (for T. M. Phillips, Esq,) at the GATE INN, Can Lane, on the body of Thomas Charles, a miner, Prior Field colliery. The deceased, on Wednesday last, was employed putting a shot in, and had put in the powder and some dirt above it, when, while he was ramming it or putting the skewer in, by the light of a naked candle, the charge went off. The deceased, when the shot went off, was close to his work, and his head was blown to pieces. Another man, about a yard off, was thrown down and stunned. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/7/1859 - Advert

“Freehold Public House, Dwelling Houses And Building Land, Can Lane, Sedgley.

By Messrs. Aston and Sollom. To be Sold by Auction, on Tuesday next, the 26th of July, 1859, at six o'clock in the evening, at the OLD GATE INN, in the occupation of Mr. *William Waterhouse*, Can Lane, Sedgley, subject to conditions of sale to be then produced, the following two Freehold Dwelling Houses and Building Land.

Lot 1. All that Public House and Premises, situate fronting Can Lane, called the BLUE BELL, comprising five bed rooms, bar, tap room, and parlour, brewhouse, good cellars, and enclosed yard, now in the occupation of Mrs. Jones; also a Dwelling House, with Front Shop, adjoining the BELL, occupied by Mr. Wheeler, and two Messuages at the back thereof, on the occupation of John Kinsley, and one void....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/1/1861 - Advert

“OLD GATE INN, Can Lane, Coseley.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the above Old Licensed Inn, lately in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Williams*, who has left in consequence of other engagements. The Premises consist of Bar, Bar Parlour, Tap Room, Club Room, Brewhouse,

five Bed Rooms, and Malt Room; also a good Kitchen, Garden, Stable, Coachhouse, and other necessary Outbuildings. The House is situated on the main road from Sedgley to Bilston, at a junction of four-ways, leading to Sedgley, Bilston, Dudley, and Wolverhampton.

To treat, and for particulars, apply to Mr. *William Waterhouse*, Can Lane, Sedgley.”

1861 Census

Can Lane

- [1] *Mary Waterhouse* (66), widow, retired publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *William Waterhouse* (44), son, unmarried, screw maker, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Waterhouse* (42), son, unmarried, screw maker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Benjamin Colley* (45), widower, servant, carter, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/10/1863 - Advert

“Sedgley, 19th October, 1863. Eligible Freehold Property, at Holywell Street, (Leading out of Can Lane, Sedgley).

Messrs. Morrell and Griffiths, will offer for Sale by Auction, on Monday, October 19, at the house of Mrs. *Jones*, known as the GATE INN, Can Lane Sedgley, at Six o'clock p.m., subject to conditions to be then read. All those two recently and substantially erected Dwelling Messuages or Dwelling House.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/10/1865 - Advert

“Lost, on Tuesday night last, a Light Brown Horse, 14½ hands high, a long rat tail, and a light stroke down his nose (very thick). Any one bringing him to the OLD GATE INN, Can Lane, near Bilston, will be handsomely rewarded.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 5/12/1866

“J. Jones (alias Rock), not being satisfied with his defeat by Tom Can of Sodom, will fight him again, for £15 or £20 a side. If this does not suit, Joe Waterhouse of the same place can be accommodated on similar terms. A deposit sent to *Bells Life*, and articles to J. Rock, at *W. Fletcher's*, GATE INN, Can Lane, will ensure a match.”

1871 Census

3, Hurst Road

- [1] *Joel Ashcroft* (38), publican and butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Ashcroft* (38), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William Ashcroft* (14), son, unemployed, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sarah J. Ashcroft* (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Thomas Ashcroft* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Clara Ashcroft* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Elizabeth Ashcroft* (5), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Sarah Gibbons* (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Joel Ashcroft was also a butcher. [1871], [1873]

1881 Census

3, Hurst Hill Road – OLD GATE

- [1] *Elizabeth Ashcroft* (48), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah J. Ashcroft* (22), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Ashcroft* (18), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Clara Ashcroft* (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Ashcroft* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Joseph (?) Ashcroft* (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Leah Beardsmore* (26), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Clara Ashcroft married *Joshua Cox* in the 4th quarter of 1887.

1891 Census

3, Hurst Hill Road – OLD GATE HANGS WELL

- [1] *Joshua Cox* (33), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Clara Cox* (27), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Joshua Joel Cox* (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Leonard Cox* (4 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Emily Owens* (18), domestic servant, born Harvington, Worcestershire:

Joshua Cox was also a brewer.

He was convicted on 1st December 1896 for permitting drunkenness.

Dudley Herald 8/9/1900

“David [sic] *Marshall*, of the OLD GATE INN, Hurst Hill, was charged with permitting drunkenness, and also with supplying drink to a drunken person, and Richard Grainger, was charged with being drunk on licensed premises. Mr. Turton appeared to prosecute, and Mr. R. A. Wilcock defended *Marshall*.

Mr. Turton said that at about 20 minutes past 10 PC Jones visited the OLD GATE INN and there saw Grainger in the passage coming outside. He tried to vomit against the door post and then went back. The constable went in the bar and saw Grainger with a large bottle of stout in front of him. The landlady was in the bar, so were several other customers. Jones called her attention to Grainger’s condition, when she did not think he was so bad or she would not have filled him any. The landlord was in the back premises. The landlady then told Grainger he had better go out, which he did, and whilst he was going down the passage the constable again called her attention to his condition, as he was staggering all over the place. He only succeeded in getting up from his seat in the public-house by the aid of the tables.

PC Jones bore out Mr. Turton’s evidence.

For the defence Mr. Wilcock contended that Grainger was not drunk, and had only just come from Wolverhampton, where he worked as a bricklayer’s labourer. He went to *Marshall*’s, and a friend named Fellows paid for a bottle of stout for him. Mrs. *Marshall* said she did not supply Grainger with anything, but a man named Fellows paid for a bottle of stout for him. She did not see anything in his appearance to show he was intoxicated. When the officer came in she did not make any answer to the question he put to her with regard to Grainger’s condition.

Thomas Fellows, Thomas Blesell, and James Williams gave evidence in support of the defence.

Mr. Wilcock spoke of the good character that *Marshall* bore, in fact he had his transfer signed by the leading aldermen in Wolverhampton and among the signatures he saw was Mr. Turton’s. He had been in the public business many years and had never before been summoned.

The Bench thought there was a doubt in the case and dismissed it. The charge against Grainger was withdrawn.”

1901 Census

3, Hurst Hill

- [1] *William Marshall* (31), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Mary Marshall* (30), wife, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *William Marshall* (8), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Mary Marshall* (6), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Ethel Marshall* (4), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Gladys Marshall* (2), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Kate Barnes* (20), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Charles Meller = Charles Mellor

1911 Census

Hursthill – OLD GATE INN

- [1] *Richard Walker* (43), publican, born Bromley, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Annie Walker* (40), wife, married 20 years, assists in business, born Bloxwich;
- [3] *Richard Walker* (17), son, boiler riveter, born Bloxwich;
- [4] *Maggie Walker* (15), daughter, assisting in business, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Florence Walker* (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] *William Walker* (7), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] *Thomas Walker* (4), son, born Coseley:

William Tranter Snr. was also a brewer.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/11/1930

“*William Tranter*, aged 62, brewer, of GATE INN, Hurst Hill, Coseley, was fined £15 on each of two summonses at Wolverhampton yesterday for using more sugar in brewing than was allowed on July 26 and 4 October this year. The summonses were brought under Section 27 of the Revenue Act (1880).

Mr. J. P. Davies, prosecuting for the Customs and Excise, said, ‘I put this case before you as a case of deliberate fraud and I ask you to deal with it in that light.’

The brewer had ‘primed’ his beer to improve condition, and had increased its gravity. He had used sugar instead of ‘priming’ (which he was entitled to do, and on which he had to pay duty). The loss to the revenue was alleged to be between £45 and £50. *Tranter*, in evidence, said he had put about 1½lb in of sugar in each cask. He put it in because the beer was ‘cloudy’ and he wanted to refine it.

Mr. Stewart (for the defence) said it was a gross exaggeration to suggest that *Tranter* had deprived the authorities of between £45 and £50.

The South Staffordshire Stipendiary magistrate in announcing his decision said he assumed that the Revenue had not lost the amount suggested.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/12/1933

“The case in which John Percy Clark, practicing as an architect as Scott and Clark, of 73, Sedgley Road West, Tipton, sued *William Tranter*, of the OLD GATE INN, Hurst Hill, Bilston, for £177 15s, for work done and services as an architect, was continued

at Birmingham, yesterday.

The plaintiff's case was that defendant asked him to undertake the work of rebuilding his inn, which occupied a very dangerous corner. The defence was that no definite instructions were given.

Mr. A. P. Marshall (for the defendant) suggested that the details were never discussed between the plaintiff and the defendant. The Judge found for the plaintiff, and adjourned the case till Friday for the parties to come to an agreement as to the amount he should receive."

Closed

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1937.

[1999]

Closed

It was demolished in 2002.

Housing was built on the site.

OLD HOUSE AT HOME

53, Chapel Street, Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

Joseph Hipkiss, provision dealer, Princes End

George Price

Atkinson Ltd.

Thomas Plant and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Rubery [1864]

Felix Fearn [1872] – **1876**;

George Price (**1876 – 1897**);

Alfred Wooldridge (**1897 – 1898**);

Henry Rogers (**1898 – 1899**);

Charles Pardoe (**1899 – 1900**);

John Thomas Sharkey (**1900 – 1911**);

William Ashton (**1911**);

William Alfred Burns (**1911 – 1916**);

NOTES

It had an ante'69 beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 21/5/1864 - Advert

"Tuesday Next. Unreserved Sale At The OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN, Chapel Street, Wallbrook, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To Publicans, Beersellers, Furniture Brokers and Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by C. Round, as above – all the Brewing Plant, Public House Fixtures, Stock of Ale and Beer, and other Effects, the property of Mr. *Thomas Rubery*, who is leaving; comprising Drinking Tables, brass-mounted Window Curtains, Tables and Tressels, deal Tap Table, with metal top, two Drawers and Cupboard underneath, superior Four-pull Beer Machine, with brass Stop-taps and Piping complete, by Bromwich, quite new, deal Screen, eighteen well-seasoned and bound Ale Casks, various sizes, in good condition; nine Wort and Working Tubs, 16-bushel Mash Tub, capital Malt Crusher, with Hopper and Post; pair of Wort Vats; about 220 Gallons of good Fresh Ale, several Hogsheads of prime Old Ale, and 300 gallons of Beer; small quantity of Hops; two iron Stands, deal table, six Forms, lot of Bird Cages, Steps, two pair of Steelyards, oak round Stand Table, two large Parrot Cages, deal Dining Table, lot of Wood Fencing, Sow in-pig, Wheelbarrow, large wrought-iron Rat Pit, large wrought-iron Rat Trap, and small wrought-iron Rat Cages; three Signs, Gas Piping, with nine Burners, Globes, Shades, and Fixtures complete throughout the house.

Sale to commence at half-past Ten o'clock a.m.

Auctioneer's Offices, Owen Street, Tipton.”

Felix Fearn = Felix Favin = Felix Forn

Felix Fearn was fined £2 and his license was endorsed, for permitting gambling in July 1872.

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/4/1874

“Alexandra Park Recreation Grounds, Rood End, near Oldbury.

The above beautiful grounds, which are available from all parts of England, being situated within a few minutes' walk of Oldbury, Spon Lane, and the Smethwick stations on the Stour Valley Railway, and Westbromwich, Smethwick Junction, and Rood End stations on the Great Western Railway (Rood End in particular, being only 300 yards distant), are reopen to the public, and the proprietors, Messrs. Smith and Bradley, respectfully announce that they will give £15 to be contested for in an All England Foot Race, distance 135 yards, on Saturday and Monday, April 18 and 20. First prize £10, second £4, third £1. Entrance 1s 6d, no acceptance, to be declared on or before Tuesday, April 14. Wednesday morning's letters will be in time. All entries to be made at the grounds, or at any of the following places.....

Forn's, OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Wallbrook.....

Betting and gambling strictly prohibited. No one allowed to run unless in proper costume.”

Dudley Herald 8/5/1880

“At Sedgley Police Court, on Monday afternoon, before Mr. Haden Corser (Deputy Stipendiary), Hezekiah Jarvis, ironworker, was charged with assaulting Samuel Millington in the OLD HOUSE AT HOME public house, Wallbrook, Coseley.

The prisoner was summoned to attend the Court a fortnight ago, and as he did not appear a warrant was issued for his apprehension.

The Deputy Stipendiary said he should like to know the reason why prisoner did not appear in answer to the summons.

Prisoner said it was in consequence of his having but little money.

Complainant said that on the day of the West Staffordshire election he went into a public house, where he met with a number of men who described themselves as being Liberals, but judging by their conduct he believed them to be madmen. They expressed their determination to kill all Conservatives that came within their reach. One of the men put his fist in witness's face and declared that he would kill him. Whilst several of the men were insulting him, the prisoner came towards him and spat a quantity of beer into his face. Had he not been prevented he should have struck the prisoner with a stick.

Mr. Corser: Which would have served him right. I do not know anything more filthy than to do what the prisoner has done.

Prisoner said he was very sorry for having been guilty of such an offence, and hoped the magistrate would deal leniently with him.

The complainant said that, as prisoner had expressed contrition for what he had done, he trusted the magistrates would allow the case to be withdrawn on payment of costs. He, however, thought it a pity that a man could not hold what political views he liked without being subjected to violence at the hands of those who were supposed to be lovers of freedom.

The Deputy Stipendiary said it was very kind of the complainant to ask for the prisoner to be leniently dealt with. Had not the complainant made such a request, he should have considered it his duty to have dealt severely with the prisoner. Under the circumstances, he should order him to pay 10s, or in default fourteen days.”

1881 Census

53, Chapel Street

[1] *George Price* (36), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary Price* (36), wife, born Chesterfield;

[3] *Annie Price* (21), sister, general servant, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

53, Chapel Street

[1] *Annie Price* (30), sister, Public House, born Sedgley;

[2] *Hannah Price* (12), domestic servant, born Tipton:

1901 Census

53, Chapel Street

[1] *John T. Sharkey* (33), shoemaker, born Sedgley;

[2] *Martha Sharkey* (32), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Abel Sharkey* (12), son, born Sedgley;

[4] *Mary Sharkey* (10), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] *Phoebe Sharkey* (7), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] *Sarah Sharkey* (3), daughter, born Sedgley;

[7] *John Sharkey* (1), son, born Sedgley;

[8] *George Sharkey* (28), widower, visitor, bricklayer, born Sedgley:

John Sharkey, beer retailer, Walbrook. [1904]

John Sharkey – see also BLACK HORSE, Ettingshall Road, Coseley.

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

1911 Census

Chapel Street – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *William Alfred Burns* (29), hotel manager, born Coseley;
- [2] Mary Maria Burns (27), wife, married 6 years, assisting in the business, born Wordsley;
- [3] William Arthur Burns (6), son, school, born Harts Hill;
- [4] Florence Burns (4), daughter, born Hurst Hill:

William Alfred Burns, beer retailer, Chapel Street. [1912], [1916]

Lichfield Mercury 14/7/1916

“The Staffordshire Licensing Committee held their principal meeting at Stafford on Saturday.....

The renewal of the licenses of the GATE INN, Ward Street, Coseley, the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Chapel Street, Coseley, and the SHAMROCK INN, Temple Street, Bilston, in the Bilson Petty Sessional Division, were refused, it being stated that agreements had been entered into.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1916

“The Licensing (Consolidation Act), 1910.

Notice As to Sending In Claims To Be Treated As Persons Interested In Licensed Premises. County of Stafford.

Notice is hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting held on the 8th day of July, 1916, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licences 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 Act together with the Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises are requested to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Chapel Street, Coseley, Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *William Alfred Burns*. Registered Owner, Atkinson’s Brewery Ltd.”

Compensation of £560 was paid on 23rd December 1916.

The house closed on 30th December 1916.

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/1/1917

“Report Of The County Licensing Committee.....

Supplemental Meeting. This meeting was held on the 14th of October, and by adjournment on the 11th of November and 9th of December. The committee went in great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the Compensation Fund.

In the following nine cases the committee fixed the compensation, viz.....

OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Chapel Street, Coseley, beerhouse, ante 1869, £560.....

In all cases (except the two referred to the Commissioners of Inland Revenue) the money has been apportioned amongst the interested parties.”

OLD YEW TREE

1, Church Road, COSELEY

OWNERS

John Holcroft, ironmaster, Stourbridge

LICENSEES

Richard Hill [1857]

Thomas Parry [1857]375,

Thomas Holcroft [1858]

John Jackson [] – 1873);

David Evans (1873 – 1874):

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 21/3/1857 - Advert

“Sale at the YEW TREE INN, near Christ Church, Coseley.

To Innkeepers, Retail Brewers, Contractors, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. S. Powell, upon the Premises, on Monday next, March the 23rd.

Public House Fixtures, Screens, Tables, four-pull Beer Machine, eighteen-strike Mash Tub, Three Pockets of prime Hops, Malt Crusher, seventeen Ale Casks, varying from 36 gallons to 500 gallons; Tubs and Coolers; and Three useful Horses, Two 4½ inch-wheel Carts, Cart Harness, and other useful Effects, belonging to Mr. *Richard Hill*, of the YEW TREE INN aforesaid, who is changing his residence and giving up Public House business.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock in the afternoon.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Waterhouse drew the attention of the Bench to an application for a license to the YEW TREE INN, Coseley, on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Parry*. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....

Application For New Licenses.....

Mr. Waterhouse said that he had great pleasure in making application on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Holcroft* for a license for the YEW TREE public house at Coseley. As regard the house itself, it cost Mr. *Holcroft* upwards of £1,000, and possessed every requisite for a first-class public house. The only other public house in the neighbourhood had frequently changed hands, and the accommodation offered was of such an indifferent character that after a short time since, when the Messiah was performed at Coseley, the visitors were compelled to send their horses and carriage to another inn a considerable distance off. Mr. Waterhouse remarked that a licensed house was very much needed in that district. He had frequently been obliged to send his horse to the BOAT INN, a distance of a mile and a half from the centre of the village. This application was granted.”

John Jackson was convicted on 26th August 1873 for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

“Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court.....

The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent McCrea presenting his annual ‘black list.’ In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act. The names of the offending licensed victuallers were.....

John Jackson, YEW TREE INN, Coseley.....

The committee stated that the licenses of all the persons contained in the ‘list’ would be suspended until the adjourned licensing sessions, to be held on the 26th proximo.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions. These Sessions were held yesterday.....

On the personal application of the following persons the appended old licenses were renewed.....

John Jackson, YEW TREE INN, Coseley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/12/1873

“Yesterday, at the Bilston Petty Sessions, before the Stipendiary, *David Evans*, landlord of the YEW TREE public house, Coseley, was convicted of permitting drunkenness in his house on the 2nd inst, and was fined £2.”

David Evans was convicted on 30th June 1874 for permitting drunkenness.

Dudley Guardian 28/2/1874

“The Election Disturbances At Sedgley.

At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, before I. Spooner, Esq, several cases were heard arising out of the recent Parliamentary election.....

John Barratt, Samuel Jackson, Richard Harris, Isaiah Harris, and Enoch Reynolds were next charged with rioting, and also with stone throwing.

David Evans, landlord of the YEW TREE INN, stated that on the day of the election, between three and four o'clock, a large crowd was assembled near to his house, with stones, sticks, and other missiles. Fourteen panes of glass in witness's windows were broken. The only one of the prisoners whom the witness could identify was Enoch Reynolds, who threw part of a ‘quarry’ at him, striking him on the face.

William Fellows, miner, said he was near to *Evans*'s house at the time when the windows were broken. He saw Richard Harris throw many stones through the windows.

William Potts, miner, said he saw Barratt commence the throwing; Jackson threw a stone, and Isaiah Harris threw another stone, smashing the lamp over the door.

Sarah Webb identified Barratt as having been among the mob before *Evans*'s house, and saw him throw a stone.

Reynolds was committed to gaol for two months for the assault on Mr. *Evans*; Richard Harris, Barratt, and Jackson, for the stone throwing, two months' each, and Isaiah Harris, he being only sixteen, was dealt with more leniently, receiving a sentence of one month."

The license renewal was refused at the Annual Licensing Meeting on 28th August 1874.

PAINTERS ARMS

33, (31), Avenue Road, (Coseley Lane), (31, Old Meeting Street (Lane)), (Meetinghouse Road), Roseville, (Rose Vale), (Mamble Square), (Fullard's End), COSELEY

OWNERS

Benjamin Jones
Joseph Whitehouse
William Taft (acquired in 1817)
Sidney Wilson, Ackleton
Benjamin Jones, Brook Road, Woodsetton
Samuel Jones, licensee
Samuel Jones, Ivy House Lane, Coseley
James Cahill, Swan Home Brewery, Heath Town, Wolverhampton (acquired for £450)
William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired for £1,700)
Holdens Brewery (acquired on 5th October 1928 for £2,375)

LICENSEES

William Taft (1817 – []
John Taft [1831] – 1860)
Mrs. Elizabeth Taft [1860] – [1865]
John Taft [] – 1866)
Benjamin Jones [1868] – [1873]
Mary Ann Horton [1873] – 1874);
Benjamin Jones (1874 – 1899);
John William Millard (1899 – 1906);
Samuel Jones (1906 – 1908);
James Langford (1908 – 1911);
Lewis Frederick 'Fred' Richards (1911 – 1913);
Thomas Ward (1913 – 1917);
James Langford (1917 – 1929);
Edwin Alfred Holden Jnr. (1929 – 1932);
Frederick Goodridge [1931]
Isabel Phillips (1932 – 1933);
Edwin Alfred Holden Jnr. (1933 – 1938);
Mrs. Blanche Elizabeth (Round) Davis (1938 – 1977);
Mrs. Josephine Ann 'Josie' Walker (1977 – 1981);
James John 'Jim' Timmins (1981 – 1987);
Robert Alan Meadowcroft (1987 – 1988)
Michael John 'Mike' Beddow (1988 – 1989);
Sidney 'Sid' Pope (1989 – [1991]
Malcolm Anslow [1993] – [1994]
Richard Paul Jepson [2007]
Graham Watkins [2011]

NOTES

Coseley Lane [1841], [1864]
Mamble Square [1851]
Rose Vale [1860]
Old Meeting Lane [1861]

31, Old Meeting Road [1881], [1891]
Meetinghouse Road
31, Avenue Road [1901]
Avenue Road [1904], [1908], [1940]
33, Avenue Road

Village Voice (February 2023)

“For many years it was said that the PAINTERS ARMS in Coseley was haunted by the ghost of a barmaid who was murdered on her way home from the pub in the early years of the 20th century. It was said that at times a ghostly figure would appear behind the bar, but would only be visible to customers and not staff. The locals called her Jenny.”

A local branch of the Variety Artists Federation was founded here.

John Taft, glazier and retail brewer, Fullard’s End. [1833]

1841 Census

Coseley Lane

- [1] *John Taft* (30), plumber, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Taft* (30), born Staffordshire;
- [3] William Taft (9), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Elizabeth Taft (7), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Anne Taft (5), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Joseph Taft (4), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Sarah Taft (3), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Emma Taft (1), born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/8/1841

“Public House Licenses. The general annual meeting, for this district was held at the Public-office, in this town, on Friday last..... The following is a list of new licenses granted.....

John Taft, PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/4/1845

“The following inquisitions have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On the 25th ult, at the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, on the body of Benjamin Beardmore, aged thirty-one years, and writing clerk to Mr. Cresswell. The deceased, it appeared, was seized with a fit, and, although medical assistance was promptly procured, expired in a short time afterwards. Verdict, Died by the Visitation of God.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/8/1846

“An inquest was held on Thursday last, at the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, on the body of Samuel Wright, a labourer, about sixty-five years of age, who on Tuesday morning last was suddenly seized with illness whilst in a garden at the back of the house in which he lived, and shortly afterwards expired. He had been found in the garden lying upon a bed of potatoes; a female neighbour asked him what had brought him there, and he replied, ‘I don’t know, my wench, unless my head being too big for my body has thrown me down.’ He appeared then to be recovering from a fit. The jury returned a verdict of Died from the Visitation of God.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/2/1846

“An inquest was held on Friday last, at the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of James Attwood, a labourer, about fifty-seven years old. Edward Clarkson, a bricklayer, stated that on the 6th instant himself and the deceased were at work pulling down some furnaces, at Wallbrook, and knocked a hole in the brickwork, and put some gunpowder in it. The deceased threw a shovelful of fire on the brickwork. An explosion instantly followed, and the deceased was knocked down by some of the bricks, his right leg being literally being blown to pieces. He was also otherwise much hurt. He lingered until Thursday morning last, and then died. Clarkson requested him not to throw the fire, but to apply the torch, and he replied ‘You take care of yourself, and I’ll take care of myself.’ Verdict Accidental Death.”

John Taft was described as also a painter, plumber and glazier. [1851]

1851 Census

Mamble Square

- [1] *John Taft* (43), innkeeper and plumber, born Penn;
- [2] Elizabeth Taft (41), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] William Taft (18), son, painter &c, born Coseley;
- [4] Elizabeth Taft (17), daughter, at home, born Coseley;
- [5] Joseph Taft (14), son, at school, born Coseley;
- [6] Sarah Taft (12), daughter, at school, born Coseley;

- [7] Emma Taft (11), daughter, at school, born Coseley;
- [8] Matilda Taft (8), daughter, at school, born Coseley;
- [9] John Taft (6), son, at school, born Coseley;
- [10] Mary Taft (1), daughter, born Coseley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/8/1853

“On Tuesday the first anniversary of the Licensed Victuallers’ Protection Society, for the Lower Division of Sedgley, was held at Mr. Beardmore’s, COSELEY TAVERN, Coseley. There was a large number of members present. The report of the proceedings of the society was highly satisfactory, and considering that it had been in existence only one year, its success so far has been remarkable, and bids fair to be of great importance for the protection of the licensed victuallers of the district. After the formal business of the day was concluded, the company sat down to a splendid dinner, and under the able chairmanship of Mr. *John Taft*, assisted by the vice-chairman, Mr. Hunt, the members of the society, together with a number of visitors and friends, enjoyed themselves until a late hour.”

Birmingham Journal 1/10/1853 - Advert

“Valuable Building Sites, opposite Coseley Hall, Castle View Cottage, and adjoining the Coseley Old Meeting House, at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. S. Powell, at the house of Mr. *John Taft*, the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley aforesaid, on Wednesday, the 12th day of October, 1853, at Six o’clock in the evening.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/5/1860

“An inquest was opened by Mr. T. M. Phillips, coroner, at the PAINTERS ARMS, Sedgley, on Tuesday, on the body of William Southall, a gardener. Deceased had bought some pork sausages at the shop of a provision dealer named Swindley, of Wallbrook, on the night of the 12th instant, had eaten them on the two following days, and suffered from severe pain in the bowels, which he attributed to the sausages. A girl who had some of the sausages after taking them was purged, and also had severe pain in her bowels. The inquest was adjourned until Tuesday next for a post mortem examination.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/6/1860

“The inquest on William Southall, supposed to have been poisoned by eating sausages purchased from a person named Swindley, at Wallbrook, was concluded on Tuesday, at the PAINTERS ARMS, Sedgley before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner. The medical evidence was that the deceased had died from a long standing inflammation of the bowels, but that it was possible death might have been hastened by improper food. The Jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1861 Census

Old Meeting Lane

- [1] *Elizabeth Taft* (51), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] William Taft (28), son, painter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Joseph Taft (24), son, mine agent, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Taft (22), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Emma Taft (20), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Matilda Taft (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] John Taft (16), son, carpenter, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/7/1863 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Properties, at Wallbrook, Coseley, in the Parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Richards will offer For Sale by Auction, on Tuesday, the 21st day of July, 1863, at the house of Mrs. *E. Taft*, the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley aforesaid, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions, the following Properties.

Lot 1. All that old-licensed Public House and Premises, situate at Wallbrook aforesaid, known by the sign of the SWIFT PACKET INN, containing Bar, Parlour, Sitting Room, Tap Room, Four Bed Rooms, and large Cellaring, with the Garden, Brewhouse, and Outbuildings, in the occupation of Mr. Richard Roper, at an annual rental of £27; together with four Dwelling Houses and Brewhouse adjoining, in the occupation of John Reynolds, William Price, Samuel Smith, and Samuel Hughes, at an aggregated rental of £28 12s.....”

Birmingham Journal 5/3/1864 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Public-House & Land, at Roseville, Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Tuesday, the 15th day of March, 1864, at the House of Mrs. *Elizabeth Taft*, the PAINTERS ARMS, Roseville, Coseley, at Seven o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then and there produced – all that excellent Freehold and Well-accustomed Public-House, with Double Front, known as the SUMMER HOUSE, situate at Roseville, Coseley, and now in the occupation of Mr. Henry Goodall, with Out-buildings thereto belonging. The Premises comprise front Tap Room, Smoke Room, Bar, Parlour, Club Room, two Chambers, two excellent Cellars, Brewhouse and Malt Room, Soft Water and Wash Cisterns, Piggeries, extensive Garden and enclosed wall; the whole containing an area of 747 square yards or thereabouts, and now let a low rental of £20 per annum.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. E. and C. Warmington, Solicitors, Castle Street; or the Auctioneer, No.5, Bush Street; all of Dudley.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/3/1866

“J. Light of Coseley, Staffordshire, hearing Mr. G. Hunt of Coseley wishes to run his dog Asket against his Billy at a match at rabbits, begs to inform him that a match can be made for £10 or £25 a side, by calling next Monday night, March 12, at the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/6/1866 - Advert

“PAINTERS ARMS INN, Rose Ville, Coseley, in the Parish of Sedgley.

Important Sale of Freehold Business Premises, Dwelling Houses, and Land.

Mr. Joseph Hipkins will Sell by Auction (by order of the Trustees under the will of the late Mr. *John Taft*), at the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley aforesaid, on Monday, the 2nd day of July, 1866, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale, the undermentioned valuable Freehold Properties.

Lot 1. All that desirable Old Licensed Inn, situate at Rose Ville, Coseley aforesaid, and known as the PAINTERS ARMS INN, comprising bar, parlour, tap room, kitchen, and two cellars, with the shop, stable, outbuildings, large yard, and garden, thereto belonging.

This lot has a frontage of about 74 feet to the road leading from Mamble Square to Sedgley, contains, with the site of the building, 1,050 square yards of land, or thereabouts, and is well supplied with hard and soft water.

Good businesses have been carried on at the above-mentioned Inn and premises, by the late Mr. *Taft*, for many years; and to persons seeking a business situation, or a safe investment, the property offers special advantages.

Lot 2. All those seven newly erected Freehold Dwelling Houses, with the shop, out-buildings, and land (sufficient for the erection of four additional houses) thereto belonging, having a frontage of about 99 feet to Bayer Lane, Coseley, and containing (with the site of the buildings) 965 square yards or thereabouts, now in the occupation of John Hateley, William Caddick, John Fox, William Wynn, Widow Growcutt, George Richards, and John Reynolds, at the aggregate rental of £52 13s.

The premises comprising Lot 2 command good tenants, and are also well supplied with hard and soft water.

Further information may be obtained, and a plan of the property seen, at the offices of Messrs. Whitehouse, Attorneys at Law, Queen Street, Wolverhampton; or the Auctioneer, Princes End, Tipton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866 - Advert

“PAINTERS ARMS INN, Rose Villa, Coseley. To Publicans, Parties Furnishing, and Others.

Joseph Hipkins will Sell by Auction, (under the will of the late Mr. *John Taft*), on Tuesday, September 11th, all the Brewing Utensils, Household Furniture, &c, &c, comprising 2 capital four-pull beer machines, with piping; 12-bushel mash tub, 2 ale vats, 14 well seasoned oak ale casks, tap table, metal top; working tubs, coolers, mahogany hair seated couch, mahogany and deal tables, papier machie ditto, Brussels and Kidderminster carpets, mahogany chests of drawers, oak bookcase, mahogany hair seated chairs, cane seated ditto, eight-day clock in mahogany case; weather glass, chimney glasses, mahogany four-post bedsteads, feather beds, flock mattresses, and numerous other effects detailed in catalogue, to be obtained at the place of sale, and at the Auctioneer's Office, High Street, Princes End.

Sale at Eleven o'clock am.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/9/1866 - Notice

“Notice Is Hereby Given that all persons indebted to the Estate of *John Taft*, late of the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, innkeeper and painter, deceased, are respectfully requested to forthwith pay their respective debts to Mr. John Caddick, of Coseley, nail-factor, or Mr. William Barnett, of Coseley, iron founder, the Executors of the Will of the deceased; and all persons having any claims upon the said Estate are required to send particulars thereof to the said Executors, that the same may be examined, and if found correct discharged.

Dated this 10th day of September, 1866.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/9/1866 - Notice

“All Persons Indebted to the Estate of *Elizabeth Taft*, late of the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley, innkeeper, are requested to forthwith pay their respective Debts to Mr. Joseph Taft, of Coseley, Mines Surveyor, the Executor of the deceased. And all persons having any Claims upon the said Estate, are required to send particulars thereof to the said Executor, that the same may be examined, and if found correct, discharged.

Coseley, September 21st, 1866.”

Birmingham Journal 13/4/1867 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Property, Coseley, near Bilston.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Fallows and Smith, at the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Rose Villas, Coseley (by order of the Mortgagee), on Friday, May 3, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/3/1878 - Married

“On the 4th inst, at the Parish Church, West Bromwich, William Thompson, maltster, Deepfields, to Matilda, youngest daughter of the late *John Taft*, of Coseley, near Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Post 13/8/1878 - Advert

“Bicycle (splendid) for Sale, 48in, quite new; will sacrifice for £5.

T. Allen, PAINTERS ARMS, Roseville, Coseley, near Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/10/1878 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Properties, situate in Brierley Street, Daisy Bank, and Church Road, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the PAINTERS ARMS, Old Meeting House Lane, Coseley aforesaid, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of October, 1878, at 6 o'clock in the evening.....”

Dudley Herald 26/4/1879 - Married

“On the 24th instant, at the Catholic Church, Sedgley by Rev. C. Malfait, *Benjamin Jones*, of the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, to Juliana Timmins, of Sedgley.”

Dudley Herald 26/6/1880

“On Tuesday the gentlemen tradesmen of Coseley held their annual excursion. Starting in the morning from the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Roseville, they proceeded in a handsome break drawn by four horses to Ironbridge via Tettenhall, the Wergs, Bonningall, to Beckbury, where they halted in the open, and partook of a cold collation. Here an amusing incident occurred. While the party were enjoying their lunch, the Allbrighton pack of hounds, running at full speed, suddenly appeared on the scene, made straight for the excursionists, and occasioned them no little dismay. Rapid as thought each one hastily gathered up what provisions he could and made a safe run for it out of the way of the hounds. But through the judicious management of the whippers-in the hounds were put on another course more congenial to themselves and to the relief of the disturbed pleasure seekers, who after having a hearty laugh at the ludicrous incident reseated themselves once more on the green sward and finished their collation. They then resumed their route, via Coalport, Broseley, and arriving at Ironbridge put up at the Hodge Bower, where a splendid dinner was provided by the host, Mr. Wilson. After dinner the party divided, some to view the picturesque scenery of Coalbrookdale, while others wended their way by the side of the lovely Severn, to view the magnificent ruins of Buildwas Abbey. At five o'clock the assembly was sounded, and the excursionists returned homewards, through Madeley, Shiffnall, Gosford Hollow, and Wolverhampton, arriving at Roseville at half-past ten o'clock. The weather was exceptionally fine throughout the day, and all enjoyed a successful and pleasant outing.”

Dudley Herald 9/10/1880 – Advert (repeated next week)

“To be Sold, cheap, a light spring Cart.
Apply to Mr. *Benjamin Jones*, PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, near Bilston.”

1881 Census

31, Old Meeting Road

- [1] *Benjamin Jones* (59), publican, born Gornal;
- [2] Juliana Jones (52), wife, born Gornal;
- [3] Hannah Baker (22), general servant, born Cinder Hill, Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 14/10/1882 - Advert

“Desirable Dwelling House and Premises, at Upper Gornal and Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, (by the direction of the Trustees of the Will of the late Mr. John Whitehouse), at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Jones*, the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, on Monday, the 16th day of October, 1882, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions of Sale.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/2/1891 - Advert

“Roseville, Coseley. Important Sale of Freehold Properties and Building Land. Monday, March the 9th, 1891.
Belcher & Son are favoured with instructions to Offer for Sale by Public Auction, upon the above date, at the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley, at Seven o'clock in the evening prompt.....”

1891 Census

31, Old Meeting Road

- [1] *Benjamin Jones* (69), single, publican and farmer;
- [2] Phoebe Horton (20), granddaughter, housekeeper;
- [3] Clarice Whitehouse (18), general servant:

1901 Census

31, Avenue Road

- [1] *J. Millard* (26), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Coseley;
- [2] Elizabeth Millard (18), sister, born Coseley;
- [3] Jane Millard (15), sister, born Coseley;
- [4] Ann Judson (20), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Tipton Herald 21/8/1909

“On Saturday last a boy named James Lakin, aged 9 years, of Railway Buildings, Coseley, was drowned near the tunnel about 12.30 on Saturday. The lad was leaning over the towing path for fish, when he overbalanced himself. An alarm was given, and

a man named Jones, who happened to be close by, pluckily succeeded in getting the body out of the water. Dr. Clendinnen, who was in the vicinity at the time, was immediately on the spot, and artificial respiration was resorted to, but the boy was past all aid. An inquest was held on Monday, at the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley, by Mr. T. A. Stokes, when a verdict of Accidentally Drowned was returned.”

1911 Census

Roseville – PAINTERS ARMS

- [1] *Lewis Fred Richards* (33), iron moulder and public house keeper, born Coseley;
- [2] Sarah Richards (34), wife, married 12 years, born Coseley;
- [3] Gladys Richards (11), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] John Henry Richards (8), son, born Coseley;
- [5] Elsie Richards (5), daughter, born Coseley;
- [6] George Edward Richards (2), son, born Coseley;

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. John Groves.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. Davies.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston(Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. Enoch Smart.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Isaac Smart.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Joshua Bradley.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Beerhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley.”

South Staffordshire Times 13/9/1924

“The Customers and friends of the PAINTERS ARMS had their outing on Saturday, the destination being Wenlock. They were conveyed by char-a-banc, and were accompanied by the host, Mr. *James Langford*. Refreshments having been partaken of on arrival at 4.30, visits were paid to the church and abbey, Mr. James Cooper conducting the party and explaining the several objects of interest. The return journey was made via Dawley Dingle and Lawley's Cross, a halt was made at Coalbrook Dale for refreshments. Here, the opportunity was taken of heartily thanking Mr. *Langford* for the refreshments, and Mr. W. Wolverton and J. Daily for the excellent arrangements made, for what proved to be a very happy afternoon outing.”

Edwin Alfred Holden Jnr. was known as Teddy.
He played football for Bilston Town.
He was chairman of Coseley Town FC.
He represented Coseley West Central Ward as an independent councillor from 1933 to 1958.
He married Clara Perry-Hammond on 11th June 1938.
He died in 1981.
See also PARK, Woodsetton.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/9/1931

“Three months’ hard labour in each case, the sentences to run concurrently, was the penalty inflicted by the Bilston magistrates yesterday upon Albert Ernest Astley, aged 38, 37, Hurst Lane, Tipton, on three charges of obtaining money by false pretences. It was alleged that the prisoner introduced himself as a representative of a Birmingham publishing firm to Lawrence Abbis, licensee of the HORSE AND JOCKEY, Upper Gornal, and Robert Charles Plumb, farrier, Bull Stake, Darlaston. He offered to sell them a book, ‘Every Man’s Own Lawyer,’ the price of which was 21s, on the instalment system, and receiving 3s from Abbis and 10s from Plumb as deposit, promising to forward the books within a few days. The books, however, were not received and nothing more was seen of Astley.

In the third case it was stated that in January, while he was employed at the publishing firm, he sold a similar book to *Frederick Goodridge*, licensee of the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley. *Goodridge* paid 3s deposit and sent several instalments to the firm. On 15 July he saw the prisoner and decided to pay off the remainder. He, therefore, handed 9s to Astley, who, however, was not then employed by the firm, having ceased on 25 April.

It was stated that in the receipt book found on him there was evidence of numerous other offences of a similar nature.”

Dudley Herald 1/7/1977

‘Retiring Licensee’

“....Bill and *Blanche Davis*, who have kept the PAINTERS ARMS together for the past 38 years, retired on Tuesday..... Bitter was 6d a pint and mild 4d, when *Blanche* first began helping out at the 200 years old pub in Avenue Road to learn the trade as a girl of 18 way back in 1935.

Her cousin, Woodsetton brewery owner *Teddy Holden*, recalled that when she took over the license in 1938, Bilston magistrates never even considered such a young woman would be running a pub alone, and incorrectly typed her name as Mrs. *Blanche Round* on the license form.

‘I brought it to their attention, but was advised to let sleeping dogs lie’, said Mr. Holden.

In 1939, she married Bill, an Oldbury butcher, so the anomaly was ruled out.”

It was the headquarters of Coseley Crusaders CC from 1954 until 1989.

Alteration Order was granted in February 1957.

Tipton Herald 29/10/1960

“Coseley Crusaders cricket section held their sixth annual dinner at the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, on Thursday evening, attended by 58 guests.....”

Tipton Herald 17/12/1960

“The sixth annual Christmas party of Coseley Crusaders Association was held at the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley when traditional fare of turkey and plum pudding was served. Although fog descended early in the evening 50 guests attended. Secretary Mr. Harry Harrison, MC for the function, welcomed the guests.

Following dinner Mr. Gilbert Drew (conjurer), Mr. Tom Edwards (comedian) and Mr. Derek Walker (bass- baritone) provided entertainment with Mr. Win Griffiths on the piano. Several carols were sung by candlelight to conclude an excellent evening.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/4/1967

“The night the domino team from the PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley, found two three-ones in a pack of dominoes belonging to a Bilston police domino team will be talked about as long as the game is played in the Black Country.

The public house team, playing in the Edwin Holden Domino league travelled to Bilston police club to play a fixture against a Bilston police team. But they had forgotten their dominoes. The policemen graciously offered theirs so that the fixture could begin on time.

There are seven games in a match and the Coseley team was winning 4-2.

Then it happened. A Coseley player picked up his dominoes and saw too many spots before his eyes. There were two dominoes of the same denomination – the three-ones – in his hand. This was the equivalent of having a pack of cards with two aces of spades.

If you know anything of the seriousness with which this game is treated in the Black Country you can imagine the policemen’s embarrassment.

The matter was taken to the league’s highest authority and the league committee ruled that the Coseley team should be awarded the match. Of course the committee accepted that no one knew how the second three-one had got into the pack.

One of the PAINTERS ARMS players said, ‘Mind, we had a good laugh.’

There was no comment from the police last night.”

Painters Morris and Holdens Golden Morris teams were founded here in the early 1970s.
They also practiced here.

James John Timmins was born in Bilston.
He married Beryl on 18th September 1963.
He was chairman of Coseley Pub Watch.
See also APPLE TREE.

Sid Pope was married to Ann.

Malcolm Anslow was married to Jan.

The premises license was suspended for three months, by the Dudley Licensing Committee, in July 2011, because of complaints about noise and customers drinking outside the front door.

[2013]

Express & Star 18/4/2014

“A burglar who broke into pubs across the Black Country, stealing money from pool tables, gambling machines, jukeboxes and charity tins, has been jailed for six years.

Trevor Hollis targeted seven pubs in Dudley, Stourbridge, Brierley Hill and Coseley in less than two weeks, all at night or in the early hours of the morning. In some cases the landlords or licensees were on the premises, leading a judge to warn of the dangers of that profession. Hollis, aged 32, of Cheshire Street, Market Drayton, was arrested at the NEW WELLINGTON pub, in Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill on November 14, 2013. The landlord had been in bed in a flat above and was woken by a bang, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. He caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage.

In his spate of burglaries he also targeted the KING WILLIAM in Dudley, the SAMSON AND LION in Stourbridge, the MALT SHOVEL in Dudley, the BRAMFORD ARMS, also in Dudley, and the STARVING RASCAL, in Stourbridge. He previously pleaded guilty to the six burglaries and also to raiding the pub area of the PAINTERS ARMS in Coseley with an accomplice, stealing £100. He denied a separate charge of burgling the upstairs private area of the PAINTERS ARMS, but a jury found him guilty. Yesterday, the court heard how an intruder, believed not to have been Hollis but rather his accomplice, went upstairs armed with a hammer to steal from the property, leaving the licensee ‘distressed’. Mr Robert Cowley, defending at yesterday’s hearing, asked the judge to be lenient in his overall sentence, saying, ‘For the majority of these offences he did plead guilty.’ Another of the pubs that was occupied by the landlords when Hollis broke in was the BRAMFORD ARMS. The landlords were woken by the alarm and watched Hollis on a live CCTV feed.

Mr Edward Soulsby, prosecuting, said Hollis got away with two charity boxes containing an unknown sum of money and tried to force open the till.

At the KING WILLIAM he stole £500 from gambling machines and forced open the pool table. At the MALT SHOVEL he fled with £600 from games machines and £100 from a charity jar. And at the SAMSON AND LION he broke into games machines and a pool table, getting away with £300, as well as bottles of whiskey, vodka and Disaronno.

But at the STARVING RASCAL he left behind a cigarette end, which enabled police to trace him through DNA testing.

The court heard he had a string of burglaries on his record, as well as drug offences, dating back to 1998. Hollis was sentenced to six years and was ordered to pay a £120 victim surcharge.”

Closed [2015]

Demolished [2016]

Housing was built on the site.

PARK

6, George Street, Swan Village, Foxyards, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

Henry Round

Joseph Hood

Harriet Hood (Barnes), out of business, Foxyards

Emmanuel Whitehouse, brewer, Coseley

Atkinsons Brewery Ltd. [1912]

Edwin Alfred Holden, beerhouse keeper, Summer House Inn (acquired on 30th August 1915 for £750)

Lucy Blanche Elizabeth Holden

Holden's Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Smith [] – 1851);
Joseph Hood (1851 – 1859);
Harriet Hood (1859 – 1866);
Simeon Dando (1866 – 1875);
Henry Cook [1871]
William Davis (1875 – 1876);
Sarah Percival (1876 – 1878);
John Percival (1878 – 1881);
Emanuel Whitehouse (1881 – 1882);
David Millard (1882 – 1884);
John Percival (1884 – 1888);
William Henry Whitehouse (1888 – 1898);
James William Wright (1898 – 1899);
Arthur Wilkinson (1899 – 1900);
William Plant (1900 – 1901);
Joseph Moore (1901 – 1904);
Maurice Gabriel (1904 – 1907);
Patrick Higgins (1907 – 1908);
Ernest Greenway (1908 – 1909);
Joseph James (1909 – 1915);
Mrs. Elizabeth Field (1915 – 1920);
Edwin Alfred Holden Snr. (1920);
Mrs. Lucy Blanche Elizabeth Holden (1920 – 1938);
Edwin Alfred 'Teddy' Holden Jnr. (1938 – [1940])
Billy Cooke (1954 – 1963)
Don Concannon (1969 – 1985);
Shiela Jones (1985 – [])
Kevin Eastup [1991] – [1998]
Melanie Wright (1999 – [2000])
Amanda 'Mandie' Walford [2002] – [2018]
Nick Hawkes (2023 – [])

NOTES

[1831]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Swan Village – Public House

[1] *Joseph Hood* (34), brass founder and publican, born Tipton;

[2] *Harriet Hood* (35), wife, born Kidderminster;

[3] Ellen J. E. Huck (7), niece, scholar, born Kidderminster:

Joseph Hood died on 1st November 1866.

[County Advertiser 31/8/1867 - Advert](#)

“To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, that well-known Retail House, called the PARK INN, situated at Woodsetton, Sedgley; with Coach House and Stabling. Well supplied with Hard and Soft Water. Apply to Mrs. *J. Hood*, on the Premises.”

Simeon Dando = Simeon Dandow

[Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/4/1870 - Advert](#)

“Edward Barnes, Licensed Horse Slaughterer, Horse Oil, and White Leather Manufacturer.

Residence: PARK INN, Woodsetton Fox Yards, Sedgley Road.

Slaughter House: Bridge Street, Great Bridge.

The best price given for Alive and Dead Horses and Cows, from £1 to £3 10s, and the same fetched away at short notice.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/6/1871 - Advert

“Unreserved Peremptory Sale, on Friday Next, June 19th, at the PARK INN, Woodsetton, near Sedgley Road, Tipton.

To Publicans, Brokers, And Others.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, To-Morrow (Friday), the 16th day of June, the whole of the excellent Brewing Plant; comprising Mash Tubs, round and oval Coolers, 60-gallon Copper Boiler, Mash Rule, Ladder, Sieve, &c; well-seasoned Hogshead and Half-hogshead Casks; stock of prime Fresh and Old Ale; Malt Crusher, Set Gig Harness, Drinking Tables, Rail-back Benches, Spittoons, excellent four-pull Beer Machine, Tap Tables, Pewter Ale Measures, Cups, Jugs, and Glasses; together with all the Household Furniture, comprising wood and iron Bedsteads, feather and flock Beds, Dressing Tables, Washstands, Toilet and Chimney Glasses, Chest Drawers, cane-seated and Windsor Chairs, Bed Linen, with the usual Kitchen Requisites, belonging to Mr. Edward Barnes.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock in the morning.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/8/1871

“*Henry Cook*, landlord of the PARK INN, Woodsetton, parish of Sedgley, was ordered to pay £1 and costs, for selling ale at an unlicensed hour, on the 23rd July.”

William Davis = William Davies

Dudley Herald 2/10/1875 - Advert

“To be sold by auction all that public house, known as the PARK INN, situate in George Street, Swan Village, Woodsetton in the occupation of Mr. *William Davies* at the yearly rent of £22 the public house contains bar parlour, tap room, kitchen, two chambers, large club room and four cellars and the out offices comprise shed with malt room over, brewhouse, three-stall stable, piggeries and enclosed yard with entrance gates, and the premises have a frontage of 19 yards 1ft 6ins to the street.”

Dudley and District News 4/9/1880

“Dudley And Netherton District Of N.U.O.F.G.

The quarterly meeting of the representatives of the lodges included in the Dudley and Netherton district of this order, was held on Wednesday last, at the house of Mr. *J. Percival*, the PARK INN, Woodsetton. Brother R. Hodgetts, D.M., presided, and delegates were present from most of the lodges of the district, as well as several visitors.”

1881 Census

6, George Street

[1] *Emanuel Whitehouse* (22), housekeeper, born Sedgley;

[2] Harriet A. Whitehouse (20), wife, born Oldbury:

1891 Census

6, George Street

[1] *William H. Whitehouse* (29), unmarried, lime burner, born Sedgley;

[2] Esther Whitehouse (58), widow, housekeeper, born Dudley:

David Millard was an ex-miner.

He was born in 1852.

He married Ruth Webb at St. James' Church, Dudley, in 1873.

See also BOAT, Deepfields and NEW INN, Wallbrook.

1901 Census

6, George Street

[1] *William Plant* (39), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] Julia Plant (38), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] George W. Plant (17), son, holloware turner, born Sedgley;

[4] George Langford (13), nephew, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

6, George Street – PARK INN

[1] *Joseph James* (31), beerhouse manager, born Princes End;

[2] Emily James (30), wife, married 6 years, born Princes End;

[3] William Thomas James (5), son, school, born Princes End;

[4] Joseph James (2), son, born Princes End;

[5] William Millington (74), boarder, miner, hewer, born Princes End;

[6] Gladys Lillian Shorthand (20), servant, born Pontnewyn, SouthWales:

Joseph James, beer retailer, George Street. [1912]

Mrs. *Elizabeth Field*, beer retailer, George Street. [1916]
See also CROWN, Sedgley.

Notes from Lizzy Bradin c.1920

“Lived at 19, Vicarage Road West, Woodsetton. Tipton girl, born 1905.

Left school at 13. Worked at the PARK INN when she was 14.

Hours 7am to 6pm. 11-hour day Monday to Saturday. Sunday finished at 3pm. 74 hours a week. No holidays. Breakfast and lunch free. Pay 7/6 a week. Paid 6d back for insurance.

There was a tap room, smoke room and bar; the sitting room was reserved for personal friends and the vicar. Large fire always in the tap room; in the winter a large pot in front full of strong ale for mulling; strong ale that had been mulled, and it was free. Long table in the tap room, scrubbed white for putting the mugs on every Sunday; no glasses, only mugs. Floor scrubbed every day, sawdust removed from the tap room floor, and bar, then polished and replaced.

Local women never went into the pub, always drank in the kitchen.

During the week sandwiches always free and cut from a large block of cheese, home-baked bread and sometimes boiled beef.

A very busy pub.

Never drank beer, always mineral water.

No gambling allowed, cards or dominoes.

Never any trouble at the pub. Mrs. *Holden* had a good ear for trouble and would always offer help and advice which was usually accepted.

Brewer before Harry Field was Harry ‘Ossie’ Round, a big man, liked his beer and was spotlessly clean. Brewed mild, dark mild only, strong ale at Christmas, like the home-brewed beer at the MARKET HALL VAULTS, Kingswinford. Brewed twice a week. Bowling green at the side of the PARK, always in perfect condition; locals helped to look after for a pint or two.

Never saw Mrs. *Holden* drink, or son *Teddy*. He went to school at Dudley Grammar School and was 3 years Lizzy B’s junior.

She was very happy there, they were happy days. She left the Park in 1937. Returned in 1955 to work on the bottling line, finished when she was 70.

Teddy knew everyone by their Christian name.

Pony and trap still at the PARK when she was there.”

South Staffordshire Times 10/7/1920

“Mr. W. Lee applied for permission to effect structural alterations at the PARK INN, Woodsetton, to extend the living accommodation. A copy of the plan had been submitted to the superintendent of police, who now stated that alterations were absolutely necessary. Granted.

Similar permission was granted in respect of the GREAT WESTERN, Bilston, the alterations being in the direction of better police supervision.

On the application of Councillor Swan, Coseley, permission was given to effect alterations at the MINERS ARMS.”

South Staffordshire Times 21/8/1920

“During the past week the death has occurred of Mr. *A. E. Holden*, the licensee of the PARK INN, Woodsetton. Some time ago Mr. *Holden* met with an accident whilst driving his horse and trap out in the country and ever since he has been failing in health although at times he has been able to get about a little but of times he has had very bad attacks necessitating his keeping in bed for long periods.

Despite the careful medical attention of his doctor, Dr. O’Dowd, of Netherton, he passed peacefully away on Wednesday morning 11th inst, at the early age of 45 years and much sympathy is felt for his wife and family.

Mr. *Holden* was very well known in the Netherton, Tipton and Woodsetton districts, he having been a licensee in all three places mentioned. For a long time he kept the STRUGGLING MAN INN, at Shavers End, Dudley, the last 10 years of his life being spent at Woodsetton, at the SUMMER HOUSE and PARK INN. Whenever he was called upon for any charitable cause, Mr. *Holden* was always ready to assist financially. He took an interest in the local Friendly Societies Committee and was also a member of the village patrol during the time the war was on.

He was born at Rowley on the 15th of March, 1875, and from his youth was always a very keen and enthusiastic sportsman and from his early days was connected with Netherton Rovers Football Club until he left the district. For a number of years he was vice-president of Dudley Football Club and Cricket Club.

The funeral took place on Sunday, he being laid to rest in the family grave at St. Andrew’s Church, Netherton, the vicar, Cannon S. J. Marriott, officiating at the burial service. The hymn ‘Rock of Ages’ was sung in the Church, where a good number of people from Netherton, where the Holden family is well known and respected, had gathered to pay the last tribute of respect to their deceased friend. As the cortege passed through Woodsetton practically the whole of the residences had their window blinds lowered and the beautiful floral tributes sent were numerous.....”

Mrs. *Edwin Holden*, beer retailer, George Street. [1921]

South Staffordshire Times 6/8/1921

“About 53 patrons of the PARK INN, Woodsetton, Coseley, had their annual outing on Tuesday, when they were carried by brakes to Bridgnorth by Mr. T. Gabriel. The event had been looked forward to with very pleasant anticipations. Brake rides are said to be obsolete, but many were still to be seen on the road this holiday.

The party broke their journey at the Fox, at Shipley, where an excellent lunch, provided by the hostess, was thoroughly enjoyed.

After another pleasant run the Falcon was reached, and appetite beginning to keen, dinner was partaken of. Subsequently felicitous little speeches were made and a hearty vote of thanks accorded Mrs. *Holden* for her hospitality. The Park Choir (Messrs Hy. Round, Lew, Bunch and J. Whitehouse) delighted their fellow guests and other visitors. The last named was loudly applauded for his rendition of 'Ginger.' Pat Tyrone and his son, Pat (local Irish comedians) enhanced the enjoyment by their humorous Irish songs and monologues. The violin solos of Mr. Ben Round were listened to with great pleasure, and Mr. W. Webb was very successful in his rendering of 'The Old Arm Chair.' There were other vocal and instrumental items. The outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all who participated.

On Wednesday about 50 women had their annual excursion from the same hostelry, when they journeyed by brake to Kinver, and a most happy time was spent, which will carry with it pleasant recollections."

The beer was brewed by Harry 'Ossie' Round in the 1920s.

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

"Bilston Licensing.....

Applications would be made and submitted for approval of alterations to the GREYHOUND INN, Cross Street, Bradley and the PARK INN, Woodsetton."

The bowling green was opened on 11th April 1925 with a match against the Royal Oak, Tipton.

Tipton Herald 31/12/1927

"A draw organised at the PARK INN, Woodsetton, resulted in over £30 being raised for the local hospitals. It was organised by Mrs. *Holden*, Mr. Joe Rollinson, Councillor W. Elwell, and Councillor John Dodd. A football match on ground at Princes End lent by Mr. John Warmington, on Boxing Day, resulted in Garbett's eleven winning by 6-91 against Barnett's eleven. Councillor John Dodd kicked off, and Mr. R. H. Turley, headmaster of Princes End schools, was the referee."

It had a bowling club [1930]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/4/1936

"That there had been a fraud against the public, a loss to the revenue, and unfair competition with brewers who abided by the regulations, was submitted by Mr. Leslie Pocock (prosecuting) at Bilston yesterday, when a Coseley woman and her son were fined for offences against the brewing regulations.

Lucy Blanche Holden, licensee of the PARK INN, George Street, Woodsetton, Coseley, was fined £1 for having removed approximately 20 gallons of worts before an account had been taken by a Customs and Excise officer, £3 for having concealed the worts, and £1 for having made an untrue entry in the brewing record book.

Edwin Alfred Holden, her son, was fined £10, £50, and £15 respectively for having aided and abetted in each offence.

Mrs. *Holden* was not present in court, and it was stated she was a semi-invalid and nearly blind. Mr. Pocock said he was prepared to accept, that on account of her state of health, Mrs. *Holden* knew nothing of the matter, but having delegated her authority to her son, she was liable to conviction as a principal.

The Bench announced that their treatment of Mrs. *Holden* was due to her ill-health.

Mr. Pocock stated that each defendant was liable to a penalty of £250.

Edwin Holden had taken a course in brewing at Birmingham University, and there was no doubt that he knew how to brew.

On 27 January Mr. Round, a Customs and Excise officer, visited the PARK INN, and found among some casks in a cellar one which, in his opinion, contained liquors of the gravity of unfermented worts. The cask contained 20 gallons not shown in the entry for brewing.

Holden said the contents of the cask must be drainings.

Dr. McClennan, Government chemist, said he examined two samples, one of the true brew, which was 32.8 degrees, and one which was definitely worts, with a gravity of 32.6 degrees.

This could not be drainings, because there was only a very small amount of spirit, and he would expect in drainings to find at least six per cent spirit.

Holden, giving evidence, said that the contents of the cask were drainings. He had never removed worts before the Customs and Excise officer had taken an account. The cask was in a place where it would be easily seen.

Mr. A. P. Marshall (defending) said that if it was an attempt to defraud one would think that greater precautions would have been taken to avoid discovery, and also that the defendants would not have stopped at half a barrel."

Lucy Blanche Elizabeth Holden was born in 1878, in Netherton.

She went blind in 1934.

She was the mother of *Edwin Alfred Holden Jnr.*

She died on 21st May 1938.

Edwin Alfred Holden Jnr. was known as Teddy.

He played football for Bilston Town.

He was chairman of Coseley Town FC.

He represented Coseley West Central Ward as an independent councillor from 1933 to 1958.

He married Clara Perry-Hammond on 11th June 1938.

He died in 1981.

See also PAINTERS ARMS, Coseley.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/8/1939

“The final of the Holden Cup bowling competition in aid of Coseley Children’s Holiday Camp, was played off on the PARK INN green, Woodsetton, Coseley.

Semi-finals. A. Howells 15, J. Bradbourn 0; J. Ward 15, L. Mills 8.

Final. J. Ward 21, A. Howells, 19.

The cup was presented to the winner by Councillor E. A. Holden.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/4/1940

“Meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Committee, held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

There were eight applications for the confirmation of orders made by local licensing justices.....

The committee confirmed an order granted in respect of an application made by *Edwin Alfred Holden* to sell wine at the PARK INN, George Street, Foxyards, Coseley.”

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

Billy Cooke was married to Olive.

Don Concannon was married to Pearl.

He died in 1997.

See also ACORN, Walsall Road, Willenhall.

Melanie Wright’s partner was Derek Storey.

Refurbished

It reopened in 2000.

Express & Star 26/1/2023

“*Nick Hawkes*, who manages Holden’s NEW INN at Birmingham New Road, Coseley, has also taken on the management of the PARK INN in George Street, Woodsetton, next to the brewery.....”

[2023]

PEAR TREE

64, (58), (38), (39), New Street, (Barrs Meadow), Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Sergeant Turner

Mary Matilda Turner

William Hughes (acquired in July 1883 for £550)

John Greenaway

Isaac Jones

Matilda Jones

Eli Jones

Harriet Jones, The Laurels, Upper Gornal

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1964]

LICENSEES

Francis Hanbury [1867]

Sargeant Turner [1868] – 1874);

Mrs. Mary Matilda Turner (1874 – 1877);

Joseph John Greenaway (1877 – 1892);

William Henry Thomas Greenaway (1892 – 1896);

John Greenaway (1896 – 1898);

Isaac Jones (1898 – 1904);

Mrs. Matilda Jones (1904 – 1916);
Eli Jones (1916 – 1936);
Harriet Jones (1937);
Richard Hodgkiss (1937 – 1938);
John William Robinson (1938 – 1943);
Eli Jones [1940]
Joseph Harper (1943 – 1955);
John Reginald Allen (1955 – [1966]
Eva Jayne Macrae [1975]

NOTES

39, New Street [1871], [1891], [1911]
38, New Street [1901]
58, New Street [1939]
64, New Street

It is possible that this pub was previously the HOP AND BARLEYCORN.

It was known locally as the “Stuffed Whippet”.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was the central pick-up point for the pigeon societies of Lower Gornal.

Dudley Herald 20/4/1867

“Joseph Flavell was charged with indecently assaulting Sarah Griffiths, with intent, at the PEAR TREE beerhouse, Lower Gornal, on Wednesday the 3rd inst.”

[He was fined 40s and expenses.]

[Sarah Griffiths (19), was the daughter of *Francis Hanbury*.]

Sergeant Turner = Sargent Turner

Sergeant Turner, beer retailer, Gornalwood. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Post 24/12/1869 - Advert

“To be Let, immediately, a Steam Mill, in New Street, Barrs Meadow, Lower Gornal, Dudley.
Apply to *S. Turner*, PEAR TREE INN.”

County Advertiser 15/1/1870 - Advert

“Gornal Wood. To Brokers, Dealers, & Others.

Mr. Hinton will Sell by Auction, on Monday Next, January 17th, 1870, a quantity of Household Furniture, Feather Beds, Four Fat Pigs, Three Spring Traps, Five Valuable Horses, Set of Silver-mounted Harness, strong Cart, Two Dobbins, Twenty Couples of Fowls, Half-ton of Parsnips, Plough and Harrow, lots of Tubs and Barrels, and a miscellaneous assortment of useful Effects, removed to Mr. *S. Turner*'s, the PEAR TREE INN, for convenience of Sale.
Sale at Eleven o'clock.”

1871 Census

39, New Street

- [1] *Sargent Turner* (49), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary M. Turner (46), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] John Turner, (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Charles Turner (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary A. Turner (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Edward Turner (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Mary M. Turner (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/8/1872

“Bilston Division Annual Licensing Sessions.....

The record of the Chief Constable showed that 28 licensed victuallers and 14 beersellers had been convicted of various offences against their licenses. Of these five publicans and one beerhouse keeper were only ordered to pay the costs. In the other cases the fines varied from £10 to 1s. The licenses of 210 licensed houses and a similar number of beerhouses were renewed.

The applications for the renewal of the suspended licenses were postponed till the adjourned licensing day, on the 27th September,

but the certificates were granted to the five licensed victuallers and the beerseller who, as before mentioned, were previously only ordered to pay the costs. These were.....
Mr. *Turner*, PEAR TREE INN, Sedgley.”

Dudley Guardian 18/4/1874

“The Great Strike of Miners. Mr. Levi Brittain addressed the first meeting held in the Dudley district, on Monday, at the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood. He said that ever since the strike commenced he had been very loth to hold public meetings. He had been anxious to avoid saying anything that would tend to create any ill-feeling in the minds of the employers. He preferred to let the force of public opinion have its own weight as to the proposal of the masters. The vast contrast in the proposed reduction in the price of coal and the amount taken off the colliers’ wages would, he thought, be sufficient to show that the men were only doing their duty by resisting the masters’ terms A resolution was passed by the meeting to continue on strike.”

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks.....

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given.....

No.20 Lodge, PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood; 85 members. No blacklegs. The men are determined to play on until they get the old rate of wages. With regard to the rumour that we are influenced by our agents, we wish it known that Levi Brittain nor anybody else has got any control over us in this strike. We know that our cause is a good one, and we mean to fight for it. We don’t want anybody to tell us what our duty is. We mean to play on. Those at work pay the 3s 6d levy without a murmur. One man told us at the last lodge meeting that he would double the levy before we should lose this contest.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

Dudley Herald 22/4/1876 - Advert

“Situate at Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday, 9th May, 1876, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read.

Lot 1. All that Well-established Freehold Public-House, and Premises, called the PEAR TREE INN, situate in New Street, Lower Gornal. The Premises comprise front Grocer’s Shop, Tap Room, Bar, Smoke Room, very large Club Room, three good Cellars, four large Chambers, Brewhouse, Store Room, formerly used as a malthouse, Piggeries, and other outbuildings, and are now in the occupation of Mrs. *Sargeant Turner*. The Property is substantially built, and in a commanding position for business.....”

London Gazette 28/4/1876

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Mary Matilda Turner*, of the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Beerseller and Grocer.

Notice is hereby given, that a First General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named person has been summoned to be held at No.1, Priory-street, Dudley, in the county of Worcester, on the 5th day of May, 1876, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 19th day of April, 1876.

Wm. Waldron, No.1, Priory-street, Dudley, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

Dudley Herald 6/5/1876

“Yesterday morning, a meeting of the creditors of *Mary Matilda Turner*, landlady of the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood, was held at the office of Mr. Jos. Stokes, solicitor, Priory Street, Mr. Whitmore Jones was in the chair. The liabilities amounted to £550, but the assets will not be known until after the sale of property on Tuesday. After a long discussion, a resolution was passed that the estate be wound up, that Mr. James Guest, Gornal, be trustee, and a discharge to the debtor would be granted. Mr. Jos. Stokes represented the debtor, and Mr. Gould, solicitor, Gornal, the creditors.”

Joseph John Greenaway = John Greenaway = John Greenway

Dudley Herald 26/8/1876

“John Turner, of Lower Gornal, a miner, was summoned, at the instance of Mr. *John Greenaway*, for damaging a door at Barrs Meadow, Lower Gornal on the 14th instant. The case caused some interest. Mr. Gould, of Lower Gornal, was for the complainant, and Mr. Stokes appeared for Turner.

It seemed that the door damaged belonged to a house known as the PEAR TREE INN, and formerly owned by the mother of the defendant. The house a short time ago was sold by the mortgagee to Mr. *Greenaway*, the complainant, and possession given to him by the defendant’s mother. When, however, complainant sought admission the defendant objected. Complainant then went to

get advice what to do under the circumstances, and while he was away Turner burst open the door with a sledge-hammer. Mr. Stokes, for the defence, contended that complainant had no title to the property. Mr. Gould said he prepared the conveyance of the property, and he was quite sure there was good title. Mr. Stokes here stated actions were pending on both sides and therefore the Bench had no jurisdiction. Mr. Gould stated that he was able to prove that his client was in the possession of the house. The Bench said as there was a dispute about the title, they were powerless in the matter, and must dismiss the case.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/11/1876

“Two bailiffs named Edward Wise and Edward Brookes were charged with assaulting Job Flavell, a miner. It appeared that some time ago a dispute arose as to the ownership of the PEAR TREE INN, New Street, Gornal Wood. The purchaser, Mr. *Greenway*, requested the occupier, Mrs. *Turner*, to leave the house, but from some cause she refused to do so, and the question of title and ejectment is to be heard in another court. On the advice of the purchaser’s solicitor, the whole of the panes of glass were taken out of the windows, the grates were removed, and the chimneys were stopped up; but, notwithstanding all these annoyances, Mrs. *Turner* declined to leave the house, and still continues carrying on her business. In order to protect the property, Mr. *Greenway* placed the defendants to watch it, and on the night of the 3rd inst, as the complainant was passing the house, the defendants remonstrated with him, and struck and kicked him in a brutal manner. Wise also struck the complainant a violent blow on the head with a pair of handcuffs. Several witnesses corroborated the complainant’s statement. For the defence it was contended that the complainant was drunk and attempted to burst a door open at the PEAR TREE INN, and when the defendants requested him to go home he kicked Brookes and struck Wise, and thus commenced the disturbance. Several witnesses were called, who stated that the complainant was drunk, and that he was the aggressor. The magistrate came to the conclusion that the complainant had been very grievously assaulted, and that the defendants had been guilty of gross misconduct. Wise would therefore be fined 40s and costs, or in default six weeks’ imprisonment; and Brookes 20s and costs, or in default three weeks’ imprisonment. A charge of assault preferred by Edward Brookes against Job Flavell was dismissed upon the defendant paying the costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/2/1877

“Our Sedgley correspondent writes. For a number of years a large public-house known by the sign of the PEAR TREE INN was carried on at Gornal Wood, by Mr. *Sergeant Turner*, but some three years ago he died, and left the whole estate – which was mortgaged – to his wife, who some time afterwards transferred the mortgage from a gentleman in Birmingham to one at Dudley, and subsequently some difficulties arose which necessitated the clearing off of the mortgage and the sale of the property; but this was done, Mrs. *Turner* alleges, without her knowledge or consent, although previously she placed the estate in Chancery. The sale took place, and the purchaser was Mr. *J. Greenway*, who shortly afterwards requested Mrs. *Turner* to leave the house, as it no longer belonged to her. This request she refused to comply with, she contending that Mr. *Greenway* had no authority to compel her to leave the house. The usual notice having expired, Mrs. *Turner* again refused to leave the house, she having by this time received legal advice. The purchaser of the house then took the extraordinary course of taking out the whole of the windows and frames, and removing the doors and fire grates and stopped up the chimneys. Notwithstanding all this severe treatment, Mrs. *Turner* stayed in the house and carried on her business. Upon visiting the premises yesterday our correspondent found them a complete wreck, every room being entirely devoid of furniture, save one of the front rooms, where was erected a kind of gipsy’s tent, and in which was placed a few forms and some bed linen, and an old bucket which contained a fire made of coke. In order that there should be a good current of air part of the wall opposite the window was knocked down, so that the boisterous north-east winds could pass through the back door into the place selected for habitation and have a ‘desired’ effect. Mrs. *Turner* is between 50 and 60 years, and has lived with the house in this state for some time. She declares that she and her little girl have slept every night in the place since the demolition has taken place in order to claim her possessions. Mrs. *Turner* will continue to live in this miserable manner until a case for ejectment has been heard at the forthcoming Stafford Assizes.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 10/3/1877

“Staffordshire Lent Assizes.

John Greenway, colliery owner, Lower Gornal, brought the action to recover from *Mary Matilda Turner*, the defendant, some property which he alleged he had become entitled to under the provisions of a mortgage. Mr. Underhill and Mr. Plumtree were for the plaintiff, defendant being undefended by counsel. The property was the PEAR TREE INN, Lower Gornal, which had been mortgaged, the interest in the mortgage being ultimately bought by the plaintiff. Plaintiff wanted possession of the house, and the defendant – who did not dispute the right of the plaintiff – asked for time, which was allowed. She afterwards refused to give up possession. The verdict was for the plaintiff.”

County Advertiser 1/6/1878

“On Wednesday an inquest was held at the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, touching the death of Isaac Wall (35), who had died from the effects of injuries received at the Old Park Ironstone Works. Thomas Watton stated that the deceased was, on the night of the 23rd inst, engaged at work with a number of other men in a stone pit at Old Park, belonging to the Earl of Dudley, in removing measures of ironstone, and building it up for bandmen to take it away on the following morning. There was some difficulty, however, with a particular measure, and deceased said ‘he would give it another blow or two,’ after which it fell in on the deceased and crushed his chest in. In answer to the Coroner, William Bulger, the manager of the works said the Mr. Scott, the Assistant Government Inspector of Mines had inspected the workings since the accident, but had not required him to make any alterations. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death. The Coroner said the widow of the deceased appeared to be in poor circumstances, and it was very desirable that some assistance

should be rendered.

Mr. Bulger said some assistance would be provided.”

County Express 28/9/1878

“Free Gardenry. On Monday last the members of the Pride of England Lodge held their anniversary at the PEAR TREE INN. The members sat down to an excellent dinner provided for them by Bro. *John Greenaway*, the host. Bro. Thomas Greenaway presided, and Bro. Thomas Hughes occupied the vice-chair.....”

London Gazette 16/7/1880

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *John Greenaway*, of the PEAR TREE INN, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Publican, and also of the Oak Farm Colliery, Kingswinford, in the same county, Coalmaster, and Thomas Greenaway, of Lower Gornal Aforesaid, And Also Of The Oak Farm Colliery Aforesaid, Coalmaster, In Partnership With The Said *John Greenaway*, Under The Style Or Firm Of Greenaway And Sons.

Notice is hereby given, that a General Meeting of the creditors of the above-named persons has been summoned to be held at my offices, No.87, High-street, Brierley Hill, in the said county of Stafford, on the 28th day of July, 1880, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 12th day of July, 1880.

Thomas Homer, Brierley Hill, Solicitor for the said Debtors.”

1881 Census

New Street – PEAR TREE INN

- [1] *John Greenaway* (35), public house, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Sarah Greenaway (35), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Emilia Greenaway (16), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Sarah Greenaway (13), daughter, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] Eliza Ann Greenaway (10), daughter, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [6] William Thomas Greenaway (12), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [7] John Hughes Greenaway (10), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [8] Charlotte Elizabeth Greenaway (8), daughter, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [9] James Henry Greenaway (6), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [10] Ernest Greenaway (5), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [11] Esther H. Greenaway (4), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [12] Mary J. F. H. Greenaway (12 months), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [13] Leonard Greenaway (4 months), son, born Lower Gornal:

County Advertiser 7/10/1882 - Notice

“Pursuant to a Decretal Order made by Sir Rupert Kettle, Judge of the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, in an action, Bassett v. Rooker, on the 23rd day of September, 1882, the Creditors of *Sergeant Turner*, late of the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, innkeeper, deceased, are on or before the 10th day of October, 1882, to send by post, prepaid, to the Registrar of the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, their Christian and Surnames, Addresses and Descriptions, the full Particulars of their Claims, and the nature of the Securities (if any) held by them, or, in default thereof, they will be excluded from the benefit of the said Order.

Every creditor holding any Security is to produce the same to the Registrar of the said Court, at his Office, Priory Street, Dudley, aforesaid, on Thursday, the 12th day of October, 1882, at 12 o'clock at noon, being the day appointed for adjudicating upon the Claims.

Dated this 28th day of September, 1882.

Thomas Walker, Registrar.”

Dudley and District News 10/2/1883

“National United Order Of Free Gardeners. On Saturday last the members of the ‘Pride of England’ Lodge, of the above Order, held their annual dinner at the house of Bro. *John Greenaway*, PEAR TREE INN, Lower Gornal, which the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. *Greenaway*, served up in excellent style. After the removal of the cloth Bro. J. Marsh, Master, was called to the chair, and Bro. J. F. Hughes, Deputy-Master, to the vice-chair. The Chairman then proposed the ‘Health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen’, after which Bro. J. F. Hughes proposed the ‘Health of the Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family.’ Bro. H. Marsh proposed ‘Success to the Brierley Hill District, N.U.O.F.G.’ The Vice-Chairman, in responding, said he hoped every success would attend the Brierley Hill District and Free Gardeners at large, and that it would prosper more in the future than it had in the past. ‘Success to the Pride of England Lodge,’ was then moved by Bro. M. Bate, which was received with applause. Bro. H. Hemmings, secretary, in responding said that it was very gratifying to him and to all brother Gardeners to know that the Pride of England Lodge had been attended with so much prosperity, and had made so much progress in financial affairs during the last few years, and that members were joining the society.

Among the other toasts were the ‘Host and Hostess’ and ‘The Officers of the Lodge.’ A number of songs and recitations were given by several members present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by all.”

County Advertiser 30/6/1883 - Advert

“Sale of Freehold Public-House and Building Land, situate at Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

Messrs. Rollinson and Beckley are instructed to Offer by Auction, on Tuesday, July 10th, 1883, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal aforesaid, at Six o'clock in the Evening, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

Lot 1. All that well-established Freehold Public-House and Premises, called the PEAR TREE INN, situate in New Street, Lower Gornal.

The Premises comprise Front parlour, Tap Room, Bar, Smoke Room, very large Club Room, Three good Cellars, Four large Chambers, Brewhouse, Store Room, formerly used as a Malthouse, Yard, Piggeries, and other Outbuildings, together with a piece of land, now used as a private road from New Street into Brook Street, and are now in the occupation of Mr. *Greenaway*. The Property is in a commanding situation for business.....”

County Advertiser 14/7/1883

“Messrs. Rollinson and Beckley, auctioneers, of Brierley Hill, offered for sale by auction, on Tuesday last, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, a public house and premises called the PEAR TREE INN. There was a large attendance, and after a keen competition the lot was sold to Mr. W. Hughes, for the sum of £550. Messrs. Gould and Elcock, of Stourbridge, were solicitors for the vendors.”

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1886

“Yesterday, Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, held an inquest at the PEAR TREE INN, Barrs Meadow, on the body of Enoch Duckett (42), collier, who was fatally crushed in Messrs. Glaze's Straits Colliery on Saturday. Mr. W. B. Scott, the Government inspector was present.

James Dank, loader, said he was at work with the man Duckett on Saturday, and the latter was 'turning out.' A bump occurred, and piece of coal about half-a-ton came down upon Duckett. Thomas Pearson, the underground manager, had seen the place and set them to work in it. It seemed safe enough, and there was plenty of timber.

Thomas Pearson, the doggy in charge of the pit at the time, said he examined the place according to law, and it seemed safe. In fact, witness was under it himself just before the fall came. He heard the bump and went back, when he found Duckett under the coal. A plan of the colliery was put in, and Mr. Scott expressed himself satisfied with the arrangements for the safety of the men. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/5/1887

“Yesterday, Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the PEAR TREE INN, Lower Gornal, on the body of Jane Flavell (77), who was fatally burnt some five days ago, whilst sitting in her chair near the fire.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

39, New Street

[1] *John Greenway* (45), inspector of mines and innkeeper, born Sedgley;

[2] *Susi Greenway* (45), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *John H. Greenway* (20), son, inspector of mines, born Sedgley;

[4] *Charlotte E. Greenway* (18), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] *Ernest Greenway* (16), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] *Elizabeth Greenway* (14), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] *Leonard E. Greenway* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] *Aubrey Greenway* (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[9] *Charlotte Smith* (17), general servant, born Gornal Wood:

County Advertiser 9/1/1892 - Advert

“Freehold properties at Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. James Whitehouse is instructed to Sell by Auction, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday, the 19th day of January, 1892, at Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, the undermentioned Freehold Properties.

Lot. 1 All that Well-accustomed Freehold Beerhouse, known as the PEAR TREE INN, situate at New Street, Lower Gornal, now and for several years past in the occupation of Mr. *John Greenaway*. The property contains Club Room, Concert Room, Sitting Room, Four Bed Chambers, Hall, Pantry, and good Cellarage, together with the out-buildings thereto belonging, comprising Stabling, Piggeries, Malthouse, Brewhouse, and the usual appurtenances, and a large area of land.....”

Dudley Herald 24/2/1900 - Advert

“Notice of Sale by Auction of Three Capital Freehold Dwelling-Houses and Building land, at Lower Gornal.

Alfred W. Dando has received instructions to Sell by auction, at the PEAR TREE INN, New Street, Lower Gornal, on Wednesday, March 7th, 1900, at 7 o'clock in the evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced.....”

Dudley Herald 25/8/1900

“The general annual licensing sessions for Bilston were held yesterday Six notices of applications had been received as fol-

lows.....

Isaac Jones, PEAR TREE, INN, beerhouse keeper, Lower Gornal, for a spirit license.

Mr. Foster who appeared in support of the application, said there was overwhelming public opinion in favour of the application. There were four parties opposing the application and it was refused.”

1901 Census

38, New Street – PEAR TREE INN

- [1] *Isaac Jones* (51), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Matilda Jones* (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Annie Marsh* (28), daughter, widow, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Joshua Jones* (26), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Selina Jones* (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Eli Jones* (20), son, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Isaac Jones* (18), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Emmanuel Jones* (16), son, electrician, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Mary M. Jones* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Beatrice H. Jones* (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [11] *John Jones* (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [12] *Eveline M. Marsh* (3), granddaughter, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/2/1903

“At the Bilston Licensing Sessions yesterday.....

Wine licenses were granted to *Isaac Jones*, PEAR TREE INN, Lower Gornal.”

Isaac Jones, beer retailer, Lower Gornal. [1904]

He died in 1904.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/4/1904

“A daring burglary was committed during Sunday night at the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood. The burglars gained admission into the house by forcing open a window at the back of the premises, after which they went into the bar, broke open the till, and secured a large quantity of coppers. They afterwards regaled themselves with refreshments.”

1911 Census

39, New Street

- [1] *Matilda Jones* (57), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Eli Jones* (30), son, brewer, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Emmanuel Jones* (28), son, engineer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary Jones* (24), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Beatrice Happy Jones* (20), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Lily Bradley* (17), servant, born Sedgley:

Mrs. *Matilda Jones*, beer retailer, Lower Gornal. [1912]

Eli Jones was known as ‘Ayli the Tree’

He was the son of *Matilda*.

He brewed his own beer.

He issued tokens from here.

He died on 23rd December 1936.

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions PEAR TREE INN, Lower Gornal, 18s 9½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Mr. *Robinson* issued tokens from here.

[Was this John William?]

1939 Register

58, New Street – PEAR TREE INN

[1] *John W. Robinson*, date of birth 29/1/1887, publican, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Clara E. Robinson, dob 29/12/1886, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Audrey (Robinson) Bamber, dob 23/7/1925, seeking work, not previously employed, single:

Tipton Herald 15/9/1956

“Local licensees are staging three harvest homes in aid of the Lower Gornal Athletic Club, and the first of these was held at the PEAR TREE INN on Sunday night. Produce given by customers was staged by local amateur horticulturalists, Messrs. E. and W. Marsh, and was auctioned by Mr. Sid Wood.”

Advert 1965

“For top line entertainment visit the PEAR TREE INN, Gornal Wood. Every Tuesday, Saturday, Sunday. Banks’ Ales, Wines, Spirits. Cocktail Lounge etc.”

London Gazette 13/3/1975

“*Macrae, Eva Jayne*, unemployed, residing at 159, Central Drive, Lower Gornal, Dudley in the county of West Midlands, and lately residing and carrying on business as a Publican at The PEAR TREE INN, New Street, Lower Gornal, aforesaid. Court – Dudley. Date of Filing Petition – 7th March, 1975. Date of Receiving Order – 7th March, 1975. Whether Debtor’s or Creditor’s Petition – Debtor’s.”

[1990]

Closed [1993]

PIED BULL

Grosvenor Road, (Graveyard), Gornalwood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joseph Law

LICENSEES

Joseph Law [1845] – 1891):

NOTES

Graveyard [1849], [1850], [1865]

It had a six day license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1843

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Friday last, at the PIED BULL, Grave Yard, in the parish of Sedgley, on Joseph Jones, a miner, who was killed by a fall of coal, while at work in a pit Verdict in each case Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Journal 13/6/1846

“On Thursday morning last, about six o’clock, a servant named George Kitson absconded from the house of Mr. *Joseph Law*, PIED BULL, Grove Yard, Sedgley, taking with him several handkerchiefs and other property belonging to his master. It is supposed that he is gone into Shropshire, being a native of Bridgnorth.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/2/1847

“On Monday an inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the PIED BULL, Sedgley, on the body of William Jones, a child whose death was caused by his clothes catching fire. Verdict Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Grave Yard

- [1] *Joseph Law* (34), farmer of 80 acres, employing 3 men, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Law (35), born Sedgley;
- [3] Stephen Raymond Law (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] James Brown Law (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Joseph John Law (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Sarah Theresa Law (3 months), born Sedgley;
- [7] William Lewis (25), farm labourer, born Claverley, Shropshire;
- [8] Ann Wall (30), house servant, born Worcestershire:

Brierley Hill Advertiser 21/2/1857

“Valuable Freehold and Copyhold Properties, in the Parish of Bobbington, and the Parish and Manor of Sedgley. To be held by Auction, by Mr. Hawkins, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Law*, the PIED BULL INN, at the Grave Yard, Sedgley, on Tuesday, the 17th day of March, 1857.....”

Joseph Law was also a farmer. [1860], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1873]

1861 Census

Grave Yard

- [1] *Joseph Law* (44), widower, farmer of 60 acres employing 3 men, born Sedgley;
- [2] Stephen Law (16), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] Frances Law (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Newell (48), housekeeper, born Trysull, Staffordshire;
- [5] Mary Timmins (17), servant of all work, born Sedgley:

1871 Census

Lower Gornal – Farm House

- [1] *Joseph Law* (54), farmer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Stephen Law (26), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] Frances Law (16), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Anne Law (35), visitor, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Clark (20), general servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 18/3/1876 - Advert

“For Sale, a thorough-bred short-horn Cow and Calf; also, three or four short-horn In-Calvers. A thorough-bred short-horn pedigree Bull, kept for breeding purposes. Apply, *J. Law*, Graveyard Farm, Lower Gornal.”

County Advertiser 23/6/1877 - Advert

“Two Pure-bred, Short-horn, Pedigree Bulls kept for Breeding Purposes at the Graveyard Farm, Lower Gornal.”

1881 Census

Graveyard – Graveyard Farm

- [1] *Joseph Law* (64), widower, farmer, 88 acres, employing 2 men 1 boy 2 women, born Sedgley;
- [2] Stephen Law (37), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] Annie Law (44), sister, housekeeper, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Ryder (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

1891 Census

Grave Yard Road – Farmhouse and Buildings

- [1] *Joseph Law* (74), widower, farmer, born Cotwall End;
- [2] Stephen R. Law (46), son, farm labourer, born Grave Yard;
- [3] Catherine Law (33), daughter in law, born Cardiff;
- [4] Stephen R. Law (11 months), grandson, born Grave Yard:

The license renewal was refused at the Licensing Meeting on 21st August 1891.

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1891

“Bilston. The licensing sessions were held yesterday.....
The Bench refused to grant licenses to the following houses which had been closed.....
PIED BULL INN, Lower Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/5/1902

“Yesterday afternoon the death occurred of Mr. *Joseph Law*, of the Graveyard Farm, Lower Gornal, Sedgley, who was the oldest

public man in the parish. The deceased gentleman's family has been located in the parish of Sedgley for at least three centuries, and the deceased, when a young man, was a highway surveyor at Lower Gornal, and subsequently a member of the Highway Board. When a Local Board was formed in 1867 he was elected a member, and on several occasions he was elected the chairman. For many years he has been the chairman of the Board of Overseers, and for nearly 40 years a representative for the Sedgley parish on the Dudley Board of Guardians. The deceased gentleman, who was in politics a Liberal Unionist, was 86 years of age."

AND
County Advertiser 24/5/1902

"Mr. *Joseph Law*, of the Graveyard Farm, Lower Gornal, died on Thursday at the age of 86. He belonged to an old Sedgley family, and for nearly forty years sat on the Dudley Board of Guardians for Sedgley. As chairman of the Board of Overseers and a member of the local governing body, he did much good public service. Mr. *Law* was deservedly held in the highest esteem. In politics he was a Liberal Unionist."

PIG AND WHISTLE

13, High Street, (Dudley Road), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Sarah Jenkins
Elydia Rudge [1877]
William Joseph Hill
North Worcestershire Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1896)
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1909)

LICENSEES

William Fox [1828] – [1830]
Hannah Short [1833] – [1834]
William Fox [1835] – [1841]
Mary Fox [1841] – [1842]
Mrs. Phoebe Fox [1845] – [1854]
Thomas Martin [] – **1855**;
Jenkins (**1855** – [])
Thomas Vincent [1861] – [1862]
John Rudge [1866]
Luke Rudge [] – **1866**;
Samuel Boyce (**1866** – [1867])
Benjamin Smith [1868] – [1870]
John Rudge [1871] – **1877**;
Elydia Rudge (**1877**);
William J Hill (**1877** – **1896**);
Edward Downs (**1896** – **1898**);
James Bird (**1898** – **1899**);
Arthur Edward Lloyd (**1899** – **1904**);
Francis Brough (**1904** – **1906**);
Frederick Parry (**1906** – **1910**);
Edward Farrell (**1910** – **1911**);
William Henry Rolinson (**1911** – **1914**);
Lilian Victoria Rolinson [1911] ?
Harry Smith Hilton (**1914**);
William Hubbard (**1914** – **1916**);
William Charles Waldren (**1916**);
William Coley (**1916** – **1918**);
William Griffiths (**1918** – **1922**);
Henry Bradford (**1922** – **1923**);
Albert Edward Banks (**1923** – **1926**);
Edwin Pedmore (**1926**);
Joseph Henry Harper (**1926** – **1928**);
Walter Collins (**1928** – **1930**);
Joseph Richard Lovatt (**1930**);

Joseph Frank Amos (1930);
Frank Frederick Holmes (1930 – 1933):

NOTES

1841 Census

High Street

- [1] *William Fox* (30), maltster, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Phoebe Fox* (35), born Staffordshire,
- [3] Charles Fox (10), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Isachar Fox (6), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Esther Fox (1), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Ann Box (10), born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/1/1848

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

Thomas Lees and Thomas Porter were indicted for stealing two cloth coats, and seventeen pieces of cloth patterns, the property of Joshua Robbins, at Sedgley, on the 24th of November last. Mr. Meteyard conducted the prosecution; the prisoners were undefended.

It appeared that the prosecutor, who is a pawnbroker, living at Tipton, had forwarded two coats to John Campbell, a tailor, at Bilston, for repair, and which, when completed on the 24th of November, he gave to George Smith, a butcher, living at Tipton, in a parcel, containing also seventeen pieces of patterns for trousers, that Smith might deliver them to the prosecutor. Whilst Smith's cart was standing at the PIG AND WHISTLE public house, at Sedgley, Porter was observed a few yards off in conversation with a man named Radford, and immediately afterwards the parcel was missed from the cart. On the 26th, Hickin, a police officer, went to Mrs. Fletcher's shop, a pawnbroker, where one of the coats had been pledged by Lees, and whilst he was there, the prisoner Porter was offering a coat on pledge. The 17 patterns of cloth, enclosed in the parcel, were found in Porter's pocket, which, he said, would not have been there, had he been aware that he would have been searched. The coats and the patterns were produced and identified by Mr. Campbell and Mr. Robbins.

The depositions taken before the magistrates, in which Lees had made a statement that a man had desired him to pledge the coat, which he did, and returned the money and ticket to the person, were put in and read, and the prisoner now reiterated precisely the same statement. Porter made no defence.

Both prisoners were found guilty, and were sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for three calendar months.”

1851 Census

High Street

- [1] *Phoebe Fox* (48), widow, maltster and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Eli Fox (22), son, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [3] Charles Fox (20), son, roll turner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Isaachar Fox (16), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Esther Fox (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Ann Box (21), niece, annuitant, born Sedgley;
- [7] Joseph Oakley (74), servant, maltster, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 2/12/1854 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Buiding Land, at Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. J. F. Watkins, on Monday, the 11th day of December inst, at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, at Five o'clock in the evening.

Lot 1. A Messuage used as a Public House, and known by the sign of the PIG AND WHISTLE, with the Brewhouse, Stable, Pigstye, Out-buildings, Garden, and Wells of Water thereto belonging, adjoining the Turnpike Road leading from Wolverhampton to Dudley, and together with the road at the back.

Lot 2. A desirable Piece of Building Land, at the back of the above lot, and fronting to Castle Street.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/9/1860

“Sedgley. A remarkable discovery has just been made in this neighbourhood. A tavern, known as the PIG AND WHISTLE, has recently been closed and boarded up, and since it was vacated by the last tenant no one could be induced to take it, for the reason that it had the unfortunate reputation of being haunted. In pulling down the building, on Tuesday, for the purpose of re-erection, the workmen discovered a quantity of bones buried beneath the hearth-stone, in a cavity formed by an arch constructed of house-tiles. They were found to be those of a considerable portion of a human skeleton, and it is supposed that the remainder have been deposited in another part of the premises. It is said that an individual known as ‘Old Short, the Moneyman’ mysteriously disappeared from the district some years ago, and he was in the constant habit of going to this house. It was formerly a roadside inn, and the only accommodation for travellers; and it is supposed that some unlucky individual was waylaid, and quietly disposed of, for the locality was then in very bad repute.”

AND

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 1/9/1860

“Sedgley. Some excitement has been caused in this neighbourhood by the rumour that the skeleton of a human being had been found buried under the hearth-stone of an old house, formerly known as the PIG AND WHISTLE, which, having been unoccupied for a considerable time, was pulled down. Some bones were found, but after they had been examined by Mr. Green, surgeon, and Mr. H. Ballenden, son of Dr. Ballenden, of Sedgley, they were declared to be those of a pig.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/11/1860 - Advert

“Sale at Sedgley. To Hay and Straw Dealers and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. C. Round, This Day (Monday) November 26th, in a field near the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, on the Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley – a Rick of well-ended New Hay, about six Tons, sold under a distraint for rent.

Sale to commence at Twelve o'clock precisely.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/1/1861 - Advert

“Sedgley. To Innkeepers, Publicans, and Others.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, all that well-known old-established Licensed Public House and Premises, called the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, situate at Sedgley, on the turnpike roadside leading from Wolverhampton to Dudley. The house has recently been rebuilt, and contains six bedrooms, large clubroom, large kitchen, taproom, smokeroom, entrance hall, open staircase, bar and bar parlour, pantry and excellent cellarage, large brewhouse, two storerooms, stable, entrance gateway enclosed with large doors, out-offices, two good hard water wells with pumps, soft water pump, large courtyard and garden, with a back entrance leading out of Castle Street. The house is also fitted up with bells and gas fittings complete.

For further particulars, and to treat, apply personally or by letter, to Mr. Hamlet Durose, Architect and Surveyor, 6, Albert Place, Compton Road, Wolverhampton.”

1861 Census

High Street – PIG AND WHISTLE INN

[1] *Thomas Vincent* (60), widower, licensed victualler, born Feckenham, Worcestershire;

[2] *Sarah Vincent* (32), daughter, assistant in business, born Tardibig [Tardebigge], Worcestershire;

[3] *Letitia Vincent* (31), daughter, assistant in business, born Tardibig, Worcestershire;

[4] *Martha Vincent* (24), daughter, assistant in business, born Tardibig, Worcestershire;

[5] *George Vincent* (21), son, assistant in business, born Tardibig, Worcestershire;

[6] *Eliza Pearce* (19), general servant, born Feckenham, Worcestershire;

[7] *Joseph Pearce* (16), general servant, born Feckenham, Worcestershire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

Thomas Vincent of the PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley all of whom had been fined in the previous year for various offences had their licenses suspended until the adjourned meeting on 20th September next.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/1/1862 - Advert

“Clear Out Sale By Auction, at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, one mile from Deepfields Station.

Roderick and Son will Sell by Auction, this day (Wednesday), January 15th, commencing at Eleven.

The capital Furniture, Public House Effects, Brewing Plant, and Effects of Mr. *Thomas Vincent*, deceased.

Comprising Bedsteads, Beds, Bedding, Chests of Drawers, Toilet Tables, Chairs, Carpets, and Chamber Appendages, capital Club, Smoke, and Tap Room Tables, Benches with backs and elbows, Elbow Smoking Chairs, capital five-pull Ale Machine, Pewter Measures, Earthen and Glass Ware, Kitchen Furniture, Cooking Utensils, Barrel Churn, Skittle Frame and Pins, Cucumber Frame, loose Brewing Utensils, Coolers, Tubs, excellent Hogsheads and half Hogsheads, 400 Gallons of Ale and other Effects.

Catalogues of which may be had on the Premises, or of the Auctioneers, Cherry Street, Birmingham.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/12/1863 - Advert

“Excellent Business Premises, Sedgley.

To be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, those recently erected and spacious Premises, heretofore known as the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, at Sedgley, fronting the Turnpike Road, leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton, most desirably situated, and well adapted for business purposes of almost every description. There is an old License attached to the House, and about seven acres of capital Grass Land may be had therewith, if required, at Lady-day next.

For further particulars, and to treat, apply to Mr Bateman, Land Agent, Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/1/1865

“Wolverhampton Police Court (before I. Spooner, Esq, Stipendiary Magistrate).....

Joseph Fletcher, jun., miller, Sedgley, was summoned before the Bench by John Major, cabman, of Wolverhampton, for refusing to pay cab fare.

Complainant's statement was that about ten minutes to ten o'clock on the night of Christmas Eve, he was with his cab on the stand in the Market Place, when two little children came to him and said he was wanted in Townwell Fold. He accordingly drove down with the children to a house of ill-fame in the locality named, and there saw the defendant and another man. After keeping him waiting outside for about a quarter of an hour, defendant called him in and asked him what he would drive him and his compan-

ion, with a girl named Thompson, to Sedgley for, and he would have to bring the girl back again to Wolverhampton. He told them that the fare was 5s 3d, but he would take them for 5s. He waited some time longer, and then he was ordered to drive to a liquor shop in Cock Street. They stayed there about ten minutes, and afterwards drove to the PIED BULL, Snow Hill, where they had something to drink. He then drove them to the PIG AND WHISTLE at Sedgley, when they refused to pay him. Witness now claimed 6s 3d, being 5s 3d for the fare, and 1s for waiting.

For the defence it was stated that one of the men in the cab named Fraser paid the complainant 4s 6d, the sum demanded, while outside the PIED BULL in Snow Hill. This man swore distinctly that whilst they were all in the cab, in front of the PIED BULL, complainant refused to drive them any further unless he had his fare, and witness then gave him 4s 6d, being 3s 6d for the fare, 6d for the gate, and 6d for something to drink, as it was a stormy night. No bargain was made to bring the girl back again. Another witness, named Cox, said he was present in the PIG AND WHISTLE at Sedgley when complainant came and demanded something to take the girl back again, and he heard Fraser tell him that he paid him what he bargained for at Wolverhampton, 4s 6d, and he should pay no more.

Complainant, in reply to the Bench, said he never received a farthing.

The balance of testimony being on the side of the defendant, the Magistrates decided to send for the girl Thompson. When Thompson arrived she, in a striking manner, corroborated the evidence of the complainant, stating that she was in the cab the whole of the time, and no money was paid to Major, nor any demand made by him either in Snow Hill or anywhere else until they arrived at Sedgley, when the party refused to pay him. After hearing this evidence, the Bench made an order for the payment of the amount claimed with costs, making altogether £1 2s 9d. Mr. Walker remarked that no doubt the witness Fraser really believed that he paid the complainant, but the evidence showed they were all 'fresh' and in all probability he was so much intoxicated as not to remember precisely what did take place."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/7/1865 - Advert

"Wanted, a young Man, to Drive a Horse and Car.
Apply at PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley."

Birmingham Daily Post 27/10/1865 - Advert

"Wanted, a respectable, sober, Young Man, to take charge of a Car, and make himself useful in the house.
Apply, PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley."

Birmingham Daily Post 15/2/1866 - Advert

"PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, Staffordshire.

To be Let, in consequence of the Proprietor having other engagements, the above well-known and old-established Roadside Inn. The Premises comprise Bar, Liquor Shop, large Tap Room, Back Parlour, seven Bed Rooms, large Club Room, Brew-house, Stabling, Piggeries, Garden, and about an acre of Land at the back thereof. Rent and payments low. To parties in want of a Public-house, this is an opportunity rarely to be met with. Incoming about £200, which may be considerably reduced to suit a purchaser.

For particulars, apply on the premises."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

"The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday, when the Magistrates present were – The Revs. J. Y. Rooker, and W. Lewis, and J. Perks, H. D. Best, A. Sparrow, H. Ward, and W. Hatton, Esqs. At the commencement of the proceedings, the superintendent of Police presented the following report.

Bilston Division, August 31st, 1866.

'I beg to submit to the Magistrates the attached list of licensed victuallers who have been complained about during the year. Twenty-five have been convicted, and three have paid costs; one had been convicted three times and five twice. This is a large increase on last year's list; but I think it has arisen from the police being more particular in reporting cases of permitting drunkenness – as it was found to be an evil rather on the increase. I believe it has caused landlords to be more careful in supplying drink to persons intoxicated.'

H. McCrea, Superintendent.

Black List.....

John Rudge, PIG AND WHISTLE, High Street, Sedgley left over until the adjourned licensing meeting on the 28th of September."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/8/1867 - Advert

"That excellent Roadside Inn, the PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley, by Dudley, with large Yard, Garden, Field of Land, and Out-buildings. Rent £26. In-coming low.

Apply on the Premises, or to Mr. Ashcroft, Auctioneer, Wolverhampton."

Birmingham Journal 19/10/1867 - Advert

"Peremptory Unreserved Sale, at the LEOPARD INN, Upper Gornal.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, on Monday Next, October 21.

The Brewing Plant, Public-House Fixtures, Household Furniture, and other Effects belonging to Mr. *Benjamin Smith*, who has taken the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley....."

Birmingham Daily Post 5/4/1870 - Advert

“To be Let, immediately, the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, at Sedgley. Coming-in moderate. Apply on the Premises.”

1871 Census

13, High Street

- [1] *John Rudge* (54), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Lydia Rudge* (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Rudge (29), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joseph Rudge (27), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [5] Alfred Budle (15), niece [age appears in the male column], scholar, born Sedgley:

County Advertiser 20/1/1872

“The Agitation Amongst Nailers. On Monday a meeting of nailers was held at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, when Mr. Solomon Westwood presided. Delegates from Halesowen, Lye Waste, Gornal, Oldswinford, and Sedgley, attended the meeting. After a long discussion, a delegate from Oldswinford moved, ‘That we ask for the 1869 list, with ten per cent upon that.’ This being seconded, a delegate from Halesowen moved as an amendment, ‘That we ask for the 1869 list for all spike and plate nails, and 10 per cent upon all other work.’ The amendment was seconded by another delegate from Halesowen. The amendment and resolution were then put to the meeting, when the resolution was carried by five to three. On the motion of a delegate from the Lye Waste it was decided that if the resolution was not acceded to by the 27th inst, that a general strike should take place on the following Monday, the 29th inst. The meeting then terminated.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/6/1872

“On Monday evening last a meeting was held at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, High Street, Sedgley, of the hundred-weight nail-makers, to consider the best means to adopt to increase the price of their work. It was resolved that all hundred-weight nails from 3½ inch up to 5½ inch be advanced 6d per cwt, and all upwards 3d per cwt, and 6d per 100 over for fine spikes, and extra fine 1s; the alteration to take effect from June 15.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/6/1872 - Advert

“Messrs. Aston, Sollom, and Barnett are instructed by the Trustees, under the will of the late Mr. George Jenkins, to Sell by Auction, at the SWAN HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, the 12th day of June, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions of sale, the under-mentioned valuable properties.....
Lot 4. The Old-licensed Public House and Premises, bearing the sign of the PIG AND WHISTLE, fronting the said turnpike road from Wolverhampton to Dudley, together with the Stabling, Yard, Garden front and back gateway Entrances, and other appurtenances, and now in the occupation of Mr. *John Rudge*. The Land, including the site of the buildings and the road at the back, contains 1,090 square yards, or thereabouts.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/8/1874 - Advert

“Wanted, a young Man.
Apply at PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/3/1877

“Strange Conduct of a Publican at Sedgley. Desecration of a Churchyard.
At Sedgley Police Court, yesterday afternoon, *John Rudge* landlord of the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, was charged by Mr. John Barrs, church-warden, with being guilty of riotous and indecent behaviour in the burial ground belonging to the parish church on Sunday, the 11th inst.
Mr. Barrow, of Wolverhampton, who appeared for the defendant, said he thought the Bench would allow the case to be withdrawn after they had heard his statement. The late Thomas Hughes was a distant relative of the defendant, who was not invited to the funeral. After the service had been read, however, defendant approached the grave and produced a bottle of wine, and said, ‘You were fond of it when you were alive, and you shall have some now that you are dead.’ There was no person in that Court who was more sorry for the occurrence than his client, and he contended that he ought to be, for he was guilty of a grave act and a great breach of decorum. It was a very serious act to commit at such a solemn service as the burial of the dead, and so wound the feelings of the bereaved friends. In fact, such a violation of the law was a disgrace to a civilised country. But defendant had expressed contrition at having committed so foolish an act, and had promised never to do the like again. Mr. Barrs, the prosecutor, was willing to allow the case to be withdrawn on payment of costs, and he hoped the Bench would allow the case to be withdrawn.
Ultimately the case was allowed to be withdrawn on defendant paying the costs, 25s.”

John Rudge was married to *Elydia*.
He died in 1877.

County Advertiser 4/8/1877 - Advert

“Sedgley, Staffordshire. Important to Brewers, Maltsters, Innkeepers, and Others.

Messrs. Sollom and Barnett are instructed to Offer for Sale by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Friday, the 24th day of August, 1877, at Seven o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale incorporating the Common Form Conditions of the Wolverhampton Law Association, the following very valuable Freehold Properties, which will be Offered in One Lot; if not then Sold, in the following or such other Lots as may be arranged at the time of Sale.

Lot 2. The valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Public House and Premises, called the PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley, situated fronting the Turnpike Road from Wolverhampton to Dudley, together with the Stabling, Yard, Garden, Front and Back Gateway Entrances, and other Appurtenances, now in the occupation of Mrs. *Elydia Rudge*, the owner thereof.

The House contains Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, large Club Room, Six Bed Rooms, Kitchen, Brewhouse, Malthouse, and Three Cellars, and is most substantially built in every respect. The Land, including the site of the buildings, contains 1,090 square yards or thereabouts.

A very good business has for some years past been carried on upon these Premises, the Goodwill of which will be included in the purchase.

Lot 3. The valuable Freehold Beerhouse and Premises, called the MILLWRIGHTS ARMS, situate adjoining Lot 2, containing Bar, Tap Room, Parlour, Club Room, Three Bed Rooms, Brewhouse, and Cellaring, now in the occupation of Thomas Wright, at the low annual rental of £18.

Lot 4. All that Piece of Freehold Building Land, situated at the back of Lot 2, fronting to Castle Street, Sedgley, and containing 1,454 square yards or thereabouts.

Possession of all the Lots can be given upon completion of the Purchase.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Stephen J. Walker, Solicitor, 54, Victoria Street, Wolverhampton, or the Auctioneers, 66½, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton."

County Advertiser 13/4/1878

"At Sedgley Police Court, on Wednesday, before Mr. Isaac Spooner (Stipendiary), Titus Lees, Noah Marson, and Reuben Lees, all nailers, of Sedgley, were charged with fighting and creating a riot in the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, High Street, Sedgley, on the 5th inst.

Mr. Holberton, who appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Brierley Hill Licensed Victuallers' Association, said that the complainant had recently taken to the public house, and was anxious to keep it in a respectable manner. On the day in question the defendants went into the house and created a general disturbance.

The complainant having given evidence in support of Mr Holberton's statement, Mr. Spooner ordered defendants to find two sureties in £10 to keep the peace for six months, or in default three months' imprisonment and to pay the costs."

Dudley and District News 13/11/1880

"Samuel Partridge, Castle Street, Sedgley, was charged with stealing, on the 5th of November, a piece of cloth, value 3s 6d, the property of James Edwards, labourer, Gospel End Street.

Prosecutor stated that he went to the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, to receive a parcel containing cloth, which he had left the previous Saturday. He was in the kitchen, the prisoner also being there. The landlord handed him the parcel, and he put it on a bench. The accused opened the parcel and looked at the cloth, and afterwards walked off with it. Prosecutor afterwards saw the prisoner the same evening, and asked him for the cloth. He said, 'Oh, the cloth's right, come on Monday.'

Cross-examined by Mr. Tinsley, prosecutor could not recollect anything saying, 'When a man's drunk he don't remember.'

Samuel Gattos, farm labourer, Cinder Hill, said that, being at the BULLS HEAD, about six o'clock on Saturday night, the prisoner came in with a parcel, asking all round whether anyone wanted to buy a piece of cloth. Witness bought one piece for 2s 6d there being two other pieces, for which he wanted 3s 6d a piece.

PC Durrie said he apprehended the prisoner in his own house about ten minutes to eleven o'clock, and, in answer to the charge, he said he did not know where the cloth was, or to whom he had given it. He was 'fresh.'

Mr. Tinsley, in defence, urged that the prisoner bargained with prosecutor that he should sell the cloth for over 7s 6d, and said it would be unfair to deprive him of his reputation upon the uncorroborated testimony of a drunken man.

James Rudge stated, being at the prosecutor's house, he heard him say, 'We have sold one piece, and we have spent the money; the other two pieces are all right.'

A waiter named Jones, at the BULLS HEAD, deposed to the prisoner and the prosecutor coming to the premises between ten and eleven o'clock on Saturday night for a pint of ale, and being refused both by him and Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Homer said the Bench believed that both parties were in a disgraceful state of intoxication, and there was no credence whatever to be placed on what either of them might say in reference to the case. The Bench would give the accused the benefit of the doubt as to whether there was any felonious intention, but they thought it was a lamentable thing that any two men should have been allowed to get into such a beastly state of intoxication."

Evening Express 1/2/1881 - Advert

"Wanted, a good, strong General Servant.

Apply PIG AND WHISTLE INN, High Street, Sedgley."

1881 Census

13, High Street

[1] *William J. Hill* (42), licensed victualler, born Lye;

[2] *Susannah Hill* (38), wife, born Brierley Hill;

[3] *Alice Hill* (18), daughter, born Brierley Hill;

- [4] Louise L. Hill (11), daughter, scholar, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] William J. Hill (9), son, scholar, born Brierley Hill;
- [6] Frederick Hill (6), son, scholar, born Brierley Hill;
- [7] Gertrude A. Going (8), visitor, scholar, born Brierley Hill;
- [8] Elizabeth Cartwright (22), general servant, born Straits:

Dudley and District News 9/7/1881

“Joseph Walters and William Walker were charged with committing a breach of the peace on Saturday night. Walker did not appear.

PC Durrie said he saw the men coming out of the PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley, and Walker challenged Walters to fight, but Walters ultimately ran away.

The Bench: You should have run away sooner. We dismiss the case.”

Evening Express 16/11/1881

“Nottingham Order of Oddfellows. A new lodge of this Order was opened on Monday evening at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley.

A deputation, consisting of Bros. J. Skitt, CS (Pelsall), J. W. Pole, G. Willis, G. Babb, and J. Weaver, of the Wolverhampton Perseverance Lodge, performed the office.”

Evening Express 28/12/1881

“Oddfellowship – Nottingham Ancient Imperial Order. An opening dinner in connection with the recently opened lodge, 1025, has just been held at the PIG AND WHISTLE, in Sedgley. Forty members sat down to an excellent dinner, well served up by Mr. Thomas (?) Hill.

Mr. Weaver occupied the chair, and Bro. Southal the vice chair. In replying to the toast of the Order, the Chairman congratulated the members that they started with a surplus after meeting all the opening expenses, and remarked that the prospects of the lodge with respect to an increase of membership were encouraging. The evening was enlivened by some good singing.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/3/1883

“Last night a meeting of nailmakers was held at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, to discuss the question of female labour. Mr. J. Parsons, trustee of the Nailers’ Association presided.

The Chairman said they sought to ameliorate and elevate the nailers and chainmakers of the district. They wished to ascertain the feeling of the meeting in reference to the restriction of female labour, and as to a thorough organisation for the district. Ten years ago, when they were well organised, they received a better price for their labour than they had ever received since. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Williams, general secretary of the Nailmakers’ Association, said there were perhaps more male spikemakers in Sedgley than in any other district, and they had women competing with them. They ought to restrict women doing men’s work. (Applause.) By restricting female labour women would not be punished, but would be benefited, and if they would not fall in with the men’s view they must be forced. Machinery did not interfere with the spike trade, because of the characteristic peculiar to hand-made spikes; and he stated on the authority of a large employer that if they could restrict female labour the price would rise from 10d to 1s 6d a bundle. (Applause.)

Mr. Juggins, of the Nut and Bolt Makers’ Association, said they did not make it exactly a wages question; they went more on philanthropic grounds, and spoke more for those who could not help themselves. They wished to see the district on a par with other districts, the women looking after their domestic duties instead of working for a miserable pittance, and the men able to keep as good a home as other artisans. When they saw women compelled to work to keep their families it was high time they did something. When a man and his wife were obliged to work for a bare subsistence, the trade either ought to be abolished altogether or improved. (Cheers.) They wanted less work and more for it. He trusted the nailers of the district would form themselves into a strong organisation for their mutual benefit. The prices paid in Sedgley district for spike nails did not compare at all favourably with those paid at West Bromwich and other places, and to put themselves on a level with their fellow workmen in those places they must be united. As far as female labour was concerned they had no intention, as their opponents alleged, of driving the women at present employed out of the trade, but to restrict their hours.

Mr. T. Harrison, of the Chainmakers’ Association, having addressed the meeting, a Female Operative present said if she worked from 4am until 11pm she could only earn 3s 6d a week, and out of that amount she had to pay 9d for firing. (Shame.) Another woman substantiated the statement.

Mr. Hayward moved a resolution approving of the action being taken to restrict female labour. Mr. Higgins seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

A vote of thanks was afterwards passed to the deputation.”

Dudley and District News 8/9/1883

“On Saturday afternoon last, at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, High Street, Sedgley, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an adjourned inquest touching the death of Titus Lees (48), nailer, Bilston Street, Sedgley, who died suddenly on the 23rd ult.

The inquest had been adjourned for a post mortem examination, and Dr. Ballenden now stated that he had made such examination, and found that death was due to acute pleuritis, which had been produced by a cold.

It was remarked that on the day the deceased died the weather was extremely hot, and Dr. Ballenden observed that in such weather colds similar to the one deceased had were more liable to be caught.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

County Express 14/8/1886

“On Thursday evening last, a large number of licensed victuallers belonging to the Brierley Hill Association, attended at Mr. *W. Hill*'s, PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, out of a compliment, he having been a former member of the committee, and was one of the founders of the society which commenced in 1872. The members, including the president, Mr. W. H. Simpkins, the vice-president, Mr. T. Williams, and secretary, Mr. T. Whitehouse, started from Mr. R. Thompson's, TOWN ARMS, Brierley Hill, at two o'clock. On arrival at Sedgley they rambled around the Beacon and other places of interest, returning at five o'clock to an excellent repast which did credit to the host and hostess.

The chair was occupied by the president, who was supported by Mr. T. Taylor and Mr. H. V. Breton, honorary members. The vice-chair was taken by Mr. T. Williams. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were proposed and duly honoured. The health of the guest, Mr. *Hill*, was proposed by the Chairman in a neat and appropriate speech, and the manner in which it was received showed the unanimous feeling entertained towards him by those present. Mr. *Hill* suitably responded, reciprocating the good wishes and feelings expressed towards himself, his wife, and family. Mr. T. Taylor proposed 'Success to the Brierley Hill Licensed Victuallers Association' advocating Unity and Concord amongst its members. He was pleased at the excellent financial position of the society and wished it future success. Mr. W. H. Simpkins responded. The Secretary gave the health of the honorary members. Mr. T. Taylor and Mr. H. V. Breton responded. The health of the chairman, vice-chairman, host, and hostess having been given, the members started back after a very friendly greeting.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/9/1890

“An adjourned inquest was held last night, at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, High Street, Sedgley, respecting the death of a child named Sarah Langston, who had died suddenly.

Dr. Ballenden stated that he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and found that death had been caused by scarlet fever. He stated that the surroundings of the house were in a filthy state, and should receive immediate attention.

Several jurymen complained of sanitary defects in the parish, and the Coroner said he should deem it his duty to call the attention of the Local Board to the complaints.

A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.”

1891 Census

High Street

- [1] *William J. Hill* (53), licensed victualler, born Lye Waste;
- [2] Susannah Hill (48), wife, born Harts Hill;
- [3] Laurie L. Hill (21), daughter, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] William J. Hill (19), son, mechanical engineer, born Brierley Hill;
- [5] Frederick J. Hill (16), son, pupil teacher, born Brierley Hill;
- [6] Ann M. Fletcher (17), general servant, born Dudley;
- [7] John W. Aldridge (17), general servant born Woodsetton:

William Hill issued tokens from here.

William J. Hill – see also THREE CROWNS, High Street, Brierley Hill.

Birmingham Daily Post 20/6/1893

“Last evening Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) resumed the inquest, at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, respecting the death of Harriett Ann Walters (17), late of 14, Tower Street, Sedgley, who was employed at the works of Messrs. Orme, Evans and Co, japanners and enamellers, Little Brick-kiln Street, Wolverhampton, and died on the 12th inst, it was alleged, from the effects of lead poisoning. Mr. C. C. W. Hoare, Government inspector of factories, attended, and Messrs. Orme and H. B. Hall, members of the firm, were present.

The latter stated that deceased had been in the employ of the firm since January this year. She was first engaged to carry the ware, but was afterwards employed in the brushing department of the works, and at the time of her death was earning 8s per week. She never complained to him of feeling unwell, and he was not aware of her being taken ill on the 5th inst until acquainted of the fact by the foreman, who told him that she had been obliged to go home. He enquired about the girl every day, and was not aware that she was seriously ill until the firm received a letter from deceased's mother. The letter stated that her daughter was very ill with lead colic, and asked the firm to pay for medical attendance, as the father had been out of work for thirteen months, and the son seven months, and they had only deceased's wages to keep them. In consequence of receiving that letter he went to see the girl, and immediately instructed Dr. Ballenden to attend her, and he did not hear anything further of her until a few days afterwards, when he was informed that she was dead. Early in January last the firm received special rules with regard to the conduct of the works. The new regulations were fully explained to the girls, and every effort had been made to see that they were complied with. Since the death of deceased all the girls in his employ had been examined by Dr. Bankier, of Wolverhampton, who had reported that their health was satisfactory. The girls were supplied with plenty of drink containing sulphuric acid, sugar, and lemon, which was particularly recommended for consumption by operatives engaged in that kind of employment. Various kinds of respirators were worn, but it was found that the operatives were constantly dropping them from their mouths and nostrils. He suggested that there was a probability that the deceased had been underfed. He did not know that there was anyone in the firm's employ who was now suffering from lead poisoning contracted at their works.

Replying to Mr. J. T. Homer (foreman of the jury) witness said that he was not aware of any punishment having been inflicted

upon the girls for allowing the respirators to fall from their mouths.

Mr. Hoare: Both occupier and workpeople are under a penalty if the latter do not wear them.

The Coroner said he was not at all surprised that the girls did not care to use the respirators, as they appeared to him very uncomfortable.

In reply to Mr. Hoare, witness stated that he had never known of deceased being disobedient to the rules. The girls, however, were constantly taking off the respirators to talk. They were now wearing a new kind of respirator, consisting of a cambric bag with wire edging, which allowed them to talk whilst on. He did not know the deceased was suffering from lead poisoning until the receipt of the mother's letter.

The Coroner here informed the jury that Dr. J. M. Ballenden, who had made a post mortem examination, was very ill and unable to attend the enquiry, but had forwarded a written report of the results of his examination. The latter stated that he found blue lines on the gums of deceased, and the heart was very flabby and anaemic. The lungs were congested, and the large and small intestines were alternatively contracted and dilated. The body was well nourished.

The Coroner remarked that the symptoms reported by Dr. Ballenden coincided with those set forth by Dr. Taylor in his work on lead poisoning. Dr. Ballenden had returned a certificate that death was due to lead poisoning.

Mr. St. Clair Ballenden, who attended deceased and assisted his father to make the post mortem, stated that he had not the slightest doubt that death was due to lead poisoning. He was continually attending young women in the neighbourhood suffering from blood poisoning, but he knew of no patient with the exception of deceased who had contracted the complaint at Messrs. Orme's works. He believed the lead poisoning would remain dormant in the system for many months.

Mr. Orme: Our contention is that the girl was contaminated by the poison before entering our works.

Mr. Hoare said that Messrs. Orme, Evans and Co had done more to protect girls from the injurious effects of their occupation than any similar firm in the district, but had experienced great difficulty with their operatives in getting them to continuously comply with the regulations.

Mr. Kynnersley, foreman of the works, said the reason he did not at once make arrangements for a medical man to see deceased was because he had not the slightest idea she was suffering from lead poisoning. Deceased was the most obedient of all the female operatives.

Mr. F. A. Homer thought that the injurious nature of the employment ought to be made known to the authorities, and girls prevented from working at it.

The Coroner pointed out that the matter had been brought before the notice of the authorities with the result that special rules had been drawn up. He thought the foreman should have immediately made arrangements for the deceased to have been seen by a doctor after she was taken ill at the works, but it had not been suggested that if he had adopted this course the girl's life would have been saved. Mr. St. Clair Ballenden said nothing could have saved the girl's life.

Mr. F. A. Homer said there was a girl living only a short distance away from that house who was suffering from lead poisoning, and not expected to live.

The jury, after deliberating for a considerable period, returned a verdict that deceased died from the effects of lead poisoning, accidentally contracted in the course of her employment, and suggested that the Government inspector should recommend to the authorities that no female under 21 years of age should be allowed to work in these manufactories.

The Foreman of the jury: Some of us are of opinion that the foreman did not carry out the rule respecting professional attendance and medicine."

Birmingham Daily Post 30/3/1894

"Yesterday afternoon Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, on the body of George Wise (15), grocer's assistant, High Street, Sedgley, who met with a fatal accident on the tramway on Wednesday night, as briefly reported in yesterday's *Post*. Mr. Banner represented the Dudley and Wolverhampton Tramway Company.

The father stated that he was very much surprised to hear that deceased attempted to jump on the front of a car whilst it was in motion, as he was of a very nervous disposition.

Joseph Henry Moreton stated that as the car of which he was the conductor arrived near Springfield Hill on Wednesday night, he saw deceased run at the side of it, and suddenly jump on to the coupling between the engine and the car, at the same time making an effort to grasp the rail. He missed his footing and fell under the car. Witness immediately applied the brake, and the car was brought to a standstill within a space of about five yards, and before the third pair of wheels passed over the deceased, who was lying across the rails. Deceased was shockingly mutilated, and was taken to Dr. Ballenden's surgery, where life was pronounced to be extinct.

Replying to the coroner, witness said he had never seen deceased attempt anything of the kind before, but others had frequently got on the car from the front, although they had been several times cautioned not to do so.

Other evidence was given showing that deceased's ear was cut off, a deep wound was inflicted in the side of the head, his neck and thigh were broken, and that he was bruised about other parts of his body in a shocking manner.

Several of the jury strongly deprecated the practice of jumping on the cars in front, and expressed the hope that the company would adopt every possible means to prevent a recurrence of anything of the sort.

The jury exonerated Moreton from any blame in the matter, and returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Birmingham Daily Post 20/6/1894

"Last evening, Mr. A. B. Smith, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, respecting the death of Thomas Cowley (64).

Deceased, who was a native of Leamington, came into the district about a month ago to superintend the laying of a new line by the Dudley and Wolverhampton Tramways Company, for nearly forty years prior to which he was employed by Messrs. Fell and

Company.

On Monday night he retired to rest apparently in his usual health, but in the morning he was found dead in bed. Evidence was given showing that deceased died from heart disease, and a verdict of Natural Causes was returned.”

1901 Census

13, High Street

- [1] *Arthur Edward Lloyd* (31), brewer and publican, born Borough, London;
- [2] *Margaret Lloyd* (30), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] *Frances Margaret Shinner* (19), niece, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] *Martha Skidmore* (22), general servant, born Brierley Hill:

Tipton Herald 30/5/1903

“Mr. T. A. Stokes (coroner) held an inquest at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday morning, touching the death of Sarah Jones (41), who lived at Wilson’s Hill, Sedgley, and who dropped dead on Saturday morning at her home.

Emily Jones, sister of deceased, identified the body. Deceased was not married, and helped on the farm. On Saturday morning they were in the sitting-room having their breakfast. The deceased had just finished reading some letters. She went to the door, and witness heard her shout, ‘Oh! Dear!’ She went to her assistance and asked her what was the matter, but she only replied, ‘Oh! Dear!’ She saw she was going to faint, and she laid her flat on her back, and sent for Dr. Ballenden, who, however, did not arrive until after she died. She lingered for half an hour. She had been attended by Dr. Ballenden for some weeks.

Dr. Ballenden stated that he made a post-mortem examination on Monday. The stomach was full of blood, and the heart was very flabby and weak. All the other organs were healthy. He had been informed that the deceased vomited a lot of blood before she died. In his opinion death was due to syncope, due to hemorrhage.

A verdict according to the medical testimony was returned.”

Tipton Herald 1/8/1903

“Some shocking revelations were made at an inquest held by Mr. A. L. Stokes (County Coroner) at the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley, with respect to the death of Matilda Timmins (28), wife of Samuel Timmins, a miner, residing in Beacon Passage, Sedgley, who had been found dead under shocking circumstances.

The parties had been married five years, and lived with two other persons in a house, which consisted of one living room and one bedroom.

Recently the deceased had complained of being unwell, but refused to allow a medical man to see her, and early on Wednesday morning she was found lying dead in the living room.

In reply to the Coroner the husband said he was aware of the deceased being in a filthy condition, her head being smothered with vermin, and he had requested her to cleanse herself, and he thought she had done so. As she refused to see a surgeon he did not trouble to get one to visit her.

The Coroner: Has it not occurred to you that it was your duty to protect and cherish your wife?

Witness: I can’t stay at home to look after the wife. I have to get a living.

Dr. Ballenden said on the 22nd inst he visited the house in which the deceased was found dead, to make a post-mortem examination. The house was in a most filthy condition, for it was infested with millions of vermin, and he had no idea there was such a filthy house in Sedgley. The body of the deceased woman was literally alive with vermin, and before he could proceed with the post-mortem he had to send for a strong corrosive with which he washed the head and body. The whole of the organs were more or less diseased, and death was due to acute Bright’s disease and pneumonia.

The Coroner: And if medical aid had been obtained, and the woman had been kept clean, her life might have been saved, I suppose?

Witness: Undoubtedly.

Dr. Ballenden pointed out the importance of a public mortuary being provided, as it was most unreasonable for a medical man to have to make a post-mortem examination in a room swarming with vermin.

The Coroner: Such a provision ought to be made, and I will at once communicate with the chairman of the District Council. It is not safe for a medical man, or, in fact, for any other person to have to go into such a filthy place.

The jury returned a verdict ‘That the deceased died from Bright’s disease and pneumonia, accelerated by neglect’. The Foreman added that they were unanimously of opinion that the husband should be severely censured, and that the sanitary authorities should be urged to provide a public mortuary.

The husband was called into the Court, and the Coroner informed him of the verdict of the jury. He told him that deceased must have been in a filthy condition for years, and that, to say the least, he was morally responsible for her death. Unfortunately, he could not punish him; he only wished he could. His expenses would be disallowed.”

Francis Brough = Francis Braugh

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/4/1906

“An extraordinary incident occurred at Sedgley with respect to the licence of the PIG AND WHISTLE HOTEL, which belongs to the North Worcestershire Brewery Company. On the application of the Brewery Company the magistrates last Monday transferred the licence from *Francis Brough* to *Frederick Parry*, but, owing to some dispute over valuation, *Brough* refuses to give up possession. As he has no power to sell, he has locked up the hotel and nailed up the doors. On Saturday he defied the company and the police.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 18/4/1906

“An arrest which caused quite a sensation took place at Sedgley last evening. For nine days the PIG AND WHISTLE public house, which is situated adjacent to the main road to Wolverhampton, has been closed, the landlord, *Francis Braugh*, having refused to give up possession, although the licence was transferred to *Frederick Parry* by the magistrates on April 2. As a dispute had taken place between the North Worcestershire Brewery Company, the owners of the hostelry, and *Braugh* with respect to the valuation, *Braugh* refused to give up possession, and locked himself in the house. Last evening PC Day visited the public house to serve police notices, and when he visited the PIG AND WHISTLE *Braugh* opened the door and received the notice, when to his surprise the officer arrested him on a warrant on a charge of unlawfully appropriating to his own use £37 belonging to a friendly society. He was removed to the Sedgley Police Station and will be brought before the justices today.”

Indenture 28/10/1909

“All that public-house known as The PIG AND WHISTLE situate at Sedgley together with the garden and land and outbuildings thereto belonging.....”

1911 Census

PIG AND WHISTLE INN

- [1] *William Henry Rolinson* (26), motor mechanic, born Coseley;
- [2] *Lilian Victoria Rolinson* (24), wife, managing public house, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sarah Morgan* (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/12/1915

“Bilston Police Court, Tuesday. Mr. W. A. Foster, solicitor, referred to a summons against *William Hubbard*, of the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, for an alleged infringement of a military order. He explained that he appeared for the defence, and in view of the question of law involved in the case he suggested that it had better be heard by the Stipendiary. Mr. A. Turton, who is watching the proceedings on behalf of the owners of the house, and Mr. W. H. Breton, for the prosecution, agreed, and the case was adjourned for a fortnight.”

A sub branch of the Tipton Branch of the Discharged and Demobilised Sailors and Soldiers Association was established here in 1917. It eventually became a branch in its own right.
Headquarters of the National Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Sailors and Soldiers. [1921]

South Staffordshire Times 23/4/1921

“A smoking concert was held at the PIG AND WHISTLE on Wednesday at Sedgley to celebrate the opening of the bowling season. Mr. Adams (gas manager) occupied the chair at the opening and Inspector Dix during the latter part of the proceedings. He said bowls was a game that could be played calmly and quietly at a time of crisis. Lieut. Law was amongst those present. The bowling green at the RED LION INN was used for practice on Saturday, and the first match is fixed for March 14th.”

South Staffordshire Times 10/5/1924

“*Albert Edward Banks*, of the PIG AND WHISTLE, High Street, Sedgley, was summoned for an infringement of the Licensing Acts, at 10.17 on April 5th.

Wm. Harper, Tower Street, Sedgley, pleaded guilty to a charge of taking the intoxicating liquor away.

A charge against Danks for supplying was withdrawn on payment of costs 5s 6d.

Mr. Turton defended.

PC Nutt said that at 10.15 on April 5th the door of the house was open, and a number of men, including the landlord were standing there. He saw the landlord stoop, take up a bottle of stout and hand it to Harper. When spoken to by witness, Harper said it was a bottle of stout for his wife who was ill.

Danks then said that the stout was paid for before 10 o'clock, and when he was told he would be reported, Danks said 'I forgot to give it him before 10 o'clock, when he paid for it.'

Mr. Turton said he accepted the evidence; but the offence was entirely a kindly act, done in ignorance.

Supt. Higgs said he did not think there was any intention to break the law.

Harper said the stout was for his wife, who was ill in bed.

Banks was fined 20s, or 13 days, with 5s 6d costs, and Harper was fined 5s. The Stipendiary said he believed it was quite an oversight. Had he believed the stout was for consumption on the premises the fine would have been much heavier.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley, 7½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Bilston & Willenhall Times 9/6/1928

“Before the Stipendiary (Mr. Bertram Grimley), at the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, *Joseph Henry Harper*, licensee of the PIG AND WHISTLE, High Street, Sedgley, was summoned for supplying intoxicating drink during prohibited hours and for aiding and abetting its consumption, and Ernest Wright, 9, Bilston Street, William Bennett, Bilston Street, Sidney Foster, 15, Dudley Street, and William Foster, 1, Gorge Road, all of Sedgley, were summoned for unlawfully consuming intoxicating liquor on licensed premises after restricted hours.

Mr. Ernest E. Brown appeared to prosecute and Mr. O. L. Bergendorff was for the defence.

After Mr. Brown had opened for the prosecution, PS Pitt, stationed at Sedgley, stated that at 10.45 on the night of May 19th he was near the window of the PIG AND WHISTLE, and heard voices, and a number of persons arguing about Alsatian dogs. He tried the front doors and found them secure. Later, Mrs. *Harper*, wife of the licensee, went to the back door, unlocked it and let out a man and woman, and witness then entered the premises, accompanied by PC Slack. He went into the bar smoke room, and saw Wright, Bennett, Sidney and William Foster there, together with the licensee. Before Wright was a glass containing beer, before Bennett a glass containing whisky, before both Sidney and William Foster a glass containing beer. There was also a glass containing beer near where the licensee was sitting. All the beer appeared to have been freshly drawn. He asked the licensee how he accounted for men being on the premises consuming intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours, and he replied, ‘There has been nothing paid for since ten o’clock. I have given them a drink.’ Asked if he had any explanation to make, the licensee answered, ‘No.’

Witness then spoke to the occupants of the room. Wright said he was there listening to a bit of an argument. He had no beer. Witness picked up a glass before him, and remarked, ‘You deny that it is your drink?’ and Wright said, ‘Yes, that is not mine.’ Bennett said, ‘I am sitting here listening to a conversation. That is not my whisky.’ Sidney Foster said, ‘I am here with my friend.’ Witness took up a glass containing beer, and asked Sidney Foster, ‘Is this your drink?’ and he said, ‘Yes, that is my beer.’ William Foster said he was sitting talking, and denied that drink in a glass before him was his. Witness took possession of the drink, and Mrs. *Harper*, referring to the drink he had taken from before William Foster, said that it was her glass of beer. Witness told the licensee that he should report him for supplying intoxicating liquor during restricted hours, and he answered, ‘Do what you like. I say nothing.’ When told the same thing the four other defendants did not make any reply.

Witness added that before leaving the premises he told the licensee that through a nick between the blinds PC Slack had seen the hand of a female pour whisky into a glass and heard a female voice call, ‘Say when.’ Then came a reply, ‘When,’ followed by laughter.

Mr. Bergendorff, for the defence, maintained that the mere fact of people being on the licensed premises after closing time did not constitute an offence. A licensee, he urged, had a right to keep his house open all night if he liked, so long as he did not serve intoxicating drinks. *Harper* allowed the four men to remain in the house talking, but he would state there was no whisky or beer sold after ten o’clock. The glass of whisky referred to was that of a woman friend who had assisted Mrs. *Harper* to wash up, and one of the glasses of beer was Mrs. *Harper*’s, but she had only sipped it. Another glass of beer was one which the landlord had drawn for himself. Mr. Bergendorff urged that there was no evidence of any kind of anyone having consumed anything in the house after ten o’clock.

The defendants, in the witness box, denied that any drink was consumed after ten o’clock, and Mrs. *Harper* also denied that whisky was poured from a bottle into a glass in the bar parlour. It was always served from a measure. She did not hear anyone remark, ‘Say when.’ She also stated that nothing was served nor consumed after ten o’clock.

Lily Rosetta May, who assisted Mrs. *Harper* to wash up the glasses after closing time, said the whisky in the glass found on the table was what had been paid for for her. She only consumed a portion and left the remainder.

For supplying whisky after hours, *Harper* was fined £3, with £5 5s special costs. Ernest Wright and William Bennett were each fined £1, and Sidney Foster 10s, for consuming drink after restricted hours, and for aiding and abetting this *Harper* was fined £3. The case against William Foster was dismissed, as were also the three summonses against *Harper* for supplying beer.

Sergeant Pitt, recalled, said he could say nothing in favour of the licensee in regard to the conduct of the house. He did not seem alive to his responsibilities. He had had the house under observation for weeks, and had seen people leaving at eleven and twelve at night, and one o’clock in the morning. He had had occasion to speak to the defendant, and had mentioned to him also the manner in which his house was conducted on Sundays.

In answer to Mr. Bergendorff, PS Pitt said there was no conviction of any kind against the house.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 1/4/1930

“After a hearing lasting nearly two hours, *Walter Collins*, the licensee of the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, was committed for trial by the Sedgley Bench, on Monday, on a charge of stealing 60 hen eggs, a basket, and a quantity of ‘sprats,’ the value of 12s 3½d, the property of Samuel James Fellows, fish and egg hawker, of 73, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.

The magistrates sitting on the Bench were Mr. E. Hickman (in the chair), Mr. J. T. Tennant, and Councillor F. W. Dews.

Collins was defended by Mr. O. L. Bergendorff (Dudley), and pleaded not guilty.

Prosecutor stated that at about 1.50pm on December 27th, he was proceeding along High Street, Sedgley, having on his cart a large box of different kinds of fish, and two baskets, one containing 90 hen eggs, and the other containing 60 hen eggs. In addition he had two smaller boxes, containing duck eggs. He called at the CROWN INN, and left again about two o’clock, and then proceeded along the High Street, where he had several customers. He went into a house two doors from the PIG AND WHISTLE,

where he supplied duck eggs, and returning shortly afterwards he found his pony had walked towards the PIG AND WHISTLE door. He then proceeded down Brick Street into Castle Street, where he had several customers. He had intended to sell the 60 hen eggs to a customer there, and he went into the shop to ask her if she would have them. Returning to the cart for the eggs, however, he found that they were missing. He went back and made enquiries, but being unable to trace the eggs, he went to the police station, and reported his loss. Later he went to the PIG AND WHISTLE, and seeing defendant in the yard, said to him, 'Walter, are you playing a joke on me?' Defendant replied. 'No; what's the matter?' Witness said, 'I have lost 60 hen eggs.' Defendant replied, 'I haven't seen them.' Defendant noticed, however, that he had the mark of the yolk of an egg on the side of his cheek. Witness then left the premises and made further enquiries. When he got into the High Street a boy came to him and made a communication, as the result of which witness took the boy to the Police Station.

A dish containing 13 eggs was produced, and witness said they were similar to the eggs he lost, which were marked 'foreign.' The 'sprats' produced were similar to those which he had on his cart.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bergendorff, witness said he could not say where the eggs were taken from his cart. He did not see them after he went into the CROWN INN.

A thirteen years old Sedgley boy said that at about 2.15pm, on December 27th, he was walking along High Street when he saw the prosecutor come along and leave his cart a few yards from the PIG AND WHISTLE. As he passed the cart, he saw the defendant come out of the front door and take a basket of eggs from the cart. He then went back into the house, slamming the door after him. Witness went along Brick Street, and told his mother what he had seen. Later, he saw Fellows, and told him, and went with him to the Police Station. He went with PC Williams to the PIG AND WHISTLE, and carried a dish of eggs and some fish to the Police Station.

Cross-examined by Mr. Bergendorff, witness said he could not possibly have mistaken someone else for defendant, whom he had known since he came to the PIG AND WHISTLE. There was no one else in the street at the time, and defendant almost touched him as he went to the cart.

PC Williams spoke of Fellows calling at the Police Station and reporting the loss of the eggs. He made enquiries and called at the PIG AND WHISTLE, where he saw the defendant. He noticed that the defendant was under the influence of drink, and had the smear of a yolk of an egg on his face. Witness said, 'I am making enquiries about a basket of eggs that was stolen from a cart outside your premises about 2pm today.' Defendant said, 'I know nothing about it.' Defendant could give no information about the eggs, but witness obtained from him a list of customers who were using the house at about two pm, and then left, and continued his enquiries. From something he learned later, he returned to the station, where he saw the boy witness. In consequence of what the boy told him, he returned to the PIG AND WHISTLE in company with the boy, and PC Emery. He there saw the defendant in the passage, and cautioned him and said, 'I have been informed that you were seen to take the eggs I was enquiring about.' Defendant made no answer. He heard a scuffle in the kitchen on his right, and opening the door quickly he went in. He there saw defendant's wife in the act of hiding something underneath the sofa. He lifted the sofa up, and found a dish of sprats (produced). Defendant had followed witness into the kitchen, and in his presence and hearing witness said to to his wife, 'Where did you get the fish from?' She replied, 'He brought them' (pointing to defendant). Defendant said, 'I bought them.' Witness asked him where he got them from, and he did not answer. Mrs. *Collins* then said, 'I may as well tell you the truth. He had them and the sprats. He took them for a joke.' She then left the room and brought back the dish of eggs (produced), and said, 'This is all he brought here.' Witness then arrested the defendant, and took him to the Police Station, where he charged him. Defendant made no reply to the charge. The same day he again saw defendant and showed him a handkerchief (produced). He said, 'It's mine.' Witness asked him if he cared to say how the yolk of the egg came to be on it, and he replied, 'I wiped up one of the eggs with it. I found the eggs on the bagatelle table and some fish in one of the pockets. I have not stolen them. One of them dropped on the floor, and I wiped my hands on it after I picked it up.'

Mr. Bergendorff: The other 47 eggs out of the basket have not been found, have they? – No.

You have made a very extensive search of the house and have found nothing? – That is so.

When you went there first you mentioned a basket of 60 eggs, didn't you? – I may have mentioned the number later, but when I asked him first I did not.

Did you say he that he was drunk? – Well, he certainly was under the influence of drink, I would not say he was drunk.

Superintendent Young: How long elapsed between the time of your first visit and the second visit? – About an hour and a quarter.

There would have been plenty of time to dispose of the eggs and basket in that time? – Yes.

Corroborative evidence was given by PC Emery.

Mr. Bergendorff asked permission to recall the boy witness, and this having been granted, Mr. Bergendorff asked him if he remembered an occasion in August or September when *Collins* threatened to box his ears for throwing stones at his apple tree?

Witness said that he did not. Later, under further cross-examination, he thought that Mr. *Collins* had threatened to box his ears, but it was not for throwing stones at the apples. He could not remember why it was.

During the cross-examination, the Chairman of the Bench said that he did not think it much good cross-examining the boy, as he did not think it had much bearing on the case.

Shortly afterwards, Mr. Bergendorff said the defendant had decided he would rather be tried by a jury.

On it being pointed out that the Staffordshire Sessions were the following day, Mr. Bergendorff asked that the defendant be committed to a different Sessions. It gave one very little time to instruct counsel and prepare the defence, he said.

The Magistrate's Clerk (after consultation with the magistrates): The magistrates say that if you want to be tried by a jury it must be at the Sessions tomorrow.

Mr. Bergendorff: Well, all it means is that I shall have to make an application at the Quarter Sessions tomorrow for it to be adjourned.

The defendant pleaded not guilty and reserved his defence, and was committed to the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, bail being allowed in two sureties of £10 each, and himself £20.

The case came up for hearing before the second court at the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, presided over by Sir J. E. Mitchell (Assistant Chairman) on Tuesday and *Collins* was found guilty of the charge.

In placing the accused on probation for two years, the Assistant Chairman said, 'We think you have behaved in the most foolish manner. You ought to have three months for being a fool'."

AND

"At the Bilston Licensing Sessions, yesterday, Mr. F. L. Stewart (solicitor) applied for a protection order for the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley. Mr. Stewart explained that the former licensee had been convicted and was therefore disqualified from holding a license. As a result the house had been closed, and he now applied for the usual protection order. There was nothing against the house; it was simply against the licensee. The application was granted...."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/5/1930

"Publican's Failure. At Dudley Bankruptcy Court, yesterday, *Walter Collins*, of 184 Bilston Road, Wolverhampton, lately landlord of the PIG AND WHISTLE, High Street, Sedgley, came up for his public examination. Debtor's statement of affairs showed liabilities £101 and assets £27. The examination was closed."

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/4/1933

"Six applications for confirmation of provisional licences and removal orders were considered at a meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Saturday...."

'You are extinguishing a very notable sign. It is very well known,' remarked the Chairman when application was made by Mr. F. L. Stewart, Wolverhampton, appearing on behalf of James Goodall for the removal of the full licence of the PIG AND WHISTLE INN, Sedgley, to premises known as SWAN BANK TAVERN, Bilston, which at present has a beerhouse licence.

Mr. Stewart submitted a petition bearing 364 signatories in favour of the transfer.

'I suppose you want the customers to 'wet their whistles' at the SWAN BANK INN,' remarked the Chairman in intimating that the application was granted."

It was converted into two dwellings.

Tipton Herald 19/11/1960

"In turn a public house, a wooden shed, and an old Army hut have served as headquarters for the Sedgley Ex-Servicemen's Club since it was formed in 1918. The pre-fab era, however, is now over for the 700 members, many of whom attended the opening on Saturday of a new brick and mortar structure, which has been built in The Walk, Sedgley, at a cost of £12,000.

The club started with a membership of 31 in the former PIG AND WHISTLE. Among those who attended were a holder of the D.C.M and four winners of the M.M. Soon a wooden shed was acquired and this served as a clubroom until the early 1930s when an Army Nissen hut was bought and converted. Some 100 members of the club are veterans of the first world war."

PIG ON THE WALL

68, (67), Kent Street, (68, Sheepcotwall), (Dudley Road), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Esther Fellows, Upper Gornal

Reuben Bennett

Old Wolverhampton Breweries Ltd.

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1919]

Ansells Ltd. (acquired c.1950)

John Green (acquired on 19th December 1985 for £32,500)

LICENSEES

Benjamin Fellows [1849] – **1859)**

John Peacock [1859] – **1873);**

John Webb (**1873 – 1878);**

Edward Allen (**1878 – 1890);**

Hannah Allen (**1890 – 1896);**

Jesse Hyde (**1896);**

Reuben Bennett (**1896 – 1913);**

Harry Hammond (**1913 – 1940);**

Annie Hammond (**1940 – 1950);**

William Norton Hammond (**1950 – 1974);**

John Wilcox (1974 – 1975);
Brian Sidney Taylor (1975);
Ronald William Johnson (1975 – 1977);
Bridie Kerins (1977);
Rita Doreen Payne (1977 – 1979);
Darshan Singh (1979 – 1980);
Richard James Foster (1980 – 1981);
Derek Brown (1981 – 1982);
Glyn Harding Fuller (1982 – 1984);
David Blake O’Gorman (1984 – 1985);
John Green (1985 – [1995])

NOTES

68, Sheepcotwall [1864], [1870], [1879]

67, Kent Street [1881]

68, Kent Street [1901], [1939], [1940]

It was originally the MINERS ARMS. [1860], [1864], [1870], [1872], [1873], [1874], [1879], [1892], [1896], [1908]

It was known locally as “Hammond’s”.

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/3/1849

“At the Public Office, Bilston, on Tuesday, Mary Smith, a married woman with three small children, was brought before John Foster, Esq, charged with stealing two glass goblets from the dwelling house of *Benjamin Fellows*, retail brewer, at Gornall, in the parish of Sedgley, on the 19th instant; and also with stealing two brass candlesticks from the dwelling house of Henry Smith, licensed victualler, of Sedgley, on the same day. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. *Fellows*, that the prisoner, who is a hawker of caps, came to his house on the day in question, and asked to be shewn into a private room. In a few minutes afterwards he had occasion to pass the room where the prisoner was, and saw her at a cupboard. Suspecting that all was not right, he went to her, and asked what she wanted in the cupboard; she replied, a pipe, to have a smoke; but not being satisfied, he opened her basket, and found the two goblets above mentioned, together with the two candlesticks, belonging to Mr. Smith. The prisoner was fully committed to the sessions on both charges.”

[At the Staffordshire Easter Sessions, Mary Smith, for stealing two brass candlesticks, the property of Henry Smith, was sentenced to imprisonment for two calendar months.]

1851 Census

Dudley Road

[1] *Benjamin Fellows* (54), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] Esther Fellows (53), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Hannah Lees (14), granddaughter, visitor, born Sedgley;

[4] Jane Southale (18), house servant, born Sedgley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Applications were made by Mr. Hayes on behalf of Mr. *Benjamin Fellows*, for a license to a house at Gornall; by Mr. Whitehouse on behalf of Mrs. Ann Naylor, of Gornall; and by Mr. Underhill and Mr. Hayes on behalf of Mr. Rowland Hughes, of the same place. The applications were opposed by Mr. Fleetwood, who stated that within 150 yards there were five beershops and four old licensed houses. He handed in a memorial signed by the Rev. Mr. Hughes, the minister; Mr. Ritson, churchwarden; one of the overseers, and several of the inhabitants to the effect that there were more public houses in Upper Gornall than were required for the population, and they thought that if the number of such houses were increased, it would not tend to improve the morals of the people. The Magistrates refused all three applications.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/8/1854

“Yesterday (Friday) the Bilston annual licensing meeting was held. There were eleven applications for licenses, two of which were granted.....

to Mr. *Benjamin Fellows*, for the MINERS ARMS, Upper Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/5/1859 - Died

“On the 15th inst, at the MINERS ARMS INN, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, in his 63rd year, Mr. *Benjamin Fellows*.”

Birmingham Journal 5/11/1859 - Advert

“Sale Of Valuable Freehold And Copyhold Properties, at Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. T. P. Stokes had received instructions from the Mortgagee to Offer for Sale by Auction, on Monday, the 14th day of November inst, at the house of Mr. *John Peacock*, the MINERS ARMS INN, Upper Gornal, at Six o'clock in the evening – the undermentioned valuable Freehold and Copyhold Properties and Coal and Ironstone Mines, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale.....”

John Peacock was also a builder. [1860], [1870], [1872]

1861 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *John Peacock* (44), builder and licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Peacock (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Peacock (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Jane Peacock (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] John G. Peacock (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Alfred Peacock (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Harry P. Peacock (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Charles E. Peacock (2), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Edwin Peacock (11 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [10] Louisa Marsh (18), general servant, born Sedgley;

London Gazette 26/11/1861

“George Williams Sanders, Esq, one of Her Majesty’s Commissioners authorized to act under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, dated the 18th day of June, 1861, and filed against *John Peacock*, of Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, Builder, and Brickmaker, will sit on the 16th of December next, at eleven in the forenoon precisely, at the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, in order to Audit the Accounts of the Assignees of the estate and effects of the said bankrupt, under the said Petition, pursuant to the Acts of Parliament made and now in force relating to bankrupts.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/9/1862

“An inquest was held at the house of Mr. R. Cartwright, the GREEN DRAGON INN, on Friday afternoon, before Mr. Phillips, Coroner, on the infant son of Mr. *John Peacock*, builder, of this place. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. *Peacock*’s brewer, that he found the child, which was about two years old, in some hot ‘wort’ in the brewhouse, but how he got there he could not tell, unless he fell in. He was badly burnt about the body, and died soon afterwards. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1863

“At Bilston Public Office, yesterday, the undermentioned licenses were suspended.....

John Peacock, MINERS ARMS, Sedgley.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

The following is a list of those who had been proceeded against and fined in the past year.....

John Peacock, MINERS ARMS, Sedgley.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

John Peacock, MINERS ARMS, Upper Gornal.”

Birmingham Journal 30/12/1865 - Advert

“Sale Of Valuable Freehold Property, at Upper Gornal, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by L. B. Allen, on Monday next, January 1, at the house of Mr. *John Peacock*, the MINERS ARMS INN, Upper Gornal, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced and read.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 31/3/1866 - Deaths

“On the 27th inst, at Upper Gornal, near Dudley, in the 40th year of her age, Ann, the beloved wife of *John Peacock*. She has left a sorrowing husband and a large family to mourn her loss.”

1871 Census

Sheepcotwall – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *John Peacock* (54), widower, carpenter employing 2 men, born Sedgley;
- [2] John G. Peacock (18), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Peacock (21), daughter, born Sedgley;

- [4] Jane Peacock (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Alfred Peacock (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Harry P. Peacock (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Charles E. Peacock (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] George W. Peacock (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 23/8/1879 - Advert

“To be Sold by Private Treaty, five Freehold Houses and Shopping, all let with quarterly tenants, situate in Kent Street, Upper Gornal.

Apply to Mr. *Allen*, MINERS ARMS INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.”

1881 Census

67, Kent Street – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Edward Allen* (52), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Allen* (52), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Allen (18), son, file cutter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Katherine Allen (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] Caroline Massey (18), niece, born Wolverhampton:

Edward Allen died on 12th November 1890.

1891 Census

68, Kent Street – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Hannah Allen* (62), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary A. Wallens (25), niece, domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [3] Emily Darby (15), domestic servant, born Gornal:

It was put up for sale in February 1895 as a fully licensed, double fronted, freehold house.

Dudley Herald 19/3/1898

“On Thursday the Returning Officers in the various districts received the nominations, as follows, for the Guardians and District Council election.

Dudley Board of Guardians, Sedgley *Reuben Bennett*, licensed victualler.”

1901 Census

68, Kent Street – MINERS ARMS

- [1] *Reuben Bennett* (46), widower, licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Catherine Westwood (23), daughter, married, born Tyldesley, Lancashire;
- [3] Percy Bennett (15), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] Moses Westwood (24), son in law, limestone miner, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] Mary A. Fones (17), domestic servant, born Upper Gornal:

It was renamed the BRICKLAYERS ARMS. [1912], [1932]

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Upper Gornal.

Objection was taken on the grounds that the license was not required; difficult of police supervision, owing to inter-communication with other premises.

Superintendent Walters said that since the objection had been served the requirements had been complied with, and he withdrew the objection.

The license was renewed.”

R. Bennett issued tokens from here.

Harry Hammond was also a brewer.

Dudley Herald 12/10/1918

“A Smoking Concert was given by the Upper Gornal Glee Party, at the BRICKMAKERS ARMS INN, on Saturday evening, as an acknowledgement of the bravery of Corporal Naylor, who was awarded the English Military Medal and the Belgian Military Medal for carrying in wounded under fire. Councillor Walters who presided paid a fine tribute to Corporal Naylor, and said they owed a big debt to the soldiers for keeping the country from the horrors of war. He also pleaded for the recognition of the rights and liberties the soldiers were fighting for when the war was over.

The following was the programme: Pianoforte solo, F. Wildgoose; ‘Comrades in Arms,’ the Glee Party; ‘The Bell-Ringer,’ T. Watton; ‘God Send You Back To Me,’ T. Blakeway; ‘True Till Death,’ B. Blackham; ‘When You Come Home,’ F. Williams; ‘Here’s

Life and Health to England's King,' the Glee Party; 'Down the Dale,' S. Hyde; 'Old England,' T. Baker; 'The Dustman,' S. Smout; 'Facts,' T. Watton; 'All Hail to the Ruddy Wine,' the Glee Party; 'Then You'll Remember Me,' T. Blakeway; 'The Soldier's Farewell,' the Glee Party. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and artistes, and the singing of the National Anthem concluded an enjoyable evening."

South Staffordshire Times 12/4/1924

"The question whether the expression 'Half a mo'!' used by a policeman on entering a public house at half-past ten at night, was to prevent two customers drinking beer he found before him, or stopping them in the act, led to a long hearing in a charge against a licensee and two of his customers at the Sedgley Police Court on Monday.

The licensee was *Harry Hammond*, of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Kent Street, Gornal, who was summoned for selling and supplying drink during prohibited hours, James Brookes and Benjamin Marsh were each summoned for consuming liquor during prohibited hours.

Mr. Darby (Messrs. Sharpe and Darby, West Bromwich), who defended *Hammond* only, first took the exception that the two summonses were tautological and meant one and the same thing. Brookes and Marsh, two respectable residents of the district, denied committing an offence.

PS Higgs was in charge of the case.

PC Nutt stated he visited the licensed house, BRICKLAYERS ARMS, at 10.30pm on April 14th. The door was on the latch and he could hear voices coming from the bar. He went in through the main room from the street and found a light in the left-hand room. The right-hand room was not lighted. On entering he saw several persons, some standing, some sitting. By the light of the fire he saw full vessels and partially filled vessels containing beer. About eight people were present. He saw Marsh and Brooks drink from the cups on the table. He said to them, 'Half a mo',' drew the cups away, and lighted the gas. (The cups containing beer were produced in court.) When asked how they accounted for consuming beer during prohibited hours, both men said they had paid for it before 10 o'clock. Two young sons of the landlord were in the room and could see all that was going on. He sent the young son for his father, who came and said he had been out of the room since 10 o'clock. *Hammond* quite agreed that the time was then half-past ten, and said he was very sorry. In the landlord's presence Brooks and Marsh admitted that it was beer, and also the ownership.

In answer to Mr. Darby, who defended, witness said the licensee said nothing had been sold after 10 o'clock. He did not know that the licensee had held the license for eleven years. There were no beer taps or pulls in the room where the men were. One of the sons present was only 13, and was committing an offence by being there at all. He made no mistake in saying the men actually drank in his presence, and would have done so again only that he called out 'Half a mo',' and took the cups away. He saw Marsh next day and was told he often left half a glass of beer not consumed.

The Stipendiary: You can't rely on that can you? It's rather thin.

Witness said Marsh told him that he should have drunk all the beer only he had been stopping to have a chat. *Hammond* told him that he did not know the men had stayed for a chat.

By the Stipendiary: The only people in the room representing the landlord were the two sons. There was no barman.

Brooks said nothing was consumed, nor intended to be consumed, and the policeman saw no drinking whatsoever.

Marsh said the same thing, and added that he had finished with the beer, and often left half a glass if he did not want it. The evidence of the policeman was altogether wrong.

Mr. Darby claimed that the two summonses 'selling and supplying' were really only one, and the Stipendiary said the solicitor need not trouble about that.

Mr. Darby said there were no closing hours for public houses now, so that if people liked, so long as they did not drink after 10 o'clock, they could stop in the house all night. There was no selling or supplying, though the customers might have consumed beer (which was supplied to them at five minutes to ten) after 10 o'clock. The landlord had been in the house for eleven years to the very day without a single complaint against him or the house.

Harry Hammond, the licensee, said Brooks and Marsh were regular customers, and on the night in question his son Harry served them at five minutes to ten. Nothing was served in that room after that. He called time at ten, opened the vestibule door so that they could go out, and went to his supper. The next he knew of the matter was the entrance of the constable, to whom he gave the explanation that the beer was served before ten o'clock. He should not have allowed the men to 'drink up' at that time if he had been there. His son Harry was in charge of the room.

In answer to the Stipendiary, the witness said the smoke-room and the bar were close together, but any beer consumed would have to be fetched from the bar and taken to the smoke-room.

The Stipendiary: It must be rather a long drink to consume the contents of that mug (a pint) in five minutes, was it not risky to supply such a quantity at five to ten?

Witness: Not if he was dry. I could do a pint now easily. (Laughter).

Mr. Darby said it was no difficulty for a beer drinker to consume a pint in a few minutes. (Laughter).

Harry Hammond, aged 16, said he was in charge of the smoke-room on April 14th, and served the pint to Mr. Brookes and half-pint to Mr. Marsh, at five minutes to ten. That was the last served in the smoke-room, and this information was given to the policeman when he called.

By Superintendent Higgs: The gas was out because the men had said they were going. The constable took the vessels and put them on separate tables. Marsh and Brooks both told the policeman that the beer had been supplied and paid for before ten, and they did not attempt to drink any.

The Stipendiary: What was the object of the cry 'Time'? – Witness: For them to drink up. (Laughter).

Marsh and Brooks were both called and bore out the statements of the defence, both denying that there was any consumption after 10 o'clock. They thought they could stay and chat till eleven if they bought nothing.

Mr. Darby: I shall advise my client to turn you out at ten o'clock for the future. (Laughter).

The Stipendiary (to Superintendent Higgs): Are you prepared to prove sale after ten o'clock?

Superintendent Higgs: No, but Section 85 of the 1910 Act shows proof of consumption is evidence of sale.

After the evidence had been given, some knotty legal problems were raised by Superintendent Higgs and the Stipendiary, and replied to by Mr. Darby, who claimed that that no offence had been committed, inasmuch as there was no proof that the beer was served after ten o'clock. He also claimed that the charge of 'consuming' failed, because the policeman's 'Half a mo' prevented the drink remaining in the cups being consumed, even if the customers intended to consume it.

Eventually the Stipendiary fined Brooks and Marsh 20s each, and adjourned the charge against the licensee in order that he might look more fully into the legal decisions of the points raised."

South Staffordshire Times 19/4/1924

"What was referred to as an important licensing prosecution at Sedgley, was mentioned in the West Bromwich Police Court, by the Stipendiary Magistrate (Mr. Grimley), when last week *Henry Hammond*, licensee of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, was summoned for selling liquors during prohibited hours, and permitting them to be consumed on the premises. The Stipendiary said in this case he reserved judgment when it was up before him at Sedgley about a week ago. The case was a prosecution under the Licensing Act, and the charge against the licensee of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Upper Gornal, for selling and supplying intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours, and also a further summons against two customers for consuming. The evidence of the police was that they entered the house at 10.30 and found two customers drinking. The customers denied they had been drinking after ten o'clock, but he did not accept their statement and convicted and fined them. Then came the question of liability or not of the landlord for selling or supplying. The police themselves had no evidence as to the time the liquor was sold. The evidence of the landlord and customers and other people was that he served this liquor to customers at five minutes to ten, and then he left the bar where the serving was going on, and went to another part of the house apparently to do something in the outdoor department, also to have his supper. His evidence was supported to some extent by the police, who entered the premises around 10.30pm and found two customers drinking in the smoke room, but the landlord was not there. He had to be fetched from another part of the house, and he (the Stipendiary) thought, in the absence of any evidence of the police to the contrary, and in view of the fact that the landlord had to be fetched from elsewhere, he ought to accept his evidence that he did serve those drinks before 10 o'clock.

Supt. Higgs drew attention to Section 85 of the Licensing Act of 1910. That section enabled him to assume or presume if any one was found drinking after hours, that there was a sale and supply by the landlord, but it did not say anything about the time. On viewing the position, the question was ought he to convict the landlord for selling during non-permitted hours? Assuming he was not guilty of that, was he liable to be convicted for supplying during non-permitted hours? The evidence was that the supplying finished before 10 o'clock, but the customers were drinking in the presence of the landlord's nephew whom, he said was in charge at 10.30. That raised a very interesting question of law. It was a matter of extreme importance in connection with licensing matters, and he was quite willing before he gave judgment to give the police an opportunity of being legally represented, and having the question thrashed out.

Chief Supt. Tucker suggested that the case be adjourned for three weeks to allow the whole facts to be reported to the Chief Constable.

The Stipendiary: I should like some information in addition in reference to the case of *Ellis v. Adams*, and also the alteration which appears to have been made in the Licensing Act of 1910, Section 61. It is provided that if any person during the time at which premises for the sale of intoxicating liquor are closed, sell liquor or – this is important – allows any intoxicating liquors to be purchased before the hours of closing to be consumed on these premises it is an offence. If the licensee allows persons to consume previously purchased liquors after closing hours that is an offence. Section 6 of the Licensing Act of 1921 repeals that section, and does not make it an offence in terms. It makes it an offence to sell during closing hours, but it does not make it an offence in terms to allow liquor purchased before, to be consumed afterwards, but what it does do is this: It creates a new offence for consuming after closing hours. I cannot think that that is an offence under the 1910 Act, and so at the same time I cannot quite see that if a licensee was allowed at a minute to ten to supply a lot of people with drinks and then for them to go on drinking as long as they like it is an offence. I want this question thoroughly thrashed out, and the whole question thoroughly discussed. The adjournment was fixed for Monday, May 5th, when the case would again come up for judgment at Sedgley."

South Staffordshire Times 24/5/1924

"The case of *Harry Hammond*, licensee of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Kent Street, Gornal, which has been adjourned several times for legal aspects to be considered, was again before the Court.

Mr. Long appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Darby (West Bromwich) for the defence. Chief Supt. Tucker and Supt Higgs were in attendance.

As fully reported in our issue of March 29th, there was a charge against two men for being on licensed premises during prohibited hours. On March 13th one was found in possession of an unopened bottle of stout, which he said had been bought and paid for before closing time, it being intended for his sick wife. Both pleaded guilty and were fined.

The charge against the landlord was for permitting and supplying during the prohibited hours. It was claimed that he was not personally present after 10 o'clock, and did not know of the men's presence until he was told, while at his supper in another part of the house, by the policeman. Against this, it was urged that as the licensee's own son was with the men in the smokeroom, that made the landlord responsible for permitting because the son was his agent.

Mr. Long cited many cases as to the liability of the landlord under circumstances which he declared to be analogous.

The Stipendiary ruled that none of the cited cases was on all fours with this, which was an extremely difficult case, because in altering the licensing law, the legislature had inadvertently, or purposely, left out the clause which, before the war, made the landlord

liable to be summoned for permitting and supplying when it was proved that customers were on the premises after hours, although the article had been purchased before closing time. At the same time it was open to the police to summon for aiding and abetting in such cases. With their customary fairness the police, failing on their two summonses, had refrained from issuing one for aiding and abetting, on the ground that the defendant had a clean record for himself and the house for 15 years. He had no alternative but to dismiss both summonses without troubling the defence.

Mr. Darby applied for solicitor's costs for the defence, but the Stipendiary said that in view of the fact that the police were not going to issue a summons for aiding and abetting, he could not fairly grant costs against them.

Mr. Long asked that if necessary the magistrates would state a case for appeal, and his worship said he would do all he could to facilitate the clearing up of what was admitted on both sides to be an exceedingly difficult law as affecting licensees' offences."

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

"Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Upper Gornal, 17s 2d."

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

68, Kent Street – BRICKLAYERS ARMS

[1] *Harry Hammond*, date of birth 12/12/1877, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Annie Hammond*, dob 3/4/1884, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Bernard H. Hammond, dob 27/4/1908, laminated leaf spring finisher, heavy work, single;

[4] Sidney M. Hammond, dob 11/8/1909, foreman motor mechanic, (haulage ____), single;

[5] *William N. Hammond*, dob 7/2/1911, coach body builder and assembler, single:

London Gazette 23/1/1940

"Friendly Societies Act, 1896. Advertisement of Dissolution by Instrument.

Notice is hereby given that the Benefit Society for Deaths Register No.1490 Staffs, held at BRICKLAYERS ARMS INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, in the county of Stafford is dissolved by Instrument, registered at this office the 13th day of January 1940....."

Glyn Fuller was born c.1948.

Tipton Herald 16/7/1955

"Scheme To Change The Face Of Upper Gornal.

One of the most powerful sources of psychological unrest are the dark gloomy houses, said Dr. Jacques Falkman, Sedgley's Medical Officer of Health, at a public enquiry held at the Council House on Tuesday.

Dr. Falkman was giving evidence for the Council, which is seeking to acquire compulsorily, under two orders, land between Kent Street and Pale Street, Upper Gornal.....

Council Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. W. M. Jones, said that Kent Street would be widened on the West side and Pale Street would be re-aligned to conform to the Council's Cricket Meadow housing estate.

A public house on the site, the BRICKLAYERS ARMS did not interfere with the present proposal and it was not intended to include it in the present scheme. Families from the area would be given free choice of any municipal houses in the district.

Mr. Bayley asked why the differentiation between the brewery and the owner occupiers. On the face of it there seemed to be some unfairness.

Mr. Jones said the Council wanted to leave the public house until there was available land where it could be re-sited. A corner site was available nearby if wanted but this would have to be discussed with the brewery company and the Council.

Mr. Bayley said, 'There is no real reason why it should not have been treated like anyone else.'

Mr. Bayley said the scheme put forward was quite an excellent one – for the future. He had seen so many of these schemes which had taken so long to come to fruition in the Black Country.

The scheme could not be called a big one and could be dealt with as an entity and he could not see why the council were nibbling at it.

Why the BRICKLAYERS ARMS had been left out he did not know. The usual procedure was to find out the licensing justices views on the matter. That had not been done and it had been left out on the basis of 'Oh – it can be left until later.'

For the owners of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Mr. S. E. Jones, assistant property manager, said that a considerable sum had been spent on alterations and decorating over the last two years.

This would give it an expected life of 60 years or more. He could not anticipate his directors views on the new siting.

In his concluding address Mr. Newton said the BRICKLAYERS ARMS had been left out because it happened to be right at the

end of the scheme. In the new scheme, however, a corner plot would be left which the Council thought would be a convenient site for the public house to be re-sited.....”

Tipton Herald 24/9/1955

“Customers of the BRICKLAYERS ARMS, Upper Gornal, staged a harvest home in aid of the Lower Gornal Athletic Club.....”

Painters Morris team practiced here in a back room.

It closed in 1983.

It reopened as the PIG ON THE WALL on 27th March 1987.

John Green was married to Pat.

Closed

It was demolished in 2002.

MacDonalds was built on the site.

Dudley News 12/6/2003 - Letter from Douglas T. Davies

“.....It has not been so long ago that the people of Upper Gornal organised a campaign to stop McDonalds fast food outlets demolishing the PIG ON THE WALL public house. This building was very much part of Upper Gornal’s heritage. On appeal McDonalds took their case to the Inspectorate at Bristol. He ruled in favour of McDonalds, the public house was demolished and McDonalds built one of their stereotype structures in its place.....”

Express & Star 2/11/2009

“It once stood in the heart of the community, a place to drink, socialise and gossip, but in 2002, the PIG ON THE WALL was controversially demolished to make way for a McDonald’s restaurant despite protests. While the bricks and mortar may have disappeared in Upper Gornal, memories were rekindled by around 40 former staff and customers who gathered for a reunion on Saturday. Among them was mother-of-four Helen Scriven who was a barmaid from 1992 until the pub, which had pink neon lighting and a red phone box in the lounge, closed.

Miss Scriven, aged 37, of Valley Road, Upper Gornal, said it was the most popular pub in the area. ‘On a busy night we could get about 300 coming in,’ she said. ‘There used to be queues coming down the road on a Sunday and on a Wednesday night drinks would be free for ladies and it used to be packed. It was the first pub in Gornal to get a licence to stay open to 1am. It was also a hotel and had six rooms and we used to get a couple of Scousers stopping a few nights a week as they used to work down here.’ The pub is thought to have opened as Hammond’s in 1913 and was previously the BRICKLAYERS ARMS. It was once one of eight pubs along a one-mile stretch.

The last PIG ON THE WALL in Kent Street was built by husband and wife *John* and *Pat Green* in 1987 and they ran it until it shut. They were regarded as friends as well as landlords by staff, including Miss Scriven who said Mrs. *Green* was one of the first to hold her newborn son. Another barmaid Tracey Howen, 35, of Naylor’s Grove, Upper Gornal, who worked there for six years, said at the reunion in the OLD MILL in Windmill Street, Upper Gornal, ‘I think the reason it was so popular is because it was like a family. Going to work for me was like going home.’

One couple who got engaged in the PIG ON THE WALL was Neil and Debbie Taylor, aged 47 and 30 respectively, who wed in 2004. Now live in Manchester although Mr. Taylor used to live in Stream Road, Kingswinford, and worked for Omron on the Pensnett Trading Estate. Mrs. Taylor had moved to the area and met her husband in 2000 when she went to the pub and heard him singing karaoke. She said, ‘I didn’t like him at first but we got talking and on the night the pub closed he asked me to marry him, so the PIG will always have a special place in our hearts.’”

PRINCE ALBERT

Dudley Road, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. Sarah Turner [1851] -1855);

Peter Nicholls (1855 – []

Samuel Nicholls [1858] – 1860);

William Taylor (1860 – [1865]

NOTES

1851 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Sarah Turner* (63), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Jane Mills* (54), sister, widow, assistant, born Sedgley;
- [3] *John Hilton* (53), brother, assistant, born Sedgley;
- [4] *George Jukes* (43), lodger, general agent, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Jane Probert* (24), house servant, born Leintwardine, Herefordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/5/1857

“An inquest was held at the PRINCE ALBERT publichouse, Upper Gornal, on Tuesday, on the body of a young man named Gibbons, who came by his death under the following circumstances. Gibbons was a native of Sedgley, and it appeared that he had passed the whole of Saturday night at a private house in the village, and had drunk a considerable amount of ale, which had been procured from a public house. On Sunday morning he set out with a companion or two to go to Dudley, and on his way called, among other public houses, at the PRINCE ALBERT, where, besides a quantity of ale, he drank off two separate quarters of rum. He then called for more, but on this being refused, he laid his head on the table, or lay down, and went apparently to sleep. On the people of the house endeavouring to awake him after some hours, it was found that he was dead, and that life must have been extinct for a considerable time. The case should operate both as a warning to others not to indulge in their propensity for drink and also as a caution to keepers of public houses not to supply ale or other liquors more than is necessary for refreshment.”

Samuel Nicholls = Samuel Nicholds

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/9/1858

“Bilston Annual Licensing Day.....

The following were not renewed, the applicants not being present in person, and having had complaints entered against them.....
PRINCE ALBERT, Upper Gornal, kept by *Samuel Nicholls*.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *William Taylor* (38), labourer at brickworks, born Gornal;
- [2] *Zibina Taylor* (32), wife, brick maker, born Gornal;
- [3] *Mary Taylor* (11), daughter, born Gornal;
- [4] *Pamela Taylor* (9), daughter, born Gornal;
- [5] *Phoebe Ann Taylor* (4), daughter, born Gornal;
- [6] *William Taylor* (2), son, born Gornal;
- [7] *Elizabeth Taylor* (4 months), daughter, born Gornal:

Dudley Herald January 1868 - Advert

“To be let, a house in Upper Gornal known as the PRINCE ALBERT INN, Rent moderate.
Apply to Mr. James Passmore, butcher, Upper Gornal.”

PRINCE OF WALES

90, York Street, (90, Thumpers Lane), Roseville, (West Coseley), COSELEY

OWNERS

John Croft, bricklayer, Bloomfield, Tipton

LICENSEES

John Evans [] – **1868**);
William King Jeavons (**1868 – 1882**);
Daniel Jeavons [1876]
William Plant (**1882 – 1883**);
Thomas Wright (**1883**);
George Harrison (**1883 – 1884**):

NOTES

90, Thumpers Lane [1871]

90, York Street [1881]

William Jeavons = William Jevons = William Jevon

1871 Census

90, Thumpers Lane

[1] *William K. Jevons* (36), miller, born Coseley;

[2] Maria Jevons (31), wife, born Coseley;

[3] Joseph Jevons (6), son, scholar, born Coseley;

[4] John Jevons (4), son, scholar, born Coseley;

[5] Mary E. Jevons (2), daughter, born Coseley;

[6] Harriet Franklin (15), general servant, born Forest Green, Gloucestershire:

County Express 18/3/1876

“James Henry Stanton, miner, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and with refusing to quit the licensed premises of Daniel Jeavons, the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Coseley, on the 4th inst. The defendant was fined 9s 6d in default seven days’ imprisonment.”

Worcester Journal 22/7/1876

“At Sedgley the Excise authorities of that place charged a number of innkeepers before the stipendiary magistrate with having large quantities of sugar without licenses in unentered premises, for the purpose of defrauding the revenue. Mr. Percival, of the ROYAL HOTEL; Mr. *King Jevons*, PRINCE OF WALES; and Mr. Baker, of the SWAN, at Sedgley, were each fined £50. The stipendiary refused to recommend any abatement of the penalties.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1876

“A few days ago Mr. Spooner fined three publicans named Thomas Percival, *William King Jeavons*, and John Baker, of Coseley, £50 each for having used sugar without licences, and refused to give a recommendation for the mitigation of the penalties imposed, owing to the Inland Revenue Board ignoring his previous recommendation. The publicans took steps themselves to get a mitigation of the penalties, and on Wednesday a letter was received stating that the fines would be reduced from £50 to £20.”

Dudley Herald 29/7/1876

“The penalties of £50 inflicted upon Mr. Percival, of the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, Mr. *K. Jevon*, of the PRINCE OF WALES, Coseley, and Mr. John Baker, of the SWAN INN, Deepfields, for having in their possession large quantities of sugar without a license, have, in consequence of a memorial addressed to the Inland Revenue Department, been mitigated to £20 each, the amount included the costs incidental to the prosecution.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 31/8/1878

“Bilston Annual Licensing Sessions.....

The following is the list of licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers who had been summoned during the year for offences against the Licensing Act Beerhouse keepers.....

William Jeavons, PRINCE OF WALES, West Coseley, permitting drunkenness, 17th June, 1878, fined 20s and costs.”

AND

Wolverhampton Express and Star 21/9/1878

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The persons who had been convicted during the last twelve months for offences against their licenses, the renewals of which were withheld until today, now appeared before the Bench, and there being no further complaint as to the conduct of their houses in the interval the magistrates granted the renewals.”

1881 Census

90, York Street

[1] *William K. Jevon* (45), miller and publican, born Sedgley;

[2] Maria Jevon (40), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Joseph Jevon (16), son, pattern maker, born Sedgley;

[4] John Thomas Jevon (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] Mary Eliza Jevon (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Louisa Jevon (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Maria Jevon (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] William Jevon (3), son, born Sedgley:

The license was abandoned in 1884.

PRINCE OF WALES

109, (4), Tipton Road, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

Thomas King
Henry Hughes, ironmaster, Woodsetton (acquired in 1870)
William Tomlinson
John Seedhouse and Sons, brewers, High Street, Princes End, Tipton
Brook Inn Brewery
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Union Pub Co. (W&D) [2000]
Black and White Pub Co. (until June 2008)

LICENSEES

Samuel Naylor [1851] – [1852]
Isaiah Richards [1858]
John Naylor [1861] – [1865]
Thomas Turley [1871] – **1878**;
Edward George Rowlands (**1878 – 1880**);
Thomas Blud (**1880 – 1881**);
Henry Davis (**1881 – 1884**);
William Jevon (**1884 – 1888**);
Maria Jevon (**1888 – 1891**);
William Tomlinson (**1891 – 1910**);
John Ernest Seedhouse (**1910 – 1926**);
William John Moore (**1926 – 1933**);
James Hanstock (**1933 – 1934**);
Isaac Luther Phipps (**1934**);
William John Moore (**1934 – 1937**);
Henry Crookes Hibbert (**1937 – 1938**);
Frederick S Ainsworth (**1938 – []**)
Cecil James Lewis [1939] – [1940]
A G M Fitch [1976]
Alfred George Common [1982]
Steve James (**1987 – []**)
David Corns (**2007 – 2010**)
Sean Ryan [2011]

NOTES

4, Tipton Road [1874], [1891], [1901]
109, Tipton Road [1994], [2007]

Birmingham Journal 20/11/1852 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Properties, at Sedgley, Staffordshire.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Solomon Powell, at the house of *Samuel Naylor*, the PRINCE OF WALES INN, at Woodsetton, the parish of Sedgley, and the county of Stafford, on Tuesday, the 10th day of November, at Five o’clock in the afternoon, and subject to conditions which will be then read.....”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/6/1858

“Edward Langford of Parkeshall will fly his cock Fisherman 80 miles on the Oxford and Worcester line against any bird John Harper, has, according to his own challenge, for £5 or £10 a side, Harper allowing 10 minutes start, or he will fly Langford from Stafford, for the same sum each bird; both matches to come off on one day, no start will be required. If Harper does not accept this challenge, any fancier within five miles of Parkeshall can be accommodated, on the same terms. Money ready at *Isaiah Richard’s*, PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton, or John Cartwright’s, GREEN DRAGON, Gornal, any time next week.”

John Naylor = John Nailor

1861 Census

Woodsetton – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *John Nailor* (50), victualler and shoemaker, born Sedgley;
- [2] Eliza Nailor (42), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] Ann Maria Nailor (8), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Samuel Nailor (7), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Eliza Jane Nailor (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Thomas Cartwright Nailor (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] William Atkins (15), apprentice shoemaker, born Birmingham;
- [8] Samuel Nailor (53), widower, lodger, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [9] James Richards (8), lodger, scholar, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 17/12/1863

“At the Petty Sessions, *John Naylor*, who keeps the PRINCE OF WALES public house at Woodsetton, was charged with harbouring policemen at his house at two o’clock one morning, when they should have been doing their duty. Defendant’s wife appeared. Mr. Tomlinson, the Superintendent of Police, deposed that about ten minutes to two o’clock, on Tuesday morning, he caught two policemen in the house of the defendant. They must, he said, have been there with the knowledge of the proprietor.

A third policeman, named White, swore that he had been with two other policemen at that place about half-past one o’clock on the morning named, and that having treated the others to a glass of grog each, and had one himself, he left in the course of a few minutes, but the others remained.

The wife of the defendant excused herself on the ground of ignorance of the law. The Bench, however, fined defendant £2 10s (half the full penalty) and costs.”

John Naylor was also a bootmaker. [1864], [1865]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

John Naylor, PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/6/1870

“The Woodsetton estate, near Sedgley, the property of the late Mr. Thomas King, who died about three years ago, and whose will occasioned some protracted litigation in the superior courts, was offered for sale by auction on Monday evening last, at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, and realised very good prices.....

The second lot consisted of two closes of land, two cottages, and the PRINCE OF WALES public house, with gardens, containing altogether 10a 2r 21p, and this was knocked down to Mr. Henry Hughes, of Sedgley, for £1,260.....”

1871 Census

Tipton Road

- [1] *Thomas Turley* (33), collector of poor rates, born Coseley;
- [2] Mary Turley (29), wife, household, born Cinderhill;
- [3] Mary Turley (5), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] Anne Turley (3), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] James Turley (1 month), son, born Woodsetton:

Thomas Turley was also the collector of poor rates. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 23/2/1876 - Advert

“Ass, with Foal two or three weeks old, wanted. Fair price offered.

Apply, *Thomas Turley*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, near Dudley.”

Thomas Turley – see also RED LION, Sedgley.

Dudley Herald 10/4/1880 - Advert

“To Let, Free Old-Licensed House, the PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton, Sedgley, with 14 acres of land; a first-class opportunity.

Apply Sollom and Barnett, Valuers, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

Dudley Herald 12/6/1880 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale. The PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, near Sedgley. On Tuesday next, June 15th 1880.

Mr. William Potts has received instructions from Mr. *Thomas Blud*, who is taking to the above house and premises, to dispose of by Auction, the whole of the Household Furniture, part of the Brewing Plant, and other useful effects, comprising Three prime Feather Beds, Six Sets Bedsteads, Mahogany and Painted Washstands and Dressing Tables, Mahogany and other Chests of Drawers, Mahogany framed Couches, Easy and small Chairs, British Plate Chimney Glasses, Prints and Oleographs, Two Chaff Cutters, Spring Cart, Heavy Cart, 100, 60 and 30 gallon Casks, Hop Press, Half Pocket of Worcester Hops, 1878, Half Pocket of Kent Hops, 1878, Fowl Pens, Buckets, Chairs, Tables, and various other effects, as described in Catalogue. Sale at Eleven in the Morning prompt. Catalogues may be obtained at the Auctioneers Offices, 33, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.”

1881 Census

Tipton Road – PRINCE OF WALES

- [1] *Thomas Blud* (49), licensed victualler, born Shifnal;
- [2] *Mary Blud* (46), wife, born Newtown, Wales;
- [3] *Harriett Blud* (23), daughter, domestic servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Ada Blud* (19), daughter, dress maker, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *Elizabeth A. Blud* (17), daughter, dress maker, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Thomas E. Blud* (14), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/12/1881

“At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, the following licenses were fully transferred.

Thomas Blud, PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton, to *Henry Davis*, beerhouse keeper, Swan Village.”

Henry Davis = Henry Davies

Evening Star 16/2/1882

“Mr. H. Brevitt, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton, near Sedgley, on Wednesday, touching the death of Mr. William Perry, a farmer, and who was well known. The circumstances of his death are as here.

It appeared that until a recent date, the deceased occupied the farm known as Hickman Lands, Sedgley, and the circumstances under which he left seemed to have pressed upon his mind. On Thursday afternoon deceased went to the SWAN INN, Sedgley, where a glass of gin was supplied. Deceased afterwards sat in a corner of the bar alone, and during the temporary absence of the waiter was heard to fall, and was found with his face downwards, bleeding from a wound to the forehead, his head having struck a spittoon, apparently. He was insensible, and was removed to his residence at Tipton Road, Woodsetton. Dr. Johnson attended upon him, but notwithstanding every effort being made for his recovery, he died.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

London Gazette 6/2/1883

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Henry Davies*, of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Cowkeeper. 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 Mr. T. C. Hughes, Solicitor, situate at No.230, High Street, West Bromwich, in the county of Stafford, on the 19th day of February, 1883 at eleven o'clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 1883.

T. C. Hughes, West Bromwich, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

William Jevon died on 18th May 1888.

Executrix *Maria Jevon*, his widow.

Birmingham Daily Post 2/3/1889

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, on the body of Edward Willetts (26), labourer, who had been killed at the Spring Vale Steel Works. When the deceased was engaged in putting a band on a pulley he got entwined in the band and was thrown against a beam, being killed instantaneously. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1891 Census

4, Tipton Road – PRINCE OF WALES INN

Uninhabited

Birmingham Daily Post 24/8/1891

“On Saturday Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, Sedgley, on the body of Clement Hughes (26), assistant surveyor at Aston, who shot himself on the previous day on his mother's lawn in the neighbourhood.

Frederick Hughes identified the body, and said the letters taken from the deceased were in the dead man's writing. For years his brother had been melancholy, and had suffered from depression.

Sergeant Goodall said he found a bullet mark in the right temple. The shot had entered there, and passed right through, out of the left ear, bringing a portion of the brain with it. A new five-chambered revolver was lying by the side of Hughes, as he lay on the lawn. Only one barrel had been discharged.

The property found on the deceased had been identified, and it included three letters. The first was to his mother, asking her not to fret for him, as they would probably meet in a happier world. He asked in this letter to be buried with his father in the vault at Dudley. In a second letter to his brother he declared his sobriety, and wished for solitude that he might be happier than he had been. In this letter he also wished to sleep with his father that he might not be alone in death. He asked to be thought of kindly and concluded 'Farewell.' In the third letter he stated that he had made fitting excuses to Mr. Davies for not going to the office. The boy there had taken to openly call him a madman, and someone there never spoke to him. Possibly if he lived he might go mad. After cursing all the world the writer said he only wished to sleep for ages at Dudley.

The finding of the body was proved, and evidence was given by James Turley to the effect that the deceased was seen on Thursday night after 11pm, and was sober.

Dr. Badley said he had attended Hughes for brain fever when a youth, and he had never been the same since. He was moody and suspicious.

Dr. Johnson thought the deceased's mind was affected. A small bottle found upon him contained crude opium.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide while in a state of Temporary Insanity."

September 1900 – The 8th Annual Dinner of Woodsetton Cricket Club was held here.

1901 Census

4, Tipton Road

- [1] *William Tomlinson* (52), coal master, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah J. Tomlinson* (51), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Maria Tomlinson* (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *David Tomlinson* (17), son, carter at colliery, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Tomlinson* (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Mary M. Tomlinson* (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Hannah Tomlinson* (9), daughter, born Coseley;
- [8] *Mary Tomlinson* (30), visitor, born Coseley;

Tipton Herald 3/1/1903

"On Wednesday evening the members of the Woodsetton Cricket Club assembled at the clubhouse, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, to make a presentation to the secretary, Mr. W. Palmer.

Mr. F. Whitehouse (captain) occupied the chair and in making the presentation, which consisted of a smoking cabinet, with a silver shield suitably inscribed, alluded to the valuable services Mr. Palmer had rendered to the club for 20 years. Both in season and out of season Mr. Palmer had laboured hard for the welfare of the club, and the members thought that some small acknowledgment of the work should be made.

Mr. W. Westwood spoke in eulogistic terms of Mr. Palmer's services. In fact, he wondered how the club would have fared but for Mr. Palmer. The best of good feelings had always existed between Mr. Palmer and the members of the club. No one in the club was more respected.

Mr. W. Perry spoke of the manner in which Mr. Palmer had stuck to the club and discharged the duties of secretary.

Mr. Palmer, in reply, said the present was what he did not desire. He did his work for the love of the game and the benefit of the club. He would, nevertheless, value the present, much more than they anticipated. In conclusion he thanked them for all the kind words they had said about him, and would assure them that as in the past so in the future he would do his best for the benefit of the club.

A vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. James, a member of the Richmond CC, who had recently passed away.

Votes of thanks to the chairman were given, and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony."

Tipton Herald 10/10/1903

"Woodsetton Cricket Club. On Wednesday a dinner was held at the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, to compliment the above club on winning the championship of the Wolverhampton and District League. Councillor L. Foster, president of the club, presided About 40 sat down to an excellent repast, served up in excellent style by Host and Hostess *Tomlinson*....."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 16/11/1909

"A Special Sessions was held today (Tuesday), at Sedgley, when several licensing matters came up for consideration.....

Mr. W. A. Foster applied on behalf of the owner of the PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, for extensive alterations to the premises, but the Bench referred it to the annual licensing meeting."

1911 Census

Tipton Road

- [1] *John Ernest Seedhouse* (35), brewer, born Princes End;
- [2] *Ada Charlotte Seedhouse* (30), wife, married 7 years, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Phyllis Annie Seedhouse* (6), daughter, born Tipton;

[4] Harold Bruerton Seedhouse (2), son, born Tipton;
[5] Alice Holloway (14), domestic servant, born Stourbridge:

Lichfield Mercury 31/7/1914

“The Road Board, in compliance with the provisions of the Development and Road Improvements Funds Act 1909, have just issued an account of the award of grants and loans made to local authorities in the United Kingdom, from 1st April to 31st of March, 1914. In this county and district we find.....

Birmingham-Wolverhampton Main Road (Sedgley Road, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton Lodge), in the Coseley urban district, surfacing £68.”

A billiard license was granted on 3rd March 1922.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/12/1922

“Athletics. To-Day’s Fixtures.

Tipton H. Six and a half miles club handicap from the PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton, near Sedgley, and ordinary run from the headquarters of the Wednesbury branch.”

South Staffordshire Times 7/4/1923

“The Woodsetton, Sedgley and Coseley Fanciers’ Society held a members’ show on Easter Tuesday in the Pavilion of the PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton. Entries were not so large as expected. Some very nice birds were staged. Mr. D. Siviter, of Blackheath judged.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 29/11/1924

“Woodsetton, Sedgley and Coseley Fanciers’ Society’s 10th annual show of poultry takes place today (Saturday) in the pavilion of the PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton.

There are sixteen classes, including exhibition and utility poultry, and there are also open classes for novices, who have not yet won a first prize. The judge is Mr. A. Cole, of Rowley. All eggs shown will be given to the Wolverhampton General Hospital.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/5/1934

“Awards have now been made in the ‘Are You Like Mae West?’ competition promoted by the management of the Futurist Theatre, Birmingham.

The competitors considered by the judges to most resemble the star in ‘I’m No Angel’ are:

1. Miss L. Freedman, 53, Aston Street, Ladywood, Birmingham.
2. Miss. B. *Phipps*, PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL, Woodsetton Wolverhampton.

They have been invited to attend the Futurist at nine o’clock tonight, when Miss Janet Joye, the Birmingham radio star who gives vivid impressions of Mae West, will hand them their awards.

The Western Brothers, who are making stage appearances three times a day at the John Bright Street cinema, will introduce the prize winners to the audience.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 16/7/1934

“Other Midland estates.....

Mr. *I. L. Phipps*, PRINCE OF WALES INN, Woodsetton, Sedgley, £1, 392 (net personalty £790).”

1939 Register

Tipton Road – PRINCE OF WALES INN

[1] *Cecil James Lewis*, date of birth 21/4/1907, licensee, married;

[2] Ivy Lewis, dob 29/12/1907, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Steve James was a footballer.

He had played at centre half for Manchester United.

Woodsetton FC changed here in the 1950s.

It had a pets’ corner. [1970s]

It was refurbished in 2006.

It reopened in January 2007.

David Corns was married to Lyn.

[2012]

It closed in 2013.

It was demolished in March 2014.

QUEENS ARMS

69, Hollywell Street, Hurst Hill, (Coppice), COSELEY

OWNERS

Thomas Nicholls
Mary Ann (Nicholls) Bryan
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Nicholls [1865] – **1887**;
John Bryan and William Cowell (**1887**);
Mary Caswell Nicholls (**1887 – 1891**);
Joseph Nicholls and Mary Ann Bryan (**1891**);
John 'Carmi' Bryan (**1891 – 1912**);
Mrs. Mary Ann Bryan (**1912 – [1940]**)

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1865

“Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting of the Bilston division of the county of Stafford was held in the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Thurstans then applied for a license to the QUEENS ARMS INN, at Coppice, Sedgley, situated in a new street, which ran from Cann Lane to the main Coseley Road. In this street 125 houses had been put up recently, there was no opposition, and Mr. *Nicholls* possessed the usual certificate of character. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of *Thomas Nicholls*, the owner of a beerhouse at Hurst Hill. There was no opposition, but the license was refused.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/10/1866

“T. Nicholls of Hurst Hill will run J. Bush of the same place, or T. Hodgkiss of Can Lane, or G. Hodgkiss of Cinder Hill, or E. Salt of Sodam 120 yards level, or J. Howells of Hunt Hill, for £5 a side or their own sum; or D. Clements of Can Lane will run J. Waterhouse of Sodam 100 yards level, for £5 a side. Money ready any night at *T. Nicholls's*, QUEENS ARMS, Hurst Hill.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/1/1867

“H. Fellows of Hurst Hill will run Howell (alias Duck) 120 yards and give him two yards start, or take four yards in 400, either match to be for £10 a side. Money ready at *T. Nicholls's*, QUEENS ARMS INN, when a match can be ensured by calling.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/3/1868

“T. Nicholls of Hurst Hill will run J. Clempson of Cinder Hill or H. Wright of Can Lane their own distances, for their own sum, or J. Hodgkins of Can Lane or G. Cinnforth of Walsall 125 yards, for £5 or £10 a side, or will stake £5 with them and start off the same mark. Money ready at J. Fellows's, the BOAT INN, Can Lane, or at *T. Nicholls's*, QUEENS ARMS, Hurst Hill.”

1871 Census

69, Hollywell Street – QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *Thomas Nicholls* (44), blacksmith and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Nicholls* (41), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary A. Nicholls* (14), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] James Nicholls (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Daniel Nicholls (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

- [6] *Joseph Nicholls* (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
[7] *Elizabeth E. Nicholls* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Thomas Nicholls, beer retailer, Hollywell Street, Coppice. [1872]

Mary Ann Nicholls married *John Bryan* in the 2nd quarter of 1877.

1881 Census

69, Hollywell Street

- [1] *Thomas Nicholls* (53), chartermaster, born Sedgley;
[2] *Mary Nicholls* (49), wife, born Sedgley;
[3] *Daniel Nicholls* (19), son, blacksmith, born Sedgley;
[4] *Joseph Nicholls* (17), son, coal miner, born Sedgley;
[5] *Elizabeth E. Nicholls* (15), daughter born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 14/4/1883

“Yesterday morning a man was found drowned in the Birmingham canal, near Deepfields Station, Coseley, and within a few yards of the spot where a young man from Wolverhampton was drowned on Saturday evening last. About five o’clock a man named Thomas Newton, who it appears is employed on the canal by the Birmingham Canal Company, and was proceeding to his work, noticed some peculiar movement in the water at this particular place, and was therefore led to thinking that something was in the water. After obtaining assistance he commenced to search the canal, and in a very short time found the body of an aged man, which was identified as being that of Peter Weaver, about 55 years of age, and a native of Bromyard, Herefordshire. The deceased was un-married, and had been in the district for some time. It seems that he had no particular employment, nor any fixed abode, but obtained work as a horse driver and other ways, and slept where ever he could get a night’s lodgings. During the past week, or two, he had been residing with a man named Weaver, at Hurst Hill, and had been engaged as a horse driver by Mr. *T. Nicholls*, of the QUEENS ARMS INN, Hurst Hill, and a royalty master. About half-past four this morning the deceased was seen near the Birmingham Canal, and about a quarter past five his body was found. PC Wood was sent for, and he removed the body to the BOAT INN, Deepfields to await an inquest. How deceased got into the water is not at present known.”

[At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of Committed Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity.]

Thomas Nicholls died on 11th June 1887.

John Bryan and *William Cowell* were the executors to *Thomas Nicholls*.

1891 Census

69, Hollywell Street

- [1] *Mary Nicholls* (61), widow, publican, born Sedgley;
[2] *Emma Tiber* (17), domestic servant, born Swann Village:

Mary Caswell Nicholls died on 12th April 1891.

Joseph Nicholls and *Mary Ann Bryan* were the executors to *Mary Caswell Nicholls*.

1901 Census

69, Hollywell Street – QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *John Bryan* (42), coal miner, hewer (underground), born Sedgley;
[2] *Mary A. Bryan* (43), wife, publican, born Sedgley;
[3] *Carmi Bryan* (18), son, striker in boiler yard, born Sedgley;
[4] *Joseph Bryan* (17), son, ale brewer, born Sedgley;
[5] *George Bryan* (15), son, butcher’s errand boy, born Sedgley;
[6] *Mary E. Bryan* (13), daughter, born Sedgley;
[7] *Griete Bryan* (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
[8] *Lily V. Bryan* (6), daughter, born Sedgley;
[9] *Leonard J. Bryan* (4), son, born Sedgley;
[10] *Liddy Potts* (15), general servant, born Sedgley:

John Bryan, beer retailer, Hollywell Street. [1904]

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

1911 Census

Hurst Hill – QUEENS ARMS INN

- [1] *John Bryan* (53), coal miner, hewer, and publican, born Coseley;
[2] *Mary Ann Bryan* (53), wife, married 30 years, assisting in business, born Coseley;

- [3] Carmi Bryan (29), son, boiler worker, riveter, born Coseley;
- [4] Joseph Bryan (27), son, brewer, born Coseley;
- [5] George Bryan (25), son, boiler worker, labourer, born Coseley;
- [6] Mary Emily Bryan (23), daughter, born Coseley;
- [7] Gertrude Bryan (21), daughter, born Coseley;
- [8] Lily Victoria Bryan (16), daughter, born Coseley;
- [9] James Leonard Bryan (14), son, moulder's apprentice, born Coseley:

John Bryan, beer retailer, Hollywell Street. [1912]

Mrs. *Mary Ann Bryan*, beer retailer, Hollywell Street. [1916], [1921]

Len Bryan, a nephew of *Mary Ann Bryan*, brewed the beer here.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 17/10/1925

“There was an enthusiastic company at the annual dinner and prize distribution of the Hurst Hill Homing Society at the QUEENS ARMS INN, on Saturday. In his report the secretary (Mr. J. Roberts) stated that 22 members sent a total number of birds of 2,080 in 11 races with the Dudley Federation.....”

1939 Register

Hollywell Street – QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *Mary A. Bryan*, date of birth 23/12/1857, unpaid domestic duties, widowed;
- [2] Carmi Bryan, dob 28/9/1881, coal dealer, haulier, single;
- [3] Leonard Bryan, dob 7/10/1901, brewer, single;

[1965]

Closed

Demolished

QUEENS ARMS

57, Queen Street, Brierley, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Williams [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

57, Queen Street – QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *William Williams* (50), beer seller, born Llanfeuring, Monmouthshire;
- [2] Maria Williams (45), wife, born Whitchurch, Herefordshire;
- [3] Eliza A. Williams (19), daughter, milliner, born Newland, Gloucestershire;
- [4] Kate J. Ballinger (16), niece, scholar, born Whitchurch, Herefordshire:

QUEENS HEAD

48, New Street, (Gornal Wood), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joseph Stokes, solicitor, Dudley

Richard Baker
Wordsley Brewery Co. Ltd.
Plant's Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Cornelius Guest [1858] – [1862]
Mrs. Ann Guest [1863] – [1868]
Isaac Hughes [1871] – **1878**;
Ezra Spittle (**1878**);
Richard Baker (**1878 – 1897**);
Henry Walford (**1897**);
Ernest Greenaway (**1897 – 1899**);
William Thomas Marsh (**1899 – 1904**);
Rachel Westwood (**1904 – 1906**);
George Mcroft (**1906 – 1907**);
Joseph Jukes (**1907 – 1910**);
Mary Jukes (**1910 – 1914**);
Harry Howell (**1914 – 1915**);
Edward Flavell (**1915 – 1926**);
Albert Cooper (**1926 – 1930**);

NOTES

It had an ante'69 beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....

Application For New Licenses.....

Mr. Waterhouse made an application for a license for the QUEENS HEAD at Lower Gornal, kept by Mr. *Cornelius Guest*. In support of the application Mr. Waterhouse stated that 300 new houses had been built in that neighbourhood within the last two years. The application was refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Waterhouse, on behalf of Mr. *Cornelius Guest*, of the QUEENS HEAD, Gornall Wood, applied for a license for that house. Application refused.”

1861 Census

New Street – QUEENS HEAD INN

- [1] *Cornelius Guest* (53), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Ann Guest* (48), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] Thomas Guest (20), son, carpenter, born Kingswinford;
- [4] Ambrose Guest (12), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] Abel Guest (6), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [6] Isaac Guest (4), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [7] Mary Westwood (17), servant, born Kingswinford;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

Cornelius Guest, of Lower Gornal, applied through Mr. Waterhouse for a license to his house, the QUEENS HEAD. He was opposed by Mr. Cartwright, landlord of the WHITE CHIMNEY, in the same locality. Refused.”

Cornelius Guest, retailer of beer, Gornall Wood. [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. Thomas Gordon Bunch [HOP AND BARLEYCORN], for a license to a house, in Barr's Meadow, Lower Gornal; and Mr. Waterhouse made a similar application on behalf of Mr. *Cornelius Guest*, each learned gentleman urging on behalf of their several applications that the Meadow had become quite a new town. Both applications were refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license for a widow named *Ann Guest*, of the QUEENS HEAD, Lower Gornal. There was no opposition, but on a little reflection the application was refused.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

Mr. Stokes then applied on behalf of Mrs. *Guest* for a license to the QUEENS HEAD, beerhouse, Lower Gornal.

Mr. Underhill remarked upon the application that Mr. Bunch [HOP AND BARLEYCORN] laboured under one disadvantage that he did not keep a dancing room like Mrs. *Guest*, to which Mr. Stokes retorted that if the room was kept for dancing it was also for higher purposes. The said ‘higher purposes,’ it turned out upon inquiry, was public worship in connection with some religious denomination. Mrs. *Guest*, however, assured the Bench that neither public worship nor public dancing was now carried on in her house. Application refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

“The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

Mr. Stokes (of Dudley) applied on behalf of Mrs. *Guest*, of the QUEENS HEAD, close to Mr. Bunch’s house [HOP AND BARLEYCORN]. Mrs. *Guest*’s premises had been erected regardless of expense purposely for a licensed house, and he thought the Magistrates should give an old inhabitant precedence to a new one.....

After the Magistrates had deliberated, Mr. Perry said that they had gone carefully into the four applications, but had decided not to grant either of them.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1865

“Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting of the Bilston division of the county of Stafford was held in the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Stokes, solicitor, of Dudley, applied for a license each to Mrs. *Guest*, widow, Lower Gornal, Joseph Waterfield, mine agent, of the same place, and Daniel Jones of Gornal Wood, all of whom were keeping beerhouses in a most creditable way, and the application of neither of whom was opposed. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. Underhill made an application on behalf of *Ann Guest*, who keeps the QUEENS HEAD, Gornal Wood. There was no licensed house within 800 or 900 yards, and as it was a thriving district, and the house was suitable, he felt convinced a licensee would be granted. The application was rejected.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1868

“Bilston. The annual Licensing Sessions for this district were held yesterday, at the Police Court.....

Mr. Stokes the applied for licenses on behalf of the following *Ann Guest*, QUEENS HOTEL, Lower Gornal There were no opposition to any of the above applicants Application refused.”

1871 Census

48, New Street

- [1] *Isaac Hughes* (30), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Hughes* (24), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary Hughes* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Esther Hughes* (1 month), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Ruth Bennett* (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Isaac Hughes, beer retailer, Lower Gornal. [1872]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/4/1872

“B. Brown of Kingswinford will run his bitch Fly against Moody’s Lill of Wollaston 200 yards at catch weight, and allow Lill a yard start, for £10 a side; or he will match Fly to run Magg’s Bill of Hill Top the same distance, and allow 16 yards start, for £10 a side. Money ready at *Isaac Hughes*’s, QUEENS HEAD, Gornal Wood.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/12/1872

“Canine Fancy. Mr. *Hughes* of Gornal will run his dog John from the Country against J. Clarke’s dog Spring of Gornal, or Oliver’s bitch Nance, or J. Jubb’s bitch Luce of Woodside, to run the best of 21 courses, 60 yards law, for £10 or £15 a side, at Lea Brook Grounds, Wednesbury. The match can be made any day next week at Mr. *I. Hughes*’s QUEENS HEAD, Gornal Wood, off Barr’s Meadows.”

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks. . . .

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given. . . .

No.9 Lodge, QUEENS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood; 350 members. Not a single blackleg. We mean to continue the fight for our rights, and in this decision we are supported by the men who receive the old rate of wages. The levy is paid by them all without a murmur.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

Dudley Guardian 1/8/1874

“John Cox, collier, was charged with assaulting William Massey and Isaac Hughes, on the 20th June. It appears that on the day in question defendant went to the QUEENS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood and whilst there became very abusive. He was remonstrated with and upon that he struck the complainants. Defendant was fined 10s and costs in each case with the alternative of 14 days’ imprisonment on each charge consecutively.”

Dudley Herald 15/7/1876

“William Guest, painter, Upper Gornal, was charged with assaulting *Isaac Hughes*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD, and with refusing to quit his premises He was fined 11s and costs for assault and 20s for refusing to quit, or 5 weeks imprisonment.”

1881 Census

New Street

- [1] *Richard Baker* (39), publican, born Bromley, Staffordshire;
- [2] Mary Baker (39), wife, born Cotwall End;
- [3] Moses Hale (16), son, safe maker, born Tansey Green;
- [4] Mary E. Hale (11), daughter, scholar, born Tansey Green;
- [5] John Hale (9), son, scholar, born Tansey Green;
- [6] Jane Baker (3), daughter, born Tansey Green;
- [7] Hannah Baker (10 months), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [8] Ann Southall (20), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

Dudley and District News 30/4/1881

“*Richard Baker*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD INN, New Street, Gornal Wood, was summoned for keeping his house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours on Good Friday.

PC Worsey proved finding several persons drinking in the defendant’s house during prohibited hours.

Mr. Stokes, who appeared for the defence, said the persons found in the defendant’s house were friends, and contended that defendant was justified in entertaining his friends.

The Bench discharged the defendant with a caution.”

1891 Census

48, New Street

- [1] *Richard Baker* (49), publican, born Gornal Wood;
- [2] Mary Baker (48), wife, born Gornal Wood;
- [3] John Baker (19), son, horse driver, born Gornal Wood;
- [4] Jane Baker (12), daughter, scholar, born Gornal Wood;
- [5] Annie Baker (12), daughter, scholar, born Gornal Wood;
- [6] Edith Baker (10), daughter, scholar, born Gornal Wood;
- [7] Thomas Baker (7), son, scholar, born Gornal Wood;
- [8] Richard Baker (6), son, scholar, born Gornal Wood;
- [9] Ada Tomleson (15), domestic servant, born Gornal Wood;
- [10] George Herbert Hanson (15), servant, cow boy, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

48, New Street – QUEENS HEAD INN

- [1] *William T. Marsh* (27), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Minnie Marsh (28), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] Maud Marsh (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Mary E. Pitford (20), domestic servant, born Dudley:

County Express 9/8/1902

“On Wednesday, Mr. T. Allen Stokes (coroner), held an inquest at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood, concerning the death of Joseph Jones (22), Brook Street, Gornal Wood, who sustained fatal injuries whilst following his employment as a ‘doggy’ at No.13 Colliery Foster’s Fields, Kingswinford. Mr. Makepeace (assistant Government inspector of mines) attended, and Mr. D. Rogers represented the owners of the colliery. It transpired that on the 28th ult. deceased descended the workings to make an inspection prior to the men commencing work. Shortly afterwards there was a report of an explosion, and deceased was found in the workings in a kneeling position, with his face, head, and hand terribly burnt. The safety lamp which deceased took with him was intact, and no matches or candle were found. Deceased was removed to his home, and died on the 2nd inst. He was never able to explain the cause of the explosion, which could not subsequently be ascertained. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions QUEENS HEAD, Gornal Wood. Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required and was difficult of police supervision. Mr. Collis said the owner of the house was prepared to carry out the alterations desired within one month. Superintendent Walters said that was satisfactory, and the objection would be withdrawn. The license was renewed.”

Tipton Herald 21/3/1903

“On Saturday evening last upwards of 50 members of the Money Club were entertained to supper by Mr. *W. T. Marsh*, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood. After the disposal of the well-served repast, prepared in the Misses Marsh’s usual excellent style, Mr. J. Marsh was voted to the chair, and Mr. B. Marsh to the vice-chair. A hearty vote of thanks to the host and hostess was proposed by Mr. J. Archer, to which the host suitably replied. The remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, the following gentlemen kindly obliging in a very able manner: Messrs. J. Wasdell, J. Bradley, M. Marsh, S. Worton, J. Briscoe, J. Archer, J. Fellows, W. Hickman, S. Griffiths. Mr. J. Fellows was a most efficient accompanist. The singing of the National Anthem brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.”

Tipton Herald 22/8/1903

“Upwards of 70 friends and customers were entertained by Mr. *W. T. Marsh*, QUEENS HEAD INN, Gornal Wood. After the disposal of the well served repast, prepared in the Misses Marsh’s usual excellent style, Mr. J. Greenway was voted to the chair, and Mr. J. Briscoe to the vice chair.....”

1911 Census

48, New Street

- [1] *Joseph Jukes* (44), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Jukes* (43), wife, married 23 years, assisting in business, born Dudley;
- [3] *Catherine Jukes* (20), daughter, domestic worker, born Dudley;
- [4] *Joseph Jukes* (10), son, school, born Sedgley:

Mrs. *Mary Jukes*, beer retailer, New Street. [1912]

Tipton Herald 11/1/1913

“*Joseph Jukes*, an ex-licensee of Gornal Wood, was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the QUEENS HEAD, New Street, Gornal Wood. Mr. W. A. Foster held a watching brief on behalf of Mrs. *Jukes*, and Mr. W. A. Luce who appeared for defendant, pleaded guilty on his behalf. PC Johnson said that at 9.30pm on Sunday, December 15th, he visited the public house, and noticed that *Jukes* was sitting in the bar, drunk. He drew the landlady’s attention to the fact, and she replied, ‘I can’t help it. He has just come in, and has had nothing to drink here. I can do no good with him.’ Witness told the man he must leave the licensed area, and after some persuasion, he staggered into the sitting room, where he became abusive to his wife. At half past ten the same night witness returned to the house with PC Bailey, and saw *Jukes* in the act of pouring out a bottle of stout. PC Johnson added that the same day, defendant’s wife came to his station, and informed him that her husband had drunk eight bottles of stout in one hour. Three hours later witness saw him in Abbey Street, and he was then drunk. In reply to Inspector Robinson, witness said last July Mrs. *Jukes* secured an order of judicial separation against her husband, and since then he has been more or less drunk. Mr. Lees: He is a man with a grievance, but he does not believe that is so. Till this grievance cropped up he was a fairly sober man. – I didn’t know much about him till he came to the QUEENS HEAD. Has the license been transferred? – Yes, in this court. Since the transfer of the license to his wife, do you know anything about their relationships, have they been happy or otherwise? – Otherwise, I should say. Do you know if he is still tenant of the house? – I understand he is not. Mr. Lees said *Jukes* was a man undoubtedly with a grievance, but whether this was the cause of his giving way to drink, he, Mr. Lees did not know. Two or three years ago, defendant was removed to an asylum, and since his discharge he had entertained the

belief, rightly or wrongly founded, that he was improperly placed there. Shortly before he went away he and his wife did not get on very well together, but whatever were their relationships at that time, matters had been worse since his return, so much so that last year there was a separation order granted between the parties. While *Jukes* was in the asylum his wife managed the business. He (Mr. Lees) was not aware that she was ever appointed receiver of whatever estate.....”

A billiard license was granted on 5th March 1915.

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions QUEENS HEAD INN, Lower Gornal, 15s 9½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/3/1930

“At the adjourned annual Licensing Sessions yesterday of the Bilston Division four houses were referred for compensation of the grounds of redundancy....

Respecting the QUEENS HEAD INN, New Street, Lower Gornal, Inspector Parsons said that within 500 yards there were seven fully-licensed houses, five beerhouses on and two beerhouses off. The trade consisted of about 1½ barrels a week, six dozen bottles, and about a gallon of wine a month.”

The license was refused by the Compensation Authority on 28th July 1930.

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/8/1930 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority, for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 28th day of July, 1930, 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 Licensee, and the registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority notice of their claims before the 20th day of September, 1930, for the purpose of enabling 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.....

QUEENS HEAD, Gornal Wood. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Albert Cooper*. Registered Owner, T. Plant & Co.”

Compensation of £1,470 was paid on 20th December 1930.

It closed on 27th December 1930.

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1931

“County Quarter Sessions.

At the Principal Meeting of the Compensation Authority, on July 28, 14 licenses out of 16 referred were refused and at the Supplemental Meeting the committee fixed the compensation sums as follows.....

QUEENS HEAD, Gornal Wood, beerhouse, ante 1869, £1,470.”

QUEENS HEAD

23, Kent Street, (Sheepcotwall), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Rachel Parker, widow, Gornal

James Henry Walker, National School master, Gornal

LICENSEES

Jeremiah Parker [1851] – [1861]

Rebecca Parker [1861] – [1865]
George Smith [1867] – 1868;
Thomas French (1868 – []
George Smith [1870]
James Passmore [1870] – 1875);
Isaac Naylor (1875 – 1877);
Mary Ann Naylor (1877 – 1879);
William Swift (1879);
Samuel Heeley (1879 – 1881);
Isaac Clark (1881 – 1883):

NOTES

QUEENS ARMS [1867]

Jeremiah Parker was also a butcher. [1851], [1854], [1860]

1851 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Jeremiah Parker* (48), victualler and butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Rebecca Parker* (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Rachel Parker* (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Hannah Parker* (5), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Hesekiah Parker* (2), son, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 17/1/1852

“An inquest was held on Tuesday, at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, on the body of Alfred Timmins, three years and nine months old, son of Joseph Timmins, who died on the 11th instant, from injuries he received on the 30th of last month, by his clothes taking fire while left in the house with two other children. The child was observed in flames by Mr. Joseph Marsh, of Gornal Wood, who was passing by at the time.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Rebecca Law Parker* (49), widow, victualler and butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Rachel Parker* (28), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Hannah Parker* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Hezekiah Parker* (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

George Smith was fined 2s 6d plus costs for permitting cock fighting in January 1868.

Dudley Herald 21/3/1868 - Advert

“QUEENS HEAD, Upper Gornal To be let in consequence of the death of the proprietor the above well known old licensed inn, containing tap room, bar, parlour and butchers shop (which may be easily converted to a liquor shop), excellent cellaring, 3 chambers, brewhouse and store rooms, with usual out offices including good stabling, piggeries and large paddock.”

George Smith was also a butcher. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

Sheepcotwall – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *James Passmore* (33), licensed victualler and butcher, born Dudley;
- [2] *Sarah Jane Passmore* (34), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Maria Passmore* (8), daughter, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] *Thomas Passmore* (7), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] *Benjamin Passmore* (6), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] *Isaac Passmore* (5), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [7] *William Passmore* (4), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [8] *Sarah Jane Passmore* (10 months), daughter, born Upper Gornal;
- [9] *Abeygal Porter* (17), general servant, born Upper Gornal;
- [10] *Samuel Forres* (19), journeyman butcher, born Upper Gornal:

James Passmore was also a butcher. [1872], [1873]

Dudley Herald 3/11/1877

“*Isaac Naylor*, deceased. All persons having claims against the estate of *Mr. Isaac Naylor* late of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Upper Gornal.....”

County Express 22/6/1878

“At Sedgley Police Court, *Mary Ann Naylor*, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in her house on the 8th inst. Police-constable Sutton said that on visiting the defendant’s premises he found a drunken man named Higgs in the tap room. He informed the defendant of the state of Higgs, and she afterwards ordered him to quit the premises. Mr. Stokes, for the defence said that Higgs came into his client’s house, and during his stay of two hours was served with two pints of ale. On being served the second pint he appeared to be perfectly sober, and after a lapse of half an hour the officer went into the bar and informed the defendant that he was drunk. Fined £2 and costs.

Joseph Higgs, the man referred to in the above case, was fined 20s and costs for being drunk on licensed premises.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 31/8/1878

“Bilston Annual Licensing Sessions.....

The following is the list of licensed victuallers and beerhouse keepers who had been summoned during the year for offences against the Licensing Act Licensed victuallers.....

Mary Ann Naylor, QUEENS HEAD, Upper Gornal, selling ale after hours, 20th May, 1878, fined £2 and costs, and for permitting drunkenness, 17th June, 1876, fined £2 and costs.”

AND

Wolverhampton Express and Star 21/9/1878

“The Adjourned Licensing Sessions.....

The persons who had been convicted during the last twelve months for offences against their licenses, the renewals of which were withheld until today, now appeared before the Bench, and there being no further complaint as to the conduct of their houses in the interval the magistrates granted the renewals.”

London Gazette 29/10/1878

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Mary Ann Naylor*, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Publican.

Notice is hereby given, that a Second General Meeting of the creditors of the above named person has been summoned to be held at the offices of W. H. Tinsley, Solicitor, 31, Priory-street, Dudley, on the 7th day of November, 1878, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely.

Dated this 26th day of October, 1878.

Wm. Hy. Tinsley, 31, Priory-Street, Dudley, Solicitor for the said Debtor.”

1881 Census

23, Kent Street – QUEENS HEAD INN

Uninhabited.

Isaac Clark = Isaac Clarke

Dudley and District News 26/11/1881

“William Guest, painter, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, was charged with being drunk in the QUEENS HEAD, situate in the same street. On Monday, the 7th inst, PCs Gibbs and Price visited the QUEENS HEAD about 10.45pm, and found defendant sitting in the tap room very drunk with a pint cup before him, partly full of beer. Having drawn the landlord’s attention to him, they turned him out of the house.

Isaac Clarke, the landlord, was called and said the defendant was only on the premises for two or three minutes, having been refused drink and told to go away and not get him into any bother. Defendant having been twice convicted this year, he was now fined 20s and costs; Mr. Homer remarking that if he came again the great probability was that he would be committed without the option of a fine.

Defendant, saying he was sorry, promised to be a teetotaller.

Isaac Clarke was then charged with permitting the defendant to be drunk on his premises, the constables repeating their testimony. Several witnesses were called by defendant. While the testimony was contradictory in point of time, they all agreed that the accused ordered defendant out and refused him drink.

The Bench pertinently remarked that his witnesses placed him in an awkward position, as though there had been two or three drunken men instead of one. It was a very difficult matter to decide the case. Although very probably he did order Guest out, the evidence of his witnesses led them to question the state of the house at the time and the state of the company. They should dismiss the case, hoping it would be a warning to him. It was a very proper case to bring before the court. Daniel Franklin, one of the witnesses, having been called before the Bench, Mr. Homer said they would consider whether they would have a summons against him for perjury or not. They thought he was either thoroughly drunk or had committed wilful perjury. The Bench had long determined that once they got a good case, they would take proceedings, the perjury in this court being something awful.”

The license was abandoned in 1883.

RAILWAY

31, Chapel Street / 15, Bridge Street, (New) Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

David Hill, coke merchant, Gospel End, Sedgley
Henry Mitchell, brewer, Crown Brewery, Smethwick
James Dicken
Thomas Russell Ltd., brewers, Wolverhampton

LICENSEES

James Round [1851] – [1854]
Joseph Higgs [1857] – 1866);
Robert Nicholls (1866 – []
Robert Owen Nicholls [] – 1868);
William Dainty (1868 – 1869);
James Lambert (1869 – []
Thomas Stevens [1869] – 1879);
George Littlewood (1879 – 1882);
Martin Richards (1882 – 1883);
John Chadborne Moore (1883);
John Thomas Kibble (1883 – 1884);
Thomas Crowe King (1884 – 1886);
Thomas Chambers (1886 – 1887);
James Russell (1887 – 1888);
John Fellows (1888 – 1889);
Charles Tovey (1889 – 1891);
James Dicken (1891 – 1898);
Frederick James Lowry (1898 – 1900);
Edward Ashwick (1900);
Josiah Edwards (1900 – 1912);
Frederick Shingler (1912 – 1913);
Elijah Pountney (1913 – 1914);
John William Marsland (1914);
Charles Bull (1914 – 1922);
Ralph Shone (1922 – 1928);
James Henry Pugh (1928 – 1930):

NOTES

1851 Census

Wallbrook

- [1] *James Round* (49), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Round (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sophia Goodwin (16), servant, born Bridgnorth:

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/5/1851

“At Bilston, on Tuesday, Mr. *James Round*, victualler of Coseley, was charged with allowing gambling in his house. As the house was generally well conducted, the defendant was adjudged to pay the costs only.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Application was made by Mr. Underhill for Mr. *James Round*, of New Wallbrook Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/6/1854

“On Friday, before C. F. Perry, Esq, Phoebe Gregory, appeared to answer the complaint of Sarah *Round*, the wife of *James Round*, licensed victualler, at Wallbrook. It appears that complainant had been in a lunatic asylum, and on her return in an improved state of health to her husband’s bar she found that the defendant was no longer inclined to do duty as a servant, but assumed authority of mistress, without, it would seem, very severely being bought to task by her master, and altercation was of daily occurrence. On Tuesday night the defendant, in a state of liquor, insisted on having liquors after her master had gone to bed, and for that end broke open the bar, and abused and assaulted her mistress. She was ordered to find sureties to keep the peace for six months.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/10/1857 - Advert

“Eligible Freehold Dwelling Houses, at Wallbrook, in the parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, at the House of Mr. *Joseph Higgs*, the RAILWAY INN, Wallbrook, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, on Thursday, the 22nd day of October, 1857, at three o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858 - Advert

“To Be Sold, for the small sum of £280, eight Freehold Dwelling Houses, with two Brewhouses and Yard, situated at Wallbrook, in Wallbrook Street, in the parish of Sedgley, and county of Stafford, producing an annual rental of £36 8s, at low rents.

Application to be made to Mr. *Joseph Higgs*, RAILWAY INN, Wallbrook.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/11/1858 - Advert

“Jabez Morrell will Offer for Sale by Auction, on Tuesday, the 23rd of November, 1858, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Higgs*, known as the RAILWAY TAVERN, Wallbrook (by order of the mortgagee with power of sale), all that Freehold Land, fronting Broad Street, Wallbrook, Coseley, with two Messuages and Outbuildings erected thereon, occupied by William Jones and William Phillips, there being space for erecting two more Messuages. Present rental £18 4s per annum.

Particulars of Messrs Willim and Hall, Solicitors, Bilston; or of the Auctioneer, Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/5/1859

“On Tuesday morning, before W. H. Phillips, Esq., Deputy Coroner, at the RAILWAY INN, Wallbrook, an investigation was made into the cause of death of James Slater, two years old, son of William Slater, miner, living at Wallbrook. It appeared that the child was thrust into a pot of boiling water by his brother, seven years old, on the 8th inst, and died from the scalds on the 14th. This much the little fellow, who seemed altogether pleased with his conduct, acknowledged. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

In January 1860 a lengthy inquest was held here on the body of Henry Jordan, who was killed by a boiler explosion at a brickyard at Hurst Lane; a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/8/1863 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Properties, at Can Lane and Wallbrook, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Richards will offer for Sale by Auction (by order of the Mortgagees), on Tuesday next, the 25th day of August, at the House of Mr. *Joseph Higgs*, the RAILWAY TAVERN, Wallbrook aforesaid, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

London Gazette 31/8/1866

“*Joseph Higgs*, now and for twelve months past or thereabouts of the RAILWAY INN, Walbrook, Coseley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, and for seven years and upwards previously thereto of Wallbrook, Coseley aforesaid, Licensed Victualler, and also during a portion of such period being a Miner on my own account, and during other portion of such period carrying on such last-mentioned business in copartnership with Joseph Jeavons, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 23rd day of August, 1866, is hereby required to surrender himself to Thomas Walker, Esq., Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 20th day of September next, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely, at the said Court. Thomas Walker, Esq., is the Official Assignee, and Thomas Collis, of Birmingham, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Robert Owen Nicholls died c.1868.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 14/3/1868 - Advert

“To be Let, with immediate possession, an Old-licensed Public-House, the RAILWAY INN, Walbrook, Coseley.

For particulars apply to Samuel Grainger, House Agent, Post Office, Deepfields, near Bilston.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/6/1868

“Applications were on Friday made to the Magistrates to grant the transfer of the following licenses, and the applications were all acceded to Sedgley RAILWAY TAVERN from the executors of *Robert Owen Nicholls* to *William Dainty*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1868

“Yesterday at the Police Court, before I. Spooner, Esq, *William Dainty*, landlord of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Wallbrook, was charged with permitting disorderly conduct in his house, on the 3rd of August. The case was proved by Police-constable Wade, a

fine of 40s and costs was imposed.”

James Lambert = James Lambeth

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/3/1869

“Yesterday at the Police Court, before I. Spooner, Stipendiary, *James Lambeth*, keeper of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Wallbrook, was charged with harbouring a policeman.

Sergeant Harrison stated that on the 1st March last he received information from a man named *Dainty*, who formerly kept defendant’s house, that a police-officer was drinking there. On going there he found Police-constable Cooke sitting down in the house, and where several witnesses stated he had been about three-quarters of an hour.

Sergeant Ordish stated that Cooke was on duty at the time, but on his (Cooke’s) being called he denied that he had been there longer than about three minutes.

The Stipendiary said that there was no doubt about the offence having been committed, and he should fine him £3 and costs.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.....

Permitting Drunkenness *William Dainty*, RAILWAY TAVERN, Wallbrook, 40s and costs.

James Lambeth, RAILWAY TAVERN, Wallbrook, had been fined 60s and costs for harbouring police.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/12/1869

“Young Howles and Harper of Walbrook run 200 yards for £5 a-side, Harper ten yards start, on Monday, December, 27, Mr. *Stevens*, RAILWAY INN, Walbrook, stakeholder; to come off at two o’clock.”

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

“Mr. *T. Stevens* of Wallbrook will match his white dog Billy against Mr. Bull’s brown bitch Quick, both to be 25½lb weight, to run a match on even terms, or will give one dead rabbit at catch weight, the best of 21 courses, for £10 or £25 a side. Either of the above matches can be made at the RAILWAY INN, Wallbrook.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/3/1870 - Advert

“Notice.

Thomas Stevens, of Wallbrook, having Dissolved Partnership with John Bryan, of Sodom, will not be responsible for any Debt contracted in future by the said John Bryan.

Dated March 10, 1870.

Thomas Stevens, RAILWAY INN, Wallbrook.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/9/1870

“Taylor’s Gip of Walbrook can be matched to run Wilson’s Duck of Birmingham 200 yards, if he will give him yards for pounds, for £10 or £15 a side. A match can be made at Mr. *Stevens*’s RAILWAY INN, Walbrook; or Jubb’s Fly can be on the same terms.”

1871 Census

31, Chapel Street – RAILWAY TAVERN

[1] *Thomas Stevens* (40), publican, born Bilston;

[2] Eliza Stevens (38), wife, born Bilston;

[3] John R. Stevens (15), son, carpenter, born Bilston;

[4] Thomas H. Stevens (10), son, scholar, born Bilston;

[5] Alfred Stevens (1), son, born Bilston;

[6] Eliza Hill (15), domestic servant, born Bilston;

[7] William Gibbons (17), lodger, puddler, born Tipton:

Birmingham Daily Post 8/9/1873 - Advert

“Lost or Stolen, on the 1st September, a light brown Dog Whelp, about three months old, white on the end of tail, black nose. Whoever will bring it to *T. Stevens*, RAILWAY INN, Walbrook, will be rewarded.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 3/2/1877

“Mr. Nuttall will give £10 to be run for in an all-England dog handicap, distance 200 yards, for dogs of all weights, on be run on Mondays, February 12 and 19 – first prize £8; second £1 10s; third 10s. Entrance 1s each; no acceptance. Entrances to be sent not later than Wednesday, February 7 (Thursday morning’s post in time), to be made at the grounds; Mr. Rickbury, Old Plough, Suffolk Street, Birmingham; Mr. Bradley, ALBION INN, Oldbury; Mr. Fairn, RALWAY INN, Wednesbury; Mr. Brindley, COCK INN, Willenhall; Mr. *Stevens*, RAILWAY INN, Walbrook; Darby Tom, 29, New Cross Street, Tipton; Mr. E. Darby, CROSS KEYS INN, Walsall, or Mr. Parsons, FOX AND GOOSE INN, Darby End. Conditions as usual.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/8/1883 - Advert

“Clearing-out Sale at the RAILWAY INN, Walbrook, Coseley.

Messrs. Insull & Son will Sell by Auction, this day (Wednesday) August 1.

The whole of the valuable Public House Fixtures and Fittings, comprising Nest of Shelving, excellent Panelled Counter, with mahogany top, 28ft; 3ft ditto, Screens and Seating, six American Easy Chairs, Cross-legged Drinking Tables, excellent six-lever-pull Ale Machine, plated Hot-water Apparatus, Ale and Spirit Measures, Cups, Jugs, Glasses, Decanters, metal Drainer, six handsome China Spirit Barrels and Taps, glazed Doors, Gasfittings, hogshead Casks, &c, &c; also the newly laid in Household Furniture, including French Tubular-iron Bedsteads, Palliasses, feather Beds, polished Chest of Drawers, painted Washstands and Dressing Tables, leather-covered Sofa, Tables, eight-day Clock, Oleographs, framed; valuable double-barrelled Gun, and a variety of Effects, particularised in catalogue, belonging to Mr. *John C. Moore*, who is leaving the neighbourhood.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock.

The Licenses, Goodwill, and Possession will be offered the first Lot."

Dudley and District News 22/9/1883

"At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, Abraham Roper (26), Edge Street, Coseley, was charged with stealing two fowls, belonging to *John Thomas Kibble*, a publican, of Coseley. The prisoner had been having some refreshment at the prosecutor's house, after which he went down the yard and carried off a couple of fowls. These he hid in an outbuilding adjoining the house, where they were found. He was sentenced to two months' hard labour."

County Advertiser 1/11/1884 - Advert

"To Be Let. Hawkins and Son, Auctioneers, &c, 26, Temple Street, Birmingham.

The RAILWAY TAVERN, Wallbrook. This House is in a prosperous neighbourhood, and in the hands of a very industrious man will command a good trade."

1891 Census

15, Bridge Street

[1] *Charles Tovey* (37), publican, born Warwickshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Tovey* (27), wife, born Stafford:

Frederick James Lowry = *Frederick Rowley*

Dudley Herald 19/11/1898

"Susannah Waterfield, Wallbrook, Coseley, was charged with refusing to quit the RAILWAY INN, Wallbrook, and with assaulting Elizabeth Franks and Ann Lemm on November 7th.

Elizabeth Franks, who was stopping at the RAILWAY INN, kept by *Frederick Rowley*, said that the defendant came to the inn on November 7th between five and six o'clock in the evening, and asked for half a pint of ale, which witness supplied. When defendant had been in the house a short time she commenced quarrelling with some of the other women. Witness told her to stop that or she would have to go out. Defendant refused to stop or leave, and the witness fetched a servant and tried to eject her. In doing so defendant pulled witnesses hair and struck the servant, Sarah Lemm, in the mouth.

Sarah Lemm, domestic servant, corroborated.

The Chairman said defendant was an old offender and she would be fined 10s and costs or 21 days for refusing to quit; 5s and costs for assaulting Lemm, and the assault on Elizabeth Franks was dismissed."

1901 Census

15, Bridge Street – RAILWAY INN

[1] *Josiah Edwards* (33), publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Ellen Edwards* (26), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Arthur J. Edwards* (4), son, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Enid G. Edwards* (2), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Florence Baker* (16), general servant, born West Bromwich:

1911 Census

Chapel Street – RAILWAY INN

[1] *Josiah Edwards* (43), publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Ellen Edwards* (35), wife, married 15 years, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Arthur Josiah Edwards* (14), son, railway clerk, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Enid Gertrude Edwards* (12), daughter, school, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Florence Mabel Edwards* (6), daughter, born Coseley;

[6] *George Henry Victor Edwards* (2), son, born Coseley:

Elijah Pountney murdered his wife, *Alice Gertrude*, by cutting her throat, at the PHEASANT INN, Bilston, in 1922.

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/9/1928

"The death of *Bert Pugh*, aged four, of the [RAILWAY] Wallbrook INN, Coseley, was the subject of an inquest on Monday. On Sept. 21 the little boy upset a saucepan of hot water over the left side of his body. A few hours later he died in the General Hospital from shock, the effect of scalds. A verdict of Accidental Death was recorded."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 8/3/1930

“At the adjourned annual Licensing Sessions yesterday of the Bilston Division four houses were referred for compensation of the grounds of redundancy....
Regarding the RAILWAY INN, Wallbrook, Coseley, it was stated that there was not enough custom, and the licensee had to obtain other part-time employment.”

The license was refused by the Compensation Authority on 28th July 1930.

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/8/1930 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.
Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority, for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 28th day of July, 1930, 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 Licensee, and the registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority notice of their claims before the 20th day of September, 1930, for the purpose of enabling 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.....
RAILWAY INN, Coseley. Alehouse. Licensee, *John Henry Pugh*. Registered Owner, T. Russell, Ltd.”

Compensation of £1,500 paid on 20th December 1930.
The license was extinguished 31st December 1930.

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/1/1931

“County Quarter Sessions.
At the Principal Meeting of the Compensation Authority, on July 28, 14 licenses out of 16 referred were refused and at the Supplemental Meeting the committee fixed the compensation sums as follows.....
RAILWAY INN, Coseley, alehouse, £1,500.”

RAILWAY TAVERN

4, Meadow Lane / 24, Shaw Road, (Ettingshall Road), Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

Alice Hall
Eliza Jane Chasworth
Harry Griffiths, brewer, 44 Stowheath Lane, Bilston

LICENSEES

William Henry Jenks [1848] – **1852**);
Stephen Sheldon (**1852** – [1854])
Emily Sheldon [1855]
Mrs. Alice Jenks [1860] – [1861]
Miss Emily Sheldon [1862] – **1893**);
Eliza Jane Chesworth (**1893** – **1899**);
Edward Sheldon Chesworth (**1899** – **1920**);
Austin Joseph Bowyer (**1920** – **1928**):

NOTES

Shaw Road [1904], [1908], [1912]

Black Country Bugle

‘Deepfields Continuing Debate’

“.....The RAILWAY TAVERN was an ordinary brick built house situated in a slight hollow on the left of where the new Deepfields Post Office now stands, and the fact that the front of the building faced the main road placed it in Shaw Road.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1848

“Licensing Day. The Public Office, on Thursday last, was numerously attended by legal gentlemen, innkeepers, and others, on the occasion of renewing innkeepers’ licenses, and the hearing of applications for fresh ones. The magistrates who attended in the course of the sitting were H. Hill, W. Mannix, G. Briscoe, J. Barker, W. Tarratt, W. Fryer, D. Fereday, W. Baldwin, H. Foster, and J. Loxdale, Esqs. During the early part of their sittings G. B. Thornycroft, Esq, mayor of the borough, was on the bench. There were about fifty applications for new licenses, and upwards of twenty were granted. The following is a list of the successful applicants.....

Licenses were also granted to.....

William H. Jenks, Deepfields.”

1851 Census

Ettingshall

- [1] *William Henry Jenks* (41), currier and victualler, born Bilston;
- [2] *Alice Jenks* (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Emmela Sheldon* (19), daughter in law, unmarried, at home barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] Francis Sheldon (17), son in law, fitter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Joseph Sheldon (14), son in law, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Eliza Jane Sheldon* (10), daughter in law, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Edward Sheldon Jenks (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Henry Lowe (26), casual servant, born Blymill, Staffordshire;
- [9] Thomas Bowey (19), waggoner, born Market Drayton, Shropshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/2/1852

“Under Sheriff’s Court. *Beddard v. Jenks.*

On Thursday last, a jury was summoned by the Under Sheriff, Thomas Bolton, Esq, to hear this case. The court was held at the COACH AND HORSES INN, Snowhill. Mr. Hayes, solicitor, attended on behalf of the plaintiff; the defendant did not appear. Mr. Beddard, maltster, Penn, stated that he had supplied the defendant, *William Henry Jenks*, who resided at the RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields, with 100 bushels of malt, at 6s 9d per bushel. He had not received any money in payment; but had received a quantity of cokes, for which he had given the defendant credit, and there remained a balance owing. The jury, after the Under Sheriff had adverted the evidence, returned a verdict for the amount claimed £7 7s 3d; and upon the application of Mr. Hayes, the Under Sheriff certified that the cause of the action came within the provisions of one of the sections of the County Court Acts, and that the plaintiff was entitled to his costs of bringing the action in the superior courts.”

London Gazette 13/2/1852

“William Henry Jenks, of Ettingshall, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, and Coal Merchant.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/12/1855

“At the Public Office, on Friday, George Barnett, Thomas Williams, and John Jones were charged with having burglariously entered the house of *Emily Sheldon*, the RAILWAY INN, Ettingshall Lane, on Thursday morning week. It appeared that about four o’clock on the morning named police officers Gettings and Smith were on duty together at Coseley, and were walking in the direction of Mr. H. B. Whitehouse’s works, which are situate near the RAILWAY TAVERN, when they saw two men jump from the kitchen window of the house into the lane, and having been joined by other men, run away. The officers aroused the inmates of the house, and then followed the prisoners, Gettings overtook them on the canal side near Ten Score Bridge, and thinking that they were going to turn upon him in a body, he struck Barnett with his cutlass, and the others ran away. Having taken Barnett into custody, he left him in the custody of Smith while he pursued the others, and although he got near to them, he did not succeed in apprehending any one of them. Gettings then returned to Smith, and the officers took the prisoner Barnett to the station, on the road to which they charged him with having burglariously entered the RAILWAY TAVERN, in reply to which he said, ‘I was led into it by the others.’ From further information which the prisoner gave, Gettings went to Portobello the same morning, and apprehended the prisoner Jones. A bottle, which had been thrown away in the course of the chase, was produced and identified by Miss *Sheldon*, who, with her brother, described the manner in which an entrance into house had been effected. A pane of glass had been removed from the kitchen window, to which there were no shutters, and the bolt to the window was then unfastened. The magistrates committed the prisoners for trial at the assizes.”

Birmingham Journal 8/12/1855

“Staffordshire Winter Assizes.

George Barnett, engineer, John Jones, engineer, and Thomas Williams, alias Stone, were indicted for burglariously entering the dwelling house of *Emily Sheldon*, on the 21st November, at the parish of Sedgley, and stealing a bottle containing vinegar, her property. Mr. Cooke prosecuted and Mr. Kinnarsley defended. The case, which was void of any interest, resulted in an acquittal of the prisoners.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/2/1856

“On Tuesday, at the Bilston petty Sessions, before E. Best and J. N. Bagnall, Esq, *Emily Sheldon*, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields, appeared on an information charging her with having used grains of paradise in the brewing of ale. Mr. Dance, collector, of Lichfield, supported the complaint; and Mr. Waterhouse appeared for the defendant. Mr. Hoyte, supervisor, deposed to having detected grains of paradise in some spent hops which he found at defendant’s house. A witness named Peplow, a relative

of brewer for Mrs. *Sheldon*, was called for the defence, and stated that he never used grains of paradise in brewing. The magistrates inflicted the mitigated penalty of £50, and agreed to recommend the Inland Revenue Commissioners still further reduce the penalty.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/7/1856

“On Friday last, at the Public Office, before E. Best, Esq, Jeremiah Dudley, Joseph Reynolds, and Francis *Sheldon* were summoned for having stolen a watch, the property of a Jew named Elias Cohen. It appeared that one day last week the prosecutor called at the RAILWAY TAVERN public-house, at Deepfields, which is kept by *Sheldon*’s mother and sister, and produced a watch which he offered for sale. A man named Downing who was not present today took hold of the watch for the purpose of examining it and refused to give it up to the Jew unless he paid for some ale. This the prosecutor refused to do, but asked for the landlord of the house. *Sheldon* introduced himself as the proprietor, and the prosecutor told him to keep Dudley and Downing at the house until he brought a policeman. The Jew started off, but on his return found the three men had gone, and as *Sheldon* refused to tell him who the men were, he summoned him also. The defendant *Sheldon* was discharged, and both he and his sister were sworn to give evidence.

The Magistrate was of opinion that Sheldon and the other men had acted very improperly, and remanded Dudley and Reynolds on bail till next Friday.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/6/1860

“Richard Ducklin was committed to gaol for one month for stealing a duck belonging to Mrs. *Alice Jenks*, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields.”

1861 Census

Ettingshall Road

- [1] *Alice Jenks* (50), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emily Sheldon* (29), daughter, domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Sheldon (18), daughter, domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joseph Stephen Sheldon (14), grandson, born South Wales;
- [5] John Jones (29), boarder, moulder, born South Wales:

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

Emily Sheldon, RAILWAY TAVERN, Coseley.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 7/9/1865

“At the Police Court, yesterday, before Messrs. H. Ward and A. Sparrow, the following, whose names had been placed on the ‘black list,’ had their licenses renewed.

Emily Sheldon, RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields.”

1871 Census

4, Meadow Lane

- [1] William Hale (51), holloware turner at foundry, born Dudley;
- [2] *Alice Hale* (60), wife, born Deepfields;
- [3] *Emiley Sheldon* (39), daughter, unmarried, licensed victualler, born Deepfields;
- [4] Stephen J. Sheldon (16), grandson, works in a Mill at Swan Works, born Blina, South Wales;
- [5] Elizabeth Haynes (16), servant, born Staffordshire:

Dudley Guardian 28/3/1874

“Samuel Hancox, iron-worker, was charged with stealing a neckerchief, the property of Daniel Hanaway, hawker, on the 14th inst. Mr. Fellowes appeared for the prisoner.

Prosecutor stated that on the night of the day in question he went to the RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields, and offered some goods for sale. The prisoner was there. Prosecutor left the tap room and whilst he was in another room the prisoner took a cashmere neckerchief, value 3s 9d, and left the house. Prosecutor gave information of the robbery to the police and the prisoner was apprehended on the Monday following.

John Elwell corroborated, and added that prisoner was the worse for liquor but was not drunk.

PC Martin proved having apprehended the prisoner, and when at the station prisoner admitted that the neckerchief was the one. Prisoner, who elected to be tried by the magistrates, pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment with hard labour.”

Dudley and District News 16/9/1876

“The district coroner, Mr. W. H. Phillips, held an enquiry at the RAILWAY INN, Deepfields, on Monday morning, touching the death of Hannah Stokes, who died under the following circumstances on Friday. From the evidence given it appeared that the deceased was conversing with her neighbour on the topics of the day, when she suddenly fell down and expired before medical

assistance could be obtained. The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Dudley Herald 4/12/1880

“An inquest was held at the RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields, on Thursday night, on the body of Mary Ann Ward, aged 80 years, of Meadow Lane, who died on Saturday last. The deceased died somewhat suddenly, and as the relative when laying out the body discovered a number of bruises and that it was in a very emaciated condition, they acquainted the police, and requested an inquiry be held. Several witnesses gave evidence that the deceased was properly cared for, and that no blame was attached to anyone. The Coroner suggested that an independent surgeon be called in to examine the body, but the jury expressed themselves satisfied, and returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

1881 Census

4, Meadow Lane

- [1] *Emily Sheldon* (49), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Alice Hale* (70), mother, married, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Ann Chesworth (8), niece, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Ellen Payton (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

An inquest was held here on 29th August 1890 on Mary Davies. She had died here after being shot by John Wise – verdict Wilful Murder.

John Wise was an ironworker of Rookery Road, Meadow Lane, Deepfields. His wife (23) had run away with James Davis (19) a miner. He was found guilty of manslaughter and given 6 days hard labour.

1891 Census

Meadow Lane – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *Emily Sheldon* (59), single, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Eliza J. Chesworth* (50), sister, widow, living on own means, born Sedgley;
- [3] Emily Chesworth (12), niece, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Ellen Paton (24), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/1/1893

“Daniel Rice, formerly landlord of the BOAT INN, Deepfields, was charged with attempting to commit suicide on the 3rd inst, and also with assaulting his wife.

The only witness called was John Chesworth, of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Deepfields, who stated that on the date named, from information he received, he went to the prisoner’s house, and found him lying on the bed with a severe wound in his throat. By the bedside there was a bucket containing some blood, which had evidently flowed from the wound. Dr. Clendinnen was sent for, and after attending to the injury, the prisoner was conveyed to the Wolverhampton Hospital. Witness did not see any instrument in the room with which the gash had been inflicted.

It will be remembered that on the 31st ult. the prisoner was to have appeared at the Bilston Police Court to answer a summons issued by his wife for assault, and rather than appear the prisoner attempted to take his life.

The Stipendiary (Mr. N. C. A. Neville) thought the man was unable to understand the predicament in which he was placed, and remanded him to hospital till Tuesday next.”

Eliza Jane Chesworth died on 13th January 1899.

1901 Census

4, Meadow Lane

- [1] Mary Ann *Chesworth* (35), married, manageress public house, born Sedgley;
- [2] Annie Chesworth (15), step daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Emily Chesworth (13), step daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Emily Sheldon* (68), aunt, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1910

“Col. T. E. Hickman, MP for Wolverhampton South, made a tour of part of his constituency on Saturday night, several dinners were held in celebration of the victory in the General Election. At each of these the Member was accorded an enthusiastic reception.....

At Deepfields, Mr. George Whittingham presided over a supper to which about 50 workers in the election sat down in the RAILWAY TAVERN.....”

1911 Census

24, Shaw Road

- [1] *Edward S. Chesworth* (51), enamel roller, holloware, cast iron, born Coseley;
- [2] Sarah Ann Chesworth (50), wife, married 31 years, born Coseley;
- [3] Stephen S. Chesworth (24), son, shearer, plate mill, born Coseley;
- [4] Albert Chesworth (22), son, labourer, steel works, born Coseley;

- [5] Francis S. Chesworth (18), son, unemployed, born Coseley;
[6] Daniel Chesworth (15) son, helper, boiler works, born Coseley;
[7] Frederick C. Chesworth (11), son, schoolboy, born Coseley:

Bilston & Willenhall Times 4/2/1928

[On 3rd February] “The police had served notice of objection to the renewal of the license of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Meadow Lane, Deepfields, on the grounds of structural defects.

Superintendent Young explained that at the last adjourned meeting the owner submitted plans for the rebuilding of the premises, which were approved. He gave an undertaking to the Bench to complete the work within the ensuing twelve months, and the license was renewed. The premises, however, remained untouched, and were probably in a worse state than they were a year ago. The whole of the property was in a dilapidated condition. Rain came through the ceiling, the rooms were very dirty, cobwebs hanging from the ceiling. In some rooms, a police officer stated, props were used to keep portions of the house from falling. Mr. Matthews, who applied for the renewal, said that the owner had been the victim of circumstances, and the failure to carry out the structural alterations had been mainly due to illness and lack of finances. However, the owner was now prepared to proceed with the work.

The Chairman said the Bench had sympathy with anyone suffering from illness or in trouble, but they considered that in this case the Bench had not been treated with proper respect, and that the licensee ought to have done something to show his determination to carry out the promise he made at the last annual meeting. They could not allow it to go abroad that this sort of treatment was going to be permitted, and they declined to renew the license.”

RAILWAY TAVERN

Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Hale [1872]

NOTES

NOT Meadow Lane.

RED COW

19, Edge Street, Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

William Hincks, cowkeeper, Wallbrook

Emma Baker

The Misses Clara Hincks and Mary Ann Hincks

Mrs. Clara Percival and Mrs. Mary Ann Gibbons, Coseley

Francis Rhodes and Joseph Jeavons, brewers, Bloomfield, Tipton

Henry Mills and Florence Maria Mills, West Midland Brewery, Walsall Road, Willenhall

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Keilyn Enterprises (acquired in 1999) [2003]

Black Country Traditional Inns [2008]

LICENSEES

John Hincks [1871] – 1873);

William Hincks (1873 – 1885);

Emma (Hincks) Baker (1885 – 1900);
Mrs. Clara (Hincks) Percival (1900 – 1903);
Mrs. Mary Ann Gibbons (1903);
Thomas Russell (1903 – 1904);
Richard Clee (1904 – 1908);
William Richards (1908 – 1913);
Benjamin Whitehouse (1913 – 1915);
John Thomas Smout (1915 – 1924);
Frank Shepherd (1924 – 1934);
Bert Lenton (1934 – 1935);
Charles Castree (1935 – [1940])
Jack Whitehouse [1930s] ?
Walter 'Wally' Davies [1978]
Paul Stanton [1985]
Dial Singh [] – 2008
Mick and Dawn O'Neill (2008 – 2009)

NOTES

It was originally known as the BOARD.

It had a beerhouse license.

John Hincks = John Hinks

1871 Census

19, Edge Street

- [1] *John Hinks* (32), butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Hinks (30), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Henry Hinks (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Hinks (5), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Clara Hinks (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Hannah Hinks (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] John Hinks (8 months), son, born Sedgley:

John Hinks, beer retailer and butcher, Walbrook. [1872]

1881 Census

19, Edge Street

- [1] *William Hincks* (74), farm labourer, born Tetenhall;
- [2] Mary Hincks (74), wife, born Coleshall, Staffordshire:

Emma Hincks married William Baker in the 2nd quarter of 1889.

1891 Census

19, Edge Street

- [1] William Baker (39), moulder, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emma Baker* (42), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Clara Hincks* (14), daughter, dressmakers apprentice, born Tipton;
- [4] Mary A. Hincks (12), daughter, scholar, born Tipton:

1901 Census

19, Edge Street – RED COW INN

- [1] *Clara Hincks* (24), unmarried, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary A. Hincks (22), sister, housemaid, born Sedgley;
- [3] Elizabeth Walton (16), housemaid, born Sedgley:

Clara Hincks married Alfred Percival on 11th June 1903.

Thomas Russell, beer retailer, Walbrook. [1904]

1911 Census

Edge Street – RED COW

- [1] *William Richards* (40), beerhouse keeper, born Tipton;
- [2] *Esther Richards* (38), wife, married 15 years, born Coseley;
- [3] *Olive Richards* (13), daughter, school, born Tipton;
- [4] *Elizabeth Hartshorn* (14), general servant, born Wallbrook:

William Richards, beer retailer, Edge Street. [1912]

John Thomas Smout, beer retailer, Edge Street. [1916], [1921]

Jack Whitehouse played left back for Wolverhampton Wanderers (1901 – 1906)
[Could this have been Benjamin?]

1939 Register

19, Edge Street

- [1] *Charles Castree*, date of birth 25/6/1893, publican (own account), married;
- [2] *Ada G. Castree*, dob 24/6/1897, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Evening Despatch 1/10/1945

“A harvest festival service was held in the bar of the RED COW INN, Wallbrook, Coseley, last night, the vicar, the Rev. G. R. Garnham, preached, and the chairman of Coseley Council read the lesson.”

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

Sandwell Evening Mail 30/12/1978 - Advert

“*Walter Davies* and All the Staff of the RED COW INN, Edge Street, Coseley, would like to wish Season’s Greetings to all their many customers by thanking them for their patronage during 1978 and wish them all a Happy New Year.”

Black Country Bugle 9/11/2000 - Advertising Feature

“Keilyn Enterprises is a modern day success story, set right here in our own region, with all the parts played by a Black Country family. Keith and Lyn Garbett, from Bradley and Bilston respectively, have built their own little empire of four fine pubs, from a grass roots beginning. They started it all with Bradley ale-house the CROWN AND CUSHION. The couple originally owned the pub during the early nineteen-nineties, before selling it to Banks’s Brewery in 1996. Though they missed the place, Keith and Lyn consoled themselves by buying another, the OLD CHAINYARD in the centre of Coseley. Their new acquisition had originally been called the RED LION, at least officially, but locals had always known it better as the ‘OLD CHAINYARD’, a nickname it had taken from the smithy which once stood behind it. The pub’s pseudonym finally became its official title less than ten years ago, when it was transformed from an old-fashioned drinking den to a more open-plan, altogether brighter house. It was at this point that the Garbetts took over, and a pub that was finally on the up after so many years as an also-ran became one of Coseley’s best-loved meeting places. Lyn and Keith performed a similar feat with the RED COW in nearby Edge Street, though most emphasis here was to retain its most appealing, traditional aspects. It remains to this day a typical Black Country boozier, with darts, dms, crib; and of course gray pays.

By now though, Keith tell us, the couple had come to realise that they were still very much attached to the CROWN AND CUSHION – in fact they couldn’t bear to see it in someone else’s hands. So, some two years after selling it, they bought it back and added it to what could now be called their own chain of public houses. Team games and entertainment four nights a week are among its major attractions now. The most recent addition has been a little further afield, though still within the borders of the Black Country. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Upper Gornal’s Clarence Street has always been a popular haunt of local ale enthusiasts, but never has it been in such fine form. A grand total of fifty different cask ales from around the country are served up at the CRISPIN each month, with at least nine on offer at any one time. And with food having been added to the list of attractions, the pub is far from short of temptations. So the Keilyn empire now boasts four pubs, each with its own unique, highly individual appeal. But the key to their success couldn’t be simpler. ‘We offer nice, friendly pubs with a warm atmosphere,’ says Lyn, ‘and serve a good pint for a good price.’”

[2015]

Closed

Plans were approved to convert it into 3 flats in March 2016.

Express & Star 27/3/2023

“A Dudley pub could soon be turned into a row of houses. The RED COW pub, on Edge Street, Coseley, has been vacant for a number of years and previously in 2015 armed police were called to the boozier over reports of gunfire. Now an application has been lodged with Dudley Council to turn the site into five homes. The application, by Architecture and Interior Design, is not the first time the site has been earmarked for development. A previous application to turn the former pub into a 14-bed HMO was met with an almost 400-signature petition from residents calling for the application to be rejected. Residents at the time claimed the HMO would lead to an increase in crime and their properties would be overlooked. The newest application hopes to demolish the

existing pub and build two sets of semi-detached houses as well as one detached home, with a total of five dwellings. In a design and access statement, a representative for the developer said, ‘The proposal will regenerate the land and provide much-needed family dwellings to the area. The site is ideally located with excellent public transport links, the site also offers 10 off-road parking spaces. The proposal for the change of use from the demolition of the public house to five new build houses meets all the local and national policies. The site has previous planning history for flats, with the current proposal for the new houses providing much-needed residential space. The proposal will regenerate the site and provide new family homes.’ No objections have yet been received from surrounding properties. The application will now go before a Dudley Council planning committee.”

RED COW

84, (6), Grosvenor Road, (Graveyards Road), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Francis Brecknell
William Henry Brecknell
Samuel Brecknell
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Stan Owen Group (acquired in December 2010)
David Corns (acquired in 2019)

LICENSEES

William Brecknell [1835] – [1842]
Mrs. Hannah Brecknell [1845] – 1868);
Miss Elizabeth Wilkes (1868 – [1872]
Francis Brecknell [1876] – 1884);
William Henry Brecknell (1884 – 1908);
Elizabeth Brecknell (1908 – 1915);
Samuel Brecknell (1915 – 1934);
John Fleming (1934 – 1935);
Leslie Richard Pearce (1935 – 1936);
John Tipping (1936 – 1937);
Albert Berry (1937 – 1951);
Ernest Davies (1951 – 1972);
Valerie Sandra Harris (1972 – 1975);
Florence Elizabeth ‘Floss’ Lodge (1975 – 1996);
Alfred ‘Fred’ Rowley (1996 – [1998]
Ian Love (2001 – [2003]
Janice Totney [2004]
David and Lynn Corns [2007] – [2018]

NOTES

Graveyard [1849], [1850], [1851], [1857], [1861]
6, Graveyard Road [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901]
6, Grosvenor Road
84, Grosvenor Road [1998]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 23/10/1836

“James Hale, of Gornall, better known by the name of Jem Scunner, accepts the challenge of Charles Edge, of Brittle Lane, and will meet him tomorrow to take a deposit, at Mr. *Brecknol*’s, the RED COW, Graveyard, to fight for £20, or much as more as he thinks proper.”

AND

“John Bale, of Gornall, is also open to fight Gutteredge, of Brierly Hill, for his own sum; he will meet tomorrow to make a deposit, at Mr. *Brecknol*’s, the RED COW, Graveyard; to fight in the same ring as James Hale.”

Hannah Brecknell = Emma Brecknell

1851 Census

Graveyard

- [1] *Hannah Brecknell* (51), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Francis Brecknell* (26), son, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Brecknell (23), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Brecknell (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Hannah Brecknell (18), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Samuel Brecknell (11), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Elizabeth Wilkes* (48), unmarried, sister, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 18/4/1857 - Advert

“To be Sold, Cheap, a good Sausage Machine.

Apply to Mr. *Brecknell*, RED COW INN, Grave Yard, near Dudley.”

1861 Census

Graveyard

- [1] *Hannah Brecknell* (62), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Samuel Brecknell (24), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Wilkes* (58), sister, born Sedgley:

Hannah Brecknell died in 1868.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/6/1868

“Applications were on Friday made to the Magistrates to grant the transfer of the following licenses, and the applications were all acceded to Sedgley RED COW from the executors of *Hannah Brecknell* to *Elizabeth Wilkes*.”

1871 Census

6, Graveyard Road – RED COW INN

- [1] *Elizabeth Wilkes* (67), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Guest (36), unmarried, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary E. Beddard (10), niece, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/4/1871 - Advert

“Staffordshire. The Grave Yard Colliery, Lower Gornal, Sedgley.

Mr. John Bent will Sell by Auction, by order of the Mortgagees, on Friday, the 12th day of May next, at the house of Mrs. *Elizabeth Wilkes*, the RED COW INN, at the Grave Yard aforesaid, at Six o'clock in the evening.

The Grave Yard Colliery; consisting of all those several Cottages, Gardens, and Land, situate at the Grave Yard, in the parish of Sedgley, containing in the whole 8½ Acres or thereabouts; and all the ungoten Mines of Coal, Clay, Ironstone, and other Mines and Minerals thereunder, formerly occupied and worked by Mr. Francis Hill Bagley.

The above Property will be sold as now occupied, for the residue of an unexpired term of ninety-eight years (less one year), created by an Indenture of Lease bearing date the 24th November, 1790, subject to a ground rent of £8 12s, payable half-yearly, and to the conditions to be read at the time of Sale.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneer, Dudley; or to Mr. Turner, Solicitor, 3, Queen Square, Wolverhampton.”

Francis Brecknell = Francis Brecknall = Francis Bicnall = Francis Bicknall

County Express 19/2/1876

“*Francis Brecknell*, landlord of the RED COW INN, Grave Yard, Lower Gornal, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in the house.

PC Moffatt said that on the afternoon of the 5th inst he visited the defendant's house and found two men drunk, the one worse than the other. In answer to the Stipendiary, the officer said that the present offence was the only one that had ever been known against the house. Defendant was fined 10s and costs.

Thomas Ryder, for being drunk on the above premises, was fined 10s 6d, in default fourteen days' imprisonment.”

Dudley Herald 29/4/1876

“*Francis Brecknall*, Wm. Brecknall, and Benjamin Bradley were charged with assaulting Thomas Bradley, at the RED COW INN, Lower Gornal, on the 18th inst.

It appeared that at the time named some young men and women were dancing for a cap, when complainant entered the room. A disturbance began, and complainant was requested to leave, and on his refusing, endeavours were made to turn him out. He alleged that he was kicked and ill-used in a shocking manner.

Police-constable Moffatt said he saw the complainant, and he had some sludge on him; he appeared to be sober.

The complainant was then charged with refusing to quit the house. Evidence was given that he was very unruly, and was the

cause of the row that took place. He was expelled twice, and yet returned a third time.

The first charge was dismissed, and Bradley ordered to pay £1 1s 6d. The Bench desired Mr. *Brecknall* to keep his house free from dancing, as it only tended to create disturbances by attracting too many people.”

Dudley Herald 30/9/1876

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Bilston licensing division were held at the Bilston Police Court, yesterday week, the justices present being H. Ward and W. Hatton, Esqs, and the Rev. J. Y. Rooker.

.....licences which were ordered to stand over from the annual licensing day.....

The following licences were renewed, after the holders had been cautioned.....

Francis Bicknell, RED COW INN, Lower Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/1/1877

“An inquest was held at the RED COW INN, Graveyard, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday, touching the death of John Timmins (20), who was killed at the Graveyard Colliery, belonging to Messrs. Hughes and Sons, on the 13th instant. The evidence showed that the deceased was engaged at the colliery as a loader, when a slip took place, and a rock from the roof fell, and broke his back, the injuries causing his death.

In answer to the Coroner, the doggy, Job Jones, said he examined the pit and found no faults. The Government inspector had since inspected the pit, and found no reason to complain.

The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Advertiser 8/12/1877

“An accident of a shocking nature occurred at the Earl of Dudley’s No.4 Himley Colliery, Himley, on Saturday afternoon, and which resulted in the deaths of John Prince (50). The deceased was working in the colliery as a pikeman, and during the week he had complained to his family and others of the ugly work he was engaged in, and was afraid that either he or some of his fellow-workmen would meet with something serious. On Saturday afternoon the unfortunate man’s fears were realised, for at about one o’clock when engaged in his usual occupation a heavy fall of coal took place which partially buried him. A boy named Hickman who was assisting him, immediately informed some of the other miners of what had taken place, and who at once came to the scene of the occurrence, but unfortunately they could not render assistance owing to the ‘shut’ continuing to come down on the unfortunate man, who was not extricated for more than three hours, during which time the cries of Prince were most piteous. At length he was taken out, when it was found that his back, legs, and arms were broken. A surgeon was in attendance, but his services were of no avail, as the poor fellow succumbed within five minutes of being extricated. The deceased had not been in the mines for twelve years until the last eight weeks. The inquest was held on Wednesday, at the RED COW Public-house, Lower Gornal. The butty, Mr. Darbey, said he believed that if deceased had not used a pike instead of a pricker, the accident would not have occurred. The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Dudley Herald 5/4/1879

“At the Sedgley Police Court, on Monday, before the Rev. J. Y. Rooker and Mr. J. R. Cartwright, *Francis Brecknell*, landlord of the RED COW INN, Graveyard Road, was summoned for keeping his house open during prohibited hours on the 25th ult. Police-constable Reynolds said that at a quarter-past eleven o’clock he visited the defendant’s house, heard four men talking in the tap-room, and saw several jugs on the table.

Defendant said it was club night, and some of the members stayed to do some business for a member who was ‘out of benefit’ and who was ill.

Sergeant Walters said the defendant’s house was found open on a previous night at twenty minutes past eleven o’clock.

Fined 20s and costs.”

Evening Express 20/9/1879

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Session.....

The licenses of *Francis Brecknell*, RED LION [sic] INN, Sedgley which had been refused at the annual licensing session on account of the owners having been fined during the past year were now granted.”

1881 Census

6, Graveyard Road – RED COW INN

[1] *Francis Brecknell* (57), innkeeper, born Gornal;

[2] Hannah Brecknell (55), wife, born Dudley;

[3] Joseph Brecknell (19), son, born Dudley;

[4] Thomas Brecknell (16), son, born Dudley;

[5] James Brecknell (12), son, scholar, born Dudley;

[6] Elizabeth Nicholls (28), domestic servant, born Tipton:

Francis Brecknell died on 25th January 1884.

William Henry Brecknell = William Henry Brecknell

1891 Census

6, Grave Yard Road – RED COW INN

- [1] *William H. Brecknell* (37), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Brecknell* (37), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Samuel Brecknell (13), son, born Dudley;
- [4] Alice Brecknell (10), daughter, born Dudley;
- [5] Hannah Brecknell (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Matilda Woodall (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 7/5/1898

“Free Gardeny at Graveyard. The members of the ‘Geranium’ Lodge (1386), Brierley Hill District, NUOFG, assembled at their lodge house, RED COW INN, Graveyard, on Saturday night last, when about 40 members sat down to a capital spread, provided in excellent style by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Brecknell*). After supper, the usual toasts were given, and the secretary (Mr. James Beardsmore) gave a most satisfactory report of the lodge. Songs were given by the following members: Bros. W. Perkins, J. Jones, J. Price, J. Burrows, I. Bradley, W. Bennett, and J. Beardsmore. A very enjoyable evening was spent.”

Dudley Herald 19/11/1898

“On Sunday night W. Fellows (36), of Graveyard Road, Lower Gornal, left his house apparently in his usual spirits. He did not return, and on the following morning his clothes were found lying on an embankment at Askew Bridge, between Gornal and Himley. Suspicions were consequently aroused and the pool was dragged, the man’s lifeless body being found in a nude condition. On Tuesday night Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner) held an inquest at the RED COW INN, Graveyard, Lower Gornal, concerning the death of William Fellows (36), miner, Graveyard Road, who had been found drowned in the Askew Bridge Pool, near Himley.

The widow stated that the deceased had been strange in his mind during the past week, and was so on Sunday. He left home at five o’clock, and on Monday his clothing was found on the embankment of Askew Bridge Pool. PC Lawton dragged the pool, and brought to shore deceased’s body, which was in a nude state.

The jury returned a verdict of Suicide when of Unsound Mind.”

1901 Census

6, Graveyard Road – RED COW INN

- [1] *William H. Brecknell* (47), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Brecknell* (48), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Samuel Brecknell (23), son, brewer, born Dudley;
- [4] Alice Brecknell (20), daughter, born Dudley;
- [5] Hannah Brecknell (14), daughter, born Sedgley:

W. H. Brecknell issued tokens from here.

He died on 17th May 1908.

1911 Census

Graveyard Road

- [1] *Elizabeth Brecknell* (58), widow, licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] Samuel Brecknell (33), son, manager of the business, born Dudley;
- [3] Hannah L. Brecknell (24), daughter, assisting in the business, born Lower Gornal:

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions RED COW INN, Lower Gornal, 3s 6d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Bilston & Willenhall Times 16/6/1928

“A miscellaneous concert was held on Wednesday, in the RED COW INN, Graveyard, Lower Gornal, for the benefit of James Wakelam of Red Hall Road, who had been unable to follow his occupation for 12 months.....”

Dudley Herald 24/1/1931

“The annual dinner and social evening in connection with the Lower Gornal Cricket Club was held at headquarters, the RED COW INN, on Saturday evening last. Following a splendid repast, provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *S. Brecknell*),

a good musical programme was contributed, under the chairmanship of Mr. Samuel Beardsmore. The following artistes rendered songs, etc. Messrs. E. Hickman (accompanist), Alfred Bradley, J. Beardsmore, W. Perry, J. Hopson, and Alfred Bradley, jnr. A vote of thanks was passed to the host and hostess, and Mr. *Brecknell* suitably responded. Since the close of last season strenuous efforts have been made to place the club in a good financial position for the coming season, and thanks were extended to all who attended the whist drive held recently. In the near future a second whist drive will take place, when it hoped as much support as possible will be given.”

1939 Register

Grosvenor Road – RED COW

[1] *Albert Berry*, date of birth 1/1/1880, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Constance Berry*, dob 20/11/1888, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Tipton Herald 1/9/1956

“Goods given by customers of the RED COW INN, Grosvenor Road, Lower Gornal were sold in the public house on Monday, realising £40.

The first of 10 auctions to be held this season, the goods were sold by Mr. S. H. Rollinson in aid of the Lower Gornal Darby and Joan Building Fund. Members of the organisation have now raised £3,150 towards the total of £3,750 needed for the erection of an assembly hall. At the moment the Lower Gornal Darby and Joan Pensioners’ Club is using the local British Legion Hall for its fortnightly meetings.

Now in the course of erection the assembly hall will be situated on the Recreation Ground, Abbey Street, Lower Gornal.

A service was held in the RED COW on Sunday, after the goods for auction had been collected. Councillor A. Turner was chairman and Mr. J. Gilbert, Chairman of the Pensioners’ Club, gave an address.”

Florence Elizabeth Lodge was married to Eric.

London Gazette 2/7/1998

“*Rowley, Alfred*, Publican, of the RED COW INN, 84, Grosvenor Road Date of Bankruptcy Order – 22nd June 1998.....”

Alfred Rowley was married to Ann.

See also SHAKESPEARE, Upper Gornal.

A team from here were runners-up in the Banks’s / Embassy knockout dominoes tournament in 2003.

They won the Sedgley Dominoes League in 2003.

David Corns was married to Lynn.

He was born c.1953.

Dudley & South Staffordshire CAMRA Pub of the Year 2013.

CAMRA West Midlands County Pub of the Year 2013.

Dudley News 15/3/2013

“A Lower Gornal licensee is ‘over the moon’ after his pub was named as Dudley and South Staffs CAMRA pub of the year.

Dave Corns, who manages The RED COW in Grosvenor Road, snatched the prestigious title from Sedgley’s BEACON HOTEL, which held the accolade for the past five years. *Dave*, who re-opened the vacant pub two years-ago with his wife Linda, said, ‘This award is absolutely marvellous, it came as a big surprise to us as we never expected to win.’

In the last year, the couple, who have been in the pub trade since 1991, have turned around the pub’s fortune by introducing six real ales from local breweries alongside a variety of guest ales. They have also set up a host of community pub teams and have been delighted to see more and more young people swapping pints of lager for real ale.

Dave added, ‘This award just shows what can be achieved with hard work. We have lots going on every day here including a darts team, three fishing clubs, a cribbage team and a dominoes team.’

The pub, which was recently listed in the 2013 Good Beer Guide, was presented with the award during a special event on March 11 and is now in the running for regional pub of the year.”

Dudley News 4/6/2014

“The Sedgley and Gornal Darts League held their finals and presentation night at Gornal Labour Club. The singles and doubles knockout finals were keenly fought with some fantastic darts being thrown by all concerned at the event on May 27. Ant Naylor from the RED COW eventually won the singles for the second time whilst Danny Gray and Mark Doherty from Gornal Labour won the doubles. League champions were Gornal Labour with the JOLLY CRISPIN as runners up. League secretary Rob Carey said, ‘Our 301 league has developed really well in this second year, with great friendships forming and fantastic hospitality from all the teams involved. The quality of darts has improved so much that we saw many 180s and four players achieved nine dart finishes. Let’s hope that we can persuade more teams to join in next year.’”

www.thesun.co.uk 16/5/2019

“More brilliant boozers battling it out to be named Britain’s best as entries close for our competition.

It's your last chance to submit your top boozier to win a £1,000 tab. Today is the last chance to nominate your pick for Britain's best pub. Nominations have poured in since we asked for your nods three weeks ago. Your top boozier judges include Bruce Masters, who has visited a record 52,000 UK pubs. After a study revealed yesterday that Britons get sloshed more often than any other country, The Sun will put £1,000 behind the bar of the winning pub for regulars to enjoy.....
The RED COW Dudley, West Mids (Nominated by Howard Sheldon).
For great pubs such as this, come to the Sedgley and Gornal area of Dudley. You still get beer and cider at under £3 a pint – and we have a really good crack.....”

[2022]

RED LION

Hurst Hill, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Minnie Gertrude Groves [1909]

NOTES

Tipton Herald 24/7/1909

“Ellen Derbyshire, an elderly woman, of Hurst Hill, was summoned for assaulting *Minnie Gertrude Groves*, landlady of the RED LION INN, Hurst Hill, on the 26th ult.

Mr. Turton appeared for claimant.

It was stated that defendant went to the back of the house after closing time, created a disturbance, and demanded that the door should be opened. When the door was opened defendant struck the landlady a violent blow.

Defendant, who offered no reasonable explanation, was fined 10s and 9s 6d costs.”

RED LION

11, Abbey Road, (Masons End), (Gornalwood), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Edward Thomas Guest

Elizabeth Guest, Lower Gornal

Thomas Malpass

William Elwell and Sons, Dudley Port, Tipton

William Clewes, Home Brewery, Quarry Bank

Thomas Booth (acquired on 4th August 1935 for £3,650)

Julia Hanson and Son Ltd. (acquired on 6th November 1942)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Marstons plc

LICENSEES

Edward Thomas Guest [1842] – 1889);

Elizabeth Guest (1889 – 1890);

Thomas ‘Pokey’ Malpass (1890 – 1928);

William Jones (1928 – 1933);

John Fleming (1933 – 1934);

Thomas Norman Booth (1934 – 1942);

Horace Hancox (1942 – 1948);

Arthur Whitaker (1948 – 1954);
Lawson Millward (1954 – 1959);
Charlotte Turner [] ?
Thomas Leonard Nicholls (1959 – 1960);
James Gould (1960 – 1967);
Wilfred George Pritchard (1967 – 1968);
Alfred James Guest (1968 – 1969);
Eric Reuben Turner (1969- 1970);
William Reginald Cox (1970 – 1977);
Warren Cole (1977 – 1978);
Thomas Newall (1978 – 1979);
Ivan Maurice White (1979);
Graham Jones (1979 – 1980);
Steven Leslie Maddin (1980);
John Raymond Russell (1980 – 1981);
Derek Brown (1981 – 1982);
David William Davis (1982 – 1984);
Frederick Rudge (1984);
John Brookes (1984);
Philip Gardener (1984 – 1985);
Robert England (1985 – 1986);
John Robertson McKay (1986);
Leslie William Cowell (1986);
James Frederick McGann (1986 – 1991);
John Clayton (1991 – 1992);
Lynda Marie Clayton (1992);
Jacqueline T Gillion (1992 – []
Alan Davies [2011] – [2013]

NOTES

It was known locally as “Pokey’s”.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was a home brew house.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 30/5/1842 - Advert

“Valuable Copyhold Dwelling Houses And Land, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Danks and Rhodes, on Thursday next, the 2nd day of June, by direction of the Mortgagee under a power of sale, at the house of Mr. James Hughes, the BULLS HEAD INN, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, at five o’clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed on by the Vendor at the time of sale, subject to conditions as shall be then produced.....

3. All that well-accustomed Messuage or Dwelling House, used as a Beer Shop, and known by the sign of the RED LION, now in the occupation of *Edward Guest*; and also two other Messuages or Dwelling Houses adjoining thereto, in the several occupations of Samuel Dean and Henry Fisher, together with the Shop, Gardens and Premises thereto respectively belonging, including the site of the buildings.....”

1851 Census

Masons End

[1] *Edward Thomas Guest* (31), gardener and beer seller, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah Guest (33), wife, domestic, born Tipton;

[3] Mary Guest (4), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Alfred Guest (1), son, born Sedgley:

1861 Census

Masons End

[1] *Edward T. Guest* (41), beer seller, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah Guest (44), wife, born Tipton;

[3] Mary Guest (14), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Matilda Guest (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] Eliza Guest (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Edward T. Guest (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Sarah Guest (1), daughter, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/2/1862 - Deaths

“On the 11th inst, at Gornal Wood, of inflammation, aged 4 years and 10 months, Edward Thomas, only son of Mr. *Edward Thomas Guest*, publican.”

Birmingham Journal 30/8/1862 - Advert

“To be Disposed Of, privately, a capital Winding-Gin, Rope, Chain, and Pit Tools.
Apply to Mr. *E. T. Guest*, RED LION, Gornal Wood, near Dudley.”

Edward Thomas Guest, beer retailer, Lower Gornal. [1868], [1870]

1871 Census

11, Abbey Road – RED LION INN

[1] *Edward T. Guest* (51), beer seller, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah Guest (53), wife, born Tipton;

[3] Eliza Guest (16), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Sarah Guest (11), daughter, born Sedgley:

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks.....

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given.....

No.19 Lodge, RED LION INN, Gornal Wood; 70 members. Two blacklegs – doggy and his son. The Union men are firm, and they are supported by the men at work.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

Dudley Guardian 10/10/1874

“On Sunday last, sermons were preached in Lower Gornal Church, on behalf of the Guest Hospital, and in the afternoon, three lodges in connection with the Free Gardeners marched in procession – and headed by the Gornal Wood Band – from the RED LION INN, Gornal Wood, to the church, where an impressive and eloquent sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Y. Rooker. In the course of the sermon the rev. gentlemen alluded to the alarming outburst of fever in the parish, and said there was a good opportunity of those present in rendering assistance to their sick brethren. There were a great many faces missing from the congregation, and no one knew who would be next. We understand the collections during the day amounted to about £12.”

1881 Census

11, Abbey Road

[1] *Edward T. Guest* (61), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah Guest (64), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Elizabeth Westwood (21), general servant, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 7/5/1881

“Early on Friday morning Mary [sic] *Guest*, the wife of *Edward Guest*, landlord of the RED LION INN, Gornal Wood, was found badly injured at the bottom of the stairs.

Upon regaining consciousness she stated that when asleep in bed she dreamt that thieves were in the house, and in order to escape from their presence she jumped down the stairs into the kitchen.

The injuries are of a serious nature.”

Birmingham Mail 5/5/1882 - Died

“On the 30th ult, after a short and severe illness, in the 66th year of her age, Sarah, the beloved wife of *Edward Thomas Guest*, RED LION INN, Lower Gornal; deeply lamented by a large circle of friends.”

County Express 12/4/1884

“The quarterly meeting of the Brierley Hill District of the National United Order of Free Gardeners was held on Monday last, at the RED LION INN, Gornal Wood, Bro. G. H. Raybould, in the chair. The statement read showed the district to be in a very flourishing condition. During the last twelve months there had been an increase to the funds of £157 17s 2d and 49 new members have been added. There are 802 financial and 14 honorary members in the districts. The financial position is also good, being as

follows. Worth of District Funds £755 3s 7d, Lodge Funds, £1,259 2s 4½d, making a total of £2,014 5s 11½d. Five new lodges have been opened during the past quarter.”

Edward Thomas Guest died on 1st March 1889.

He was married to *Elizabeth*.

He left the house to *Elizabeth* for life, whilst she remained a widow.

Thomas Malpass = Thomas Malpas

1891 Census

11, Abbey Road – RED LION

[1] *Thomas Malpass* (29), licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;

[2] *Elizabeth Malpass* (28), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Barzillai Abbis* (69), father in law, widower, living on his own means, born Sedgley;

[4] *Mary Ann Turner* (8), niece, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 19/2/1892

“A meeting of miners was held at the RED LION, Lower Gornal, Mr. B. Turner presiding. The Chairman stated that an invitation had been received for the district to be represented at the Manchester conference. But there was not time to consider the invitation, because the men of that district were under the Wages Board, and could not be got together. It was agreed by the executive not to send a delegate or delegates. Afterwards the men confirmed the decision.

Mr. H. Rust (agent) spoke on organisation and the eight-hours system.

Resolutions in favour of being loyal to the Wages Board, in favour of organisation, of the eight-hours system, and of the course pursued by the executive were unanimously carried.”

Thomas Malpass was nicknamed “Pokey”.

He issued tokens from here.

He was well known for his practical jokes.

1901 Census

11, Abbey Road

[1] *Thomas Malpas* (40), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Elizabeth Malpas* (39), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Louisa Tomlinson* (11), adopted daughter, born Moriston, Glamorgan;

[4] *Gertrude Guest* (15), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 26/6/1909

“At a meeting of the representatives of the friendly societies in Sedgley and Gornal districts, held on Tuesday night, at the RED LION INN, Lower Gornal, it was unanimously decided that they form themselves into a committee to hold a Sunday service and parade on August 22nd 1909, in aid of the local charitable institutions. The following officers were elected:

President, Councillor L. Foster; chairman of committee, Councillor John Harvey; vice chairman of committee, Councillor T. Southall; treasurer, Mr. *T. Malpass*; secretary, Mr. W. A. Lee.

All societies who are not represented are invited to send a delegate to attend next meeting at WHITE LION HOTEL, Bilston Street, Sedgley, on Wednesday July 7th 1909.”

Tipton Herald 24/7/1909

“A public meeting of miners was held at the RED LION, Lower Gornal, on Friday night. Mr. J. Richards presided, and eulogised the miners of Lower Gornal for the peaceful manner in which they had accepted the new conditions under the Eight Hours Act, and urged the necessity for further strengthening their forces.....”

County Express 9/4/1910

“At Sedgley, on Monday, William Clowes, miner, Church Street, Pensnett, was summoned for disorderly conduct on March 26th. It was stated that he went into the RED LION INN, Gornal Wood, and created a disturbance. Fined 5s and costs.”

1911 Census

11, Abbey Road

[1] *Thomas Malpass* (50), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] *Elizabeth Malpass* (50), wife, married 29 years, born Sedgley;

[3] *Mary Elizabeth Jones* (19), niece, born Sedgley;

[4] *Mary Ann Jones* (16), servant, born Sedgley:

Thomas Malpass, beer retailer, Abbey Road. [1912]

A billiard license was granted on 9th March 1912.

Dudley Chronicle 5/6/1920 - Advert

“To Brewers.

Notice of Sale by Auction of Seven Valuable Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Berhouses, with Cottages and Lands, in and around Dudley and District

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Tuesday, June 8th, 1920, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

RED LION INN, Abbey Road and Bank Road, Lower Gornal (Beerhouse On), held under Management, together with the Three Cottages adjoining, Numbers 1, 2 and 3, Bank Road.....

The Auctioneers desire to call attention to the above important Sale of Licensed Properties, which are situate in well-populated districts, several being close to large works, and all capable of doing excellent trades. The houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, so that early possession of all may, if required, be had, or in the meantime purchasers will have the advantage of the valuable trading agreements.....”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions RED LION INN, Lower Gornal, £1 16s 4d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

William Jones was nicknamed “Billy On Th’ ‘Ob”.

See also NEW INN.

Thomas Booth was born in Old Hill in 1882.

Thomas Booth married Louisa Westwood (see BLUE PIG, Netherton), in 1907

He was an ex-miner.

He rebuilt and expanded the brewery at the rear.

He married, secondly, Annie Round, and they moved to Pensnett, where he built Corbyns Hall Brewery in 1939.

He died in October 1952.

See also KING WILLIAM, and BLUE PIG, Netherton

Evening Despatch 16/3/1942

“When charges respecting illicit brewing were heard at Sedgley today, the prosecution alleged that Customs and Excise officers found a wash-house ankle deep in beer, ‘masses of it flowing down steps.’

Thomas Booth, aged 59, brewer, and licensee of the RED LION INN, Abbey Road, Gornal Wood, was fined a total of £165 and ordered to pay £26 5s costs. He admitted nine charges in respect of illicit brewing including one of obstructing officers, he denied a further charge.

His son, *George Booth*, aged 27, of the same address, pleading not guilty of aiding and abetting his father, and one of obstructing Customs and Excise officers in the execution of their duty. He was fined £40 on two charges, the three others against him being dismissed.

Mr. A. C. Ryves, prosecuting, alleged that wort (malt after mashing) was removed from a legal brew before the Excise officers were able to assess duty.

To do that a wash-house was used. Discovery of a pipe which had been previously been concealed revealed the use of a fermenting vessel in the wash-house.

When two officers visited the brewery they were refused admission, and both defendants were very truculent and defiant. One officer broke a frost glass door, and saw the floor covered in a frothy liquid.

‘The beer,’ said Mr. Ryves, ‘had been let out of the vessel, and the whole of the wash-house floor was ankle-deep in it. There were masses of it flowing down steps into other rooms.’

To gain entrance to the room, police assistance was obtained, but the son was again abusive. As one officer tried to take a sample of beer from the floor the bottle he was using was kicked out of his hand by the father. The other officer managed to get a sample, and later a further sample was taken. These samples revealed brews of different gravity.

For the defence, Mr. Gilbert Griffiths stated that on the day the officers called defendants made a large brew, and the surplus was taken in buckets to the vessel in the wash-house. As regards the obstructing of the officers, Mr. Griffiths said the elder defendant was provoked by the officers and he lost his temper.”

Charlotte Turner was the daughter of *Thomas* and Louisa Booth. She married Francis Charles Green in April 1935. He died in 1938. She married George Turner in 1939.

Evening Despatch 25/9/1942

“Messrs. A. W. Dando and Co. of Dudley have acquired from Messrs. Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd., Dudley, the RED LION INN and Brewery, Lower Gornal; also the OLD ROYAL OAK, Lye; the GATE INN, Hurst Hill, Coseley; the BLUE BOAR INN, Cradley; and the CROWN INN, Ruiton.

Messrs. Dando have sold to the Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. the RED LION INN, Wordsley, which belonged to Mr. Andrew Marks. The transactions were carried through privately.”

Harvest Festivals were held here.

Express & Star 23/12/2011

“A Black Country landlord is fed up with a constant stream of bus and truck drivers, shoppers and other passers-by popping into his pub to spend a penny – without buying a pint. Licensee *Alan Davies* says he is having to fork out an extra £100 a week in cleaning and loo roll costs since Dudley Council closed the public toilets next to his pub, the RED LION in Abbey Road, Lower Gornal. And he thinks the council should give him a discount on his business rates as compensation. The public convenience next to the RED LION was closed earlier this year because Dudley Council says it needed costly repairs.

But Mr. *Davies* says that, ever since, around 20 people a day, including drivers from the nearby bus station, lorry drivers and local shoppers come into his pub just to use the toilet. He has arranged for his cleaner to make two more visits a day to tackle the toilets and says that, together with extra cleaning products and loo roll, it is costing him £100 a week.

‘People troop in just to spend a penny – and don’t even buy a pint,’ said Mr. *Davies*, aged 45. ‘I feel sorry for the people who are caught short, particularly pensioners, but I think the council should make a concession on my rates. Besides this pub, I also run another RED LION in Wordsley and the WOODMAN INN in Gornal, so I pay around £2,000 a month in business rates and I think they should knock some off that if they are expecting the community to use my toilets. But the council has refused my request.’

The council closed eight public conveniences in June to save £150,000 a year – but the one next to the RED LION shut several months earlier. Dudley’s cabinet member responsible for toilets, Councillor Patrick Harley, said, ‘The Gornal block had major maintenance issues which would have cost the taxpayer thousands of pounds to repair and required significant investment to make it compliant for disabled users. If a private business is unhappy with the public using their facilities we would suggest they remind people facilities are for customers only in order to capitalise on any additional footfall’.”

Dudley News 13/8/2013

“A man was subjected to a barrage of abuse before being assaulted in a beer garden in Gornal. The 28-year-old victim was at the RED LION on Abbey Road when the unprovoked attack took place. He was knocked unconscious by another man and suffered a broken cheek, two black eyes and bruising to his throat and arm. The assault happened at around 8pm on July 26 and reported to police five days later.”

Alan Davies – see also RED LION, Wordsley

[2018]

RED LION

11, (14), Bull Ring, High Street, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Sarah Jenkins

George Jenkins

Angus Frantz and Edward Perry [1873]

John Wilkins

John Young

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Bass Worthington Taverns [1989]

Voyager Pubs [2002]

Mark Bradley [2010]

LICENSEES

John Jenkins Snr [1818] – **1827**)

George Jenkins [1828] – [1859]

Mrs. Sarah Jenkins [1860] – 1872);
John Jenkins [1871]
Edward Perry (1872 – 1884);
Charles Cotterill (1884 – 1885);
James Arnold (1885 – 1886);
Thomas Turley (1886 – 1892);
Walter Cox (1892 – 1893);
Emma Jane Cox (1893);
John Richard Cadman (1893 – 1894);
David Newland Witton (1894 – 1897);
John Willcocks (1897);
John Wilkins (1897 – 1909);
John Young (1909 – 1912);
William Hems [1911] manager
William Downing (1912 – 1915);
Thomas Howard Frank Chambers (1915 – 1920);
William Edward Evans (1920 – 1921);
Joseph Howard Pargeter (1921 – 1923);
Sylvanus Windridge (1923 – 1927);
Peter Thomas Troman (1927 – 1931);
Ferdinand G Whichello (1931 – 1935);
Frank Leonard Burns (1935 – 1955);
Colin Vann (1955 – 1957);
James Geoffrey Taylor (1957 – 1959)
Frank Clowes (1959 – 1963);
Alan Edwin Inscoe (1963 – 1965);
Thomas Gordon Hulme (1965 – [1966]
John Sidney Hopkins [1967] – [1974]
Barry Raybould [1983] – [1985]
Steve Foley [1991] – [1993]
Louise Hales (1997 – [2004]
Jason Devey [1999] – [2000]
Bill Redwood [2006]

NOTES

14, Bull Ring [1871], [1881], [1891]
11, Bull Ring [1901]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 6/8/1804 - Advert

“Valuable Estate and Mines, near Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Francis Pool, at the RED LION INN, in Sedgley, in the County of Stafford, on Thursday, the 16th day of August inst. at Four o’Clock, in the Afternoon, subject to such Conditions, as shall then be produced, in the following Lots.

Lot I. All that Dwelling House, with the Barn, Stable, Brewhouse, and Outbuilding to the same belonging; and all those nine several Closes of Land, lying near thereto, and in a Fence, containing by Admeasurement, twenty-five Acres and upwards, called the Dimmocks, situate at Brierley, in the Parish of Sedgley aforesaid, and in the Occupation of Robert Hewitt; together with the Mines of Coal, Ironstone, Clay, and all other Mines and Minerals in and under the same.

Note. The above Estate lies contiguous to very valuable Mines of Coal, which have been worked and are now open, and at a convenient Distance from the Birmingham Canal, to which an easy Communication may be made by Rail Roads; and the whole is Freehold of Inheritance.

Lot II. All that Parcel of Freehold Land, containing, by Estimation, five Acres, lying in an Inclosure, called Muncrofts, situate at Turls Hill, in the Parish of Sedgley aforesaid, and in the Occupation of Mr. John White.

For further Particulars apply to Mr. John White, of Turls Hill, or Mr. John White, of Bilston; and Mr. Brettell, of Summer Hill, or Mr. Grove, of the Four Ashes, near Enville.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 18/4/1825 - Advert

“Valuable Mines of Coal and Ironstone at Coseley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Moreton, on Tuesday, the third of May next, at the RED LION INN, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then be produced.

All the Mines of Coal, eight yards thick, and also the Mines of Ironstone called Gubbings, Lamb’s White, New White, and Bonds, which have been proved and found of the best quality, lying and being under a close piece of land at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, containing about two acres, and in the possession of Mr. Daniel Whitehouse, Miller, adjoining lands of Lord Dudley, Mr. William King, and Mr. Caddick, and lying near Mr. Whitehouse’s colliery.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Price and Son, Solicitors, or the Auctioneer, both of Wolverhampton; or to Mr. J. M. Harrison, of Sedgley, who will shew the land.”

John Jenkins was also a maltster.

Birmingham Journal 8/9/1827 - Deaths

“On Saturday last, Mr. *John Jenkins*, sen., of the RED LION INN, Sedgley, aged 61 years.”

In 1834 four horses were stolen from the stables at the rear. They were found in Kent Street, Upper Gornal. The thief lay dead there, and it was supposed that he had been kicked by one of the horses.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/12/1834

“On Monday, Mr. C. P. Villiers went to Sedgley for the purpose of addressing the Electors of that part of our Borough. Mr. V. was met on the road by several of the inhabitants, by whom he was most enthusiastically received. He addressed a great number of Electors at the LION INN, in Sedgley, at considerable length upon his general principles – principles which he considered, would, if acted upon, conduce with the ‘greatest happiness of the greatest number’.....”

In 1835:

Criterion coach from Wolverhampton to Dudley stopped here every day at half past 12 and half past 5pm.

Criterion coach from Dudley to Wolverhampton stopped here every day at half past 10am and half past 3pm.

Bang Up coach from Worcester to Wolverhampton stopped here every day at quarter to 11am.

Bang Up coach from Wolverhampton to Worcester stopped here every day at 5pm.

Everlasting coach from Wolverhampton stopped here every day (except Sunday) at quarter to 8pm.

Everlasting coach to Wolverhampton stopped here every day (except Sunday) at 7pm.

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/4/1836

“Dinner to the Members of Wolverhampton and Sedgley.

On Tuesday, Messrs. Thornley and Villiers, the members for that borough, dined in consequence of an invitation, with upwards of two hundred of their friends and constituents at the RED LION INN, Sedgley. Previous to the dinner the hon. members visited Coseley, and a procession was formed at that place, which then proceeded to Sedgley.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 30/10/1837 - Advert

“Valuable Wind Corn Mills, Messuages, And Land, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by R. Adams, on Thursday the 23rd day of November next, at five o’clock in the afternoon, at the RED LION INN, in Sedgley aforesaid, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be then and there produced, unless the same shall be disposed of in the mean time by private contract, of which due notice will be given.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/2/1839

“Richard Hilton was committed on a charge of cheating Mr. Edward Adderley, innkeeper of this town. The prisoner, it appeared, brought a forged note for spirits, purporting to come from Mr. *George Jenkins*, of Sedgley, and received the sum of three shillings nine pence.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/10/1839

“Staffordshire Michaelmas Sessions.....

James Booth was charged with stealing a horse, and a set of harness the property of William Carwardine Howard, at the parish of Sedgley. The prisoner had no counsel.

Mr. Meteyard, for the prosecution, stated to the Jury that the prisoner was employed by Mr. Howard, of Leominster, in Herefordshire, to take a coach with one horse from Leominster to Wolverhampton. He was to bring the horse and harness back to Leominster. In conformity to his instructions, the prisoner delivered the coach to Wolverhampton; but instead of bringing the horse back, he sold it on the road. Now, as the law required, in order to bring a charge of felony home to the prisoner, that the jury should be satisfied that the prisoner took the horse and harness from Mr. Howard’s with an intention of stealing it; it was impossible for any man to tell what were the thoughts of another. They could only judge of intention by acts; and the jury would have to say whether from the conduct of the prisoner did not at the time he took it intended to deprive Mr. Howard of his property.

The learned counsel then called Mr. W. C. Howard, coach-master, of Leominster, who proved that on the 4th of August, he was at Presteign, in Radnorshire, and engaged Booth to take a coach from Leominster to Wolverhampton. The horse which was to draw it was a brown one belonging to witness, and the harness had the letter P upon it. The horse and harness were to be returned to witness. The prisoner started about 2 or 3 o’clock in the morning, and he supposed he would reach Wolverhampton that night. Witness saw the horse and harness again on the 12th of August in the possession of Mr. Baker, constable of Sedgley. They were now in Stafford, and were the same he entrusted to the prisoner.

Mr. *James Evans*, of the ROE BUCK, Penn, was at the RED LION, Sedgley, on the 8th of August. The prisoner was there; he sat in the house smoking; he was offering a brown horse and harness for sale. He offered them to some colliers for two sovereigns. Witness eventually bought them for two pounds. After looking at them afterwards, he thought they were worth more money, and sent for Baker, the constable.

Henry Baker, constable of Sedgley, on Thursday afternoon, the 8th of August, apprehended the prisoner at the RED LION, in Sedgley, on the charge of stealing a horse and a set of harness. Witness took him to the lock up, and on him found a note directed to Mr. Howard, Leominster. Witness wrote to Mr. Howard, and on telling prisoner, next morning, that he had done so, prisoner said it was very right, and he hoped his master would come and forgive him. The harness was marked with the letter P. The prisoner, in defence, said that he did not recollect selling them. He had got tipsy. The chairman sentenced the prisoner to be transported for ten years. The prosecutor, Mr. Howard, enquired whether he could have his horse and harness. Mr. Meteyard: Of course; the horse and harness are yours. Mr. Howard then enquired whether he was obliged to pay the expenses of the keep of the horse. The constable had refused to give him up to him. The Constable: The Magistrates instructed me to keep him till the trial. Mr. Howard: The constable has been using him the whole time. The horse is worth £2 less now than when I lost him. Mr. Evans: The horse is in better condition now than when the prisoner offered him for sale. The Chairman intimated that they must settle that matter amongst themselves.”

Staffordshire Gazette 17/10/1840

“The revision of the county list of voters for the parish of Sedgley took place, at the RED LION INN, Sedgley. The total number of objections were 85, and about an equal number were made by each party. The result upon the whole registration at Sedgley is in favour of the Conservatives. Among the Radicals erased from the list are the Revs. W. Bridge, John Hill, and Daniel Wright, dissenting ministers of the parish. It was proved that Mr. Bridge has not a freehold interest in his chapel, and that Mr. Wright’s appointment is not for life. Mr. Hill did not attend to defend his vote.”

The ladies’ toilet was reputedly haunted.

1841 Census

Bull Ring – RED LION INN

- [1] *George Jenkins* (43), victualler, maltster, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Sarah Jenkins (36);
- [3] Mary Jenkins (11), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Sarah Jenkins (9), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Susan Jenkins (7), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Louisa Jenkins (4), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Gertrude Jenkins (3), born Staffordshire;
- [8] Hannah King (20), fs;
- [9] Ann Such (25), fs;
- [10] John Powney (24), ms, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1842 - Advert

“Desirable Land And Buildings, in and near Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

On Tuesday, the 6th day of September, 1843, at five o’clock in the afternoon, at Mr. *Jenkin*’s, the RED LION INN, in Sedgley, subject to conditions then to be produced, and in the following or such lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, particulars of which, with lithographic plates, will be forthwith distributed.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/9/1842 - Advert

“Southern Division of the County of Stafford.

We, Charles Shapland Whitmore, of the Inner Temple, and Thomas Bros, of Lincolns Inn, Esquires, Barristers at Law, having been duly nominated and appointed to Revise the Lists of Voters in the Election of Knights of the Shire for the Southern Division of the County of Stafford, hereby give notice, that we shall make a Circuit of the said Division and hold Courts for that purpose, at the several times and places underwritten.....

At Sedgley, at the RED LION INN, on Wednesday, the 12th day of October next, at ten o’clock in the forenoon, for the parishes of, Sedgley and Tipton.....

London, September 12, 1842.

Memorandum. The overseers of the said several parishes, townships, and places, are desired to bring with them the several notices of claims of voters, and all notices of objections to voters transmitted or delivered to the said overseers.

And the voters who have sent in their claims, whether objected to or not, are desired to see that they have been duly registered, as regards the description of themselves and their qualification; and if there be any defect therein, to attend before the Revising Barristers at the proper court, to offer such evidence as may enable them to correct the said lists.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/7/1844 - Advert

“Growing Crops of Wheat and Oats, Ricks of Clover, &c, at Sedgley.

By direction of the Assignees of Mr. Fletcher, on Tuesday, the 6th day of August, 1844, at the RED LION INN, at Sedgley, commencing at three o’clock in the afternoon, and subject to conditions which will be then produced.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/5/1845

“Daniel Fullwood, of Sedgley, was charged by William Mole, of the same parish, with stealing his hat off his head while he was asleep at the LION INN, Sedgley, on the night of the 29th of April, with a handkerchief in it. The prisoner at first denied knowing anything of the hat, but afterwards said it was placed on his head by another person, and he did not know that it was not his own; whereas the hat in question was quite new, and the prisoner’s not worth picking up. Committed to the sessions, but afterwards admitted to bail.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/7/1845

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

Remainder of Sentences Acquitted.....

Daniel Fullwood, charged with stealing a hat and handkerchief, the property of William Mole, at Sedgley.”

Birmingham Journal 13/12/1845

“Our Police Court on Wednesday was occupied for some time in the investigation of a charge of highway robbery, which was preferred against three men named Lees, Waites, and another, by Thomas Scott. The prosecutor stated that he was a traveller, and on Monday night last he went to the RED LION INN, at Sedgley, to look for a bed. As soon as he got in, the three prisoners began to insult him, and he left the house to proceed onwards. The prisoners followed him, and before he had gone far they overtook him, and one of them struck him upon the head, and he fell senseless upon the ground. When he came to himself again he found that he was alone, and the prisoners had decamped, taking with them his bundle, 6s in money, and his shoes. Next morning he gave information to the police, and they were taken into custody. On the application of Sub-inspector Thompson they were remanded for further evidence, which we understand is forthcoming.”

Blackcountryman (Spring 1982)

‘The Cry Of The Children (Part V)’

“.....*George Jenkins*, aged 48 [in 1848] was no ordinary innkeeper. Born at Sedgley, he had lived in France for some time before establishing himself as a brewer and a publican in his native village.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/11/1848

“John Baker was charged with stealing a waistcoat, the property of Maurice Bagstein. The prosecutor, who seemed to be a travelling clothier, went into the RED LION, Sedgley, on Saturday night; the prisoner tried on a waistcoat, but said it did not fit; another was given to him, and then, as the prosecutor stated, he blew out the candle and the waistcoat never reappeared. In defence it was denied that the prisoner blew out the candle, and stated that there were about twenty people in the place at the time. Mr. Leigh said it was a hard case for the prosecutor to lose his property, but he did not think a conviction likely on the evidence. He should order the prisoner to enter into his own recognizance to appear upon notice when called.”

George Jenkins was also a maltster. [1849], [1850]

He was described as a common brewer and maltster [1851]

1851 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *George Jenkins* (52), victualler and maltster, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Jenkins (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Catherine Jenkins (23), daughter, teacher at home, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Jenkins (19), daughter, teacher at home, born Sedgley;
- [5] Susan Jenkins (17), daughter, teacher at home, born Sedgley;
- [6] Louisa Jenkins (14), daughter, teacher at home, born Sedgley;
- [7] Gertrude Jenkins (12), daughter, teacher at home, born Sedgley;
- [8] Sophia Jenkins (5), daughter, teacher at home, born Sedgley;
- [9] Frances Jenkins (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] George Gibson (21), assistant, born Castle Bromwich;
- [11] Matilda Clarkson (20), house servant, born Willenhall;
- [12] Rebecca Lane (17), house servant, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Journal 16/8/1851 - Advert

“Staffordshire. To Be Peremptorily Sold.

Pursuant to a decree of the High Court of Chancery, made in the cause of Ward v. Cartwright.

Mr. Randle Shaw Walker will Sell by Auction, at the RED LION INN, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, on Thursday, the 4th of September, 1851, at Five o’clock in the afternoon, with the approbation of Richard Roberts, Esq, one of the Masters of the said Court – the Freehold and Copyhold Messuages, Land and Hereditaments, situate at Upper Gornall and Lower Gornall , both in the parish of Sedgley, in the said county, late the property of Mr. Eder Guest, in two lots.....”

Birmingham Journal 8/1/1853 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Dwelling Houses And Building Land, situate near the Catholic Chapel, Sedgley, in the County of Stafford.

By Solomon Powell, on Tuesday, the 18th day of January, 1853, at the house of Mr. *George Jenkins*, the RED LION INN, Sedgley, at Five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced and read.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/10/1854

“Thomas Lees and William Ellis were indicted for obtaining 1s and a quart of ale from Benjamin Newey, at Sedgley, by false pretences. Mr. Baker prosecuted. On the 19th of August the prisoners sold to the prosecutor, at the RED LION INN, Sedgley, for a shilling and a quart of ale, what they purported to be a beef’s heart. Prosecutor, having his suspicions excited, took butcher’s opinion on the case, who declaring it to be a horse’s heart, prosecutor took the joke to heart, and being further provoked by the boast that he had been ‘sold’, gave the jokers into custody. The prosecutor, a stout specimen of English honest open-heartedness, created some amusement by the way in which he gave his evidence. The jury found the prisoners guilty, and they were each sentenced to three months’ imprisonment.”

Morning Post 2/8/1855

“On Wednesday Mr. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an inquest on the body of Thomas Guest, a miner, aged 24, at the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill. From the evidence adduced, it appeared that the deceased had been drinking the greater part of the preceding day at the RED LION, Sedgley. He left there about eight o’clock in the evening, accompanied by Mary Radcliffe, a single woman, with whom he had been keeping company for about two years. They walked together across the fields to Cinderhill. Going along, deceased said to his companion, ‘We will both die together.’ He then drew his coat off, shook hands with her, and running a distance of about 10 yards, jumped down a water pit. Several persons witnessed the occurrence, who raised an alarm, and in about two hours the body of the desperate man was taken out of the pit, which was 80 yards deep, quite dead. He had had a few words during the day about a girl at the RED LION, but the excitement of intoxication was regarded as the main cause of his suicidal act. Verdict, Temporary Insanity. *Wolverhampton Chronicle.*”

Staffordshire Sentinel 26/1/1856

“At the RED LION, Sedgley, on Friday week, T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest on the body of Thomas Tipper. Job Short, a labourer, said deceased was also a labourer, aged about 58, and resided with witness. Deceased suffered from asthma for the last three years, and had been employed at the limekilns. He had been a hard drinker. Up to Thursday week, deceased had been drinking at public houses for upwards of a week, without attending to his work; and on the evening of that day he came home very much in drink, and went to bed. The next morning he was too ill to get up; but would not have a surgeon to attend him, or take any medicine. He complained of great pain in his head and across his loins, and remained in that state up to Wednesday evening, when, not returning from the privy, to which he had gone, witness went and found him dead. A surgeon and policeman were sent for; but the former was not at home. Other witnesses having deposed to deceased’s drunken habits, and there appearing to be no doubt that deceased had died from Excessive Drinking, the jury returned a verdict to that effect.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/7/1858 - Notice

“County Of Stafford. Weights And Measures. District C or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, that William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire, will attend at the undermentioned times and places, for the purpose of comparing and examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct, viz.....

At the RED LION INN, Sedgley, on Thursdays, July 15th, August 12th, and September 9th, 1858, at two o’clock pm.”

Birmingham Journal 1/1/1859 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold And Copyhold Lands, Dwelling House, Garden, and Premises, situate at Sandyfields, in the parish of Sedgley. To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Bateman, on Tuesday the 4th day of January, 1859, at Six o’clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *Jenkins*, the RED LION INN, at Sedgley aforesaid, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/2/1859

“The inquest on the man Evans, who was supposed to have committed suicide by poison, was resumed at the RED LION INN, on Monday afternoon. The only additional evidence was that of Mr. Hade, surgeon, who performed a post mortem examination. He deposed that the deceased died from a diseased heart and that the powder found consisted of sulphate of potash and alum combined, and was presumed to be a composition for polishing metals. A verdict was accordingly returned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/11/1859 - Deaths

“On the 1st instant, in the 61st year of his age, Mr. *George Jenkins*, of Sedgley. RIP.”

Mrs. *Sarah Jenkins* was also a maltster. [1860]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861 - Advert

“County Of Stafford. Weights And Measures. District C or South Staffordshire.

Notice is Hereby Given that William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures.....

Will attend at the undermentioned Times and Places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct, viz.....

At the RED LION INN, at Sedgley, on Thursdays, January 17th, February 14th, and March 14th, 1861, at two o’clock pm.....

All persons residing in the said District, desirous of having their Weights and Measures Stamped, may bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be convenient; or to No.29, King Street, Wolverhampton, on any other than the days above appointed.....”

1861 Census

Bull Ring – RED LION

- [1] *Sarah Jenkins* (50), widow, victualler, born Small Heath, Warwickshire;
- [2] Gertrude Jenkins (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] George Gibson (20), manager to brewery, born Castle Bromwich, Staffordshire;
- [4] Richard Smith (24), servant, waiter, born Himley;
- [5] Louisa Fullwood (22), general servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/5/1861 - Advert

“Ruiton House, in the Parish of Sedgley. Desirable Family Residence.

By Messrs. Aston and Sollom. To be Sold by Auction, on Monday, June 17th, 1861, at six o’clock in the evening, at the RED LION INN, Sedgley, subject to conditions to be read at the time of sale.

All that Private Gentlemanly Residence, known as Ruiton House, pleasantly situate on the road from Sedgley to Lower Gornal, now in the occupation of D. Ward, Esq.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/1/1865

“Stafford Winter Sessions.

George Walters, a boy about fifteen (on bail), was charged with stealing a half-sovereign, the property of Thomas Baker, in the LION public house, at Sedgley, on the 24th October last. It was shown that the alleged theft was connected with a disputed bet, and the Jury found the prisoner not guilty.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/3/1866 - Advert

“County of Stafford. Weights and Measures. District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, the William Tullett, the Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire Will attend at the under-mentioned times and places for the purpose of comparing all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to him for that purpose, and stamping such of them as shall be found correct.....

RED LION INN, at Sedgley, on Thursdays, April 12th, May 10th, and June 7th, 1866, at two o’clock pm.....

All persons in the said district, desirous of having their Weights and Measures stamped may bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment as shall be most convenient; or to the NEW MARKET INN, St. Peter’s Walk, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday or Saturday in every week.

Persons within any local jurisdiction, for which a separate Inspector is appointed, cannot have their Weights and Measures examined or stamped by the Count Inspector.

William Tullett, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the said District, Wolverhampton, March 28th, 1866.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 12/1/1867 - Advert

“For Sale, a good Rick of Hay.

Apply, RED LION, Sedgley, near Dudley.”

Sarah Jenkins was also a maltster and brewer. [1870]

1871 Census

14, Bull Ring

- [1] *John Jenkins* (28), brewer, employing 3 men, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Jenkins (32), sister, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sophia Jenkins (23), sister, born Sedgley;
- [4] Frances Jenkins (21), sister, born Sedgley;
- [5] George Boweing (25), servant man, born Charminster, Dorset;
- [6] Sarah Boweing (14), domestic servant, born Charminster, Dorset:

Staffordshire Advertiser 8/6/1872 - Advert

“Important to Brewers, Maltsters, Innkeepers, and Others – The RED LION INN, Sedgley.

Messrs. Aston, Sollom, and Barnett are instructed by the Trustees, under the will of the late Mr. *George Jenkins*, to Sell by Auction, at the SWAN HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, the 12th day of June, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions of sale, the under-mentioned valuable properties.

Lot 1. The well-known and old-established Old-Licensed Inn, Brewery, and Malthouse, known as the RED LION INN, situate in the centre of Sedgley (one of the most populous localities in South Staffordshire), together with the extensive Outbuildings, large and well stocked Garden, and other appurtenances thereto belonging, the whole occupying an area of 5,787 square yards or thereabouts.

Also, the valuable Goodwill of the excellent and lucrative trade, which is now and has been for many years past herein carried on, the returns of which, with other particulars, can be had upon application to the Auctioneers.

The purchasers will have the option of taking to the whole or any portion of the Stock, Plant, Fixtures, &c, at a valuation.

Lot 2. A Piece of valuable Building Land, adjoining Lot 1, having a frontage of 50 feet to the turnpike road from Wolverhampton to Dudley, and containing 504 square yards, or thereabouts.

Lot 3. All that Piece of desirable Building Land, also adjoining to and occupied with Lot 1, having a frontage of 45 feet to Bilston Street, and containing 500 square yards, or thereabouts. The front walls for two dwelling houses are already erected on this lot.....”

Frantz and Perry, maltsters, brewers and victuallers. [1873]

RED LION INN AND BREWERY (Frantz and Perry). [1874]

Edward Perry was a partner in Frantz and Perry, maltsters, brewers and victuallers.

Dudley Herald 30/9/1876

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Bilston licensing division were held at the Bilston Police Court, yesterday week, the justices present being H. Ward and W. Hatton, Esqs, and the Rev. J. Y. Rooker.

Mr. J. Underhill, barrister (who was instructed by Mr. R. A. Willcock) said that before the magistrates expressed their opinion as to the licences which were ordered to stand over from the annual licensing day, he wished to call their attention to the case of Mr. *Perry*, of the RED LION INN, Sedgley, on whose behalf he appeared. Had he not before him proof of the fact that his licence had been ordered to stand over, he could not have believed that such an instance had occurred. The house was an old-established one, having been licensed for something like 200 years. Mr. *Perry* had been the occupier during the last four years, and during the whole period that the house had been licensed not a single complaint had been made against it. Mr. *Perry* had conducted it in a most exemplary manner. The Bench were aware that when a certain day was fixed for the renewal of licences there was no earthly reason why any of the publicans should attend unless a complaint had been made against them. In the ordinary course of things licensed victuallers did not attend, and the licences were renewed in their absence, and not only did custom rest upon practice merely, but had been distinctly established by the Legislature. The 42nd section of the Licensing Act of 1872, and also recent legal decisions, showed that the justices had no jurisdiction whatever to decline the renewal of a licence, but were bound to renew it unless a notice was sent in writing to the holders stating the objection, if any, and the grounds upon which it was made.

Mr. Ward: Was there an objection made?

Mr. Underhill: No.

The Deputy Clerk: Yes. Mr. McCrea objected.

Mr. Underhill said Mr. *Perry* received no notice in writing of the objection, and therefore he did not attend on the licensing day. In his absence a suggestion was made, which he (Mr. Underhill) did not think could have come from his friend Mr. McCrea, to the effect that two thieves had been seen in Mr. *Perry*'s house shortly after or shortly before a robbery was committed by them. If it was before the robbery that they were there then it was the more absurd that he should be charged with harbouring them. Yet the justices, although there was no objection in writing, and no notice had been given to the holder, adjourned the licence until the present meeting. The name of Mr. *Perry* had gone forth in the newspapers as being on the black list. He submitted that this was a great injustice, and that the injustice was heightened by the man having now come to ask for a renewal of his licence, and to be told that there was really nothing against him but a casual objection, of which it was not thought necessary to give him notice. Under these circumstances, he thought that something should be said in favour of his client, and he wished it to go forth to the public that there was no ground for any objection to the renewal of his licence, and that no legal objection was made.

Chief-Superintendent McCrea: In this case three persons were committed for trial, and at the Sessions were convicted of theft, and it came out that they had been drinking at the RED LION.

Mr. Underhill: Before or after the robbery?

Chief-Superintendent McCrea: I don't know. But it came out that they were drinking there, and it was suggested at that time by the magistrates that Mr. *Perry* should be cautioned at the licensing day. I did not know of the fact until that morning, and, consequently, had not sent him any notice. I had no intention of opposing the licence, but as the matter was mentioned, and Mr. *Perry* was not present, it was adjourned until today.

Mr. Ward: His name, then, was not on the 'black list'?

Chief-Superintendent McCrea: No.

Mr. Underhill: What else can you call it?

Chief-Superintendent McCrea: I never made an objection to the licence being granted.

Mr. Underhill said the Bench could only entertain an objection, and could only adjourn a case after due notice had been given on oath.

Mr. Ward: We think the magistrates have full power to make an objection themselves.

Mr. Underhill: Indeed, they have not.

The learned counsel proceeded to read the decision of a superior Court in support of this.

Mr. Ward: The case had been adjourned, and it comes today, and we understand now from Mr. McCrea that he makes no objection.

Mr. Underhill: It is the first time I have heard that a man has to come here to be cautioned for a wrong he has never done, and to be put to this expense and then be told there is no objection.

Mr. Ward: Mr. McCrea's objection does not go so far as to ask for a withholding of the licence.

Mr. Underhill: As I understand, Mr. McCrea has no objection.

Chief-Superintendent McCrea: From inquiries I have made I really think Mr. *Perry* did not knowingly harbour thieves.

Mr. Underhill: If he did you ought to have prosecuted him.

Mr. Underhill subsequently stated that, if necessary, he could call evidence as to the way in which Mr. *Perry* had conducted the house, but the Bench said they did not think it necessary, as the licence would be renewed.”

Dudley Herald 18/11/1876

“John Briscoe, Edward Briscoe, James Griffiths, Robert Griffiths, and Benjamin Hill, all ironworkers, were charged with assaulting John Brettell, on the 21st ult, in the LION INN. From the evidence it appears that when complainant went into the house he saw the defendants playing at cards for money, and he advised them not to do so as it was gambling, upon which they knocked him down and kicked him.

The Bench fined John Briscoe, James Griffiths, and Benjamin Hill, 20s and costs; the charge against the others was dismissed.” [Benjamin Hill subsequently died from injuries sustained in the fight, and at an inquest held at the GRAND JUNCTION (see Birmingham Daily Post 30/11/1876), John Brettell was found guilty of manslaughter, and was later found not guilty at the Stafford Assizes.]

AND

“William Climson was charged with assaulting Ambrose Hurst, waiter at the LION INN, on Saturday, the 4th inst., and was fined 10s and costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/11/1876

“On Tuesday last Mr. Phillips, the district coroner, commenced an investigation, at the JUNCTION HOTEL, Sedgley, into the cause of death of a young man named Benjamin Tomlinson, alias Hill (25), a bricklayer, of Sedgley.

Dr. Ballenden, who had made a post mortem examination, said he had been called in before death, which occurred on the previous Friday, and he was told deceased suffered from intense pain in the bowels. The deceased was ruptured, and he found that he had been recently been seriously injured. He died from peritonitis. Deceased did not say to witness how his injuries were caused. Phoebe Tomlinson, mother of the deceased said she was unaware until now that her son was in any way ruptured. Some time ago he complained of pains, and said he had been kicked in the stomach.

A number of witnesses were examined, to the effect that the deceased was in the tap room of the RED LION public-house, at Sedgley, with about a hundred more, and that several men were fighting. In the course of the disturbance a person named John Brettell (who had since summoned the deceased and five others for assault, most of whom were fined) struck Tomlinson, knocked him down, fell on him, and afterwards thrust his knees into his stomach, as he lay helpless on the floor of the room. There were cries from Brettell to be removed from the deceased. This was done, and when Tomlinson got up he was found to be suffering, for he bent forward, and held his hands at the place where he sustained the injuries which, it is alleged, caused his death. He did not at the time complain, but got away at once. Subsequently he stated to one of the witnesses that he had been in a row at the LION, and was badly kicked about the body, and it had injured him. Two of the witnesses, named Cope and Marsh, spoke positively to the bad treatment received by the deceased on the occasion referred to, and that so soon as the landlord entered the disturbance stopped.

The Coroner suggested that if the jury believed the deceased had met his death in the manner described, it would be well to have Brettell present, and to procure additional evidence if necessary.

After a short deliberation, it was decided to adjourn the enquiry for the attendance of the man Brettell, and to have the evidence of the most respectable persons that could be found who were in the room at the time of the sad occurrence.”

[At the adjourned inquest ‘.....after a short deliberation, the jury returned a verdict that the deceased was formerly ruptured, that the injury to that rupture caused peritonitis from which the deceased died, but how that injury occurred there was no evidence to show.’]

Dudley Herald 2/12/1876

“At the Sedgley Police Court, on Monday afternoon, before W. H. Rogers and B. Whitehouse, Esqs, John Brettell, boat-unloader, was charged with committing wilful and corrupt perjury in the Sedgley Police Court, on the 13th inst, in a charge he preferred against five men for assaulting him at the LION INN, Sedgley. Mr. Brown, who appeared to prosecute, said he appeared on behalf of the Wolverhampton Licensed Victuallers’ Association to prefer a charge of perjury against the prisoner in a case that was heard at the Sedgley Police Court, a fortnight ago, in which he preferred a charge of assault against five men who were drinking in the tap room at the LION INN. On that occasion prisoner said that when he went into the house he saw a number of men playing at cards at the top end of the room, and as he knew this to be an infringement of the law he remonstrated with the men for doing so, and the men assaulted him. He was pleased to say he was in a position to prove that no card playing took place at all; therefore if he proved that he should ask the Bench to commit the prisoner for trial for committing wilful and corrupt perjury. The Bench after hearing the evidence dismissed the case.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 31/1/1877 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Country Girl, about 20, as General Servant.
Apply, RED LION INN, Sedgley, Dudley.”

The decision to end the 1877 Nailmakers’ Strike was made on the forecourt.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/12/1877

“At the Police Court, yesterday afternoon, before the Rev. J. Y. Rooker and Mr. F. A. Homer, William Clinton, labourer, High Street, was charged with refusing to quit the RED LION INN, High Street, when requested to do so. Mr. *Perry*, manager, said that on the night of the 1st inst. the defendant created a disturbance in the house, and when he was requested to leave he refused to do so, and attempted to strike witness in the face. In answer to the Bench, witness said defendant was sober. Mr. Rooker said that twelve months ago defendant was charged with a similar offence. The Bench were determined to support those publicans who

endeavoured to comply with the Licensing laws, and in the event of such persons as the defendant coming before them they had decided to punish them severely. On that occasion defendant would be fined £5 and costs, or in default, two months imprisonment with hard labour.

Defendant (excitedly): I am going; where must I hang my hat up now? An officer told defendant to hang it up in his cell.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/1/1878

“Benjamin Timmins, waiter at the RED LION INN, Sedgley, was charged with assaulting Titus Lee, nailforger, on the night of the 8th inst. The complainant stated that he visited the RED LION for the purpose of having a pint of beer, and, having been supplied by the defendant, a general conversation ensued, in the course of which the defendant alleged that witness owed him a shilling. This statement he contradicted, and informed the defendant that he was not so honest towards his employer as he should be. The defendant became exasperated and caught witness by the neck and dragged him to the entrance door, and there threw him down, the result being that he was seriously injured about the head. The defendant was fined 10s and costs.”

Dudley and District News 22/1/1881

“Following the severe frost of Saturday and Sunday, came a violent gale and snowstorm which lasted all Tuesday and up to the afternoon of Wednesday, causing immense damage to property all over the country, and considerable loss of life.....

Sedgley. The roofs of the bedroom and bar of the RED LION INN were broken through and considerable damage done by one of the chimneys falling. The debris went through two ceilings and floors into the rooms. Fortunately no one was in the bar or the rooms or the result would have been fatal or serious.”

1881 Census

14, Bull Ring – RED LION

- [1] *Edward Perry* (48), innkeeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Margaret Perry* (40), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Emma J. Perry* (19), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Ann Baker* (22), domestic servant, born Commonsides [Pensnett];

Evening Express 15/6/1881 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Country Girl, age 20.
Apply RED LION, Sedgley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/1/1883 - Advert

“To Brewers, Maltsters, Spirit Merchants, and Others.

To be Sold that old-established Old-licensed Inn, the RED LION, Sedgley, Staffordshire, most commandingly situated in the Bull Ring, the very heart of Sedgley, midway between Wolverhampton and Dudley; together with the 7-quarter Brewery and 8-quarter Malthouse, and Land adjoining, comprising altogether about two acres, surrounded with high and substantial boundary walls. To an enterprising man with capital, this is one of the finest speculations in England. Only changing hands once in a century. Proprietor retiring. Tram passes.

Apply on the premises.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/9/1886

“At the Police Court, yesterday – before Messrs. Cartwright and Homer – James Smith, Gospel End Street, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of *James Arnold*, RED LION INN, and further with assaulting the landlord. The defendant went into the house the worse for liquor, and Mrs. *Arnold* refused to serve him. He insulted her and she sent for her husband, Smith then closed with the prosecutor and assaulted him. *Arnold* however ejected Smith, and then the crowd cried out, ‘Mind his knife.’ Upon that *Arnold* knocked the defendant down. Smith had apologised, and his wife was ill, so he wished to withdraw the charge. The Bench said they should have fined the defendant heavily only for the circumstances mentioned by the prosecutor. A penalty of 5s and costs was inflicted.”

1891 Census

14, Bull Ring

- [1] *Thomas Turley* (53), cattle dealer, born Coseley;
- [2] *Mary Turley* (49), wife, born Cinderhill;
- [3] *Anne Turley* (23), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] *James Turley* (20), son, born Coseley;
- [5] *Benjamin Turley* (18), son, born Coseley;
- [6] *Elizabeth Turley* (15), daughter, born Coseley;
- [7] *Harriet Turley* (13), daughter, born Coseley;
- [8] *Martha Turley* (11), daughter, born Coseley;
- [9] *Joseph Turley* (6), son, born Coseley;

County Express 2/5/1891

“At the County Court, on Tuesday, before Sir Rupert Kettle – *Thomas Turley*, publican, Sedgley, sued Henry Cresswell, horse dealer Dudley, for £4 money paid for a mare. Mr. Foster was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Plant for the defendant.

Turley's case was that Cresswell sold him a mare for the above sum, and said the animal was sound, a good worker, and could shift a ton, but it was in poor condition. He bought it on those terms because he believed he could get the animal into good condition. When the mare was sent home it was in such a wretched pickle that he sent it back at once. The man, however, left the animal to go to Wolverhampton, and never called again. The next day the mare was in the Sedgley pound, having been found straying on the road. The animal was in such a wretched condition that it was afterwards killed by order of the pound keeper. The Judge said it did not matter whether the animal was sound, or could shift a ton, or could jump; it was a question whether Cresswell knew it was a worthless animal. Mr. Bates, veterinary surgeon, Wolverhampton, said he saw the animal in the pound and found it diseased; it was worthless, and was so poor that it would have been seized in the street by Inspector Lucking had that gentleman been about. Mr Lucking on being called, said the animal was worthless and suffering. The verdict for the plaintiff for £4 and costs in a month.”

[At the same court, Mr. Cresswell was also successfully sued over another sale of another horse.]

Thomas Turley – see also PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton.

Walter Cox was married to *Emma Jane*.

[Was this Emma J. Perry?]

He died on 10th August 1892.

County Express 12/6/1897

“A horse attached to a trap belonging to Mr. J. Cox, Moor Street, Brierley Hill, when standing outside the LION INN, Bull Ring, Sedgley, on Monday afternoon, took fright, and dashed along the Dudley Road at a terrific speed, and eventually it collided with a horse and vehicle belonging to Mr. Edward Ainsbury, coach-builder, of Wolverhampton. The vehicle was broken up, and Mrs. Ainsbury was thrown to the ground and received a very severe shaking. Cox's trap was also overturned. But for the fact that Ainsbury drove the runaway horse on one side the consequences would have been even more serious. The damage done was considerable.”

Dudley Herald 19/3/1898

“Edward Smith, alias Skinner, of Netherton, and Thomas Whitehouse, of Dudley, were summoned for assaulting William Sheldon, Vicarage Prospect, Dudley. Mr. Foster was for the complainant, and Mr. Tinsley for the defendants.

Complainant's story was that on February 23rd he and his partner, a man named Westwood, were coming from Wolverhampton, when they gave defendants a lift. On arrival at the FIGHTING COCKS they had some bread and cheese and beer. During an altercation Smith caught hold of him by the throat and said, ‘You have a bad name, and if I kill you nobody will hurt me.’ Whitehouse remarked that he thought Smith was going mad. Subsequently they rode to Sedgley, and went into the RED LION public house, and then proceeded in the direction of Dudley. On the way defendants knocked Westwood out of the trap, and then went into him ‘left and right,’ the result being serious bruises about the face and legs. He was laid up for 10 days.

By Mr. Tinsley: His pal, Westwood, had not taken out a summons. It was not a fact that he had been drinking heavily all day at Wolverhampton. He admitted there were a number of convictions against him at Dudley.

Mr. Tinsley asked the magistrate not to rely on complainant's evidence, contending that he was the worse for beer, and had threatened the defendants.

William Bennett gave evidence to the effect that Sheldon's conduct at the RED LION was so bad that the landlord ordered him out.

Mr. Neville said he thought Sheldon was under the influence of drink, and also that the defendants assaulted him, and they each would be fined 20s and the costs.”

Dudley Herald 3/9/1898

“...Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) conducted the inquest on the body of the deceased girl, on Wednesday afternoon, at the RED LION, Sedgley. Mr. A. E. Greenaway (clerk) represented the Sedgley School Board, and Sergeant Moss was present on behalf of the police authorities. Mr. H. Jones was chairman of the jury.

Mary Meredith, a sister of the deceased, and living at Parkfield Road, Wolverhampton, stated deceased, Hilda Selina Meredith, was 18 years of age, and had not been well for the past four years, as she suffered from anaemia. The deceased's parents James Meredith, a clerk, and Sarah Meredith, witness, with three sisters, and a brother, lived together. Deceased was a teacher at the Red Hall Board School, and previously was at Mr. Hindes, stationer's shop in Dudley Street, Wolverhampton. Deceased generally went to Red Hall Schools in the morning and returned at night. Witness last saw deceased alive on Monday morning about half-past six, and understood she was going to school as usual, but she never returned. Witness taught at the same school, and hearing her sister had not put in an appearance, she caused inquiries to be made. Communications with Birmingham and other places led to nothing as showing where deceased had gone to, but on Tuesday a Mr. Giles reported deceased had been found in a pool on Morgan's Farm, and this report was found to be correct. On Sunday night deceased seemed vexed about her lessons, and said that rather than teach any more she would drown herself. She had not failed at examinations, but some of the girls had laughed at her. Witness never before heard of deceased walking in the direction of Morgan's Farm, and deceased was not keeping company with any one. She had left no written paper.

William Meredith, a brewer at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, stated he last saw his sister alive over a week ago. Witness found deceased in the pool referred to. He had heard his sister was missing, and on going to the pool and finding some books and a hat had been seen, he entered the water, and recovered the body of deceased from water about 6ft 6in deep. Witness could not account for his sister being in the water, but he knew she had occasionally walked past the place. Deceased had been ill, and

seemed dejected, though her mind had not appeared depressed.

PC Jones, stationed at Sedgley, stated he had known deceased for the past five years. He received certain information about eleven o'clock on Tuesday, and went to Morgan's Pool. There was a hat on the pool, and on the side were books, on one of which was the named 'Hilda Meredith.' The books had been placed one above the other, and besides them was a handbag. The body when recovered was quite cold, and there was no appearance of violence. It was not a place where persons would be likely to fall in. The search of the clothes revealed that there was in the pockets about 3s. The books were placed one upon the other, and about three yards from the pool. There was no letter or note. He sent for deceased's brother, and he recovered the body. Her tongue protruded from between her teeth.

The Coroner: That is suggestive of a fit.

Witness said she would have to trespass in order to get where she had got into the pool, and to cross a wide dry ditch. In her pocket was 3s 1d, a key, and a tramway season ticket.

Sergeant Moss: It is a favourite walk down there, sir.

Alice Meredith said she was in her deceased sister's company all Sunday evening. She was in her usual state of health, although she had not been weak for a long time, and she was either cheerful or very depressed. She was laughed at by the girls at school on account of the impediment in her speech. Witness did not hear her say she was tired of life, being upstairs at the time. Witness, while she was upstairs heard her crying, and called out to her not to do so. She sometimes laughed in a hysterical manner, and witness had known her to cry, over her delicate health. She was not in the habit of meeting or keeping company with any one. She thought her studies were hard, but she had not sat for an examination lately. The curriculum through which she had to pass was the same as that which other teachers went through.

William Brettle, labourer, deposed to seeing the deceased walking towards Morgan's Farm on Monday. On Tuesday he saw a pile of school books on the banks of the pool. On a drawing book was the name 'Hilda Meredith'. On the water of the pool near the hedge a girl's hat was floating. He remained by the pool while a messenger went to the Police Station. He saw the body recovered.

Eliza Giles, who laid out the body, said there were no outward marks of violence, nor were her clothes torn. Her tongue was between her teeth, and she did not seem very full of water. Witness was well acquainted with the family, and had never seen any strangeness about the deceased.

Mr. Greenaway thought a post-mortem examination would be necessary to assist the jury to arrive at a proper verdict.

The Foreman (Mr. Jones) concurred.

Mr. Hatch: The jury do not wish the family to have any stain cast upon them if it can be shown that death was not the result of suicide.

The Coroner: We have nothing to do with that. What we have to arrive at is a true verdict.

The inquest was adjourned till Thursday.

The inquest was resumed at the RED LION HOTEL on Thursday afternoon, when, Dr. Powell stated that he had made a post-mortem examination of the body and found that death was due to drowning. There were no marks of violence whatever, and the deceased was a most pure girl – a virgin.

After a short consultation the jury returned an Open Verdict that deceased died from drowning, but whether due to accident or otherwise there was no evidence to show."

AND

"At the close of the inquest held at the RED LION INN, Sedgley, on Thursday, a juror asked the coroner if it was imperative for licensed victuallers to take in dead bodies whether drowned or otherwise.

The coroner said licensed victuallers were not compelled to take in bodies and if the authorities had not made provision it was the duty of the churchwardens to make necessary provision and the police could remove the body to a churchwarden's house.

PS Moss said he was very much obliged to Mr. *Wilkins* for having taken in the body upon which the inquest had been held, but for Mr. *Wilkins* he did not know what he should have done.

The coroner said a mortuary had been provided at Coseley and perhaps some day one would be provided for Sedgley.

Mr. Hatch, a juror, thought there should be no difficulty in providing a mortuary for Sedgley, and Upper and Lower Gornal."

Blackcountryman (July 1968)

'Around The Pubs Of Sedgley'

"At the turn of the century, the farmers of the Sedgley area met annually on Lady Day in the RED LION INN."

It had a bowling green. [1901]

1901 Census

11, Bull Ring

[1] *John Wilkins* (46), licensed victualler, born Bath;

[2] *Frances Wilkins* (48), wife, born Kistanton, Huntingdonshire;

[3] *Ethel Wilkins* (22), daughter, born Willenhall;

[4] *Percy Wilkins* (18), son, born Willenhall;

[5] *May Wilkins* (15), daughter, born Willenhall;

[6] *Dora Wilkins* (8), daughter, born Pensnett;

[7] *Arthur Danes* (43), brother in law, licensed victualler, born Willenhall;

[8] *Emma Danes* (42), sister in law, born Uley, Gloucestershire;

[9] *Harold Danes* (17), nephew, pupil teacher, born Willenhall;

[10] Edward Reeve (17), visitor, clerk in colliery office, born Bewdley;

[11] Jane Cox (18), general servant, born Sedgley;

[12] Mary Turner (22), general servant, born Sedgley:

John Wilkins was a committee member of Wolverhampton and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Sports Argus 26/7/1902

“Thomas Coswell, a chartermaster, of Can Lane, Sedgley, brought an action against Joseph Love, lessee of a colliery at Woodsetton, Sedgley, to recover damages for slander. Mr. Disturnal was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Norris Foster for the defence.

The slander was contained in a statement alleged to have been made in the smoke-room of the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, by the defendant. He was alleged to have said in the presence of several persons in the room, that plaintiff was not able to pay his debts, that plaintiff was an old ——— who would not pay anybody anything.

Walter Coswell, son of the plaintiff, said he was at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, about half-past nine at night on December 27, and Love, with other men, were in the smoke-room. Love was speaking in a loud voice that could be heard all over the room, to a man named Cox.

‘He first began to talk about religious matters,’ said witness, ‘and especially chapel people.’ ‘None of them were very good,’ defendant said, ‘and all Mr. Coswell can do is to go down on his knees, and that is the way he pays his debts.’ He also said plaintiff was ‘a dishonest old ———.’ Witness spoke to defendant, and the latter replied, ‘It’s your father I mean.’ He also made further derogatory statements about plaintiff.

The jury found in favour of plaintiff, with £5 damages.”

Tipton Herald 14/3/1903

“Turlis Hill Building Estate. The first sale by public auction, was held on Monday night, at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, by Mr. B. Nock, of the firm of Nock and Joseland. In spite of the inclement weather there was a large gathering; Mr. Nock described the great advantages of the estate for building purposes, and stated that the owners, in order to develop the district, were prepared to sell at most reasonable prices. About twenty lots changed hands at prices averaging about 2s 3d per yard.”

Tipton Herald 20/6/1903

“The annual dinner in connection with the Sedgley Bowling Club was held in the clubhouse, RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, on Thursday evening. A capital repast was served by Host *Wilkins*. Mr. J. A. Fullwood occupied the chair, and Major Rogers (Wolverhampton) the vice chair.....”

Tipton Herald 19/12/1903

“The members of the Sedgley Branch of the Midland Counties’ Mutual Benefit Society on Tuesday evening invited Mr. Leonard Foster, the District President, to a complimentary dinner at the RED LION. The Vicar (Rev. T. G. Swindell) presided and the vice chair was occupied by Mr. Joseph Sheldon.....”

Lichfield Mercury 27/11/1908

“On Monday *J. Wilkins*, of the RED LION INN, Sedgley, was driving along Salop Street, when a boy dodging a tramcar, ran right in front of the horse. The boy, whose name was Benjamin Jones, was carried to his home in the vicinity, and attended by Dr. Cummings. No bones were broken.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 16/11/1909

“A Special Sessions was held today (Tuesday), at Sedgley, when several licensing matters came up for consideration.....

John Young, of the RED LION INN, Sedgley, in respect of improved sanitary arrangements, was granted.”

County Express 25/2/1911 - Advert

“Sale of Growing Timber, Sedgley Hall Farm, Sedgley (3 miles from Dudley and Wolverhampton).

H. King and Son will Sell By Auction at the RED LION INN, Sedgley, on Monday, Feb. 27th, 1911.

680 Hedge Row and Coppice Trees and Poles, viz., 420 Ash, 186 Oak, 38 Sycamore, 7 Poplar, Willow, and Birch, in three lots, growing on the above Farm, by order of the Trustees of the late J. E. Swindell, Esq.

Sale will commence at 4 o’clock prompt.

To view apply to Mr. Wooldridge, at the Farm House.

Catalogues may be had from the RED LION INN, Sedgley; or from the Auctioneers, Stourbridge. (Tel 197).”

1911 Census

Bull Ring – RED LION

[1] *William Hems* (42), hotel manager, born Northfield, Worcestershire;

[2] *Minnie G. Hems* (42), wife, married 15 years, assisting in business, born Bradford, Yorkshire;

[3] *Gwendoline Hems* (12), daughter, school, born Halesowen;

[4] *William Hems* (11), son, school, born Halesowen;

[5] *George Wilson* (19), barman, born Dudley;

[6] *Phoebe Jaynes* (19), general servant, born Oldbury;

[7] *Maud Padley* (24), barmaid, born Aston, Warwickshire:

It was put up for sale, with its brewery, on 6th December 1912.

Birmingham Daily Post 22/5/1917

“For permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, *Thomas Harold [sic] Chambers*, licensee of the RED LION HOTEL, Bull Ring, Sedgley, was fined £5 at Sedgley Police Court yesterday.

The evidence showed that on the 6th inst. two young men were found drunk on the premises, and it was stated that they had been supplied first with ale and then with whisky, to which they were not accustomed.

The young men now stated that one of them was expecting to be called to the colours, and they went to the hotel to celebrate the event.

They were each fined 6s.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 20/9/1917 - Advert

“The Estate of Mr. Benjamin Whitehouse, Deceased. Sedgley and Coseley, Monday, October 1, 1917.

Thomas J. Barnett & Sons are instructed to Submit for Sale by Auction, at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, on the above date, at Seven o'clock – a Freehold Residential and Agricultural Property, known as the Turls Hill and Hurst Hill Estate, in the parish of Sedgley and Crows Bridge, Coseley, comprising an area of nearly 90 Acres of Land.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 12/4/1921

“Two cars were smashed and nine persons injured in a cross-roads collision at Wombourn Common late on Sunday night, a touring Crossley was driven by George Smith, of Lichfield Street, Walsall, and the other, a Ford, was driven by William Hazeldine, of Brettell Lane, Stourbridge. The latter car was knocked into the side of the road and the four occupants flung out. The Crossley car overturned and the five occupants were imprisoned underneath, being extricated with some difficulty.

Mr. and Mrs. *Pargeter*, of the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, were driven home in a Wolverhampton police ambulance, and the others removed to Dudley Guest Hospital in passing cars. Mrs. Smith, the mother of the driver of the Crossley, who was out for a drive to celebrate her eightieth birthday, was the most seriously hurt, sustaining cuts about the head, face, and body, in addition to shock.”

South Staffordshire Times 3/12/1921

“The last Court Leet and dinner associated with the Manor of Sedgley took place eight years ago. It was a time honoured gathering but like so many functions it had to be dropped because of the war. On Tuesday there was a resumption, when a Court was held at the RED LION, Sedgley, presided over by Mr. W. Camm (Messrs. Slater and Camm), the Deputy Steward.....”

South Staffordshire Times 11/11/1922

“Another milestone on the highway of Buffaloism was passed on Wednesday night, when members of the Beacon Lodge celebrated their second anniversary at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, by entertaining a large number of visitors for dinner and a smoking concert. Bro. F. E. Foster presided The toast of ‘Host and Hostess’ was entrusted to Bro. Louis Perry, who paid a big compliment to their abilities as caterers.

Bro. *J Pargeter*, in reply, said he was always pleased to do what he could for Buffaloism.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 27/9/1924

“The annual ‘open’ night of the Beacon Lodge of the R.A.O.B. was held in the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, on Tuesday, when the chair was taken by Primo E. Wright.....”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 5/9/1925

“R.A.O.B. That it was a splendid night was the verdict of all who were present at the Beacon Lodge, held at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, on Tuesday.....”

Dudley Chronicle 26/8/1926

“Buffalo Installation. Imposing Ceremony at Sedgley.

At the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, there was an interesting ceremony in connection with the Beacon Lodge (No.3336) GLE, when Brother Frank Lunt, CP, was raised to the third degree, the installing officer being Bro. W. Wood, ROH, and the Director of Ceremonies Bro. H. Surplice, KOM. Bro. Lunt has been identified with the Beacon Lodge during the five and a half years he has been resident in Sedgley, and he has worked untiringly for its welfare. He has filled every office in the Lodge, and has not missed a single attendance. It was in consequence of this record that the brethren decided to honour him.....

Before the close the Host (Bro. Windridge) and Hostess (Mrs. Windridge) were thanked for the excellent arrangements they had made in connection with the installation.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions RED LION, Sedgley, £4 18s 10d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Dudley Herald 13/6/1931 - Advert

“Re Arthur Lester, Deceased, Preliminary Announcement.

Tommas and Sons (J. E. Tommas, Junr, FAI, FALPA), Have received instructions to Sell By Auction, at the RED LION INN, Bull Ring, Sedgley, on Wednesday, June 24th, 1931, A Freehold Residence known as ‘Osborne House,’ Dudley Road, Sedgley, and Four Freehold Dwelling-Houses, Nos.18a, 18b, 18c and 18d, Humphrey Street, Lower Gornal (commonly known as ‘Lester’s Buildings’).

Further particulars will be given next week, or in the meantime may be obtained on application to Messrs. Stockdale and Brown, Solicitors, Tipton and Wednesbury; or the Auctioneers, Five Ways, Tipton.”

Ferdinand G. Whichello died in the 4th quarter of 1934.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/3/1938

“Isaac Brown, aged 66, of Tudor Palce, Upper Gornal, who picked up a purse in a public house and refused to give up possession even when approached by the police, was at Sedgley yesterday fined £5 for stealing the purse by finding it.

The purse, containing 11s, was dropped by a woman in the smoke room of the RED LION INN, Bull Ring, Sedgley on 9th February. Brown was seen to put the purse in his pocket, but although the owner’s husband went to see him he refused to give up possession. The police were called but Brown still refused to part with the purse although its contents had been correctly described. The purse was recovered from him later.

Pleading ‘Not guilty’ Brown said he had no intention of stealing the purse.”

1939 Register

Bull Ring – RED LION INN

- [1] *Frank Leonard Burns*, date of birth 24/8/1888, manager hotel, married;
- [2] *Florence Annie Burns*, dob 8/11/1896, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] *Florence (May) (Elwell) (Nicholls) Daly*, dob 16/9/1919, barmaid, single;
- [4] *Lewis C. Saunders*, dob 10/8/1866, baker, married:

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Sedgley Rovers FC changed here.

In the autumn of 1970 it was converted into one big lounge and all the living facilities were refurbished, and was officially reopened on 17th December 1970.

It was refurbished and reopened on 15th December 1989.

Steve Foley was married to Hazel.

Birmingham Weekly Mercury 19/7/1992

“It’s lift off for the Telethon as 20,000 balloons fill the skies of Birmingham. TV comic Andrew O’Conner helped launch the balloons from Birmingham’s Centenary Square. The spectacular, organised by the *Sunday Mercury’s* sister paper, the *Evening Mail*, was last night on course to raise £13,000. Organisers of the 28 hour TV Telethon marathon were last night hoping to smash the £24 million record set two years ago. Hundreds of events were held across the Midlands to raise money for 2,000 charities..... Other Black Country events included a 12-hour baked bean bath at the HOP POLE INN, Bilston, and 179 people bungee jump at the RED LION in Sedgley.”

Dudley Chronicle 24/10/1997

“A scheme to extend a former coaching inn within Sedgley’s conservation area has been submitted to Dudley Council. Bass Mitchells & Butlers plan to extend the lounge and provide a new rear entrance at the RED LION, Bull Ring.

Brewery business manager David Blackhurst said alterations to the exterior of the pub would be minimal.

The enlargement would mainly be through altering the internal layout of the premises.

The scheme also includes use of a side yard as an open patio area for customers.”

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.....
RED LION, Bull Ring, Sedgley, Dudley.”

It was refurbished in 1999.

Express & Star 21/12/2007

“A string of traditional Black Country pubs will remain shut over Christmas because of a lack of landlords. At least five in Dudley alone have been hit by the shortage.

One in Willenhall stopped serving when the landlord suddenly walked out and another was forced to close by a family row. The DOG AND PARTRIDGE and BAR 148, formerly The TURKS HEAD, in Brierley Hill High Street are boarded up. The RED LION and The GRAND JUNCTION in Sedgley also remain shut with no-one to run what were popular pubs.

Marston’s, which owns The DOG AND PARTRIDGE and BAR 148, said it had to shut the pubs because of a shortage of licenses.

Another of its pubs, The BELL HOTEL in Market Street, Stourbridge, also remains closed. Campaign for Real Ale West Midlands area organiser Steve Thompson said, ‘It is a great shame that these pubs are sitting empty.’ Mr. Thompson said the main problems forcing licensees out were supermarkets selling low-priced alcohol and pub companies not allowing tenants to source their beers locally.....”

It reopened after refurbishment on 7th March 2008.

[2021]

RIFLE CORPS

50, Clifton Street / 40, Hurst Hill Street, Coppice, COSELEY

OWNERS

Joseph Hipkiss, provision merchant, Princes End.

Daniel Hughes

Herbert Hughes

Catherine Hughes

Daniel Hughes

Herbert Goodridge

LICENSEES

Daniel Hughes [1860] – **1886**;

Elizabeth Hughes (**1886**);

Herbert Hughes (**1886 – 1900**);

Mrs. Catherine Hughes (**1900 – 1910**);

Daniel Hughes (**1910 – 1931**);

Herbert Goodridge (**1931 – [1940]**)

Mrs. Jessie Smith [1950s]

NOTES

40, Hurst Hill Street [1871], [1881], [1891]

Clifton Street [1904], [1908], [1912], [1940]

It had a beerhouse license.

Daniel Hughes was born in 1817.

He married Mary.

He was the brother of Thomas (see HURST HILL TAVERN).

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston

Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. *Daniel Hughes*, the younger, of the Coppice, near Coseley, applied, and was supported by Mr. Waterhouse. It was urged that the applicant's house was the headquarters of the rifle volunteers. The Bench reserved their decision until the adjourned day."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/9/1860

"Adjourned Licensing Meeting.....

Of the applications for fresh licenses only one was granted, that by *Daniel Hughes*, of The Coppice, Coseley."

Daniel Hughes, beer retailer, Hurst Hill. [1861]

1861 Census

Hurst Hill Road

- [1] *Daniel Hughes* (43), brickmaker, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Hughes* (45), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sarah Hughes* (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Herbert Hughes* (17), son, brickmaker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Esther Hughes* (15), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *William Hughes* (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Mary A. Hughes* (4 months), daughter, born Sedgley:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 5/10/1862

"G. Guest (late of Coseley, Sedgley) will take three yards start in 100, or four in 120 from T. Baker of Coseley, for £5 a side, and will meet him at Mr. *D. Hughes's*, RIFLE CORPS INN, Coppice, on the 15th inst, and stake £2 10s a side. The whole of the money to be made good the morning of the race to Mr. Clulee, Aston Cross, who is to be final stakeholder and referee; the race of come off at his grounds. An answer through *Bell's Life* will be attended to."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/9/1865

"At the Police Court, yesterday, before Messrs. H. Ward and A. Sparrow, the following, whose names had been placed on the 'black list,' had their licenses renewed.....

Daniel Hughes, RIFLE CORPS INN, Coppice."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/1/1866

"W. Hodgkins of Cann Lane will run T. Hall of Gornal 120 yards level, or he will give J. Carter of Stourbridge two yards in the like distance, or will take three yards of Pearce of Newport, three of Barnes of Hanley, three of Thomas of Tipton, three of Booth of Wednesbury, Wareing of Wednesbury, or two of Snob of Wednesbury, two of E. Dudley of Stourbridge, or one of Young Brue-ton of Shropshire Row, for £5 or £10 a side. Any of the above can have a match by calling at *D. Hughes's*, The Coppice, RIFLE CORPS INN, near Sedgley, any night next week. First come first served."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/1/1867

"J. Fellows of Hurst Hill will run Joel Ashcroft of the same place, for £10 a side, or Isaac Collins of Cann Lane 125 yards level for £25 a side at the Britannia Grounds, Tipton. Money ready at *Daniel Hughes's*, RIFLE CORPS INN, Coppice."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/1/1869

"J. Nickoll's dog Topper of Hartshill will run D. Jones's dog Jimbo of Bloomfield the best of 21 courses, and will allow a rabbit for each two pound of weight; or he will run Sim Barby's red and white bitch of the same place, on even terms for £5 a side. A match can be made with either party calling at Mr. *D. Hughes's*, the RIFLE CORPS INN, Hurst Hill."

1871 Census

40, Hurst Hill Street

- [1] *Daniel Hughes* (53), widower, publican and brick manufacturer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Herbert Hughes* (27), son, brick manufacturer, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Will Hughes* (16), son, brick manufacturer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Esther Hughes* (25), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary A. Hughes* (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Hannah Jones* (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Daniel Hughes was a partner in D. & T. Hughes, fire-brick manufacturers of Cinder Hill and Wrens Nest. [1873]

Dudley and District News 22/1/1881

"On Tuesday Mr. W. H. Phillips held an inquiry at the RIFLE CORPS INN, Hurst Hill, touching the death of William Henry Jackson (21), who was killed at Old End Colliery, belonging to Messrs. S. Groucutt and Sons. Mr. Scott, her Majesty's Assistant Inspector of Mines, was present to watch the proceedings.

Samuel Jackson said on Friday afternoon he and his son had occasion to go down a pit at the Old End Colliery for the purpose of seeing if the rod conductors were properly fixed. When they had descended about forty yards something fell down the shaft which

struck him on the head and right arm, causing serious injuries. His son was knocked out of the bowk and he was precipitated to the bottom of the shaft.

By Mr.Scott: He did not know who fastened the rope. He believed two competent men were in attendance on the bank. Edwin Hughes, a miner employed at the colliery, said he found the body of the deceased in the sump. The head was covered with water, and he found that life was extinct. The accident was caused by the wire rope, which weighed about five cwt, falling down the shaft.

By Mr. Scott: The rope was intended for a wire conductor. The slides were in their proper place.

David Smitheman, the banksman, said some of the wire conductors slipped from under the lashing chain and fell down the shaft. Neither of the men was lashed in the bowk.

Several witnesses stated that they considered the wire conductor properly lashed to the leg of the pit frame.

William Beattie Scott, the sub-inspector, said he had visited the colliery, and found that the wire conductor opposite the one that had fallen was insecurely fastened. In his opinion clamps should have been used in the lashing of the conductor. There was, however, no rule with regard to it. The field carpenter (Isaac Bennett) was the responsible person, and he was of opinion that he had acted indiscreetly.

Isaac Bennett was afterwards called into the room, and having been cautioned by the Coroner, volunteered to make a statement to the effect that he properly lashed the conductor to the pit frame, and, he believed that it slipped in consequence of the frost.

The Coroner having summed up, the jury, after deliberating for some time, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and recommended that in future distinct instructions be given by the mining inspectors to make secure the end of the wire rope and conductor when such was being placed in a shaft, and that the dangerous practice of depending upon three laps of a lashing chain only be discontinued.”

1881 Census

40, Hurst Hill Street

[1] *Daniel Hughes* (66), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Elizabeth Hughes* (64), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Dorcas T. Baugh (23), general servant, born Sedgley;

[4] Thomas Harper (45), general labourer, born Shropshire:

Evening Express 5/7/1881

“Thomas Harper (49), carter, of the Coppice, was charged with stealing a quantity of malt, the property of Mr. *Daniel Hughes*, of the RIFLE CORPS INN, Coseley.

Mr. *Hughes* stated that on Sunday morning last he was called up by Police-constable Wood, and went into the yard where he found defendant and a sack containing a quantity of malt. The sack belonged to Mr. Hill, of Wombourn, and he (witness) was answerable for it. Some time ago defendant was in his employ, but he was discharged, and had no business whatever on witness’s premises. He believed the malt belonged to him, as it corresponded with that he had still in his possession.

Police-constable Wood said he was passing by Mr. *Hughes*’s house on Sunday morning, and saw defendant in the yard with something on his back. Witness then went to him, and found he had a bag of malt on his back. On inquiry what he was going to do with it, defendant said he wanted it for a pillow to lie on, as he was going to sleep in one of the out houses.

Prisoner was committed for trial.”

Dudley and District News 9/7/1881

“Thomas Harper, labourer, Coppice, Coseley, was charged with stealing a quantity of malt in a sack, the property of *Daniel Hughes*, RIFLE CORPS INN, Coseley. PC Wood said that about three o’clock on Sunday morning last he saw prisoner with the sack on his back in Mr. *Hughes*’ back yard. He went to him, and said ‘Well, Tom, what have you got there?’ Prisoner said ‘Oh dear, let me go this time, and forgive me.’ On being taken to Mr. *Hughes*, prisoner also begged to be forgiven. He was committed to take his trial at the Stafford Assizes.”

Dudley and District News 16/7/1881

“At the Staffordshire Summer Assizes, on Tuesday, before Mr. Justice Cave, Thomas Harper (54), labourer, pleaded guilty to stealing on the 3rd of July, at Sedgley, a bag containing a bushel of malt, the property of *Daniel Hughes*.

He also entered a plea of guilty to a previous conviction for felony, and other convictions were also recorded against him.

His Lordship sentenced the prisoner to hard labour for 15 calendar months.”

Dudley and District News 25/2/1882

“Mr. John Mills, of Can Lane, sued Thomas Caddick, secretary of a ‘death club’ held at the house of Mr. *Daniel Hughes*, RIFLE CORPS INN, Coppice, Coseley, for £5 due on the death of Joseph Mills (28 years), son of the complainant. Mr. Caddick objected to pay as there were no funds left.

The Stipendiary having examined the rules, said it appeared to be more a ‘drinking society’ than anything else, and doubted his jurisdiction in the case, inasmuch as the rules were not properly enrolled.

Complainant: They were fond enough of receiving my money, and now object to pay.

Mr. Caddick: We took his son in out of charity. The son was afflicted, and they are not entitled in such cases.

The Stipendiary: Oh, but you received the contributions. Charity, indeed, – the charity seems to be towards the society (a laugh).

Mr. Caddick: We have no money in hand now.

The Stipendiary (reading rules): It appears that there is a great deal about drink all the way through. Here is a pint of ale to each

member after a funeral. I suppose that is to show sorrow for the departed (a laugh). Here is also a provision about drink to two 'drink stewards'.

Defendant: That is those who serve the drink out at the funeral.

The Stipendiary: It is a curious society. Whose benefit is it for I wonder?

Mr. Mills: There are plenty like it in the same neighbourhood.

The Stipendiary: I think you may have a civil action against the society, as there is a contract. The society is not registered, and its rules appear to be a mere paper contract, contracting for ale drinking at a public house.

Mr. Mills: The secretary has the money.

The Stipendiary: Yes, no doubt he has got it, but won't loose it, as is often the case. I am desirous of helping you if I can.

Case adjourned for a fortnight.

It appeared that the deceased member in whose behalf the claim was made was drowned at the wharf of Messrs. Bannister and Foster, at Deepfields, a few days ago."

Daniel Hughes died in 1886.

1891 Census

40, Hurst Hill Street – RIFLE CORPS

[1] *Herbert Hughes* (47), brick manufacturer, born Sedgley;

[2] *Catherine Hughes* (39), wife, born Wallbrook;

[3] *Mary E. Hughes* (18), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] *Daniel Hughes* (16), son, brick burner, born Sedgley;

[5] *William Hughes* (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] *Sarah Hughes* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] *Esther R. Hughes* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] *Kate Hughes* (3), daughter, born Sedgley;

[9] *Ellen Aston* (26), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1892

"Mr. W. H. Phillips held an inquest yesterday, at the RIFLE CORPS INN, Hurst Hill, Sedgley, relative to the death of Josiah Tranter (64), miner, Hurst Hill, who was found dead under the circumstances reported in yesterday's *Post*. John York, miner, Lanesfield, deposed to leaving Tranter in a pit at the Ettingshall Colliery alone on Friday night. He was engaged in 'beading.' The following morning he went down the pit about 7.30, and found Tranter dead, his head lying on his arm. There had been no fall of any kind. William Edwards, who worked at the same colliery, said there was no damp in the pit, and on Saturday morning his candle burned clearly. From the bottom of the drift to the workings was about forty yards. The place was well ventilated. John Bayliss, royalty master, said he was the owner of the ironstone drift in question and deceased worked for him. He was engaged driving a 'bead.' There were no air-throughs in the pit, but the air was very good. No one worked with deceased on the night in question, but witness visited him twice during the night. The Coroner said it was very improper to leave a man in a pit all night. He thought the inquest should be adjourned, in order that a post-mortem examination should be held and the cause of death ascertained. The enquiry was then adjourned for a week."

Birmingham Daily Post 7/9/1892

"Yesterday Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an adjourned inquest at the RIFLE INN, Hurst Hill, Sedgley, on the body of Josiah Tranter (64), miner, Lime Street, Hurst Hill, who was found dead in a pit at the Ettingshall Colliery on the morning of the 27th ult. Mr. W. B. Scott, Government inspector of mines for South Staffordshire, was present, as was also Mr. W. A. Foster, who represented Mr. Bayliss, royalty master, by whom the deceased was employed.

Dr. Baker stated that he made a post mortem examination, and was of opinion that death was attributable to syncope.

The Coroner: Can you associate death in this instance to dampness in the pit or to the state of the atmosphere?

Witness: Not at all – death was entirely due to syncope or fainting.

The Coroner: It seems to me to be a very dangerous practice to allow a man to remain alone in a pit all night.

Mr. Scott: There is no breach in the regulations in allowing a man to work alone all night; it is sufficient if he is visited twice in the course of the shift.

The Coroner: Under those circumstances if a man working alone fractured his leg, or any other limb, he might have to wait a long time before any assistance arrived.

Mr. Foster said the fact that deceased was working a 'drift' in which only one man could work explained the reason of his being alone.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned."

Birmingham Daily Post 21/3/1893

"Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the RIFLE CORPS INN, Coppice, Coseley, relative to the death of David Kiteley (25), boat unloader, late of Horace Street, Coseley, who was employed at Spring Vale Works, belonging to Sir Alfred Hickman, and who died on the 15th inst. Mr. Moore attended on behalf of Sir A. Hickman, Mr. W. H. Venables (Birmingham) for the Scottish Employers Liability and Accident Assurance Company, and Drs. Johnson, Smith and Perry were also present.

David Kiteley, miner, said his son came from work on the night of the 7th inst, and complained of being unwell. On being questioned by his mother, he said he was lifting 'bull dog' pigs from a boat into a wheelbarrow when he slipped, and a large piece fell

on his left side.

Mrs. Kiteley, the mother, and Elizabeth Kiteley, the sister, were examined as to the treatment of deceased in accordance with the surgeon's instructions.

William Davies, labourer, said a week previous to the 7th inst, Kiteley said he had 'tenched' himself. While at work on the 7th inst, he again complained and left. Witness had not seen him since.

William Satterthwaite, timekeeper, deposed that Kiteley told him he had twisted himself, and on the night of the 7th inst, he gave him a note to take to Dr. Smith.

Dr. Ashley Smith gave evidence as to attending deceased on the 8th inst, and to examining him. No marks of injury were to be seen, but on the 9th inst, inflammation of the left lung had developed. He reported deceased's statement that he had twisted himself to Mr. Satterthwaite, and on the 15th inst, he died. Mr. Kiteley came to his house twice, and witness told him that if he was satisfied that no accident had happened he was prepared to certify that deceased had died from inflammation of the lungs, and was also authorised by Mr. A. W. Hickman to offer him £5 as a free gift.

Frederick Perry, assistant to Dr. Smith, said he examined deceased on the night of the 7th inst, but could find no external marks of injury. Kiteley complained of a severe pain in the left side of the upper part of the abdomen, and told him the cause of it. He ordered him to bed, and to be poulticed until Dr. Smith called the next day.

Dr. Johnson, who had made a post mortem examination, attributed the cause of death to congestion of the lungs, especially the left lung.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that Kiteley died from congestion of the lungs, occasioned by injuries accidentally received whilst following his employment at Spring Vale Works on the 7th inst."

Birmingham Daily Post 10/4/1895

"Yesterday, Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy-coroner) held an inquest at the RIFLE CORPS INN, Hurst Hill, touching the death of Susannah Kiteley (58), wife of David Kiteley, miner, Horace Street, Hurst Hill. On Sunday evening deceased attended the Coppice Baptist Chapel, and during the service was suddenly taken ill. She was removed to her daughter's residence near the chapel, and died a few minutes afterwards. Dr. Baler stated that he had several times during the last three years treated deceased for heart affliction, and he was of opinion that death was due to syncope. A verdict in accordance with the medical testimony was returned."

1901 Census

50, Clifton Street

- [1] *Catherine Hughes* (49), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Daniel Hughes* (26), son, brick manufacturer, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Hughes (21), son, brick setter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Hughes (19), daughter, school teacher, born Sedgley;
- [5] Esther Rebeca Hughes (16), daughter, no occupation, born Sedgley;
- [6] Kate Hughes (13), daughter, school teacher, born Sedgley;
- [7] James Herbert Hughes (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] Honor Hughes (6), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Lilian Hughes (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] Eliza Jane Aston (25), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Mrs. *Catherine Hughes* was also a brewer.

It had a quoit ground. [1901]

1911 Census

Hurst Hill – RIFLE CORPS INN

- [1] *Daniel Hughes* (36), unmarried, brickmaker and publican, born Coseley;
- [2] William Hughes (31), brother, brewer, born Coseley;
- [3] Herbert Hughes (18), brother, engineer's fitter, born Coseley;
- [4] Sarah Hughes (29), sister, teacher in elementary school, born Coseley;
- [5] Esther Hughes (26), sister, born Coseley;
- [6] Kate Hughes (23), sister, teacher in elementary school, born Coseley;
- [7] Honor Hughes (16), sister, dressmaker, born Coseley;
- [8] Lillian Hughes (11), sister, school, born Coseley:

Daniel Hughes was also a brewer.

He died on 10th October 1931.

Dudley Herald 14/11/1931 - Advert

"Notice of Sale By Auction of a Valuable Well Known Freehold Home-Brewing Fully Licensed Property at Hurst Hill, and Dwelling Houses at Upper Gornal.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell By Auction, at the RED LION HOTEL, Sedgley, on Monday, November 20th, 1931, at 7 o'clock in the evening precisely, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced a follows.

Lot 1. Estate of *Daniel Hughes*, Deceased.

The substantially erected double-fronted Public House known as the RIFLE CORPS, Clifton Street, Hurst Hill, containing entrance passage, front and back smoke rooms, tap room, bar, kitchen, spacious club room, three bedrooms and excellent range of arched cellars, in a spacious yard with double gateway approach is a two-floor brewery, two-stall stable, piggeries and other outbuildings. The foregoing property has a frontage to the road of about 30 yards, contains a large area of land fully enclosed with side approach from Rifle Street, is situate in a thickly populated district, admirably placed to command a large trade, and is well worth the attention of those requiring a home-brewing property with vacant possession, or of brewers wishing to increase their barrelage.

Lot 2. Estate of Thomas Greenaway, Deceased.

Two substantially erected brick-built and slate roofed Dwelling Houses, situate and being Nos.22a and 22b, Windmill Street, Ruiton, Upper Gornal. Each containing front and back sitting rooms, two bedrooms and cellar together with outer washhouse, two-stall stable with loft over and the usual outbuildings, the whole occupying a large area of land with double gateway approach, now occupied by the members of the family of the late Mr. Greenaway, who will give possession of one of the houses with stabling if so desired.

Lot 3. By The Same Direction.

Two substantially erected stone-built and roofed Dwelling Houses, situate and being Nos.7 and 8, Stone Street, Ruiton, Upper Gornal, each containing three rooms, scullery and pantry, together with washhouses and the usual outbuildings having side approach, is let to Messrs. Cartwright and Cartwright, together producing the gross annual rental of £27 6s 0d.

Further particulars may be obtained from Messrs. W. A. and H. A. Foster & Co. Solicitors, 51, Queen Street, Wolverhampton (Tele.194); or of the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (Tele.2256)."

Herbert Goodridge was also a brewer. [1935]

1939 Register

Clifton Street – RIFLE CORPS

[1] *Herbert Goodridge*, date of birth 1/11/1892, brewer, married;

[2] *Emily Goodridge*, dob 15/3/1898, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Bilston & Willenhall Times 5/10/1946

"Hurst Hill Allotment Society's annual prize distribution took place at the RIFLE CORPS INN, Hurst Hill, on Thursday, when the awards were presented to the successful competitors by Mr. W. Parkes, who is the oldest active member of the association....."

Jessie Smith (nee Williams) was married to Frank.

She was born on 8th March 1918 at Meadow Lane, Lanesfield

It closed pre 1960.

RISING SUN

55, Darkhouse Lane, (Dark Lane), Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

Phoebe Griffith, widow, Darkhouse Lane
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Thompson [1818] – [1862]

Phoebe Griffith [1864] – 1868);

John Griffith (1868 – 1869);

Edward Phillips (1869 – 1873);

William Thomas (1873);

Martha Thomas (1873 – 1874);

George Littlewood (1874 – 1875);

Joseph Partridge (1875 – 1876);

John White (1876 – 1878);

William Smallman (1878 – 1879);

Benjamin Fellows (1879 – 1886);

Edward Williams (1886 – 1887);

George Lucas (1887 – 1889);

James Hinley (1889);
John Baker Backhouse (1889 – 1891);
Henry Glaze (1891 – 1892);
Mrs. Elizabeth Bennett (1892 – 1895);
George Davis (1895 – 1897);
George William Davis (1897 – 1905);
Richard Walker (1905 – 1909);
Edward Richards (1909 – 1910);
William Joshua Lloyd (1910 – 1911);
Richard Walker (1911 – 1912);
Annie Walker (1912);
Daniel Rowley (1912 – 1921);
Bertram Albert Steward (1921 – 1926);
Ernest Mason (1926 – 1933);
George Barnett (1933 – [1940])
T L Steed [1995]
David Antony Jackson [2007]

NOTES

SUN [1833]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/5/1826 - Advert

“To Iron Screw Manufacturers.

In consequence of several masters having refused to deliver out to their Screw-forgers any more Iron (unless at reduced prices), a Meeting of the Forgers was held on the 16th instant, at the sign of the RISING SUN, Deepfields, Sedgley, when it was unanimously resolved, that no reduction should take place, the present prices being moderate and reasonable, and that the reduction of prices would render them totally unable to support their families.

RISING SUN, Deepfields, Sedgley.

May 16, 1826.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/7/1834 - Advert

“Fifteen Guineas Reward.

Stolen or strayed out of a Field at Deepfields, about the 2nd of this month, a black Pony Mare, five years old, about 12½ hands high, with a blaze down the face, a white nose, a little point of each ear cut off, three white feet, and switch tail; also a foal, resembling the Mare, about one month old.

If stolen people giving such information of the offender or offenders so that he or they may be brought to justice, shall, on conviction, receive a reward of Five Guineas from *John Thompson*, at the RISING SUN, Deepfields; and a further sum of Ten Guineas from the Sedgley Lower Side Association for the Prosecution of Felons. If strayed, any one bringing the said Mare and Foal to *John Thompson* shall be handsomely rewarded, and reasonable expenses payed.

Deepfields, near Bilston, June 30, 1834.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/7/1834 - Advert

“Draught Horses, with their Gearing, &c, the property of Messrs. J. and J. Thompson, who have no further use for them, in consequence of declining the drawing department at and about Moorcroft Iron Works, near Bilston.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Richard Corbett, on Monday, the 21st day of July, 1834, on the premises of Mr. *J. Thompson*, at the RISING SUN Public-house, near the Darkhouse Chapel, at the Deepfields, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.”

1841 Census

Dark Lane

[1] *John Thompson* (52), publican and victualler, born Staffordshire;

[2] Mary Thomson (48), born Staffordshire;

[3] Elizabeth Cooksey (17), born Staffordshire;

[4] Thomas Cooksey (16), born Staffordshire;

[5] Elizabeth Wainwright (16), born Staffordshire;

[6] Benjamin Egerton (40), ms, born Staffordshire:

John Thompson was also a maltster. [1845], [1849], [1850]

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/4/1850

“On Friday, T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the RISING SUN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Sedgley, on the body of Benjamin Ford, 27 years of age, who on Wednesday was ascending a coalpit in a skip at Haveacre Colliery, when he was struck by the ‘dolly,’ a balance to which the pit chain is attached, which was going down, and was knocked out of the skip. Ford fell to the

bottom of the pit, a distance of forty yards. He was brought up from the pit soon afterwards quite dead, having received a severe cut on his head. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *John Thompson* (64), maltster tanner and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Thompson* (56), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Cooksey* (25), son in law, visitor, land surveyor and auctioneer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Elizabeth Wainwright* (26), niece, servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/12/1853

“W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner, held an inquest on Tuesday, at the RISING SUN, Deepfields, in this parish, on the body of a child named *Mary Bailey*. It appeared that while the mother of the deceased was absent from the house, having to take her husband’s breakfast, she left deceased and her sister at home. Previously to the mother’s return the deceased was playing near the fire, when by some means her clothes became ignited, and before the flames could be extinguished, the ears and face of the deceased were badly burnt. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1861 Census

Darkhouse Lane – RISING SUN

- [1] *John Thompson* (74), widower, maltster and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Griffith* (22), granddaughter, servant, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Hannah Thompson* (21), granddaughter, born Sedgley:

The inquest into the death of *Henry Swinnerton*, who was murdered at Blue Button Bridge was held here in November 1862. As this involved the THREE HORSES INN, at Lady Moor, the full case can be found there.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/4/1863 - Advert

“To Publicans, Farmers, Parties Furnishing, Brokers, and Others.

Sale at the RISING SUN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Coseley, in the Parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Sell by Auction, on Monday next, the 4th of May, 1863, upon the Premises above, part of the Household Furniture, comprising mahogany and American birch bedsteads, feather beds, mahogany secretaire, chests of drawers, oak chairs, Windsor chairs, eight-day clock, mahogany and other tables; together with the Farming Implements, excellent rick of Wheat, Malthouse Effects, quantity of large and superior Ale Casks, &c, &c, the property of the late *John Thompson*, deceased.

The Stock-in-Trade and remaining part of Household Furniture have been taken to by valuation.

Sale to commence at eleven o’clock in the morning.

Catalogues may be had from *Mr. Richard Thompson*, BOAT INN, Deepfields, at the place of Sale, and from the Offices of the Auctioneer, 17, Church Street, Bilston.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/6/1863

“On Tuesday, at the RISING SUN, Darkhouse Lane, *Mr. W. H. Phillips*, deputy-coroner, held an inquest on the bodies of *Hannah Binsley*, aged ten, and *Susannah Howell* aged nine years. The evidence showed that on Sunday evening the deceased were amusing themselves by traversing a plank from the bank to a long-boat in the Birmingham Canal, near Blue Button Bridge, when they fell into the water, and drowned before they could be rescued. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Phoebe Griffith = *Phoebe Griffiths*

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/1/1865

“*J. Reeves* of Coseley, Staffordshire, will shoot a match at pigeons or sparrows against *J. Bennett*, of Kids Grove Staffordshire, 1oz of shot, 21 yards rise, 60 boundary, for £10 a side, open for £50 a side. A match can be made any time at the RISING SUN INN, Coseley, Staffordshire.”

John Griffith = *John Griffiths*

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *Edward Phillips*, RISING SUN, Dark Lane, to pay costs.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 20/11/1869

“*Thompson Bros. v. Phillips*. This case was tried yesterday at the County Court, before *Mr. Rupert Kettle*. The plaintiffs, who were represented by *Mr. Motteram* (instructed by *Mr. Stokes*), are corn factors and maltsters, of Castle Street, in this town, and the defendant, for whom *Mr. Duignan* appeared, is the landlord of the RISING SUN, Coseley. The claim was for £45, for malt supplied. Defendant stated that he had paid *Mr. Martin*, a traveller, for the plaintiffs, but could produce no receipt. On the other hand *Mr. Martin* swore he never received the money. In consequence, however, of the unsatisfactory manner in which witness gave his

evidence, Mr. Motteram submitted a non-suit.
Non-suited accordingly.”

1871 Census

55, Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *Edward Phillips* (37), mine ironworks manager and publican, born Norbury, Shropshire;
- [2] Ann Phillips (33), wife, born Overbury, Montgomery;
- [3] Samuel Tate (9), nephew, scholar, born Marlhill, Shropshire;
- [4] Mary Highs (22), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Hale (13), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

William Thomas died in 1873.

Midland Examiner 5/12/1874 - Advert

“RISING SUN, Deepfields, transferred from *Edward Phillips* to *George Littlewood*, of the UNION INN, Walbrook, Coseley.”

Dudley Herald 30/9/1876

“The adjourned licensing sessions for Bilston licensing division were held at the Bilston Police Court, yesterday week, the justices present being H. Ward and W. Hatton, Esqs, and the Rev. J. Y. Rooker.
.....licences which were ordered to stand over from the annual licensing day.....
The following licences were renewed, after the holders had been cautioned.....
Joseph Partridge, RISING SUN, Coseley.”

John White = John Whyte

Birmingham Daily Gazette 19/9/1877

“A petition for liquidation by arrangement has been filed in the County Court by *John Whyte*, landlord of the RISING SUN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Sedgley. The liabilities are estimated at £500, and the assets not yet known. Mr. James Stokes is the solicitor to the petitioner, and Mr. Bywater, auctioneer, has been appointed receiver.”

Dudley Herald 20/11/1877 - Advert

“In liquidation. Re *John White*.

Sale at the RISING SUN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Coseley to be sold by auction the licenses, goodwill and possession of the above old licensed inn with the whole of the public house fixtures, trade utensils, furniture and effects.....”

Benjamin Fellows = Benjamin Fellowes

1881 Census

55, Dark House Lane

- [1] *Benjamin Fellows* (43), engineer in iron works, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Fellows (36), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Thomas Fellows (12), son, scholar, born Walsall;
- [4] Mary Ann Fellows (10), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [5] Martha Fellows (7), daughter, scholar, born Walsall;
- [6] Walter Fellows (3), son, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 14/10/1882

“Uriah Bray, moulder, of Salop Street, Bradley, was fined 20s and costs for stealing a pair of vases, the property of *Benjamin Fellowes*, landlord of the RISING SUN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Coseley.”

Dudley and District News 22/12/1883

“A meeting of the creditors of *Benjamin Fellows*, RISING SUN INN, Coseley, was held at the offices of Messrs. Stokes and Hooper yesterday afternoon. The statement showed liabilities £437, assets £45 4s 1d. An offer of 2s in the £ subsequently increased to 5s was refused, and the meeting was eventually adjourned for a fortnight. Creditors were represented by Mr. Clark, solicitor, Mr. Ward, solicitor, and others.”

Dudley and District News 13/9/1884

“A woman named Ann Watson, aged 82 years, and residing at the back of the RISING SUN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Coseley, died on Thursday evening under the most painful circumstances. The house adjoins other property, and was tenanted by the deceased, her daughter, and a man named Brown, a lodger. On Thursday afternoon the daughter was from home, and her mother and Brown were left in the house. About five o'clock Brown went to a neighbour's house for the purpose of cooking some bacon, there not being fire enough at his lodgings, leaving the woman Watson alone. Whilst he was there some of the neighbours were surprised to see smoke coming from Watson's house, and, suspecting something was on fire, raised an alarm, and went into the house. The door was shut but not fastened. Upon entering they were horrified to find Watson near the back of the door with all her clothing in

flames, and some other articles in the house on fire. Although, it is stated, the woman was only left alone for a few minutes, when found near the door she was badly burnt, and all the clothing upon her destroyed. Dr. Gilbert, of Bilston, was sent for, and he attended to the injuries, but the poor woman died about nine o'clock in the evening. How the woman caught fire cannot at present be ascertained, but the supposition is that after Brown left the house she went to the fire for the purpose of putting some coal on, or arousing it, when her clothing became ignited. No screams were heard, and the neighbours were attracted to the house solely by the smoke. The table and some linen articles were burnt, and, had a long time elapsed before an entrance was made into the house, the probability is that it would soon have been on fire. The linen articles were placed on a line near to the fireplace, and it is supposed these caught fire by the flames arising from the poor woman's clothes. It is thought that the table became ignited as she was crawling to the back of the door. Deceased was in receipt of parish relief, and for several years past her mind had been affected owing to senile decay."

1891 Census

55, Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *John B. Backhouse* (29), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Annie Backhouse* (23), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *John Backhouse* (1), son, born Tipton;
- [4] *William Backhouse* (2 months), son, born Tipton;
- [5] *Emma Orion* (13), visitor, scholar, born Tipton:

George William Davis = George William Davies

George William Davis was convicted on 18th May 1897 for permitting gaming.

1901 Census

55, Darkhouse Lane – RISING SUN

- [1] *George W. Davies* (27), publican, born Tipton;
- [2] *Sarah A. Davies* (27), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Lily V. Davies* (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Clare Caddick* (21), general servant, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

"Sedgley Licensing Sessions RISING SUN, Deepfields.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required and the house difficult of police supervision.

Mr. W. H. Thompson said plans had been deposited with the police which, he believed, would be satisfactory.

Superintendent Walters said he would be satisfied if the work was done according to the plans.

An undertaking was given to complete the work within 14 days.

The license was renewed."

1911 Census

Darkhouse Lane – RISING SUN INN

- [1] *William Joshua Lloyd* (26), licensed victualler, sale of wines, spirits and tobacco, born Tipton;
- [2] *Sarah Lloyd* (27), wife, married 6 years, assists in business, born Wood Cross;
- [3] *William J. Lloyd* (2), son, born Cawnay Row, Durham;
- [4] *John William Lloyd* (5), son, born Cawnay Row, Durham:

Daniel Rowley was also a brewer.

1939 Register

Darkhouse Lane – RISING SUN

- [1] *George Barnett*, date of birth 19/4/1901, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] *Elsie M. Barnett*, dob 24/10/1899, unpaid domestic duties, married:

[2018]

ROLLERS ARMS

59, (58), (57), Foundry Street, Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

John Crowther Smith, solicitor, Wolverhampton

Nathaniel Attwood
Jane Millington, widow, Coppice, Coseley
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Admiral Taverns [2013]

LICENSEES

Edward Judson [1866] – [1867]
Joseph Rose [1869] – 1876);
William Moore (1876 – 1877);
John Marsh (1877 – 1878);
Thomas Smith (1878 – 1885);
Mrs. Tabitha Smith (1885 – 1886);
Benjamin Clarke (1886 – 1890);
Nathaniel Attwood (1890 – 1894);
Jane Attwood (1894);
Thomas Holdnall (1894 – 1896);
David Attwood (1896 – 1900);
George France (1900 – 1901);
David Edwards (1901 – 1921);
Thomas Edward Willetts (1921 – 1922);
Mrs. Alice Willetts (1922 – 1923);
Alfred Jeavons (1923);
James Sidney Mitton Turley (1923 – 1926);
Cyril George ‘Sid’ Edwards (1926 – [1940])
Bob Beasley [1983]
Miss T Bamford [1994] – [1995]
Patricia Edwards [2007]
Doug Walker [2013]

NOTES

57, Foundry Street [1871], [1881], [1891]
58, Foundry Street [1911]
59, Foundry Street [2013]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was originally four cottages.

It was reputedly haunted by two nuns and a man.

London Gazette 21/2/1868

“*Edward Judson*, now and for four months last past residing at the BLACK HORSE INN, Sodom, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Engineer, and for one year and three months previously thereto residing at the ROLLERS ARMS, Coseley aforesaid, Beerhouse Keeper and Engineer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 17th day of February, 1868, is hereby required to surrender himself to Thomas Walker, Esq., Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 12th day of March next, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the said Court. Thomas Walker, Esq., is the Official Assignee, and Joseph Stokes, Esq., of Dudley, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Joseph Rose was fined 1s and costs for serving during prohibited hours in July 1869.

Birmingham Daily Post 1/6/1870 - Advert

“For Sale, a new Plank-up Boat, Oak bottom streak, Elm bottom; full size.
Apply, *J. Rose*, ROLLERS ARMS, Deepfields, near Bilston.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 26/10/1870

“At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, *Joseph Rose*, who keeps a beerhouse at Coseley, was fined 40s and costs, on the evidence of a neighbour and the information of Chief Superintendent McCrae, for permitting gambling in his house. It appeared that the woman’s husband was gambling at the house on the 8th instant, and she saw him loose 10s, after which she gave information to the

police.”

1871 Census

57, Foundry Street

- [1] *Joseph Rose* (53), boatbuilder, publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Terser Rose* (56), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Susan Rose* (27), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Agnes Rose* (16), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *William Noans* (30), lodger, shingler, born Sedgley:

Joseph Rose, beer retailer, Foundry Street. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1873 - Advert

“For Sale, one new canal Boat, two second-hand Boats.
Joseph Rose, ROLLERS ARMS, Deepfields.”

1881 Census

57, Foundry Street

- [1] *Thomas Smith* (64), coal miner out of employ, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Tobiathy Smith* (67), housewife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Benjamin Care* (34), son in law, boat steerer on canal, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary Ann Care* (31), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Ann Care* (9), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Rosehannah Care* (7), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Thomas Henry Care* (6), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 9/4/1883

“Liquidations By Arrangement

Nathan Bennett and *Benjamin Cox*, Deepfields, Sedgley, Staffordshire, carriers, under the style of *Bennett and Cox*. The said *Nathan Bennett*, residing at Chapel Street, Upper Ettingshall, Sedgley, and the said *Benjamin Cox* residing at the ROLLERS ARMS, Foundry Street, Deepfields.”

1891 Census

57, Foundry Street – ROLLERS ARMS

- [1] *Nathaniel Attwood* (51), licensed beer retailer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Jane Attwood* (50), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *David Attwood* (29), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Fanny Grainger* (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 22/8/1891

“Bilston. The licensing sessions were held yesterday There were applications by
Nathaniel Attwood, Foundry Street, Coseley, beerhouse keeper, for a wine license. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 21/11/1891

“At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, an old man named *John Bagnall*, of Gough Street, Coseley, was summoned for discharging a firearm in the public thoroughfare. It may be remembered that during an enquiry at the same court a week ago, the defendant was shown to have discharged a revolver at a youth near the ROLLERS ARMS INN, Coseley, the excuse given being that considerable annoyance had been received, and that the defendant intended to frighten him. A fine of 20s and the costs was imposed.”

Nathaniel Attwood died on 14th March 1894.

1901 Census

Foundry Street – ROLLERS ARMS

- [1] *George France* (30), publican, born Netherton;
- [2] *Mary A. France* (24), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Lizzie France* (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Lily France* (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *George France* (5 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Margaret Jones* (22), general servant, born Sedgley:

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

A billiard license was granted on 7th February 1913.

David Edwards, beer retailer, Foundry Street. [1904], [1912], [1916], [1921]

1911 Census

58, Foundry Street

[1] *David Edwards* (51), publican, born Coseley;

[2] Sarah Edwards (51), wife, housewife, born Coseley;

[3] John White (17), nephew, iron work, labourer, born Aston, Birmingham;

[4] Arthur Williams (20), visitor, railway labourer, born Middlesbrough:

Blackcountryman (Summer 1985)

'Reminiscences Of A Black Country Pub c.1920'

"I [*Mary Murphy – nee Willetts*] was five years old in 1920 when I went to live at the pub with my father and step-mother. My mother had died in the flu epidemic in 1918 and father was in poor health caused by his war service. The name of the pub was the ROLLERS ARMS in Foundry Street, Coseley. It was a quiet street with small terraced houses. The pub had a passage leading from the front door, halfway down was a window where the outdoor customers were served. The smoke room was on one side of the passage and the bar the other. There was a room with a bagatelle table and also a piano. On the shelf in the public room were some large shells, relics from the war. The private living room was at the back, with the kitchen leading off it. It had a coal fire and a big iron boiler which had to be heated by coal. In the backyard was an archway where the brewers' horses and wagon came to deliver. Next to that was a barn with a hay loft. We kept chickens and pigs There was a marble alley in the backyard for any men who wanted to play.

.....Sadly he [*father*] died when I was seven My step-mother stayed on at the pub for some time, then moved away....."

A music license was granted on 2nd March 1928.

A bagatelle team was based here. [1928]

Black Country Bugle 14/10/1999

'Monkey Business At Coseley Alehouse'

".....Walsall reader *Steve Edwards*, who was born at the pub in 1930, and whose parents were mine hosts all those years ago the pub was once well known for its animals – monkeys and birds were kept at the rear, and poultry and pigs during the war. The *Edwards* family also bred corgi dogs at their pub based Stanroy Kennels".

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1937

"While men drink beer, women prefer wine, mostly sherry, not gin, as the chairman of Bilston Licensing Sessions, held yesterday, thought.

Unsuccessfully applying for a wine license on behalf of Mr. *Cyril George Edwards*, of the ROLLERS ARMS INN, Deepfields, Mr. F. W. Green said, 'Women today drink wine while the men have beer, and when they cannot get their drinks at the same premises they leave.'

Mr. Edward Hickman, the chairman: I didn't know women drank wine. I thought it was gin. What is this special wine they drink?

Mr. Green: I think it is chiefly sherry.

Mr. Hickman: There is a war going on in Spain, where sherry comes from, and isn't there any difficulty in getting supplies?

Mr. Green: I don't think there is any difficulty.

Mr. Green continued that there was a real demand for wine in his client's district."

Letter 27/9/1937

"To H. S. Pratt Esq, Magistrates Clerk, Bilston.

Dear Sir,

We are acting for Mr. Maurice Slater of 'Highcroft' Four Oaks Sutton Coldfield, Archibald Wilkes Yardley of 'Arosa' Four Oaks aforesaid and William Charles Camm of Dudley, Solicitor and Mrs. Cicely Slater of 'Himbleton House' near Droitwich in the County of Worcester Widow who are the holders of a Legal Charge dated the 9th June 1937 on the ROLLERS ARMS, Foundry Street, Mount Pleasant, Coseley, belonging to Messrs. Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd, the Charge being to secure the principal sum of £3,000 which is also secured on other property.

We shall be glad if you will kindly accept this letter as Notice of the Mortgagees interest in the property.

Your faithfully, Slater & Camm, Solicitors. Dudley."

A wine license was granted on 26th April 1938.

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/4/1938

"The County Licensing Confirmation Committee sat at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday, to consider the confirmation of provisional licenses and removal orders granted in the petty sessional courts.....

Wine licenses were granted in respect of the following beerhouses.....

ROLLERS ARMS INN, Foundry Street, Coseley."

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

[2013]

It was put up for sale in 2014 at £145,000.

Closed

Express & Star 30/8/2020

“Proposals to turn a former Coseley pub into a house of multiple occupation (HMO) have been refused by planning chiefs. The plans to turn the ROLLERS ARMS public house, off Foundry Street, into an HMO had been lodged with Dudley Council. Planning documents revealed that the premises had been operating as an HMO for a number of years without the relevant planning permission in place. The pub ceased trading in 2015.

A design and access statement, submitted with the plans, said, ‘The ROLLERS ARMS is a former public house which has in recent years been used as a House in Multiple Occupation, albeit without planning permission. The use as a House in Multiple Occupation has been undertaken without the benefit of planning permission and is now the subject of an Enforcement Notice. Due to the location of the property and changes in social habits in recent years, the use as a public house is no longer considered a viable option. Having considered the options the owner considers that a small hotel use, due to its location close to rail, bus and cycle routes, offers the most realistic option. The owner proposes a small 9 bed, boutique hotel serving local needs, such as those attending weddings etc, as well as local businesses and those working in the area on short-term contracts. Custom may also come from users of the nearby cycle route.’

Letters of objection had been received by nearby residents, including local Councillor Sue Ridney who said, ‘The application for a change of use to a hotel is inappropriate for the location of this property. But in refusing the plans, a planning officer stated the proposals were ‘not considered to be accepted in principal.’”

ROLLING MILL

12, Highfield Road, (High Street), (Stafford Row), Highfields, (Ettingshall), (Bradley), COSELEY

Moved to Bilston.

ROOKERY TAVERN

35, (25), (10), Wood Street, Lanesfield, (New Street, Ettingshall), COSELEY

OWNERS

John Davis [1876]
Richard Jones
Stephen Rhodes
William Thomas Bayliss
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1966]

LICENSEES

Thomas Jones [1861]
John Davis [1866] – 1881;
Richard Jones (1881 – 1896);
Jonah Jones (1896 – 1897);
Stephen Rhodes (1897 – 1926);
William Thomas Bayliss (1926 – [1940]
Sid Bennett [1966]
Anthony ‘Tony’ Andrews [1995] – [1999]
Amardeep Singh Matharu [2005]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Lanesfield – ROOKERY TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Jones* (37), farmer of thirty acres, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Esther Jones* (32), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary Lucia Jones* (6), daughter, school, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of *John Davis*, of the ROOKERY, Sedgley, and produced testimonials as to character, and also two recommendations from the occupiers of licensed houses near.

Mr. Young opposed on behalf of Messrs. Murcott, Wright, and Co., and it was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 31/8/1867

“Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting of Magistrates for the granting of victualler’s licenses, in the Bilston Police Division, was held at the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Stokes, Dudley, for Mr. *John Davis*, applied for a license to the ROOKERY TAVERN, at the Rookery. There was no licensed house within three-quarters of a mile of the tavern. A number of houses had been erected since the same application was made last year, and there was a great want for additional licensed house accommodation. A few weeks ago a pit accident occurred there, and some brandy was wanted to revive the men who had ventured down the pit to get their fellow workers up, but not a drop could be obtained, excepting from a private house. A certificate of character was produced, together with a memorial from a number of residents in that neighbourhood, showing the necessity that there was no properly conducted old-licensed house in the locality. No opposition. Application refused.”

John Davis = John Davies

1871 Census

10, Wood Street

- [1] *John Davies* (58), miner, born Oswestry;
- [2] *Rhoda Davies* (57), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Hannah Davies* (26), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Samuel Davies* (23), son, miner, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Harriett Davies* (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Emma Davies* (19), daughter, milliner and dress maker, born Sedgley;
- [7] *John Davies* (16), son, labourer in iron works, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Edward Bayley* (22), boarder, labourer in iron works, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Harriett Binsley* (3), visitor, born Sedgley:

John Davis, beer retailer, Rookery, Ettingshall. [1872]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 26/8/1876

“Bilston Annual Licensing Sessions.....

John Davis, occupier and owner of the ROOKERY, Ettingshall, Sedgley, made application for a licensed victualler’s license. Mr. C. Barrow appeared to support the application, which, however, was opposed by Mr. Fellows on the two-fold ground that the house for which the license was asked was not of sufficient annual value, and that the wants of the neighbourhood were adequately provided for by the existing public houses. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/9/1877

“The annual licensing sessions for the Bilston division were held at the Public Office, Bilston, yesterday.....

Mr. Waterhouse appeared for *John Davis*, beerhouse keeper, Wood Street, Ettingshall, who allied for a spirit license for his house, known as the ROOKERY TAVERN. He stated that the house was in a new street, in a locality where much building was going on, and where there was a scarcity of public houses, there being no licensed houses within about three-quarters of a mile. Applicant had kept the house for twelve years without complaint, and previous to that he was a chartermaster, and had always held a good character.

Mr. Richards, surveyor, was called and stated that there were 39 houses in Wood Street, and others were being built. In the main road, close to the end of the street, there were twenty or thirty houses. Applicant’s house was large, and well-constructed, and there was at the back a yard, stables, and a coach-house. The annual value of the premises was £35. In reply to the Bench he said he only knew of three houses that had been built in this street during the year.

Applicant said he had spent £15 on the premises since last year, and they were now worth £35 a year if he let them. Last year he stated that they were worth only £25.

Mr. Fellows opposed on behalf of the keeper of the THREE CUPS public house; Mr. Barrow opposed on behalf of Henry Hyde,

occupier of the FOX beerhouse, and applied for the latter that the license of a house formerly known as the FORGE HAMMER, which had been taken down by Mr. Stephen Thompson, for the erection of his works, might be transferred to the FOX..... Mr. Waterhouse, in opposition to this, urged that the public requirements would be met by granting by the of a license to *John Davis*, whose house was already erected Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/9/1878

“Annual Licensing Sessions. Bilston.

These sessions were held on Saturday as usual, there were several applications for new licenses.....

John Davis, beerhouse keeper, of Wood Street, Rookery, applied through Mr. T. Waterhouse, for a full license. There were a good number of houses in the street, and this house was in their midst. The applicant owned the house, and had occupied it for thirteen years, during eight of which he had held a license without complaint. For the convenience of the public there were in the house a large club room, 37ft long; stabling for three horses, and a carriage house. Four times before he had applied for this house. No fresh houses had been built since last year. Mr. Barrow opposed on behalf of Henry Hyde. Mr. Fellows also opposed on behalf of Joseph Ward. He said the rent of the house was below qualification The Bench refused all the applications without retiring.”

Dudley and District News 29/5/1880

“On Tuesday evening Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an adjourned inquiry at the ROOKERY INN, Wood Street, Lanesfield, relative to the death of William Burgess (50), fender-fitter, Spring Gardens, Dudley. At the previous inquiry several witnesses gave evidence as to finding the deceased in an open-work, near to a private footpath, but not one could state how death had been caused. In the interests of the deceased’s family and the public the Coroner ordered a post-mortem examination to be made. Medical evidence having been adduced, showing that death had occurred from suffocation, the Coroner said there was no doubt but that the deceased had accidentally fallen into the open-works, which was about ten feet deep, and was suffocated by the mud and water at the bottom of the hole.

The jury afterwards returned a verdict ‘that deceased was accidentally suffocated in consequence of falling into the open-work’..”

1881 Census

Wood Street

- [1] *Richard Jones* (27), miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Harriet Jones* (31), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sarah Jones* (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary Jones* (2), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Betsy Butler* (17), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1881

“Yesterday, the Licensing Sessions for the Bilston Division of the county were held at the Public Office.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a full license on behalf of Mr. *R. Jones*, ROOKERY TAVERN, near Sedgley. This was not the first time that the application had been made, but the licensing justices had refused it hereto on the ground that the neighbourhood was insufficiently populous. Now Mr. Waterhouse pointed out that much of the new building had been erected, and there were now seventy-four houses within a stone’s throw of the applicant’s house, and the nearest public house was 400 yards distant. ROOKERY TAVERN had been occupied as a beerhouse for fifteen or sixteen years without any complaint. The applicant admitted that the street was in a dilapidated condition. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1883

“Yesterday, at the Police Court, the annual licensing sessions for Bilston and Sedgley district were held.....

The Bench then heard the following applications.....

Richard Jones, Wood Street, Ettingshall, for a full license to the ROOKERY TAVERN, on the ground that it was a public necessity. Application refused.”

1891 Census

25, Wood Street

- [1] *Richard Jones* (37), coal miner, born Bromley, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Harriet Jones* (41), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sarah Jones* (14), daughter, assists in house, born Yorkshire;
- [4] *Mary Jones* (12), daughter, scholar, born Yorkshire;
- [5] *Ellen Jones* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Jane Mills* (22), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Eastern Morning News 25/2/1897

“An inquest was held yesterday at Bilston, Staffordshire, on *Richard Jones*, aged 13, son of *Jonah Jones*, publican, Lanesfield, and formerly of Rotherham. On Friday the father chastised the boy for some offence of which he was innocent. The deceased was teased at school about his Yorkshire dialect, and he told a fellow schoolfellow he should drown himself. He came from Rotherham three months ago. A verdict of Suicide whilst Temporarily Insane was returned.”

1901 Census

Wood Street – ROOKERY TAVERN

- [1] *Stephen Rhodes* (39), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] *Harriet Rhodes* (37), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Albert Rhodes* (17), son, boiler works, born Bilston;
- [4] *Alice Rhodes* (15), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] *Fred Rhodes* (13), son, boiler works, born Bilston;
- [6] *Beatrice Rhodes* (4), daughter, born Bilston:

Stephen Rhodes, beer retailer, 35, Wood Street, Lanesfield. [1904], [1912]

1911 Census

35, Wood Street, Lanesfield – ROOKERY TAVERN

- [1] *Stephen Rhodes* (49), brewer, born Bilston;
- [2] *Harriet Rhodes* (47), wife, married 28 years, born Bilston;
- [3] *Joseph Barker* (62), brother in law, coal miner, born Bilston;
- [4] *Sidney Rhodes* (20), son, iron worker, sheet mill, born Bilston;
- [5] *Ethel V. Rhodes* (17), daughter, born Bilston;
- [6] *Beatrice Rhodes* (14), daughter, born Bilston;
- [7] *Hilda M. Rhodes* (8), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] *Percy S. Rhodes* (5), son, born Wolverhampton:

Black Country Bugle 9/12/1999

'The Rookery Tavern etc' based on a letter from Ben Owen of Parkfields

".....This brought back to me many memories of the nineteen twenties. At that time, the brewer at the tavern was a Mr. Jim Lakin, a friend of our family. He was either the very first, or one of the first to be run over and killed by a car on the Birmingham New Road Jim Lakin also assisted in the brewing at the HEN AND CHICKENS in Eagle Street, Wolverhampton."

James Henry Lakin, brewed the beer here in the 1930s.

William Bayliss was also a brewer.

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/5/1938

"Sixteen applications, granted earlier in the year by the local justices, remained to be dealt with when an adjourned meeting of the Staffordshire County Licensing Confirmation Committee was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Tuesday.....

Mr. J. F. Bourke appeared to support an application for the removal of the full license of the BROWN JUG INN, Temple Street, Bilston, to premises proposed to be erected on the Birmingham-Wolverhampton new road at Lanesfield.

The application was opposed by Mr. Kenneth Wood on behalf of the owner of the ROOKERY TAVERN, a beerhouse in Wood Street, Lanesfield, Coseley.

Mr. Bourke said extensive development was taking place within a quarter mile radius of the proposed house, and at present there were no full licenses within a quarter of a mile. If the application were approved his clients were prepared to surrender two licenses apart from the BROWN JUG.

Stating the grounds for opposition, Mr. Wood said his client had been the owner and licensee of the ROOKERY TAVERN for 13 years, and last year he spent over £1,300 on improving the property. The trade of the ROOKERY TAVERN was 13 barrels and 34 dozen bottles of stout per week, in addition to other bottled goods.

After evidence in support of the application had been given, the Chairman said the committee had come to the conclusion that the application was premature and, in consequence, the order would not be confirmed."

Birmingham Mail 31/5/1939

"Wireless Comments.....

Midland supplies the opening musical number for 'Roundabout' at 8, and also one of the usual series of 'In-door games.' The game chosen this time is tipcat, which has a strong appeal to Black Country miners. One of the centres for it is the ROOKERY TAVERN, at Lanesfield, from which the broadcast comes."

1939 Register

35, Wood Street, Coseley UD

- [1] *William T. Bayliss*, date of birth 10/2/1888, licensee, married;
- [2] *Elizabeth Bayliss*, dob 5/3/1889, home duties, married;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/2/1940

"At Bilston Brewster Sessions yesterday.....

An application for the removal of the license of the BROWN JUG INN, Temple Street, Bilston, to premises proposed to be erected in the Birmingham new road at Lanesfield, Coseley, was acceded to."

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/4/1940

“Meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Committee, held at the Shire Hall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

There were eight applications for the confirmation of orders made by local licensing justices.....

Confirmation was sought of an order granted by the Bilston Justices for the removal of the full license of the BROWN JUG INN, Temple Street, Bilston, to premises proposed to be erected on the west side of the Birmingham New Road, Lanesfield, Coseley. Mr. A. J. Long, KC, with Mr. J. F. Bourke appeared for the applicant, and Mr. Kenneth Wood represented *William Thomas Bayliss*, owner and licensee of the ROOKERY TAVEN, Coseley, who opposed the application.

Mr. Long said the owners concerned with the application were Messrs. Butlers Brewery, Wolverhampton. Application for the removal of the license was first made in 1938, when the Bilston Justices made an order which, however, was not confirmed. Last year the application was repeated, and a grant was made by the Justices, but again it was not confirmed. On that occasion the Chairman of the confirming authority said the Bench were of opinion that the development of the area concerned had not been as rapid as anticipated, and that the applicant should wait another year. For a third time, said Mr. Long, the Bilston Justices had granted an order for the removal of the license, and he submitted that the merits of the case were such that the grant should now be confirmed.

Counsel spoke of further housing development in the area concerned since the application was last before the committee, and said that within a circle of a quarter of a mile radius of the site of the proposed new licensed house there were only one on beer license – that owned by Mr. *Bayliss* – and an off beer license known as the Hope Cottage. Within the same radius there were now 431 houses. Residents complained they had to walk a long way to get their drink, and that the ROOKERY TAVERN was often over-crowded. There was, he submitted a real demand for the proposed house.

After evidence had been called in support of the application, Mr. Wood contended that there had been little housing development since the application was last before the committee, and therefore the position had not changed.

Bayliss gave evidence as to his trade at the ROOKERY TAVERN, and said he would describe it as a ‘good beer-drinking district.’ He thought that at some future date there would be a need for a house such as that proposed on the main road, but the war had postponed the arrival of that time.

The committee refused the application.”

‘Wolverhampton Pubs’ by Alec Brew

“The last licensees of the old pub, *Sid* and *Elsie Bennett*, also became the first of the new one.”

Demolished

It was rebuilt c.1967.

It reopened in August 1996 after a £100,000 refurbishment.

[2012]

Closed [2015], [2018]

[Express & Star 11/8/2021](#)

“An empty Wolverhampton pub which has become a magnet for anti-social behaviour could be demolished to make way for new flats. Gill Capital Management Ltd has put forward proposals to Wolverhampton Council planners to carry out a complete overhaul of the ROOKERY TAVERN site in Wood Street. The pub was listed as an asset of community value six years ago but closed soon after. The area has since become overgrown and attracted problems including fly-tipping. If approved, the building will be demolished and a 24-apartment block will be erected in its place. In the application, Gill Capital Management said the redevelopment of the site would be a boost for the area and provide much needed housing to the city. They said, ‘The pub has been closed for around five years and was previously listed as an asset of community value on 7th July 2015. Notwithstanding the community listing, in the intervening period the site has exhibited signs of anti-social behaviour, fly-tipping and general neglect. The current Covid-19 situation has effectively reduced the pub returning to a viable business as virtually zero together with the fact the local planning authority has previously granted planning permission to allow its conversion to flats and a pair of semi-detached houses. As a result there is now an overwhelming case for supporting the demolition of the pub and allowing the redevelopment of the site to a productive and socially beneficial residential use. The replacement of the pub with housing will not negatively impact the remaining community facilities. On the contrary, the new residents occupying the site will help ensure the long term survival of the existing and remaining community facilities. From this perspective the current proposal represents the successful recycling of surplus derelict land where the cumulative benefits clearly outweigh any perceived harm. Schemes such as the current proposal have a cumulative effect over time in helping to boost the housing supply and provide a balance within the local housing market.’”

[Express & Star 9/9/2021](#)

“A derelict pub which has been shut for seven years and become a magnet for anti-social behaviour could fetch almost £300,000 at auction. The ROOKERY TAVERN, known locally as ‘The Rook’, on Wood Street in Wolverhampton, was closed down in late 2014 and has been left derelict. The pub was listed as an asset of community value six years ago but closed soon after. The area has since become overgrown and attracted problems including anti-social behaviour fly-tipping. It had previously been known for regularly hosting meetings for the English Defence League and is currently the subject of a planning application for 24 apartments. Police were called to the pub in May of 2014 after a car was driven through a crowd of people outside the pub. It was also well-known for its community events, charity fundraisers and pool, dominoes and darts team. Now Bond Wolfe is set to auction off the property on Thursday with bids starting from the guide price of £299,999 for the two-storey building. Plans have been

submitted to Wolverhampton Council for the pub to be torn down and replaced by 24 new apartments, but the proposal has not yet been fully approved – although chiefs at the authority have written an ‘in principle’ letter of support for the scheme.

Colin Totney, land and development surveyor at Bond Wolfe, said, ‘This site offers an ideal opportunity for a developer. It sits in the middle of a large residential area with local services including a popular and highly successful local primary school. Planning permission to redevelop the site for homes has already been secured since the pub closed nearly eight years ago, but this has now expired. The local authority clearly supports the new planning application and the general proposal to provide much needed new housing on the site. We are expecting highly competitive bidding for this property when it comes up for auction at our sale event on Thursday. Our online auctions are attracting thousands of viewers and potential bidders from across the country and overseas and the former ROOKERY TAVERN is just the sort of keenly-priced redevelopment opportunity many of them are looking for.’”

Express & Star 10/9/2021

“A derelict pub which has been shut for seven years and become a magnet for anti-social behaviour has been sold ahead of an auction. The ROOKERY TAVERN, known locally as ‘The Rook’, on Wood Street in Wolverhampton, was closed down in late 2014 and has been left derelict. The pub was listed as an asset of community value six years ago but closed soon after. The area has since become overgrown and attracted problems including anti-social behaviour fly-tipping. It had previously been known for regularly hosting meetings for the English Defence League and is currently the subject of a planning application for 24 apartments. Bond Wolfe had been set to auction off the property on Thursday, with bids starting from the guide of price of £299,999 for the two-storey building. But it was sold before the auction started, for an undisclosed amount, the auctioneers confirmed....”

Express & Star 16/1/2022

“A long-abandoned pub which once hosted regular English Defence League meetings has become the second derelict bar in the Black Country to catch fire in 24 hours. The blaze started at the ROOKERY TAVERN, on Wood Street in Wolverhampton, on Sunday afternoon, hours after West Midlands Fire Service attended a fire at the remains of the SNEYD in the Bloxwich area of Walsall. Four fire crews, made up of teams from Wolverhampton, Bilston and Dudley, attended and found a fire on the ground floor of the two-storey building. A spokesperson for West Midlands Fire Service said it was believed that the fire at the former Wolverhampton pub was started deliberately.

The ROOKERY TAVERN, known locally as ‘The Rook’, on Wood Street in Wolverhampton, was closed down in late 2014. Previously it had been known for regularly hosting meetings for the English Defence League (EDL). Police were called to the pub in May of that year after a car was driven through a crowd of people. It was also well-known for its community events, charity fundraisers and pool, dominoes and darts team.

The pub was listed as an asset of community in 2015, but since closing down has become overgrown and a magnet for anti-social behaviour. In 2017 plans to convert the building into 12 flats and build two semi-detached houses on the site were approved, these never materialised. In September last year Bond Wolfe had been set to auction off the pub, listing it with a guide of price of £299,999, but the two-storey building was sold for an undisclosed amount before the auction started. A new planning application to flatten the ROOKERY TAVERN and build 24 flats has also been submitted to Wolverhampton Council. In the application, developers say, ‘Notwithstanding the community listing, in the intervening period the site has exhibited signs of anti-social behaviour, fly tipping and general neglect. The current Covid 19 situation has effectively reduced the pub returning to a viable business as virtually zero. As a result there is now an overwhelming case for supporting the demolition of the pub and allowing the redevelopment of the site to a productive and socially beneficial residential use.’”

Express & Star 25/3/2022

“Work has started to tear down a crime-hit derelict pub which once hosted regular English Defence League (EDL) meetings. The ROOKERY TAVERN on Wood Street, Wolverhampton, known locally as ‘The Rook,’ was shut in late 2014 and has been subject to arson attacks, vandalism and fly-tipping since its closure. It was set to be auctioned off by Bond Wolfe in September last year with a guide price of £299,999, but was bought ahead of the auction for an undisclosed amount. Owner Mohammed Adeel has pressed ahead with the demolition after working closely with Wolverhampton Council to ensure he meets the necessary building regulation. He is planning to replace the two-storey pub with homes. In November a planning application was submitted to build 24 apartments, with dedicated parking, on the Lanesfield site. Wolverhampton Council planners are expected to give their decision on it in the near future.

Mark Taylor, deputy chief executive of the authority, said, ‘There were concerns about safety to public health and it has been good to work with a responsible and committed developer to make the site safe and remove the risk of further anti-social behaviour. The development of the site, subject to planning approval, will make a huge and positive difference to the street scene and the local community. Furthermore, there is the potential to deliver much-needed new homes, creating jobs and boosting the local economy. It is the first step in transforming this troublesome site and creating something that will provide a real uplift for neighbouring residents.’

The pub was listed as an asset of community value around seven years ago but was closed soon after. Since then it has become a magnet for crime. In January a fire was started at the site which West Midlands Fire Service believed was started deliberately.”

ROSE AND CROWN

8, Providence Road, Providence Place, (7, Providence Row), Prospect Row, West Coseley, COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Wright, painter, Coseley
Ellen Wright, Coseley
Darby's Brewery Ltd., Greets Green, West Bromwich

LICENSEES

William Henry Jenks [1845]
George Jackson [] – 1850;
Joseph Higgs (1850 – [1851])
Samuel Round [1857] – [1863]
Charles Johnson [1864] – [1865]
John Bryan [1867]
William Hampton [1870] – 1893;
Joseph Mason (1893 – 1896);
Michael Mason (1896 – 1901);
Prudence Mason (1901 – 1902);
William Perks (1902 – 1904);
George Taylor (1904 – 1910);
Albert James Millington (1910 – 1911);
William James Wall (1911 – 1912);
Samuel Stackhouse (1912 – 1913);
Richard Young (1913 – 1914);
Mrs. Mary Jemima Bott (1914 – 1916);
Joseph Dolman (1916 – 1925);
William Clark (1925 – [1940])
Hal Cartwright [1950]
Dickie Smart []

NOTES

Providence Row [1861], [1878], [1883], [1921]
8, Providence Road [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
Providence Place [1904], [1908], [1912], [1932]
7, Providence Row [1939]
Providence Road [1940]

It was situated near to the Providence Chapel.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1845 - Died

“On the 2nd instant, of an affection of the brain, aged 3 years, Ellen, the beloved child of Mr. *Henry Jenks*, ROSE AND CROWN, Coseley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/12/1850

“At a special sessions for the hundred of Seisdon North, held on Monday last, at the office of the county magistrates, Bilston Street, in this town, the following victuallers' licenses were transferred.....

The license of *George Jackson*, of the ROSE AND CROWN, Coseley, to *Joseph Higgs*, of Coseley, miner.”

Joseph Higgs was also a chartermaster. [1851]

1851 Census

Coseley

- [1] *Joseph Higgs* (39), miner and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Naomi Higgs (41), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Hannah Higgs (14), daughter, at home, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Higgs (12), daughter, at home, born Sedgley;
- [5] William Higgs (8), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Thomas Higgs (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Higgs (3), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Mary Ann Higgs (2), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[9] Sarah Bunn (14), daughter in law, scholar, born Sedgley;
[10] Simeon Bunn (11), son in law, scholar, born Willenhall:

Staffordshire Sentinel 1/3/1856

“On Monday last W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy-coroner, concluded an inquest, which had been several times adjourned, at the ROSE AND CROWN, Coseley, on the body of a newly-born female child, which had been found under the following mysterious circumstances.

Susannah Smallman said that on Friday, the 28th of December, at the request of a boy about eight years of age, she went to a well within a few yards of her house, and which belonged to Mr. Daniel Whitehouse. She looked into the well, and saw lying at the bottom the body of a child, which was subsequently taken out by a miner named Evans, and found to be the body of a female child newly-born. It appeared to have been in the water several days. A piece of calico was found tied tightly round the neck, and there were severe bruises on the head. May Jefferson spoke to having seen children playing near the well on the previous Monday, and throwing stones down at what they thought was a dead dog, but which was subsequently found to be the body of a child. Numerous witnesses were examined, but no one could speak to anything that would clear up the mystery as to how the child came into the well, or whose child it was. Mr. Hall, surgeon, of Tipton, and Mr. Smith, surgeon of Coseley, were passing at the time the discovery was made, and the latter, by the direction of the coroner, made a post mortem examination of the body. He gave it as his opinion that the child, which was full grown, had been born alive, and that the injuries upon the head were quite sufficient to account for death. The head and brain, however, were so decomposed that he could not say whether those injuries had been inflicted before or after death. He was of opinion that the body had been in the water a fortnight or three weeks. The jury returned an Open Verdict, expressing a wish that Government should be petitioned to offer a reward for the discovery of either the person who destroyed the child, or concealed its birth. An application has been sent to the Secretary of State for that purpose.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 10/1/1857

“At the Police Court, *Samuel Round*, landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN, Coseley, was fined 10s and expenses, or in default a month’s imprisonment, and ordered to enter into his own recognisances to keep the peace, for having assaulted his wife, who had excited his indignation by interfering to prevent a lascivious dance in the house between a woman of bad character and several men.”

Birmingham Journal 10/1/1857 - Advert

“I hereby caution any person not to Trust my Wife, Melinda *Round*, after this public Notice, as I shall not be answerable for any Debt or Debts she may contract.
Samuel Round, Publican, Coseley.”

1861 Census

Providence Row – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *Samuel Round* (46), victualler, blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elenor Round (33), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Samuel Round (14), son, blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [4] Marion Round (15), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Persilla Round (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Albert Round (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Amphles Round (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Henry Round (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Clara Round (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [10] Rosa Round (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [11] Sarah Growcut (20), visitor, born West Bromwich:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/2/1863 - Advert

“Sale This day, at 10.30am.

By Charles Round, at the ROSE AND CROWN INN (opposite Providence Chapel), Coseley, a portion of the useful Public House Fixtures, Brewing Utensils, and Household Furniture, belonging to Mr. *Samuel Round*, who is leaving, having purchased the BARREL INN, Dudley Port.

Auctioneer’s Offices, Owen Street, Tipton.”

Charles Johnson was also a nail manufacturer. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/2/1869 - Advert

“Bankruptcy Act, 1861.

Unreserved Sale, at the ROSE AND CROWN INN, near Providence Chapel, Coseley.

To Publicans, Broker, and Others.

To be Sold By Auction, by John Bent, This day (Wednesday), Feb 10 – the whole of the Public-House Fixtures, and Brewing Utensils, together with the Licenses, and other Effects, belonging to *John Bryan*, a Bankrupt.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock in the morning.”

London Gazette 2/3/1869

“*John Bryan*, of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Charter Master, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 5th day of February, 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 Dudley, on the 20th day of March instant, at twelve of the clock at noon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Thomas Walker, Esq., Registrar of the said Court, is the Official Assignee, and Mr. Joseph Stokes, of Dudley, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

London Gazette 9/7/1869

“In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley.

In the Matter of *John Bryan*, of the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Chartermaster, Bankrupt.

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 an 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 10th day of May, 1869.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 8/1/1870

“Mount Pleasant Recreation Grounds, Coseley. Mr. Hampton, the proprietor of the above grounds, having now got his grounds in fine order for dog and pedestrian handicaps, intends to give a series of both during the forth-coming season, and at starting will give £6 10s to be contended for in an all England Dog Handicap, distance 200 yards, for dogs of all weights, to be run on Monday, Jan 17 and 24. Entries 1s each, to be made not later than Jan 12 to Mr. *Hampton*, ROSE AND CROWN INN, Coseley, and 1s to accept, to be made at the time of weighing. Stamps to be taken as cash for entries only.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 24/12/1870

“Pointon’s bitch Jenny of Brownhills and Lloyd’s bitch Rose of Chasetown run their 200 yards match for £10 a side, on handicap terms. On Monday the dogs will scale at Mr. *Hampton*’s, ROSE AND CROWN, Coseley at 11, and run at 12 o’clock.”

1871 Census

8, Providence Road – ROSE AND CROWN INN

- [1] Thomas Hampton (53), bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Hampton (54), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William Hampton* (22), son, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [4] Ann Hampton (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Thomas Groucutt (10), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Frederick Hampton (9), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1873

“Mr. *William Hampton*, landlord of the ROSE AND CROWN, Paradise [sic] Row, was fined £2 and costs for having permitted drunkenness in his house on the 26th of May.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

“Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court.....

The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent McCrea presenting his annual ‘black list.’ In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act. The names of the offending licensed victuallers were.....

William Haughton [sic], ROSE AND CROWN, Coseley.....

The committee stated that the licenses of all the persons contained in the ‘list’ would be suspended until the adjourned licensing sessions, to be held on the 26th proximo.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.....

On the personal application of the following persons the appended old licenses were renewed.....

William Hampton, ROSE AND CROWN, Bilston.....

All the above applicants had been convicted during the past two years, and the Bench cautioned them.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/1/1878 - Advert

“To be Sold, a Barrel Organ, to play thirty-two tunes; also a covered Spring Trap, nearly new.

Apply to Mr. Thomas Hampton, ROSE AND CROWN, Providence Row, Coseley, near Bilston.”

1881 Census

8, Providence Road

- [1] *William Hampton* (27), innkeeper, born Coseley;

- [2] Betsey Hampton (24), wife, born Princes End;
- [3] Thomas Hampton (2), son, born Coseley;
- [4] Eliza Elizabeth Hampton (11 weeks), daughter, born Coseley:

Dudley and District News 8/12/1883

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (district coroner), held an inquest at the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Providence Row, on Monday, on the body of Thomas Pearson (51), colliery manager who met with his death on the 30th ult, at the Bramfield Colliery. When ascending the pit-shaft in a bowk with an air trough, the deceased rolled out of the bowk and fell to the bottom of the shaft, a distance of sixty yards, and was found quite dead. It was stated deceased neglected to lash himself with a chain. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1891 Census

8, Providence Road

- [1] *William Hampton* (42), bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Betsy Hampton (36), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Thomas Hampton (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elizabeth Hampton (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Maud Hampton (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Lily Hampton (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] May Hampton (4), daughter, born Sedgley:

William Hampton – see also BLACK HORSE, Coseley.

1901 Census

8, Providence Road

- [1] *Michael Mason* (36), bricklayer’s labourer, born Coseley;
- [2] Edward Mason (31), brother, bricklayer’s labourer, born Coseley;
- [3] *Prudence Mason* (26), sister, born Coseley;
- [4] Samuel Mason (24), brother, coal miner, underground, born Coseley;
- [5] Amy Mason (23), sister, born Coseley;
- [6] Lucy Mason (20), sister, born Coseley;
- [7] Alfred Mason (18), brother, bricklayer’s labourer, born Coseley:

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

1911 Census

8, Providence Road – ROSE AND CROWN

- [1] *James Millington* (50), licensed victualler, born Princes End;
- [2] Fanny Millington (48), wife, married 29 years, born Coseley;
- [3] Albert James Millington (24), son, cast iron pot moulder, born Coseley;
- [4] Sidney Millington (22), son, coal carman, born Coseley;
- [5] John Millington (21), son, cast iron pot moulder, born Coseley;
- [6] Joseph Millington (20), son, gas stove burner moulder, born Coseley;
- [7] Leonard Millington (15), son, labourer in cold sheet iron rolling mill, born Coseley;
- [8] Emma Millington (12), daughter, born Coseley;
- [9] Elsie Millington (11), daughter, school, born Coseley;
- [10] William Henry Millington (8), son, school, born Coseley;
- [11] Percy Millington (6), son, school, born Coseley;
- [12] Mary Ann Evans (19), domestic servant, born Hednesford, Staffordshire:

South Staffordshire Times 26/11/1921

“An interesting gathering took place on Saturday evening last at the ROSE AND CROWN INN, Providence Row, Coseley, when the Mobberley Collecting Box Competition Shield was presented, that house being the second on the list of collections for the Coseley Friendly Societies’ financial year ending September 11th. Last year there was only one shield ‘The Elwell,’ for competition, but it was thought if there were three shields provided it would cause greater competition and Mr. W. R. Mobberley kindly provided the second shield, and Mr. J. Dodd the third. This year the ‘Elwell’ Shield has again been won by the PARK INN, Woodsetton, the ‘Mobberley’ Shield by the ROSE AND CROWN and the ‘Dodd’ by the BRITANNIA INN, Bradley.

Previous to the presentation of the shield, a cold repast was partaken of by members of the house company at their expense, assisted by contributions from one or two gentlemen present and the landlord, after which a capital concert was given. Mr. J. Dodd presiding over same. The company gathered together for this interesting event included the Chairman of the Friendly Societies Committee, Mr. J. Dodd, Mr. T. Banner (hon. secretary), Mr. J. Small (assistant secretary), J. Griffiths, W. Edwards, T. Bamford, W. Smith, W. Dodd (members of the F.S. Committee), J. Hunt, J. Randall, T. Westwood, D. Elwell, etc.

The Chairman, in his remarks, said that the ROSE AND CROWN contributors were to be complimented in winning the second competition shield, and, comparing the situation of the house and other larger houses, they had done exceedingly well, considering

the state of unemployment. He hoped that they would top the list next year. The noble work they had done for the benefit of the hospitals was really good. (Applause.) He said that Mr. W. R. Mobberley was to have presented the shield to them that evening, but owing to another important engagement he was unable to be present. He therefore asked the hon. secretary of the movement (Mr. T. Banner) to do so on Mr. Mobberley's behalf.

In presenting the shield, the hon. secretary said he wished to congratulate the ROSE AND CROWN customers on the splendid increase they had made over the previous year, which amounted to £5 10s 9d, but this time they had won the shield by the amount of £14 8s 10d. (Applause.) He hoped they would carry on with the good work and so help our local hospitals, who were so badly in need of financial assistance, and he trusted they would win the shield again. (A Voice: 'The first one next time.' – Applause.) He pointed out that the amount collected by them would purchase about 115 hospital or dispensary notes, and if any other house in the Coseley district did as well as the ROSE AND CROWN it would be very gratifying to the committee, whose aim it is to help those poor unfortunate ones who cannot help themselves. (Applause.)

Mr. J. Smallman, in accepting the shield, said that the praise of winning the shield was due to the customers, who were always willing to drop their coins into the box when he went round with same, and he hoped that others would go round the various houses with their boxes and help the funds, which were for the hospitals.

Mr. W. Webb also complimented them on winning the second shield, and regretted that owing to his getting on in years he did not feel quite so able to push into the work so much as he had done during the past 35 years he had been connected with the friendly society movement in helping the hospitals, but he would do what he possibly could for the good work. (Applause.)

A capital programme was gone through, the artistes including Messrs. Singleton, J. Hunt, J. Garland (ventriloquist), P. Higgins, and others. Mr. Woodhall, of Dudley acting as pianist."

1939 Register

7, Providence Row

[1] *William Clark*, date of birth 17/10/1883, licensed victualler (manager), married;

[2] *Gertrude Clark*, dob 1/9/1885, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Hal Cartwright was a former featherweight boxer.

Closed

ROSE AND PEAR TREE

COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/9/1834 - Advert

"Stolen or Strayed on Friday night or Saturday morning, from a piece of ground near the ROSE AND PEAR TREE Public House, near Coseley new Church, in the parish of Sedgley, a black horse Pony, three years old, between eleven and twelve hands high, with a star on his forehead, and near ear slit, cow-legged, long tail, and marked on the near side with the letter K.

If strayed, whoever has found him, and will take him to the above Public House, or to the owners, James Walker, near Great Bridge, or John Parkes, near Coseley Church, shall be handsomely rewarded for his trouble, and if stolen, information is requested to be sent to the same places, and a reward of One Guinea will be given on conviction of the offender or offenders. September 16, 1834."

ROYAL HOTEL

54, (57), Castle Street / Ebenezer Street, Roseville, (New Walbrook), (Fullwoods End), COSELEY

OWNERS

John Dudley, roll turner, Hallfields, Bilston
S. Thompson and Sons, Smethwick [1882]

William Henry Shaw, grocer, Bradley, Bilston [1883]
Truman, Hanbury, Buxton and Co. Ltd. (acquired in February 1897) [1904], [1912]
Courage Ltd.
Unique Pub Co.

LICENSEES

Thomas Percival [1859] – 1879);
Joseph Hands (1879 – 1880);
Sarah Walker (1880);
Thomas Crowther (1880 – 1882);
John Hill (1882);
Joseph Clement ‘Charles’ Linnell (1882 – 1883); manager
William Cotton (1883 – 1902);
Phoebe A Cotton (1902 – []
Joseph Holloway [1911] – 1920)
William Vaughan [1921]
Jack Hill [c.1935]
Cuthbert Oswald Hamshaw [1940]
Akers []
[Cliff Wintle \[1983\]](#)
Fred Bedford (1983 – [1988]
Mary Ann Naomi Fielder [2007]
Armand Edward Snow [2012]
Anne Field [2016]

NOTES

Fullwoods End [1870]
54, Castle Street [1871], [1881], [1901], [1911], [2002], [2013]
57, Castle Street [1998]

ROYAL OAK [1870]

Thomas Percival = Thomas Percivall

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers’ licenses.....
Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to the house of Mr. *T. Percival*, at Coseley, and Mr. J. E. Underhill applied for a license for the BUSH INN adjoining, on behalf of Mr. W. Flavell. Mr. Hayes opposed both applications, which were refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....
Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to a house kept by Mr. *Thomas Percivall*, at Rose-villa, Coseley; and Mr. Whitehouse made a similar application, on behalf of Mr. William Flavell, for another house [OLD BUSH], exactly opposite that of the former applicant. Mr. W. Bowen opposed both applications, which were refused by the Bench.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....
Mr. Underhill applied for a license [Wines and Spirits License] to the HOP AND BAR UNICORN INN [sic], occupied by Mr. John Richards, Coseley. Mr. Waterhouse also applied for a license to a house in the same locality, kept by Mr. *Thomas Percival*. Both applications were opposed by Mr. Bowen, on behalf of Mr. C. Guest, of the VINE TAVERN. Refused.”

Thomas Percival, retailer of beer, Coseley. [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.....
Mr. Waterhouse appeared on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Percival* for a license to a beerhouse in New Walbrook, Coseley, and Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. Joseph Rose in respect of another beerhouse [NEW BUSH] in the immediate vicinity. The two applications were taken together, and were opposed by Mr. Bowen on behalf of Mr. W. Roland, who applied, as owner, for a renewal of the license to the RED LION, Five Ways. It appeared that the license was last year granted to Charles Guest, who

gave up possession of the house at the beginning of last January, and it had since remained closed and untenanted. Mr. Underhill contended that Mr. Guest having neglected to get his license transfer, the present was not the time nor the place for the application on behalf of Mr. Roland. Mr. Waterhouse contended that the premises were not of a character in respect to which a license would in these days be granted. The Bench acquiesced in the latter objection to the RED LION, and deemed it a favourable opportunity for withdrawing the license, which they did accordingly, granting the application of Mr. *Percival*, whose premises they considered were more suitable of the two houses, with respect to which the application for two new houses were before them.”

Thomas Percival was also a grocer. [1864], [1865]

Thomas Percival was also a shopkeeper. [1868], [1870]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 4/7/1867 - Advert

“Sale Of Freehold Old-Licensed House, and Another House, at Coseley.

Mr. Jabez Morrell, will Offer for Sale by Auction, on 16th July, 1867, at Seven o'clock pm, at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, by order of the Trustees for Creditors.

Lot 1. The well-built conveniently-arranged Dwelling House, with Shop Front, known as the ROYAL HOTEL, and occupied by *Thomas Percival*, for the double purpose of a Grocer's Shop and a Public-house, containing, on the ground floor Shop, four good Rooms, and Kitchen, and on the first floor a spacious Club Room and four Bed Rooms.

The Premises are at the corner of two roads in a populous neighbourhood. They occupy nearly 700 square yards, and have three Entrances, besides Carriage Entrance, and are well adapted for carrying on a Drapery or Grocery Establishment, besides the Public business.

Lot 2. A Messuage near the above, occupied by Solomon Percival, with Outbuilding, Land, measuring altogether 280 square yards.

Further information on application to Mr. J. W. Hall, Solicitor, Bilston; or the Auctioneer, Bilston.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/4/1868

“At the Police Court, on Monday, Thomas Hampton, MOUNT PLEASANT, was fined £2 and costs for permitting drunkenness; Joseph Willing, of the GREEN DRAGON INN, was fined £5 and costs; *Thomas Percival*, of the ROYAL HOTEL, was fined £1 and costs; and Joseph Taylor, proprietor of the SEVEN STARS INN, was fined 1s and costs for similar offences.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/5/1869 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public House, Dwelling Houses, and Premises, at Wallbrook; and Freehold Dwelling Houses And Premises, at Roseville, Coseley, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round (by order of the Mortgagees), at the House of Mr. *Thomas Percival*, the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley, on Tuesday, June 1, at Six o'clock in the evening, in Two Lots, and subject to conditions then to be read.

Lot 1. All that Licensed Public House, known as the ROYAL OAK INN, situate at Wallbrook, Coseley aforesaid, with the Brewhouse, Stable, and Yard, now in the occupation of Mr. *James Lewis*, together with the Grocer's Shop, now converted into a Dwelling House, and the Four Messuages or Dwelling Houses adjoining, in the occupation of John Jones, Elizabeth Rowlands, and others, and producing an annual rental of £51 4s 0d. The Property is at the junction of four roads, has an extensive frontage to the road leading from Coseley to Princes End, and to the road leading from Rounds Hill to Fullwood's End, is well supplied with water. The Mines and Minerals belong, and are believed to comprise the Thick Coal, in the solid.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/6/1869 - Advert

“Wallbrook And Coseley. Notice Of Postponement Of Sale.

The Properties Advertised to be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley, This day (Tuesday), the 1st of June, Are Withdrawn From Sale.

Rutter, Neve, and Rutter, Solicitors, Wolverhampton.”

1871 Census

54, Castle Street

[1] *Thomas Percival* (48), widower, victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Maria Percival (23), daughter, born Sedgley;

[3] Maria Dunn (29), general servant, born Worcester:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/3/1872 - Notice

“County of Stafford. Weights and Measures, District C, or South Staffordshire.

Notice is hereby given, that I shall attend at the undermentioned times and places for the purpose of Comparing and Examining all such Weights and Measures as shall be brought to me for that purpose, and Stamping such of them as shall be found correct.....

At the ROYAL HOTEL, at Coseley, on Friday, June 17th, 1872, at ten o'clock am.....

All persons residing in the said District desirous of having their Weights and Measures stamped should bring or send them to any of the above places for adjustment, as shall be most convenient, upon the days and at the hours mentioned.

Persons within any local jurisdiction for which a separate Inspector is appointed cannot have their Weights and Measures Examined or Stamped by the County Inspector.

J. George Horder. Inspector of Weights and Measures for District C, or South Staffordshire.

Goldthorn Hill, Wolverhampton, March 16th, 1872.”

Midland Examiner 6/3/1875

“An inquest was held at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, on Thursday, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, touching the death of Joseph Smallman, a collier, aged 68 years of age. On Saturday morning last, the deceased was working in the mine of Messrs. Grocutt’s colliery, Old End, Coseley, being engaged in setting timber. While setting a ‘tree’ to the roof in a place where several other trees were standing, about three cwt of ‘clod’ fell from the roof upon him, seriously injuring his back. He was taken home and died the same day. The son of the deceased, a fellow-workman named Moses Peters, and Mr. Isaac Mitcham, the manager of the colliery, were examined, after which the jury returned the verdict that deceased was Accidentally Killed.”

Thomas Percival was fined £50 for having 130lbs of sugar without a license in July 1876.

Worcester Journal 22/7/1876

“At Sedgley the Excise authorities of that place charged a number of innkeepers before the stipendiary magistrate with having large quantities of sugar without licenses in unentered premises, for the purpose of defrauding the revenue. Mr. *Percival*, of the ROYAL HOTEL; Mr. King Jevons, PRINCE OF WALES; and Mr. Baker, of the SWAN, at Sedgley, were each fined £50. The stipendiary refused to recommend any abatement of the penalties.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1876

“A few days ago Mr. Spooner fined three publicans named *Thomas Percival*, William King Jevons, and John Baker, of Coseley, £50 each for having used sugar without licences, and refused to give a recommendation for the mitigation of the penalties imposed, owing to the Inland Revenue Board ignoring his previous recommendation. The publicans took steps themselves to get a mitigation of the penalties, and on Wednesday a letter was received stating that the fines would be reduced from £50 to £20.”

Dudley Herald 29/7/1876

“The penalties of £50 inflicted upon Mr. *Percival*, of the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, Mr. K. Jevon, of the PRINCE OF WALES, Coseley, and Mr. John Baker, of the SWAN INN, Deepfields, for having in their possession large quantities of sugar without a license, have, in consequence of a memorial addressed to the Inland Revenue Department, been mitigated to £20 each, the amount included the costs incidental to the prosecution.”

County Advertiser 13/9/1879

“Local Liquidations. On Thursday, at the Dudley County Court, *Thomas Percival*, licensed victualler, ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley. The liabilities are £500, and the assets not known. Mr. Job Davis is the solicitor to the debtor, and Mr. Whitehouse receiver.”

County Advertiser 4/10/1879 - Advert

“In Liquidation. Re *Thomas Percival*, ROYAL HOTEL, Rose Villa, Coseley.

The above Old-Licensed Business for Sale, commanding corner position, handsomely fitted up Bar, large Club Room, Tap Room, Kitchen, and very extensive modern Premises. Every facility will be given to inspect trade done. This is a very favourable opportunity. Immediate possession can be had. Trade Fixtures and Brewing Plant only to be taken to. Coming-in low. Apply at once, to the trustee, Joseph Hand, Hop Merchant, Wordsley; or to S. Insull, Auctioneer, Brierley Hill.”

London Gazette 14/10/1879 - Notice

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

In the Matter of a Special Resolution for Liquidation by Arrangement of the affairs of *Thomas Percival*, of the ROYAL HOTEL, Rose Ville, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler. Joseph Hand, of Wordsley, near Stourbridge, in the county of Stafford, Hop Merchant, has been appointed Trustee of the property of the debtor. All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the debtor must deliver them to the trustee, and all debts due to the debtor must be paid to the trustee. Creditors who have not yet proved their debts must forward their proofs of debts to the trustee.

Dated this 9th day of October, 1879.”

Thomas Crowther = Thomas Crowder

1881 Census

54, Castle Street

- [1] *Thomas Crowther* (47), licensed victualler, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [2] Emma Crowther (31), wife, born Newport, Shropshire;
- [3] William T. S. Crowther (3), son, born Aston, Warwickshire;
- [4] Hannah F. Crowther (11 months), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] Ann Vaughan (65), widow, working house keeper, born Stanlacy, Shropshire;
- [6] Alice E. Smallman (12), nurse, born Dawley, Shropshire;

Dudley and District News 9/4/1881

“Mr. Horatio Brevitt (Deputy Coroner), held an inquest on Saturday night last at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, touching the death of Stephen Briscoe (46), a miner, who died from the effects of injuries received at Rounds Hill Colliery belonging to the

Earl of Dudley.

When walking through a gate road, a large quantity of coal slipped out of the side and knocked deceased down, breaking his right leg in three places. He was afterwards removed to his home where he expired. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Evening Express 10/12/1881

“On Friday evening, a meeting of miners was held at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley. Mr. H. Rust, who presided, said the scale of 1874 had been in operation for about three years. The masters gave notice for it to terminate, and contemplate increasing the hours from 8 to 9½ per day; but though a new scale was made in 1877, the men wrongly and successfully resisted any interference with the hours. The men were dissatisfied with this scale, and, at a conference held about a year ago, it was decided to give notice for its termination, but, on the recommendation of the council, it was postponed, with a view of obtaining an interview with the masters. No interview had been held, however, and, at the conference very recently held, it was determined to give the masters three months notice for the termination of the scale. Such notice had been given and accepted by the masters, and would expire on the 21st of February next. Some of the masters rejoiced at this, because they evidently could not interfere with the hours under the scale, but at the termination of the notice they would be able to do so, and increase the number of working hours; it was therefore the duty of the men to become thoroughly united and organised. There was nothing very great in what the men were asking for. There was also another matter which the men considered would be just, and that was to establish a Board, with six representatives on each side, and when the Board could not agree upon a certain matter, to call in an independent person; and they should not rest until such a Board was formed, then, he thought, the miners would have their claims fully considered and adjusted. If the men would be united they would be enabled to obtain a scale which would be satisfactory to them. The present time, he said, was one of the greatest importance to the miners.

The secretary (Mr. Henry Barnes) also spoke, and in the course of his remarks said before them the need that existed for unity. It was their own weakness that had brought upon them many of the evils they had to endure; if ever there was a time that unity was needed it was the present one.

A resolution was passed to the effect that a sliding scale should be established to a minimum wage; that when the coal was selling at 10s per ton that the thick coal miners' wages be 3s 6d, and the thin coal 2s 9d per day; and that for every 1s rise or fall the rate should be at 4d to the 1s in the thick and 2d in the thin coal.

A resolution was also passed in favour of the establishment of a Board.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/6/1882 - Advert

“ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, near Bilston. A pushing man would do well. Excellent premises. Good business house. Lease 4 years. Rent £45; let-offs £13. Total in-coming only £200.

Apply to S. Thompson and Sons, Midland Maltings, Smethwick.”

Wednesbury Herald 26/8/1882 - Advert

“To be sold by Auction, by Messrs. Hawkins and Son, upon the premises, at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, on Monday, August 28th 1882 the unexpired term of Lease, Goodwill, & Possession of the above well-situated old-licensed House and Premises, together with the Dwelling House Adjoining”

Dudley and District News 26/5/1883

“Enoch Clark, Castle Street, and Edward Tennant, Ebenezer Street, were charged, on remand, with stealing 140lb of lead, the property of William Henry Shaw.

Mr. Tinsley prosecuted, and Mr. Willcock defended.

The prosecutor is the owner of the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, and up to the 22nd March last *Charles Linnell* was his manager.

Linnell alleged that when he left the house on that date a lead refrigerator was safe in the brewhouse. It was proved that it was sold by the prisoners on the same day to a marine store dealer at Princes End. In cross-examination, *Linnell* denied most positively that he gave the refrigerator to the prisoners.

Two witnesses for the defence swore that *Linnell* not only gave it to the prisoners, but that he also assisted them to remove it from the brewhouse; and a third witness averred that on Good Friday *Linnell* called at Clark's house to see what the prisoners had done with the lead, saying that from what he had heard he was afraid he should get into a bother over it.

The prisoners, who received a good character from the police, were discharged.”

Dudley and District News 14/6/1884

“*William Cotton* landlord of the ROYAL HOTEL, Castle Street, Coseley, was summoned for permitting gambling in his house on the evening of the 31st ult.

PS Williams and PC Booth visited the house between six and eight o'clock on the night in question, and whilst sitting drinking four pints of beer they saw four men playing dominoes for a quart of beer, and in another room they saw four play for a pint. In one room there were about twenty men, and the defendant was in and out of the rooms during the whole of the time the men were playing.

Mr. Tinsley said it was legal for customers to play with cards or dominoes in public-houses, and he was assured by the defendant that the men did not play for money or money's worth; and further, that he was aware that the officers, who were dressed as navies, were police officers, consequently, he was not likely to commit an offence. The house had been well conducted, and he hoped under the circumstances the magistrates would not convict his client.

Mr. Chief Superintendent Longden said he had received several letters complaining of the manner in which the house was conducted.

The Stipendiary imposed a fine of £5 and 17s 6d costs.”

Dudley and District News 25/8/1883

“*William Cotton*, landlord of the ROYAL HOTEL, Walbrook, Coseley, was summoned for defrauding the Inland Revenue authorities by storing sugar in an unauthorised place. Mr. W. H. Tinsley, who appeared for the defence, said he was prepared on behalf of his client to admit that he had acted ignorantly, but had no intention to defraud the Inland Revenue. The facts of the case were that after the beer had been racked defendant discovered that the beer was not fine, and as was customary throughout England, defendant put some loaf sugar into the barrels in order to make the beer fine. On the 17th of May defendant had occasion to make the beer fine, and upon the Inland Revenue officer going into the cellar he found on a cask a paper bag containing three or four ounces of sugar. The officer asked defendant what he had been doing, and he replied without any hesitation that he had been fining his beer, and was not aware that by doing so he was defrauding the Inland Revenue. Under these circumstances he trusted the Stipendiary would permit the case to be withdrawn on payment of costs.

Mr. Davis (Inland Revenue officer) said that as defendant had pleaded guilty he would not press the case against him. The defendant had rendered himself liable to a penalty of £200, and under the circumstances he should be willing for the magistrate to impose a small penalty with the costs, which would amount to at least £5.

Mr. Tinsley: Say the costs alone, as the act of the defendant would not in any way defraud the Inland Revenue.

Mr. Davis said he must differ with Mr. Tinsley, because putting sugar in the way defendant had done caused the beer to be strengthened and made heavier. He had no hesitation in saying that 20 per cent of the beer sold over the counters in large towns was manufactured in cellars by means of sugar and yeast being applied, and consequently the Inland Revenue authorities were defrauded. In the interests of the Inland Revenue and also of the public, it was highly desirable that such an objectionable thing should be stopped. The case was the first of its kind which had taken place in the district, and consequently he was not disposed to ask for a heavy penalty, but to leave the case to the discretion of the magistrate.

The Stipendiary: Has the defendant been long in business? – Mr. Tinsley: He has had two brewings.

The Stipendiary ordered defendant to pay £7, including costs and Mr. Davis said that if other brewers were summoned for similar offences heavier penalties would be asked for.

Defendant said he should decline to pay the fine, as he had not defrauded any person.

The Stipendiary: Then you shall go to prison for one month.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1884

“The Bilston annual Brewster Sessions took place yesterday.....

After consulting for a short time, the Bench decided to renew all the old licenses, with the exception of the following, whose holders have been fined during the past year, and who will have to apply again at the adjourned meeting on the 26th prox.....

ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1884

“Yesterday Bilston adjourned Brewster Sessions was held.....

Chief Superintendent Longden presented the list of publicans who had been convicted during the year. The Bench, after severely cautioning the persons in question, agreed to renew the licenses.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/9/1884

“Yesterday morning a mass meeting of colliers was held at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley. A working miner presided.....”

1891 Census

Castle Street

- [1] *William Cotton* (52), licensed victualler, born Pensnett;
- [2] *Phoebe A. Cotton* (47), wife, born Pensnett;
- [3] *William Cotton* (24), son, holloware moulder, born Pensnett;
- [4] *John Cotton* (25), son, holloware moulder, born Pensnett;
- [5] *Elizabeth Cotton* (22), daughter, born Pensnett;
- [6] *Emily Cotton* (20), daughter, born Pensnett;
- [7] *Samuel Cotton* (18), son, grocer’s assistant, born Pensnett:

Birmingham Daily Post 11/9/1891

“Yesterday Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley, on the body of James Elwell (52), miner, who was killed by a stray rifle bullet on Monday last, under circumstance already reported. Captain Underhill and lieutenant Foster, of the Tipton Rifle Volunteers, were present. Mr. W. A. Foster, solicitor, represented the rifle company; Mr. S. Ward appeared for the family; and Chief-superintendent Longden was present on behalf of the police authorities. There was a great crowd outside the hotel during the enquiry, considerable interest being taken in the proceedings.

The Coroner said if it was true that the deceased was killed by a bullet fired by a party of volunteers who were practicing the most searching inquiry was necessary.

Evidence of identity was then given.

William Darby, miner, said that on Monday night he heard some women shout, and he caught deceased as he fell. Deceased was bleeding from the back, and he died in a couple of seconds. When witness turned him round to place him on his back he saw a bullet wound in his right breast. The bullet was afterwards found by a girl named Hoskins. Witness had lived near Elwell four

years and could hear the riflemen shooting on the Wren's Nest quite plainly, but had never known a bullet coming astray near his residence, nor had he any occasion for alarm. He had been told that a bullet had come into the village and chipped a brick wall. Maria Lawton, a miner's wife said she saw Elwell descending the steps of his house. Suddenly he put his hand on his right breast and fell into the arms of Darby. There had been continuous shooting by the riflemen on the Wren's Nest that day. On her own knowledge she had never known a bullet come across.

By Mr. Foster: She had lived in the street sixteen years.

At this point the coroner and the jury inspected the spot where the man was killed. There was a mark on the brick where the bullet had struck, and a portion of the brick had been carried away.

Mr. Joseph Clendinnen, surgeon, said that the bullet had passed clean through Elwell, though not in a straight line.

Mr. Foster wished to ask a question, but Mr. Phillips intimated that Mr. Clendinnen would make a further examination, and report at the adjourned inquest.

Police-sergeant Ellis said he saw a woman pick up the spent bullet about five feet from where the brick was chipped. He had been in the station sixteen years, and had never heard of a bullet coming astray until the present one. No one had ever lodged a complaint.

The Ordnance map was put in to show the line of fire for the targets on the range, and the Coroner suggested that a plan of the locality, including the range and Elwell's house should be provided. It might be on a larger scale than the Ordnance plan.

Sergeant Eilis, continuing, said he heard the shooting going on while he was enquiring about Elwell's death. He sent a constable to the range with notice of what had happened, and a request that the firing should be stopped. This was done at once, and witness met Lieutenant Foster and a party coming away. He was told that at the time of the death the party were firing and they were using exactly the same sort of bullet as had been picked up. Lieutenant Foster could not believe anything could have come from the range, for the shooting had been properly conducted. They were firing at the 600 yards range.

Sergeant Price also said he could not account for the bullet coming from the range.

Captain H. W. Steward, adjutant to the 3rd Battalion South Staffordshire Volunteers, said that when a range was found it was passed by Government experts. No special arrangements had to be made with regard to the Wren's Nest. A sergeant was bound to be present, but if an officer was present the sergeant was relieved of some of his responsibility. Elwell's house was out of the line of the range. Witness had fired on the range and all the bullets during practice had been accounted for. The Wren's Nest range more than fulfilled the Government's requirements as to safety. Ammunition like that of the Government could always be purchased by rifle volunteers, and they used it for private practice. He had seen the spent bullet, and he believed from its appearance that the remaining velocity in it on its impact with the wall was such that it could not have travelled 1,650 yards and afterwards pass through a man's body. The velocity was too great, and the bullet had been fired at a distance of 800, 1,000, or 1,200 yards or less. The 1,650 yards distance was from the firing point to the house. It was impossible for a bullet to leave the range and after passing through Elwell's body to strike the wall where it did.

By the jury: Persons having bought ammunition had no right to use it on the road home; it would be improperly using a weapon and the ammunition.

The Coroner said the witness's evidence led to the conclusion that the bullet was fired at a considerably less distance from Elwell than the firing party on Wren's Nest Hill.

Captain Steward said that was so. In his opinion, and he held the highest certificate he could in the army, the bullet came from the wood near the Government's powder magazine. He said so as soon as he made his examination of the spots indicated in the evidence.

Lieutenant Foster, of the Tipton Company, said that on Monday twenty-nine volunteers were on the Wren's Nest range shooting for prizes, and he was at the firing point from the beginning to the end of the competition. The distances were 200, 500, and 600 yards, and the firing at 200 yards began at ten o'clock. Seven or eight recruits left early in the day and went towards the magazine. It was possible for some of the volunteers to have helped themselves of ammunition. He had never known a bullet go over the range. Every bullet fired that day struck the target or the ground; the field-glass showed this. In his opinion it was impossible for anyone on the range to have shot Elwell.

By Mr. Foster: Volunteers might have helped themselves to cartridges from the bag, without the knowledge of the officers.

Sergeant Price produced cards to show the destination of all the bullets fired on Monday. The recruits who finished early in the day, left, carrying their rifles with them. Three men also left the range at 2.15 in the afternoon, taking with them their rifles.

A juryman: What time did the accident happen?

Another juryman: Half-past Two.

Witness (continuing): The men's names were Harry Bayliss, Samuel Whitehouse, and James Hale. He knew that two empty cartridges had been found in a meadow between the range and Elwell's residence. They were in a direct line with the place where the man was shot.

Police-constable William Scott said he picked up two empty cartridge-cases, and he could see Elwell's house from where he picked them up.

Police-constable Herbert Morton said the spot where he and Scott picked up the empty cartridge cases was the place where a youth named Oakley told him a volunteer had fired his rifle.

William Oakley, a youth, Regent Street, Swan Village, said he was walking through the fields on Monday, and as he was near the Foxyards, soon after half-past two o'clock, he saw a volunteer go into a field near to the magazine and shoot at a low tree in which there were some starlings. The birds flew out, and the man did not seem to have killed anything. He followed the birds some fifty yards, and fired at them again. The man was in his sight when both shots were fired. When the man was firing his rifle was pointing at Coseley. He mentioned the circumstances to a man long before he heard that deceased had been killed. He spoke of the shooting because he had never seen a rifleman shooting in the fields.

Job Bowater corroborated.

The enquiry, after lasting five hours, was adjourned until next Thursday.”

Volunteer Service Gazette 26/12/1891

“At the Assizes at Stafford on the 17th inst, before Mr. Justice Day, Samuel Whitehouse, on bail, was indicted for the manslaughter of James Elwell (52), at West Coseley, on September 7th, and also with the same offence on the Corner’s inquisition. The Jury found Whitehouse not guilty, and he was discharged.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/3/1895

“At the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, yesterday, Mr. A. B. Smith (deputy coroner) opened an inquest relative to the death of Augustus Round (40), Jeavon Street, Coseley.

The report of the police was to the effect that on the morning of the 26th inst, deceased, who had been in failing health for some time, went to bed, taking with him some herb beer. An hour later his wife found him in bed in an insensible condition, and he never regained consciousness, death taking place in the afternoon of the following day.

The widow stated that about six years ago deceased attempted to commit suicide by cutting his throat, but since then she had never heard him threaten to destroy himself. On finding deceased lying on the bed in an insensible condition, on Tuesday morning, she sent for her mother, and Dr. Clendinnen was summoned. She saw deceased take jug of herb beer upstairs about an hour prior to her discovery. She had never heard of deceased having had a fit, and she was at a loss to account for his sudden death. He was insured for £16.

Dr. Clendinnen stated that he had frequently attended deceased whilst the latter was suffering from the effects of drinking bouts. On the 26th inst he saw the deceased in bed, and was informed that he had been drinking herb beer. There were no signs of deceased having taken poison. Witness took charge of the bottle of herb beer, which he tasted, but was unable to detect anything in it of an injurious nature. He was unable to account for deceased’s death.

The enquiry was then adjourned for a week to enable the doctor to make a post mortem examination.”

County Advertiser 6/2/1897 - Advert

“Tuesday Evening Next.

Important Sale of a Valuable Full-Licensed Freehold Property, the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley.

The Attention of Brewers, Spirit Merchants, Maltsters, and Others is Especially Directed to the Following Announcement.

Mr. Herbert Humphries, FAI, has been favoured with instructions from Mr. Shaw to Offer by Public Auction, on the Premises aforesaid, on Tuesday, February 9th, 1897, at Seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society.

All that Old-established, and most Substantially-built Corner Double-Fronted, Full-Licensed House, the ROYAL HOTEL, situate at the corner of Castle Street and Ebenezer Street, Roseville, Coseley, near Tipton.

The Property has an important frontage to the former street of 65 feet, and to the latter of 88 feet, and the accommodation comprises Four Bed Chambers and Closet, large Assembly Room, 31 feet 2 inches by 18 feet 3 inches; Tap Room, 15 feet by 14 feet; comfortable Bar, 13 feet by 12 feet; spacious Kitchen, excellent Cellaring, with rolling way from yard; Brewhouse, Wash-house, and Cooking Kitchen; Two-stall Stable and Coach-house with loft over, and large Retire Yard with Quoit Grounds, approached by a Gateway and a Side Entrance; the total area being 690 square yards or thereabouts.

The position of the above is unique, and it practically commands the trade of the immediate district, and enjoys a regularity of trade exceeding £1,000 per annum, that is unequalled. It is surrounded by a large working-class population, and numerous Collieries, Foundries, and other large Works, so that a large and successful Trade can at all times be depended upon.

Together with the Adjoining Grocer’s Shop, which is part of the Licensed Premises, and communicating therewith, but now let to Mr. *Cotton* at the yearly rental of £12.

The Lot has an imposing Elevation, and it is seldom that so good an investment is open for public competition.

Further particulars may be obtained from Messrs. Gould and Elcock, Solicitors, Stourbridge and Kidderminster, of the Auctioneer. Offices: Stourbridge and Brierley Hill.”

County Advertiser 13/2/1897

“Mr. Herbert Humphries, auctioneer, of this town and Stourbridge, offered for sale on Tuesday evening last, the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley, near Bilston. There was considerable interest in the sale, and a large company was present. The biddings started at £800, which quickly ran up to £2,000, and by £10 bids the hammer fell to the biddings of Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, Buxton, and Co., Burton-on-Trent, who also have stores in this town, at £2,030. Messrs. Gould and Elcock, solicitors of Stourbridge and Kidderminster, acted for the vendor.”

1901 Census

54, Castle Street

[1] *William Cotton* (62), publican, born Pensnett;

[2] *Phoebe Cotton* (57), wife, born Pensnett;

[3] *Susan Chell* (19), domestic servant, born Coseley:

William Cotton died in the 3rd quarter of 1902.

Phoebe Cotton married *Joseph Holloway* in the 1st quarter of 1904.

Wolverhampton Express and Star 15/5/1905

“An inquest was held this (Monday) morning by Mr. T. A. Stokes (Coroner), at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, on the body of Enoch Edward Price, aged 49, 21, Jevon Street, Coseley, who was found last Friday on the floor of his house unconscious. He died in an hour afterwards. A verdict of Natural Causes was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/1/1908

“Mr. W. Gough Allen (Deputy-Coroner) resumed an inquiry on Saturday afternoon at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley, concerning the death of a male child which had been found in the Birmingham Canal, at Wednesbury Oak, Princes End. Mr. Superintendent Spendlove watched the proceedings on behalf of the police. On the morning of December 26, when James Gallear was assisting to move a boat, he saw a brown paper parcel floating in the water. Upon bringing it to the towing-path, he found that it contained the body of a male child, which appeared to have been terribly injured. He gave information to Police-constable Davies, who removed the body to Coseley, where, by the direction of the Coroner, Dr. Clendinnen made a post-mortem examination. The body, the doctor stated, was that of a well-developed child. The lower jaw was fractured; there was a ragged wound on the left side of the neck; and the tongue was partly severed. There were bloodstains on the paper, and there was also every indication that the child had lived. The injury to the jaw was, in his opinion, inflicted before death. The wound in the neck was the result of violence, caused probably by a blunt instrument.

The Coroner impressed the jury that the blood-stained paper had been submitted to Mr. James, the county analyst, for his inspection, but his report did not throw any further light on the matter.

PC Davies said he had instituted every possible inquiry, but he was unable to trace the mother of the child. The canal was only a short distance from the Wednesbury and Princes End electric tramway.

The Coroner said the police had done their best to unravel the mystery, but unfortunately had not succeeded. There was no doubt that child had been cruelly murdered, and in his opinion it was the duty of the jury to return a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown. Possibly when the decision of the jury became known to the public through newspapers, those who were accessories before or after the fact would give some information to the police which would justify the arrest of some person.

The jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown.”

Tipton Herald 10/4/1909

“James Marsh, tunnel keeper, of Coseley, was going through the tunnel at seven o'clock on Saturday morning, when he discovered the body of a woman in the canal. The police were communicated with, and the woman was found to be Comfort Oxland, aged 33, of Bissell Street, Wallbrook, Coseley, and wife of Joseph Oxland, an engine driver.

Mr. Oxland stated that when he went to work at 4.30 on Friday afternoon his wife was all right. The body was removed to the mortuary at Coseley, to await an inquest. The unfortunate woman has left six children. On Monday, Mr. T. A. Stokes held an inquest at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley.

It was stated that deceased had recently been of intemperate habits, and when under the influence of drink to have been heard to declare her intention of committing suicide. She had also caused unpleasantness at home by pledging goods to get money for drink. In the early hours of Saturday morning she left home and was seen wandering near to the entrance of the canal tunnel.

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

Tipton Herald 21/8/1909

“On Tuesday morning Mr. T. A. Stokes (county coroner) held an inquest at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, relative to the death of James Williams (47), a Collier, of no fixed abode.

Thomas Shaw, brother in law, said he last saw the deceased at his house on Friday afternoon. He said he had been picking, and had walked from Six Ashes. He left at six o'clock to go to a public house.

Replying to the Coroner, witness said the deceased man would not work, and how he lived he could not say, except that he did odd jobs, and slept out.

David Naylor, a carter in the employ of Mr. Henry Pearson, Princes End, gave evidence to the effect that on Sunday morning he saw the deceased, who was known as ‘Faggot’, lying by the side of a rick in the yard. He thought he was asleep, but later on found that he was dead.

The Coroner: What did you do?

Witness: I jumped over the gate as fast as I could; in fact I don't know how I did go over. (laughter)

The Coroner: Well, you need not have been afraid of a dead man.

Witness added subsequently he met a man, and they both examined the body. The man appeared to have died in his sleep. He saw Williams on Friday night, and he was not sober. The gates, leading to the yard in which deceased was found, were six feet high.

A witness named George Hyde said he saw Williams on Saturday afternoon. He said the previous day he had walked sixteen miles, and he complained of the effect of the heat.

Dr. Clendinnen, who had made a post mortem examination, said the cause of death was compression of the brain, due to hemorrhage from the rupture of a blood vessel. This might have been the result of a fall or a blow. The skull was not fractured, but there was a bruise on the left side of the head, which corresponded to a clot of blood on the brain.

Police sergeant Shaffery, who had examined the spot where the man was found, said there were no signs of a struggle.

The jury found that the cause of death was as stated by the doctor, and that there was no evidence as to how the injury to the head was sustained.”

Tipton Herald 23/10/1909

“Shortly before two o’clock on Saturday afternoon, a sad fatality occurred in South Street, Coseley, the victim being a bright little child named Olive Millard, aged four years, whose parents reside in Ward Street. It seems that a number of children are stated to have been running at the rear of a waggon attached to a traction engine which was proceeding along the street. The unfortunate child was somehow knocked down beneath a wheel of the waggon and was so severely crushed that death ensued before her arrival at Dr. Clendinnen’s surgery. At the inquest on Tuesday evening at the ROYAL HOTEL, it was stated that the men in charge of the engine, which was drawing two flour trucks from Walsall, did their best to prevent the accident. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and exonerated the men in charge of the traction engine from blame.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1910

“Col. T. E. Hickman, MP for Wolverhampton South, made a tour of part of his constituency on Saturday night, several dinners were held in celebration of the victory in the General Election. At each of these the Member was accorded an enthusiastic reception.
A dinner to the workers of the West Coseley Polling District Committee was given at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, about 10 members assembling.”

1911 Census

54, Castle Street – ROYAL HOTEL

- [1] *Joseph Holloway* (49), hotel manager, licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Phoebe Holloway* (66), wife married 7 years, assisting in business, born Pensnett;
- [3] Olive Cotton (7), granddaughter, born Coseley;
- [4] Sarah Langston (22), general servant, born Coseley;

South Staffordshire Times 13/3/1920

“On Saturday week a presentation was made to Mrs. *Joseph Holloway*, at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, who had retired after 37 years’ tenancy of that licensed house. A purse and illuminated address (subscribed for by customers) were presented during the evening by Mr. David Pearson, who spoke in eulogistic terms of the past 7 years good and faithful service Mrs. *Holloway* had rendered to the district as a first-aid call in sickness and other instances. Mrs. *Holloway* feelingly accepted the gifts, which she said, came as a surprise, and said she should ever treasure them, and when she looked at them she would always think of the happy years she had spent in Coseley and those who had been so kind as to give her that token of respect. Mr. Sam Cotton spoke a few well-chosen words, and others followed, after which the evening was spent in harmony, contributed to by Mr. Sam Cotton, Mr. Malcolm Wilson, and others. A pleasant function was brought to a close with the singing of ‘God Save the King’ and ‘Auld Lang Syne’.”

Village Voice (September 2022)

“Without a doubt one of the best loved characters in Sedgley was Sam Cotton who served as Chairman of Sedgley Urban District Council in the 1920s. Born in Pensnett in 1872, Sam came from a family that moved around the area as licensees of various public houses. Eventually they settled at the ROYAL HOTEL in Coseley and Sam enjoyed a settled childhood. He left school at the tender age of 12, working in factories and shops until in 1893 he decided to concentrate on being an entertainer. Times were hard, though, and to top us his income (he was earning about £100 a year as a stand-up comic) he took a variety of jobs. He formed an amateur dramatic society in Coseley and wrote a number of one-act plays which they performed. During the first world war he worked as a pianist at a cinema in Tipton before returning to work as an agent for the Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society. His strong Socialist views led him into politics and he became involved in Sedgley Council. He also became Secretary of the Sedgley Working Mens Club and Chairman of Sedgley Pensioners Club. Despite all this involvement in the community, Sam was most at home performing, and well into his 90s he would entertain at old peoples clubs. He died in 1965 but even today if you mention his name in Sedgley there are those who remember ‘Mr. Sedgley’ who always had a smile on his face.”

South Staffordshire Times 2/8/1924

“At the ROYAL HOTEL, Castle Street, Coseley, on Monday night, Messrs. Richards and Son conducted a sale of properties and disposed of the following.”

Boxers trained in an upstairs room. [c.1925]

Dudley Herald 10/10/1931 - Advert

“Preliminary Announcement.

Tommas and Sons (J. E. Tommas, Junr, FAI, FALPA), have received instructions from the Owners to Sell By Auction at the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, on Wednesday, October 21st, 1931.

Four Freehold Dwelling-Houses, Nos.1, 2, 3 and 4, Hall Yard, King Street, Coseley.

A Plot of Freehold Building Land adjoining thereto and containing 2,156 square yards or thereabouts and a Freehold Villa Residence, the ‘Poplars,’ Vicarage Road, Woodsetton; possession of which will be given upon completion.

Further particulars next week or in the meantime may be obtained as to the land and Nos.1, 2, 3 and 4, Hall Yard from Messrs. Stockdale and Brown, Solicitors, Tipton and Wednesbury; as to the ‘Poplars,’ from Messrs. Thompson and Warmington, Solicitors Dudley; or as to the whole from the Auctioneers, Five Ways, Tipton.”

Jack Hill was married to *May*.

Fred Bedford was married to *Mary*.

London Gazette 15/1/2013

“Final Meetings In the Walsall County Court.

Armand Edward Snow In Bankruptcy.

Current Address C/o The NEW INN, Blue Lane West, Walsall, West Midlands WS2 8NU. Occupation: Publican. Date of Birth: 16 August 1946. Trading Name: The ROYAL HOTEL. Trading Address: 54 Castle Street, Coseley, WV14 9DP.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rule 6.137 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that a Meeting of the Bankrupt’s Creditors will be held at 3 Havyat Business Park, Wrington, Bristol, BS40 5PA on 13 March 2013 at 2 p.m. for the purpose of considering the Trustee in Bankruptcy’s final report and granting his release. To be entitled to vote at the Meeting, a Creditor must give written details of his debt (including the amount) and lodge any necessary form of proxy and/or postal Resolution at David Exell Associates, PO Box 1601, Wrington, Bristol, BS40 5WA no later than 12.00 noon on 12 March 2013 (or deliver them to the Chairman at the Meeting). Date of Appointment: 6 September 2010.

David Exell, Trustee.

09 January 2013.”

Dudley News 5/4/2015

“A man was stabbed twice in a pub car park in broad daylight. The victim, 38, was seriously injured in the rear car park of The ROYAL HOTEL in Castle Street, Coseley, at around 4.15pm yesterday. He was said to be in a serious but stable condition in hospital.

Det. Sgt. Phil Pullinger from Force CID said, ‘This attack took place in broad daylight on a car park and resulted in the man suffering very serious injuries. We are currently investigating what led up to the stabbing and trying to establish the circumstances but I would like to appeal for anyone who saw the incident or who has information to contact police. We are currently examining CCTV evidence and carrying out searches inside and out of the pub’.”

[2018]

ROYAL EXCHANGE

Church Street, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Isaac Marsh

LICENSEES

Isaac Marsh [1855] – [1865]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston..... Mr. J. Underhill made an application for a license to the ROYAL EXCHANGE, on behalf of *Isaac Marsh*, of Lower Gornal. The nearest public house, he said was 200 yards distant, and in an entirely different road. Applicant’s house had been erected for a public house, at a cost of £1,000. It was situated close to the vicarage, and notwithstanding Mr. Rooker, the vicar, did not object to a license being granted, but, on the contrary, wrote to the Magistrates saying that he did not consider the applicant’s having a license would be an annoyance to him. Mr. Jeavons of the FIVE WAYS, who opposed the application, had been several times fined and complained of. The house and premises were very commodious, and, as large stables formed a portion of the premises, a great convenience would be afforded to those parties who visited the church, and had now difficulty in finding stabling and accommodation for horses and gigs. The vicar complained of want of accommodation of that sort.

Mr. Waterhouse opposed on behalf of Mr. Jeavons, and submitted that another house was unrequired in the district. There were plenty of public houses and the population was stationary. Lower Gornal was as dirty a place as ever, and little improvement was being made in it.

Mr. Underhill said there were 20 houses attached to the applicant’s premises. Refused.”

Birmingham Journal 9/8/1856

“On Monday, the members of the Lord Melbourne Lodge of the Dudley district, of the M.U. of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, held their twentieth anniversary at the house of Mr. *Isaac Marsh*, ROYAL EXCHANGE, Lower Gornal. After partaking of an excellent dinner, provided by the worthy host in his usual first-rate style, the Grand Master of the District was called to the chair, and Mr. John Fellows to the vice-chair. The toast of the Queen, Prince Albert, and the remaining branches of the royal family, were given, followed by the health of the host and hostess, which was replied to in a neat and appropriate way by the worthy host. The G.M. announced the rapid increase of the Order for the past year; the number of the Unity amounted to 251,507 members, being an increase over the past year of 21,000. The funds of the society are in a flourishing condition. Fifty-three Lodges have been opened during the year. The members varied with song, toast, and sentiment, the proceedings of the evening, and broke up at eleven o’clock.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied on behalf of Mr. *Isaac Marsh* for a license to his house, situate near Gornal church. It had been built at a cost of £700, and fifteen years had elapsed since the last license was granted for the locality. Mr. Whitehouse opposed on behalf of Mr. Jeavons, of the FIVE WAYS INN, and the Bench refused the application.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....

Application For New Licenses.....

Mr. Waterhouse next applied for a license for the ROYAL EXCHANGE, at Lower Gornal, the property of the occupier, Mr. *Isaac Marsh*. Mr. Whitehouse opposed on behalf of Mr. Jeavons, the occupier of the FIVE WAYS INN. Application refused.”

1861 Census

Church Street

[1] *Isaac Marsh* (34), butcher and innkeeper, born Sedgley;

[2] Mary A. Marsh (35), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Joseph M. Bayliss (16), son, born Sedgley;

[4] Daniel Bayliss (13), son, born Sedgley;

[5] Richard Bayliss (9), son, born Sedgley;

[6] Isaac R. Bayliss (7), son, born Sedgley;

[7] David T. Bayliss (5), son, born Sedgley;

[8] Hannah Bayliss (3), daughter, born Sedgley;

[9] Mary A. Bayliss (1), daughter, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861 - Advert

“To Be Let, with immediate possession, the ROYAL EXCHANGE situate near the church, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley. The House consists of good, dry, and extensive cellars, bar, sitting room, large tap room, kitchen, and four sleeping rooms; 10-horse stable, pigstyes, yard, and excellent garden, and a good supply of hard and soft water. The above house is in a thriving and populous neighbourhood, is pleasantly situated, and commands most magnificent views of the Clay Hills, Malvern Hills, and the surrounding country. The proprietor is leaving on account of another engagement, For particulars apply to Mr. Cooksey, Auctioneer and Surveyor, Spring Field House, Sedgley.”

Isaac Marsh, retailer of beer, Lower Gornall. [1862]

Birmingham Daily Post 25/8/1862 - Advert

“Horses, Pigs.

By Mr. Bateman, at the House of Mr. *Isaac Marsh*, the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, at Lower Gornal, Sedgley.

This day (Monday), at Eleven – Draught Horses, In-Pig Sows, Store Pigs, &c.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied for a license for *Isaac Marsh*, Lower Gornal, which was opposed by Mr. Stokes. It being proved that the house in question was directly opposite the parsonage house in that district, and that the requirements of the neighbourhood were not so extensive as to need another licensed house (there being one close by), the application was refused.”

Isaac Marsh, beer retailer and butcher, Lower Gornal. [1865]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 8/7/1865 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Property, at Lower Gornal,

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Aston and Solomon, on Friday, the 21st day of July, 1865, at Mr. Jevons’, FIVE WAYS INN, Lower Gornal, aforesaid, at Six o’clock in the evening (by order of the Mortgagee), and subject to conditions then to be produced. All that new and substantially built Retail Tavern, situate nearly opposite the Church, at Lower Gornal, in the county of Stafford, and fronting the road from Lower Gornal to Sedgley; together with the Brewhouse, Malt Room, and Butcher’s Shop, Outbuild-

ings, extensive Yard, walled Garden, and Premises, thereto belonging, as the same are now, or late were in the occupation of the owner, Mr. *Isaac Marsh*; and also all that convenient Dwelling House and Premises adjoining the same, and fronting the said road. The Premises comprise an area of 1,000 square yards, or thereabouts, part of which may be sold off for building purposes, and will realise an income of £50 per annum.

For further particulars, apply to the Auctioneers, Darlington Street; or Messrs. Pinchard and Shelton, Solicitors, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.”

London Gazette 17/10/1865

“*Isaac Marsh*, late of Lower Gornall, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Butcher and Beerseller, a Prisoner for Debt in the Gaol at Stafford, in the county of Stafford, having been adjudged bankrupt by a Registrar of the County Court, attending at the Gaol of Stafford, on the 11th day of September, 1865, and the adjudication being ordered to be prosecuted at Her Majesty’s Court of Bankruptcy, at Birmingham, a public sitting, for the said bankrupt to pass his Last Examination, and make application for his Discharge, will be held before George Williams Sanders, Esq., a Commissioner of the said Court, on the 17th day of November next, at the said Court, at Birmingham, at eleven o’clock in the forenoon precisely, the day last aforesaid being the day limited for the said bankrupt to surrender. Mr. George Kinnear, of No.25, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, is the Official Assignee, and Messrs. James and Griffin, of Birmingham, are the Solicitors acting in the bankruptcy.”

ROYAL OAK

Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Parsons [1859] – [1868]

James Lewis [1869]

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 18/6/1859 - Advert

“To be Sold or Let, the Round Hill Brick Works.

For further particulars, apply at the sign of the ROYAL OAK, *George Parsons*’s, Wallbrook.”

1861 Census

Wall Brook

[1] *George Parsons* (50), bricklayer and victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Clara Parsons (39), wife, born Bilston;

[3] James Parsons (18), son, roller in iron works, born Bilston;

[4] Hannah Parsons (12), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;

[5] Zephanah Parsons (10), son, scholar, born Bilston;

[6] Thomas Parsons (8), son, scholar, born Bilston;

[7] William Parsons (6), son, born Bilston;

[8] Edwin Parsons (4), son, born Bilston:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/5/1864 - Advert

“Wanted Three House Carpenters.

Apply to Mr. *George Parsons*, ROYAL OAK, Wallbrook, Coseley.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 13/6/1868 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Freehold Property, Canal Street, Roseville, Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Tuesday Next, the 16th day of June, at the house of Mr. *George Parsons*, the ROYAL OAK INN, Wallbrook, Coseley, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read – all those Two newly-erected Freehold Dwelling Houses, situate in Canal Street, Roseville.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 18/3/1869 - Advert

“To be let, the ROYAL OAK INN, Wallbrook, Coseley, parish of Sedgley. Rent £20. Incoming about £30.

Apply to Messrs. Powell and Son, Auctioneers, Tipton.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/1/1869 - Advert

“The ROYAL OAK, Walbrook, Coseley.

To be Let or Sold, by Private Treaty, the above Old-licensed Public House, together with Five Cottages adjoining, with the Mines and Minerals underneath.

For further particulars apply on the premises, or to Mr. John Bent, Auctioneer and Valuer, No.205, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/5/1869 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public House, Dwelling Houses, and Premises, at Wallbrook; and Freehold Dwelling Houses And Premises, at Roseville, Coseley, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round (by order of the Mortgagees), at the House of Mr. Thomas Percival, the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley, on Tuesday, June 1, at Six o'clock in the evening, in Two Lots, and subject to conditions then to be read.

Lot 1. All that Licensed Public House, known as the ROYAL OAK INN, situate at Wallbrook, Coseley aforesaid, with the Brewhouse, Stable, and Yard, now in the occupation of Mr. *James Lewis*, together with the Grocer's Shop, now converted into a Dwelling House, and the Four Messuages or Dwelling Houses adjoining, in the occupation of John Jones, Elizabeth Rowlands, and others, and producing an annual rental of £51 4s 0d. The Property is at the junction of four roads, has an extensive frontage to the road leading from Coseley to Princes End, and to the road leading from Rounds Hill to Fullwood's End, is well supplied with water. The Mines and Minerals belong, and are believed to comprise the Thick Coal, in the solid.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 1/6/1869 - Advert

“Wallbrook And Coseley. Notice Of Postponement Of Sale.

The Properties Advertised to be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the ROYAL HOTEL, Roseville, Coseley, This day (Tuesday), the 1st of June, Are Withdrawn From Sale.

Rutter, Neve, and Rutter, Solicitors, Wolverhampton.”

ROYAL OAK

15, Kent Street, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Henry Wood, grocer
Edward Bodenham
John Bodenham
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Darby [1839]
Thomas Page [1846]
Edward Bodenham [1858] – 1915);
John Bodenham (1915 – 1937);
Richard Turner (1937 – 1939);
Benjamin Naylor (1939 – 1955);
James Gould (1955 – 1959);
Samuel Harper (1959 – 1961);
Phyllis Megan Musselnah (1961 – []

NOTES

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 5/8/1839 - Advert

“Desirable Premises at Gornal, near Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by T. P. Stokes, at the house of Mr. John Cartwright, the GREEN DRAGON INN, at Upper Gornal, midway between Dudley and Wolverhampton, Tomorrow (Tuesday), August 6, at five o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and under conditions as will then be produced.

Lot I. Two Dwelling Houses, with Outbuildings and Gardens, situate at Upper Gornal, and now in the occupations of *John Darby* and Vincent Jukes, the house occupied by *John Darby* being now used as a Public House, and called the ROYAL OAK, and the Land with the site of the buildings containing 634 square yards.

Lot II. A Plot of Building Land, part of the Orchard Piece at Upper Gornal, containing in front of the Turnpike Road ten yards, and the whole 586 square yards.

Lot III. Two Pieces of Land at Upper Gornal, surrounded by the Property of Dudley Fereday, in the occupation of John Collins, containing 1a Or 2p.

The above Properties are Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley.

For further particulars apply to Mr. J. O. Brettell, Solicitor, or Mr. William Fellowes, Solicitor, both of Dudley.”

Worcestershire Chronicle 25/3/1846 - Advert

“Valuable Public-House and Premises, at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction (Without Reserve), by Mr. Thomas Stokes, on Tuesday, the 7th of April, 1846, at the house of Mr. John Cartwright, known by the sign of the GREEN DRAGON, at Upper Gornal, at five o'clock in the afternoon, and subject to conditions then to be produced.

A Valuable old-established and well-accustomed Public House, with a large Garden, excellent Cellaring, and capital pump of water, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, and known by the sign of the ROYAL OAK, fronting the turnpike road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton, in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Page*, at the rent of £16 per annum.

The Property is Free Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley.

A Plan of the Property may be seen and all further particulars obtained on application to the Auctioneer, or at the Offices of Messrs. Bourne and Wainwright, Solicitors, Dudley.”

Edward Bodenham = Edward Boddenham = Edward Bodnham

Edward Bodenham, wheelwright and beer retailer, Upper Gornal. [1858]

1861 Census

Upper Gornal

- [1] *Edward Bodnham* (29), wheelwright, born Baveney Wood, Shropshire;
- [2] *Phoebe Bodnham* (32), wife, born Gornal;
- [3] *William Bodnham* (6), son, scholar, born Gornal;
- [4] *Thomas Hazeldine Bodnham* (3), son, scholar, born Gornal;
- [5] *James Bodnham* (1), son, born Gornal;
- [6] *Ester Bodnham* (65), mother, visitor, born Worcester:

Birmingham Daily Post 31/5/1864 - Advert

“Wanted, Two Wheelwrights.

Apply to *E. Bodenham*, Wheelwright, Upper Gornal.”

1871 Census

Sheepcotwall – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Edward Bodenham* (39), licensed victualler and wheelwright, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Phoebe Bodenham* (43), wife, born Wolston, Worcestershire;
- [3] *William Bodenham* (16), son, wheelwright, born Baveney Wood, Shropshire;
- [4] *Edward Bodenham* (9), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] *James Bodenham* (11), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] *John Bodenham* (8), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal;
- [7] *George Bodenham* (5), son, scholar, born Upper Gornal:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/5/1872 - Advert

“Wanted, a good Wheelwright

Apply, *E. Bodenham*, Upper Gornal, near Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/7/1873 - Advert

“Wheelwright (good) Wanted.

Apply, *E. Bodenham*, Upper Gornal, near Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/11/1874 - Advert

“Shoeing and Jobbing Smith (good) Wanted.

Apply, *E. Bodenham*, Wheelwright, Upper Gornal, near Dudley.”

1881 Census

15, Kent Street – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *Edward Bodenham* (49), wheelwright employing 12 men and 2 boys, born Bishops Frome, Herefordshire;
- [2] *Phoebe Bodenham* (53), wife, born Albrighton;
- [3] *Thomas Bodenham* (23), son, clothier employing 1 boy, born Bewrly (?), Shropshire;

- [4] James Bodenham (21), son, wheelwright, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] Edward Bodenham (19), son, wheelwright, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] John Bodenham (18), son, wheelwright, born Upper Gornal;
- [7] George Bodenham (15), son, clother's assistant, born Upper Gornal;
- [8] Martha Tighe (17), domestic servant, born Upper Gornal:

Dudley and District News 9/4/1881

“Upper Gornal. The Alleged Attempted Murder of a Sweetheart.

On Monday evening, at Sedgley Police Court, before Rev. W. Griffiths and F. A. Homer, Esq, the hearing was resumed of the charge against James Bodenham, wheelwright, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, of attempting to murder his sweetheart, Miss Elizabeth Williams, daughter of Mr. Edward Williams, metal broker, of Pale Street, Upper Gornal. Mr. R. A. Wilcock, of Wolverhampton, again appeared for the prosecution; and Mr. Stokes, of Dudley, defended.

The court was crowded, and many persons anxiously awaited the result outside.

It will be remembered that at the former hearing, reported in our last issue, it was proved that, having been walking together on Sunday, the 20th ult, on returning to her home, at Pale Piece, the accused and Miss Williams had a slight quarrel, and after some words expressive of jealousy he fired a revolver, and that she ran into the house, saying that her lover had shot her. Subsequently he was alleged to have shot himself, and was found wounded when he entered the house of Williams.

The evidence was further gone into, Emma Williams, the mother of the young lady referred to, being first called. She stated that on Sunday evening, 20th March, while at home at Pale Piece, Upper Gornal, she was startled by the loud report of a gun or pistol outside the house. On reaching the door to learn the cause, her daughter Elizabeth came rushing in crying out, ‘Oh dear, father, Jim Bodenham has shot me.’ The smell of gunpowder was still on her daughter’s ulster, and her daughter was so unnerved she did not know what she was saying. In the course of ten minutes after witness heard defendant at the door. He said, in reply to a question, ‘Mrs. Williams, it is me; oh forgive me; have I hurt Lizzie?’ In answer to her (witness’s) question as to what he had shot her daughter for, and where the pistol was, he replied, ‘I have thrown it away.’ During the temporary absence of her husband, who went to fetch Mr. Fithern in, the accused asked again if he had ‘hurt Lizzie.’

Mr. William B. Fithern, coalmaster, Upper Gornal, stated that on the evening in question he found defendant standing near the glass place of Mr. Williams’ house, and having taken him aside he enquired of him where the revolver was. Bodenham at once said, ‘I have thrown it away,’ but witness doubted this, and replied ‘that is not good enough.’ Upon being again asked, defendant said, ‘Don’t make a bother about it, it is in my coat pocket.’ Witness put his hand there and found a revolver, which appeared to have been recently discharged. Witness took defendant, who was bleeding from a wound in his head, home. On the way there accused repeatedly said, ‘Whatever have I done this for?’ The defendant afterwards had possession of the revolver, and his father requested for it to be locked up.

Cross-examined: Witness, on the following (Monday) morning examined the revolver externally, and, in his opinion, only one barrel had been fired, as there was only one empty, and in each of the other barrels were cartridges.

PC Sutton, of Upper Gornal, stated that, having examined the revolver on the morning following the occurrence, he believed that four of the chambers had been recently fired. He had very carefully examined the walls near to the ‘glass place’ spoken of, but found no bullet marks, or trace of bullets. He next examined defendant’s coat, but there were no injuries nor marks to be seen near the pockets, or any part of the coat. When witness charged defendant with attempting to murder Miss Williams, he replied, ‘Nothing of the kind,’ and when he shortly afterwards was charged with attempting to commit suicide, he said, ‘It went off accidentally in my pocket, and all the harm done is to myself.’

This being all the evidence in the present case, Mr. Stokes addressed the Bench for the defence, forcibly and ably arguing that the evidence was not of such a nature as to warrant the slightest possibility that a jury would convict. If the evidence satisfied ordinary persons that no intelligent jury would, under the circumstances, find the defendant guilty of the offence with which he was charged, it was the obvious duty of the magistrates not to send him for trial. He believed he could show the magistrates that the evidence was very short of what it should be to justify them in doing that. He commented on the absence of any evidence showing that the pistol was fired at Miss Williams. He did not say there was no evidence of the defendant firing a pistol, but the Bench must have some direct evidence to show the motive.

The magistrates then retired, and on returning said they felt that on the evidence offered they were bound to commit the prisoner for trial. He was then committed to the Assizes at Stafford; bail being allowed, himself in £100 and two sureties of £50 each. Mr. *Edward Bodenham* and Mr. Edmund Leek were accepted as sureties.

The prisoner was then charged with using threatening language to Edward Williams, the father of his sweetheart, about a fortnight ago, and for this he was bound over to keep the peace, in his own recognisance of £50, and two sureties of £50 each. It was arranged that the third charge against the defendant of attempting to shoot himself should be investigated next Monday. During the hearing the prisoner was several times visibly affected, and when committed for trial appeared to feel his position very acutely.”
[Elizabeth Williams was unharmed; James Bodenham had a bullet removed from his head.]

Birmingham Mail 20/7/1881

“At Staffordshire Summer Assizes this morning, before Justice Cave, James Bodenham, a young man of respectable appearance, was indicted for shooting at with intent to murder a young woman named Elizabeth Williams, daughter of a metal dealer, of Lower Gornal, in March last, with whom he was keeping company. After a lengthy hearing, prisoner was acquitted.”

[The argument that the gun was fired accidentally seems to have been accepted.]

1891 Census

15, Kent Street

- [1] *Edward Bodenham* (59), licensed victualler, born Baveny Wood, Shropshire;
- [2] *Phoebe Bodenham* (62), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *John Bodenham* (28), son, wheelwright, born Sedgley;
- [4] *George Bodenham* (26), son, wheelwright, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Nellie Poster* (14), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Clara Poster* (12), domestic servant, born Sedgley;

John Bodenham (28), bachelor, wheelwright, Upper Gornal, married *Elizabeth Wild* (27), spinster, Wadhams Hill, on 20th April 1892 at St. Peter's Church, Wolverhampton.

Phoebe Bodenham died in the 3rd quarter of 1895.

Dudley Herald 1/1/1898

“The annual supper in connection with the ROYAL OAK Sick and Draw Club, Upper Gornal, was held at Mr. *E. Bodenham*'s on Wednesday. A very satisfactory dividend of 9s per member was declared. After supper the evening was spent in harmony. The following contributed to the programme: Song, ‘Far away,’ Mr. *E. Bodenham*; song, ‘Beloved star,’ Mr. J. Davies; song, ‘The skipper,’ Mr. M. Bradley; song, ‘Mona,’ Mr. R. Oldfield; glee, Glee Union; song, ‘The absent one,’ Mr. W. Woodhall; song, ‘Plymouth bound,’ Mr. *J. Bodenham*; song, ‘Rose of the garden,’ Mr. E. Bradley; song, ‘Two little girls in blue,’ Mr. T. Baker; song, ‘The wolf,’ Mr. *J. Bodenham*; song, ‘The pilgrim of love,’ Mr. R. Oldfield; glee, ‘Here in cool grot,’ Glee Union. Votes of thanks were passed to the officers for their services during the past year. A most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.”

1901 Census

Kent Street

- [1] *Edward Bodenham* (67), widower, wheelwright and innkeeper, born Baveny Wood, Shropshire;
- [2] *George Bodenham* (35), son, tailor, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] *Catherine Westwood* (20), servant, born Upper Gornal;

Tipton Herald 27/11/1909

“Charles Bodenham, James Bodenham, Samuel Price, Thomas Bradley, and Benjamin Cook, all living at Lower Gornal, were charged with disorderly behaviour in Jews Lane, Upper Gornal, on the 1st inst.

PC North said the defendants were guilty of brawling, shouting, and making use of bad language. The defendants created a disturbance in the GREEN DRAGON INN, and the landlord was compelled to turn the gas lights out before closing time in order to get them out of his house.

The Stipendiary said that on the day of which the offence was committed the whole of the defendants had been bought before the magistrates for similar conduct and were leniently dealt with. Having more money in their pockets than they anticipated they indulged in a spree.

Charles Bodenham, who had been several times convicted was fined 20s and costs; Price and Bradley 10s and costs each; James Bodenham 5s and costs; and Benjamin Cook 2s 6d and costs.

We are informed that the defendants are not connected with the family of *E. Bodenham*, ROYAL OAK, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.”

1911 Census

15, Kent Street

- [1] *Edward Bodenham* (79), widower, wheelwright and beerhouse keeper, born Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire;
- [2] *John Bodenham* (48), son, assisting in the beerhouse business, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] *Elizabeth Bodenham* (46), daughter in law, born Upper Compton, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Alice Bodenham* (18), granddaughter, domestic, born Upper Gornal;
- [5] *William Bodenham* (17), grandson, junior draughtsman, born Upper Gornal;
- [6] *Florence E. Bodenham* (15), granddaughter, student (school), born Upper Gornal;
- [7] *Elizabeth Bodenham* (13), granddaughter, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [8] *Kathleen Bodenham* (12), granddaughter, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [9] *Annie Bodenham* (11), granddaughter, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [10] *Marjorie Bodenham* (9), granddaughter, school, born Upper Gornal;
- [11] *Alice Simmonds* (17), general servant, born Kingswinford;

Dudley Chronicle 25/10/1913

“Young Folks League.

Rules.

1. To honour parents and be a credit to teachers.
2. To show kindness at all times, and especially to birds and animals.
3. To lend a helping hand.

Read them carefully, then fill in, cut out, and post the coupon.....

This week marks another splendid advance in our membership So we extend a most cordial greeting to.....

1417. Kathleen *Bodenham* (14), ROYAL OAK, Upper Gornal.”

Edward Bodenham died in the 1st quarter of 1915.

Dudley Chronicle 3/1/1924

“Wedding at Upper Gornal.

On Wednesday week at St. Peter’s Church, the marriage was solemnised between Arthur E. Foster, elder son of Mr. J. Foster, of Sedgley, and F. Edith Bodenham, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bodenham, of Upper Gornal. The Rev. A. T. Bennett was the officiating clergyman. The bride was given away by her father. A friend of the bride, Miss N. Chamberlain, was bridesmaid, and Mr. L. Foster, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man. The bride was attired in a becoming grey travelling costume. The service was choral, and the happy couple left the church to the strains of Mendelssohn’s ‘Wedding March,’ ably rendered by the organist, Miss A. Bodenham, sister of the bride. The bridegroom’s present to the bride was a wolf fur, and that of the bride to the bridegroom a gold wristlet watch. Numerous presents were received from friends. The reception was held at the house of the bride’s parents, after which the happy couple left for their new home at Newport, Salop.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 21/7/1928

“The half-yearly meeting of the Wolverhampton No.3 District of the National United Order of Free Gardeners was held on Saturday last at the ROYAL OAK INN, Upper Gornal, when 30 delegates and officers attended. District Master Bro. J. Worton presided.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/2/1939

“For working unlicensed radio sets, Jabez Stanley, of 26, Castle Street, Sedgley, and *Richard Turner* of the ROYAL OAK INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, were at Sedgley yesterday each fined £3.”

1939 Register

Kent Street – ROYAL OAK INN

[1] *Benjamin Naylor*, date of birth 24/6/1902, licensee, (bricklayer), married;

[2] Lily Naylor, dob 6/5/1900, domestic, married:

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

[1972]

Closed

SADDLERS ARMS

18, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Harold Smith, colliery master, Coventry

T. Nelson Smith, Coventry

William Parrish, colliery proprietor, Dudley

W. Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Williams [1871] – 1884);

Sarah Ann Williams (1884 – 1886);

Esther Williams (1886 – 1887);

William Lewis (1887 – 1894);

Sarah Ann Lewis (1894 – 1900);

Albert Edward Williams (1900 – 1931);

Mrs. Kate Williams (1931 – [1940])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

18, Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *Edward Williams* (48), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Ann Williams* (34), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Edwin Williams* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Esther Williams* (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Albert Williams* (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *John J. Williams* (4 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Elizabeth Davis* (17), servant, born Sedgley;

Edward Williams, beer retailer, Darkhouse Lane. [1872]

1881 Census

18, Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *Edward Williams* (55), publican and haulier, born Deepfields;
- [2] *Sarah Williams* (44), wife, born Deepfields;
- [3] *Edward Williams* (20), son, born Deepfields;
- [4] *Esther Williams* (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Deepfields;
- [5] *Albert Williams* (14), son, born Deepfields;
- [6] *William Williams* (5), son, born Deepfields;
- [7] *Jane Lockey* (25), general servant, born Deepfields;

[Darlaston Weekly Times 15/12/1883](#)

“*William Round*, of Coseley, was charged with being drunk in the SADDLERS ARMS INN, Darkhouse Lane, Coseley, on Monday afternoon, by PC Duffy and Cartwright. Fined 2s 6d and costs.”

Edward Williams died on 7th June 1884.

Sarah Ann Williams married *William Lewis* in the 2nd quarter of 1886.

1891 Census

18, Darkhouse Lane – SADDLERS ARMS

- [1] *William Lewis* (70), haulier, born Radnorshire;
- [2] *Sarah A. Lewis* (54), wife, beerhouse keeper, born Walsall;
- [3] *Albert Williams* (24), stepson, haulier, born Sedgley;
- [4] *William Williams* (15), stepson, clerk, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Matilda Shakespeare* (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley;

[Birmingham Daily Post 3/11/1891](#)

“Yesterday at the Police Court – before Mr. Neville, stipendiary – *William Lewis*, of the SADDLERS ARMS, Coseley, was charged with having his house open for sale during prohibited hours. The police stated that a large number of persons were on the premises on Sunday morning. The case was adjourned to Wolverhampton tomorrow.”

1901 Census

18, Darkhouse Lane – SADDLERS ARMS

- [1] *Albert E. Williams* (34), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Kate Williams* (33), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elsie E. Williams* (5), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Grace G. Williams* (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Sarah Ann Lewis* (64), stepmother, widow, born Sedgley;
- [6] *William Henry Williams* (25), brother, railway clerk, born Sedgley;
- [7] *William Whitehead* (21), nephew, railway clerk, born Derby;
- [8] *Emma Henshaw* (21), general servant, born Manchester;

Albert Edward Williams, beer retailer, Darkhouse Lane. [1904], [1912], [1916], [1921]

He died in 1931.

1911 Census

18, Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *Albert Edward Williams* (44), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Kate Williams* (43), wife, married 17 years, assisting in business, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elsie Evelyn Williams* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Grace Gwendoline Williams* (13), daughter, school, born Sedgley;

[5] *Sarah Ann Lewis* (74), mother, widow, born Walsall:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/12/1914

“What Christmas Means at the Front. Cheer the Lonely Vigil!

‘Of course the men were absolutely overcome’ says an officer describing how a distribution of chocolate at the front was received, ‘they were just like children at a prize distribution, and went round comparing their boxes and making complimentary remarks about the ‘nibs that sent them’.

This is the kind of joy that can be sent to the men who are dreaming of home by a *Birmingham Gazette* 5s Christmas Tobacco Gift. Will you not increase your own joy by joining those who have sent or who are sending comforts to our soldiers and sailors. We have already been helped to send 2,000 gifts to men in the Army and Navy. But the Midlands can do much better. There is not much time to spare now. A Christmas Box through our Tobacco Fund would be a practical way of saying ‘Thank you’ and ‘You are not forgotten.’

The Contents of the *Birmingham Gazette* Christmas Box are: 200 Life Ray Cigarettes, 3s 4d; 100 Black Cat Cigarettes, 2s 6d; ¼lb Black Cat Tobacco, 1s 8d; Briar Pipe, 2s; ½lb Eating Chocolate, 1s 3d; Box of Peppermints, 1s 6d; Stationary and Matches, 6d. Total 12s 9d.

The parcel at the ordinary prices would cost 12s 9d, but as tobacco can be sent to troops duty free the cost of each box is only 5s.

The *Birmingham Gazette* bears all the costs of the special boxes, printing, postage and carriage Subscriptions.....

Miss E. E. *Williams* and Customers, SADDLERS ARMS, Deepfields, near Bilston, 10s.”

1939 Register

Darkhouse Lane – SADDLERS ARMS

[1] *Kate Williams*, date of birth 17/1/1868, unpaid domestic duties, widowed;

[2] Evelyn E(Isie) *Williams*, dob 20/10/1895, unpaid domestic duties, single;

[3] Gwendoline (Grace G) *Williams*, dob 2/9/1897, unpaid domestic duties, single:

Closed

SEVEN STARS

Fullwoods End, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Elwell [1861] – [1862]

NOTES

1861 Census

Fullwoods End – SEVEN STARS

[1] *Thomas Elwell* (67), beer seller, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary Elwell* (68), wife, born Gornal;

[3] *Sarah Sutton* (70), relative, widow, born Gornal:

Thomas Elwell, retailer of beer, Coseley. [1862]

SEVEN STARS

61, (60+61), (60), Gospel End Street (Road), (Bush Bank), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Thomas Lowe, farmer, Trysull

Elizabeth Rebecca Sheldon

Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Marstons plc
New River Retail

LICENSEES

Thomas Sheldon [1841] – [1854]
John Castree [] – **1858**;
Elizabeth Newell (**1858** – []
Edwin Sheldon [1860] – [1865]
William Sheldon [1868] – **1891**);
Mrs. Elizabeth Rebecca Sheldon (**1891** – **1898**);
Ezra Spittle (**1898** – **1900**);
Mrs. P Spittle [1904]
Thomas Arthur Lisle (**1900** – **1924**);
Thomas Ratcliffe (**1924** – **1925**);
Joseph William Marriott (**1925** – **1926**);
Fred Cox (**1926** – **1934**);
Arthur William Humphries (**1934** – **1945**);
Albert Mayglothling (**1945** – **1954**);
Eric Abbiss (**1954** – [1961]
Doug Harper (**1972** – **1986**)
David Pyke [1996]
Tony Jones (**1999** – [2001]
Paul Critchley (**2003** – []
Bob Morton [2004]
Nicola Walker [2018]
Anna Emilia Maragliane [2023] manager

NOTES

60, Gospel End Street [1891]
60+61, Gospel End Street [1901]
61, Gospel End Street [1911], [1939], [1945], [1954]

It was downhill from the light shop, now a café.

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Sheldon was apprenticed to Daniel Fellows, the steel pen nib manufacturer.

1841 Census

Gospelend Street

- [1] *Thomas Sheldon* (54), retail brewer, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Ann Sheldon (54), born Staffordshire;
- [3] Ann Sheldon (30), born Staffordshire;
- [4] George Sheldon (22), iron founder, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Hannah Sheldon (24), dress maker, born Staffordshire;
- [6] Harriet Sheldon (18), dress maker, born Staffordshire;
- [7] Esther Sheldon (13), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Edwin Sheldon* (11), born Staffordshire;
- [9] Thomas Sheldon (10), born Staffordshire;
- [10] Henry Sheldon (8), born Staffordshire;
- [11] *William Sheldon* (7), born Staffordshire;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1848

“Licensing Day. The Public Office, on Thursday last, was numerously attended by legal gentlemen, innkeepers, and others, on the occasion of renewing innkeepers’ licenses, and the hearing of applications for fresh ones. The magistrates who attended in the course of the sitting were H. Hill, W. Mannix, G. Briscoe, J. Barker, W. Tarratt, W. Fryer, D. Fereday, W. Baldwin, H. Foster, and J. Loxdale, Esqs. During the early part of their sittings G. B. Thornycroft, Esq, mayor of the borough, was on the bench. There were about fifty applications for new licenses, and upwards of twenty were granted. The following is a list of the successful appli-

cants.....

Licenses were also granted to.....

Thomas Sheldon, Sedgley.”

Thomas Sheldon, beer retailer, Gospel End Street. [1849]

Staffordshire Advertiser 6/10/1849

“On Tuesday (before W. Baldwin and J. Foster, Esqs) a man named Benjamin Fellows was charged with stealing a bottle jack, the property of Mr. *Thomas Sheldon*, landlord of the SEVEN STARS, Sedgley. It appeared that on Wednesday, the 26th of August, the prisoner went to the house of the prosecutor and called for half a pint of ale; the bottle jack was then lying on the bench in the kitchen. Before the ale could be drawn for him he left the house. The same day he offered the bottle jack for sale to a man named Addis, a constable, living at Gospel End, to whom he stated that he came from Shifnal, and that he had bought it at a sale. He gave him 3s for it. A day or two afterwards he found that it had been stolen from Mr. *Sheldon*’s. The prisoner was committed for trial at the sessions.”

[At Stafford on 15th October 1849, Benjamin Fellows received six months’ imprisonment.]

1851 Census

Gospel End Street

[1] *Thomas Sheldon* (64), victualler and chest filler, born Sedgley;

[2] Ann Sheldon (64), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Esther Sheldon (23), daughter, bonnet maker, born Sedgley;

[4] Thomas Sheldon (20), son, writing clerk, born Sedgley;

[5] Edwin Sheldon (20), grandson, moulder, born Sedgley;

[6] William Sheldon (17), grandson, moulder, born Sedgley;

[7] Mary Blakeway (22), house servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/6/1857 - Deaths

“June 4, aged 71 years, Mr. *Thomas Sheldon*, of the SEVEN STARS, Sedgley, much regretted by a numerous circle of friends.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/3/1858 - Deaths

“On the 22nd instant, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. Jones, Dudley Road, Wolverhampton, Ann, relict of the late Mr. *Thomas Sheldon*, of the SEVEN STARS, Sedgley, aged 72 years.”

County Advertiser 24/7/1858

“This being transfer day the following applications were granted.....

SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley, from the executors of *John Castree* of Trysull, to *Elizabeth Newell*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858 - Advert

“Mr. James Wilkes has been favoured with instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. *Thomas Sheldon*, to Sell by Auction, in the month of September, 1858, all that substantially-built, old-licensed well-accustomed Public-House and Garden, together with the Appurtenances thereto belonging, known as the SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley; also all those five substantially-built Messuages or Dwelling Houses, Gardens and Appurtenances adjoining the above lot. Particulars in future advertisements.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/9/1858 - Advert

“The SEVEN STARS, Five Dwelling Houses, and Land, at Sedgley.

Mr. James Wilkes will sell by Auction, at the SEVEN STARS INN, in Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, on Tuesday, the 28th day of September, 1858, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced, and in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.

Lot 1. All that Messuage, Dwelling House, or Inn, called the SEVEN STARS INN, in Sedgley aforesaid, with the Outbuildings, Garden, and Premises thereto belonging, now in the occupation of Mr. *Edwin Sheldon*; and also all that Messuage or Tenement now in the occupation of Joseph Bennett. This lot contains, including the site of the buildings, 653 yards of land or thereabouts.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/9/1858 - Advert

“Valuable Property at Sedgley.

Mr. James Wilkes will Sell by Auction, at the SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday next, September 28th, 1858, at seven o’clock in the evening, subject to such conditions as will be then and there produced.

All that substantially-built and well-situated Chapel or Meeting House, known as the Primitive Methodist Chapel, situate in and fronting Gospel End Street, Sedgley.

The above Property is free Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley, and is admirably adapted for a Nail Warehouse, or may at a small expense be converted into Dwelling Houses.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/10/1858 - Notice

“All Persons indebted to the estate of the late Mr. *Thomas Sheldon*, of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, are hereby requested to pay the same immediately to Mr. John Lane, Dudley Road, Sedgley, one of the Executors; and all Persons having any claim against the said estate, are requested to send the same to the said Mr. John Lane, which, if found correct, will be discharged.”

1861 Census

Gospel End Street

- [1] *Edwin Sheldon* (30), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Ann Sheldon* (28), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary Sheldon* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Rose Sheldon* (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *John M. Sheldon* (2), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Mary A. Carrier* (14), house servant, born Sedgley:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/9/1865

“At the Police Court, yesterday, before Messrs. H. Ward and A. Sparrow, the following, whose names had been placed on the ‘black list,’ had their licenses renewed.

Edwin Sheldon, SEVEN STARS, Gospel End.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year.

Permitting Drunkenness *William Sheldon*, SEVEN STARS, Gospel End, Sedgley, 20s and costs.

The licenses of the following publicans were suspended until the adjourned licensing meeting.

William Sheldon, SEVEN STARS, Sedgley.”

1871 Census

Gospel End Street – SEVEN STARS INN

- [1] *William Sheldon* (37), moulder and victualler, born Sedgley;
 - [2] *Rebecca Sheldon* (38), wife, born Sedgley;
 - [3] *Rebecca Howell* (13), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
 - [4] *Josiah Howell* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
 - [5] *Elizabeth Howell* (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
 - [6] *Charles B. Howell* (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
 - [7] *Alfred Howell* (2), son, born Sedgley;
 - [8] *Frederick Howell* (4 months), son, born Sedgley:
- [It appears that the Sheldon children were unfortunately put down as Howells.]

Dudley Herald 15/11/1879

“An inquiry was held on Monday, at the SEVEN STARS INN, Gospel End Street, before Mr. Horatio Brevitt, Deputy-Coroner, touching the death of *William Wilson*, aged 47. Evidence was given showing that the deceased was employed by Mr. Empson, and was lowering some hay, when he fell a distance of seven feet. He complained that he had hurt himself, and died immediately afterwards. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1881 Census

Gospel End Street – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *William Sheldon* (47), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Rebecca Sheldon* (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Josiah Sheldon* (19), son, iron safe maker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Charles Sheldon* (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Alfred Sheldon* (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Frederick W. Sheldon* (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 28/12/1881

“Pride of the Forest Lodge, Sedgley. The members of the above Lodge of Free Gardeners, met on Tuesday at the SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley, when there was a good muster.

After the transaction of business, from which it appeared that the Lodge had proved very useful in the district and was exercising a most beneficial effect on the members, about 50 sat down to an excellent dinner of the old fashioned kind, provided by Brother *William Sheldon*. Brother W. Poyner presided, and Brother John Bowyer occupied the vice chair.

The proceedings were enlivened with songs by Brothers J. Naylor and Eli Hughes, and other members. Brother Thomas Foster, district master, initiated a number of new members. Votes of thanks having been passed to the chairman and to the host and hostess, the very pleasant gathering terminated.”

County Express 19/5/1883

“On Thursday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips (District Coroner) held an inquest at the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End Road, Sedgley,

respecting the death of Daniel Cox (21), gardener, who was found dead in the turnpike road at Wombourn on the 14th inst. Anthony Cox, the father of the deceased, said that on Monday evening his son left home in his usual health. At midnight information was brought to him that his son had been found dead, and on proceeding to the lane he found the body of the deceased, which was badly bruised.

George Lamb stated that at five o'clock on Monday morning deceased, witness, and five others left Sedgley for the purpose of going to the Fox at Shipley. During the day they called at several public-houses, and partook freely of beer. On arriving at the Woodhouses on the return journey in the evening witness and deceased decided to have a race for a pint of beer. When deceased was about to start in the race he stumbled and fell against a wall. He made a noise, but could not speak. His heart was beating fast. Witness fetched deceased's father, leaving deceased on the ground.

William Russell deposed to finding the body.

A youth named Joseph Guest said he saw the deceased at the Woodhouse at half-past eleven o'clock on Monday night, when he appeared to be under the influence of drink, but could walk straight.

The Coroner said the evidence did not show the cause of death, and as the deceased had been drinking the whole of the day he should order a post mortem examination to be made.

The inquiry was adjourned until Monday."

Dudley and District News 26/5/1883

"On Monday morning at the SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, renewed the enquiry into the death of Daniel Cox (21), gardener, son of Anthony Cox, gardener, of Gospel End Road, Sedgley, who met with his death on Monday evening, the 14th inst. The enquiry was adjourned from Thursday last for a post-mortem examination.

Dr. Ballenden, of Sedgley, now stated that he had made a post-mortem examination and found the ligaments adjoining the vertebrae ruptured, and the head had been injured, which might have been caused by a fall. The injuries were sufficient to cause death. There was no evidence of the deceased having been engaged in a fight. The immediate cause of death was concussion of the brain.

The father of the deceased said he did not think any violence had been used.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, that in their belief the death resulted from a fall, which was accidental."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/12/1883 - Advert

"Valuable Old-Licensed Inn and Cottages, at Sedgley.

Messrs Sollom & Barnett are instructed to submit for Sale by Auction, on Tuesday, December 11, 1883, at 5 for 6 o'clock punctually, at the SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley, subject to conditions of sale – all that well-frequented and Old-established Old-Licensed House, known as the SEVEN STARS INN, situate at Gospel End Street, Sedgley, with the Out-offices, garden, &c, attached thereto, as now and for some time past in the occupation of Mr. *William Sheldon*, as yearly tenant; and also all those Five Cottages, immediately adjoining the same, and the Carpenter's Shop, Out-buildings, and Gardens at the rear.

The Cottages are let well, and the whole of the buildings, including the two-storey Carpenter's Shop, are in fair tenantable order. The gross rental is £50 per annum.

The Property is Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley. The entire area, well enclosed with walls, is 1,358 square yards are thereabouts.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. R. N. Reane, Solicitor, Newport, Salop; or the Auctioneers, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton."

William Sheldon died on 14th March 1891.

1891 Census

60, Gospelend Street – SEVEN STARS

[1] *Rebecca Sheldon* (59), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Charles Sheldon (25), son, decorator, born Sedgley;

[3] Alfred Sheldon (22), son, brewer, born Sedgley;

[4] Hannah Hunt (15), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 4/12/1897 - Advert

"Sedgley, near Wolverhampton.

Sale of Valuable Freehold Full-Licensed Inn and Ten Freehold Houses.

Nock, Deighton, and Kirkby are instructed to Sell by Auction, at the SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday Next.....

Lot 1. Freehold Full-Licensed Inn (free), called the SEVEN STARS, situate at Sedgley, late in the occupation of the owner, Mrs. *Sheldon* (deceased)....."

Bridgnorth Journal 15/1/1898 - Advert

"The SEVEN STARS INN, Sedgley.

Sale Of Brewing Plant, Casks, Hops, Household Furniture, &c.

Nock, Deighton & Kirkby are favoured with instructions from the Exors. of the late Mrs. *R. Sheldon* to sell by auction on the above premises, on Monday, January 24th, 1898, The Casks, Brewing Plant, Saccharometer, Two Tumps of Hops, Household Furniture including: Three Oak 2-leaf Tables, Round and Square Deal Tables, 4 Mahogany Framed Sofas, Capital 8 day Grand-

father's Clock, Barometer, Windsor, and other Chairs, Mahogany Chiffoneer with carved back, two sets of Iron and on Mahogany half-tester Bedsteads, Two Feather Beds, Mahogany and Painted Chests of Drawers, Washstands and Dressing Tables, 10 cane seated Chairs, and the usual Bedroom appointments, Iron safe and other miscellaneous effects, fully described in catalogues from the Auctioneers, Bridgnorth.
Sale At 12 O'Clock."

Dudley Herald 27/8/1898

"Cornelius Cox, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, was charged with refusing to quit the SEVEN STARS INN, Gospel End Street. He was fined 20s and costs."

Thomas Arthur Lisle = Thomas Arthur Lysle

1901 Census

60+61, Gospelend Street – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *Thomas A. Lisle* (37), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Sarah A. Lisle (36), wife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Elsie A. Lisle (10), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Sydney Lisle (3), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] Esther Martin (18), general servant, born Priestfields:

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

"Sedgley Licensing Sessions SEVEN STARS, Sedgley.

Objection was raised that the house was not required and was difficult of police supervision.

Mr. W. A. Foster said that alterations had been made which would make the house self-contained.

Superintendent Walters said alterations had been made to his satisfaction, and he withdrew the objection.

The license was renewed."

Tipton Herald 9/10/1909

"Joseph Cox, ironworker, Duke Street, Wolverhampton, was charged with refusing to quit the SEVEN STARS INN, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, and also with assaulting *Thomas Arthur Lysle*, the landlord. The prisoner went into the house in a drunken state, and when requested to leave he refused to do so. He struck the landlord twice in the face, and knocked him down. Prisoner expressed regret for his conduct, and was fined 20s and costs for refusing to quit, and 10s and costs for the assault."

1911 Census

61, Gospel End Street – SEVEN STARS INN

- [1] *Thomas Arthur Lisle* (47), widower, licensed victualler and brewer, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Elsie Annie Lisle (20), daughter, housekeeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] Sidney Lisle (13), son, school, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Maria Harrison (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

South Staffordshire Times 10/2/1922

"Bilston Licensing Sessions.....

Thomas Arthur Lisle, licensee of the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End, Sedgley, applied for the renewal of the license. He said he had been at the house for 23 years.

Superintendent Higgs said the only objection he had was that three years ago the owners received formal notice regarding improvements which ought to be made at the house, but they had not been yet carried out. Plans had been submitted for alterations, and if these were made there would be no objection to the renewal of the license.

The matter was adjourned till next licensing meeting."

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

"Bilston Licensing.....

Superintendent Higgs had served notices on the landlords of the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Upper Gornal, and the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, on the grounds that the premises were defective. Remarks were made by the Licensing Justices at their annual sessions in 1923 respecting the dirty condition and defective sanitary arrangements of certain licensed premises, and, the Superintendent added, he regretted to have to report that several still needed remedying.....

Mr. W. H. Thompson, who appeared on behalf of the owners of the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End, stated that £200 had already been spent on the premises. He expressed regret that the work had not been completed, and said the completion would be carried out.

An adjournment was granted in this instance."

South Staffordshire Times 8/3/1924

"The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Bilston Division were held yesterday, before a full Bench of Justices, Mr. E. Hickman presided.....

Applications were made for the renewal of the licenses of the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End Street, Sedgley; the WHITE LION,

Bilston Street, Sedgley; the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, which were adjourned from the last sitting of the justices for certain structural alterations to be carried out. The police were satisfied in each instance, and the licenses were granted.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions SEVEN STARS, Sedgley, £2 3s 3d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

1939 Register

61, Gospel End Street

[1] *Arthur William Humphries*, date of birth 12/2/1896, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Sarah Ann Humphries*, dob 31/8/1894, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Vera Nellie (Hastelow) Harris*, dob 28/7/1918, packer, rayon industry, single;

[4] *Irene Elsie (Hastelow) Southall*, dob 2/10/1920, rayon yarn testing, single;

[8] *Allan Thomas Hastelow*, dob 4/12/1930, at school, single;

[10] *William Thomas Humphries*, dob 21/10/1934, at school, single;

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Eric Abbiss had a large aviary at the rear. [1957]

A music license was granted on 28th April 1961.

Birmingham Daily Post 13/12/1961

“A verdict of Death by Misadventure was returned at an inquest at Sedgley yesterday, on Miss Mary H. Wainwright, aged 79, who was found dead in the gas-filled kitchen at her home in Gospel End Road, Sedgley, on December 8.

Mrs. Joan M. *Abbis* of the SEVEN STARS INN Gospel End Road, said that Miss Wainwright, who lived next door to her, was a cheerful, sensible woman. Several weeks ago, Miss Wainwright asked for help as she could not ignite the gas. In the kitchen she found the gas on and damp matches strewn around the table. She gave Miss Wainwright some new matches and turned off the gas.

Police-constable W. H. Pickering said he was called to the house on December 8 and in the kitchen found two gas jets full on.

On a table by the stove were three boxes of matches. Some of the matches were so damp that when he tried to strike them they fizzled out and he could not strike any others because the sandpaper on the side of the boxes peeled off.

The Coroner, Mr. D. F. Cave, said he was satisfied that it was a repetition of what had happened previously when Mrs. *Abiss* was called.

Miss Wainwright had turned on the gas taps, and when unable to make the damp matches strike had hunted about for other matches and been overcome by fumes.”

It closed in 1962.

The new building was built further downhill on the opposite side of the road on the site of Hanson’s (Llewelyn’s) malthouse.

The original building became a private dwelling which was demolished c.1995.

Tony Jones was married to Carol.

It closed in 2003 for a £250,000 refurbishment.

It reopened on 17th June 2003.

Paul Critchley was married to Alison.

Express & Star 3/8/2015

“Campaigners will hold a public meeting as they continue their fight to save a popular pub despite suffering a recent blow. Supermarket giant Morrisons look set to replace the SEVEN STARS pub in Gospel End Road, Sedgley, after its appeal was upheld against Dudley Council’s original decision to reject the plans.

The move comes despite the fact that the SEVEN STARS had been granted Asset of Community Value (ACV) status by the council, which is supposed to afford the pub more protection by paving the way for community pub purchases. The campaign group

has vowed to continue to fight the plans and will meet at the pub at 7.30pm on Tuesday.

West Midlands MEP and Sedgley ward councillor Bill Etheridge has called the public meeting. He said, 'I urge as many people as possible to attend this meeting and in turn send out a strong message to Morrisons and Marstons that we don't want to lose the SEVEN STARS as a result of corporate greed. SEVEN STARS is a fantastic asset to the community as it is a true community pub which raises money for good causes and provides a friendly environment to have a good natter over a drink. I am determined to ensure the views of local people are heard and next week's public meeting is just part of that process.'

The pub's supporters have campaigned to protect the SEVEN STARS since Morrisons revealed plans last October to take over the site.

There have been many community campaigns to save much-loved watering holes across the Black Country....."

Dudley News 17/9/2015

"Joy as supermarket giant Morrisons bows out of race to turn Sedgley's SEVEN STARS into a shop.

Retail giant Morrisons confirmed it has withdrawn its licence application, sparking celebrations at the popular boozery. The Gospel End Road pub has been under threat for more than a year after plans to convert the building were announced. Dudley's UKIP councillors and Dudley North MP Ian Austin have been involved in efforts to save the pub, which was granted Asset of Community Value status.

Cllr. Bill Etheridge (UKIP) said, 'Throughout the whole fight we have never wavered in our determination to stop this development going ahead. Why replace a viable, vibrant pub with a convenience store that could well be a loss-maker? The worm has turned – it is now the convenience stores that are struggling to make the money. We have stuck with it to the end and now the local community has the result that it deserved. It's a triumph for local democracy and it is a real demonstration of people power.' In July a decision by Dudley Council not to allow a planning application for a store on the pub site was overturned by the planning inspectorate, leaving the way clear for conversion to take place. Although Morrisons, which recently announced 11 store closures including branches in Oldbury and West Bromwich (Hawthorns), appears out of the picture, the future of the pub may not yet be certain. Pub owners Marstons would not deny they were seeking other offers, a spokesman said he had no comment to make about the SEVEN STARS."

Express & Star 22/3/2018

"A quiz night in the Black Country organised by Thursfields Solicitors has raised more than £1,000 for a local sight loss charity. Scores of brainy people in 18 teams from companies and organisations across the region took part in the event at the SEVEN STARS pub in Gospel End Road, Sedgley. Entry fees from each team and a raffle raised £501, an amount that the Lloyds Bank Foundation then doubled, meaning that a total of £1,002 resulted from the evening. All funds raised will go to the Beacon Centre charity, which helps people with sight loss to live fuller and more independent lives.

Pam Arrowsmith and Jasdeep Nagra led the organising for Thursfields Solicitors, helped by colleagues Priya Ohri, Kim Palmer, Julie Shepherd and Tracey Side. Julia Warrilow, finance director at Thursfields, said, 'This was a super, fun-filled evening and we were delighted to see so many local people take part. But it was particularly pleasing that the event raised more than £1,000 for Beacon, a charity which does marvellous work for people with sight loss in the Black Country.'

Ian Monk, a relationship manager from Lloyds Bank, who acted as quizmaster at the event, said, 'We're always keen to support local good causes in the communities we serve, and this was a great night where everyone had good fun as well.'

The Beacon Centre began life in 1875 as the Wolverhampton Society for the Blind. It's now based in Sedgley, and provides support and advice to visually impaired people across the Black Country. Peter Moodie, awareness officer at the Beacon Centre, said, 'We're really grateful to Thursfields and Lloyds for arranging this quiz. The money raised will really help our services for people with sight loss.'

As well as Thursfields and Lloyds, other companies and organisations that took part included: Prosperity Wealth, Fieldings Auctioneers, Crowe Clark Whitehill, The Grand Theatre, Lewis Smith & Co, Unidoc Solutions, Griffith and Pegg, Halesowen & Rowley Regis Rotary Club, New Channel Developments and Wolverhampton City Council."

Dudley 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 Dudley 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 Dudley town centre.....

SEVEN STARS, Gospel End Road, Sedgley."

Express & Star 10/8/2021

"Staff were threatened with an axe and charity donations were stolen during an armed robbery at a Black Country pub. West Midlands Police has launched an investigation following the robbery at the SEVEN STARS pub in Sedgley, which happened just after midnight on Monday. The owners of the pub on Gospel End Road had been closing up after a charity event when three men broke into the pub with an axe and demanded money from the till. The man made off with cash from the till as well as money from the charity bucket, with a staff member suffering a minor injury during the incident. So far nobody has been arrested over the robbery. The pub received messages of support from all over the community after posting about the robbery on Facebook....."

[2021]

SHAKESPEARE

107, (105), Kent Street, (105, Sheepcotwall), (Dudley Road), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

James Guest
Richard Sidney Wilson, maltster, Ackleton
William Henry Westwood
Mrs. Rachel Westwood
Alfred Ernest Allen
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1928)
InnSpired Group Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Guest [1854] – 1879);
Catherine Guest (1879 – 1883);
Francis Anderson (1883 – 1884);
John Baker (1884);
William Henry Purchase (1884 – 1887);
Albert Lovatt (1887 – 1890);
James Maddocks (1890 – 1891);
Ann O'Hara (1891 – 1892);
John Potter (1892 – 1893);
Arthur Moss (1893 – 1896);
Henry Addenbrooke Clark (1896 – 1899);
Joseph Blackham (1899 – 1902);
Henry Turner (1902 – 1908);
Henry Wormal (1908 – 1909);
Isaac Smart (1909 – 1913);
Elizabeth Smart (1913);
William Henry Westwood (1913 – 1920);
Alfred Ernest Allen (1920 – 1928);
Harold Wellings (1928 – 1929);
William Edward Darby (1929 – 1931);
Arthur Wakelam (1931);
Mrs. Annie Wakelam (1931 – 1935);
William Cox (1935 – 1938);
Henry Horan (1938 – [1946])
Mrs. Horan [];
George Hampton [];
Jones [];
Bennett [] – 1960);
Kenneth Worwood (1960 – 1977);
Anthony Ernest Jackson (1977 – 1978);
Keith Leonard Jackson (1978);
Reginald Samuel Witton (1978 – 1980);
Stephen John Wood (1980);
Mrs. Ann Beatrice Rowley (1980 – 1996)

NOTES

Dudley Road [1861]
105, Sheepcotwall [1871]
105, Kent Street [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
107, Kent Street [1939]

It was formerly the PAINTERS ARMS.

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1854

“William Blackham and *James Guest*, two beerhouse keepers, residing at Upper Gornal, were, on Tuesday, charged with keeping their houses open for the sale of beer after ten o’clock on Sunday evening, the 12th inst. *Guest*, who had previously been convicted of the same offence, was fined £5; and Blackham 40s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston..... Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of William Blackburn, for a license to a house at Upper Gornal. The house, he said, was eligibly situated, and its arrangements were convenient. The property belonged to the applicant, whose good character was testified to by numerous persons who had signed his certificate.

Mr. Waterhouse, on behalf of Mr. Hughes, of the LIMERICK INN, opposed the application, the applicant’s house being opposite the house of the opposing party. There were five or six public houses in the same locality.

The Magistrates said there was not the least necessity for the license.

Mr. J. Underhill applied for a license to the PAINTERS ARMS, beershop, on behalf of the occupant, Mr. *Guest*. At the last licensing day the Magistrates granted a license to a house in this locality, because (he believed) it was represented to them that the successful applicant’s house was larger than that of Mr. *Guest*’s. That was not the fact, his client’s house being the largest.

Mr. Hayes opposed the granting of the license on behalf of Mr. Hughes, observing with reference to the observations of Mr. Underhill, that Magistrates were too cautious to make mistakes of that kind. Both applications were considered; Mr. Hughes’s was granted, and Mr. *Guest*’s refused. Mr. Hughes had lately laid out nearly £100 in improving his premises. Refused. [?]”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Smith, of Horseley Heath, applied for a license on behalf of Mr. *James Guest*, of Gornal. Mr. Hughes, of the LIMERICK INN (through Mr. Waterhouse) opposed, and the Bench refused to grant a license.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“Mr. Underhill applied for a license for a public house called the PAINTERS ARMS, situated at Upper Gornal, and in support of the application remarked that it did not come so much in the form of an application for a new license as for a transfer of an old one. Mr. *Guest* had, he said, recently purchased some property, called the COTTAGE SPRING, belonging to a person named Carter, situated about sixty or seventy yards from the house to which he wanted the license transferred. The license to the COTTAGE SPRING had been renewed that morning in the usual form, and it was the intention of Mr. *Guest*, if the Magistrates would grant a license for the PAINTERS ARMS, to give up the license granted that morning for the COTTAGE SPRING.

Mr. Waterhouse opposed on behalf of Mr. Hughes, the occupier of the LIMERICK, the adjoining house. The Magistrates agreed to reserve their decision until the adjourned licensing day.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/10/1858

“Bilston Adjourned Licensing Day.....

The application of *James Guest*, Upper Gornall, for the transfer of a license from an old-licensed house to a beerhouse was refused.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road – PAINTERS ARMS

- [1] *James Guest* (45), painter and beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Catherine Guest* (42), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] William E. *Guest* (14), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joseph J. *Guest* (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Lucy J. *Guest* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Charles A. *Guest* (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] James *Guest* (2), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Betsey Parker (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

James Guest, retailer of beer, Upper Gornall. [1862]

James Guest, plumber &c and beer retailer, Upper Gornal. [1865]

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.....

For keeping open during prohibited hours.....

James Guest, PAINTERS ARMS, Upper Gornal, 40s and costs.”

1871 Census

105, Sheepcotwall – Orchard Brewery

- [1] *James Guest* (54), brewer, born Upper Gornal;
- [2] *Catherine E. Guest* (52), wife, born Upper Gornal;
- [3] William E. Guest (24), son, traveller, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] Joseph J. Guest (21), son, clerk, born Sedgley;
- [5] Lucy S. Guest (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Charles A. Guest (18), son, painter, born Sedgley;
- [7] James Guest (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Sarah Harper (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/7/1878

“At a special Petty Sessions, at Sedgley, on Friday evening, Ernest Evans, traveller, in the employment of Mr. *James Guest*, Orchard Breweries, Upper Gornal, was charged with the embezzlement of moneys received for his employers.

Mr. *Guest* said there were several cases against the prisoner, but he should limit himself to two for the purpose of the prosecution. Evidence was then given showing that the accused had received £3 from Mr. Dann, publican, of Brockmoor, Brierley Hill, for ale, and only accounted for £2. He had given a cheque, with receipt for £3, but entered on the counterfoil £2. In the other case he received £1 10s from Mr. Huskinson, another publican, and entered on the counterfoil £1, which sum, it was alleged, he only paid over.

The accused endeavoured to show that the differences were made up of temporary debts, transferred from time to time to his salary and commission account, in accordance with their arrangements. He said he had a good defence.

Prisoner was committed for trial, and bail was refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/6/1878 - Advert

“Traveller Wanted. Connection and security required.

Apply, *James Guest*, Brewer, Upper Gornal, near Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 3/7/1878

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.

Ernest Evans (27), traveller, was indicted for embezzling, on the 9th of April, at Sedgley, the sum of £1, the moneys of his employer, *James Guest*. Prisoner was employed by prosecutor as a collector of accounts, and entered the service of Mr. *Guest* in March last. On the 9th of April an entry was made in the cash-book to the effect that £2 had been received from a man named Thomas Dunn, of Brockmoor, whereas the counterfoil book showed that £3 had been received by the prisoner. On the 21st of May prisoner received £2, and only accounted for £1; and also a further sum was shown to have been received from a Mr. Huskinson, a publican, of Darlaston, and prisoner, it was alleged, had only given an account of £1 instead of £1 10s, which was the amount received by prisoner. Prisoner was found guilty, and sent to gaol for nine calendar months.”

James Guest died on 6th November 1879.

1881 Census

105, Kent Street

- [1] *Catherine E. Guest* (62), mother, widow, brewer employing 4 men, born Sedgley;
- [2] William E. Guest (33), son, plumber and glazier, born Lower Gornal:

It is possible that the premises was only used for brewing for a time.

James Maddocks = James Maddox

1891 Census

105, Kent Street – PAINTERS ARMS

- [1] *James Maddox* (42), publican, born Tipton;
- [2] Betsy Maddox (38), wife, born Bedworth, Staffordshire(?);
- [3] Kate Maddox (19), daughter, born Middlesbrough;
- [4] Fanny Maddox (9), daughter, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 21/4/1891

“Thomas Marsh and William Harris, Gornal Wood, were charged, yesterday, by Samuel Flavell with an assault upon him. Mr. Ward defended.

The complainant went to the PAINTERS ARMS, Kent Street, and whilst sitting still the defendants jostled against him, and upon his asking for quiet they struck him, knocking him off his seat. His face was ‘knocked into a mummy’ and at one time he could ‘see nothing but fists’.

Marsh was fined 10s and 4s 3d costs, and Harris (who had been previously convicted) 40s and 4s 3d costs.”

Dudley Herald 22/10/1898

“At Sedgley Police Court on Monday, Henry Marsh, Temple Street, Upper Gornal, and Richard Cartwright, Humphrey Street, were charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, and also with assaulting *Henry A. Clark*, the landlord. Mr. R. A. Willcock prosecuted, and Mr. Turton defended.

Mr. Turton said that Marsh and Cartwright were defendants in two other charges of assault arising out of the same case, the complainants being Emily Bayliss and Frederick Cartwright. Terms, however, had been arranged between the parties, and, with the consent of the Bench, the complainants were willing for the summonses to be withdrawn. Mr. Willcock said the defendants had offered a substantial monetary compensation, which he was prepared to accept on behalf of his clients. The Bench agreed to the withdrawal of the summonses.

Mr. Willcock then stated that whilst a smoking concert was taking place at the SHAKESPEARE INN, on the night of the 11th inst, the defendants entered the room and created a disturbance. On being requested to leave the room they went downstairs and called for a quart of ale, which was supplied by the servant girl. The defendants then wanted to toss as to who should pay, but the servant refused to allow them to do so. Subsequently they became abusive, and the landlord requested them to leave the premises. A customer named William Moore ventured to say that the landlord was quite right in the action he was taking, when Cartwright rushed at him and struck him violently. Moore was about to retaliate when the landlord intervened, and was knocked down by Cartwright, and also struck by Marsh, being ultimately rendered unconscious. Afterwards a disgraceful affray took place, several people being assaulted by the defendants.

Henry Clarke, SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, gave evidence in support of the opening statement. The two defendants came into his house about a quarter to nine on the night of the Tuesday in question, and went into the ‘free and easy’. They there created a disturbance and in consequence of their disorderly behaviour he requested them to leave the room. They did so and went down into the bar room below. Some minutes after he went down and the servant girl told him that the two defendants had got a quart of ale and would not pay for it. Cartwright said ‘I’m going to toss for who pays.’ Witness said he did not allow that sort of thing and a man named Moore commented ‘A very proper thing to do.’ Witness told defendant to pick up his money and go which Moore said was the proper thing to do, and for saying which Cartwright struck him a blow. A general fracas ensued in which several persons were struck and witness was knocked insensible.

Mary Jane Hickman, a servant in *Clarke’s* employ, corroborated his evidence.

William Moore said he saw the defendants about to toss for drinks, and when the landlord told them not to do so he said it was the proper thing to do. Cartwright then struck him, and other people who came downstairs from the ‘Free and Easy’ were also struck. Joseph Flavell said he was at the ‘Free and Easy’ when he heard a row downstairs, and going down he saw Mr. *Clarke* lying on the floor to all appearances dead. The defendants were behaving like mad people, making a terrible noise, and the room presented the appearance of a slaughter-house, blood having been ‘spilled’ by one or two of the parties.

PC Bayley, who went to the house about a quarter to eleven, also stated that the room was like a slaughter-house. Blood was splashed upon the floor and cupboard, and broken jugs and glasses lay upon the floor. The landlord looked very ill, and had to obtain medical advice.

Mr. Turton said that after hearing the evidence he was bound to admit that a most disgraceful disturbance took place on licensed premises. The defendants had expressed regret for the assault on the landlord, and had promised not to again visit the public house. In addition, they had made a liberal offer of compensation to the other persons alleged to have been assaulted by them. The Chairman said that the case was a very serious one. The laws for regulating licensed houses were very strict, and properly so, and the laws were also strict for protecting licensed victuallers. While the Bench punished those who violated the licensing laws they were equally in duty bound to punish those who broke the licensing laws in the manner in which the defendants had done. Defendants were fined £5 and costs for refusing to quit, and were each sentenced to two months’ hard labour for the assault.”

1901 Census

105, Kent Street – SHAKESPEARE INN

- [1] *Joseph Blackham* (24), licensed victualler, born Upper Gornal;
- [2] *Jane Blackham* (24), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] *Joseph L. Blackham* (8 months), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [4] *Annie Savin* (10), niece, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] *Mary Cox* (17), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

1911 Census

105, Kent Street – SHAKESPEARE INN

- [1] *Isaac Smart* (34), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Smart* (34), wife, married 16 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Enoch Smart* (15), son, time keeper, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Joseph Smart* (12), son, school, born Kingswinford;
- [5] *Arthur Smart* (4), son, born Sedgley:

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o’clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as

follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beehouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. John Groves.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. Davies.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston(Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. Enoch Smart.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. *Isaac Smart*.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Joshua Bradley.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Beerhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, 6s 3½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Dudley Herald 2/5/1931

“Miners of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire will lose a conscientious official of their association by the death of Councillor *Arthur Wakelam*, at his residence, the SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, on Thursday last.

Councillor *Wakelam*, who was 55 years of age, had been a member of the Sedgley Council since 1919, and was re-elected to that authority last month. He had occupied the position of Chairman of the Roads Committee for several years until it was merged into the Public Works Committee. He was one of the pioneers of the Labour movement in the Sedgley district, but held no official position in it.

A native of Lower Gornal, Councillor *Wakelam* was for many years the steward of the Miners' Welfare Club, Lower Gornal, but resigned that position to take up the license of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, which he held until last year. He was an ardent trade unionist and belonged to the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire Miners' Association, a branch of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain. He had been a trustee of the association for about 15 years, and had occupied the position of president for nine years. He was greatly esteemed and respected by all the members of the association, and his loss will be keenly felt. Councillor *Wakelam* had only been ill for about a week, his death being due to pneumonia. He attended the first meeting of the newly-constituted Council last Tuesday week, and took an active part in the discussion, urging that the newly fixed rate should be

further reduced. He leaves a widow and six children. His demise will necessitate an election in Wood Ward.”

Dudley Herald 9/5/1931

“Amidst many manifestations of sorrow and sympathy, the funeral took place at Sedgley Parish Church, on Tuesday afternoon last, of Councillor *Arthur Wakelam*, of the SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, who died on Thursday last week. The cortege which proceeded from Upper Gornal, was met at the Council House by many Councillors and officials, who attended the church service to pay their last respects to Councillor *Wakelam*, who had sat on the council continuously for the past twelve years.....”

1939 Register

107, Kent Street – SHAKESPEARE INN

[1] *Henry Horan*, date of birth 27/9/1891, licensee, married;

[2] Sarah A. Horan, dob 4/10/1891, household duties, married;

Bilston & Willenhall Times 18/5/1946

“Stated to have incurred a penalty of £100 in fines or six months’ imprisonment, *Henry Horan* (57), of the SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, appeared before Sedgley magistrates (Councillor Mrs. E. E. Williams, C. Whittingham, W. P. Booth and Miss A. Wheeldon), on Monday, on two charges of acquiring coal in excess of the permitted maximum, and a further charge of acquiring coal from a person other than a licensed dealer.

Prosecuting on behalf of the Minister of Fuel and Power, Mr. O. D. Bergendorff said the matter came to light as a result of the investigation of the books of Geo. Bissell and Sons Ltd, of Netherton, who were registered for supplying coal to *Horan*. The firm has already been dealt with for this, and other charges, by the Dudley Bench.

An inspection of *Horan*’s cash book by an inspector revealed an entry of £6 13s in respect of 2 ton 3 cwt of coal purchased during the week ending April 25th 1945. For the period ending April 30th defendant was entitled to one ton of coal, and the local Fuel Overseer issued a license to him for a further 2 ton 2 cwt. That amount had been supplied to him, in addition to the 2 ton 3 cwt in question.

At first defendant refused to explain the item in his cash book, but it transpired that he had it from a local miner, and not from Bissells. He still refused to disclose the miner’s name.

The other charge was in respect of coal supplied from May 5th to July 31st 1945. During that period he was entitled to a maximum of 10 cwt, but on May 27th Bissells supplied him with 1 ton 1 cwt.

Pointing out that the amounts involved were not very large compared with other cases, Mr. Bergendorff said the Ministry of Fuel was very anxious no one should obtain more than the permitted entitlement in view of the coal situation. It was grossly improper to obtain coal from miners.

Horan was fined a total of £12 and ordered to pay £5 10s costs.”

A music license was granted on 28th April 1961.

Ann Beatrice Rowley was married to Alfred.

See also RED COW, Lower Gornal.

It closed in 2000.

It was converted into Chinese and Indian take away restaurants.

SHIP AND RAINBOW

3, (2+3), Rainbow Street, (Bow Street), (Skidmore Row), Highfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

John Dean, pawnbroker, Bilston

Henry Fowler, ironmaster, Tettenhall

Barber’s Field Iron Co., Bilston

James Pritchard’s Brewery, Darlaston

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1958]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Bass, Mitchells and Butlers

Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Benjamin Cole [1828] – [1851]
Mrs. Hannah Cole [1855]
~~Benjamin Cole [1858]~~
Joseph Hancox [1861] – [1865]
George Hyde [1871] – 1879;
Charles Carpenter (1879 – 1884);
Alfred Martin (1884 – 1885);
John Henry Hamilton (1885 – 1887);
William Taft (1887 – 1889);
George Lucas (1889 – 1893);
Henry Hale (1893);
Levi Hammonds (1893 – 1894);
Daniel Rowley (1894 – 1901);
Albert Edward Taylor [1901]
Josiah Guttridge (1901 – 1902);
John Harpin (1902 – 1905);
Albert Davis (1905 – 1909);
Albert Davies (1909 – 1912);
Benjamin Hazeldine (1912 – 1918);
Sarah Hazeldine (1918);
James Hale (1918 – 1959)
A Reynolds [1976]

NOTES

SHIP AND RAINBOW [1873], [1874], [1908], [1932]
SHIP INN [1851], [1862]

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 13/4/1829 - Advert

“To be Let, that well-accustomed Public House, known by the sign of the SHIP AND RAINBOW, with a large Garden and Pump of Water, situate near the Deepfield Iron Works.

Apply to Samuel Laughton on the premises, or at the PIG AND WHISTLE, Sedgley.”

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1829 - Advert

“To be Let, and entered upon at Michaelmas next, a Public House, situate at Highfields, near Bilston, known by the sign of the SHIP AND RAINBOW.

For particulars and to treat for the same apply to Mr. James Horton, Princes End, Tipton.”

Benjamin Cole, retail brewer, Highfields. [1833]

1841 Census

Highfields

[1] *Benjamin Cole* (35), born Staffordshire;

[2] *Hannah Cole* (35), born Staffordshire;

[3] *Benjamin Cole* (9), born Staffordshire;

[4] *Carolina Cole* (2), born Staffordshire;

[5] *Mary Ann Cole* (4), born Staffordshire;

[6] *Eliza Cole* (1), born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/4/1843 - Advert

“To be Let, at Midsummer, that well-accustomed Public House, with well-arranged brewhouse, stables, piggery, outoffices, and garden, known by the sign of the SHIP AND RAINBOW, High Fields, in the parish of Sedgley, in the midst of ironworks and collieries, with a populous and improving neighbourhood. It will be found worth the attention of an industrious couple, with small capital; rent low; no stock or fixtures to be taken to.

To treat for the same, apply to Mr. John Dean, japanner, Temple Street, Bilston.”

1851 Census

Highfields

[1] *Benjamin Cole* (45), licensed victualler, born Bushbury;

[2] *Hannah Cole* (47), wife, born Tipton;

[3] *Mary Ann Cole* (15), daughter, servant, born Sedgley;

[4] *Caroline Cole* (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] *Eliza Cole* (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

- [6] William Edwin Cole (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
[7] Mary Bird (88), wife's mother, formerly housemaid, born Tipton:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/12/1855

“George and Jacob Smith and Daniel Jeavons were, on Tuesday, examined at the Police Court, Bilston, on the charge of stealing £1 18s from the person of William Bennett, a miner. On Saturday night the prosecutor was in the SHIP AND RAINBOW, kept by Mrs. *Coles*, in the Broad Lanes. The prisoners were there, and the prosecutor fell asleep. On waking up he missed his money, obtained the assistance of Police-constable Smith, and had the prisoners apprehended. In Jacob Smith's pocket a key, which was identified by Bennett, was discovered. The Bench discharged the others, but committed Jacob Smith for trial to the sessions. There was another charge against George Smith. Thomas Hale, an engineer, said that on the Saturday night fortnight previous, he was dosing in his whimsey, when he felt the accused take his knife from his pocket. He accused him of the theft, and was knocked down and kicked by the prisoner. The knife was subsequently returned to him through a man named Spencer. The accused was ordered to find bail for his appearance at the sessions.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 5/1/1856

“Staffordshire Epiphany Sessions.....

Jacob Smith, 23, was charged with stealing from the person of William Bennett, at Sedgley, thirty-eight shillings and a key, his property. Mr. Spooner conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Kenealy defended the prisoner.

The evidence of the prosecutor, who was a butty collier, living at Highfields, was to the effect that on the evening of the 1st December, he went with two men to the SHIP AND RAINBOW, and having been up at work on the previous night, he fell asleep, and slept from about ten to half-past eleven. On awakening he found the two persons, who sat next to him before he went to sleep, were gone. His pocket was turned inside out, and a key, a sovereign, and two half-sovereigns were missing. He identified a key found in the prisoner's possession as the one he lost.

The cross-examination of this witness by Mr. Kenealy excited roars of laughter. He spoke with a remarkably strong voice, and quoted a variety of droll proverbs, many of which were by no means complimentary to the learned counsel. He refused categorically to answer questions, insisting upon telling his tale in his own way, and desiring Mr. Kenealy to ‘houd his noise’ while he did so. It transpired that two other persons were charged with the prisoner before the magistrates, they having been with the prosecutor when he fell asleep; and that the mother of one of these and the prisoner's mother sent for the prosecutor, and gave him the £1 18s to induce him not to go against the prisoners. He denied having promised not to appear against them, but said, ‘If I con do anythin’, I wool.’

William Jones, a miner, gave a similar statement to the prosecutor's with respect to his going to sleep in the public house, and missing his money on awaking, when the prisoner was gone; and a policeman who apprehended the prisoner spoke to his having thrown money away as he was going to the police station, but only twopence-halfpenny was found.

Mr. Kenealy having addressed the jury for the prisoner, remarking on the absence of proof that the missing property was taken by the prisoner, the key being a common one, the jury acquitted the prisoner.

On his being subsequently brought up to be discharged, the Chairman reminded him that it was not the first time he had been seen in that Court, and warned him to avoid coming there again.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/6/1858 - Advert

“Bilston, Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold and Copyhold Messuages, Building Land, and Premises.

Mr. George Brown will Sell by Auction, on Friday, the 11th day of June, 1858, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Bilston, at six o'clock in the evening (by order of the Trustees under the Will of the late Mr. John Dean).....

Lot 10. All those eight several Freehold Messuages, with the Brewhouses, Outbuildings, Land, Yard, and Premises to the same belonging, situate at Highfields, in the parish of Sedgley, fronting the road leading from Coseley to Bilston, and adjoining to the SHIP AND RAINBOW Public House, which said Messuages are now in the occupations of Thomas Cox and others, and produce an annual rental of £59 14s.

This lot comprises, with the site of the buildings, 690 square yards, or thereabouts.

Lot 11. All that old-established and Old-Licensed Freehold Public House, known as the SHIP AND RAINBOW INN, together with a Messuage adjoining, and the Stabling, Brewhouses, and Outbuildings belonging thereto, adjoining to lot 10, and comprising, with the site of the buildings, 1,250 square yards, or thereabouts, occupied by Mr. *Benjamin Cole*, or his undertenants, and producing £25 per annum.

The Mines under lots 10 and 11 are reserved, subject to compensation for damage.”

1861 Census

Skidmore Row – SHIP AND RAINBOW

- [1] *Joseph Hancox* (41), victualler, born Bilston;
[2] *Mary Hancox* (38), wife, born Bilston;
[3] *Elizabeth Hancox* (62), mother (crossed out), lodger, retired beer seller, born Bilston;
[4] *Betsy Hancox* (22), sister, servant, born Bilston;
[5] *Sarah Hancox* (11), niece, scholar, born Bilston:

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/9/1865

“At the Police Court, yesterday, before Messrs. H. Ward and A. Sparrow, the following, whose names had been placed on the ‘black list,’ had their licenses renewed.....

J. Hancox, SHIP AND RAINBOW, Hallfields.”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/10/1865

“Mr. W. H. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest, in Bilston, on Monday afternoon, on the body of Thomas Green, deputy engineer of a water shaft on the Stow Heath Colliery of Messrs. Sparrow and Co, Ettingshall, who had died on the previous Friday [20th October]. The deceased had been down the shaft to superintend some repairs, and was being drawn up, when, by some means, he fell out of the skip, and was killed. His brother-in-law, Police-constable Denston, was at the mouth of the shaft at the time, and finding that the man in charge of the horse which turned the winding apparatus was drunk, would not allow him to proceed with his work. The Jury were very much inclined to commit the driver for manslaughter, but, after long deliberation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death, at the same time censuring him.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/12/1865 - Correspondence

“To the Editor of the *Daily Gazette*.

Sir, Thomas Green, engineer, was killed in an engine pit at Stow Heath Colliery on the 20th of November last, under Mr. John Sparrow, and left his widow with four young daughters, and she has since given birth to two other twin daughters, making a total of six, and not one of them able to get a penny, and as the whole of the mother’s time will be required to nurse and attend to those children, the whole seven are entirely dependent upon charity. This is really a needy case, and my object in giving it publicity is to procure as much money for the widow as would enable her to manage some business at home, whereby to assist in maintaining herself and children.

The smallest donation will be thankfully received by Mr. Daniel Morris, chief engineer, Stow Heath; Mr. William Butler, KINGS HEAD INN, Broad Street, Bilston; Mr. *Joseph Hancox*, SHIP AND RAINBOW, Highfields, near Bilston.

By inserting the above in your valuable paper you will greatly oblige.

Your obedient and humble servant, William Butler, KINGS HEAD INN, Broad Street, Bilston, December 23rd, 1865.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 27/1/1866

“To the Editor of the *Daily Post*.

Sir, Some time ago you were kind enough to publish in your valuable paper a paragraph, headed ‘A Case of Charity,’ on behalf of the Widow Green. I shall feel obliged if you will state in your next publication that the list will close on the last day of January, and after that date, by your kind permission, all contributions received shall be published through the *Daily Post*, and the smallest donation will be thankfully received by

Your humble and obedient servant, William Butler.

KINGS HEAD INN, Broad Street, Bilston, January 25, 1866.”

AND

Birmingham Daily Post 10/2/1866 - Advert

“To the Public Generally.

We, the undersigned, beg to return our most sincere Thanks on behalf of Widow Mary Green, of Ettingshall New Village, near Wolverhampton, to whom the Public have do kindly contributed on behalf of the deceased Thomas Green.

The sums that we have received on behalf of the above, the appointed time being now up, we feel it our duty to show the same, as promised, through the *Daily Post*, and beg to remain your obedient servants in sympathy.

Daniel Morris, Chief Engineer, Stowheath; William Butler, KINGS HEAD, Bilston; *Joseph Hancox*, Highfields, near Bilston; William Bennett, Highfields, near Bilston.

KINGS HEAD INN, Broad Street, Bilston, February 8, 1866.

List of Subscriptions received for the Widow Mary Green.”

[A total of £16 0s 8d was raised.]

1871 Census

2+3, Rainbow Street – SHIP AND RAINBOW

[1] *George Hyde* (29), painter, born Midhurst, Sussex;

[2] Betsy Hyde (33), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Elizabeth Hyde (8), daughter, born Bilston;

[4] John Hyde (5), son, born Bilston;

[5] Mary Ann Hyde (2), daughter, born Bilston;

[6] Rachel Hyde (1), daughter, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/5/1871

“At Bilston Police Court, yesterday, *George Hyde*, landlord of the SHIP AND RAINBOW, Skidmore’s Green, was summoned for permitting drunkenness in his house. It was shown by PC Hopwood that on Thursday last there were three men at defendant’s house in a drunken state. One of the men was so drunk that he had to be taken to the lock up.

Defendant said that he was ill at the time, and did not know that there were any drunken men in the house. He was fined £5 and costs.”

Dudley Herald 27/5/1871

“*George Hyde*, landlord of the SHIP AND RAINBOW public house, Highfields, Coseley, was fined £5 and costs and his license endorsed for permitting drunkenness.”

Dudley Herald 26/2/1876 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Monday and Tuesday, March 6 and 7, 1876.....

Order of Sale.

First day, Monday, at the Yew Tree House, opposite the Church, Coseley – Cows, Pigs, Carts, Farming Implements, and Household Furniture.

Second day, Tuesday – Colliery Effects, strong Carts, and a general assortment of Farming Implements, near the Earl of Dudley’s Colliery, opposite the SHIP AND RAINBOW, Highfields, near Bilston.”

Dudley Herald 29/4/1876

“Last night week the annual meeting of the Coseley Local Board was held.....

The Medical Officer of Health showed a decrease of 19 deaths, compared with the corresponding month of last year. The report went on to say that diphtheria, to a serious extent, had prevailed in the cottages near the SHIP AND RAINBOW, and three deaths had resulted therefrom. He pointed out the nuisance from the deposit of night-soil upon unsuitable and exposed places, particularly mentioning an open pool of liquid excrement deposited near Foundry Street, which was very offensive and unwholesome. Analyses of water from wells and pumps in Field Street and Church Street, made by the borough analyst, showed positive evidence that the water was filthy and unwholesome. The greatest need of the district was a good and sufficient water supply. Three cases of diphtheria had occurred at Webb Street, at a place where there was an open and objectionable drain. Several spots in an unsanitary state were pointed out, with the expression of a hope that immediate attention would be directed thereto. The death-rate was 19.3 per 1,000.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 24/5/1879

“At Bilston Public Office, yesterday, the following licenses and certificates were transferred.....

SHIP AND RAINBOW, Highfields, from the executors of *George Hyde* to *Charles Carpenter*.”

Wednesbury Herald 14/8/1880

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (South Staffordshire Coroner) held an adjourned inquest at the SHIP AND RAINBOW INN, Highfields, on Monday, relative to the death of William Francis (48) a farm labourer in the employ of the Patent Shaft and Axletree Company, who was found drowned in the Birmingham Canal at Wednesbury Oak.

The evidence showed that the body of the deceased was found in the canal by a boatman. It was covered with bruises, and as some of the witnesses believed the neck to be broken the Coroner directed a post mortem examination of the body to be made. Dr. Clenndinnear said he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and found that death had been caused by drowning, and not by violence.

The Coroner: Was the neck broken?

Witness: No, sir.

The Coroner: I thought not.

Witness: I should think the bruises about the body were caused by the passing boats.

The Coroner said he did not think the deceased had met his death by violence. The night was very dark, and it was most probable the deceased walked into the water and was drowned. The amount of his wages received was also found in his pocket which fact also led him to believe that the occurrence was purely accidental.

The jury after a short consultation returned a verdict of Found Drowned.”

Evening Express 1/4/1881 - Advert

“For Sale, 20 tons of manure; also some good Ale Barrels. SHIP AND RAINBOW, Highfields, Bilston.”

1881 Census

3, Rainbow Street – SHIP AND RAINBOW

[1] *Charles Carpenter* (43), licensed victualler, born Tamworth;

[2] *Emma Carpenter* (43), wife, born Studley, Warwickshire;

[3] *Betsey Carpenter* (22), daughter, born Bewdley;

[4] *Mary Jane Carpenter* (18), daughter, born Hombery, Worcestershire;

[5] *Alice Carpenter* (7), daughter, born Bilston:

Wednesbury Herald 23/7/1881

“On Monday afternoon, an inquest was held at the SHIP AND RAINBOW INN, Highfields, before W. H. Phillips, Esq., district coroner, touching the death of a boy named Joseph Hill.

The step-mother of the deceased said she sent the boy to Bilston to purchase some iron for the purpose of making into shovels, and did not see him again until he was brought home dead.

A boy, who was at work in Messrs. Mottram and Roden’s boiler yard, said he saw deceased go into the yard, and, whilst playing about, he fell over a piece of timber. About ten minutes afterwards deceased was found with his head fast between the fly wheel and the building of the punching press. His brains were scattered about, and he was quite dead. Witness thought he must have been pulling at the fly wheel to have got into such a position.

Mr. Roden, one of the masters, said he saw the boy there, and shortly after the men had left the press he noticed that the band was off, and he went to put it on. But as the wheel would not even then go round, he went to see what pressure of steam there was, and

he then saw the deceased in the position just described. Deceased had no right there at all, and to get into the position in which he was found he would have to go round a scrap pen which was protected by plates. The work came under the provision of the Factory Acts, and the Inspector had visited it prior to the accident. No order had ever been given for any guard to be placed round the press; if such a guard had been erected it would only have been an impediment to the work. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

London Gazette 16/1/1883

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

In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation by Arrangement or Composition with Creditors, instituted by *Charles Carpenter*, of the SHIP AND RAINBOW INN, Rainbow-street, Highfields, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Publican and Greengrocer.

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 Messrs. Stokes and Hooper, of 1, Priory-street, Dudley, in the county of Worcester, on the 30th day of January, 1883, at three o’clock in the afternoon precisely.

Dated this 12th day of January, 1883.

Stokes and Hooper, 1, Priory-street, Dudley, Solicitors for the said Debtor.”

Darlaston Weekly Times 14/11/1885 - Advert

“The SHIP AND RAINBOW, Highfields.

John Henry Hamilton begs to inform the public generally, that he has recently opened the above house, and that he hopes to merit their support by selling only the best Wines, Spirits, &c.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1889 - Advert

“Safemakers (four) Wanted, at once. Good wages given.

Apply, *George Lucas*, Daisy Bank, near Bilston.”

1891 Census

Rainbow Street – SHIP AND RAINBOW INN

- [1] *George Lucas* (34), safe manufacturer and licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Jane Lucas* (34), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Thomas Lucas* (9), son, scholar, born Bradley;
- [4] *Fred Lucas* (4), son, born Bradley;
- [5] *Sarah Ann Lucas* (12), daughter, born Bradley;
- [6] *May Harris* (11), visitor, born Dudley Port;

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/6/1900 - Advert

“Sales by Auction.....

Freehold Fully Licensed Inn, the SHIP AND RAINBOW; also the Beerhouse, called the BUSH, at Highfields, Bilston.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/6/1900

“Property Sale. On Monday afternoon An old licensed house, the SHIP AND RAINBOW, Highfields, Bilston, rented at £18 per year, fetched £1,000; and the BUSH INN beerhouse, in the same locality, rented at £30 per year, was sold for £955.”

1901 Census

Rainbow Street – SHIP AND RAINBOW

- [1] *Albert Edward Taylor* (28), sheet roller, born Moxley;
- [2] *Florence Hannah Taylor* (24), wife, born Bradley;
- [3] *Gertrude Davies* (22), sister in law, born Bradley;
- [4] *Gertrude M. Davies* (7 months), niece, born Highfields;

John Harpin = John Alpin

Leominster News 6/3/1903

“On Monday, at Sedgley the charge against *John Alpin*, landlord of the SHIP AND RAINBOW, for permitting drunkenness on the 7th ult, was dismissed.”

1911 Census

Rainbow Street – SHIP AND RAINBOW

- [1] *Albert Davies* (35), boatman, born Coseley;
- [2] *Sarah Davies* (37), wife, married 7 years, assists in work of public house, born Coseley;
- [3] *Eliza Jane Davies* (6), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] *Albert E. Davies* (4), son, born Coseley;
- [5] *Richard Davies* (2), son, born Coseley;
- [6] *Violet Blanch Davies* (8 months), daughter, born Coseley;

[7] Elisa Whitehouse (14), servant, born Coseley:

Benjamin Hazeldine = Benjamin Hazledine

Sarah Hazeldine died in 1918.

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

A team from here took part in the Bradley Darts League, Second Division. [1946]

Demolished [pre 1957]

Rebuilt

Birmingham Daily Post 10/12/1958

“The annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 30 at Wolverhampton. The following is the circulated statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. J. Yardley.....

The rebuilding of the SHIP AND RAINBOW, Coseley, Bilston, and the VINE, Vauxhall, Wolverhampton, are in hand, both houses being in future re-development areas.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/12/1959

“The 69th annual general meeting of W. Butler & Co. Limited will be held on December 28 at Wolverhampton. The following is the statement by Mr. Frank Yardley (Chairman and Managing Director) which has been circulated with the report and accounts.....

Further progress has been made with the building of new properties, and the following were opened during the financial year..... The SHIP AND RAINBOW, Coseley, has been rebuilt, being opened on 3rd July, 1959.”

James Hale was born in Coseley.

He married Elizabeth Statham, the daughter of Joseph Statham of the BOAT, Highfields.

He died in 1959.

Closed

It was converted into the Rainbow Centre 1997-1998.

SOWN INN

Sheepcotwall, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas **Heath** Webb [1859] – [1865]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers’ licenses..... An application by Mr. Waterhouse, opposed by Mr. Underhill, for a license for Mr. Heath [sic], of Gornal, was refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for the purpose of the renewal and granting of licenses for the township of Bilston and the neighbourhood was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Waterhouse made application on behalf of Mr. *Thomas Heath Webb* for a license to a house occupied by him and situate at Upper Gornal. The house was represented as being very commodious, comprising large yard and stabling, together with convenient outbuildings; and it was further stated that a license was formerly attached to the house. Mr. Underhill opposed the application. Refused.”

Thomas Webb, beer retailer, Upper Gornal. [1864], [1865]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court. The following beerhouse-keepers had been fined during the past five years.....
For keeping open during prohibited hours.....
Thomas Webb, Sheepcot Wall, Sedgley, 20s and costs.”

SPILLS MEADOW

Kent Street, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.
Marstons plc

LICENSEES

James Andrews []
Marilyn Lansley (2001 – [2002])

NOTES

Construction started in 1973.
It opened in September 1976.

James Andrews was married to Dorothy.

Marilyn Lansley was married to Thomas.

Dudley Chronicle 23/8/2018

“An Upper Gornal pub hosts a fund-raiser for the Black Country Well-being Centre from noon tomorrow (Friday). The Gornal Fun Day, at the SPILLS MEADOW in Kent Street, will include a barbecue and entertainment.”

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.....
SPILLS MEADOW, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.”

Express & Star 9/3/2023

“61 pubs being sold off by the Marston's group Dudley pubs in the sell off include.....
SPILLS MEADOW, Kent Street, Upper Gornal.

Marston's is selling off the pubs after a review of its UK estate. The Wolverhampton-based group has instructed business property adviser and pub specialist Christie & Co to market the selection of freehold pubs in England and Wales. It is known as Project Aramis. The sales would take the national pub company's estate below 1,400 properties. The pubs are said to be part of Marston's non-core properties and are available to purchase individually, in small groups or as a group package. It is thought the package will attract interest from the likes of Red Oak Taverns, the national pub operator founded by Aaron Brown and Mark Grunnell in 2011, and Valiant Pub Company. Both companies have already acquired pubs from Marston's over the past 12 months.”

[2023]

SPREAD EAGLE

358, Birmingham New Road, COSELEY

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Punch Taverns [2001]
Admiral Taverns [2010]

LICENSEES

Graham Blower (1983 – 1998)
Miss Nichola 'Niki' Penny [2001]

NOTES

It opened on 19th December 1956.

Plans to convert the Wine Shop into a Games Room were approved on 3rd April 1978.

[Birmingham Daily Post 7/8/1995](#)

“Midland drinkers had time on their hands yesterday when last orders at the bar on a Sunday lunchtime became a thing of the past. Many people took to the change in the law, which allows all-day drinking on the Sabbath for the first time in almost a century, like ducks to water.....

Other people were in two minds about the success of all-day Sunday licensing.....

Mr. *Graham Blower*, of the SPREAD EAGLE pub, Birmingham Road, Wolverhampton, a member of the Licensed Victuallers Trade Association, said pubs would have to put a lot of effort into organising events to attract extra trade on Sundays.”

Graham Blower was married to Pat.

Niki Penny's partner was David Ralph.

[2004]

It was renamed NEW SPREAD EAGLE. [2007]

It closed on 9th September 2010.

[Express & Star 6/12/2010](#)

“A landmark former Black Country pub may become a care home, creating 60 jobs, under plans revealed today. The SPREAD EAGLE, Birmingham New Road, Wolverhampton, may become a 56 bed home under plans sent to Wolverhampton City Council. The pub, near Coseley, closed in September.

Spokeswoman Aimi McNeill, for LNT Construction, today said it would have an even residential care/dementia care split, ‘This would create around 50-60 jobs for the local area. The region urgently requires high quality care provision. It would be provided by sister company Ideal Care Homes who also operates East Park Court in nearby Bilston,’ she said.

Councillor Mike Heap today said, ‘All three Spring Vale councillors think it’s a very good idea. The pub has been closed for a couple of months and it has been targeted by vandals as most pubs that shut are these days. This is a really worthy redevelopment.’

The plans at the SPREAD EAGLE are the latest put forward to transform eyesore pub sites in the Black Country and bring them back into use. Earlier this year, councillors on the planning committee approved proposals to turn the former WOOD HAYES pub in Wood End Road, Fallings Park, into a 69-bed nursing home, with the creation of 60 jobs. Plans have also been submitted to transform the former ISLAND HOUSE pub, in Stafford Road, Oxley, into a new KFC drive-through restaurant.

LNT Construction was behind the building of TIBBINGTON ARMS, Tipton, and Holloway Street, Wolverhampton. The SPREAD EAGLE was sold after it was shut by previous owners Admiral Taverns, who said it was surplus to requirements. A hand car wash operating from the pub’s car park also closed. City council bosses are due to make a decision on the Birmingham New Road care home plans in March 2011.”

It was demolished in 2011.

A care home was built on the site. [2013]

SPREAD EAGLE

30, (31), Church Road (Street), (Filecutters Alley), (Coseley Green), Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

Mary Wainwright, Gospel End, Sedgley
John Mason
Samuel Kendrick, 3 The Paddock, Coseley
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased)
Frank Myatt Ltd.
Truman, Hanbury and Buxton and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Hill [1833] – [1836]
William Round [1841] – [1842]
Mrs. Sarah Round [1845] – 1850);
James Round (1850 – 1852);
James Wainwright (1852);
James Griffith [1851] – [1854]
George Rose [] – 1855);
Joseph Rose (1855 – 1856);
Edwin Lewis (1856 – []
John White [1861] – 1875);
John Mason (1875 – 1906);
Sarah Ann Mason (1906 – 1907);
John Thomas Whitehouse (1907 – 1913);
Mrs. Maria (Whitehouse) Poole (1913 – 1922);
Ralph Robbins (1922 – 1925);
John Oliver Newey (1925 – 1927);
Robert Mundy (1927 – 1932);
John Frank Whitehouse (1932 – [1940]

NOTES

Filecutters Alley
Coseley Green [1864], [1865]
30, Church Street [1871], [1881]
31, Church Road [1891]
Church Road [1896], [1904], [1940]
30, Church Road [1901], [1911], [1939]

EAGLE [1852], [1854], [1868]

It was known locally as “The Ten Legs”.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 13/12/1830 - Advert

“Freehold Houses, near Coseley New Church.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Thomas Bowen on Wednesday the 22nd day of December, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, near Coseley New Church, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/7/1836

“*Mary Hill*, of Coseley, was charged by the Supervisor, Mr. Irwin, with receiving into her stock on the 19th of April, seven quarts of rum and five quarts of gin, without a proper permit.

Mr. Irwin said that on the 19th of April he surveyed defendant’s stock. Inquired, as was usual, whether she had any permits; to which she replied yes, and gave them to him. On examining the stock he found it greater than the permits expressed, and said he must seize it. Mrs. *Hill* was alarmed, and she said she had paid ready money for the spirits, and did not know anything was wrong. The permits had been made for one gallon instead of two. It appeared that no blame was attributable to Mrs. *Hill*. The permits had been filled in erroneously, and so satisfied were the officers of this fact, that they did not sue for any penalty. The spirits were forfeited by the act.

Mr. Edmonds, who attended on behalf of the defendant, said they were welcome to the spirits. His only object was to show that his client was not at fault.

The magistrates said there was no imputation against her character.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/5/1845

“A well dressed young man, named Caleb Alsop Waldron, was charged by police constable Pearson with drunkenness. Complainant said he was sent for to Mrs. *Round's* public house, near Coseley church, on Tuesday evening, about seven o'clock, to remove the defendant, whom he found surrounded with women and other persons, and so drunk as to be incapable of walking, and he seemed to be sport for them; he removed him to the station. The defendant admitted the charge to be true, but said the liquor had taken a greater effect upon him than he expected; and on inquiry as to his way of life, said, ‘I have till lately instructed youth; but I am now preparing for the church.’ The Magistrates informed him that he had disgraced himself by the present transaction, and fined him 5s.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/12/1847

“The following inquests have been held since our last before William Ward, Esq, coroner (officiating for T. M. Phillips, Esq). . . . At the SPREAD EAGLE, Coseley, on Friday, on the body of Enoch Evans, about 14 years of age, who was severely injured by an explosion of Sulphur in an old coal pit at Round's Hill, in the parish of Sedgley, on Monday week. The deceased had been ordered to stop at the bottom of the pit until the Sulphur had been cleared out, but Evans and two other boys went straight into it with lights, and an explosion immediately took place. All the boys were more or less injured. Evans died on Friday morning last. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/3/1849

“At the Public Office, Bilston, on Tuesday, Charles Nicholds, labourer, brought up charged with uttering six counterfeit sixpences and two counterfeit shillings, well knowing them to be base, to Mrs. *Sarah Round*, licensed victualler, Coseley, on the night of the 3rd instant, was remanded.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/2/1850 - Advert

“Freehold Houses and Land, at Rounds Hill, in the Parish of Sedgley, Staffordshire.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. S. Powell, on Tuesday, February 19, 1850, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, near Coseley Church, at five 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 as shall then be read. . . .”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/4/1850

“At the county petty sessions, held at the Magistrates' Clerk's Office, Garrick Street, on Monday last, the licenses of the following public houses were transferred. . . .

SPREAD EAGLE, Coseley, to *James Round*, the son and representative of the late *Sarah Round*.”

1851 Census

Wallbrook

[1] *James Round* (49), victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Sarah Round* (39), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Sophia Goodwin* (16), servant, born Bridgnorth:

Staffordshire Advertiser 21/8/1852

“At the weekly sessions held on Monday last, the following licenses were transferred. . . .

SPREAD EAGLE, Coseley, Sedgley, from *James Round* (who had left the house and yielded up the possession) to *James Wainwright*, of the same place, coalmaster.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/10/1852

“Victuallers' licenses the following changes took place. . . .

James Wainwright, of the EAGLE, Coseley, Sedgley, to *James Griffiths*, of Kingswinford.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/2/1854 - Advert

“EAGLE INN, Coseley.

To Be Let, with immediate possession, that excellent old-licensed Public-House, the EAGLE INN, situate near Christ Church, Coseley as above. The house comprises of front and back parlour, tap room, bar, large club room, and four sleeping rooms, good cellaring, brewhouse, stable, soft water cistern, and an abundant supply of clean water. For particulars of the same apply at the Office of Mr. Thomas Cooksey, Land Agent, Market Place, Wolverhampton, and Waterloo Road, Coseley.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/6/1855

“At the Borough Police Court, on Wednesday, before J. Leigh and S. Cartwright, Esqrs, *Joseph Rose*, beerseller, Coseley, and John Ward, publican, Willenhall, pleaded guilty to the charge of having in their possession and using grains of paradise, and were each fined £50. Mr. J. Underhill, who appeared for the latter defendant, said he was prepared to prove that the charge was untrue, but the defendant had been advised by his friends to plead guilty on the ground that if he made a successful resistance an appeal would

follow, when to win would be more expensive than to lose. Mr. Leigh thought the appeals by the excise involved a great deal of hardship to defendants.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/8/1855 - Advert

“Sale To-Morrow, at the EAGLE INN, near Coseley Church, Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. W. Ashcroft, on Tuesday next, August 9th, 1855.

All the Household Furniture, Fixtures, Brewing Utensils, Ale Barrels, sixty gallons of Fresh Ale, Iron Pump, twenty-four feet long, two excellent milking Cows, and two open oak Boats, one of which is new. They will carry 30 tons each, and are lying near the Fox Yards, and will be sold there at two o'clock precisely.

The sale to commence at eleven o'clock in the morning.”

Worcester Journal 27/10/1860

“On Tuesday last, Mr. W. H. Phillips resumed, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Coseley, the inquest on the body of the child that was found strangled with a napkin, in a ditch near that place, as already narrated in the *Journal*. From the evidence of Mr. Mills, surgeon, of Princes End, who had made the post mortem examination, it appeared that the child had died from suffocation, produced by violence to which it had been subjected. The police said that they were still pursuing enquiries, which they hoped might lead to the apprehension of the guilty party. The Coroner determined to further adjourn the inquest till the 4th of December, promising in the meantime to write to the Secretary of State for the Home Office, with the view that the Government offering a reward which might assist the police to bring the offender to police.”

1861 Census

Coseley Green

- [1] *John White* (36), holloware moulder and victualler, born Trysull;
- [2] *Hannah White* (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William White* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sarah J. White* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Catherine White* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Frederick J. White* (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Martha A. White* (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Martha Young* (12), niece, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 5/6/1862

“Hollow-Ware Moulders' Strike Meeting At Coseley.

A large and orderly meeting in connection with the above strike took place on Tuesday last, at the SPREAD EAGLE, Coseley, commencing at seven o'clock; Mr. W. Chumbley, of West Bromwich, in the chair. The large room of the inn was crowded, there being from 250 to 300 persons present from all parts of the district.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/9/1864

“Yesterday, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Coseley, Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy-coroner, resumed his enquiry into the shocking death of an illegitimate child named Eliza Silletto, who was found dead five weeks ago, in a most frightful and horrible condition, in a wheat field near Coseley Church. It will be remembered, from the reports we have given of the affair from time to time, that the deceased child, who was about six years old, was the illegitimate daughter of Sarah Silletto, who afterwards married Richard Hale, one of the prisoners now in custody. The mother a short time ago died from starvation, for which Hale was imprisoned. The child then appears to have been in the way, and previous to the time it was missed Hale had frequently been heard to express his anxiety to get rid of it, and had threatened it. The child was missed five weeks last Wednesday, and on the same day Hale had been heard to threaten it. On the following Tuesday it was discovered in a wheat field by the sagacity of a dog, who drew his master to the spot by dragging at his trousers. When the body was picked up the head, legs, and arms dropped away from decomposition. Evidence at the previous enquiries was given, showing that Richard Hale, the reputed father, and Cecilia Baker, a woman with whom he was cohabiting, and who was taken into custody, had been in the wheat fields at the spot where the child was subsequently found; also the mother of Hale had been heard to say, in a quarrel she had with her son a few days after the child was lost, ‘You know Dick, you put the poor child in a bag and took it away.’

Yesterday, the following additional evidence was given, and during all the time some hundreds of people assembled round the house.

Elizabeth Round, wife of Joseph Round; Catherine Camer, wife of a miner living at Highfields; and George Jones, a boat loader – all in the employ of Mr. Philip Williams, near the spot where the child was found, and where the prisoner, Cecilia Baker, also worked – swore positively that the prisoner Baker went there in the morning of the day, when witnesses swore that she was with Hale in the wheat field at noon, and did not leave the works or the sight of the witnesses for a single hour that day until evening. Five weeks that day she was working in Mr. Philip Williams' field with Cecilia Baker, the female prisoner. Baker did not leave from first thing in the morning to the last thing at night. (Witnesses at the previous enquiries swore that they saw the two prisoners in the wheat field when the child was found at about one o'clock of that day.)

Dr. Wrighton, of Birmingham, deposed that he had continued his examination of the clothes of the deceased submitted to him for testing whether or not blood was on them. He found blood on several parts of the dress, including the ribbons of the bonnet and the front part of the frock. On the handkerchief there was a cut about one inch in length, and at the same place there was a quantity of dried blood and some light hair. At the last enquiry he had taken a portion of the male prisoner's trousers, and he found that

it appeared to be stained with blood, but partly washed out. He was not able to say positively whether it was blood. He was fully satisfied it was human blood he found on the child's clothes. His calculations enabled him to say that there were about two ounces of blood on the handkerchief. That would, however, far from represent the true weight that had flown on it, for the handkerchief, being silk, would not absorb very much.

Mary Diggery swore to seeing Richard Hale and Selina Baker in the wheat field on the Saturday night following the day on which the child was lost. It was about nine o'clock, and she spoke to them, but they did not answer her.

Esther Richards, re-sworn, stated that the rumors that her brother (the prisoner) had come to her house on the day of the child being missed and brought home a knife and washed his hands there were entirely false, as she did not see him that day after dinner time.

John Baugh, a witness at the last enquiry, was, at his own request re-examined, and he stated that he made a slight mistake, and was now positive that he saw Hale in the wheat field where the child was found, and not in an adjoining one.

Other witnesses were examined, but nothing material was elicited; and after the Coroner had summed up, the jury, after a short deliberation, returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Richard Hale, and not implicating the prisoner Selina Baker."

Louth and North Lincolnshire Advertiser 10/12/864

"At the Stafford Assizes on Monday, Richard Hale (30), puddler, and Cecilia Baker (30), no occupation, were arraigned with the wilful murder of Eliza Sillitoe, on the 20th July, this year, in the parish of Sedgley.....

At about half-past five, after the trial had lasted all day, the jury retired to consider their verdict, and in an hour returned into court with a verdict of guilty. Both the prisoners were sentenced to death; but the female prisoner, being pregnant, was respited."

Cambridge Independent Press 31/12/1864

"Executions. Two men were hanged on Tuesday, at Stafford. One of them, Richard Hale, had been convicted of the murder of his own child at Coseley. The other Charles Bough, had murdered an old man named Walker, at Audley. Hale died protesting his innocence. Bough confessed his guilt."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/3/1866 - Advert

"Found, at Coseley, March 5, a Brown and White Bull Terrier Dog. Ears uncut. If not owned in three days, will be sold to defray expenses.

Apply, *John White*, SPREAD EAGLE, near Coseley Church."

Sporting Life 30/11/1867

"Mr. Light, of Coseley, will match his bitch Gip to take one dead rabbit in the best of twenty-one courses for £10 (open for £25) a-side, or Mr. Bangle's Young Billy, of Wolverhampton. Money ready at Mr. *White's*, SPREAD EAGLE, Coseley."

AND

"George Hunt will match his dog Ascot to give Mr. Bangle's Billy, of Wolverhampton, one dead rabbit in twenty-one courses, for £10 a-side. Money ready as above."

Dudley Herald 29/10/1870

"Death on the 15th inst. after a long and painful illness borne with Christian fortitude, aged 44 years, Hannah, the beloved wife of *John White* of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Coseley. Deeply lamented."

1871 Census

30, Church Street

[1] *John White* (46), widower, licensed victualler, born Trysull;

[2] William White (20), son, iron worker, born Sedgley;

[3] Sarah J. White (17), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Catharine White (16), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Fred J. White (14), sheet iron worker, born Sedgley;

[6] Martha A. White (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Frank White (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] Hannah White (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 2/8/1873

"Forestry – the 11th anniversary of Court 'Miners Friend' No.3806 was held on Monday last at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Coseley, when about 65 members sat down to a capital repast host Mr. *John White*."

Dudley Herald 10/8/1873

"Died on 20th July after a long and painful illness, Sarah Jane, eldest daughter of Mr. *John White*, SPREAD EAGLE INN aged 19 years."

Birmingham Daily Post 1/10/1874 - Advert

"To Be Sold By auction.

By Mr. S. Powell, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Coseley, on Wednesday Next, October 7, at 6 p.m.

Lot 1. All that Old-licensed and Well-established (Freehold) Public-House, at Coseley, called the SPREAD EAGLE INN, and

now occupied by Mr. *John White*.

Lot 2. Two Freehold Dwelling Houses, Nos.2 and 3, Church Road, Coseley, occupied by Thomas Bourn and Job Wilde. Further particulars may be obtained of Mr. Thomas Waterhouse, Solicitor, Wolverhampton, and Bilston; or of the Auctioneer, Owen Street, Tipton.”

Dudley and District News 5/6/1880

“Coseley Local Board.....

Mr. *John Mason*, of SPREAD EAGLE, attended as a deputation to ask the Board what they were to do for water in his locality, as they frequently got no water from eight in the morning till eight or nine at night, although they had to pay heavily to the Wolverhampton Water-works for it. The Surveyor said the company has promised to do all in their power to remedy the supply of water. They had a committee sitting upon the question that night. Mr. Cornfield remarked that in charging full rent for the water, and not supplying it, the Company had committed a breach of contract. He proposed that the Board take legal proceedings to compel the company to fulfil their contract, but after some discussion it was unanimously decided that a request be sent from the Board to the Water-works Company, requiring them to supply water in a proper manner according to their contract.”

1881 Census

30, Church Street

[1] *John Mason* (40), butcher and licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Sarah Mason* (28), wife, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Express and Star 24/3/1885

“Local Board Nominations Coseley.

The following nominations have been received by the returning officer *John Mason*, Church Road, butcher and licensed victualler.”

[He was not elected.]

1891 Census

31, Church Road

[1] *John Mason* (51), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Sarah A. Mason* (37), wife, born Wednesbury:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/12/1891

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips (coroner) held an inquest at the SPREAD EAGLE, Coseley, on the bodies of William Henry Reynolds (23), and Job Baler (24), colliers, who were killed on Saturday morning by a fall of coal in the No.12 pit, Wednesbury Oak Colliery (Messrs. Philip Williams and Sons). Mr. W. B. Scott (the Government inspector) attended, and the colliery proprietors were represented by Mr. Isaac Meacham.

It was mentioned that Reynolds had only been married nine weeks.

Ralph Griffiths, a blower in the pit, Union Street, Princes End, said he went down with the manager (William Millington), and saw him make an examination of the place. He noticed the spot where the fall occurred, for he was at work there. Reynolds was a loader, and witness saw him set to work. Baker was a pikeman, and after beginning – about a quarter of an hour – the coal fell. It was stuff witness had loosened an hour before. The fall occurred without notice, killing Reynolds on the spot, and Baker died in the hovel after being brought up. Witness had been getting trees and cogs out near the place where the coal fell. Five or six tons fell, and it was mostly clay. It fell from two slips, but these were not suspected. The deputy tried the place with a pike, for it was only about five feet high. There was no want of care on the part of the deputy, and witness said that knowing he had a narrow escape. There was plenty of timber handy.

By Mr. Scott: Mr. Callear had looked at the place before the accident, and he remarked how well it looked.

Samuel Onions, Tipton, a brusher, said he passed under the place a few minutes before the fall, and considered it to be safe. The slip thing had not been seen before the fall. There was no blame to be attached to anyone, for the deputy had always warned them carefully.

William Millington, deputy, said the bottom part of the mine coal was being gotten, and he examined the place carefully the morning the stuff fell. There was plenty of timber. The pit was very bad for slips. He found that the men had removed a tree, but they had put up another.

Mr. Benj. Callear, under manager, said he saw the place, and found no reason to alter the state of things which existed before the accident.

The Coroner summed up, and spoke of the danger of slips, but in the present case there seemed to be plenty of timbers and it had been used liberally.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, Mr. Scott stating that his orders as to close timbering had been carried out.

Mr. Meacham expressed the sympathy of the firm with the relatives of the deceased.”

John Mason was also a butcher. [1892]

He issued tokens from here.

Dudley Herald 19/3/1898

“Guardians And District Council Nominations Coseley.....

John Mason, licensed victualler, Coseley.”

1901 Census

30, Church Road – Public House

- [1] *John Mason* (60), publican, born Coseley;
- [2] *Sarah Ann Mason* (50), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] Sarah Ann Webb (15), domestic servant, born Coseley:

John Mason died on 5th March 1906.

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

1911 Census

30, Church Lane

- [1] *John Thomas Whitehouse* (29), publican, born Coseley;
- [2] *Maria Whitehouse* (28), wife, married 5 years, housewife, born Gornal;
- [3] Frank Whitehouse (4), son, born Coseley;
- [4] Hannah Tomlinson (19), visitor, assistant in business, born Woodsetton:

Dudley Chronicle 12/4/1913

“At Dudley County Court on Wednesday the Judge non suited Sarah Ann Mason, of Church Road, Coseley, who sought to recover £2 9s damages from *John Thomas Whitehouse*, SPREAD EAGLE, Coseley. Defendant’s spouting became defective, and made plaintiff’s house so damp after a snow storm that she could not use the drawing room. It was shown that defendant had no knowledge of the condition of the spouting.”

Mrs. *Maria Whitehouse* married Benjamin Poole on 7th July 1917.

1939 Register

30, Church Road

- [1] *John F. Whitehouse*, date of birth 5/10/1906, licensed victualler, married;
- [2] Edna Whitehouse, dob 25/6/1912, unpaid domestic duties, married;
- [3] Michael J. Whitehouse, dob 20/4/1934, at school, single;
- [5] Maria Poole, dob 31/5/1883, domestic and licensed business, paid, married;
- [6] Gwendoline M(arie) (Poole) Fellows, dob 12/3/1919, domestic and licensed business, paid, single;
- [7] Harold B. Poole, dob 2/2/1922, railway goods clerk, single:

The license was transferred to Summerhill Road.

See EARL OF WESSEX.

Demolished

SPREAD EAGLE

19, (24), Ladymoor Road, (Broad Lanes), Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

Richard Shelton, timber merchant, Wolverhampton

Enoch Smith

J. and J. Yardley, brewers, Wolverhampton

Ernest Holcroft

LICENSEES

John Corbett [] – **1851**;

Richard Sheldon (**1851** – [1854])

Mrs. Elizabeth Sheldon (**1854** – [1861])

William Brookes [1861] – [1862]

Richard Nickholds [1864] – [1865]

Tom Fenton [] – **1866**

G Hyde [1868]
Richard Nickholds [1870]
John Smout [] – 1871;
Edward Jones (1871 – 1876);
Richard Harper [1873]
Joseph Ridge (1876 – 1877);
William Corser (1877 – 1878);
Daniel Bloomer (1878 – 1880);
Thomas Sheldon (1880 – 1891);
Enoch Smith (1891 – 1898);
George Smith [1895]
Mary Ann Vaughan (1898 – 1899);
Frederick Bill (1899 – 1901);
William Smith (1901 – 1904);
Ernest Holcroft (1904 – [1940])
Len Jeffrey [post 1940]

NOTES

24, Ladymoor Road [1871], [1881]
19, Ladymoor Road [1891], [1901], [1939]

1851 Census

Ladymoor

- [1] *Richard Sheldon* (36), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Sheldon* (36), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Thomas Sheldon* (13), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary Sheldon* (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Eliza Sheldon* (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Matilda Sheldon* (3), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Sarah Ann Sheldon* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Elizabeth Clark* (18), house servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/4/1851

“At a Special Sessions of County Justices, held on Monday last, the 28th instant, for transferring victuallers’ licenses, the following licenses were transferred.

John Corbett, of the SPREAD EAGLE, Ladymoor, Sedgley, to *Richard Sheldon*, of Coseley, moulder.”

Richard Sheldon died on 26th July 1854.

Birmingham Journal 14/10/1854

“Moses Edmonton, a young fellow with about half-a-dozen aliases, was brought up at the Police Court, before J. Loxdale and F. C. Perry, Esqs, on the following charge. Mr. Joseph Smith stated he was a confectioner, residing at New Village, Bilston, and that on the night of the 4th inst, he went to bed, having previously seen his house-door securely fastened. At half-past five on the following morning he was called down stairs by his son, and found the door had been broken open, apparently a poker lay near the spot. On going to bed the preceding night, the prosecutor placed his trousers, a pocket of which contained three five pound notes, three sovereigns, and some silver, under his pillow, and when alarmed by his son the following morning, found the trousers on the floor of his bed-room, and the money gone. Two silver watches were also stolen. The prisoner was his step-son, and had lived at the house up to the Friday before the robbery. The prosecutor identified the watch and two of the five pound notes produced. Mr. Edward Maybury, collector, of Bilston, proved that on the morning of the burglary the accused purchased a suit of new clothes, into which he inducted himself into the shop, and on the same evening he returned, and invested some more money in the purchase of a flannel jacket. Mrs. Jebb, whose husband keeps a public-house at Lady’s Moor, Sedgley, stated that at seven o’clock on Thursday morning the prisoner came to her house, and called for some rum and water, for which he paid with the five-pound note produced. The other note was traced to the SPREAD EAGLE, Sedgley, where the prisoner obtained change for it from Mrs. *Sheldon*, under the pretence that he wanted to pay his men. The watch was purchased by Mr. Hand, Oxford Street, Bilston, to whom the accused offered the two stolen watches for sale. Police-constable Thomas Gettings apprehended the hopeful youth, who had thrice been convicted, at the FOX public house, in Bilston, at nine o’clock on the night of the 5th inst. While being taken to the station he threw away five or six pounds. The prisoner subsequently confessed to having committed the burglary, and was committed for trial at the Assizes.”

[Moses Edmonton appeared at the Stafford Assizes on 12th March 1855, charged with burglary, found guilty and sentenced to four years.]

[Birmingham Journal 27/2/1858](#)

“In the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley.

Whereas a Petition of *Elizabeth Sheldon*, now and since 25th of July, 1854, residing and carrying on business at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor, in Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, an Insolvent Debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Worcestershire at Dudley, and an Interim Order for Protection from Process having been given to the said *Elizabeth Sheldon*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Elizabeth Sheldon* is hereby required to appear in such aforesaid Court, on the 12th day of March, 1858, at Ten o’clock in the forenoon precisely, for her First Examination touching her Debts, Estates, Effects, and to be further dealt with according to the provisions of the said Statutes; and Notice is hereby given that the Choice of Assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All Persons indebted to the said *Elizabeth Sheldon*, or who have any of her Effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Thomas Walker, the Official Assignee, at his Office at the Court House, Priory Street, Dudley aforesaid.

Geo. S. Watson, Attorney.”

Birmingham Journal 13/3/1858

“Dudley County Court. Insolvency Cases.....

Elizabeth Sheldon, Deepfields, licensed victualler, passed her first examination, supported by Mr. Watson, and opposed by Mr. Waterhouse. Opposition renewed.”

London Gazette 23/3/1858

“In the Matter of the Petition of *Elizabeth Sheldon*, now and since the 25th of July, 1854, residing and carrying on business at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor, in Deepfields, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, an Insolvent Debtor.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Worcestershire at Dudley, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 8th day of April next, at ten o’clock in the forenoon, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/12/1859

“J. Hodkins of Cann Lane will run W. Humphries of Skidmore’s Row, 100 yards, and give him one yard start; or T. Baker of Cosley can have two yards start in 120; or E. Howell of Fullwoods End can have one yards start in 100. Either or all of the matches can be made for £5 a side, by calling at *Sheldon’s*, SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor. *Bells Life* to be stakeholder.”

1861 Census

Ladymoor – SPREAD EAGLE

- [1] *Elizabeth Sheldon* (42), widow, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Thomas Sheldon* (22), son, moulder, born Sedgley;
- [3] Eliza Sheldon (15), daughter, spinster, born Sedgley;
- [4] Matilda Sheldon (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Sheldon (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

William Brookes = William Brooks

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/12/1861

“At Bilston police court yesterday, Mr. *William Brooks*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE, Broad Lanes, was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness and disorderly conduct on the evening of Monday last.”

Richard Nickholds = Richard Nicholls

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

Richard Nicholls, SPREAD EAGLE, Ladymoor.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 27/1/1866

“T. Holloway of Ladymoor will take two yards start in 100 of Bruerton of Shropshire Row, or one yard of W. Dudley of Sodom in the same distance, for £5 a side. The money ready at *Tom Tinton’s* [sic], SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor, any night next week.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 31/3/1866

“S. Hodgkins of Lady Moor is surprised at E. Dudley of Stourbridge challenging him, but if he really means business he will run him 120 yards if he will give him four yards start, or will take four yards of Willcock of Hill Top, or two yards of C. Mills of Wednesbury, or three yards of Waring of the same place, or J. Dudley one yard, or one yard of Price of Tipton, or two yards of Tim Thomas of Tividale; or will run Alf Woods of Daisy Bank the like level distance. Any match can be made for £5 or £10 a side. T. Holloway of Lady Moor will take a yard start of W. Dudley of Sodom in 100, or two in 120, for £5 a side. Any of the above matches can be made any night next week at *T. Fenton’s*, SPREAD EAGLE INN, Lady Moor.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1866

“Yesterday, the Bilston adjourned Licensing Session was held at the Police Court.....

The landlord of the OLD CROWN INN, Hallfields, was granted a license, the former proprietor, who had been fined, having left the house.

James Walters, who had been fined three times as keeper of the OLD CROWN, mentioned above, applied for a license to be renewed to the SPREAD EAGLE, Ladymore. The Bench, however, thought that they ought not to grant one, and Walters then said that rather than injure the house he would leave; and the Magistrates granted the license to the landlord, but that it should not be renewed until he had obtained a new tenant.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/1/1868

“To be shot for, at Mr. *G. Hyde*'s, SPREAD EAGLE INN, Lady Moor, near Bilston, on Monday, Feb 10, a splendid home-fed fat pig, weighing 30 score, 20 members, at 15s each. Conditions: 5 pigeons each, single guns, 1½oz shot, 21 yards rise; double guns 1½oz shot, 19 yards rise, guns not to exceed ¾ bore. If Mr. J. Harding of Wednesbury should shoot he must stand at 21 yards. The above hostelrie is five minutes walk from Deepfields station on the Stour Valley line, and the same from the West Midland station, Bilston.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 11/7/1868 - Advert

“To be Let, the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor, near Bilston, a well-known old-licensed House, capitally situated, doing a good trade. In-coming about £100.

For particulars apply on the premises.”

1871 Census

24, Ladymoor Road

[1] *John Smout* (56), publican and master miner, employing 16 men and boys, born Sedgley;

[2] *Nancy Smout* (55), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Hannah Smout* (21), daughter, tailoress, born Sedgley;

[4] *Pheobe Smout* (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

John Smout – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY.william

Birmingham Daily Post 4/3/1873

“Yesterday afternoon, a meeting of miners was held at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor Lane, Coseley, for the purpose of considering the new rules proposed by the master for the management of pits, and the South Wales strike. There were about 400 miners present.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/3/1873

“*Edward Jones*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Long Moor, was fined £10 and costs for allowing gambling in his house. The evidence showed that there was a bagatelle board in his house, at which playing for ale and money was permitted. The son of the defendant betted on games that were played during the presence of a witness, of whom he won two half-sovereigns.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/8/1873

“Yesterday the annual licensing meeting for Bilston and the neighbourhood was held in the Petty Sessions Court.....

The proceedings opened by Chief Superintendent *McCrea* presenting his annual ‘black list.’ In doing so he remarked that it only indicated eleven offenders, whilst a twelvemonth ago there were twenty-nine. This comparison, he considered, was the clearest substantiation of the beneficial operation of the recent Licensing Act. The names of the offending licensed victuallers were.....

Edward Jones, SPREAD EAGLE, Broads Lane.....

The committee stated that the licenses of all the persons contained in the ‘list’ would be suspended until the adjourned licensing sessions, to be held on the 26th proximo.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/9/1873

“Bilston Adjourned Annual Licensing Sessions. These Sessions were held yesterday.....

On the personal application of the following persons the appended old licenses were renewed.....

Edward Jones, SPREAD EAGLE, Sedgley.”

1881 Census

24, Ladymoor Road

[1] *Thomas Sheldon* (42), moulder, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary J. Sheldon* (35), wife, born Great Bridge;

[3] *Elizabeth Sheldon* (62), mother, widow, born Brierley Hill;

[4] *Jane Sheldon* (18), niece, born Tettenhall;

[5] *Ellen Sheldon* (8), daughter, born Columbia, Ohio, United States:

Evening Express 18/11/1881

“Samuel Barnsley, of no fixed residence, was charged with being on premises with intent to commit a felony. *Thomas Sheldon*, landlord of the SPREAD EAGLE public house, Ladymoor, Bilston, said he observed a light in his cellar, and on going to see the cause found the prisoner on the stairs. The Bench remanded him for a week.”

Evening Express 25/11/1881

“Samuel Barnsley, an old man having no fixed residence, who was remanded last Friday for being on the licensed premises of *Thomas Sheldon*, the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor, for an unlawful purpose, was brought up today and sentenced to six weeks’ hard labour, under the Prevention of Crimes Act.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/4/1887

“An inquest was held yesterday, at the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor, touching the death of Jane Potts (60), wife of John Potts of Ladymoor. The deceased died on the 24th inst, from burns which she sustained on the 14th inst, when lighting a candle at a fire. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/5/1890 - Advert

“To be Sold by Private Treaty, that old-licensed House and Liquor Shop, the SPREAD EAGLE INN, situate at Lady Moor, Bilston, now and for years in the occupation of Mr. *Thomas Sheldon*, together with four Cottages adjoining, freehold with large gardens at the back thereof. For price and particulars apply, W. H. Brooks, Great Wyrley, Walsall.”

1891 Census

19, Ladymoor Road – Public House

- [1] *Thomas Sheldon* (52), moulders’ foreman, born Deepfields;
- [2] Mary J. A. Sheldon (48), wife, born Great Bridge;
- [3] Ellen Florence Sheldon (18), daughter, milliner, born Ohio, British subject:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1899

“Members and friends of Royal Perseverance Sick, Funeral and Dividend Society held annual dinner here.”

1901 Census

19, Ladymoor Road – SPREAD EAGLE

- [1] *Frederick Bill* (44), licensed victualler, born Moseley Village;
- [2] Mary E. Bill (32), wife, born Old Hill;
- [3] William Bill (23), son, general blacksmith, born Moseley Village;
- [4] Frederick Bill (4), son, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Sarah Morris (62), mother in law, widow, born Broom, Worcestershire:

Frederick Bill – see also BRITISH OAK, Darlaston.

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/3/1907

“*Ernest Holcroft*, of the SPREAD EAGLE INN, Ladymoor, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises. A man named John Russell, from Glamorgan, came on a visit to some friends at Bilston. They were drinking for that greater part of a day at several public-houses. At night a policeman called at defendant’s house and found Russell there drunk and in a helpless condition, and was removed to the police station. The defendant denied that the man had any drink in his house. He was fined 40s and costs.”

Ernest Holcroft was also a brewer.

London Gazette 16/6/1908

“To be Sold, pursuant to an Order of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, made in an action of re The Albion (Burton-on-Trent) Brewery Ltd, *Graham v The Albion (Burton-on-Trent) Brewery Limited*, 1903 on Wednesday the 15th day of July, 1908 Certain freehold licensed properties, shop and dwelling houses, situate at and around Wolverhampton known as the WOODCROSS INN, Wood Cross, Coseley, and 8 dwelling houses adjoining the SPREAD EAGLE, Ladymoor, Coseley, the WHEATSHEAF, Great Brickkiln Street, Wolverhampton.....”

1911 Census

Ladymoor Road

- [1] *Ernest Holcroft* (34), mechanic, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary E. Holcroft (39), wife, married 10 years, born Willenhall;
- [3] Ernest Holcroft (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Frances Holcroft (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Olive Holcroft (5), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Deborah Holcroft (4), daughter, born Sedgley;

[7] Nelly Clarke (19), domestic servant, born Bilston:

1939 Register

19, Ladymoor Road

[1] *Ernest Holcroft*, date of birth 6/11/1876, licensee, married;

[2] Albert E. Holcroft, dob 27/1/1916, shift chemist, single;

[3] Deborah Holcroft, dob 22/12/1906, unpaid domestic duties, single:

Ernest Holcroft – see also THREE HORSESHOES, Ladymoor.

It closed in 1956.

Demolished

STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT

Birmingham Road, Lanesfield, COSELEY

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Punch Taverns

Chrysalis Taverns [1995]

East India Pub Co. [1999]

[Jas Singh](#) [2023]

LICENSEES

Fred Salisbury [] for 8 years

John Peckmore [1986]

Pamela Girling [] – **1995**;

Martin and Yvonne Turner (**1995** – []

Carol Sutton-Rose (**1996**)

Mel and Jackie Podmore (**1999** – []

[Jas Singh](#) [2023]

NOTES

It opened on 21st May 1957.

[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.....

STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT, Wolverhampton.

These have played their part well in the increased sales of draught beer and wines and spirits.....”

Fred Salisbury was married to Betty.

See also ROSE AND CROWN, Penn Road.

John Peckmore was married to Glenice.

It reopened in 1986 after a £250,000 renovation.

[Sandwell Evening Mail 17/12/1986](#)

“Brewers Mitchells & Butlers have spent £1.5 million on refurbishing 11 pubs for Christmas and the New Year the STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT, at Lanesfield, near Dudley, has had £185,000 spent on a modernisation scheme.”

Yvonne Turner was married to Martin.

Carol Sutton-Rose was an ex- special constable.
She was born c.1955.

Mel and Jackie Podmore – see also FOX AND GOOSE, Wolverhampton.

It closed in 1999.

It reopened on 20th December 1999 as the COPPER BOWL.

It became the Copper Bowl Indian restaurant. [2004], [2015]

It was refurbished at the end of 2016 and reopened as the GARDEN BAR.

[Express & Star 28/4/2023](#)

“A car meet at a Wolverhampton bar has been postponed after council officers expressed ‘serious concerns’ over safety. The GARDEN BAR on Birmingham New Road announced it would host the event on Bank Holiday Monday, May 1. However, the bar has postponed the car meet after Wolverhampton Council’s Safety Advisory Group told the owners of the bar that it was unable to support the event. The advisory group issued warnings over the event not being ticketed, lack of medical cover, and no arrangement for the required level of event insurance. The council also said the bar had failed to put traffic management arrangements in place and feared the event could lead to people street racing, which is currently banned in the Black Country by an interim High Court injunction.....

The event has now been postponed by the team the GARDEN BAR ‘until further notice’ and have thanked local authorities for their assistance in organising the event. Owner and manager of the bar, *Jas Singh*, told the *Express & Star*, ‘Due to the short notice of organising the event, the static car meet has been postponed until further notice. We would like to thank the local council, police, fire brigade, in assisting us in organising the event in the future and would also like to reach out to Ed Bridgewood from Lanesfield Methodist Church for reaching out to us and letting us use their car park facilities on the day of the proposed event. We look forward to working alongside with the Church in organising future events for the local community.’”

[2023]

STAR

25, Broad Street, Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

Isaiah Dicken

Charles Henry Hawsworth, Club Garden Road, Sheffield [1892]

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

InnSpired Group Ltd. [2001]

LICENSEES

Isaiah Dicken [1861] – 1879);

William Hartley (1879 – 1885);

Elizabeth Hartley (1885 – 1888);

Joseph Onions (1888 – 1894);

Emily Frances Brown (1894);

Edward Ingram (1894 – 1902);

Mrs. Elizabeth Ingram (1902 – 1905);

Charles Meller (1905 – 1907);

John Collett (1907 – 1911);

Edward Harold Elliman (1911 – 1917);

Mrs. Ann Elliman (1917 – 1930);

Sidney Raymond Millard (1930 – [1960]

Phil Harrison [1987]

D Hickman [1995]

Julie Cashmore [1998]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Isaiah Dicken = Josiah Dicken = Isaiah Dickin

Isaiah Dicken, beer retailer, Coseley. [1861]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/8/1861 - Advert

“Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley. Sale of Furniture, Glass, China, &c.

Mr. Thomas Cooksey begs to announce that he has been favoured with instructions to Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 16th day of September, at the STAR INN, Broad Street, New Walbrook, Coseley, 300 lots.....

Further particulars with catalogues, may be had from Mr. *Isaiah Dicken*, the STAR INN, Coseley; or at the office of the Auctioneer, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

Isaiah Dickin, the STAR INN, Wallbrook. Supported by Mr. Waterhouse, and opposed by the landlord of the UNION INN, situated in the immediate neighbourhood. Granted.”

Isaiah Dicken was also a maltster. [1864], [1865], [1873], [1879]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/6/1869

“Yesterday afternoon at the STAR INN, Wallbrook, Mr. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, opened an inquest upon the bodies of William Moore and William Marsden, who were killed on Tuesday last, at Barber’s Field Colliery. After the jury had viewed the bodies, which presented a frightful appearance, a witness named John Randall was sworn. He said, in answer to the Coroner, that the deceased men were loading in the ‘opening’ at the time of the catastrophe. The doggy was down the pit, and the butties had been there during the morning, for witness had spoken to them. There was plenty of timber in the pit. He could not tell the cause of the accident. He identified the bodies of the two men.

The Coroner shortly afterwards adjourned the inquiry, intimating that the pit would be examined by the Government Inspector. It should be stated, that as the deceased John Burke, resided in a different district, his death will form the subject of another Coroner’s inquest.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/6/1869

“An adjourned inquest was held yesterday, before T. M. Phillips, coroner, at the STAR INN, Broad Street, Wallbrook, on the bodies of William Marsden (34), and William Moore (23), colliers, two of the men who met with their deaths at the Barber’s Field Colliery, Princes End, on the 8th inst, through the fall of a large mass of coal in the pit where they were working. The particulars of the accident were recorded in the *Gazette* of the 9th inst.

Two witnesses named James Marsden and William Marsden were examined, one of whom stated that he had been down the pit several days before the accident, and he then saw no signs of a ‘slip’ in the coal.

James Marsden (a brother of one of the deceased) stated that he heard his brother telling a man named Wynn, previous to the accident, that the part where he was working looked very ‘ugly,’ and asked Wynn to go and put some trees down in the pit to prevent any fall of coal. His brother went down before the necessary repairs were done, and he should not have done so.

Isaiah Lomas deposed that he was the ‘doggy’ of the pit where the accident had occurred, and that all the work was done under his superintendence. He had seen the part where the deceased men were working a short time before it happened, and considered that it was quite safe, and was not aware of any danger. No complaints had been made to him about it, and if the deceased knew of any danger they ought not to have gone down. He considered now that it was not safe for anyone to work there.

Mr. Baker, inspector of mines, stated that he had examined the pit first on Saturday, the 12th instant, and again on the 17th, particularly the place where the accident happened. He found a fall of coal about five feet in thickness, and about 70 or 80 tons in weight, consisting of slips, bats, and footcoal strata, and the thick coal seam, which appeared to have fallen en masse, completely filling the opening in which it occurred. The cause of the fall was owing to the presence of a smooth-faced slip, the position, inclination, and extent of which favoured the fall, inasmuch as it ran along the side of a pillar near to the opening, and extended vertically through the entire thickness of the seam, inclining or converging the centre of the worked out part of the mine. The slip was discovered in the holing drift, and had evidently served the double purpose of what colliers call technically a ‘loose end,’ or side, so to speak, thus naturally severed the solid mass, and considering the fallen state of the work, rendered the place unusually dangerous. Judging, however, from the extraordinary character and position of the slip in those workings, and the inclination of the coal, it was difficult to tell what quantity of timber propping would, in the case of sudden subsidence of the superincumbent strata, have prevented the fall of coal. He might add that that part of the mine so abounded with slips in the coal that it would be a question whether it will be safe to work it. He thought that the mine had not been judiciously worked, as the relation of the pillar and the coal slip was such as to prevent the usual and proper mode of timber propping.

After considering for a short time, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and recommended ‘that the work at the pit in question, where the deceased persons were killed, be discontinued, as the jury considered that a man of greater experience like the ‘doggy’ Lomas, ought to have guarded in some way against the great danger arising from the slip that caused a loose state of the

work, and which had been visible all along the working of the coal from the rib to the place of the accident'."

1871 Census

Broad Street

- [1] *Isaiah Dicken* (48), maltster, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Elizabeth Dicken (46), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] Selina Ravenall (21), servant, born Exeter;
- [4] Catherine Warwick (11), servant, born Smethwick:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/9/1871 - Deaths

"On the 1st inst, of congestion of the brain, aged 46 years, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Mr. *Isaiah Dicken*, STAR IN, Broad Street, Wallbrook, Coseley."

Birmingham Daily Post 16/2/1872 - Advert

"For Sale, a Pit Pony, 13 hands high; and two tons of Malt Dust, 20 tons of Manure. Apply to *Isaiah Dicken*, STAR INN, Wallbrook, near Bilson."

Dudley Herald 15/5/1880 - Advert

"Eligible Freehold Dwelling Houses and Premises in Whitehouse Street and Meeting House Road, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the house of Mr. *Hartley*, the STAR INN, Broad Street, Wallbrook, Coseley, on Tuesday, the 25th day of May, 1880, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions....."

Dudley and District News 18/12/1880

"Mr. W. H. Phillips (South Staffordshire Coroner) held an inquiry on Monday, at the STAR INN, Broad Street, Wallbrook, relative to the death of Elizabeth Whitehead, aged three years and six months, the illegitimate child of Rebecca Whitehead. The child was seized on Monday with a fit, and immediately afterwards expired. The child had been properly attended, and the jury returned a verdict of Died from Natural Causes."

Dudley and District News 1/1/1881

"On Wednesday, W. H. Phillips, Esq (coroner) held an inquest at the STAR INN, Broad Street, Wallbrook, Coseley, relative to the death of William Henry Edward Horton, aged three years and seven months, the son of William Horton, shoemaker.

The evidence of the parents showed that on the 23rd inst the deceased complained of pains in his chest and head, after which he became unconscious and expired. The Coroner said that when viewing the body he noticed near to the left temple a slight discolouration, and consequently directed a post mortem examination to be made. Dr. Clendinnen said he had made a post mortem examination, and found that death had been caused by coma, the result of an external injury to the left temple. In reply to the Coroner, the father of the deceased said that a few days before he died deceased and other boys were engaged in snowballing each other, and it was possible that he was injured then. The Coroner said that under the circumstances he considered that some inquiries should be made as to whether deceased was struck with snowballs.

The jury returned a verdict that the deceased Died from Coma, the result of an injury to the left temple; but as to how the injury was caused there was no evidence to show."

1881 Census

25, Broad Street

- [1] *William Hartley* (49), licensed victualler, born Worksop;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hartley* (49), wife, born Leeds;
- [3] Isaac Smart (20), nephew, moulder, born Kilnhurst, Yorkshire;
- [4] Harriott Marcroft (14), niece, domestic servant, born Kilnhurst, Yorkshire:

Wednesbury Herald 21/4/1883

"On Saturday night Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, opened an inquest at the STAR INN, Walbrook, Coseley, respecting the death of John Farmer (29), of Whitehouse Street, Walbrook, who was found dead in the Birmingham Canal on Saturday morning. The deceased was an agent in the employ of the Prudential Insurance Company, and on Wednesday morning he left home with a considerable amount of money in his possession, his intention being to go to Ocker Hill, Princes End, and Wednesbury, for the purpose of collecting money. He did not return home on Wednesday evening, nor were there any tidings of him. On Saturday morning, when William Meredith, a labourer, in the employ of the Birmingham Canal Company, was shafting a boat at the Bloomfield Basin, his shaft came in contact with some obstacle in the water, which was found to be Farmer's body. The inquiry was adjourned for a week."

Wednesbury Herald 28/4/1883

"On Saturday afternoon, W. H. Phillips Esq (coroner), resumed the inquiry touching the death of John Farmer (29), insurance agent, Whitehouse Street, Coseley, whose body was found in the Birmingham Canal, at Bloomfield, on the 15th inst. Deceased, who had been missing since the 12th, was last heard of at the Fox Yards, and he was described as being drunk or ill.

Dr. Clendinnan, who had made a post mortem examination of the body, said deceased had had no solid food for two days. There were no marks of violence on the body.

A representative of the Prudential Insurance Company said deceased's accounts were correct, and so far as he knew deceased was not addicted to drink.

The jury returned a verdict of Found Drowned."

William Hartley died on 21st January 1885.

[Wolverhampton Express and Star 20/2/1885](#)

"The following transfers of licenses were granted.....

STAR, Broad Street, Coseley, from the executors of the late *William Hartley* to *Elizabeth Hartley*."

[Birmingham Daily Post 11/6/1887 - Advert](#)

"To be Sold, Free Full-licensed Home-brewing Public-house.
Apply, STAR INN, Coseley, Bilston."

[1891 Census](#)

25, Broad Street

[1] *Joseph Onions* (38), publican, born Bromsgrove;

[2] *Jane Onions* (40), wife, born Droitwich;

[3] *Eliza Barrett* (21), servant, born Sedgley:

[Birmingham Daily Post 26/2/1892 - Advert](#)

"To be Sold by private treaty, the STAR INN, Broad Street, Coseley. Wanted an offer.

All communications to be addressed to C. Hawkesworth, 139, Club Garden Road, Sheffield."

[Birmingham Daily Post 20/4/1895](#)

"On Saturday Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the STAR INN, Broad Street, Walbrook, on the body of Wm. Clayton (52), a miner, late of that street. Mr. W. H. Pickering, the assistant inspector attended; and Mr. Frank Peacock represented the proprietors of the Wednesbury Oak Colliery.

Clayton was a pikeman, and he was engaged in charging a hole with powder instead of cartridges. It is presumed that he wasted powder in this way, and that when the explosion occurred by some means the spilt powder added to the flames, for the man was burned all over the chest, back, arms, and head. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

[Dudley Herald 5/2/1898 - Advert](#)

"Beer In Bottle.

Whitbread and Co's Limited, London Stout and India Pale Ale.

Imperial Pints 2/6 per dozen.

Imperial Half Pints 1/6 per dozen.

Sold by Thomas Evans, 96, Eve Hill, Dudley,
and *Edward Ingram*, STAR INN, Broad Street, Coseley,
and C. H. Stallard, St. Mark's Road, Wolverhampton."

[Dudley Herald 23/4/1898 - Advert](#)

"Beer In Bottle.

Whitbread and Co's Half Crown Stout and India Pale Ale.

Sold by The Midland Stores, 76, Church Street, Bilston,

Thomas Evans, Eve Hill, Dudley,

Edward Ingram, STAR INN, Broad Street, Coseley,

and C. H. Stallard, St. Mark's Road, Wolverhampton.

Imperial Pints 2/6 per dozen.

Imperial Half Pints 1/6 per dozen.

In Corked or Screw Stopped Bottles."

[Dudley Herald 23/7/1898](#)

"Free Gardenry in the Black Country. On Monday evening a special meeting was held of the First 'Live and Let Live' Lodge, held at the STAR INN, Wallbrook, when nearly the whole of the members were present. The officers wore their new regalia and badges of the Order. After the opening ceremony and the lodge declared duly open, Capt. Gay was initiated an honorary member, after which the worthy master (Bro. James Cooper) presented him with a collar and badge of the Order, and vacated the chair for Bro. Gay. Bro. R. Hill vacated his office for Bro. W. H. Allen as Deputy Master....."

[Dudley Herald 10/9/1898](#)

"On Saturday evening the annual dinner in connection with the Free Gardeners Lodge 'First live and let live' was held at the STAR INN, Wallbrook. Captain G. H. W. Gay presided and Mr. S. Harper was voted to the vice chair....."

Sporting Life 8/9/1900

“Articles have been signed, and the whole of the stakes £20 deposited in our hands, for Thomas Gutteridge, of Wallbrook, Coseley, and Samuel Cooper, Coppice, Coseley, to play a match of quoits on Monday next, September 10. To play 61 points up, Cooper to be in receipt of 10 points start. The first half of the match to be contested at the BLACK HORSE Quoit Ground, Sodom, Upper Ettingshall, and the remaining half at the STAR Quoit Ground, Wallbrook, Coseley. First quoit to be pitched at 10am. The *Sporting Life* appoints a referee.”

[Thomas Gutteridge beat Samuel Cooper (10 points given) 61-53.]

1901 Census

25, Broad Street

[1] *Edward Ingram* (55), iron worker, born Ripley, Derbyshire;

[2] *Elizabeth Ingram* (46), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Florrie Cartwright (9), niece, born Manchester;

[4] Lillie Gibbons (15), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 14/8/1909

“An inquest was held by Mr. T. A. Stokes (county coroner) at the STAR INN, Wallbrook, on Friday afternoon, concerning the death of William Lawley (56), miner, Whitehouse Street, who had died from self inflicted injuries.

Ruth Lawley, the widow, stated that the deceased came downstairs at about seven o'clock on Thursday morning, and refused to have any breakfast. He had been ill for some time, and had been attended by Dr. Naylor, of Tipton, for pains in his head. Her husband was directed to have as much fresh air as possible. Witness took him for a walk, and returned home at about half past seven. He then appeared to be much better. At about nine o'clock she missed him from the kitchen, and called upstairs, but received no answer. She then went upstairs, and saw him lying in a pool of blood. She cried out for help, and a man ran into the house. On the previous day, when suffering great pains, deceased said, ‘I wish someone would shoot me.’

William Southall, an elderly man, stated that he found Lawley lying face downwards in a pool of blood. With assistance he placed the man on a chair. Witness there discovered a terrible gash in his throat. Lawley lived for about an hour, and when seen by Dr. Clendinnen, that gentleman said it was impossible to save him. A razor which belonged to the deceased was found near to the body.

The jury felt that the man's mind became deranged in consequence of the pain. A verdict of Suicide while Insane was returned.”

1911 Census

Broad Street – STAR INN

[1] *Harold Elliman* (24), publican, born Princes End;

[2] Ann Elliman (51), wife, assistant, born Daisy Bank:

Bilston & Willenhall Times 7/2/1925

“The Elwell Shield, offered for the largest collection of money in licensed houses, in connection with Friendly Societies in the Coseley area, was presented on Tuesday night at the STAR INN, Wallbrook, where the box when opened in September last, was found to contain £207. This is the second year that the shield has been secured at the STAR.....”

1939 Register

25, Broad Street

[1] *Sidney R. Millard* Snr, date of birth 12/2/1895, licensed victualler and coal merchant, married;

[2] Rhoda Millard, dob 27/5/1900, domestic duties and bar assistant, married;

[3] Sidney R. Millard Jnr, dob 28/7/1924, gardener's assistant at park, single;

[5] Elsie R. (M.) (Millard) Taylor, dob 10/10/1931, at school, single:

Tipton Herald 2/1/1960

“The engagement was announced on Christmas Day between Vincent, son of Mr. and Mrs. *Millard*, the STAR, Broad Street, Coseley; and Alva, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wall, 52, Green Park Road, Rosland Estate, Dudley. Congratulations from both families.”

Demolished

Rebuilt

The new building opened in 1965.

[2001]

Closed

Demolished

STRAITS HOUSE

Tennyson Street, (Road), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Alexander Gordon
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1959)
Pathfinder Pubs [2005]

LICENSEES

Joseph Leonard Jones (1960 – []
Steve O’Neil [] – 1984);
Graham Deakin (1984 – 1990)
Jill Nock []
Don Hirst []

NOTES

Straits House was built by Alexander Gordon, who died in 1848.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/6/1849 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Estate And Mines, The Straits House, and Property, situated in the parish of Sedgley. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. J. Bateman, by direction of the Devisee in Trust under the will of the late Alexander Gordon, Esq, at the SWAN INN, Dudley, on Tuesday, the 26th day of June, 1849, at five o’clock in the afternoon.....
Lot I. All that newly erected and substantial Residence, known as the STRAITS HOUSE, containing spacious entrance hall, dining, drawing, and breakfast rooms, with suitable bed and dressing rooms, and all other domestic apartments requisite for the convenience of a respectable family, with pleasure grounds, shrubberies, gardens, plantations, entrance lodge, two Cottages, and gardens attached, outbuildings, and stables.....
The above property is pleasantly situated at the Straits, and nearly adjacent to Himley Park, the seat of the Right Honorable Lord Ward. The House was built by the late Mr. Gordon for his own residence, regardless of expense.....”

London Gazette 4/5/1854

“Valuable Freehold Estates of the late Alexander Gordon, Esq., Dudley, Worcestershire. To be sold, pursuant to an Order of the High Court of Chancery, made in a cause of Perks v. England, Same v. Mainwaring, by Mr. John Bateman, at the SWAN INN, Dudley, in the county of Worcester, on Monday the 22nd day of May, 1854, at 5 o’clock in the afternoon, in the following lots.
Lot 1. A freehold residence, known as the STRAITS HOUSE, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, and nearly adjacent to Himley Park, the residence of the Right Honourable Lord Ward, with gardens, shrubberies, pleasure grounds, stable, outbuildings, cottages, and gardens, the whole containing 12a 24p of land, or thereabouts, with all the valuable mines of coal, iron, stone (if any), and other mines and minerals under the same; also three undivided fifth shares in two closes of freehold grass land, and an in-closure adjoining, containing 4a 6p or thereabouts, fronting the road leading from Straits Green to Dudley, and in the licensed public house, called the HOLLY BUSH, occupied by Joseph Hickman; and two cottages adjoining, in the occupation of Job Hickman and Benjamin Hickman, with the like proportion of valuable mines and minerals (if any) under the same.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/6/1861 - Advert

“To Be Let, from Michaelmas next, The STRAITS HOUSE, with beautiful pleasure grounds and gardens, extensive stabling and coach house, lodge, and two Cottages, the whole in perfect order, and with or without 20 acres of Grass Land, and all the necessary outoffices on the first floor (dining and drawing rooms each 21 by 15 feet, and morning room 10 by 16), and nine bedrooms on second floor.
For further particulars and cards to view the premises apply at the Estate Office, Dudley.”

Black Country Bugle 3/3/2005

“.....In 1959 the house was put up for sale again, and entered a new era when it was purchased by Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries The new pub opened on 29th April 1960.”

Graham Deakin was married to Janet.
He died in 1998.

Application to convert the pub into apartments, by Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, was rejected by the development control committee of Dudley on 24th April 2006.

It was passed on appeal to the Deputy Prime Minister's Department in Bristol, in January 2007.

It closed on 14th January 2007.

It was acquired by William Ashley Homes in July 2007.

Dudley News 18/7/2007

“An historic Lower Gornal pub which called time earlier this year has been sold for £1.2m to make way for 24 apartments. The STRAITS in Tennyson Road has been sold to Birmingham-based William Ashley Developments Limited for £1,251,500. The much-loved boozier closed in January after the National Planning Inspectorate backed an appeal by owners Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries. The original application was rejected by Dudley Council planning chiefs last year after being dubbed ‘an absolute sin’. The apartments planned for the site include 22 two-bedroom apartments and two one-bedroom apartments. Cllr. Tim Wright, a former resident of the Straits for more than 20 years, said, ‘I said at the time it was sold that it was a sad day. I would like to see the building saved. Pubs are in the business of making profits after all. But plans could change completely for the site. It's up to the developers now to decide what they want to do with it.’

The original plans were met with mass opposition which included a 400-name petition.

A statement from surveyors Widdowson said, ‘The property comprises a de-licensed public house on a site of 6,400 square yards or thereabouts with planning consent for 24 apartments, part conversion and part new building.’

The historic building, previously known as Straits Hall, dates back to the 1830s and opened as a pub in 1959.”

Express & Star 18/10/2008

“Hundreds of jobs were under threat in the West Midlands today in a bleak 24 hours for the region. Firms unveiled cost-cutting measures as Gordon Brown admitted the weaknesses of the financial system had been laid bare.....

And work has stopped on the site of a former landmark pub in Dudley which was being developed into flats. The STRAITS HOUSE, which was once an historic mansion, was being converted as part of a £1.25m development.”

It was converted into 4 one-bedroom apartments.

STRAITS GREEN

Straits, Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin George Drury [] – 1839)

John Moss [1845] – [1850]

John Every* [1849] – [1850]

John Ebery* [1851]

John Michael Ebery* [1851] – [1854]

John Every* [1861]

Mrs. Sarah Jane Guest [1861]

NOTES

STREIGHTS GREEN INN [1845], [1850], [1851], [1854]

Arise's Birmingham Gazette 21/1/1839 - Advert

“Sale At The STRAITS GREEN INN, one mile from Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Newbold, on the premises, on Monday and Tuesday, the 28th and 29th days of January, commencing each day at ten o'clock precisely – the modern and clean Household Furniture, excellent Dairy and Brewing Requisites, Furnaces, Screens, sweet iron-bound Casks, Malting Implements, capital narrow-wheel Cart (with coke-boards and nearly new), rick of prime Hay (to go off), Gearing, quantity of Bags, and other miscellaneous Effects, belonging to Mr. *B. G. Drury* (who has removed to the ALBION INN, Stone Street, Dudley, late in the occupation of Mrs. Wilcox).

Full particulars will be expressed in catalogues, which may be had at the place of sale; the LION INN, Sedgley, and at the offices of the Auctioneer, Dudley and Stourbridge.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/3/1846

“The following inquests have been held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Friday last, at the STRAITS GREEN INN, Sedgley, on the body of Frances Bliss, a widow, about seventy-four years of age, who was found dead in her bed. Verdict in conformity with the evidence.”

Birmingham Journal 18/12/1847 - Advert

“Sale At The STRAITS GREEN INN, near Himley Park.

Mr. Daniel Johnson will Sell by Auction, on Monday next, the 20th day of December – the Household Furniture, Beds, Bedding, Bedsteads, Brewing Utensils, Stock of good Old Ale, about two hundred yards of Iron Fencing, light Spring Cart, several Pockets of fine Sussex Hops, 1846, ditto 1847, and some prime Worcester Hops; several first-rate Casks, varying from 180 gallons to 18, well seasoned and quite sweet; and many other Effects, the property of Mr. *John Moss*, Baker, who is leaving the premises.

In consequence of the number of lots, the Sale will commence punctually at Ten o'clock.

Catalogues can be obtained upon application at the STAR AND GARTER, Wolverhampton; VINE INN, Stourbridge; the HIMLEY ARMS, Himley; and at the Offices of the Auctioneer, Dudley.”

* probably the same person

John Moss and *John Every* were listed in the same 1849 and 1850 directories at the STREIGHTS GREEN INN, Gornal Wood.

Staffordshire Advertiser 9/11/1850

“The following inquests were held on Tuesday, before T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner.

At the STRAIGHTS GREEN INN, Sedgley, on James Tomlinson, a child five years of age, whose clothes caught fire during the absence of his parents from home, and occasioned his death from burns the same day. Verdict Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Straits

[1] *J. Michael Ebery* (25), victualler, born Minehead, Somersetshire;

[2] Sarah Ebery (26), wife, born Hill Top, Worcestershire;

[3] Julia Ann Ebery (8 months), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Mary Birch (22), house servant, born Kingswinford;

[5] Thomas Bennett (24), servant, born Winsford, Somersetshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/5/1851

“On Saturday last, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the STRAITS GREEN INN, Sedgley, on the body of James Sidaway, aged 61 years, who was unfortunately killed by the bursting of a cannon in Himley park, while it was being fired off, in celebration of the marriage of Lord Ward. The deceased, it appeared, had formerly been an artillery driver, and at his own request had been allowed to fire the cannon several times. He charged the cannon with twice the quantity of powder he was desired to use; and, on its being fired while he was standing by it, it burst, and a piece of metal (iron), about half a pound weight, struck him on the left breast, and penetrated his lungs. He died instantly. Mr. Joseph Spence, ironfounder and engineer, of Bilston, proved the cannon was sufficiently strong for the bore, and that the iron was good. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/10/1851

“On Thursday, an inquest was held at the STRAITS GREEN TAVERN, on the body of Joseph Scriver, aged 51. The deceased, after partaking of a hearty dinner on Saturday last, sat down by the fire, and died almost instantly. Verdict, Died from Natural Causes.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/11/1853 - Advert

“Sale At the STRAITS GREEN TAVERN, at the Straits, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Farmers, Wheelwrights, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. T. P. Stokes, on Monday next, November 14 – all the Live and Dead Farming Stock; consisting of a Rick of well-ended Hay, three useful barren Cows, a vey useful Cob, a capital 6-inch wheel waggon, a large quantity of Timber, and other useful Effects, the property of Mr. *John M. Ebery*, who is declining the Farming Business.

Sale to commence at eleven o'clock in the morning.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Wainwright (of the firm Bourne and Wainwright, Dudley) applied on behalf of Lord Ward for a license to the FIDDLERS ARMS, Gornal Wood, occupied by Mr. Fisher. The house had been formerly used as a public house. He (Mr. Wainwright) had authority to state that if the license were granted no application would be made for the renewal of the license to the STRAITS INN (also belonging to Lord Ward) which would be quitted by the present tenant at Michaelmas. Mr. Isaac Hughes, of Gornal Wood, victualler, personally opposed the application, and said that the license formerly belonging to the house had been sold. The Magistrates intimated that they would grant the license on the adjourned licensing day (the 22nd September) on condition of the license of the STRAITS INN being given up.”

1861 Census

Cotwall End – STRAITS GREEN INN

[1] *Sarah Jane Guest* (19), widow, born Sedgley;

[2] Ester Guest (2), daughter, born Sedgley;

[3] Mary J. Guest (1), daughter, born Sedgley:

SUMMERHOUSE

Can Lane, Ettingshall, COSELEY

OWNERS

Joseph Fletcher

Mr. Robinson, solicitor

John Mills [1855], [1858]

W. H. B. Whitgreave, gentleman, Leamington

LICENSEES

Elizabeth Lyne [1850]

John Mills [1852] – [1866]

Isaac Collins [1864] – 1877);

Hannah Collins (1877 – 1885):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Birmingham Journal 21/9/1850 - Advert

“SUMMER HOUSE INN, Can Lane, Sedgley.

Equidistant from the Dudley and Wolverhampton Road and the Railway now nearly completed between Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

To Innkeepers, Tallow Chandlers, Druggists, Brokers, And Others.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. William England, on Thursday, the 3rd day of October, 1850, at Eleven o'clock in the morning – on the above-named Premises, the Stock-In-Trade and Fixtures of the Shop and Candle Manufactory, also a Portion of the Household Furnitures, the property of Mrs. *Elizabeth Lyne*, who is declining business.

The Candle Manufactory, very recently built, is furnished with every requisite for carrying on that Business, comprising a beautiful patent Wick Cutting Machine, metal and wood Dipping Moulds, Horses and Heads, three Boilers, two cast iron, and one of copper, very superior Melting Pan, with extra thick bottom, made to order, and weighing 16cwt, large and powerful wrought-iron Screw Press, with extra plates and Iron Levers, complete; all well deserving the attention of persons desirous of entering the Trade.

The Shop contains a great variety of Miscellaneous Articles, the particulars of which, with the Household Furniture, &c, &c, will be found in the catalogues, which may be had of the Printer, Mr. Stanley; or the of the Auctioneer, Dudley; or on the Premises.

The Premises To Let.

Stock and Fixtures of the Inn or private Residence, the ground floor consisting of four rooms, which are now used as Parlour, Smoke Room, Kitchen, and Bar. The Bed Rooms are six in number, and the Cellars excellent. There is a beautiful Garden, surrounded by high brick wall, and well planted with choice Fruit Trees, Shrubs, and Flowers; Lawn, Fish-pond, Green-house, twenty-one feet by ten (containing eleven Vines); three Summer Houses, which, exclusive of the other Premises, occupy an area of about 2,200 square yards. During the summer months it is much resorted to by Picnic Parties, and Visitors to the far-famed Sedgley Tower flock in numbers to this delightful and quiet retreat.

In the front of the yard, which is very capacious, stands the Shop, over which there is a Malt Room, which may be used for Clubs or other general purposes, and is connected with the house by a covered way; at the extreme end of the yard is the Candle Manufactory, which could be made available for any other trade, or converted into Dwellings. There is Stabling for three Horses, Sheds, Brewhouse, Piggery, Bowling Alley, and an abundance of hard and soft water, and every convenience for comfort and business.

N.B. Several good Public Houses to Let, and two Road-side Houses Wanted, with a small portion of Land attached; and any person having a Light Business for Disposal, suitable for one or two Ladies, are requested to send particulars to Mr. W. England, General Commission Offices, Vicar Street, Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. T. Walker applied on behalf of Mr. *John Mills*, for a house at Cann Lane, in the parish of Sedgley, observing that he had never gone over such commodious premises, or any so well adapted for the purposes of a public house. The rent was £34 a year. A great number of houses had been built in the locality.

Mr. Whitehouse opposed on the ground that there was no necessity for any additional licensed houses in the neighbourhood. Mr. Walker replied, contending that the population was rapidly increasing Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1854

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for granting and renewing publican’s licenses in the parish of Bilston and Sedgley was held on Friday last, in the Bilston Police Court. The magistrates on the Bench were J. Loxdale, Esq, John Foster, Esq, J. N. Bagnall, Esq, and the Rev. J. B. Owen Sedgley.....

Mr. Whitehouse made an application for a license to the house of Mr. *John Mills*, Can Lane, describing the extent and comfort of the house, the beauty of the garden attached, so excellently adapted for the enjoyment of horticultural pleasure and alcoholic amusement. Mr. Waterhouse opposed, on the part of Mr. Screen of the BOAT INN, immediately in front of Mr. *Mills*’s house. Mr. Waterhouse likewise applied for a license to the house recently in the occupation of the late Mr. John Stanley, of the Coppice, in the immediate neighbourhood. It appeared that Mr. Stanley had died within the last fortnight, and Mr. Waterhouse now contended that the widow was entitled to apply for the license on the notices which had been given by her husband. The Bench were of a different opinion, and deferred the consideration of the applications until the next annual licensing day.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston..... Mr. T. M. Whitehouse said he had been instructed to apply for a license on behalf of Mr. *John Mills* of Can Lane, in the parish of Sedgley, and perhaps before he entered into a statement of the circumstances under which, in all probability, the magistrates would grant the license, he had better mention that he appeared for Mr. *Mills* to make a similar application last year, and on that occasion the application was adjourned, inasmuch as Mr. Stanley, who had given notice of an application he intended to make for a license to a house in his occupation at Can Lane, died between the time of giving the notice and the day of the application. The Bench thought it would only be acting right to the representative of Mr. Stanley, to give Mrs. Stanley the opportunity of renewing the application, and therefore postponed the consideration of that case. Mr. *Mills* now came to renew his application, and when he (Mr. Whitehouse) had laid before the Bench the circumstances of the case, he thought they would have no doubt that the application should be favourably received. He intended to rest the case of Mr. *Mills* on three points; first he should have to satisfy the Bench that the house was wanted on public and social grounds; next, the character of the applicant, which he (Mr. Whitehouse) should prove by certificate; and thirdly, the character of the house in respect of which he made the application. In regard to the first point he would remark that no old license had been granted in the locality for a least twenty years. Within a period of six years no less than 108 (for he had counted them particularly) houses had been erected in the locality, Lord Ward having introduced a good deal of land into the market, which had been bought by small purchasers. To show the progressive character of the locality, he might observe that within the last two or three months sixteen new houses had been erected; in fact since the last license was granted the population had increased by 500; there had been almost time for a new generation to arise. He did not know that he had needed to mention any other facts in order to show that another license was wanted in the neighbourhood on the ground of public necessity alone. Mr. Whitehouse contended that on social grounds it was desirable the license should be granted. Mr. *Mills*’s smoke room was respectably attended, and it was an inconvenience to him not to be able to supply his customers with anything else but ale. When he mentioned the character of the house and premises he thought the Bench would consider that persons would resort thither not so much for drinking and smoking – though, of course, they would like a little of both – as to enjoy the recreation which a garden like that of Mr. *Mills*’s would afford. Mr. *Mills* had been a beershop keeper many years, and no complaint had been made against him. Mr. Whitehouse then read a respectably signed certificate, and afterwards proceeded to refer to the opposition to the application by Mr. Underhill – no doubt on behalf of Mr. Screen – with a view of supporting that the application of Mrs. Stanley, and opposing that of Mr. *Mills*. He (Mr. Whitehouse) had, however, been informed that Mr. Screen was unable to attend the Court that day, in consequence of an injury which he had received in a row which took place in his public house. If that were true he apprehended Mr. Screen was not a person qualified to oppose the application – at least he did not come into Court with clean hands. If the Magistrates considered two licenses necessary, they would perhaps grant Mr. *Mills*’s and Mrs. Stanley’s, but if only one, they would no doubt give the license to the house most suited for that purpose. The BOAT INN (Mr. Screen’s house) stood upon 160 yards of land only, and yet it was a licensed house. Mr. Whitehouse then produced a large and elaborate plan of the premises, stating that in the erection of the house, and the formation of the garden, with its fishpond and greenhouse, £2,000 had been laid out by the origin proprietor, Mr. Joseph Fletcher. It afterwards fell into the hands of Mr. Robinson, solicitor, and had been subsequently purchased by Mr. *Mills*. He had no hesitation in saying that the house and garden were worth £1,000. He had recently visited the place himself, and found the greenhouse abounding in plants, and the garden in various productions of the horticultural and floral world. Mr. Whitehouse concluded by saying that whilst the Bench would enhance the value of the property by granting the license, they would not be injuring the property of Mr. *Mills*’s neighbours, but would confer an advantage upon the persons who visited the applicant’s house, particularly the working classes, who would resort thither for a little relaxation after the labours of the day.

In reply to Mr. Loxdale, it was stated that two or three similar applications to the Wolverhampton Bench had not been granted, Sub-inspector Costello saying that at the time of the making of one or two of the applications, part of the premises were used as a

chandler's shop.

Mr. Underhill opposed the application of behalf of Mr. Screen, whose house, he said, was next door to the applicant's. It did not surprise him that three or four similar applications by Mr. *Mills* had been refused, when he knew within 300 yards from applicant's house, there were three public houses, besides Mr. Screen's. Mr. *Mills*'s house was not even situated on the highway, but persons wishing to go to it had to turn up a small lane. The great point for the Magistrates to consider was whether another license was required in the locality. Magistrates seldom granted, even in large towns, licenses to houses next door to which licensed houses existed.

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to a beerhouse in Can Lane, the property of, and occupied by Mrs. Stanley. He said that in case the Magistrates consider only one license in that district necessary, they would no doubt appreciate the advantage of his client's premises over those of Mr. *Mills* and grant her the license. His client came into court without opposition. The population, as had been stated by Mr. Whitehouse, had increased in such a ratio since the granting of the last license to that neighbourhood as to render another licensed house absolutely necessary. He thought the Bench almost assumed that fact last year; but it was decided that he (Mr. Waterhouse) in applying for a license for the widow of Mr. Stanley, who had just before died, had no locus standi, and consequently no license was granted – the consideration of both Mr. *Mills*'s and Mrs. Stanley's application being adjourned until the present year in order that both applicants might appear in court on the same day. There had not only been an increase in the population at Can Lane, but also at the Coppice. One fact in favour of his client's application was that she was a widow, and that her late husband had expended all his means in erecting the premises, for the conveniently carrying on of his trade – that of a butcher – combined with the business of a beerseller. The applicant had four children, whose ages varied from six years to five months. Unless she obtained a license she would be unable in future to maintain her family in the respectable manner she had hitherto done. He had nothing to say against Mr. *Mills*; but his house was hidden from view by Mr. Screen's house. The applicant's house cost £900 or £1,000 (inclusive of the land), and the outbuildings were extensive. The certificate bore the signatures of respectable persons, and she had kept the house three or four years without complaint.

The Magistrates, after a short consultation, said they were unanimous in their opinion that both licenses must be refused.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. *Mills*, of Can Lane, for a license to the SUMMER HOUSE INN, of which the latter is owner and occupier. The applicant had occupied the house in respect of which he (Mr. Whitehouse) applied for a license for six or seven years, and no complaint had been made as to the manner in which it had been conducted, and further, Mr. *Mills*'s certificate was numerously signed. As regarded the house itself, it cost Mr. *Mills* at least £1,000, and possessed such accommodation as was highly necessary for a public house. The last license to the neighbourhood was granted twenty-five years ago, to a most miserable house. Since that time 238 houses had been erected, 130 of them within a period of six years. Between twenty and thirty had been erected since last year, and a large piece of land had been divided into building lots, and would, no doubt, be built upon in the course of next summer. Mr. Loxdale observed that the Bench had decided upon granting one license in the neighbourhood; the question was whether it would be to the house of Mr. *Mills*, Mrs. Hobday, or Mr. W Jones. Mr. J. E. Underhill, on behalf of Mr. Screen, of the BOAT INN, the next house to Mr. *Mills*'s, opposed the application, principally on the ground that no other licensed house was required.

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license on behalf of Mrs. Hobday. The buildings which Mr. Whitehouse had said had been recently erected stood at the Coppice, and he apprehended that it was in respect to that district that the license was required. He therefore contended that the house of Mrs. Hobday stood in the most convenient situation.

Mr. Waterhouse then applied for a license to the house of Mr. Jones, at Wood Cross, one of the three cases selected by the Magistrates. The grounds of the application were the increase of population and the great probability of a further increase, and that there was no public house in the village. The nearest inns were at Cinder Hill, one 493 and the other 517 yards from the applicant's house. Mr. Whitehouse opposed the application on the part of the inn-keepers of Cinder Hill, the ground of the opposition being that a sufficient increase had not taken place in the population to demand further public house accommodation, or render another licensed house necessary. Mr. Whitehouse added that there were already three licensed houses and five beer-houses in the neighbourhood.

The Bench granted the application of Mr. Jones, and refused that of Mr. *Mills* and of Mrs. Hobday.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. *Mills*, of Can Lane, for a license to the SUMMERHOUSE INN, of which the latter is owner and occupier. This, Mr. Whitehouse said, was the ninth or tenth application which he had made for Mr. *Mills*; three times he had applied at Wolverhampton, and since that time he had appeared year after year before the Magistrates at Bilston; but notwithstanding previous applications, Mr. *Mills* had such firm reliance on the merits of his case, that he appeared again with confidence to submit it to the Bench. Having known the parish of Sedgley for something like thirty years, he could confidently assert, having himself inspected Mr. *Mills*'s premises, that no other licensed house in that locality afforded equal accommodation. The last license to the neighbourhood was granted thirty years ago, and so rapidly was that district increasing that as many as 300 houses had been erected in that neighbourhood in the last three years. He (Mr. Whitehouse) did not consider that the license granted last year to Mr. Screen would at all affect the present application, because Mr. Screen's house was situated some distance from the house of Mr. *Mills*, and no traveller who could be accommodated at the house of Mr. *Mills* would ever go to the house of Mr. Screen.

Mr. H. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mr. Screen, of the BOAT INN, and contended that his client's house was quite commodious enough to accommodate all travellers to that district, and that there was no necessity for another licensed house. Mr. Underhill pointed out that the applicant's house could only be approached by a narrow road, scarcely wide enough for one carriage, and

still further urged that passengers must pass the BOAT INN in order to reach the house of Mr. *Mills*. With respect to the stabling accommodation set forth by the plan, Mr. Underhill said that the applicant was a butty collier, and required a large number of stables for his own horses. Mr. Underhill also urged that the applicant being a butty collier, and having in his employ a large number of men in his employ, it would, by granting a license, be affording an indirect medium for the applicant to compel his workmen to expend a portion of their wages in drink.

Mr. Whitehouse asked that before the magistrates decided upon the application of Mr. *Mills* they should hear an application which he had to make on behalf of Mrs. Hobday, who is also the occupier of a house in that neighbourhood. Mr. Waterhouse stated that Mrs. Hobday's house was situated in the main thoroughfare, while the house of Mr. *Mills* is some distance from the public road. As regarded the house itself it was originally built for a public house, while the house of the other applicant was formerly the private residence of Mr. Fletcher, and by no means adapted to the requirements of a licensed house.

Mr. Underhill opposed for Mr. Rudge, of the GATE INN, Can Lane. Mr. Underhill remarked that there seemed to be a remarkably pretty quarrel between Mr. *Mills* and Mrs. Hobday, and he was therefore very desirous neither party should gain a victory over the other. The houses of both applicants were situated only sixty or seventy yards distant from those of Mr. Rudge and Mr. Screen, the opposing parties, and he (Mr. Underhill) contended that no reasons had been shown why there should be any additional licenses granted for that district. After a short consultation the Magistrates decided to refuse both applications."

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

"Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers' licenses.....

Mr. T. M. Whitehouse applied for Mr. *John Mills*, and Mr. Waterhouse for Mrs. Hobday, for licenses for houses in Can Lane. Each applicant keeps a beerhouse and opposed the application of the other; and in addition Mr. Hayes opposed Mrs. Hobday's, and Mr. J. E. Underwood opposed Mr. *Mills* application, on behalf of the neighbouring licensed victuallers. The decisions were adjourned to the adjourned licensing day, on the 2nd September."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1859

"At the Bilston petty sessions on Friday.....

Applications for spirit licenses which had been made by Mrs. Elizabeth Hobday and Mr. *John Mills*, of Can Lane, were refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

"The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. T. M. Whitehouse again applied on behalf of Mr. *John Mills*, for a license to the COTTAGE SPRING [sic] beerhouse, Can Lane. Mr. Whitehouse, in urging this, his tenth application, strongly pressed his suit, enlarging upon the requirements of the neighbourhood and the advantages offered by his client's premises. Mr. J. E. Underhill opposed for Mr. Screen of the BOAT INN. Mr. Whitehouse then, with Mr. Underhill, applied for a license to the house kept by Mrs. Hobday, in Can Lane, near to Mr. *Mills*'s premises. Both applications were recommended by influential persons. The Bench thought there had not been a sufficient increase in the population to warrant the granting of additional licenses in that neighbourhood, and refused both applications."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

"Applications For New Licenses.....

John Mills, the SUMMERHOUSE INN, Can Lane, Sedgley. This was the 12th application. Supported by Mr. Whitehouse. Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of Mrs. Hobday and Mr. Screen, publicans in the same locality, the one to oppose the application of *Mills*'s and the other to apply for a license. Both applications were refused."

John Mills, retailer of beer, Can Lane. [1862]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

"The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. Whitehouse then for the 14th time applied on behalf of Mr. *Mills* for a license for the SUMMER HOUSE, Can Lane. The application was refused.

Mr. Waterhouse, for the twelfth time, made a similar application on behalf of Mrs. Hobday, with respect to a house about 100 yards from the SUMMER HOUSE. This application was also refused."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

"The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license for Mr. *Mills*, of the SUMMERHOUSE, Cann Lane, Ettingshall. Mr. J. E. Underhill opposed of behalf of Mr. J. Fellows, of the BOAT INN, and as the houses in question were only a short distant some few yards, the Magistrates refused the application."

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

"The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

The learned advocate also applied on behalf of *John Mills*, of the SUMMER HOUSE, Cann Lane, but he had two difficulties to deal with – one, that there was a public-house next door, by whom he was opposed; and another, that he had applied regularly, but unsuccessfully, for the last twelve years. Mr. Fellowes opposed the application, on behalf of Mr. Fellows, the landlord of the BOAT Refused."

Isaac Collins, beer retailer and shopkeeper, Can Lane. [1864]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/5/1866 - Advert

“Preliminary Announcement.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Offer by Auction at the GATE INN, Can Lane, in the parish of Sedgley, on Friday, 30th May, 1866. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, occupied by Mr. *John Mills*; a Malthouse, occupied by Messrs. W. and J. Caddick; Five Messuages adjoining a Field of Land, and other property.

Full particulars in next week's *Chronicle*.

In the meantime, further information may be obtained from Messrs. Rutter and Neve, Solicitors, Wolverhampton; Mr. Waterhouse, Solicitor, Bilston; or the Auctioneer, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/9/1866 - Advert

“Important Sale of Freehold Property, at Can Lane, in the Parish of Sedgley, and County of Stafford.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Sell by Auction (by order of the Mortgagee), on Monday, the 1st day of October, 1866, at the house of Mr. William Fletcher, the OLD GATE INN, Can Lane, at 6 o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale then to be then produced, and in one or more lots as may be determined upon at the time of sale, the undermentioned valuable Freehold Property, viz.

A Freehold Ten-Quarter Malthouse and Three Houses adjoining, situate fronting Can Lane aforesaid, in the respective occupations of Mr. William Caddick, Henry Walkes, Thomas Cornfield, and Richard Bradley, with the Brewhouse, Outbuildings, and Yard thereto belonging. Also a Freehold Public House and Premises, situate close to the above, and known by the sign of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, with the Grocer's Shop, Bakehouse, two Stables, large Garden, and Yard, in the occupation of Mr. *John Mills*; together with the House adjoining the Grocer's Shop, in the occupation of Noah Potts; and two Houses and a Warehouse fronting a new street at the back of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, now in the occupation of Thomas Bryan and Mrs. Williams. The whole of the above Property occupies a site of 0a 2r 20p, and produces an estimated annual rental of £89 14s.

The SUMMER HOUSE INN contains four bed rooms, tap room, smoke room, parlour and bar, and a large club room over Green's shop.

For further particulars of the property apply to Messrs. Rutter and Neve, Solicitors; or to the Auctioneer, both of Darlington Street, Wolverhampton, at whose Offices a plan of the property can be seen.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/11/1866 - Advert

“To be let, and may be entered upon immediately, that well-frequented Beerhouse, situate at Can Lane in the parish of Sedgley, known by the sign of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, at present in the occupation of Mr. *John Mills*, containing four bed rooms, tap room, smoke room, parlour and bar, and large club room; also two stables, warehouse, &c, &c, and a very large and productive Garden. Rent £25. Fixtures to be taken at a valuation, which will be low.

Apply to Mr. Thomas Richards, Surveyor and Auctioneer, 17, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

Isaac Collins died in 1877.

Birmingham Daily Post 24/12/1881

“At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, the following licenses were fully transferred.

An application was made by Mr. Waterhouse on behalf of James Davies for a new license to the SUMMER HOUSE, Cow Lane. The magistrates twice before have refused similar applications, on the plea that when the license was first obtained the premises had been divided without the consent of the Bench, and that the part used as a public house was not sufficiently rated. Mr. R. A. Willcock, who opposed on behalf of John Wasdale, urged that there was no reasonable ground upon which to grant the license upon this any more than upon either of the other occasions, no alterations having been made. The case was adjourned for three weeks.”

Dudley Herald 4/3/1882

“Sale – freehold house and premises known as SUMMERHOUSE INN, malthouse and three houses, fronting Can Lane, Sedgley.....”

The license was taken away in 1885 because of the dilapidated condition of the building.

SUMMERHOUSE

12, School Street / Green Street, Roseville, COSELEY

OWNERS

John Hincks, butcher, Edge Street, Wallbrook, Coseley (later licensee)

Daniel Millard
Thomas Oliver Ltd., Sandwell Brewery, West Bromwich

LICENSEES

Henry Goodhall [1864] – [1867]
Joseph Hillman [1869]
David Walters [1871] – **1873**;
John Hincks (**1873 – 1897**);
Daniel Millard (**1897 – 1912**);
James Wolverson (**1912 – 1937**);
Joseph 'Joe' William Spooner (**1937 – [1940]**)
Mrs. Winifred Spooner [1939] – **1961**);

NOTES

It was situated about 200 yards off Castle Street.

It was known locally as the "Puzzle Garden". It had a maze in the grounds.

It had a beerhouse license.

Henry Goodhall = Henry Goodall

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/3/1864 - Advert

"Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Public House and Land, at Roseville, Coseley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent, Tomorrow (Tuesday), the 15th of March, at the house of Mrs. Elizabeth Taft, the PAINTERS ARMS, Roseville, Coseley, at Seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then and there produced.

All that excellent Freehold and well-accustomed Public House, with Double Front, known as the SUMMER HOUSE INN, situate at Roseville, Coseley, and now in the occupation of Mr. *Henry Goodall*, with the Outbuildings thereto belonging. The Premises comprise Front Tap Room, Smoke Room, Bar, Parlour, Club Room, two Chambers, two excellent Cellars, Brewhouse and Malt Room, soft water and wash Cisterns, Piggeries, extensive Garden and enclosed wall, the whole containing an area of 747 square yards, or thereabouts, and now let at the low rental of £20 per annum.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. E. and C. Warmington, Solicitors, Castle Street; or the Auctioneer, No.5, Bush Street; all of Dudley."

Dudley Herald 3/8/1867

"Bankruptcy Act 1861. SUMMER HOUSE, Roseville, Coseley To be sold by auction, public house fittings, brewing plant and household furniture belonging to Mr. *Henry Goodhall*, a bankrupt."

Dudley Herald 28/9/1867

"*Henry Goodhall* beerhouse keeper and iron worker SUMMERHOUSE bankruptcy discharge granted."

Henry Goodhall was also an iron roller. [1867]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 2/8/1869 - Advert

"To be Let, with immediate possession, the SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Coseley.

Apply on the Premises, or to S. Grainger, House Agent, Deepfields."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869 - Advert

"Sale At The SUMMER HOUSE INN, Roseville, Coseley. On Monday Next, August 30, 1869.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round – All the Public House Effects, Brewing Vessels, Shop Fixtures, and part of the Household Furniture, the property of Mr. *Joseph Hillman*, who is declining the business, and particularised in catalogues, which may be had at the Place of Sale, or of the Auctioneer, 69, Owen Street, Tipton.

Sale at Eleven o'clock punctually."

1871 Census

12, School Street

[1] *David Walters* (38), licensed victualler, born Tipton;

[2] *Maria Walters* (34), wife, born Tipton;

[3] *Emeler Walters* (16), daughter, born Tipton;

[4] *David Walters* (11), son, born Tipton;

- [5] William Walters (9), son, born Tipton;
- [6] Joseph Walters (7), son, born Tipton;
- [7] Thomas Walters (5), son, born Tipton;
- [8] Levi Walters (3), son, born Tipton;
- [9] David Walters (11 months), son, born Sedgley:

John Hincks = John Hinks

1881 Census

12, School Street

- [1] *John Hincks* (42), publican, born Coseley;
- [2] Elizabeth Hincks (40), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Sarah Hincks (15), daughter, born Wallbrook;
- [4] William Hincks (14), son, born Wallbrook;
- [5] Clara Hincks (13), daughter, born Wallbrook;
- [6] Hannah Hincks (12), daughter, born Wallbrook;
- [7] John Hincks (6), son, born Wallbrook;
- [8] Henry Hincks (4), son, born Wallbrook;
- [9] Lizzy Hincks (2), daughter, born Roseville:

1891 Census

12, School Street

- [1] *John Hinks* (52), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Eliza Hinks (50), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Sarah Hinks (25), daughter, assistant barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] William Hinks (24), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Clara Hinks (23), daughter, housemaid, born Sedgley;
- [6] Hannah Hinks (22), daughter, school governess, born Sedgley;
- [7] John Hinks (16), son, general clerk, born Sedgley;
- [8] Harry Hinks (14), son, painter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Lilly Hinks (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [10] Mary A. Hinks (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

12, School Street

- [1] *Daniel Millard* (43), beerhouse keeper, born Coseley;
- [2] Marther Millard (37), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] Florence Millard (18), daughter, born Coseley;
- [4] George Millard (16), son, bread baker, born Coseley;
- [5] Thomas Millard (14), son, iron moulder (foundry), born Coseley;
- [6] John Millard (12), son, born Coseley;
- [7] Elsie Millard (9), daughter, born Coseley;
- [8] Sidney Millard (6), son, born Coseley;
- [9] Albert Millard (7), son, born Coseley;
- [10] Elviny Millard (4), daughter, born Coseley;
- [11] Edna Millard (1), daughter, born Coseley:

David (sic) *Millard*, beer retailer, School Street. [1904]

Tipton Herald 19/6/1909

“Isaac Roper, of 80, Chapel Street, Walbrook, Coseley, was charged with stealing 9d from the till of a public house known as the SUMMERHOUSE INN, Coseley.

Ellen *Millard*, wife of the licensee, stated that on Thursday at 2pm she was on the stairs and heard the money till rattle, and some coins drop. She went downstairs and saw prisoner coming from the money drawer on tiptoe. No one was on the premises but the prisoner. She at once accused him of taking the money, but he denied it. Prisoner went back into the top [tap?] room, and witness called her husband. Prisoner then left the house. Witness knew there had been 10½d in the till of which 9d was missing.

Daniel Millard, the licensee, said that he went after prisoner and called on him to stop, but he would not do so.

When arrested by PC Handy prisoner denied the offence.

Prisoner, who the Chairman said had a bad record, was sentenced to a month’s hard labour.”

1911 Census

School Street – SUMMER HOUSE INN

- [1] *Daniel Millard* (54), beerhouse keeper, born Coseley;
- [2] Ellen Millard (33), wife, married 5 years, assisting in the business, born Marshfield, Somersetshire;

- [3] Wilfred Millard (23), son, sheet mill hand, born Coseley;
- [4] Albert Millard (18), son, sheet mill hand, born Coseley;
- [5] Sidney Millard (17), son, born Coseley;
- [6] Evelyn Millard (14), daughter, born Coseley;
- [7] Edna Millard (11), daughter, school, born Coseley;
- [8] Doris Millard (5), daughter, school, born Coseley:

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Davies.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. John Groves.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. Davies.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston(Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. Enoch Smart.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Isaac Smart.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Joshua Bradley.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Beerhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/5/1915 - Advert

“Under A Deed Of Assignment.

Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Preliminary Announcement Of Sale By Auction of Eleven Freehold, Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises & Dwelling Houses in and around Darlaston, Sedgley, Coseley, Bilston, Tipton, Ackleton, and Bridgnorth.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from R. H. Jonson, Esq. (Messrs. Muras and Co., Chartered Accountants, Wolverhampton), the Trustees as above, to Sell by Auction early in June, the following Properties.

The PRINCE OF WALES INN, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-On).

The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (Fully Licensed), and Two Cottages.

The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (Fully Licensed), and Two Dwelling Houses.

The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-On).

The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and Two Cottages.

The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and five Dwelling Houses.

The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (Fully Licensed).

The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley, (Beerhouse-On).

The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-On).

The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-On).

The Folly Inn, Ackleton, 5½ miles from Bridgnorth and Albrighton, and about 10 miles from Wolverhampton (Beerhouse-On), with Cottage Residence.

The Castle Brewery, Bridgnorth, with Fixed Plant.

Further particulars will appear in future announcements.

Auctioneer's Offices, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. (Tele.56)."

Catalogue for Auction on 2/6/1915

"Under a Deed of Assignment. Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Eleven Freehold Fully Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises and Dwelling Houses.....

The following Eleven Licensed Houses, Three of which are Fully-Licensed and Eight On-Beerhouses, together with the Brewery, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time and are situated in well populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of some of the largest works in Staffordshire, and as they are being offered by direction of the Trustee under a Deed of Assignment, a fine opportunity presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrellage or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade, of acquiring houses which as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, doing genuine trades, and possession of which may be obtained in most cases upon completion and otherwise at early dates afterwards.....

Lot 9. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-On).

Let on short tenancy at a rental of £40 0s 0d per annum. A pleasantly situated well-frequented old-established Public House, adjoining the widely known Coseley Pleasure Gardens and in a thickly populated district, the accommodation comprising Entrance Passage running from front to back, Tap Room front 13' x 11', Smoke Room front 10' 6" x 10' 6", Bar Smoke Room back 16' x 10', Living Kitchen, Club Room, Two Bedrooms, and Cellars together with two-floor Brewery, Stabling, Coach-house, large Yard with double Gateway approach, excellent Garden and the usual Outbuildings, the whole covering a large area of land."

[Sold to Darby for £920.]

Birmingham Daily Post 4/6/1915

"At Wolverhampton on Wednesday Messrs. W. Dando and Co. of Dudley offered for sale a number of licensed houses in the Black Country, and the lots disposed of realised a total of £6,835....

The highest price obtained was for the SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley, an on-beerhouse, let on short tenancy at a rental of £40 per annum. This property was sold for £920."

James Wolverson, beer retailer, School Street. [1916], [1921]

Joseph William Spooner also worked at a steelworks.

He was married to *Winifred* (Win).

1939 Register

School Street – SUMMER HOUSE INN

[1] *Winifred Spooner*, date of birth 5/9/1910, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] *Thomas Marden*, dob 24/4/1912, hand driller, heavy worker, married;

[4] *Lilian (Lillian May) Marden*, dob 22/12/1912, press worker, married:

Black Country Bugle 25/6/2009

Letter from Terry Oliver

".....The pub was very popular and very strictly run."

It closed in 1961.

It was demolished in 1962.

SUMMER HOUSE

92, Gospel End Road, (13, Gospel End), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Thomas Croydon, farmer, Drayton, Penkridge

John Hickman

John Rolinson and Sons Ltd., Five Ways Brewery, Netherton (acquired in 1899 for £2,600)

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Fereday [1845] – 1860);
Joseph Fereday (1860 – [1862]
John Fereday [1868] – [1870]
William Philips [1871] – 1873);
Benjamin Jeavons (1873 – 1876);
John Hickman Snr. (1876 – 1877);
John Hickman Jnr. (1877 – 1884);
John Billingsley (1884 – 1887);
Margaret Ann Adie (1887 – 1894);
Arthur Harrison (1894 – 1896);
Edwin Tranter (1896 – 1897);
John Archer Brew (1897 – 1898);
Charles Robert Walker (1898 – 1900);
Emily Osborne (1900 – 1901);
Thomas Osborne [1901]
Howard Benjamin ‘Ben’ Turley (1901 – 1905);
George Harrison (1905 – 1913);
John Holmes (1913 – 1916);
Samuel Heath (1916 – 1922);
Thomas Astley (1922 – 1924);
John Cowley (1924 – 1948);
Bertram George Foster (1948);
Horace Hancox (1) (1948 – 1960);
Horace Hancox (2) (1960 – 1977);
George Henry Maydew (1977 – 1980);
Donald Charles ‘Don’ Hanney (1980 – 1990);
Graham George Deakin (1990 – 1998)
John Coombes [2004] – [2012]
Karen and Philip Kennedy (2015 – 2023);
Amy and Rory Harper (2023 – []

NOTES

13, Gospel End [1901], [1939]
92, Gospel End Road

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/5/1845

“At the show of Auriculars, Polyanthuses, and Pansies, held at Mr. *Thomas Fereday*’s, SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, on Tuesday, the following prizes were awarded.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1848

“On Saturday last T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End, on the body of Benjamin Fellowes, a child about three years old, whose clothes accidentally became enveloped in flames on the previous Wednesday morning, at his mother’s house, whilst he was playing with the fire. The child immediately ran into the road towards a shop where his mother was employed in making nails. Hannah Jeavons, a neighbour, ran after him, and put out the flames by wrapping her apron around him, but his clothes were nearly all consumed. He was then taken home by his mother and other neighbours. An assistant to Mr. Haden, surgeon, of Sedgley, subsequently attended, and gave the mother something to dress the burns, but the child died about three o’clock the following morning. It appeared the boy’s mother was always very kind to her children, but, being a widow, she was obliged to work, and generally left her children in the care of their grand-mother, who lived close to the house. On the occasion in question she had only left the house for a short time, whilst the kettle was boiling for breakfast. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/6/1850 - Advert

“Gipsy Party. SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End.

T. Fereday begs to inform his friends that his Annual Gipsy Party will take place on Tuesday, the 25th of June next. Tickets (Refreshments included) 2s 6d each.”

1851 Census

SUMMER HOUSE

[1] *Thomas Fereday* (50), unmarried, farmer of 36 acres employing 1 labourer, born Bristol;

[2] Anne E. Fereday (21), niece, born Penn;

[3] Jane Cox (25), general servant, born Sedgley;

[4] Jonathan Davis (48), servant, waggoner, born Sedgley;

[5] Richard Minchar (17), servant, agricultural labourer, born Kingswinford:

AND (next entry)

Gospel End Road

[1] Zephaniah Parks (36), unmarried, brewer, born Dudley;

[2] Sarah Parks (43), sister, born Sedgley;

[3] Frances Parks (32), sister, born Dudley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/5/1855

“On Thursday last an inquest was held at the SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End, on the body of Sarah Bagley, forty-nine years of age, a single woman, who died suddenly in bed at the house of Thomas Bagley, on Monday morning last. The deceased was a delicate person and had for some time complained of great pressure upon the chest and difficulty breathing. On the night of Sunday she was seized with an attack of the above nature, struggled greatly, and expired. The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died suddenly whilst in bed from Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Journal 25/8/1855

“Mr. *Thomas Fereday*, of Gospel End, requests us to say that the throwing of cordwood on the common took place at midday, and not in the night, as was stated in last week’s *Journal*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/9/1855 - Advert

“Gospel End, Sedgley. Freehold Messuages and Land.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. R. S. Walker, at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, in Gospel End, on Monday, the 1st of October, 1855, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/6/1857 - Advert

“Desirable Residence At Gospel End, near Penn.

To Be Sold by Auction (under the direction of the Mortgagees), by Mr. Solomon Powell, at the house of Mr. *Fereday*, the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, on Wednesday, the 24th day of June, 1857, at seven o’clock in the evening, and subject to conditions.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/5/1858

“On Tuesday morning, the SUMMER HOUSE INN, at Gospel End, occupied by Mr. *Thomas Fereday*, was burglariously entered by means of an upper window. The thieves succeeded in taking away six hams and a quantity of spiritous liquors.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1859

“Mr. *Thomas Fereday*, farmer of Gospel End, a person well known and respected by everybody who knew him, died about seven o’clock yesterday morning (Monday). His family heard a noise in his room, and, going up they found him on the floor unconscious. Medical aid was soon procured, but he died shortly after, apparently from a fit.”

Birmingham Journal 14/1/1860 - Advert

“Gospel End, between Sedgley and Wombourn.

Mr. Fereday will Sell by Auction, on the Premises (the SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End), by order of the Executors, on Thursday, the 16th of January instant – a part of the useful Household Furniture, Implements of Husbandry, Two Horses, Yearling Colt, Gear, Corn, Barley, and Hay Ricks, lots of Store Pigs, &c, &c.

Catalogues may be had, seven days prior to the sale, at the Auctioneer’s Office, Railway Buildings, Wolverhampton; the Place of Sale; and at the SWAN INN, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/1/1860 - Notice

“All parties having any claim against the Estate of the late Mr. *Thomas Fereday*, of Gospel End, Sedgley, are requested to send in accounts to Mr. John Fereday, or Mr. H. O. Wallens, the Executors under the Will. And all parties being indebted thereto are requested to pay in the amounts of their respective debts to the same parties forthwith.

Sedgley, January 10, 1860.”

[Mr. H. O. Wallens – SWAN, Sedgley.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/4/1860

“At a Special Petty Sessions for the transfer of licenses, held at the Police Court yesterday (Tuesday) the licenses of the undermentioned public houses changed owners.....

SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End, from the executors of *Thomas* to *Joseph Fereday*.....”

1861 Census

Gospel End – SUMMERHOUSE INN

- [1] *Joseph Fereday* (62), farmer of 40 acres employing 1 man and 1 boy, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Jane Fereday* (60), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Annie Elizabeth Fereday* (28), daughter, barmaid, born Penn;
- [4] *Thomas Emmanuel Fereday* (26), son, plumber, glazier and painter, born Penn;
- [5] *Joseph Henry Fereday* (20), son, born Penn;
- [6] *Mary Ann Trenter* (16), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [7] *James Evans* (17) servant, carter, born Shropshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/12/1863 - Advert

“Wanted an honest lad, about 17 or 18 years of age, to drive two horses, and make himself generally useful; to live in the house. Apply at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, near Sedgley.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 18/11/1865 - Advert

“To be Let, a Cottage, with Garden, Croft, Stabling, Out-buildings, and Wheelwright’s Shop, at Gospel End, Sedgley. Apply to Messrs. Pinchard and Shelton, Solicitors, Wolverhampton; or to Mr. *Fereday*, SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 18/5/1867 - Advert

“Important Sale, on Tuesday Next, May 21st, at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, near Sedgley. Mr. Charles Round, will Sell by Auction, as above, all the valuable Live and Dead, Farming Stock, Brewing Plant, Public House Fixtures, and Household Furniture, including eleven capital Pigs, strong Sow and four Pigs, ditto; useful Grey Mare, about 15½ hands high; strong and useful entire Horse, and a capital Black Mare, good workers; and a quantity of Effects, belonging to the late Mr. *Joseph Fereday*, deceased; also a double-bodied Phaeton, with Cushions complete, gray Mare 14 hands high, 7 years old, strong spring cart Harness, a capital 3-inch wheel wagon, nearly new, suitable to Maltsters, Farmers, Millers, and others; a dark chestnut Cob 15 hands high, perfectly sound, quite steady in harness, a good hack and harness Cob, a splendid goer, very fast, the property of Messrs. D. and S. Round, Maltsters, Tipton; more practically described in catalogues, to be had at the place of Sale, and of the Auctioneer, at his Offices, Owen Street and Bloomfield, Tipton. Sale to commence at half-past Ten o’clock a.m.”

John Fereday was fined 1s and costs for permitting drunkenness in April 1868.

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/6/1869 - Advert

“To be Sold by Tenders. About three acres prime Vetches, ready to cut. For particulars, apply at the SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End, Sedgley.”

Dudley Herald 12/3/1870 - Advert

“Gospel End, Sedgley To be let at Lady Day: the old licensed public house known as the SUMMER HOUSE and farm of 26 acres.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/5/1870 - Advert

“By Charles Round, at the SUMMERHOUSE INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, This Day, at 10.30am. Live and Dead Farming Stock, Household Furniture and Effects.”

AND

“By Charles Round, at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, Sedgley. This Day, at 2pm. Horses, Stirks, Pigs, and Poultry.”

1871 Census

Gospel End Road – SUMMER HOUSE INN

- [1] *William Phillips* (29), victualler and farmer, 2.25 acres, employing 1 man and 1 boy, born Willenhall;
- [2] *Jane Phillips* (28), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *John Phillips* (4), son, born Willenhall;
- [4] *Joseph Phillips* (3), son, born Willenhall;
- [5] infant *Phillips* (3 days), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Jane Hall* (67), aunt, dressmaker, born Wednesfield;
- [7] *Elizabeth Mason* (73), visitor, nurse, born Wednesfield;
- [8] *Ada Fowler* (25), general servant, born Tipton:

Staffordshire Advertiser 14/12/1872 - Advert

“Gospel End, Sedgley.

Farming Implements, Waggon Horses, Pigs, Ricks of Hay &c.

Messrs. Aston, Sollom, and Barnett, will Sell by Auction, by the direction of Mr. *William Phillips*, on Monday Next, December 16, 1872, upon the Farm Premises, at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, a variety of new Implements of Husbandry, four useful Waggon Horses, shafters’ and chain gears, gig and pony harness, saddle and bridle; two in-calf cows, two rearing calves 27 pigs, including well-bred boar, two gilts (one with seven pigs), &c, quantity of poultry, about eight tons of well ended hay, quantity of barley straw, and other effects, fully described in catalogues, to be had from the Auctioneers, 66½ Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

Benjamin Jeavons was also a farmer. [1873]

Dudley Herald 4/12/1875 - Advert

“To be sold by auction – the well established public house known as the SUMMER HOUSE INN, with the compact farm buildings, blacksmith’s shop, cottage and garden and about 15¾ acres of capital Turf and Arable land (inclusive of the site of the buildings) well situated at Gospel End, with frontages leading to the Turnpike road to Sedgley, and also to the Red Lane leading out of the said Turnpike Road to Penn Common.....”

London Gazette 10/12/1875

“The Bankruptcy Act, 1869 In the Matter of Proceedings for Liquidation instituted by *Benjamin Jeavons*, of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End Licensed Victualler, Farmer and Haulier.

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 Mr. Joseph Stokes, No.1, Priory Street, Dudley on the 17th day of December 1875.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/3/1877 - Advert

“To be Shot for, at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, near Sedgley, On Monday Next, March 12.

A Fat Pig, 36 score. Twenty Members at £1 each.

Conditions: Single guns, 21 yards rise, 1½oz shot; double guns, 19 yards rise, 1¼oz shot, three trips, three birds; 80 yards boundary. Winner to spend £3, and putter-up to spend £3.

First bird in the trap 11 a.m.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/9/1877

“The annual licensing sessions for the Bilston division were held at the Public Office, Bilston, yesterday.....

The black list was as follows Licensed Victuallers....

John Hickman, SUMMERHOUSE INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, harbouring police, £10 and costs.....

None of these persons had their license endorsed.

The whole of the licenses in the ‘black list,’ it was stated, would be held over until the adjourned sessions.”

1881 Census

Gospel End Road – SUMMER HOUSE

- [1] *John Hickman* (55), publican, born Gospel End;
- [2] Lauree H. Hickman (28), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Harold J. E. Hickman (6), son, born Gospel End;
- [4] Alberta N. Hickman (5), daughter, born Gospel End;
- [5] Benjamin S. Hickman (4), son, born Gospel End;
- [6] Paul Hickman (2), son, born Gospel End;
- [7] Elizabeth M. Hickman (2 months), daughter, born Gospel End;
- [8] Mary Smith (24), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [9] Eliza Ann (14), domestic servant, born Straits:

Dudley and District News 24/9/1881

“George Wedge, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, was charged with stealing a bottle and a half pint of rum, the property of James Wright, of Gospel End, Sedgley.

Complainant stated that he and defendant were in the SUMMER HOUSE public house, Gospel End, drinking together, and he (complainant) had a half pint of rum in a bottle. Shortly afterwards Wedge left his company, and Wright then missed the bottle of rum.

Edmund Leek gave evidence to the effect that he saw Wedge abstract the bottle from Wright’s pocket.

There were several previous convictions against the prisoner for various offences, and he was sentenced to six weeks’ hard labour.”

Dudley and District News 12/8/1882

“On Monday night Mr. W. H. Phillips, South Staffordshire Coroner, resumed the enquiry at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, near Sedgley, respecting the death of Thomas Meredith (23), labourer, who met with his death under circumstances reported last week.

Thomas Johnson, surgeon, stated that he made a post mortem examination of the body on the 4th inst, and found that the cause of death was dislocation of the bones of the neck. The injury was caused by the deceased falling on the back of the neck.

The Coroner said if the jury thought it necessary he would call further evidence.

The foreman of the jury (Mr. Wm. Allen) said he thought further evidence should be called.

PS Goodhall: I think it right that I should state that Poole, when taken into custody, admitted that he threw deceased over the wall.

The Coroner: I cannot accept that evidence.

John Hickman, one of the jurymen, stated that he was the landlord of the SUMMER HOUSE, and on Sunday night, the 30th ult, the deceased was in his house, with a number of others, and left the house at twenty minutes past nine o’clock apparently sober. He did not hear of deceased being thrown over the wall till the following morning.

Thomas Mathews deposed that the deceased was the worse for beer when in the SUMMER HOUSE. He could not say how deceased got over the wall.

The Coroner summed up at great length. There appeared to him to be no malice on the part of the person who had caused the death of the deceased, but it was clearly laid down in the Acts of Parliament that if any person by an illegal act caused the death of another he was guilty of manslaughter. In the present case it had been clearly proved that Poole threw the deceased over a wall and the fall had caused his death, and in his opinion the jury had no alternative but to return a verdict of manslaughter against Poole.

After deliberating for about half-an-hour the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against Thomas Poole, who was committed to the Assizes on the Coroner's warrant.

The Coroner said as the accused would not be tried until the Winter Assizes he would accept bail on two sureties of £20."

Birmingham Mail 30/1/1883

"Stafford Assizes.

Thomas Pool, a middle-aged man, was indicted for the manslaughter of Thomas Meredith, on August 1st, at Sedgley. Mr. Haden Corser, prosecuted, and Mr. Rose defended. Prisoner and defendant had been on very good terms, and were drinking in the GOSPEL OAK INN, Sedgley, on the date named, leaving the house together at ten o'clock. Deceased subsequently leaned over a low wall by the road side for a minute or two, when the prisoner coming up behind tripped up his legs by way of a joke. Deceased overbalanced and fell on the other side of the wall, breaking his neck. Rose, in defence, admitted the act, and pleaded that it was an accident caused by a foolish and unthinking practical joke. The Judge sentenced him to a nominal imprisonment of eight days only."

Dudley and District News 5/1/1884

"Mr. W. H. Phillips (South Staffordshire Coroner) held an inquest at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, on the body of Annie Turner, aged six years, who had died from the effects of burns.

On the 7th ult. the deceased's mother had occasion to lock deceased and another child in the house whilst she went to the wood to look for her son, who was missing. Whilst she was absent from home the deceased's clothes became ignited, and she was speedily enveloped in flames. A neighbour hearing screams, burst open the door, and with difficulty extinguished the flames. In consequence of the parents being in needy circumstances the relieving officer was applied to, and the girl was attended by Dr. Ballenden, the parish surgeon, but she succumbed to the injuries received on the 31st ult.

In reply to the Coroner, the mother stated that the relieving officer had not been to see the child, neither had he taken steps to procure food or stimulants for the deceased.

The Coroner said he thought the relieving officer should have caused proper nourishment to be procured for the child.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

1891 Census

Gospel End – SUMMER HOUSE INN

- [1] Francis Adie (66), grocer's valuer, born Colton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Margaret A. Adie* (62), wife, licensed victualler, born Betley, Kent;
- [3] Bella Jones (22), stepdaughter, barmaid, born Bilston;
- [4] John Edgar Reay (8), grandson, scholar, born Norton in Hales, Shropshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 16/9/1892

"An inquest was held at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, yesterday, touching the death of Annie Hopkins aged one year and seven months, daughter of George Hickman, residing in the Pen Road. The child, it was shown, when walking across the kitchen on the 29th ult. fell backwards into a tub containing hot water, and died on the 12th inst. from scalds received.

Mr. Woodhouse, foreman of the jury, said that several of the jurymen had complained of the custom of viewing the bodies at inquests, and had requested him to ask the coroner to communicate with the Home Secretary on the subject, urging him to bring in a bill to make it optional.

The Deputy Coroner (Mr. A. R. Smith) coincided with the views expressed, and stated that he would forward a report bearing on the subject to the Home Office.

Several of the jury stated that they had been compelled to walk long distances to attend that enquiry, and considered under the circumstances they should be paid.

The Coroner said he thought they were entitled to payment, and advised them to wait upon the local representatives of the County Council, which the jurymen expressed their intention of doing."

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/12/1895

"Frederick Arthur Walker, 16, and William Hollies, 14, both of Gospel End, were charged with stealing six fowls, the property of Francis Adie, Gospel End, and *Arthur Harrison*, SUMMER HOUSE INN.

The defendants were detected in consequence of their selling fowls to poultry dealers, and when arrested they admitted their guilt. Mr. *Harrison* stated that altogether he had missed about 20 fowls. Walker, who had been previously convicted, was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment, to be followed by two years' detention in a reformatory; and Hollies was bound over to be of good behaviour."

Dudley Herald 15/10/1898 - Notice

“In Bankruptcy. Re *John Archer Brew*, of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, Licensed Victualler.

Notice of Sale by Auction of Well-made Public House Fittings, Household Furniture, and other Effects.

Alfred W. Dando has received instructions from E. Perey Jones, Esq, the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy, to Sell by Auction upon the premises as above, on Tuesday, 13th day of October, 1898, the substantial Household Furniture and Public House Fittings, comprising Black and Brass French bedsteads, 4ft and 4ft 6in; massive Dashesse Toilet Stands, the stands having marble top; Mahogany and Painted Washstands and Dressing Tables, Mahogany and other Chests of Drawers, Brussels Carpet and Felting, Linoleum, Walnut Overmantel, with bevelled plates, Sewing Machine, mahogany and bamboo Cornice Poles, Drinking Tables, Benches and Screens, Brass Hanging and Bracket Lamps, Spirit Jars, Pewter Ale and Spirit Measures, Quantity Quart and Pint Jugs, Glass Tankards, Crate of Cut Glass, Quantity of Glassware (various), Oil Paintings and Water Colour Drawings, Brass Curbs, Easy Chairs, Oak Frame Table, with A.C. Top; 12 bentwood Chairs, Seats covered in velvet. Waterproof Rugs, Mash Tubs, Coolers, Sieve Platform Weighing Machine, by Pooley; nearly new Oat Crusher and Pulper, Stable Tools, Tarpaulin Sheets, and General Effects.

On View morning of Sale.

Sale to commence at 11 o'clock sharp.

Catalogues may be obtained at the Offices of the Auctioneer, 5, Priory Street, Dudley.”

Dudley Herald 29/10/1898

“Dudley, Bankruptcy Court.

John Archer Brew, of the SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End, Sedgley, licensed victualler, came up for his public examination in Bankruptcy. The statement of affairs showed liabilities £908, and deficiency £613 10s 5d. Bankrupt attributed his failure to losses on horse breeding, losses on taking premises at Hednesford, through the failure of the purchaser to complete the purchase of the lease of the SUMMER HOUSE, which he agreed to sell for £575, and excess of expenses over income during the last twelve months at the SUMMER HOUSE.

In reply to the Official Receiver (Mr. E. P. Jobson) debtor stated that 20 years ago he started business as a chemist which was left to him by his father. That business would be worth £2,000, but he had to pay his sister £700 for the value of the stock and fixtures. He carried on business about two years, when he had a severe illness, and the doctor despairing of his life it was sold. This was in Brighton and when the business was sold he started in the mineral water trade in the same town. He started with £200 found him by his friends, but in 18 months he had to give it up, when he paid a composition of 4s 6d in the £. He then went to a situation in Aberdeen, where he stayed six months. After that he was a short time in Edinburgh and then he went to London, where he had a salary of £150 a year. He was there about three years and then went to Malvern and managed a business there. In fact he was a ‘sort of a partner,’ and picked up half the profits. That business was successful, but his money went in educating his children. He got into debt to the extent of £100 to the bank and he left Malvern after being there five years. He then took the Station Hotel, Sutton Coldfield. A customer lent him £600 to go into the hotel.

Official Receiver: And the money is still owing? – Debtor: A portion of it is.

To a lady whose name is mentioned in the statement of affairs? – Yes, Miss Brown.

Did she lend it without security? – Yes. She said she should never bother me for the principal as long as I paid the interest.

What was the rate of interest? – – Whatever profits the business made.

Did you sign an agreement? – No. Simply a note of hand.

He paid about £500 to go into the Station Hotel, and furnished the place with furniture belonging to his wife, who acquired it whilst in business as a milliner. He took over the lease of the hotel, and borrowed money from the bankers, who held the lease as security. With the outlay he was put to, he got further into debt at the hotel, and really could not carry on without borrowing money. Before he went there, and after he went in for the breeding of horses, and when he sold the lease of the hotel, there was practically enough to pay his debts, but he did not pay Miss Brown. He then took to the SUMMER HOUSE, to go into which he paid £260. Subsequently he borrowed money on the lease, but did not disclose the fact that he owed Miss Brown the money. He thought the sale of the SUMMER HOUSE was completed, and he took a house with stable at Hednesford. He removed the horses to the latter place but subsequently had them back again, they were eventually sold to Mr. Gilbert. They were Galloways.

Official Receiver: Were you known of the turf at all? – Debtor: No; I cannot say that I was.

Were you known by your own name, or someone else’s? – I never went by any other names.

Have you a registered name? – No.

Does Mr. Gilbert race in his own name? – Yes.

Did you ever run any of these horses? – One of them.

Did it come in first or last? – Last.

Was that intended? – No, the horse was left at the post.

Horses that run in these races are supposed to be worth some money? – Sometimes they are sold for £5.

That is when they go in a cab? – One was sold at Wolverhampton for £11, and won three races after.

He sold four brood horses to Mr. Gilbert for £100. A Galloway and a pony had been since run in races. He gave two brood mares away to save expenses, and because his sons decided not to have any more breeding mares. He sold a mare named ‘Polly’ privately last June, but did not know the person to whom it was sold. He sold it for £16, another mare for £3, and a horse for £12. He did not know who bought the latter; it was a neighbour whose name he did not ask.

The examination was closed.”

1901 Census

13, Gospel End

[1] *Thomas Osborne* (35), licensed victualler, born Kirk Langley, Derbyshire;

- [2] *Emily Osborne* (39), wife, born Wirksworth, Derbyshire;
[3] *Ethel Osborne* (15), daughter, barmaid, born Kirk Langley, Derbyshire;
[4] *Francis A. Osborne* (12), son, born Tamworth;
[5] *Bernard Osborne* (11), son, born Ashby Magna, Leicestershire;
[6] *Hilda Osborne* (6), daughter, born Yoxall, Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 25/2/1902

“Yesterday at the Police Court, before Mr. Neville (Stipendiary), Isaac Mayo, an ex-policeman, residing at Gospel End, was prosecuted by the Society for Cruelty to Animals for gross cruelty to a spaniel dog. On the 7th inst, a dog belonging to Mr. *Ben Turley*, of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, visited the defendant’s house, and defendant placed a piece of string around his own dog’s neck and tied the other to the tail of the spaniel. He afterwards sent the dogs into the lane, and for half an hour they struggled with each other to the amusement of children and much to the disgust of other spectators. The string was eventually broken and the spaniel appeared to be in great agony, and it was found that the animal’s tail was very much swollen. When remonstrated with defendant replied, ‘I only did it for fun.’

Mr. W. A. Foster, who defended, said the defendant had no intention of committing an act of cruelty, but he was bound to admit that he had acted foolishly.

The Stipendiary said but for the fact that defendant had hitherto borne a very good character he would have sent him to prison without the option of a fine. Defendant would be fined £3 and £1 1s 6d costs, or, in default, six weeks’ imprisonment.

Defendant: I hope you will allow me a month to pay the fine.

The Stipendiary: I will not allow you a day. If you can’t pay the fine you will go forthwith to prison.”

Lichfield Mercury 18/8/1905

“Mr. T. A. Stokes on Tuesday evening held an inquest at the SUMMER HOUSE HOTEL, Gospel End, Sedgley, with respect to the death of *Joseph Jeavons* (64), of Ounsdale, Wombourne, who had been killed when employed at the Baggeridge Wood Collieries, belonging to the Earl of Dudley, on the 13th inst.

Mr. John Newey (mining engineer) represented the Earl of Dudley, and Mr. Atkinson (Government Inspector) the Home Office. The evidence showed that on the morning in question, seven or eight men were employed by Mr. Ivor Morgan mechanical engineers, in the erection of a new permanent engine, and it was necessary to remove a crank shaft weighing 23 tons 15cwt with the aid of a gantry and pulley blocks. During the removal a stretching screw gave way, which caused the gantry to collapse. As a result the deceased was struck, and killed instantaneously.

Mr. Morgan, in reply to the Coroner, said the breaking strain of the block was 25 tons, but when the accident occurred it only had to sustain half that weight. When the hook was broken he saw that the iron of which it was made was short in fibre, and bore evidence of having been crystallised. It was impossible to detect the flaw internally.

The jury did not think anyone was to blame, and returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Lichfield Mercury 14/12/1906

“Staffordshire Autumn Assizes.

Frederick Wones, clerk, Green Hill, Wombourne, was indicted for having wounded *Thomas Wainwright* with intent to do grievous bodily harm, at Gospel End, on November 6. Mr. B. C. Brough prosecuted, and Mr. C. F. Vachell, KC, and Mr. R. J. Lawrence defended.

It appeared that prior to the day in question there had been differences between the parties, as a result of which the prisoner had conceived himself to be aggrieved by the prosecutor. On November 6th prosecutor went into the SUMMER HOUSE public-house, Gospel End and he found the prisoner there. Shortly afterwards the prisoner left the room, and the prosecutor followed with the intention of going home. He saw the prisoner outside the door of the public house talking to two lady companions. Prosecutor touched prisoner on the shoulder, and said he wanted to speak to him. Prisoner turned round and made a motion as if he was going to do something to the prosecutor, who noticed that he had an open knife in his hand. Finding the prisoner armed with a knife, prosecutor kicked out to prevent himself from attack. Prisoner went into the house, and prosecutor followed, and asked prisoner for the knife. Prisoner said he had no knife, and prosecutor insisted that he had. Prisoner came towards him, and then disclosed that he had a knife in his hand, and for the purpose of keeping the prisoner from him prosecutor put out his right leg, and prisoner struck it with the knife, inflicting a serious wound.

Prosecutor, in cross-examination, stated that he had had fights with various people, and he might have bitten them, but he added that none of the persons had summoned him.

At the conclusion of the case for the prosecution, Mr. Vachell asked if there was any case to go to the jury, and his lordship asked the jury whether they thought prisoner acted, under the circumstances, in reasonable self-defence.

After a short consultation the jury took this view of the case, and returned a verdict of not guilty.”

1911 Census

SUMMERHOUSE INN

- [1] *George Harrison* (69), widower, publican, born West Bromwich;
[2] *Agnes Burden* (74), sister, housekeeper, born West Bromwich;
[3] *Annie Groom* (32), barmaid, born Devonshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/4/1914

“An inquest was held at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Sedgley, yesterday on *James Knowles* (45), horse driver, of Park Road,

Netherton, who was fatally injured while at work at the Baggeridge Colliery.

John Price, a pikeman, said that on Wednesday Knowles was employed taking tubs from his stall to a place about 150 yards away. As he was a long time away witness made a search and found Knowles pinned between a tub and the side of the road. His neck was broken. The only way he could account for the accident was that the horse had backed and kicked him. The space between the tub and the side of the road was six inches.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

South Staffordshire Times 22/5/1920

“Thomas Hickman, Gospel End, was summoned by *Samuel Heath*, landlord of the SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End, for refusing to quit licensed premises on May 9th and further with assaulting him.

The complainant said that the defendant came into his house at 6.45pm on the date named, and was served with a glass of beer.

Mrs. *Heath* served him with it, and he then began to use very bad language though he was not the worse for drink, and he refused to desist. He sent for a constable, and one came after the defendant left, but he returned again, refused to go, and when he was to go the man struck at him but did not hit him.

Mrs. *Heath* gave corroborative evidence, adding that she had cautioned him several times, but he had been in the army and took no notice.

The Magistrates' Clerk: You seem to think that everyone who has been in the army swears; well, they say they do.

PC Baker deposed that when he saw defendant in the smoke room of the Inn he was using very bad language, and was under the influence of drink. When he was sober there was not a quieter man in Gospel End, and he always behaved himself when he saw a policeman. (Laughter.)

The defendant said he had had some beer at Wombourne, where he met friends.

The Magistrates Clerk: And you got more at Gospel End.

For refusing to quit he was fined 20s, the other charge was not pressed.”

South Staffordshire Times 8/10/1921

“*Samuel Heath*, SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, was charged with selling liquor to a man in a drunken condition, and also doing the same on unlicensed premises.

Superintendent John Higgs, of Bilston stated that at 7.55 on the 8th ult, he had left the Gospel End Police Station, and was walking along the main road to Sedgley, when he noticed a horse and trap, apparently coming from Baggeridge, driving furiously and in a zig-zag fashion along the road. There were children about at the time, and it was very dangerous. The occupant of the trap was leaning forward, and was evidently in a drunken condition. The trap turned down to the SUMMER HOUSE INN, which was kept by the defendant, and the man in the trap called twice for a drink. The landlord came out with a glass of beer, for which the man in the trap, who was named Hughes, gave him some coppers. Witness shouted to the defendant twice not to give Hughes the drink, but the man had already drunk some of the beer. He (witness) then said, ‘I am a superintendent of police,’ and *Heath* took the beer back, and returned the money to Hughes. The latter was then taken to Sedgley Police Station, where on September 12th he was fined 20s. The next day he (the superintendent) visited *Heath* at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, and told him what had occurred to Hughes. Defendant said that he did not think the man was drunk, as his back was towards him, but when he got out the trap he could see Hughes was not sober.

Samuel Heath, the defendant, in the witness box said that he did not know Hughes, and on the date in question he could only see the man's back and did not notice he was drunk. He heard the man call twice for a drink and took it out to him. When Supt. Higgs arrived, he did not know he was a police officer, as he was in plain clothes. With regard to the charge of selling off licensed premises, it was only four or five yards from the door, and he had always taken a drink out to people driving or on horseback. He did not think he was doing wrong.

Defendant was fined 40s on the first charge and 60s on the second.”

[Hughes was the licensee of the FOXYARDS.]

South Staffordshire Times 10/2/1922

“Bilston Licensing Sessions.

Mr. R. Tildesley on behalf of *William [sic] Astley*, licensee of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, applied for an alteration in opening hours. He said that the house was situated near to the Baggeridge Wood Colliery, and it was largely used by the miners employed there. Many of these men left their ‘shifts’ at 2pm, just too late to get refreshment at the inn, because the present hours were from 12 to 2.30. The licensee was desirous of having these hours varied, and to be open from 11.30 till 3. He had a petition signed by 50 colliers in favour of the application. Similar applications had been granted in other colliery districts. Supt. Higgs suggested that the alteration was not necessary, and pointed out that some of those who had signed the petition lived at distances away from the inn. He thought their wives could purchase beer for them at their own places and have it ready for when the men arrived home.

Mr. Tildesley: But these men want refreshment as soon as they leave the pit, where they have to stay for eight hours.

The Chairman said the application would be refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/2/1923

“Bilston. Mr. R. Hickman presided at the annual licensing sessions on Feb. 9th....

An application for modification of the opening hours at the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, for the benefit of miners at Baggeridge Colliery, was refused.”

1939 Register

13, Gospel End

[1] *John Cowley*, date of birth 17/1/1880, public house keeper, married;

[2] Clara Cowley, dob 9/10/1880, incapacitated, married;

[3] Mary (Cowley) Cross, dob 12/12/1926, at school, single:

Bognor Regis Observer 13/11/1948 - Notice

“Re *John Cowley* (deceased). Pursuant to the Trustees Act, 1825.

Notice is hereby Given that all creditors and others having any claims against the estate of the late *John Cowley* late of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, near Wolverhampton, who died on the 31st day of January, 1948, and whose will was proved in the Birmingham District Probate Registry on the 28th day of September, 1948, by Midland Bank Executor and Trustee Company Limited the Executors therein named are required to send particulars thereof to the Midland Bank Executor and Trustee Company Limited of 33, Bennetts Hill, Birmingham on or before the 17th day of January, 1949, after which date the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets having regard only to claims of which they shall then have had notice and will not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part thereof so distributed to any person whose claims or demands they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this Fifth day of November, 1948.

A. C. Skidmore & Co., Solicitors to the said Executors. 44, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/9/1960

“Other Wills.....

Hancox, Horace, of Penn Road, Gospel End, Sedgley, haulage contractor and licensee of the SUMMER HOUSE, Gospel End – £7,895 (£7,342 net).”

Horace Hancox (1) – see also RED LION, Lower Gornal.

Graham Deakin married Janet on 21st July 1973.

He died in June 1998.

John Coombes = John Combes = John Coombs

John Coombes was married to Pauline.

He was born c.1954.

It was famous for its Christmas decorations from 2000. [2017]

Express & Star 14/11/2013

“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas in a quiet corner of the Black Country after more than 600 people turned up to a pub as it switched on its festive lights. Festive songs are already playing and hundreds of lights have been switched on at a pub which always makes sure Christmas is extra magical. The SUMMER HOUSE, in Gospel End Road, Sedgley, has opened its annual Christmas lights display.

Landlord *John Coombs* said it was the biggest yet, as more than 600 people flocked to the switch-on. This year the display has been computerised to give it a fresh twist. Around £1,800 has been spent on buying a customised computer system to link all the main lit-up figures. It has been installed using more than 1,600ft of cable to synchronise the display which adorns the front of the pub. Nine flashing snowmen have been put on the pub roof, glowing with ever-changing lights. A winter wonderland with around a dozen real Christmas trees positioned outside and festive penguins has been set up for youngsters to explore. The display boasts more than 25,000 bulbs but many have been replaced with energy-efficient LED lights.

Mr *Coombs*, aged 59, rallies the support of his family including his brother James who scaled the pub roof to hang lights up and his computer-whizz son Chris who set up the system over the last six weeks. Sculpted archways with shimmering lights and a giant tree with 6,000 LED lights welcome people inside the pub. The display launched on Sunday and will be on every night through the festive season.”

Philip Kennedy was married to *Karen*.

He was born c.1963.

Dudley 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 Dudley 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 Dudley town centre.....

SUMMERHOUSE, Gospel End Road, Sedgley.”

Express & Star 29/12/2021

“A host of pubs across the Black Country have been forced to close during one of the busiest periods of the year. Covid cases among staff members have left many pubs unable to remain open and meet the demand of the run up to the new year. It comes after Health Secretary Sajid Javid announced there will be no further Covid restrictions introduced before the turn of the year. People were however urged to be ‘cautious,’ to consider testing themselves beforehand and to celebrate outside.....

The SUMMERHOUSE in Sedgley and the Hussey Arms in Brownhills have also taken the difficult decision to temporarily close during what is normally one of the busiest periods of the year. The Hussey Arms, a Hungry Horse pub, said it would not be back open this week while the SUMMERHOUSE said it would be shut for at least 48 hours from Wednesday and would not reopen ‘until we are certain that there is no risk of infection for others.’”

Express & Star 2/6/2023

“A couple whose eyes met over the bar of the pub they ended up running for nine years are calling time on their venture. *Karen* and *Phil Kennedy* are stepping back from running the SUMMERHOUSE in Gospel End, Sedgley. In *Karen*’s case she has served 25 years behind the bar at the Gospel End hostelry after starting out as a barmaid in 1998 then becoming a relief manager and taking the reins in 2014. The couple met shortly after *Karen* started working at the pub when *Phil*, a former HGV driver, was a customer. They went on to have two children, James aged 21 and Zoe, aged 17. James helps out with the pub’s website and Zoe makes cakes which appear on the menu. *Karen* said she and *Phil* felt it was time to step down after ‘giving their all’ over the last nine years. Having worked there herself for a lot longer she said she would miss all the customers and staff who had supported them and that the couple had got to know as friends. She said, ‘It is a good pub, we are leaving at the end of June with it in a healthy position for the next tenants. It has been challenging through Covid and the cost of living crisis but we have come through it and the pub is doing ok. I have been here for a long time and given that, feel it is time to chill a little bit and plan the next move with *Phil*. At the moment we are not sure what that will be but it would be nice to have a job which you can leave at home at the end of the shift because it is long hours running a pub, though rewarding. But we have so many wonderful memories over the years of the place and will take them with us when we go and we live in the area hope to still see the regulars, just from the other side of the bar.’

Customers plan to give the retiring couple a good send off before they leave, with over 80 messages on the pub’s Facebook page wishing them well after the announcement.”

Express & Star 2/7/2023

“A Black Country couple have said it ‘feels like home’ after taking over the management of a pub where they met. *Amy* and *Rory Harper* were handed the keys to the SUMMERHOUSE pub in Dudley on Wednesday, where they celebrated with customers both new and old. The pair have a long history with the pub, with *Rory*’s parents – John and Pauline – taking over management for 14 years until 2014, with *Rory* having moved into the building at the age of 12. *Amy* was working as a bar manager at the age of 20 when she met her future husband, who was the manager of the kitchen at the time. The couple now share three children together. The pair went on to briefly take over the WHITE LION in Sedgley, before *Amy* fell pregnant with their first child and they chose to return to the SUMMERHOUSE under the management of previous owners *Karen* and *Phil Kennedy*, another couple who met at the pub.

Amy, who is 38, said, ‘We feel really honoured to have been given the opportunity to run the pub and we hope it will be a success – we have all worked as a family team since day one. A lot of people came from the village to support us, a lot of locals are happy for us to take over. It was absolutely fantastic, we had an absolutely massive turnout of old and new customers – the support from everybody was incredible. We worked here with *Karen* and *Phil* and when the pub came up to lease we thought it was our chance to shine – it feels like home.’

The pair said they are ‘looking forward’ to making some additions to the venue including an outdoor pizza oven and a children’s play area. Although, some traditions will be upheld, as they plan to carry on the annual Christmas light switch-on which has been taking place at the pub for around 20 years.”

[2023]

SUMMER HOUSE

67, (10), Sedgley Road, (10, Sedgley Row), (10, Tipton Road), Foxyards, WOODSETTON

OWNERS

David Hill, lime merchant, Baggeridge

John Smith (acquired on 7th July 1864 for £700)

Jesse Hyde, quarry master, Upper Gornal (acquired in 1901 for £1,030)

Suzannah Hyde, 35 Sedgley Road, Woodsetton.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired on 25th March 1920 for £2,350)

Marstons plc

LICENSEES

Richard Mills [1859] – **1883**);
Abraham Mills [1883]
Thomas Darby (**1883 – 1888**);
Abraham Mills (**1888 – 1891**);
Thomas Ellett (**1891 – 1893**);
William Henry Hill (**1893 – 1901**);
Jesse Hyde (**1901 – 1902**);
Suzannah Hyde (**1902 – 1910**);
Edwin Alfred Holden (**1910 – 1920**);
William Henry Jones (**1920 – 1921**);
Albert Whitworth Cheesham (**1921 – 1922**);
Arthur Roberts (**1922 – 1923**);
Joseph William Nightingale (**1923 – 1925**);
James Henry Hill (**1925 – 1926**);
Joseph Guttridge (**1926 – 1930**);
Vincent Arthur Reynolds (**1930 – 1932**);
Mrs. Florence Reynolds (**1932 – [1940]**)
Steve Stevens []
Steven Hoare [2000]
Robert Thomas [2012]
Mick Scrannage [2015]

NOTES

10, Tipton Road [1871]
10, Sedgley Road [1891], [1901], [1902], [1939], [1940]
67, Sedgley Road [1996]

It had a beerhouse license.

It was a home brew house [pre 1910]
The brewery was at the rear of the pub.

It had prize fighting connections.

1861 Census

Swan Village – SUMMER HOUSE INN

- [1] *Richard Mills* (45), coal miner, born Tipton;
- [2] *Julia Mills* (47), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Richard Mills* (22), son, coal miner, born Tipton;
- [4] *William Mills* (14), son, coal miner, born Tipton;
- [5] *Julia Mills* (12), daughter, scholar, born Tipton;
- [6] *Abraham Mills* (9), son, scholar, born Tipton;
- [7] *Maria Tompson* (17), house servant, born Sedgley:

London Gazette 18/10/1861

“Whereas a Petition of *Richard Mills*, now and for two and a half years and upwards last past residing at the SUMMER HOUSE Beerhouse, at the Fox Yards, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, and carrying on there the trades or businesses of a Beerhouse Keeper, Brewer, and Dealer in Tobacco, and for one year and five months or thereabouts prior thereto residing at the JOLLY COLLIER Beerhouse, in Hall-street, Tipton, in the said county of Stafford, and carrying on there the same trades or businesses, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, at Dudley, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *Richard Mills*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *Richard Mills* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 5th day of November 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 the choice of the creditors’ assignees is to take place at the time so appointed. All persons indebted to the said *Richard Mills*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Thomas Walker, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at the Court-house, Priory-street, Dudley, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 2/2/1862

“P. Smith of Littleworth, near Coseley, will fly a pigeon against E. Langford, from Evesham station or Stafford station, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready any night next week, at *Mill's*, the SUMMER HOUSE, Sedgley Road.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/10/1863

“*Richard Mills*, of Woodsetton, for keeping his beerhouse open after eleven o'clock on the 29th ultimo, was fined 1s and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/4/1866

“At the Police Court, on Monday, *Richard Mills*, a beerseller, of the Foxyards, was fined £12 10s and costs, for selling a glass of rum to a man from Willenhall. Mr. Allcorn, supervisor, appeared for the Inland Revenue authorities. Mr. Spooner declined to recommend a mitigation of the fine.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 29/8/1868

“J. Morris of Tipton will match his dog Shot against Bradley's Catch of Kingswinford, and give one rabbit in 21 courses, for £5 or £10 a side. Money ready at Mr. *R. Mills's*, the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Fox Yards.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/1/1871

“Having heard of Michel's Fly being matched with Burrow's Lass, *R. Mills* is willing to match his Quick for £15 a side, rabbits for pounds; or White Billie of Coseley can have a match for £15, at 25³/₄lb. Dog and money ready at *R. Mills's*, SUMMER HOUSE, Woodsetton, Dudley.”

1871 Census

10, Tipton Road

- [1] *Richard Mills* (60), publican, born Tipton;
- [2] Julia Mills (56), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] William Mills (24), son, miner, born Tipton;
- [4] Julia Mills (22), daughter, born Tipton;
- [5] Abraham Mills (18), son, labourer, born Sedgley;
- [6] Julia Whitehouse (16), granddaughter, born Tipton;
- [7] Isaac Mills (4), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;

Richard Mills, beer retailer, Woodsetton. [1872]

Dudley Herald 6/5/1876 - Advert

“For Sale, a strong Fruiterer's Cart.
Apply, SUMMER HOUSE, Fox Yards, or Isaac Whitehouse, Owen Street, Tipton.”

1881 Census

10, Sedgley Row

- [1] *Richard Mills* (70), widower, licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] Richard Mills (42), son, coal miner, born Tipton;
- [3] Jane Mills (34), daughter in law, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Mills (15), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Leah Mills (13), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Helen Mills (11), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] William Mills (7), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Eliza Mills (5), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Edmund Mills (3), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [10] James Mills (1), grandson, born Sedgley;

Dudley and District News 22/9/1883

“Dudley County Court. Thursday. Before Sir Rupert Kettle, Judge.

An Interpleader Case. Cartwright and Son, Upper Gornal, were the judgement creditors, *Abraham Mills*, publican, Woodsetton, the claimant; and *Richard Mills*, of the same place defendant – Mr. Alfred Whitehouse (Messrs. T. J. and A. Whitehouse) appeared for the claimant, and Mr. Hugo Young, barrister-at-law, of the execution creditors.

Mr. *Mills* claimed the goods seized on licensed premises newly entered upon by him under a warrant of the Court, as being his property, and a portion of the goods mentioned in the second part of the schedule of particulars of claim, on the ground that he purchased them from *Richard Mills*, his father, who was previously in possession of the SUMMERHOUSE INN, and upon whom the order of the Court was made. For the last mentioned goods he paid his father £38 15s 0d. The transfer of the house, and payment of the money, were made in the presence of Mr. James Brown, a valuer, of Tipton, and agent to the owner of the house. The claimant was accepted as tenant, and the transfer of license was duly obtained. In giving evidence the claimant said the goods mentioned in the first part of the schedule were never the property of his father at all. They were purchased by him some eleven years ago, when he was married, and were removed by him to the SUMMERHOUSE, when he took possession with his wife and

family. Previous to entering the house he lived with his father something like six months. As soon as he entered into possession his name was painted on the sign as occupier. The bailiffs seized everything in the house.

On being cross-examined by Mr. Young, claimant admitted that previous to his becoming a publican he was a pit labourer receiving 3s 6d a day.

James Smith, miner, of Woodsetton, deposed to lending claimant £40 on promissory note. He had received £10 on account.

By Mr. Young: He had not lent a paid labourer £40 before.

For the defence Mr. Young said he did not dispute that the £38 15s was passed in the presence of Mr. Brown, that the claimant's name was put over the door of the house, that the license was transferred to him, and that he was accepted as landlord; but upon the face of the case there was the question as to whether there was an honest transfer, or whether it was an arrangement to deprive the creditors of the goods of the father. Here was the claimant living several months with his father, and when the creditors came his name was put over the door. They thus shuffled the cards, and by thus juggling thought to lead his Honour to give a verdict against the creditors. The small amount of £38 15s given for the goods stamped the transaction as being not an honest one.

Mr. Cartwright, maltster, who had been in the habit of supplying malt to the claimant's father was called for the defence, and he said he was prepared to give £80 for that which the son had given £38 15s.

His Honour gave a verdict for the claimant."

1891 Census

10, Sedgley Road

- [1] *Abraham Mills* (38), coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Amelia Mills* (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Joseph Mills* (18), son, iron moulder, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Emma Mills* (15), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Frederick Mills* (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Gertrude Mills* (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Berty Mills* (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Abraham Mills* (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Frank Mills* (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [10] *Amelia Mills* (2 months), daughter, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

10, Sedgley Road

- [1] *Jesse Hyde* (36), sand merchant, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Hyde* (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Victor Hyde* (13), adopted son, born Rotherham;
- [4] *Agnes Harris* (18), adopted daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Sarah J. Witton* (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

Jesse Hyde died on 4th September 1902.

Tipton Herald 12/12/1903

"Joseph Wassell, Swan Village, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Sedgley Road, Coseley, on the 21st ult.

PC Meekin deposed to seeing the defendant go in the public house, and he followed him in. He spoke to the landlady about his condition, and she replied, 'All right, I know I'm not going to fill him any.' He then left the house and took defendant home.

Defendant denied the allegations, and called a witness named Whitehouse, who stated that defendant had had enough, but was capable of taking care of himself.

Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs."

An inquest was held here in 1910.

1911 Census

Sedgley Road – SUMMER HOUSE INN

- [1] *Edwin Alfred Holden* (34), licensed victualler, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Blanche Holden* (32), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Edwin Alfred Holden* (3), son, born Dudley:

Edwin Holden, beer retailer, Sedgley Road, Woodsetton. [1912], [1916]

Edwin Alfred Holden was fined 10s and costs, on 28th April 1919, for permitting beer to be consumed after permitted hours, and a further 10s for failing to keep a fixed copy of the Order of the Liquor Control Board.

South Staffordshire Times 7/2/1920

"Bilston Licensing Sessions....

On the application of Mr. J. A. Shepard, Dudley, the license of the SUMMER HOUSE, Woodsetton, was renewed to *Edwin Hold-*

en, against whom two convictions had been recorded during the year.”

It was the headquarters of Woodsetton Villa FC. [1922]

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/1/1932

“The death of *Vincent Arthur Reynolds* (40), licensed victualler, of the SUMMER HOUSE INN, Woodsetton, was the subject of an inquest by the Borough Coroner, on Tuesday. It appeared from the evidence that on the night of Jan. 15 the bicycle Mr. *Reynolds* was riding ran into a pedestrian from behind in Ladymoor Road, Coseley. The pedestrian was knocked down and *Reynolds* came off his machine. Both were taken to the Royal Hospital, where *Reynolds*, who had a fractured skull, died on Sunday without regaining consciousness. The jury found the death was due to an Accident.”

1939 Register

10, Sedgley Road – SUMMER HOUSE INN

[1] *Florence Reynolds*, date of birth 26/4/1891, beer license, widowed;

[3] Annie Wall, dob 1/7/1863, pensioner, unpaid domestic duties, widowed;

[4] Mary E. M. Wall, dob 12/4/1889, unpaid domestic duties, single:

It was demolished in September 2017.

Express & Star 6/9/2017

“Just a pile of a rubble remains where the once popular SUMMERHOUSE Pub stood. Despite a fierce campaign to save it from the bulldozers the pub has been demolished to make way for a store. Dudley Council unanimously objected to the demolition of the SUMMERHOUSE Pub in Woodsetton, but a planning inspectorate overturned its decision and now it is believed a mini-supermarket could be built in its place on Sedgley Road. Piles of rubble now lie where the pub has stood for more than a century. It is thought to date back to the late 19th century and served generations of families over the years. Now work is set to get under way by developers.

The pub used to be part of Black Country brewery Holdens. It was owned by the family in the early 1900s.

Upper Gornal and Woodsetton councillor Dean Perks called the planning inspectorate’s ruling ‘diabolical’. Councillor Perks said, ‘The pub was probably the oldest one in the village. It was the last proper pub for four miles. The SUMMERHOUSE was a typical English pub that you could go in and have a quiet drink.’ He added, ‘I think the planning inspectorate has got a job to do when a decision is close. But when a unanimous decision is made, representing the feelings of the community, is overturned, it is diabolical’.”

A supermarket was built on the site.

SWAN

17, Darkhouse Lane, (Dark Lane), Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

Thomas Baker

John Baker, innkeeper, Bilston Street, Cinderhill

Edward Sidney Wilson, maltster, Ackleton

Woodhouse Brothers, Alma Brewery, Dudley

Julia Hanson and Son Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Baker [1841] – [1867]

Benjamin Jones [1861] – [1862]

John Baker [1868] – 1871);

Thomas Baker (1871 – 1873);

John Baker (1873 – 1886);

Paul Lewis (1886 – 1889);

John Baker (1889 – 1900);

Joseph William Garratt (1900 – 1906);

George William Davies (1906 – 1914);

Thomas Alfred Holmes (1914 – 1915);

Harry Baker (1915 – 1920);

Fanny Maria Baker [1915]
Stanley Shotton (1920 – 1921);
Isaac Baker (1921 – 1924);
Isaiah Rogers (1924 – 1929);
Evelyn Maud Rogers (1929 – 1936);
Ernest Howell (1936 – 1938);
George Parton (1938);
Robert Harvey (1938 – []
George Parton [1940]

NOTES

Dark Lane [1862]

OLD SWAN [1866]

WHITE SWAN [1873]

1841 Census

Deepfields

- [1] *Thomas Baker* (35), victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Phebe Baker (30), born Staffordshire;
- [3] W. Henry Baker (13), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *John Baker* (10), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Eliza Baker (8), born Staffordshire;
- [6] Elizabeth Baker (6), born Staffordshire;
- [7] Margaret Baker (1), born Staffordshire;
- [8] Jacob Carter (25), miner, born Staffordshire;
- [9] Mary Peplow (25), fs, born Staffordshire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 6/6/1841

“William Fletcher will back his dog Bounce, 36lb, against any dog in England not exceeding that weight, for from £10 to £25. His money is ready at *Thomas Baker’s*, the SWAN INN, Deepfield; or Hancock’s house, Mummel Square, near Bilston, Staffordshire.”

1851 Census

Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *Thomas Baker* (46), beer seller, born Kingswinford;
- [2] Phebe Baker (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Henry Baker (22), son, moulder, born Kingswinford;
- [4] *John Baker* (20), son, moulder, born Kingswinford;
- [5] Eliza Baker (19), daughter, barmaid, born Kingswinford;
- [6] Elizabeth Baker (15), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [7] Margret Baker (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Deborah Baker (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Sophia Hurst (22), house servant, born Sedgley;
- [10] Abraham Carter (31), lodger, miner, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/8/1851

“The annual assembly of magistrates for granting victuallers’ licenses within the hundred of Seisdon North, took place on Thursday last, at the Magistrates’ Office, Bilston Street.....

There were thirty-six applications for new licenses, thirty of which were refused, and one deferred (that of Elisha White, Daisy Bank, Sedgley), and five granted, viz.....

Mr. *Thomas Baker*, retail brewer, Deepfield, Sedgley, sign of the SWAN.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/2/1856

“On Friday last, while John Bishop was engaged in brewing at Mr. *Baker’s*, the SWAN INN, Deepfields, he fell over some coal into the cooler, and was scalded most severely. He was conveyed to the South Staffordshire Hospital, where his case is receiving every attention.”

Birmingham Journal 22/1/1859 - Married

“Lately, at Christ Church, Coseley (by the Rev. R. Y. Rooker) Mr. William Page, jun, timber merchant of Moxley, to Margaret Maria, the third daughter of Mr. *Thomas Baker*, of the SWAN INN, Coseley.”

Birmingham Journal 21/4/1860 - Married

“On the 16th inst, at the High Church, Dudley (by the Rev. Dr. Brown) Mr. *Thomas Baker*, of the SWAN INN, Deepfields, near Bilston, to Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr. Thomas Goode, farmer, of Erdington.”

1861 Census

Darkhouse Lane – SWAN INN

- [1] *Benjamin Jones* (39), victualler and labourer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ruth Jones (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Eli Jones (16), son, moulder in iron foundry, born Sedgley;
- [4] Abel Jones (13), son, moulder in iron foundry, born Sedgley;
- [5] Mary Ann Jones (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Catherine Jones (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Benjamin Jones (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] Eliza Taylor (23), house servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 22/12/1866

“*Thomas Baker*, licensed victualler, the OLD SWAN, Sedgley, was charged with having on Sunday the 9th of December, opened his house before half past twelve o’ clock, namely at ten minutes past fined 1s and costs.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court..... The following is the list of the licensed victuallers who have been fined during the year. Permitting Drunkenness *John Baker*, SWAN, Sedgley, to pay costs.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 17/8/1870

“At the Police Court, yesterday, before the Stipendiary (Mr. Isaac Spooner) *Jno. Baker*, of the SWAN INN, Dark Lane, Coseley, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house. Sergeant Harris stated that on Monday week last he went into defendant’s house and saw several drunken persons inside. Defendant was fined £5.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

“The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston..... All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30 Licensed Victuallers.....
John Baker, SWAN, Coseley.”

1871 Census

17, Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *Thomas Baker* (65), licensed victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] Elizabeth Baker (50), wife, born Warwickshire;
- [3] *John Baker* (41), widower, son, moulder, born Staffordshire;
- [4] Abraham John Baker (10), son, scholar, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Abraham Goode (53), lodger, carpenter, born Warwickshire;
- [6] Selina Selvester (15), domestic servant, born Newbold on Avon:

Worcester Journal 22/7/1876

“At Sedgley the Excise authorities of that place charged a number of innkeepers before the stipendiary magistrate with having large quantities of sugar without licenses in unentered premises, for the purpose of defrauding the revenue. Mr. Percival, of the ROYAL HOTEL; Mr. King Jevons, PRINCE OF WALES; and Mr. *Baker*, of the SWAN, at Sedgley, were each fined £50. The stipendiary refused to recommend any abatement of the penalties.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 29/7/1876

“A few days ago Mr. Spooner fined three publicans named Thomas Percival, William King Jevons, and *John Baker*, of Coseley, £50 each for having used sugar without licences, and refused to give a recommendation for the mitigation of the penalties imposed, owing to the Inland Revenue Board ignoring his previous recommendation. The publicans took steps themselves to get a mitigation of the penalties, and on Wednesday a letter was received stating that the fines would be reduced from £50 to £20.”

Dudley Herald 29/7/1876

“The penalties of £50 inflicted upon Mr. Percival, of the ROYAL HOTEL, Coseley, Mr. K. Jevon, of the PRINCE OF WALES, Coseley, and Mr. *John Baker*, of the SWAN INN, Deepfields, for having in their possession large quantities of sugar without a license, have, in consequence of a memorial addressed to the Inland Revenue Department, been mitigated to £20 each, the amount included the costs incidental to the prosecution.”

1881 Census

17, Darkhouse Lane

- [1] *John Baker* (50), innkeeper, born Deepfields;
- [2] Sarah Baker (47), wife, born Deepfields;
- [3] Sarah Nichols (17), general servant, born Deepfields:

Worcester Chronicle 11/10/1884

“On Monday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips (South Staffordshire Coroner) held an inquest at SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley, on the bodies of Robert Berry (62), Gough Street, and James Wylde (28), Fullwoods Road, who had been found dead on the London and North Western Railway, at Deepfields. Inspector Ponderson and Mr. G. H. Stokes, of Birmingham, attended the inquest on behalf of the London and North Western Railway Company. Joseph Butler, goods agent, stated that the deceased had been in the employ of the London and North Western Railway Company, Wylde as van-driver and Berry as ostler. The men should have gone to their work on the turnpike road, but he believed it had been customary for them to walk to work on the railway. He had never cautioned them not to walk on the line, but he had given them the company’s rules, which prohibited their walking on the line.

William Rostance, engine driver, Stafford, said that when driving an engine from Deepfields to Ettingshall, the engine jerked, and at the same time he saw a man’s cap pass over the engine. He immediately shut off steam, and upon stopping the engine he walked down the line and found the dead bodies of two men, the one being twelve yards from the other. The young man’s head was badly fractured and the old man’s body was badly crushed. There was plenty of room for the men to walk on the side of the railway. James Mosedale, guard, said there was plenty of room for men to walk with safety on the embankment of either the up or down line. William Tatton station master, at Deepfields, said that Berry had been in the employ of the railway company upwards of thirty years, and Wylde four years. He had several times cautioned Berry not to walk on the line. He had, however, never reported to his superiors that workmen were in the habit of walking up and down the line to their work.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and recommended that managers in the employ of the company should in future enforce the rules which have been provided.”

1891 Census

17, Darkhouse Lane – SWAN INN

- [1] *John Baker* (60), licensed victualler, born Pensnett;
- [2] Mary Baker (53), wife, born Rotherham;
- [3] Minnie Smith (17), niece, barmaid, born Bilston;
- [4] Ann Makin (19), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 16/2/1892

“Yesterday, at the SWAN INN, near the Deepfields Station, Mr. W. H. Philips, coroner, held an inquest on the body of William Stead, a painter, a native of Suffolk, who was killed by an express train on Friday afternoon, while painting a bridge. Mr. Tatton, stationmaster at Deepfields and Coseley, represented the London and North Western Railway Company. Robert Barnaby, a cousin of the deceased, identified the body, and said that Stead had only worked for the company a week. Joseph Bate, a fellow-worker, said the deceased and he were chipping the old painting off a bridge, and Stead went to have his hammer repaired. He was returning to his work, and stooped down on the line to talk to a workman beneath the bridge. The Birmingham express came up, and upon hearing the shouting and the whistling Stead stood up, but before he could get out of the way the train was upon him. His body was terribly mangled, the top of his head being cut off, and his limbs severed from his body. The engine driver of the train said he pulled up as quickly as possible, but deceased was under the wheels in a second or so. The jury did not attach blame to anyone, and returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1901 Census

17, Darkhouse Lane – SWAN INN

- [1] *J. W. Garratt* (36), publican, born Tunstall, Staffordshire;
- [2] Eliza Garratt (45), wife, born Willenhall;
- [3] James M. Flood (20), nephew, bricklayer, born Bridgnorth:

Tipton Herald 7/3/1903

“Sedgley Licensing Sessions SWAN, Deepfields.

Objection was raised on the grounds that the license was not required; difficult of police supervision.

Mr. W. A. Foster said the owners had built a wall making the property self-contained.

Superintendent Walters said the work had been done according to the plans, and he was satisfied.

The license was renewed.”

1911 Census

Deepfields – SWAN INN

- [1] *George W. Davies* (38), brewer, public house, born Sedgley;
- [2] Sarah Ann Davies (37), wife, married 16 years, housewife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Lily Davies (14), daughter, assists in business, born Sedgley;
- [4] Percy Davies (8), son, school, born Sedgley:

George Davies was also a brewer.

County Express 19/7/1913 - Advert

“Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Fourteen Freehold Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, in and around Coseley, Bilston, Darlaston, Sedgley, and Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the STAR AND GARTER HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, July 22nd, 1913, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, as follows.....

Lot 1. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. *Davies*, together with the Two Dwelling Houses adjoining, being Nos.10 and 16, Darkhouse Lane.

Lot 2. The PAINTERS ARMS INN, Avenue Road, Coseley (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. *Davies*.

Lot 3. The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. John Groves.

Lot 4. The IVY HOUSE INN, Ivy House Lane, Coseley (fully-licensed) as occupied by Mr. Cahill or his under-tenant, together with the Dwelling House, Numbered 23, Ivy House Lane, occupying a large area of land.

Lot 5. The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-on), as let to Mr. G. W. *Davies*.

Lot 6. The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), extending to and fronting Union Street, with large area of Land, as occupied by Mr. Eli Cresswell.

Lot 6a. Union Street. Two Unnumbered Dwelling Houses adjoining the above, with large walled-in Yard and Outbuildings, as let to John Beaton and David Lloyd.

Lot 7. The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Sarah Hughes.

Lot 8. The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston(Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. John Morgan, with the Five Dwelling Houses, being No.38, California Street, and Nos.1 to 7 (odd numbers), at the rear of same.

Lot 9. The PRINCE OF WALES, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Thomas Burfoot.

Lot 10. The NEW INN, The Green (opposite Horton Street), Darlaston (6-day Licence Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mrs. Snape.

Lot 11. The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (fully-licensed), as let to Mr. Enoch Smart.

Lot 11a. Nos.90 and 91, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal. Two Excellent Cottages adjoining the above, with pleasant Gardens and the usual Outbuildings.

Lot 12. The SHAKESPEARE INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. Isaac Smart.

Lot 13. The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-on), as occupied by Mr. Joshua Bradley.

Lot 14. The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (fully-licensed), as occupied by Mr. John Johnson, with the Dwelling House, No.14 adjoining.

Auctioneers' Notes: The foregoing 14 Licensed Houses, 6 of which are Fully-licensed and 8 On-Beerhouses, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time, and are situate in well-populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of the largest works in Staffordshire.

The Houses are held either on short tenancies or under management, and in most cases possession may be had of the goodwill of the various businesses upon completion of the purchases; a fine opportunity therefore presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage, or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade. The Houses as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, and doing genuine trades.

Further detailed particulars may be obtained from of Messrs. Hall, Pratt and Pritchard, Solicitors, Bilston; or the Auctioneers, Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 8/5/1915 - Advert

“Under A Deed Of Assignment.

Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.

Preliminary Announcement Of Sale By Auction of Eleven Freehold, Fully-Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises & Dwelling Houses in and around Darlaston, Sedgley, Coseley, Bilston, Tipton, Ackleton, and Bridgnorth.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from R. H. Jonson, Esq. (Messrs. Muras and Co., Chartered Accountants, Wolverhampton), the Trustees as above, to Sell by Auction early in June, the following Properties.

The PRINCE OF WALES INN, Walsall Road, between Darlaston and Wednesbury (Beerhouse-On).

The MINERS ARMS INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal (Fully Licensed), and Two Cottages.

The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (Fully Licensed), and Two Dwelling Houses.

The BARLEY MOW INN, Oxford Street, Bilston (Beerhouse-On).

The ROLLING MILL INN, Millfield Road, Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and Two Cottages.

The CALIFORNIA INN, Hatton Street, Bradley, near Bilston (Beerhouse-On), and five Dwelling Houses.

The BOAT INN, Boat Row, off Park Lane West, Tipton (Fully Licensed).

The RED LION INN, Castle Street, Coseley, (Beerhouse-On).

The SUMMER HOUSE INN, School Street, Roseville, Coseley (Beerhouse-On).

The CABIN INN, Kent Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse-On).

The Folly Inn, Ackleton, 5½ miles from Bridgnorth and Albrighton, and about 10 miles from Wolverhampton (Beerhouse-On), with Cottage Residence.

The Castle Brewery, Bridgnorth, with Fixed Plant.
Further particulars will appear in future announcements.
Auctioneer's Offices, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. (Tele.56)."

Catalogue for Auction on 2/6/1915

"Under a Deed of Assignment. Re Richard Sidney Wilson, trading as R. S. Wilson & Son.
Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Eleven Freehold Fully Licensed and On-Beerhouse Properties, Brewery Premises and Dwelling Houses.....
The following Eleven Licensed Houses, Three of which are Fully-Licensed and Eight On-Beerhouses, together with the Brewery, form as a whole, one of the most important lots of Licensed Properties brought under the hammer in the district within recent years. They have been carefully acquired from time to time and are situated in well populated localities, for the most part within easy distance of some of the largest works in Staffordshire, and as they are being offered by direction of the Trustee under a Deed of Assignment, a fine opportunity presents itself to Brewers wishing to increase their barrellage or to private individuals desiring to embark in the trade, of acquiring houses which as a whole are in good order, commodious, well arranged, doing genuine trades, and possession of which may be obtained in most cases upon completion and otherwise at early dates afterwards.....

Lot 3. The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley (Fully Licensed).

As let on short tenancy at a rental of £45 0s 0d per annum. An excellent Home-brewing Public House and Premises adjoining the Cannon Iron Foundry and adjacent to other large works, situated on a road of great traffic always commanding a large trade, the accommodation comprising Entrance Passage running from front to back, Tap Room front 12' x 10', Smoke Room front 12' x 10', Bar 12' x 10', Back Smoke Room 12' x 7', Club Room 20' x 14', Three Bedrooms, Living Kitchen, Scullery, a Two-floor Brewery, Stabling, Piggeries, Open Shed and the usual Outbuildings; also Two Cottages adjoining being Numbers 10 and 16 Darkhouse Lane."

[Sold to Bateman for £870.]

Birmingham Daily Post 4/6/1915

"At Wolverhampton on Wednesday Messrs. W. Dando and Co. of Dudley offered for sale a number of licensed houses in the Black Country, and the lots disposed of realised a total of £6,835....
The SWAN INN, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley, a fully-licensed house let on short tenancy at a rental of £45 per annum, together with two cottages adjoining, realised £860."

Thomas Alfred Holmes was married to Betsy Ann

Isaac Baker was married to Sarah Ann, the daughter of Thomas Alfred Holmes and Betsy Ann.

Dudley Chronicle 24/11/1932 - Advert

"Highly Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of 13 Freehold Fully Licensed and Beerhouse Properties, Dwelling Houses and Shops, a Valuable Freehold Property with full Off-License, a block of central business Premises and a Leasehold Property known as the Queens Cross Brewery with the LAMP TAVERN, Dwelling Houses, Offices and Land in Dudley, Stourbridge, Kingswinford, Rowley Regis, Coseley, and Ettingshall.

Alfred W. Dando and Co. have received instructions from Mr. Thomas Woodhouse and the Exors of the Will of the late Mr. Benjamin Woodhouse (trading as Messrs. T. and B. Woodhouse) to Sell by Auction at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Tuesday, December 13th, 1932, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon precisely, subject to printed Conditions of Sale, as follows.

At Dudley.

Lot 1. The CASTLE AND FALCON INN, Wolverhampton Street. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 2. The ANGEL INN, Castle Street, corner of Fisher Street. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 3. The WHITE SWAN INN, Castle Street. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 5. The ALMA INN, Hall Street. (Fully-Licensed), with the Shop adjoining No.92, occupied by Mrs. Moule, and various ranges of Buildings at the rear, approached from Oakeywell Street.

Lot 6. The COACHMAKERS ARMS INN, Stafford Street. (Fully-Licensed). With the Shop and Dwelling House adjoining.

Lot 7. The DOG AND PARTRIDGE INN, Cromwell Street, Kates Hill. (Fully-Licensed).

Lot 8. The CROSS GUNS INN, Cross Guns Street, Kates Hill. (Fully-Licensed). With the Dwelling House adjoining.

At Stourbridge.

Lot 10. The EAGLE VAULTS, High Street. (Fully-Licensed). With Blacksmith's Shop adjoining.

At Kingswinford.

Lot 11. The BRIDGE INN, Dawley Brook. (Fully-Licensed).

At Rowley Regis.

Lot 12. The HAILSTOINE INN, Springfield. (Fully-Licensed).

At Coseley

Lot 13. The RED LION INN, Roseville. (Beerhouse-On).

Lot 14. The SWAN INN, Deepfields. (Fully-Licensed). With Cottage and Land adjoining.

At Ettingshall.

Lot 15. The FORGE HAMMER INN, Manor Road. (Beerhouse-On). With large area of Land adjoining.

Lot 16. The Leasehold Interest in the LAMP TAVERN, Dudley, and the Brewery Premises with the two private Dwelling Houses adjoining.

Note: The Auctioneers have every confidence in directing the attention of Brewers and others to the sale of the foregoing licensed and other properties occasioned by the death of Mr. Benjamin Woodhouse, who managed the business. Eight of the houses are situate in prominent positions in and around the town of Dudley and the remainder within a radius of five miles and all will be found to be well chosen for trading purposes and in good structural order and repair.

Full particulars and conditions of Sale are in course of preparation and may be obtained when ready, and the lease of the Brewery Premises inspected, at the offices of Messrs. Jobson and Marshall, Solicitors, 199, Wolverhampton Street (Tele. No.2041); or of the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street (Tele. No.2256); all of Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 14/12/1932

“There was a large sale of Black Country licensed premises at Dudley yesterday. Thirteen properties realised £37,400, in addition to outgoing valuations. The houses sold were.....

SWAN INN, Deepfields, Coseley, £1,650.”

Letter 13/7/1933

“To The Magistrates Clerk.

Dear Sir,

Re The SWAN INN, Deepfields.

We beg to advise you that by a Mortgage dated the 7th July 1933 made between Julia Hanson & Sons Ltd. of Tower Street, Dudley of the one part and Cyril Havelock William Rising Greenway of ‘Somerton’ No.44 the Avenue, Branksome Park, Bourne-mouth, and Albert Ernest Percy and Andrew Martin Fairbairn, both of Priory Street, Dudley of the other part the above mentioned licensed premises were charged with the payment to the said C. H. W. R. Greenway, A. E. Percy and A. M. Fairbairn of the principal moneys and interest therein mentioned.

We should be obliged if you would kindly enter a memorandum of our Clients charge on the License Register.

We enclose Postal Order value 1/- your fee in the matter.

Yours faithfully, Hooper & Fairbairn, Solicitors. 1, Priory Street, Dudley.”

1939 Register

Darkhouse Lane – SWAN INN

[1] *George Parton*, date of birth 29/9/1886, licensee, public house, single:

SWAN

11+12, (11), Swan Row, (**Prestons Row**), Broad Lanes, Ladymoor, COSELEY

OWNERS

Charlotte Cadman, widow, High Street, Bilston

Mrs. Ann Rock, Swan Row, Broad Lanes

Alfred Hickman Ltd., Springvale Furnaces, Sedgley

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Radnall [1841] – [1842]

Thomas Judson [] – **1856**);

Samuel Jebb (**1856** – []

Thomas Sheldon [1861] – **1876**);

Joseph Millington (**1876** – **1877**);

Emily Burley (**1877** – **1879**);

Samuel Potts (**1879** – **1887**);

John Cox (**1887**);

Enoch Smith (**1887** – **1890**);

Mrs. Ann Rock (**1890** – **1892**);

Thomas Wise (**1892**);

Jane Harper (**1892** – **1894**);

William Hendley (**1894** – **1896**);

Joseph Smith (**1896** – **1907**);

Ellen Smith (1) (**1907** – **1909**);

Ellen Smith (2) (**1909** – **1912**);

Albert Meese (**1912** – **1927**);

George Alfred Simcox (1927 – 1936);
Albert Edward Price (1936 – [1940])
Nellie Price []

NOTES

[Prestons Row \[1841\], \[1842\]](#)

[Swan Row, Broad Lane \[1904\], \[1908\]](#)

London Gazette 2/7/1858

“*Samuel Jebb*, late lodging at the Rose and Punch Bowl Inn, Bull-street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, carrying out business at the THREE HORSE SHOES INN, Ladymoor, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, and part of the time a Ground Bailiff and Butty Collier, formerly of the SWAN INN, Broad-lane, in the said parish of Sedgley, and previously of the THREE HORSE SHOES INN aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Miner, and part of the time Ground Bailiff and for a short time carrying on business as a Butty Collier, in partnership with Abraham Grocutt and Joseph Rudge, under the firm of Jebb and Co. or Jebb, Grocutt, and Rudge.”

1861 Census

Broad Lanes – SWAN INN

- [1] *Thomas Sheldon* (30), ironfounder and victualler (employing 17 men, 13 boys, and 3 girls), born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Sheldon* (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Esther J. Lane* (15), visitor, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Ann Taylor* (16), house servant, born Hampshire:

Thomas Sheldon, beer retailer, Coseley. [1870]

1871 Census

11, Swan Row

- [1] *Thomas Sheldon* (40), ironfounder, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Theresa Sheldon* (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Elizabeth Shinton* (12), general servant, born Sedgley:

Thomas Sheldon was also an iron founder. [1872]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 21/10/1876

“Dudley County Court. Yesterday. Before Mr. Rupert Kettle, Judge.

Pugh v. Sheldon. This was a jury case, in which the plaintiff, Seth Pugh, rate-collector, of Sedgley sought to recover the sum of £10 from *Thomas Sheldon*, iron-founder, of the same place. Mr. Warmington was for the plaintiff, and Mr. Stokes for defendant. Plaintiff stated that the defendant received the appointment to collect income-tax, and entered into a contract to pay him £10 for the performance of the duty. Defendant denied the contract, and the jury returned a verdict in his favour.”

1881 Census

11+12, Swan Row

- [1] *Samuel Potts* (49), miner (coal), born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sushannah Potts* (47), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *John Potts* (25), son, moulder, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Potts* (6), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Rhoda Jones* (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 23/2/1887

“At the Bilston Police Court yesterday, Joseph [sic] *Potts*, licensed victualler, of the SWAN INN, Broad Lane, Sedgley, was charged, at the instance of the Inland Revenue authorities, with two violations of the Licensing Act. Evidence was given that on the 10th of December, 1886, the defendant concealed in a dark cellar fifty gallons of wort and beer, with a view to prevent it being taken into account by the Inland Revenue officers; and it was also proved that he had used four bushels of malt in the brewing of beer without making an entry in the book provided for the purpose.

Mr. Kelly, the district supervisor explained that it was a practice of publicans in that neighbourhood to conceal part of their brewings.

The defendant pleaded guilty to both charges, and urged that on account of his poverty, his punishment should be mitigated.

The Stipendiary (Mr. Neville) remarked that the defendant had rendered himself liable to a penalty of £200, but as he evidently could not pay such a sum he imposed a fine of £10 including costs in each case.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/3/1890 - Advert

“To Brewers And Others.

Valuable Copyhold Properties, situate in the Manors of Stowheath and Sedgley, in the County of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Thomas Skidmore & Son, at the BIRD IN HAND, Bilston, on Monday next, the 31st day of March, 1890, at Six o'clock in the evenings, subject to conditions (incorporating the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).....

Lot 2. An Old-Licensed Public-House, known as the SWAN, situate in Swan Row, Broad Lanes, Bilston aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. *Enoch Smith*, as an annual tenant at £18 per annum. The House is capable of doing a very extensive trade, and contains Tap Room, Bar, two Kitchens, Cellars, Brewhouse, and four Bed Rooms, and an Attic. Also those six Private Dwelling Houses, adjoining the last-mentioned, Nos. respectively 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18, forming Swan Row, producing an annual rental of £48 19s 4d. Three are in very good repair, and have Pigstyes and Brewhouses to each. Also a Dwelling House, being No.66 Moor Street, Broad Lanes, Bilston aforesaid, now and for many years in the occupation of Edward Rogers, at a weekly rental producing £5 12s 5d per annum.

The total aggregate rental of this lot is £72 12s per annum.

For further particulars apply to the Auctioneers, 1 and 2, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton; or to S. Pearson and Sons, Solicitors, Walsall.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/7/1890

“On Wednesday an adjourned inquest was held by the Coroner (Mr. W. H. Phillips), at the SWAN INN, Broad Lanes, on the body of Henry Grinsell (32), labourer, late of Hallfield, who was found drowned in the canal neat Tenscore Bridge, on the 24th of May. As has been stated previously, the deceased had co-habited with a woman named Ashley for about eight years. Ashley, on completing a term of imprisonment, went to the house where deceased was lodging, where she commenced a quarrel. Grinsell was heard to say that he would sooner destroy himself than live with that woman again.

Mr. J. P. Mathie, surgeon, deposed that he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and found that death was due to drowning.

The jury returned a verdict that the deceased was Found Drowned, but as to how he got into the water there was no evidence to show.”

1891 Census

11+12, Swan Row – SWAN INN

- [1] Simeon Rock (56), no occupation, born Bilston;
- [2] *Ann Rock* (32), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [3] Charlotte Turban (18), general servant, born Smethwick:

1901 Census

11+12, Swan Row

- [1] *Joseph Smith* (46), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Barbara Smith (46), wife, born Scotland;
- [3] John James Smith (21), son, coal miner (hewer), born Sedgley;
- [4] Alice Smith (16), daughter, assistant at house (barmaid), born Sedgley;
- [5] Joseph William Smith (14), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Nellie Smith* (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Agnes Maud Smith (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] George Smith (9), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] Isabella Smith (5), daughter, born Sedgley:

Ellen Smith (1) died on 23rd October 1909.

Ellen Smith (2) = Nellie Smith.

1911 Census

Swan Row – SWAN INN

- [1] *Ellen Smith* (23), unmarried, publican, born Coseley;
- [2] Maud Smith (21), sister, born Coseley;
- [3] George Smith (19), brother, brewer for *Ellen Smith*, born Coseley;
- [4] Isabella Smith (17), sister, born Coseley:

Ellen Smith (2) married *Albert Meese* in the 4th quarter of 1911.

Albert Meese = Albert Mees

Albert Meese was married to Nellie.

South Staffordshire Times 7/2/1920

“Bilston Licensing Sessions....

Mr. J. H. Sharpe, West Bromwich, applied for permission to rebuild the SWAN INN, at Ladymoor. This application had been de-

laid like many others owing to the war. It was a fully-licensed house and bore an excellent character, having been in one family for 25 years. There had never been the slightest conviction or complaint against it. The reason for rebuilding was the premises were in a dilapidated condition, and extremely inconvenient and unsanitary.

Supt. Tucker said the new plans provided for better supervision on the part of the police. At present it was impossible to get into the smoke room without going through the kitchen.

Dr. Ashley Smith asked was there not another house within yards.

Supt. Tucker said there was a large works close to. He had obtained a census of the district, and found it was not over populated.

Mr. Sharpe said the tenant did not wish to extend his trade but to secure a good house to live in. There was a club at the house of 100 male members and another of 50 women.

The Bench asked for an undertaking that if the house was referred for compensation, the improvements should not be taken into account.

This was given by Mr. Sharpe, and the Bench approved the plans.”

South Staffordshire Times 6/3/1920

“A successful and well-attended smoking concert was held on Saturday evening, at the SWAN INN, Ladymoor (Mr. *A. Meese*). Mr. F. Richards, treasurer of D.S.S. and S., presided. The latter alluded to the effective work which was being performed by that Federation, and incidentally mentioned that he had fought 500 cases for members and not lost one. He also enlarged upon the advantages to be derived by being identified with the Federation, and urged all discharged men who had not done so to join, as it would prove helpful to them. (Hear, hear.)

An excellent and up-to-date programme was creditably gone through by the Hurst Hill Quartette Party (Messrs. W. H. Southall, J and A Richards, assisted by Mr. Len Bunch and Mr. A. Millard). Songs, duets, trios, and quartettes were well rendered. Mr. W. H. Southall effectively accompanied. The artistes were heartily thanked for their voluntary services, and the enjoyable evening came to a close with the singing of the National Anthem.”

1939 Register

Lady Moor – SWANN INN

[1] *Albert E. Price*, date of birth 3/9/1901, licensee, (blacksmith by trade), married;

[2] *Nellie M (Price) Sharples*, dob 20/7/1908, unpaid domestic duties, married:

A team from here took part in the Bradley Darts League, Second Division. [1946]

Closed

SWAN

82, (20), Lake Street / Humphrey Street, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Edward Southall

Emma Southall, grocer, Gornal

Catherine Southall, widow of Isaac Southall, Gornal

Arthur Lester, gentleman, Humphries Street, Lower Gornal

David Hyde

Frederick William Jones, gentleman, New Oxley, Wolverhampton

LICENSEES

Mrs. Phoebe Bate [1869] – 1871);

William Kimberley (1871 – 1873);

John Bradley (1873 – 1874);

Isaac Southall (1874 – 1885);

Jane I Southall (1885);

Catherine Southall (1885 – 1888);

Arthur Lester (1888 – 1900);

David Hyde (1900 – 1934);

Francis John Sims (1934 – 1936);

John ‘Jack’ Abbiss (1936 – 1938);

John Frederick Jones (1938 – 1940);

Lewis George Elston (1940 – 1944);

Edith Mary Elston (1944 – 1946);
Fred Edwards (1946 – 1948);
Stanley Taylor (1948 – 1950);
John Collins (1950 – 1956):

NOTES

20, Lake Street [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901]
82, Lake Street [1938], [1950]

It was originally the MINERS ARMS.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was a home brew house.

Phoebe Bate = Phoebe Bates = Phebe Bate

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.....

Allowing Gaming.....

Phoebe Bates, MINERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, 1s and costs, and another offence 40s and costs.”

1871 Census

20, Lake Street – QUEENS [sic] ARMS

[1] *Phebe Bate* (66), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Delph;

[2] George Bate (41), son, labourer, born Bromley Lane, Worcestershire:

Dudley Herald 22/4/1876

“At the Police Court, on Monday, William Oakley and Herbert Clarke, for being guilty of riotous conduct at the MINERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, on the 11th inst, were ordered to find sureties for their future good behaviour, and pay the costs.”

AND

“Caleb Jones, hawker, Dudley, for being drunk and disorderly at the public house of Mr. *Isaac Southall*, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, on the 11th inst, was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 10/1/1877

“Rowland Hill, ironworker, was charged with refusing to quit the MINERS ARMS INN, Lower Gornal, on the 21st October, and also with assaulting *Isaac Southall*, the landlord of the house. Mr. Stokes appeared to prosecute, and Mr. Gould was for the defendant. The complainant proved that defendant was drunk, and he requested him no less than five times to leave the house, and as he refused to do so, he forced him, when he kicked witness, and from some cause or other defendant had his leg broke, but it was not broken in the house, for after he left the house witness saw defendant standing erect in the street. Mr. Stokes withdrew the charge of assault, and for refusing to quit defendant was fined 5s and costs, or in default seven days' imprisonment.”

County Express 28/7/1877

“The anniversary dinner of the Lily Lodge of the Order of Free Gardeners, was held at the house of Bro. *Southall*, the MINERS ARMS, Dibdale Road.”

1881 Census

20, Lake Street

[1] *Isaac Southall* (28), carpenter, born Gornal;

[2] *Catherine Southall* (27), wife, born Gornal;

[3] Winifred Southall (16), general servant, born Gornal:

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1881

“Yesterday the Licensing Sessions for the Bilston division of the county were held at the Public Office.....

Mr. T. Gould applied on behalf of *Isaac Southall*, of the MINERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, for a license to retail wine, to be consumed on the premises. The house it was said was at the junction of five roads, and was much frequented by commercial travellers, who often called for wine. The present license had been held by *Southall* for nearly seven years without complaint. The nearest house at which wine was sold was about half-a-mile off. Application refused”

Darlaston Weekly Times 3/11/1883

“On Tuesday evening a fire was discovered in the back kitchen of Mr. *Isaac Southall*, MINERS ARMS, Lower Gornal, and was

not extinguished until considerable damage was done to the room.”

Isaac Southall died on 6th June 1885.

Catherine Southall married *Arthur Lester* in the 1st quarter of 1888.

1891 Census

20, Lake Street – Public House

- [1] *Arthur Lester* (32), innkeeper, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] *Catherine Lester* (36), wife, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] *Ermerst Lester* (8), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] *Winifred Southall* (23), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

It was known locally as “David Hyde’s”.

1901 Census

20, Lake Street

- [1] *David Hyde* (35), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary J. Hyde* (27), wife, born Tettenhall;
- [3] *John Hyde* (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary A. Wilks* (54), aunt, living on own means, born Worcestershire, deaf and dumb;
- [5] *Edith M. Earp* (25), sister-in-law, single, barmaid, born Tettenhall;
- [6] *Rachel Goodall* (19), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Lake Street

- [1] *David Hyde* (45), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Jane Hyde* (37), wife, married 14 years, housewife, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *John Hyde* (14), son, school, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Edith Elizabeth Hyde* (9), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [5] *May Hyde* (7), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Ethel Mary Hyde* (5), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [7] *David Vincent Hyde* (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Jennie Earp Hyde* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Mary Ann Wilkes* (64), aunt, born probably Worcestershire, deaf and dumb from 5 years of age;
- [10] *Phyliss Westwood* (24), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [11] *Edith Bradley* (16), nurse, born Sedgley:

David Hyde, beer retailer, Lake Street. [1912]

Jack Abbiss was a member of The (Black Country) Singing Miners, who toured the music halls locally.

He was born in 1887.

He was married to Florrie.

He was the organist and choirmaster of St. Andrews Church, The Straits.

Lewis George Elston was born on 19th June 1873 at Crediton, Devon.

Before becoming a publican he was a baker and grocer.

He was married to *Edith Mary Elston*, born on 12th June 1875.

Lewis George Elston died on 15th November 1943. Probate to *Edith Mary Elston*, widow, and *Francis Thomas Elston [son]*, licensed victualler. Effects £202.

Lewis George Elston – see also WEST END, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley, FIVE WAYS, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, BLUE BOAR, Stone Street, Dudley, BRITISH OAK, Salop Street, Dudley, BEEHIVE, Tinchbourne Street, Dudley and BUSH, Summit Place, Lower Gornal.

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1944 - Advert

“Estate of F. W. Jones, Deceased.

Important Announcement of Sale by Auction of Six Freehold Licensed Properties and Various Dwelling Houses, at Wall Heath, Pensnett, Wordsley, Lower Gornal & Tipton.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Monday, October 23, 1944, at 3.30 o’clock in the afternoon precisely, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced, as follows.

Lot 1. The PRINCE ALBERT INN, Wall Heath (Fully Licensed), situate in a bold corner of High Street and Enville Road, with good Draw-in and Car Park, and of modern construction.

Lot 2. The KINGS HEAD INN, Pensnett (Fully Licensed), situate at the corner of Commonside and Bromley Lane, with Draw-in, and occupying a large area of land.

Lot 3. The GLADSTONE INN, Audnam, Wordsley (Beerhouse On with Wine License), situate on an important main road from Brettell Lane to Kingswinford, and occupying a large area of land.

Lot 4. The GOOD INTENT INN, Vale Street, Upper Gornal (Beerhouse On), of modern construction, with Draw-in at side.

Lot 5. Corner Retail Shop and Two Dwelling-Houses, Nos.23, 25 & 27, Vale Street, Upper Gornal (adjoining the above Lot).

Lot 6. The SWAN INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal (Beerhouse On), occupying a Corner Position, with Draw-in.

Lot 7. Three Brick-Built and Slate-Roofed Dwelling Houses, Nos.76, 77, & 78, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, adjoining the above Lot, let and producing £38 14s gross per annum.

Lot 8. The NOAHS ARKS INN, Wood Street, Tipton, (Beerhouse On), with large area of land having approach from the rear.

Lot 9. Two Dwelling-Houses, Nos.51 & 52, Wood Street, Tipton, adjoining the above Lot, let and producing the gross annual rent of £31 17s 0d.

The Auctioneers direct attention to the foregoing Licensed Properties, which are all situate in good trading positions, they are let on lease for ten years from September 29, 1939, and should command attention of brewers and others looking for houses for post-war development.

Detailed particulars are in the course of preparation and, when ready, may be obtained of Messrs. W. A. and H. M. Foster and Co., Solicitors, 31, Queen Street, Wolverhampton (Tel. No.20215); or of the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (Tel. No.2256).”

Birmingham Daily Post 25/10/1944

“Property Market.

By Messrs. Alfred W. Dando and Co., Dudley, at Wolverhampton.

Six licensed houses, let on lease to Messrs. Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd., for ten years from September 29, 1939, at a total rent of £1,100 a year, the PRINCE ALBERT INN, Wall Heath (fully licensed), £17,750; the KINGS HEAD INN, Commonside, Pensnett, near Dudley (fully licensed), £11,000; the GLADSTONE INN, Audnam, Wordsley (beerhouse-on with wine license attached), £3,750; the GOOD INTENT INN, Vale Street, Upper Gornal (beer-house-on), £6,000; the SWAN INN, Lake Street, Lower Gornal (beerhouse-on), and three houses Nos.76, 78, and 80, Lake Street, Lower Gornal, £2,750; the NOAHS ARK, Wood Street, Tipton (beerhouse-on), with two houses, 51 and 52, Wood Street, £5,750. The total realised by the sale was £47,650.”

Edith Mary Elston died on 16th June 1946. Probate to Francis Thomas Elston [son], licensed victualler [LEOPARD, Horseley Heath, Tipton], and Sydney Lewis Elston [son], chauffeur. Effects £758 19s 3d.

It closed in 1956. (No application in 1957 for its music license.)

Demolished

SWAN

Coopers Bank, (Cowpers Bank), LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Hughes [1859]

NOTES

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers’ licenses..... The application of Mr. J. Hughes, SWAN INN, Cowper’s Bank, supported by Mr. T. M. Whitehouse, was deferred.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for the purpose of the renewal and granting of licenses for the township of Bilston and the neighbourhood was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

Mr. James Hughes, of the SWAN INN, Coopers Bank, was the next applicant, supported by Mr. T. M. Whitehouse. In advancing the claims of the applicant Mr. Whitehouse pointed out the nature of the accommodation afforded by the house, the requirements of the locality, and further said that the house formerly possessed a license but it had become forfeited two years since. The Magistrates deferred giving their decision until the adjourned licensing day.”

SWAN

88, Gospel End Street, (Duck Lane), (Mount Pleasant), (Lowerside), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Ralph Gough, gentleman, Gorsebrook, Wolverhampton
J. F. C. Jackson, Diamond Brewery, Kates Hill, Dudley
George Mayo Wallens
Helen Eliza Wallens
George Thomas Mills (acquired from Helen Eliza Wallens in 1912)
Darby's Dunkirk Brewery Ltd. (acquired on 4th June 1937)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1984], [2000]
Enterprise Inns
Mark Bradley [2010]
[Stonegate Pub Company](#)
[Red Pub Company](#) (acquired in 2023)

LICENSEES

[John Newton](#) [1774]
[Mrs. Newton](#) [1777] – [1788]
[Richard Smith](#) [1796] – [1813]
Elizabeth Crumbleholme [1818]
Thomas Sheldon [c.1820]
William Harris [1828] – **1852**);
Mrs. Elizabeth Harris (**1852 – 1853**);
Henry Ogilvie Wallens (**1853 – [1867]**)
George Mayo Wallens [1868] – **1888**);
Mrs. Helen Eliza Wallens (**1888 – 1912**);
George Thomas Mills (**1912 – 1920**);
Clifford Albert Smith (**1920 – 1923**);
George Thomas Mills (**1923 – 1952**);
Harold Ernest Harper (**1952 – 1953**);
Roy Compton (**1953 – 1957**);
Ivan Maurice Watkins (**1957 – 1958**);
Robert Frederick Eade (**1958 – []**)
Geoffrey 'Geoff' Bangham (**1971 – 1981**)
Ron West [1974]
William Wilkinson [1983]
Geoffrey 'Geoff' Bangham (**1983 – 1991**)
Jenny Haney [1997]
[Jason Cooper](#) (**2020 – []** manager)
[Michelle Harrison](#) (**2023 – []**)

NOTES

Duck Lane [1833]
Gospel End Street [1849]

OLD SWAN [1867]

Grade II listed.

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 7/3/1774 - Advert](#)

“To be Sold by Auction, on Monday the sixth Day of March Inst, between the Hours of Two and Six in the Afternoon, at the Dwelling House of *John Newton*, being the SWAN INN in Sedgley, in the County of Stafford, subject to such Conditions of Sale, as will be then produced, Several Pieces or Parcels of Freehold Land, situate near Sedgley aforesaid.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 17/3/1777 - Advert

“To be Sold to the best Bidder, on Monday the 24th Day of March Inst, at the Widow *Newton*'s, the SWAN in Sedgley, between the Hours of Two and Four o'Clock in the afternoon, subject to such Conditions as shall be then produced, A substantial well-built Messuage, called Hurst Hill Hall.....”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/3/1788 - Advert

“To be Sold, or Let, and entered upon immediately, A Dwelling House, Barn, and other Outbuildings, with about 16 Acres of Land, now in the Occupation or Holding of John Woodhouse, near Oldbury, in the Parish of Hales-Owen, and County of Worcester.

Enquire of the Tenant, who will shew the Premises, or of Mrs. *Newton*, at the SWAN, in Sedgley.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 18/7/1796 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, on Monday the 25th Day of July, 1796, at the SWAN INN, in Sedgley, in the County of Stafford, precisely at four o'Clock in the Afternoon, together or in Lots, as shall ne agreed on at the Time of Sale; a Lease of the Tythe of about 12 Acres of Land, of which upwards of 400 Years are unexpired.....

Mr. *Richard Smith*, at the SWAN, in Sedgley, will shew the land.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 16/11/1801 - Advert

“Notice is hereby given, that the Tolls arising at the several Toll Gates and Toll Bars, known by the Names of Gospel End Gate and Side Bar, Sedgley Gate, Can Lane Gate and Bar, with the Weighing Machine, and the Deepfield Gate and Bars, erected upon the Turnpike Road leading from Womborn through Sedgley to Bilston, and from Gospel End to Over Penn, and from Sedgley to Princess End, in the County of Stafford, will be Let by Auction for one whole Year, at the House of *Richard Smith*, known by the Name of the SWAN INN, in Sedgley aforesaid, on Monday the 23rd Day of November 1801, at Two o'Clock in the Afternoon of the same Day, in the Manner directed by the Act passed in the 13th Year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George the Third, 'For regulating the Turnpike Roads,' which said Tolls are to be let together for one Year ending the tenth Day of December next, at the yearly Rent of £406 clear of the Expenses of collecting the same, and will be put up at that Sum. Whoever happens to be the best Bidder, must at the same Time give Security, with sufficient Sureties, to the Satisfaction of the Trustees of the said Turnpike Road, for the Payment of the Rent agreed for, and at such Times as they shall direct.

Thomas Newton, Clerk to the said Trustees. Sedgley, November 2, 1801.”

[These auctions were held here for some years.]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/4/1804 - Advert

“For the Improvement of Fruit.

Notice is hereby given, that there will be a Show of Gooseberries at the House of Mr. *Richard Smith*, the SWAN, in Sedgley, on Tuesday the 14th Day of August, 1804.

The Prizes as usual.

No Person will be allowed to show any Berries that are not of his own Growth, unless he enters them in the Grower's Name, and proves the same upon Oath; if found out to the Contrary, he will never be allowed to show at this Meeting any more, neither himself not the Person who grewed the Berries.

No Person will be allowed to show who does not pay Two Shillings and Sixpence for Subscription, on or before the 1st of May, 1804, into the Hands of the Stewards or the Landlord, or will not be allowed to shew his Fruit.

To meet precisely ay Twelve o'Clock. Dinner on the Table at One o'Clock, and to begin weighing at Three o'Clock. The winning Berries to be the Property of the Landlord, and every winning Berry to be snipt. If any Disputes shall arise, they are to be determined by the Stewards.

The Company of any Gentleman to dine will be esteemed a Favour, as a good Ordinary will be provided.

Stewards. Mr. Samuel Fereday, Ettingshall Hall; Mr. William Lowe, Wolverhampton; Mr. Thomas Griffiths, Birmingham; Mr. Richard Astley, Cotwall End; Mr. John Pilsbury, Wombourn.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 23/11/1812 - Advert

“SWAN INN, Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by R. Walker, at the aforesaid SWAN INN, on Thursday, the 3rd Day of December, 1812, at the Hour of Three o'Clock in the Afternoon, subject to Conditions then to be produced, unless previously disposed of by private Contract. All that the said well-accustomed SWAN INN, now in full Business, consisting of Kitchen and Parlour in Front; Kitchen, Parlour, and Bar backwards; large Dining Room, and seven Lodging Rooms, and Cellaring under the Whole; large Brewhouse, retired Yard, with a Pump of excellent Water, and convenient Outbuildings; a large Malthouse, capable of making 6,000 Bushels in a Season, large Stable, together with a Piece or Parcel of Land, about five Acres, known by the Name of the Ten Score, with a Bowling Green and Bowling House, and large Garden, well fenced in by a Wall, on the said Piece of Land.

The above Premises are Copyhold in the Manor of Sedgley.

For further Particulars apply to Mr. *Richard Smith*, at the said Inn, or to the Auctioneer.

NB. The Purchaser to take the Furniture, Brewing Utensils, Casks, Stock, &c, at a fair Valuation.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 22/2/1813 - Advert

“The seven Lots of Freehold Land advertised to be sold by Auction, by R. Walker, at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, in the County of Stafford, on Thursday next, the 25th Day of February, are disposed of by private Contract.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 5/7/1813 - Advert

“To be Sold by Auction, by R. Walker, at the SWAN INN, in Sedgley, in the County of Stafford, on Tuesday the 20th Day of July inst at Five o’Clock in the Afternoon.....

Lot I. All that Messuage, Tenement, or Dwelling House, with the Brewhouse, Malthouse, Stable, and other Outbuildings to the same belonging, called the SWAN INN, situate in Sedgley aforesaid; and also the Garden and Bowling Green thereto also belonging, and now in the Occupation of *Richard Smith*.....”

Thomas Sheldon was apprenticed to Daniel Fellows, inventor (?) of the steel pen nib. He, himself, continued in the trade of hand making pens until mechanization.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 2/12/1822 - Advert

“Old established and respectable Inn, pleasantly situated at Sedgley, ten miles from Birmingham, between Dudley and Wolverhampton, in a very populous and extensive neighbourhood, surrounded by Collieries and other large Works.

By Roderick. To be Sold by Auction, on the premises, without reserve (unless previously disposed of by private Contract) on Tuesday the 10th day of December inst at two o’clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then and there to be produced, the Good-will and Licenses of that truly valuable and highly respectable Inn, the SWAN, pleasantly situated immediately opposite the Church, at Sedgley, distant 10 miles from Birmingham, and 3 from Dudley and Wolverhampton, on the mail road.

The house is in full run of business, and is frequented by the Magistrates and Coroner of the county, it has the preference of all the Wedding and Burial parties, and there are several clubs and societies attached.

Rent and payments very low, coming in about £350.

For particulars apply to the Auctioneer, 29, Colmore Row, Birmingham.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 9/12/1822 - Advert

“SWAN INN, Sedgley.

The Public are respectfully informed that the above House, advertised for Sale by Auction Tomorrow (Tuesday) December 10, is unavoidably postponed for the present.

John Roderick, Auctioneer. December 7, 1822.”

Coventry Herald 2/4/1824

“Warwickshire Lent Assizes.

Shipman v. Wall. The plaintiff some time ago agreed to let defendant the SWAN INN public house, at Sedgley, who gave him a note for £40 as a deposit and to go towards the stock and fixtures. Defendant, who lives at Birmingham, in consequence of receiving notice that the stock and goods at the SWAN would be claimed under the bankruptcy of a person named Green, whose property they were supposed to be, refused to pay the amount of the note, or have anything to do with the house. Verdict for defendant.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/1/1833

“On Tuesday, the 8th inst, a public dinner was given by the Electors in the parish of Sedgley, to W. W. Whitmore, Esq, MP, in celebration of his return for this borough. The dinner took place in the School-room, in the village of Sedgley, and was attended by upwards of one hundred of the most respectable gentlemen in the parish. Mr. Whitmore arrived about three o’clock, and was received with the most hearty congratulations by the numerous party assembled. The company sat down to an excellent dinner provided by Mr. *Harris*, of the SWAN INN.

The company was amused in the course of the evening by the musical talents of Messrs. Crossley and Hall; the bells rung out a merry peal during the day, and a band of music played through the village.....

Mr. Whitmore, in an animated address, touched upon the general principles on which he had come forward to represent this important borough, and on the kind and ample support which he had received, especially from the electors of Sedgley. Several other gentlemen addressed the meeting, but we have not room to add further particulars, except that the proceedings of the day passed off with the utmost harmony and conviviality.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/7/1833

“Freehold And Copyhold Estates, in the Parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by R. S. Walker, on Tuesday, the 30th day of July, 1833, at the house of *William Harris*, the SWAN INN, in the village of Sedgley, at four o’clock in the afternoon.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/11/1833 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Colliery.

Tipton Moat Colliery Shares, and Principal Sum of Six Hundred Pounds secured on Mortgage of ample property.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Aston, on Friday, the 3rd of January, 1834, at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, the following important Colliery and Property; subject to conditions and explanations then to be submitted.....

Lot III. The principal sum of Six Hundred Pounds, secured on mortgage in possession of the Public House called the SWAN INN, in Sedgley, with Malthouse attached thereto.

The house consists of a bar, two parlours, two kitchens, a large club room, five bed rooms, two attics, and very extensive cellaring. The situation and arrangement of the house for an extensive business is perfect; as is also that of the Malthouse, which is capable of making about 3000 bushels in a season.

For further information and to refer to plans of the property apply to Messrs. Holyoake and Robinson, or to Messrs. Roberts and Morris, Surveyors, &c, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, and Gospel End House, Sedgley.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/5/1835

“North Staffordshire Election.....

A very respectable body of freeholders assembled at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, on Friday evening, to meet Sir Francis Goodricke, the Conservative candidate. On the arrival of the Hon. Baronet, accompanied by his friends, he was warmly welcomed.....”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 26/12/1835

“Carter, an exciseman, was charged by Mr. Ritson, a surveyor, with unlawfully assaulting him at the SWAN INN, Sedgley. Mr. Ritson said he was at the SWAN on the 16th of December, when a dispute arose between them, on plaintiff’s observing that he could measure a couch of malt as soon as an Exciseman, Carter offered to bet plaintiff a wager he could not, which plaintiff refused; on which Carter trod on his toes and struck him.

Mr. Stephen Law, Mr. B. Casswell, and Henry Smith were called as witnesses on behalf of plaintiff; and John Grantham gave evidence for the defendant.

The Magistrates considered the case proved, and ordered Carter to pay the expenses.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/1/1836

“Mr. Benjamin Parker, was charged by a gentleman named Ellice, with assaulting and threatening to kill him, at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, on the 17th of September last. The parties having been at the vestry on the day mentioned, met afterwards at the SWAN INN, and an argument arose about voters, and Parker’s right to make out the list.

‘So high at the last contest rose,

From words they fairly came to blows!’

And Parker not only knocked Ellice down, but ‘threatened to murder him if he got up again!’ Mr. Parker insinuated that Mr. Ellice was not so sober as he might have been – that he was in fact drunk – that when drunk he was apt to be purse proud; on such occasions it required more philosophy than he was master of, to endure his contumelious behaviour. The case was dismissed.

(It is a pity that the time of the Magistrates and their attendants should be wasted over such trumpety cases the complainant having engaged in a public house quarrel and got ‘the worst end of the stick.’)”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/1/1836 - Advert

“Freehold Estate, situate at Penn Wood, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by R. S. Walker, on Thursday, the 21st day of January, 1836, at the house of Mr. *Harris*, the SWAN INN, Sedgley, at five o’clock in the afternoon, subject to such conditions as will then be produced.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 19/7/1837 - Advert

“To The Electors Of The Borough Of Wolverhampton.....

Any communication in favour of Mr. Benbow and Captain Burton’s election will be thankfully received at the following places and houses where the gentlemen conducting their election sit daily.....

Sedgley, the COURT HOUSE and SWAN; Sedgley Lowerside, the BULLS HEAD, Deepfields.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/8/1837

“A long investigation into the circumstances attending the death of a man, named Thomas Welch, took place at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, on Saturday last, before H. Smith, Esq, coroner. The deceased, who was about twenty-one years of age, lived with Mr. King, at Woodsetton, as a labourer, and was, on the evening of Thursday last, working with another man named Biggs, in one of Mr. King’s hay-fields. Some words had, it seems, occurred between them, and when the work was nearly done, the deceased skipped from the top of some hay in a cart, stripped and challenged Biggs to fight. Biggs refused, but as the deceased continued taunting him, he at last agreed, and stripped. They fought three rounds, when the deceased received a blow on the side which knocked him down, and he never spoke afterwards. On the examination of the body by Mr. Haden, surgeon, of Dudley, it was found that a blood vessel in the right lung was ruptured. The jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter, and the prisoner Biggs was committed for trial.”

[John Biggs appeared at the Staffordshire Lent Assizes on 13th March 1838, charged with the manslaughter of Henry Welch, he was found guilty, fined 1s and discharged.]

1841 Census

Gospel End Street

[1] *William Harris* (55), maltster and victualler;

[2] *Elizabeth Harris* (45);

[3] *William Harris* (16);

[4] *Ann Harris* (12), born Staffordshire;

[5] *Edward Law* (35), ms, born Staffordshire;

[6] *Sarah Highfield* (20), fs, born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Journal 7/2/1846

“On Thursday se’nnight, a dinner was given to Mr. Charles Crofts, excise officer, who, for many years, has surveyed the parish of

Sedgley. The entertainment took place at the house of Mr. *Harris*, SWAN INN, Sedgley. The chair was taken by Mr. G. Jenkins, the company being most respectable, including the supervisor of the district, who, with other gentlemen, bore testimony to the excellent character of Mr. Crofts, and said he had done his duty alike to the Crown and to the persons whom he surveyed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/2/1846

“On Monday last an inquest was held at the sign of the SWAN, Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, on the body of Thomas Christian, a labourer, about nineteen years of age. The deceased, on Saturday morning last, was unloading some iron from a waggon at the Spring Vale ironworks. Some of the bars projected beyond the end of the waggon, and as two railway waggons were passing near to it, the first of them caught the end of the bars of iron, and pulled them against the deceased, by which he was crushed against an iron pillar. His ribs were broken, and his chest was badly crushed and bruised. He died without speaking, in about two minutes after he was extricated. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/3/1848

“At the Wolverhampton Police Office, on Monday last, Samuel Johnson was charged upon suspicion of having stolen a bottle of gin from the SWAN INN, Sedgley, during the temporary absence of the landlord’s housekeeper, who had gone up stairs a few minutes. The prisoner was in the house at the time, but very drunk that the policeman was obliged to bring him away in a wheelbarrow. The Magistrates, so considering that the charge was not fully established, dismissed the case.”

William Harris was also a maltster. [1851]

1851 Census

Gospelend Street

- [1] *William Harris* (61), victualler and maltster, born Helmley Lovatt, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Harris* (47), wife, born Derby;
- [3] *William Harris* (27), son, maltster, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Ann Harris* (22), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Edward Law* (48), servant, maltster, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Sarah Buttain* (22), house servant, born Sedgley;

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/3/1852 - Notice

“All Persons to whom the late Mr. *Harris*, of the SWAN INN, Sedgley, stood indebted at the time of his decease, are requested to send in their demands to his Widow, as above, in order that the same may be examined and discharged; and all Persons who stand indebted to the estate of the said deceased, are requested to pay the amount thereof to Mrs. *Harris*, or the Trustees under the will of the said *William Harris*, immediately.

Elizabeth Harris, Executrix.

John Fereday, plumber and glazier, Sedgley, George Gordon Cardo, OLD INN, Dudley, Executors to the will of the said *William Harris*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/4/1852

“The license of Thomas Salt, of the GATE, Can Lane, Sedgley, was indorsed to permit Joseph Rudge, the new tenant, to sell until the next special sessions for the transfer of licenses, to be held on the 26th of April. Also the license of SWAN, Sedgley, to his widow, *Elizabeth Harris*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/4/1852

“At an adjourned special sessions for the transfer of victuallers’ licenses, within the division of Seisdon North. SWAN, Sedgley, from the late *William Harris* to *Elizabeth Harris*, his widow.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 7/11/1853 - Advert

“Sale at the SWAN INN, at Sedgley.

To Brokers, Parties Furnishing, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. T. P. Stokes, on the premises as above – all the Household Furniture, capital maltsters cart, and other Effects, belonging to Mr. *William Harris*, by order of his Trustees.

The sale will commence in the morning at eleven o’clock precisely.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/12/1853

“At the Public Office, on the 6th instant, a special sessions was held for transferring licenses.

that of the Executors of *Elizabeth Harris*, deceased, late of the SWAN, at Sedgley, to *Henry Ogilvie Wallens*.”

Henry Wallens = Henry Wallins = Henry Wallings

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/3/1856

“Annual Vestry Meeting At Sedgley.

Shortly after the termination of business of the meeting between 40 and 50 gentlemen assembled at the house of Mr. *Wallens*, the SWAN INN, where they sat down to a dinner, which had been placed on the table by the host and hostess. Mr. Millard, of the

Birches Penn, occupied the chair; and the duties of vice-chairman were ably discharged by Mr. Carmi Rollason, of Coseley. Justice having been done to the repast, and the cloth was removed.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/3/1858

“The annual vestry meeting was held on Thursday, at the parish school room, the Rev. W. Lewis in the chair. There was a large attendance of ratepayers on the occasion.

The annual parochial dinner took place afterwards at the house of Mr. *Wallens*, the SWAN INN.”

Henry O. Wallens was also a maltster. [1860], [1861], [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Journal 30/6/1860 - Advert

“Important Freehold Property, in the very centre of the Village of Sedgley, in the County of Stafford; comprising The Sedgley Workhouse, Spacious Yard, and Premises belonging thereto.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Bateman, (by order of the Guardians of the Poor of the Dudley Union), on Monday, the 18th day of July, at Six o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *Wallens*, the SWAN INN, at Sedgley aforesaid, subject to conditions there to be produced, and either in one or such other lots as may be determined at the time of sale – all that very extensive and valuable Freehold Property, comprising the Sedgley Workhouse, spacious Yard, and Premises, situated in and having excellent frontages to Vicar Street, and Gospel End Street, in the village of Sedgley. The Buildings are very large and substantially erected, the whole Premises covering an area of about 1,600 square yards.

A plan of the Property will be left for inspection with Mr. *Wallens*, SWAN INN, Sedgley, seven days prior to the sale; and may also be seen, and any further information obtained by application to the Auctioneer, or Mr. Thomas Shorthouse, Clerk to the Guardians, both of Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/10/1860

“The fifteenth anniversary dinner of a Five Pounds Money Club, held at Mr. Thomas Whittingham’s, the RED LION INN, Snow Hill, was celebrated on Tuesday evening, when about twenty-five sat down to a substantial dinner, provided for the occasion by the host. After dinner, Mr. Lawley, the secretary, was called to the chair, and Mr. *Wallens*, of the SWAN INN, Sedgley, took the vice-chair. Several toasts were drunk, and a harmonious evening was spent. The club commenced its sixteenth year yesterday evening.”

1861 Census

Gospel End Street

- [1] *Henry O. Wallens* (50), maltster and innkeeper, born Oldswinford;
- [2] Elizabeth Wallens (51), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Priscilla Wallens (24), daughter, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] Thomas H. Wallens (21), son, clerk, nail factor, born Sedgley;
- [5] *George M. Wallens* (17), son, clerk, iron works, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] Elizabeth Fereday (21), niece, house servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] Edward Law (58), house servant, born Penn;
- [8] Mary Durn (23), house servant, born Tettenhall:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/9/1861

“On Friday evening last, Alexander Stavelly, Esq, the Conservative candidate at the late election, was entertained by his Sedgley supporters at the National School Rooms, in that village, that were neatly decorated for the occasion. The dinner was supplied by Mr. Miller, of Dudley Street, Wolverhampton, and the wines by Mr. *H. O. Wallens*, of the SWAN INN, Sedgley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/3/1862

“A meeting was held in the Vestry Room, Church Street, Sedgley, yesterday, for making the numerous official appointments in connection with the parish, and the nine districts comprised therein.

The annual parochial dinner was afterwards held at the SWAN INN, at which there was a good attendance. The host and hostess again added to their good repute.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/2/1865

“A large meeting of Sedgley parishioners was held in the Vestry, on Tuesday, for the purpose of deciding upon what steps should be taken to restore the interior of the Parish Church. The Rev. W. Lewis, vicar, occupied the chair, and among those present we noticed Messrs. W. Perry, Benjamin Whitehouse, John Ellis, John Fereday, Samuel Rowley, *Henry Wallens*, Frederick A. Homer, and others. Several present having spoken of the very dirty state in which this fine structure had been so long suffered to remain, a long conversation ensued as to the extent of the renovations, and the means of raising the funds to carry out their object. On the necessity for painting it and colouring it, as early as possible, all present were agreed; but there was a diversity of opinion as to the manner in which the necessary funds can be raised. It was ultimately determined to have collections at every service in the church until the requisite amount is realised. It was also arranged that notices of these resolutions should be printed for circulation, and that the first collection be made on the Sunday following.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/7/1865

“Richard Parkes (on bail), was indicted of feloniously assaulting John Casswell on the 28th of March, at the parish of Sedgley, putting him in bodily fear, and stealing from his person the sum of 17s, his money. Mr. Young appeared on behalf of the prosecution, and Mr. Kenealy defended the prisoner. On the day in question the prosecutor, who is a labourer, living at Straight’s Gate, Sedgley, had been drinking at the SWAN public house, Sedgley. He left the house at about nine o’clock, and then had the sum of 17s in his pocket. As he was proceeding on his way home, he was assaulted by two men, one of whom, it was alleged, was the prisoner. The prosecutor was very roughly handled, and his money taken away from him. The defence set up by Mr. Kenealy was that at the time of the alleged robbery the prisoner was at Wombourne, a place about three miles distant, and to prove his alibi several witnesses were called. Mr. Young having replied upon the whole case, the learned Judge summed up, and the Jury returned a verdict of not guilty. The learned Judge expressed his concurrence with the conclusion arrived at by the Jury, observing their verdict, under the circumstances was the safer one. The Court then rose.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/3/1866 - Advert

“Sedgley. Important Building Land, Adjoining the Police Station.

Mr. Thomas Richards will offer by Auction on Monday, 2nd April, at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, at Six o’clock pm, subject to conditions then to be read.

All that plot of Land adjoining the Police Station having frontages of 10 yards to Vicar Street, and six yards to Gospel End Street, Sedgley, and containing 450 square yards or thereabouts.

The attention of persons in search of good Building Sites is respectfully drawn to this land, which being situate in the most important part of the village of Sedgley, offers unusual facilities for building purposes.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. Thomas Waterhouse, Solicitor, Bilston and Sedgley, or the Auctioneer, 17, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 9/2/1867 - Advert

“Important Sale of Freehold Building Land.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Sell by Auction, on Monday the 18th day of February instant, at the house of Mr. *H. O. Wallens*, the SWAN INN, Sedgley, at Six o’clock in the evening, and subject to conditions of sale then to be produced.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 24/8/1867

“The following have been elected after a contest as the members of the Local Board for Upper Sedgley.....

Henry Ogilvie Wallens.”

Birmingham Journal 6/6/1868 - Married

“On the 3rd inst, at the Parish Church, Sedgley (by the Rev. W. Lewis, vicar) *George Mayo*, second son of Mr. *H. O. Wallens*, Sedgley, to *Helen Eliza*, eldest daughter of Mr. James Mapp, of the same place.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/1/1870

“At the Police Court, yesterday, Job Southall, nailer, High Street, Sedgley, was charged with assaulting his wife. On Monday night prisoner was drinking at the SWAN INN, Sedgley. At nine o’clock his wife went to get him home. He seized her by the hair of the head, and struck her violently several times, and then pushed her out of the house and kicked her. She started towards her home, but fell exhausted after she had gone only a few yards. Southall had been thirteen times before the Magistrates for various offences, and the Stipendiary yesterday sent him to prison for six months.”

1871 Census

88, Gospelend Street – SWAN INN

[1] *George M. Wallens* (27), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Helen E. Wallens* (25), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Mary E. Wallens* (1), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] *George Claybrook* (21), servant, waiter, born Broughton, Shropshire;

[5] *Emily Mason* (21), domestic servant, born Sedgley;

[6] *Jane Goodman* (11), nurse, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 3/1/1872 - Advert

“Wanted, immediately, a good General Servant.

Apply, SWAN INN, Sedgley.”

George Mayo Wallens was also a maltster. [1873]

Birmingham Daily Post 28/7/1873 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Detached Villa Residence, situated on the Dudley and Wolverhampton Road, Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent (by order of the representatives of the late Mr. William M. Willetts), at the house of Mr. *George Wallens*, the SWAN INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday, August 5, 1873, at 6 o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then produced.....:

County Advertiser 15/11/1873 - Advert

“DUDLEY ARMS INN, Himley.

A Miscellaneous Concert will be given by the Shut End Brass And Reed Band, assisted by the Sedgley Vocal Union, at the above Inn, on Monday, November 24th, 1873.

For the benefit of the Funds of the Guest Hospital, Dudley.

Under the following distinguished Patronage.....

Miss Darby will Preside at the Pianoforte.

Prices of Admission: Reserved Seats, 2s; Second Seats, 1s; Back Seats, 6d.

Doors to open at seven to commence at half-past.

Tickets may be had at the DUDLEY ARMS INN, Himley; Post Office, Kingswinford; Post Office, Wombourn; Mr. W. Gould, Swindon; Mr. Joseph Hughes, FORGE INN, Gornal; Mr. *Wallings*, SWAN INN, Sedgley; Mr. J. Wilshaw, Wordsley; and of Messrs. W. Ludlow and T. Barrow, Secretaries.”

Dudley Guardian 27/2/1875 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Villa Residence, Woodsetton, near Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, at the house of Mr. *Wallens*, the SWAN INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday, March the 9th, 1875, at Six o'clock in the Evening, subject to conditions to be then read.....”

Dudley Herald 18/11/1876

“A shocking occurrence happened at Sedgley Hall on Wednesday evening, resulting in the death of a man named Alfred Sykes. Sykes was in the employment of Mr. Stephen Wilkes, and had brought a waggon and three horses to Sedgley Hall Farm, and as they had to descend a hill the wheel was locked. One of the other men saw the waggon, which was laden with manure, pass safely into the yard and go onward. In a short time, as Sykes did not come with his horses as was expected, a youth named Painter went in search of him, and found him dead. The head and foot of Sykes were jammed in the ground, and the body, which was entangled in the locked wheel, had ploughed the ground for some yards. Yesterday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, held an inquest at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, on the body, when the above facts were adduced. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

County Express 17/11/1877

“On Thursday, and inquest was held at the SWAN INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, before Mr. W. H. Phillips, district corner, touching the death of Reuben Wakelam, aged 40, who was killed on Wednesday night. Mr. S. Fellowes, solicitor, watched the proceedings on behalf of Mrs. Compstone and William Thompson.

The Coroner said he did not wish anyone to be on the jury who was interested in the deceased or William Thompson. The following evidence was then taken.

Absalom Fellowes, miner, deposed that on the afternoon in question he was in Mr. Thompson's shop in the Bull Ring, and asked to see Mr. Compstone, but he was told that he was not in. At that time he saw William Thompson and Henry Johnson shooting with a double-barrelled gun at a gas jet. He saw them shoot twice. They were firing off caps. He then left the shop, but in the course of a short time Reuben Wakelam came in and asked for some tobacco. He and the others then retired into the ante-room adjoining the shop, and Compstone then came into the room, and whilst he was reading the paper an explosion occurred, and he afterwards heard William Thompson say, ‘Oh, good Lord, Joseph, I didn't know that the gun was loaded.’ He looked round and saw that Waklam lay in a pool of blood. He did not see how Thompson let the gun off. He believed it was Thompson who fired the shot because he afterwards admitted it. The shot came in the same direction as those shots fired at the gas lamp.

By Mr. Fellowes: If Thompson had intended anyone he must have shot four persons, as the room in which the occurrence took place was very small. William Thompson and the deceased were very good friends. Some of the shots struck him and afterwards passed the skin.

Joseph Compstone, assistant to Mr. W. Thompson, chemist and druggist, Bull Ring, Sedgley, said that he had a double-barrelled gun which was now in the possession of the police. When he returned to the shop on the previous day he was not aware that Johnson and Thompson had been using his gun. His employer sold powder and shot. On the previous morning witness sent the deceased to his house for his gun as he intended going shooting pigeons in the afternoon. Directly he had had dinner he loaded the gun with shot and powder and placed it on the stairs. He did not place any cap on it, neither did he tell anyone that he had loaded it.

The Coroner: How was the gun fired off? – Witness said he could not say.

Whilst Wakelam, Fellowes, Johnson, and himself were standing in the office an explosion took place, and Wakelam was killed, and he and the two other persons were injured.

By Mr. Fellowes: Wakelam came into the shop and asked for tobacco, but he refused to give it to him. He had already paid him for fetching the gun. Witness was wounded by the shots. He did not see the remains of exploded caps on the floor.

Henry Johnson gave corroborative evidence.

By Mr. Fellowes: He did not tell Compstone that he and Thompson had been playing with the gun, as they knew that he might be angry with them.

Mr. Fellowes called John William Thompson, aged 17, who stated that what the previous witnesses had stated was perfectly true. Previous to that day he had never used a gun, not even with a cap. He used the gun, and when the act of firing it the shot caught Wakelam and killed him.

The Coroner, in summing up, said it was quite clear that Wakelam had lost his life at the hands of Thompson through firing a gun, which he thought was unloaded. But he really thought great blame was attached to Compstone for leaving a loaded gun in a place

where any of the assistants might go and meddle with it, especially with leaving it without any cap on it. The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict that the deceased had been Accidentally Killed, but they were of opinion that Compstone had been guilty of negligence in leaving the gun in a place where boys could get at it. The Coroner said he hoped that the lamentable occurrence would be a caution to Compstone and the boys. Mr. Compstone said he much regretted the occurrence, but he was not aware at the time that the boys had been interfering with his gun.”

Birmingham Weekly Post 1/3/1879 - Died

“On the 20th ult, at Sedgley, aged 5 years, Arthur Leonard, the much loved and deeply lamented child of *George and Helen Wallens*.”

Dudley Herald 31/7/1880 - Advert

“Sedgley. Valuable Freehold Flour Mill and Dwelling Houses; also Free Copyhold Building Land. Messrs. Sollom and Barnett will Sell by Auction (by order of the Trustees for Sale under the Will of the late Mr. Abel Fletcher), on Tuesday, August 3rd, 1880, at 5.30 for 6pm punctually, at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, aforesaid.....”

1881 Census

Gospel End Street – SWAN INN

- [1] *George M. Wallens* (37), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Helen E. Wallens* (35), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary E. Wallens (11), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Harold F. Wallens (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elsie M. Wallens (10 months), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Martha Willets (17), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [7] Sarah A. Hill (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 23/7/1881 - Advert

“Important to Nail Manufacturers, Corn Merchants, Hay and Straw Dealers, Speculators, and Others. Sale of a very Eligible Business Premises, most centrally situated in Sedgley. To Be Sold By Auction, By Mr. Charles Round, at the SWAN INN, Sedgley, on Tuesday, July 26, 1881, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions of Sale. All that Commodious Business Premises (formerly and for many years occupied by Messrs. Elwell and Willetts, Nail Manufacturers), situate at the corner of High Street and Bilston Street, Sedgley.....”

Evening Star 16/2/1882

“Mr. H. Brevitt, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the PRINCE OF WALES, Woodsetton, near Sedgley, on Wednesday, touching the death of Mr. William Perry, a farmer, and who was well known. The circumstances of his death are as here. It appeared that until a recent date, the deceased occupied the farm known as Hickman Lands, Sedgley, and the circumstances under which he left seemed to have pressed upon his mind. On Thursday afternoon deceased went to the SWAN INN, Sedgley, where a glass of gin was supplied. Deceased afterwards sat in a corner of the bar alone, and during the temporary absence of the waiter was heard to fall, and was found with his face downwards, bleeding from a wound to the forehead, his head having struck a spittoon, apparently. He was insensible, and was removed to his residence at Tipton Road, Woodsetton. Dr. Johnson attended upon him, but notwithstanding every effort being made for his recovery, he died. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 17/2/1885 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Girl, about 13, to take care of two children; younger five years. Apply, SWAN INN, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 30/9/1885 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Girl, with good character, as General Servant. Apply, the SWAN, Sedgley.”

George Mayo Wallens died on 7th April 1888.

Helen Eliza Wallens = Ellen Eliza Wallens

Wolverhampton Express and Star 2/1/1889 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable, trustworthy Girl as General Servant. Apply, SWAN INN, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 1/10/1889 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Girl, about 15, as nurse to little boy, 3. Apply, SWAN, Sedgley.”

1891 Census

88, Gospelend Street – SWAN INN

- [1] *Ellen Wallens* (45), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary E. Wallens (24), daughter, governess, born Sedgley;
- [3] Harold F. Wallens (13), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elsie M. Wallens (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Wilfred V. Wallens (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth Green (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

88, Gospelend Street – SWAN INN

- [1] *Helen Wallens* (55), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary E. Wallens (31), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] Harold F. Wallens (23), son, civil engineer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Elsie M. Wallens (20), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Ester Wooton (17), general servant, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Gospel End Street – SWAN INN

- [1] *Helen Eliza Wallens* (65), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Wilfrid Vernon Wallens (24), son, surveyor and civil engineer, born Sedgley;
- [3] Louisa Carter (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

1921 Census

88, Gospel End Street

- [1] *Clifford Albert Smith* (36), grocer's clerk, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Smith (31), wife, home duties, born Sedgley;
- [3] Olive Christina May Smith (11), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sybil Edna Eileen Smith (8), daughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [5] Clifford Eustace Smith (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Elizabeth Brooks (24), servant, home duties, born Sedgley:

Clifford Albert Smith died in the 4th quarter of 1923.

Dudley Chronicle 18/3/1926

“The nominations for the Sedgley Urban Council Elections, polling for which takes place on March 22nd, are as follows.....
Central Ward *George Mills*, licensed victualler.”

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president's move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.
Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.
It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.
The Contributions SWAN INN, Sedgley, £1 10s.”
[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/9/1928

“Remarkable evidence was given at Sedgley Police Court yesterday, in a case of robbery with violence when the defending solicitor made serious allegation against a witness.

Defendant was Joseph Stephen Rudge, aged 20, of 5, Beacon Lane, Sedgley, and the principal witness was George Hadley Greaves, aged 30, of 10, Dudley Road, Halesowen, whom it was alleged Rudge robbed with violence on 19 August, snatching a gold bangle and a wristlet watch, value £3 from his left wrist, throwing him back, kneeling on his chest and striking him. The original charge was reduced to larceny, the chairman (Mr. J. A. Jordon), saying that the magistrates were not satisfied there was sufficient proof of violence.

On the reduced charge Rudge was fined £10, or alternatively two months.

Mr. E. E. Brown, outlining the case described Greaves as a singer and female impersonator, and on the night in question he and two friends met at the SWAN INN, Sedgley. During the evening Rudge told Greaves, who had been amusing the company, that he thought he could get him some engagements, ‘but I will see you after ten o'clock.’

At closing time, continued Mr. Brown, accused invited Greaves to have a short walk in order that Rudge might give Greaves some information as to where engagements could be obtained. The pair walked down Etymore Lane, and Rudge, without any warning, put his foot behind Greaves, threw him on his back and snatched the watch and bangle. Accused then jumped over a stile and made off across some fields.

At midnight Sergeant Pitt, accompanied by Greaves, visited the spot, and the gold bangle was discovered. Next day the sergeant saw accused at a Wolverhampton works, and in reply to the sergeant's questions, it was alleged he said, 'We did have a bit of bother, but I had nothing off him.'

Rudge was brought to Sedgley, and when charged the allegation was that he replied, 'We had a bit of a 'wroastle' when we got down the lane, and then he accused me of having his watch and bangle. He then started bawling, and I struck a match to see if I could find them. He continued bawling, and I thought it best to get away and walked away.'

The next day the sergeant went to the home of the accused and it was alleged he found the watch in the pocket of an overcoat. Greaves, when cross-examined by Mr. Bergendorff, denied that he followed Rudge to the rear of the public-house.

Mr. Bergendorff: Did you wink at him (Rudge) at all – No.

Did you do anything to attract his attention? – No.

Did you suggest going down the lane? – No.

You are a married man? – Yes.

Living apart from your wife? – Yes.

You are a woman impersonator? – Yes.

Is it a fact that you have been seen kissing and loving men? – No, never.

I put it to you that going down the lane you put your arm around this young man and said, 'I have taken a fancy to you'? – No.

Did you say, 'Do you think you can love me'? – No, it is idiotic.

Did you kiss him? – No.

Mr. Bergendorff: Was not the struggle because this man was trying to prevent you from interfering with him? – No, nothing of the kind.

Mr. Bergendorff concluded his cross-examination by saying, 'I make the further suggestion that you are a man of gross immoral character.' – Witness: Of course not.

In reply to Mr. Brown, Greaves said he was dressed in an ordinary civilian suit.

George Welsh and Hubert Perry, the companions of Greaves, gave evidence supporting his statement.

Police-sergeant Pitt said when he saw Greaves there were no marks of violence on his face, wrists or hands, and he did not make any complaint about any injury.

Rudge's story was that Greaves suggested that they went for a stroll and defendant never mentioned engagements. During the walk Greaves said, 'I have taken a fancy to you. Do you think you could love me?' Greaves tried to interfere with him, putting his arm round him on three occasions as they sat down. There followed a struggle, and then he said he had lost his watch. Greaves began to bawl 'like a madman' and walked away. Later Rudge returned to the spot and found the watch. He wanted to give the watch to Greaves personally, so that he need not say anything about the affair."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/5/1929

"The presence of Miss Lily Elsie at yesterday's distribution of prizes in connection with the speed and efficiency competition for Midland typists, organised by Messrs. Lewis's, Ltd., in connection with the Underwood Typewriter Company and the *Birmingham Gazette*, invested the proceedings with special charm and public interest.....

Efficiency Test Fourth prize – £5. Miss D. M. *Mills*, SWAN HOTEL, Sedgley."

George Thomas Mills was a member of Sedgley Urban District Council. He was Chairman four times.

He was a JP.

He was Chairman of Wolverhampton and District Licensed Trade Association. [1934]

He was President of Wolverhampton and District Licensed Trade Association. [1935]

He was Chairman of Sedgley and District Building Society.

He was president of the Bilston Unionist Association.

He employed a brewer here in the 1930s.

Dudley Chronicle 24/3/1932

"Nominations received on Thursday in connection with the Sedgley Urban District Council annual elections, which will take place in April, revealed the fact that there will be straight contests in four of the six wards. In the remaining two wards the present members will be returned unopposed. As was generally anticipated locally, Councillor *George Mills* (chairman of the Council during the year just closed), who is the well-known and popular licensee of the SWAN, Gospel End Street, had not been called upon to defend his seat, and the other retiring member who is certain to go back is Councillor John Howard Hemming, engineer, of 26, Zoar Street, Lower Gornal, who represents Wood Ward....."

Dudley Chronicle 26/10/1933

"John Bassett McKiever (27), of 40, Berry Street, Wolverhampton, was fined 20s for leaving his car stationary without lights outside the SWAN INN, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, on Wednesday, October 4th, at 9.50pm. PC Williams said he saw the car at 9.50pm, and interviewed defendant, who admitted he was the owner. Defendant said he thought the lights were on."

1939 Register

88, Gospel End Street

[1] *George Thomas Mills*, date of birth 9/4/1872, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Phoebe Mills, dob 23/1/1870, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] Ernest Wilfred Mills, dob 3/3/1905, coach trimmer and vehicle builder, married;

[4] Violet Annie Mills, dob 15/11/1914, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Evening Despatch 12/4/1940

“Four Midland Men Aggregate. 150 Years as Licensees. 100 Years as Councillors.

Black Country licensed victuallers have always taken their full responsibility in municipal administration, and particularly is this true in the area round Dudley.

Tipton, Sedgley, and Coseley Councils are ‘fathered’ by ‘mine hosts’ and the last named authority has another member of the trade with a long record of public usefulness.

The four are: Ald. W. J. W. George, of the JOLLY BREWER INN, Burnt Tree, Tipton; Councillor *George Mills*, C.C., of the SWAN INN, Sedgley; Councillor J. Grange, of the APPLE TREE INN, Coseley; and Councillor H. Griffiths, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Woodsetton.

Their aggregated service to the community exceeds a hundred years, and as licensed victuallers they total nearly a hundred and fifty years.

Ald. George had held the license of the JOLLY BREWER for just 50 years, and has continuously served on Tipton Council for 41 years.

Councillor *Mills* has taken out 39 licenses, and his membership of Sedgley Council covers an unbroken period of 26 years, and Councillors Grange and Griffiths, who have been licensees for more than 25 years, have between them nearly 40 years service on Coseley Council.

Many years ago the first three named were the chairmen of the respective councils during the same year.

These interesting facts were revealed to the *Evening Despatch* reporter by Ald. George, who is shortly retiring from business.....”

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Birmingham Daily Post 5/11/1951

“Public life and the public house have been the two chief interests of Mr. *George Mills*, of Sedgley, for some 50 years. In public life, he served on the Staffordshire County Council for 16 years and became an alderman, while in 30 years as a member of Sedgley Urban Council he was chairman and vice-chairman four times. Tuberculosis and old-age pensions were his particular interest and his work for old people has been recognised by his appointment as president of the newly-formed Sedgley Pensioners Club. His association with the public house has now ended. At the age of 79, Mr. *Mills* has retired from the licensed trade. His departure from the SWAN INN, Sedgley, has been marked by the presentation to him of a gold watch, bought by 70 of his friends.”

Birmingham Weekly Mercury 17/5/1953

“Sedgley’s ‘Grand Old Man’ is Mr. *George Mills*, who has now become an octogenarian. A former member and ‘father’ of the Sedgley Council and a County Council alderman, Mr. *Mills* looks back upon a long period of public service zealously performed. His voluntary activities in Staffordshire generally and Sedgley in particular have covered a wide range.

Recently Mr. *Mills*, who was a licensed victualler, presided for the 26th year in succession at the annual meeting of the Sedgley Building Society. That organisation and the Sedgley Old Age Pensioners Club (of which he is president) now constitute his main interests.”

Tipton Herald 28/4/1956

“Commented 47-years-old John Massey, of 2, Wrekin View Road, Sedgley, when charged with being drunk and disorderly last Saturday morning, ‘I started drinking at six o’clock and it just got over me. I think my legs gave way.’

Massey, who had to be ejected from the SWAN INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, seven minutes before time the previous evening, and who then refused to go home was fined a total of £5 at Sedgley Stipendiary Court on Monday, for refusing to quit licensed premises and being drunk and disorderly.

When searched at the Police Station Massey had just over £11 in his possession.”

Birmingham Daily Post 2/10/1959 - Obituary

“Mr. *George Thomas Mills*, who has died at Sedgley at the age of 88, was for 28 years a member of Sedgley Council, four times its chairman and for many years its ‘father.’ For 14 years he was a member and in later years an Alderman of Staffordshire County Council. He became a pupil teacher at Sedgley on leaving school, and then entered a safe manufacturing business, in which he became a junior partner. Later he entered the licensing trade, in which he remained for more than 50 years. He was for many years president of the Wolverhampton and District Licensed Trade Association, and Midland representative of the National Trade Defence Association. He was at one time district president of the Bilston Unionist Association, and a manager of Sedgley Roman Catholic School.”

Geoffrey Bangham was born on 17th August 1938.

He was married to Mabel.

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz competition. [1973/74], [1974/5]

Sports Argus 24/11/1973

“The Great Inn Quiz £1,200 in Prize Money.

Section C . . . Cross Keys, Worcester Road, West Hagley v SWAN INN, Gospel End, Sedgley, or Talbot Inn, Hartlebury, near Kidderminster.”

Sports Argus 26/1/1974

“The Great Inn Quiz £1,200 in Prize Money.

Royal Toby Cheltenham, chalked up 33 points after their 60-mile trip to meet the SWAN INN, at Sedgley. SWAN Landlord *Ron West* did the two teams and the Inn Quiz reputation a power of good with a tremendous spread. SWAN went down 33-26.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 13/7/1983

“Green-fingered thieves snatched four valuable hanging baskets from a Sedgley pub only days after they were put up. The baskets, worth £15 each, were stolen from the SWAN in the Bull Ring on Saturday – and the next day the raiders came back for more and snatched another one. Now, licensee Mr. *Geoffrey Bangham* is keeping a round-the-clock guard on his pub garden. Mr. *Bangham* has spent more than £650 refurbishing and landscaping the pub garden.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 7/1/1984

“A Sedgley teenager stole a charity collecting bottle containing cash for the blind from a pub, Dudley magistrates were told. Graham Alan Oswell (18), of Sunningdale Road, pleaded guilty to entering the SWAN pub, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, as a trespasser and stealing cash belonging to Wolverhampton, Dudley, and District Institute for the Blind. Oswell was put on probation for one year and ordered to pay a total of £81 costs and compensation.

Miss Lesley Dickinson, prosecuting, said the licensee of the SWAN pub discovered the large whisky bottle containing cash was missing from his bar on November 7 and reported this to the police. The bottle had contained £55 but when police discovered it at nearby High Holborn, about £12 was missing. Police interviewed Oswell who admitted he had entered the pub through an insecure door and helped himself to the bottle on the bar. Mr. Gerald Thorne, defending, said the offence was unpremeditated and had followed a session of drinking.”

Birmingham Mail 16/8/1984 - Advert

“SWAN, Gospel End Street, Sedgley.

A Warm and Friendly Pub.

Hot and Cold Lunches Monday-Friday, also Pizzas – Day and Night.

Come and join us for a night out.

Small car park at rear.”

Walsall Observer 21/12/1984

“A Walsall brass band’s Christmas pub tour has become so popular that the players have been forced to split into three groups to complete their schedule. Highgate Brass Band, sponsored by brewers Mitchells and Butlers West, are tonight completing a series of 12 Christmas carol concerts in M&B pubs throughout the Black Country. ‘The Highgate Brass Band appeared at a number of our pubs last Christmas and were so popular that we have had to split them up into three groups of six players each to meet all the requests,’ an M&B spokesman said. ‘They bring a great deal of traditional Christmas cheer and goodwill with them, and money raised during the evenings will go to local charities.’

The band appears tonight at 9pm at the SWAN, Gospel End Street, Sedgley; the HARDEN, Coalpool Lane, Walsall, and the ARCHERS, Yew Tree Estate, Walsall.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 21/7/1986

“*Geoff Bangham*, landlord of the SWAN INN, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, is to set fire to a bonfire of 200 wooden seats which formerly occupied a local cinema as part of firework celebration for Wednesday’s Royal Wedding.”

[The wedding of Prince Andrew to Sarah Ferguson.]

Sandwell Evening Mail 3/11/1986

“A 30ft high bonfire, fireworks display, and barbecue is being staged at the SWAN INN, Gospel End Street, Sedgley, on Wednesday, aimed at raising £500 for the British Heart Foundation.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 22/8/1988

“Black Country publican *Geoff Bangham* is a bit of a mad hatter. In the last decade he has amassed a collection of more than 100 hats from all over the world, including top hats, bowlers, theatrical hats, a fez, firemen’s helmets and military hats. Some of them are quite rare, such as his early fireman’s helmet and a 1934 straw boater.

Geoff, who runs the SWAN INN, Sedgley, said, ‘We started collecting them just out of interest; we and customers bring them from abroad and find them at sales. I could not put a value on them, but the collection must be worth hundreds of pounds.’ Most are on display in his Gospel End Street pub, and on party nights they are handed out to customers for sing-alongs.”

Sandwell Evening Mail 18/4/1991

“Pub landlord *Geoff Bangham* is a real big cheese in the Black Country. For *Geoff*, Sedgley’s longest-serving licensee, has built

up a valuable collection of 140 cheese dishes from all over Britain and the Continent.

Geoff, who has kept the SWAN INN in Gospel End Street for a decade, was given his first cheese dish three years ago. He fell in love with the attractively-decorated dish painted in a classic French style and now has an enormous collection. Customers visiting different parts of the country bring him dishes to add to his collection and he has several from abroad. 'They are on display in the pub and are very popular. I have got one in the shape of a mouse, another like a pig and even antiques,' said *Geoff*, who has now started a collection of miniatures."

Geoffrey Bangham – See also GEOFFREY'S PIANO BAR, GEORGE VAULTS, QUARTER HOUSE and VINE, Wolverhampton.

[Birmingham Weekly Mercury 24/12/1995](#)

"Sad Santa Jack Pugh was still down in the dumps – despite having twice as many children in his grotto yesterday as last weekend. Last week the *Sunday Mercury* revealed how Jack was the saddest Santa in the Midlands because he was visited by just three children in six hours. But a renewed publicity campaign to attract more children to the grotto yesterday failed – just six boys and girls turned up all day!

Jack, aged 69, built the grotto at the SWAN pub in Sedgley, Dudley, to raise £200 for handicapped children in Romania. Jack said, 'I have felt pretty silly sitting here on my own for five hours with no-one but Dolly, the pub goat, for company. I still think youngsters want to go and see Santa but their parents can't be bothered to take them.

Jack did bring some Christmas cheer to two visitors all the way from Tenerife. Alicia Mackay, aged 4, and her brother Adam, 12, are visiting their grandparents Rhoda and Rick Lee, who decided to take them to the grotto."

[Sandwell Evening Mail 29/4/1996](#)

"A Black Country man was stabbed during an attack in a pub. The 50-year-old man was stabbed in the stomach and back in the lavatory at the SWAN in Sedgley town centre at closing time on Saturday night. The victim, who lives in Sedgley, staggered back into the pub after his attacker fled. Regulars alerted the emergency services and he was taken to Russells Hall Hospital, Dudley. Police said his injuries were serious, but not thought to be life-threatening. Det Chief Inspector John Edwards, of Dudley CID, said, 'We have still not been able to interview him yet, so at this stage the reason for the attack is not known.'"

Jenny Haney's partner was Alan.

It was refurbished in 1997.

A football team from here took part in the Wolverhampton Sunday League. [1998], [1999]

Bed and breakfast was offered. [2010]

[Express & Star 24/4/2021](#)

"A security guard was stabbed outside a pub in Sedgley last night. The incident took place outside the SWAN INN, in Gospel End Street, at about 10.20pm. Police say they believe the stabbing followed a dispute involving a group of men at the entrance to the pub. The victim, in his 60s, was taken to hospital for an injury to his abdomen which is not believed to be life-threatening....."

[Express & Star 22/1/2023](#)

"A Sedgley pub and hotel is on the market for £275,000. The SWAN INN in Gospel End Street, described as a pub/development site, is being sold through Sutton Coldfield commercial property business Matthew Phillips Surveyors. Director Matthew Phillips said it was being sold by the owner because of recent performance. It went up for sale this month and is available with vacant possession. 'There has already been quite a lot of interest in the SWAN,' said Mr Phillips.

The pub is owned by the Solihull-based Stonegate Pub Company. The SWAN, opposite All Saints Parish Church and next to the village's Conservative club, underwent refurbishment before it reopened after the first coronavirus lockdown in July 2020.

The freehold premises has 2,626 sq ft on the ground floor with bedrooms upstairs. It has a beer garden and 0.2 acres of grounds including a 10-space car park to the rear off Ettymore Road. The pub has been managed by *Jason Cooper*, who also manages MARLEY'S BAR in the village's High Street, since March 2020. The leaseholder is Mark Bradley. It currently only opens Friday to Sunday, with karaoke nights until 1am on Fridays and Sundays. There is also a function room which is hired out for special events. The SWAN INN, which dates from the early 19th Century, has been Grade II listed since 1976."

[Express & Star 1/4/2023](#)

"A stylish pub with seven bedrooms above is still on the market for about the same price as your average three-bed home. The SWAN INN in Dudley is being marketed by Matthew Phillips Surveyors, who say the pub was trading until recently but is now being sold for £275,000. The pub closed down in February.

The grade-II listed building is located in a conservation area, and has a spacious beer garden from which visitors can see for miles. Above the pub is seven bedrooms. An agent from Matthew Phillips said 'all rooms need a refurbishment' but that the property has 'a lot of potential.'

The listing on Rightmove reads, 'The SWAN INN directly adjoins the former Barclays Bank to the east and the Sedgley Conservative Club to the west. The pub adjoins the main shopping facilities and is in the heart of the evening entertainment circuit. Sedgley Town Centre is surrounded by housing providing an immediate residential catchment. Wolverhampton lies 3 miles to

the north and Dudley 3 miles to the southeast. Internally, the trading area is laid out as one open bar, arranged in three separate seating areas. The trading area features part carpet tiles, part timber floor, tongue and groove panelling to dado, various original inglenook fireplaces with wood-burners and ceiling timbers. A corridor leads to the customer lavatories and to the catering kitchen. Extensive brick, vaulted beer cellar is in the basement with drop to the rear.”

Express & Star 17/8/2023

“A Grade II listed pub in Sedgley which shut in February is set to reopen in time for Christmas. The SWAN INN in Gospel End Street – opposite All Saints Parish Church – is to become part of the Red Pub Company chain. The pub, which dates from the early 19th Century, was sold for £250,000 in July by Stonegate Pub Company and has been let to the Tipton-based pub company. Director Paul Jones said work would start in the next few weeks on a refurbishment of the ground floor which will see it refocused as a real ale pub with six handpulls and more craft beers. The nine rooms upstairs will be used for a separate Airbnb business. Structural repairs to the roof are to be carried out first. Mr. Jones said the pub would open before that started operation. ‘The aim is to open before Christmas. There is a lot of work to be done,’ he added. He stressed that the plan was to make the SWAN a community asset. The beer garden would also be improved and he was exploring putting electric vehicle charging points in the car park. It will be Red Pub Company’s 18th pub and tenth real ale specialist premises.”

Express & Star 18/11/2023

“The Red Pub Company has begun hiring staff for its latest real ale pub. The SWAN INN HOTEL in Gospel End Street, Sedgley, is expected to open before Christmas. In readiness for its grand opening, the Tipton-based company is looking for experienced bar staff. Anyone interested in working there can call 0121 520 8899 to discuss opportunities. The Red Pub Company, which also owns the JOLLY CRISPIN in nearby Upper Gornal, is aiming for an early December reopening. Refurbishment work is currently being carried out on the ground floor. The SWAN INN, a Grade II listed pub, shut in February.

It reopened on 22nd December 2023.

[2023]

SWAN

1, Mount Street, Ruiton, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Mr. Smith, gentleman, Manchester (by conveyance November 1876)
Henry Hall
Stephen Wilkes Fellows

LICENSEES

Hill [1857]
Thomas Heathwell [1861]
Charles Hartland [1871] – **1876**;
Henry Hall (**1876 – 1880**);
Stephen Wilkes Fellows (**1880 – 1891**):

NOTES

Brierley Hill Advertiser 12/9/1857 - Advert

“To be Let, with immediate possession, the SWAN Public House, at Upper Gornal, with three Cottages, and about two Acres of Land adjoining.

For further particulars apply to Mr. *Hill*, the tenant on the spot, or to Mr. Frederick Smith, Level, Brierley Hill.”

1861 Census

Ruiton – SWAN INN

- [1] *Thomas Heathwell* (45), publican and miner, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Heathwell (45), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Isaac Heathwell (24), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Betsy Heathwell (19), daughter, general servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah A. Heathwell (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

- [6] Phebe J. Heathwell (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
[7] Thomas Heathwell (4), son, born Sedgley:

1871 Census

1, Mount Street – SWAN INN

- [1] *Charles Hartland* (33), carpenter, employing two men and licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
[2] Elizabeth Hartland (32), wife, born Birmingham;
[3] Henry Hartland (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
[4] Louisa Hartland (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
[5] Hannah Giles (13), general servant, born Sedgley:

The license was refused at the Licensing Meeting on 21st August 1891.

SWAN

84, (50), Sedgley Road, (New) Swan Village, (Foxyards), WOODSETTON

OWNERS

George Smith, out of business, Victoria Terrace, Bradmore, Wolverhampton
Showells Brewery Co. Ltd. [1903], [1908]
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.
Liquid Services Ltd.

LICENSEES

Isaac Richards [1854] – [1862]
George Smith [1864] – [1866]
William Baker [1868]
Joseph Taft [1868] – 1886);
Michael Caddick (1886 – 1894);
George Bates (1894 – 1895);
William Bates (1895 – 1897);
George York (1897 – 1899);
Joseph Webb (1899 – 1903);
John Whitehouse (1903);
James Smith (1903);
Samuel Hyde (1903 – 1915);
James Morgan (1915 – 1923);
Thomas Parker (1923);
Henry Smith (1923 – 1924);
George Henry Hill (1924 – 1925);
Edward Faulkner (1925 – 1931);
Harry Wake (1931 – 1936);
William Albert Pratt (1936 – [1938]
Arnold H Silvey [1940]
William Joseph Lawrence [] – 1968);
Charles Arthur Price (1968 – 1969);
William Alfred Cartwright (1969 – 1971);
Robert Shand Calkin (1971 – 1974);
Elizabeth Mary Norris (1974 – 1975);
Martin Nugent (1975 – 1976);
Charles Francis Millward (1976 – 1979);
Daniel Meehan (1979 – 1980);
Joseph Samuel Nichols (1980 – 1982);
Freda Irene Picken (1982 – 1985);
Phuman Singh Sanghera (1985 – 1986);
Malcom John White (1986 – 1988);
Jennifer May White (1988);

Ronald 'Ron' Furnage (1988 – []
Tony Pearson [2000]
Carl Price [2008]

NOTES

New Swan Village [1862]
50, Sedgley Road [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1904]
84, Sedgley Road

Tokens were issued from here.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/2/1855 - Died

“February 15, after a lingering illness, aged 46, Mary, the beloved wife of Mr. *Isaac Richards*, SWAN INN, Fox Yards, and daughter of the late Mr. Richard Caddick, Coseley.”

[Richard Caddick – see OLD BUSH, Skidmore Row, Coseley.]

Birmingham Journal 30/6/1855 - Advert

“To Members Of Building Societies And Others.

Desirable Freehold Building Land, with the Mines and Minerals under the same, situate at Woodsetton, in the parish of Sedgley. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. S. Powell, at the house of Mr. *Isaac Richards*, the SWAN INN, Foxyards, Sedgley, on Wednesday Next, the 4th day of July, 1855, at Six o'clock in the evening, in the following or such other lots as shall be determined at the time of sale, and subject to conditions to be produced....”

Black Country Bugle 14/4/2005

'The Birth of a Gornalwood Church'

“Members of the Mount Tabor New Connexion Chapel in Woodsetton, for instance, first met in the club room at the rear of the SWAN INN then kept by *Isaac Richards*, and it was even in this room in the pub that the first Sunday School Anniversary was held.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/5/1859 - Advert

“Sale Of Horses, Vehicles, &c.

By Mr. S. Powell, This Day (Wednesday), at 2.30pm, at the SWAN INN, Foxyards, near Tipton.
A quantity of Slack Barrows, Shovels, Traps, Harness, Horses, and other Effects.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/2/1861 - Died

“On the 17th inst, Ann Hickman, younger daughter of Mr. *Isaac Richards*, of the SWAN INN, Fox Yards, Sedgley.”

1861 Census

Swan Village – SWAN INN

- [1] *Isaac Richards* (48), widower, publican, born Tipton;
- [2] Samuel Richards (4), nephew, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [3] George Smith (24), son in law, schoolmaster, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Lucy Smith (26), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Emily A. Smith (1), granddaughter, born Tipton;
- [6] Sarah Nickholds (16), visitor, servant, born Tipton;
- [7] Sarah Evans (18), general servant, born Tipton:

Birmingham Journal 12/12/1863 - Deaths

“On the 5th inst, in the 52nd year of his age, Mr. *Isaac Richards*, of the Fox Yards, Sedgley.”

Isaac Richards – see also OLD BUSH, Skidmore Row, Coseley.

Birmingham Daily Post 6/2/1865 - Advert

“Wanted, active Lad, aged about 18, to live in the house.
Address, SWAN INN, Fox Yards, near Tipton.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/1/1866

“On Monday, at the SWAN INN, Fox Yards, an inquest was held on the remains of John Hickman, a labourer. About nine o'clock on the preceding Saturday night, deceased was found quite dead, in a pool of water at Woodsetton. It appeared that the circumstances under which deceased came to his untimely end, were of an accidental character, and the jury returned a verdict accordingly.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/10/1866

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before Isaac Spooner, Esq, William Mills was charged by Mr. *George Smith*, victualler, Swan Village, with assaulting him. From the evidence given it seems that defendant was drinking at complainant’s public-house, and introduced a pack of cards and commenced playing with them. Thomas Farr, an assistant to Mr. *Smith*, requested him to cease playing, but he would not, Farr then informed his master, who insisted upon defendant discontinuing the use of them there. Mills, however, positively refused to do so, and the landlord put him out of the house. In doing so he was assaulted by the defendant. Mr. Spooner said Mr. *Smith* had acted very properly in turning defendant out, for had a police-officer come at the time the cards were about Mr. *Smith* might have suffered innocently from this man’s behaviour. Fined 5s and costs, or fourteen days.”

1871 Census

50, Sedgley Road

- [1] *Joseph Taft* (34), innkeeper and mine agent, born Sedgley;
- [2] Anne W. Taft (32), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Horace Taft (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Kate A. Taft (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Fanny E. Taft (1), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Mary Morris (30), domestic servant, born Winslow, Herefordshire;
- [7] Matilda Bennett (16), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [8] Richard Overton (18), servant, brewer, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 15/7/1872

“At a meeting of the Chartermasters’ Association, held at the WHITE LION INN, Darlaston, on Friday evening, it was resolved that, with the view of comparing notes and arranging for concerted action, four members of the association attend a meeting of the Chartermasters’ Association about to be held at the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, near Tipton.”

Birmingham Daily Post 24/6/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, a respectable Young Man (of good character), to assist in brewing, and to make himself generally useful. Apply, SWAN INN, Woodsetton, near Dudley.”

County Advertiser 25/10/1873

“The Guest Hospital.

The committee of this institution have gratefully acknowledged the following contributions.....
£15, proceeds of a concert given at the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, by No.5211 Court of Village Foresters.”

Joseph Taft was also a mine agent. [1874]

Birmingham Daily Post 27/10/1874 - Advert

“Float (good) wanted, to suit Cob 14½ hands high. Apply, SWAN INN, Woodsetton, near Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/6/1878 - Advert

“Sale of a valuable Freehold Property, situated at the Fox Yards, Woodsetton, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford. To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Taft*, the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, on Monday Next, the 3rd day of June, at 6 o’clock.....”

1881 Census

50, Sedgley Road

- [1] *Joseph Taft* (44), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann Taft (42), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Alfred Taft (18), son, mining engineer, born Sedgley;
- [4] Horace Taft (15), son, clerk, born Sedgley;
- [5] Kate Taft (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Fanny Taft (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Frank Taft (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Edwin Taft (6), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] Sarah Winchurch (22), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [10] Mary Winchurch (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [11] William Pool (22), brewer, born Sedgley:

Dudley and District News 23/7/1881 - Advert

“Mr. George Thomas will Sell By Auction, at the House of Mr. *Joseph Taft*, the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, on Monday, the 1st day of August, 1881, at Six o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions of Sale (which will incorporate the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society).
All those Seven Freehold Dwelling Houses.....”

Dudley and District News 8/3/1884

“Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest on Monday at the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, respecting the death of Mary Ann Worton (14), Regent Street, who died suddenly on Friday morning. The deceased, who was apparently a healthy girl, was taken ill suddenly on Friday morning at two o’clock, and died in half an hour. The inquiry was adjourned to enable Dr. Johnson to make a post-mortem examination.”

Dudley and District News 27/9/1884 - Advert

“Important sale of the ‘Coseley Mill,’ Mill House, Cottages, Gardens, and Grass Land, situate at Coseley, in the county of Stafford.

Mr. Charles Round has received instructions from the Trustees of the late John Jevon, to Sell by Auction, at the SWAN INN, Swan Village, Woodsetton, on Thursday, Oct. 16, 1884, at six for seven o’clock in the Evening, subject to conditions of sale to be the produced.....”

1891 Census

50, Sedgley Road

[1] *Michael Caddick* (61), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah Caddick (53), wife, born Handsworth;

[3] Sarah Roberts (19), servant, house work, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 1/12/1900

“On Monday Mr. T. A. Stokes (county coroner) held an inquest at the SWAN HOTEL, Woodsetton, Sedgley, respecting the death of Emma Rogers, aged one year and eleven months, who had been killed in Tipton Road.

On Friday deceased ran into the horse road and was knocked down by a horse and cart, the latter laden with fireclay. The wheel of the cart, in the mother’s presence, went over the child and killed her instantaneously.

The driver of the cart, Thomas Nicholls, was not held to be blamed and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1901 Census

50, Sedgley Road

[1] *Joseph Webb* (30), licensed victualler, born Harts Hill;

[2] Florence Webb (31), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] Harry J. Webb (2), son, born Harts Hill;

[4] Francis W. Webb (23), brother, wine agent, born Harts Hill:

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/6/1902

“Wolverhampton Naturalist And Archeological Society. On Saturday afternoon the members of this society made their first excursion of the season to the Wren’s Nest Hill, near Tipton, and the outcrop of thick coal at Woodsetton.....

Tea was partaken of at the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, after which an interesting collection of fossils gathered at the Wren’s Nest was exhibited and described by Mr. W. Hutchinson, F.G.S, the leader of the excursion.”

Samuel Hyde was the brother of Jesse – see SUMMER HOUSE.

County Advertiser 30/7/1904

“On Monday at the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, Coseley, Mr. T. A. Stokes held the adjourned inquiry relative to the death of Abraham Fownes, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, and Joseph Hale, David Street, Woodsetton, who were entombed by a fall of coal whilst following their employment at No.3 Pit Foxyards Colliery worked by Messrs. Wall and Baker. Mr. Makepeace (Assistant Government Inspector of Mines) was present.

Thomas Wall, who worked the pit with Mr. Baker, having described the nature of the workings, and the accident, John Follows, underground manager, stated that at about 6-55 on the morning of the accident he made his last examination of the working where the fall occurred, being accompanied by the deceased man Fownes. The place then appeared perfectly safe. Shortly before 9am, a loader told him that he had heard a fall of coal. There were then thirteen men working down the pit, but only the deceased miners were in this particular place. Finding that both the boat hole and the return way were blocked witness shouted to Hale, who replied ‘Here I am my lad.’ Witness could also hear Fownes who was also entombed on the other side of the fall, cry out. Witness asked if they were safe, and Hale replied, ‘No, we are buried.’ All the men employed at the pit were promptly set to work to rescue the deceased men, but as fast as they removed the coal and ‘shut’ more fell. Whilst they were working they could hear the voices of the entombed men. Fownes continued to cry, ‘Lord help me’ up to about eleven o’clock, after which they did not hear his voice again. Hale was alive throughout afternoon, but at about 4-30 o’clock he told them he was dying, and they did not hear his voice again. The work of removing the falling stuff was continued incessantly, and at about 10-30pm they reached the dead bodies of the deceased, who were standing upright completely covered with the ‘shut’ and coal. The bodies were uninjured, and death had been due to suffocation. Witness had never heard any ‘bumps’ in the pit. In witness’s opinion the accident was due to the removal of some coal supporting the ‘shut’ which, rushing into the workings, knocked down the setting.

The presence of the ‘shut’ could not be detected, it being hidden by the consolidated ‘gob.’ Witness had not previously seen any ‘shut’ in this working. Whilst witness was working to get at the entombed men he was nearly buried by the ‘shut’ having to be dragged out by his feet. The shovel he was using was lost in it for three or four hours.

Mr. Makepeace: In working a broken mine like this, where you do not know of the presence of the 'gob' could not something be done, apart from the settings to protect the men against a rush of 'shut'? – Witness: I do not know anything else that could be done.

Mr. Makepeace: Was there no sign or symptom that the 'shut' was there before the rush came? – Witness: No sir.

Witness added that he had had ten years' experience in another thick-coal pit, and that both deceased men were experienced and reliable miners.

Mr. Makepeace stated that he had examined the pit after the accident, and from what he could see and learn from the men employed there he had come to the conclusion that no one was to blame. It was one of those accidents that were inherent to the working of broken thick coal mines. In such working a great deal depended on the experience of the men employed in them. It was almost impossible to ascertain the whereabouts of the broken roof, and the fracture of a piece of coal might let in the whole sheet above it. Such an accident as that by which these two men had lost their lives never happened in any other district than South Staffordshire.

The coroner remarked that the agony suffered by these two men while their comrades were trying to reach them must have been terrible.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

London Gazette 6/2/1906

“Notice is hereby given, that the Partnership hitherto subsisting between us the undersigned, *Samuel Hyde*, of the SWAN INN, Swan Village, Woodsetton, in the parish of Sedgley and county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Royalty Master, and William Winchurch, of Swan Village aforesaid, Royalty Master, and carrying on business as Royalty Masters, at Number 64 Pit, Fox Yards Colliery, Woodsetton aforesaid, under the style or firm of 'Hyde And Winchurch,' has been dissolved by mutual consent as and from the second day of February, one thousand nine hundred and six. All debts due to and owing by the said late firm will be received and paid by the undersigned, *Samuel Hyde*, by whom the said business will in future be continued.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 1906.”

Samuel Hyde. William Winchurch.”

Tipton Herald 23/10/1909

“Mr. Lewis Davies, of Princes End, Tipton, saddler and motor car agent was one of the best known and most highly respected men in that part of the district, and the news of his untimely and painfully sudden death created widespread regret among a very wide circle of people. Mr. Lewis Davies, who carried on business as Messrs. Lewis Davies and Son, had been for three years a co-opted member of the Coseley Education Committee. He attended the monthly meeting on Tuesday evening, driving there in his own motor car. After the meeting was over Mr. Davies turned to Mr. Charles Lathe, JP, and said he would be able to give him a lift on his motor car on his way home. They then left the room together, Mr. Davies preceding him and chatting most of the way. To use Mr. Lathe's own words, 'I saw him go to the front of it, and immediately he turned the handle it started forward and went over him.'

Mr. Wilson (the chairman of the committee) saw Mr. Davies's car start, and noticed the peculiar manner in which it bumped. It then swerved towards a wall on the opposite side of the road. The car was brought to a standstill by going into the wall.

The theory put forward as the cause of the accident seems most feasible, which is that Mr. Davies had left his car in gear (at the first speed) and directly he set the engine going at the front of the car, the car started and forced him to the ground.

After the accident, Mr. Davies was carried in an unconscious condition to the surveyor's office, and Dr. Clendinnen was speedily in attendance. The twenty minutes, which afterwards elapsed will never be forgotten by those who waited anxiously outside for news of the condition of their colleague. After some time intimation was given that there was little hope of recovery. It was not considered so serious as that; but a few minutes later it was announced that all efforts at artificial respiration had proved unavailing, and that death had taken place.

A large crowd had by this time gathered around the Public Offices, and the news quickly spread throughout the district.

The question of breaking the news to Mr. Davies's family was subsequently considered.

Mr. Lewis Davies, prior to becoming a member of the Coseley Education Committee, in 1907, had had a long connection with educational matters as one of the managers of Christ Church Schools, Coseley, and at the time of his death he was manager of St. John's Schools, Princes End. For a good many years he had ably filled the position of people's warden at Christ Church.

The deceased gentleman leaves a widow and three daughters, one of whom is married. It had been the intention of Mr. Davies, on leaving the committee meeting to attend a concert at the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, which was being held in the interests of a man who had met with an accident.

The inquest was held on Thursday morning at the GEORGE AND DRAGON INN, Princes End, by Mr. T. A. Stokes.

Miss Ethel May Davies, daughter of the deceased, formally identified the body of her father. She last saw her father alive on Tuesday evening about 6.45pm when he was going to the Education Committee. He was brought home dead about 8pm. Her father had driven his own car for several years, and thoroughly understood motor cars. She had not heard before of her father's car starting before the driver had got in.

Benjamin Millington, carpenter, 15, Church Street, Lower Gornal, stated that on Tuesday night he was in a house in Green Street, Coseley about 8pm. He heard the noise of a motor car and on looking out of a window he saw a man fall down in front of the car and the motor run over him. Witness ran to the car and found the iron under the steering wheel pressing in deceased's back, the deceased being underneath the car. The mudguard of the car was against the wall. After he saw the man fall down the car went about two yards. Another man stopped the engines as witness ran up. Witness shouted that deceased was under the car. Several people lifted a wheel of the motor and one or two more pulled the body out from under the car. Mr. Davies was unconscious.

A Juror: Did you notice whether he was struck by the underwork of the car or whether he was dragged along? – I cannot say.

When I first saw the car it had mounted the footpath, and was near the wall.

Alfred Barnett, 1, Gough Road, Coseley, said he drove Mr. G. A. Allen in a motor car to the education meeting, and he saw Mr. Davies arrive in his car. There was a third car belonging to Mr. Mobberley in the street. There were many children playing outside, but he kept an eye on the cars, and did not see them interfere with it at all. Some of the youngsters looked at the headlight on Mr. Davies's car.

Nobody could have put the clutch in without you seeing it? – There is a bare possibility that someone put it in gear, but I can't think they did.

You can't start a car without putting in the clutch? – The clutch is in all the time, and you disengage it to put the car in gear. Continuing, witness said he did not remember having seen Mr. Davies leave the building. When he saw Mr. Allen leaving, he started the engine in Mr. Allen's car, and when next he looked round he heard someone shout, 'He's under the car.' He switched off the engines in Mr. Allen's car, and then switched off the engines in Mr. Davies's car. The wall had stopped the progress of the deceased man's car, and they lifted the deceased from underneath.

The Coroner: In some way or other the gear must have been left in the car? – Yes.

But you don't think anybody interfered with it? – I don't.

Have you ever known of cases where the gear has slipped in? – There have been cases, where after undue wear, the gear has slipped in.

Supposing having taken out the clutch, he had left the lever in the first speed forward, the car would start right away, when he turned the handle? – Yes.

In reply to Police Sergeant Shaffery, witness said he had never seen the car start in a similar manner, but he had heard that such had been the case.

In answer to a Juror, witness stated that since the accident he had driven the car, and so far as the gear was concerned it was in good order. There was no question of it slipping back now.

Jesse Davies gave evidence that he examined the car after the accident. He noticed that the lever was in the first gear.

The Coroner: It must have been in one of the gears to start? – Certainly.

Can you suggest any means? – It is easily done. There is not much difference in the position of the gears. He may have made a slip, and put in the first slot what was intended for the neutral slot.

There is only a little distance between? – Just about half inch.

Dr. Clendinnen, who attended Mr. Davies five minutes after the accident, said the latter was lying unconscious in the road, and was removed to the surveyor's office, where he died in about ten minutes. There were very few marks of injury. On the right cheek was a slight graze, and on the left side of the nose an abrasion. It might have been, he said, that deceased had a fit or a heart attack in turning the handle, but that was simply theoretical. Mr. Davies had sustained concussion of the brain and there was strong presumptive evidence that the base of the skull was fractured. Death was undoubtedly due to injuries to the head, caused by the car.

The Coroner said it appeared to be a very easy thing to overshoot the neutral slot, and leave the car in the first gear, in which case it would start when the handle was turned.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and passed a resolution of sympathy with the widow and family."

1911 Census

50, Sedgley Road – SWAN INN

- [1] *Samuel Hyde* (37), licensed victualler, born Pensnett;
- [2] *Linda Clarice Louise Hyde* (34), wife, married 11 years, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Charles Alfred Hyde* (10), son, school, born Tipton;
- [4] *Linda Clarice Gwendoline Hyde* (9), daughter, school, born Woodsetton;
- [5] *Dorothy Serena Hyde* (5), daughter, born Woodsetton;
- [6] *Beatrice May Roberts* (37), relative, born Stourbridge;

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

"Bilston Licensing.....

Alterations at the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, passed at the Bilston Transfer Sessions on the 6th of July, 1923, were well in hand."

South Staffordshire Times 29/3/1924

"Bilston Police Court.....

The license of the SWAN INN, Woodsetton, was transferred from *Henry Smith* to *George Henry Hill*, and of the LIMERICK INN, Lower Gornal, from *Abel Ball* to *George Henry Freeman*. In each application the magistrates enquired whether the applicant would give his whole time to the business. Mr. *Hill* said he should, and Mr. *Freeman* said his whole time would not be devoted to the house. He was a miner working at Deep Pits, Shut End. The police did not object to the transfer in either case."

Harry Wake died in 1936.

Birmingham Daily Post 16/3/1970

"Firemen wearing breathing apparatus fought a fire which severely damaged the SWAN INN, Sedgley Road, Coseley, yesterday morning. A Dudley Fire Brigade spokesman said it was not known what started the blaze. The licensee Mr. *W. A. Cartwright* and his family were uninjured. The public-house is expected to stay closed until Tuesday."

Freda Picken was married to Peter.
They also kept the BRITISH QUEEN in Wolverhampton.

It was refurbished in 1987.

London Gazette 30/1/1989

“*Nicholls, Joseph Samuel*, unemployed, residing at 7 Church Road, Short Heath, Willenhall, lately residing and carrying on business as the Tenant Publican at the VINE INN, Station Street, Darlaston, formerly at the LION HOTEL, Upper Lichfield Street, Willenhall, and before that at the SWAN INN, 84 Sedgley Road, Woodsetton, Wolverhampton, all in the county of West Midlands. Court Walsall. Date Fixed for Hearing 16th February 1989, 10.15 am, Court House, Lichfield Street, Walsall WS1 1TL.”

Ronald Furnage was married to Marian.

Carl Price was fined and ordered to pay costs, totalling £1,304, in April 2008, for four counts of dishonestly receiving a programme included in a broadcast or cable package. He had shown four football matches broadcast on SkySports.

It closed in 2014.

London Gazette 15/8/2014

“Disclaimer Of Whole Of The Property.

1. In this notice the following shall apply:

Company Name: Liquid Services Ltd

Company Number: 04642465

Interest: Leasehold

Lease: Lease dated 23 May 2008 and made between *Malcolm John White* and *Sharnie Michaela White* (1) and Liquid Services Ltd (2).

Property: The Property situated at The SWAN INN, Sedgley Road, Woodsetton, Dudley, West Midlands being the land comprised in and demised by the above mentioned Lease.

Treasury Solicitor: The Solicitor for the Affairs of Her Majesty’s Treasury of PO Box 70165, London WC1A 9HG (DX 123240 Kingsway).

2. In pursuance of the powers granted by Section 1013 of the Companies Act 2006, the Treasury Solicitor as nominee for the Crown (in whom the property and rights of the Company vested when the Company was dissolved) hereby disclaims the Crown’s title (if any) in the property, the vesting of the property having come to his notice on 11 July 2014.

Assistant Treasury Solicitor.”

It was converted into offices. [2015]

SWIFT PACKET

4, Male Lane, Lower Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

David Hill, coke merchant, Gospel End, Sedgley
Earl of Dudley

LICENSEES

Moses Hughes [1846] – [1851]

Richard Roper [1863]

William Griffin [] – 1866;

Arnold Walter Wolverson (1866 – 1885):

NOTES

It was situated near Wallbrook Bridge.

It had a beerhouse license.

Blackcountryman (Winter 1978)

'Thomas Monk, Boatbuilder and Canal Carrier'

"....This resulted in the building of the New Main Line, extending from Birmingham to Deepfields, Coseley. Work started at Birmingham about 1826 and was not completed until 1837. Immediately after work on the section between Bloomfield and Deepfields was commenced and long before Coseley Tunnel was open, the Euphrates service (passenger boat) was extended to Wallbrook, for the convenience of passengers from Coseley and Sedgley. The terminal was then at the PACKET INN near the newly built Swift Packet Bridge. (This name was later dropped in favour of Wallbrook Bridge.)"

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/5/1846 - Advert

"Desirable And Valuable Freehold Property, at Wallbrook, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Solomon Powell, upon the premises, on Wednesday, the 20th day of May, 1846, at seven o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *Moses Hughes*, known by the sign of the WALLBROOK BRIDGE, in one lot, and subject to conditions then and there to be read.

All that substantially built and neat Public House, containing a large front and back kitchen, a parlour, four bed rooms, a large and convenient brewhouse, and cellar, with the convenient and extensive outbuildings, and the garden, containing 540 square yards, or thereabouts, including the site of the buildings, now in the occupation of *Moses Hughes*.

And Also all those Two Messuages or Dwelling House, adjoining the above mentioned premises, with the outbuildings thereto belonging, now in the occupation of the said *Moses Hughes* and Thomas Cooper.

The above property is eligibly situated in a populous district, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the extensive works of Lord Ward, and of the Bloomfield and other ironworks.

Mr. *Hughes*, the tenant, and Mr. Samuel Round, of Mamble Square, will show the premises; and for further particulars apply to Messrs. Robinson and Fletcher, solicitors, Dudley; or to Mr. Thomas Mott Whitehouse, solicitor, Market Place, Wolverhampton; and to the Auctioneer, Tipton."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1849

"Annual Licensing Day For Seisdon North....."

As the number of applications for fresh licenses was very considerable, it was arranged by the legal gentlemen that in addressing the Bench they should confine themselves to a simple statement of facts of each case, and not occupy more than two minutes. Under this arrangement between thirty and forty applications were heard, most of which were opposed. The statements in support of the applications were almost uniformly to the effect that the applicant had for many years kept a beerhouse without complaint, and that the premises were suitable for a public house, which was required in the neighbourhood. Licenses were granted to the following persons.....

Moses Hughes, Walbrook, Sedgley."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/4/1852

"Caution as to leaving Lucifer Matches. On Tuesday last an inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the SWIFT PACKET INN, at Wallbrook, on the body of David Ollarens Shaw, a child about six years and a half old, whose death was caused by his clothes catching fire, on the morning of Friday, the 17th instant. It appeared that the deceased had been left in bed by his elder sister, while she went to a neighbour's house to boil a tea kettle. A quantity of lucifer matches were kept in the bedroom by the side of the bed. The deceased's sister, on her return, found the deceased wrapped in a blanket, some neighbours having been attracted by his cries, and dreadfully burnt. The lucifer matches were gone, and the bedroom filled with sulphur. It is supposed that the deceased set fire to his clothes while playing with the matches. Verdict, Accidental Death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/7/1863 - Advert

"Desirable Freehold Properties. At Wallbrook, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Offer for Sale by Auction, at the House of Mrs. Taft, the PAINTERS ARMS INN, Coseley, on Tuesday Next, the 21st of July, 1863, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale, the following Properties.

Lot 1. All that old licensed Public House and Premises, situate at Wallbrook aforesaid, known by the sign of the SWIFT PACKET INN, containing bar, parlour, sitting room, tap room, four bed rooms, and large cellaring, with the garden, brewhouse, and outbuildings, in the occupation of Mr. *Richard Roper*, at an annual rental of £27; together with four Houses and brewhouse adjoining, in the occupation of John Reynolds, William Price, Samuel Smith, and Samuel Hughes, at the aggregated rental of £28 12s.

Lot 2. All that corner House and Premises, situate at Wallbrook aforesaid, at the junction of Brook Street, and the main road leading to Princes End, now occupied as a grocer's and pawnbrokers's shop by Mr. John McCourt, at a rental of £30 per annum, and containing five bed rooms, shop, parlour, kitchen, pledge room, and four cellars, brewhouse, yard and stabling.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Offices of Messrs. Whitehouse, Attorney-at-Law, Queen Street, or the Auctioneer, 66, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/12/1863

"At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, *Richard Roper*, landlord of the SWIFT PACKET INN, was summoned for keeping open his house during prohibited hours on Sunday last. Sergeant Ordish stated that on the day mentioned he found two men in the house at ten o'clock in the morning, drinking rum from a jug on the table. The Stipendiary remarked that he should fine him more heavily in consequence of the offence taking place on the Sunday. Fined £1 and costs."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

Richard Roper, SWIFT PACKET, Prince’s End.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/9/1864 - Advert

“SWIFT PACKET INN, Wallbrook, near Coseley.

The Bankruptcy Act, 1861. Under A Deed Of Assignment For The Benefit Of Creditors.

Mr. Thomas Skidmore will Sell by Auction, this day (Wednesday, September, 28th, 1864), on the Premises, the whole of the Stock-in-Trade, two prime 300 gallon cooperage barrels, two 120 gallon ditto, three 60 gallon ditto, 150 gallon wrought iron boiler, mash tub, 4-pull ale machine, tap and drinking tables, Household Furniture, bedsteads, feather beds, bedding, useful kitchen requisites, and other effects.

Sale punctually at eleven o’clock in the morning.”

Birmingham Journal 13/4/1867 - Advert

“Desirable Building Land, Public House, Butcher’s Shop, & Premises, at Wallbrook, Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round (by order of the Mortgagee), at the house of Mr. *Arnold W. Wolverson*, the SWIFT PACKET INN, Wallbrook, on Wednesday, May 1, 1867, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read.

Lot 1. All that very valuable Public House, known as the WALLBROOK TAVERN, at Wallbrook, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, for many years in the occupation of Mr. William Harris, deceased.

The House and Premises consist Butcher’s Shop, Bar, Parlour, Club Room, Malt Room, four Chambers, four Cellars, Brewhouse, Slaughterhouse, and Stabling, with the usual Out-offices, and the whole covers an area of 387 square yards of Land, and has a frontage of 11 yards to Wallbrook Street, and carries the same frontage throughout to the other end fronting to Hedge Street.....”

1871 Census

4, Male Lane – SWIFT PACKET

[1] *Arnold Wolverson* (29), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary Wolverson* (27), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Sarah Wolverson* (63), mother, widow, annuitant, born Bowley, Worcestershire;

[4] *John H. Wolverson* (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] *Mary Ann Wolverson* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] *Arnold S. Wolverson* (2), son, born Sedgley;

[7] *Lucy Vanes* (19), general servant, born Dudley:

County Advertiser 18/10/1873

“A meeting of the Board was held in the Board Room on the 10th inst.....

The following sums were deposited in the Guest Hospital Boxes.....

Mr. A. Wolverson, SWIFT PACKET INN, Walbrook, 2s 6d.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/6/1874

“Child Murder Near Tipton.

Yesterday, an enquiry was held at the SWIFT PACKET INN, Wallbrook, near Tipton, on the body of a male child that had been found on the previous day in the Birmingham Canal.

A boatman, named John Crimes, said that as he was passing along the canal on the previous day his boat upturned the body, in a perfectly nude state. Subsequently he communicated with the police.

Mr. Smith, surgeon, deposed to having made a post mortem examination of the body, which was that of a child about six weeks old that had been well nourished. In the stomach there was a milky fluid, demonstrating that sustenance had been obtained from natural causes. On the arms were vaccination marks of several days’ date. The child seemed to have been dead about twelve hours. Death had resulted from wilful exposure, and not from drowning.

Acting on the recommendation of the Coroner, the Jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder, against some person or persons unknown.

The Coroner intimated that he would apply to the Home Secretary to offer a reward. The body now lies for identification at the Police Station, Coseley.”

1881 Census

4, Male Lane – SWIFT PACKET

[1] *Arnold Wolverson* (39), iron worker and retailer of beer, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary Wolverson* (36), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *John Wolverson* (18), son, plate layer, born Sedgley;

[4] *Mary A. Wolverson* (16), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] *Arnold W. Wolverson* (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] *Sarah Y. Wolverson* (6), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 27/5/1881

“Jacob Thompson, of Wallbrook, an idiotic character, was fined 20s and costs, in default 14 days, for assaulting Benjamin Newey. The complainant and defendant were in a public house called the SWIFT PACKET, at Wallbrook, when the defendant assaulted Newey, and afterwards dragged him to the police station and charged him with an assault.”

The license was abandoned in 1885.

TALBOT

9, Beacon Street, Cinder Hill, (Ettingshall), (Upper Princes End), COSELEY

OWNERS

Benjamin Johnson
Daniel Johnson
Benjamin Johnson, bricklayer, Ettingshall
Samuel Thomas Onions
Benjamin Johnson, gentleman, Parkfields Road, Wolverhampton
Holder's Brewery Ltd, Midland Brewery, Birmingham
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Williams [1835] – [1842]
Benjamin Johnson [1845] – **1884**;
Daniel Johnson (**1884** – []);
Elizabeth Johnson [] – **1890**;
William and Joseph Johnson (**1890**);
Walter William Bailey (**1890** – **1891**);
Isaac Hughes (**1891** – **1899**);
Daniel Jeavons and Isaac Hughes (**1899** – **1900**);
Samuel Thomas Onions (**1900** – **1907**);
William Perks (**1907** – **1908**);
Richard Marsh (**1908** – **1913**);
Richard Bates (**1913** – **1925**);
Jenny Bates (**1925** – **1927**);
George Emmanuel Tillotson (**1927** – **1928**);
Albert Meese (**1928** – [1940])

NOTES

Upper Princes End [1841]
Cinder Hill [1851], [1904], [1908], [1932]
9, Beacon Street [1940]

It had a six-day license.

Footballers changed here to play at Monument Lane.

1841 Census

Upper Princes End [Cinder Hill?]
[1] Robert Williams (50), publican, born Wales;
[2] Eleanor Williams (50), born Staffordshire;
[3] John Williams (20), labourer, born Staffordshire;
[4] Jane Williams (15), born Staffordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/6/1846

“On Monday last, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the TALBOT, Cinderhill, on the body of John Raybould, a miner, about 21 years of age, who was killed by a fall of limestone, while at work in a lime quarry, on the preceding Saturday. The deceased was taken into a hovel, and a surgeon sent for, but he died from the bruises and contusions in about twenty

minutes after the accident. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Benjamin Johnson was also a coalmaster. [1849], [1850], [1851]

1851 Census

Cinderhill

[1] *Benjamin Johnson* (51), coal master and victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Phoebe Johnson (53), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Charlotte Johnson (19), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Isaac Johnson (17), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;

[5] Benjamin Johnson (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Mary Johnson (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Jane Johnson (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/1/1852

“On Friday last, an inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill, Sedgley, on the body of Samuel Colley, a boy aged 13 years of age. The deceased worked in a coal-pit at Prior’s-field, and on Wednesday morning was hanging on a skip at the bottom of shaft, when the tackles caught his waistcoat as the skip was ascending, and drew him up the shaft until his waistcoat gave way, and he fell to the bottom. The skull of the deceased was fractured, and he was found dead at the bottom of the pit. His waistcoat was torn, and part of it was found hanging to the tackles when the skip reached the mouth of the pit. The bottom of the shaft was carefully examined but no brick or stone, or anything of that kind was found, which might have fallen. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 30/4/1853

“On Friday last, and inquest was held at the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill, in the parish of Sedgley (before W. H. Phillips, Esq, deputy coroner) on the body of William Woodhall, a miner, 25 years of age. Deceased got up in his usual health about six o’clock in the morning, but in about an hour afterwards was found dead in the privy, at the back of the house. It appeared there were no marks or bruises upon his body, and that he had been subject to fits. The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased was Found Dead, without any marks or bruises upon his body, but by what means he came to his death sufficient evidence did not appear.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/5/1855

“At the Petty Sessions, on Wednesday last, before J. Leigh and S. Cartwright, Esqs, Benjamin Hill and Henry Morgan (the latter a youth, apparently about 19 years old), presidents of a sick club held at the TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, were summoned by Mark Morgan, for excluding him from the club. The defendants justified the exclusion of the complainant under rule 15, which rendered a member liable to expulsion who imposed on the society. The imposition relied on was only supported by one witness, who deposed to seeing the complainant shovel up a bit of slack lying in his mother’s yard while receiving pay, but he only saw it for a minute. Mr. Leigh said a club that would exclude a man for such a paltry reason was a snare. It appeared that the complainant saw this slack scattered about in his mother’s yard, and put it in a heap. The case was adjourned for a month to enable the members to re-admit the complainant, the defendants paying the expenses.”

Morning Post 2/8/1855

“On Wednesday Mr. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an inquest on the body of Thomas Guest, a miner, aged 24, at the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill. From the evidence adduced, it appeared that the deceased had been drinking the greater part of the preceding day at the RED LION, Sedgley. He left there about eight o’clock in the evening, accompanied by Mary Radcliffe, a single woman, with whom he had been keeping company for about two years. They walked together across the fields to Cinderhill. Going along, deceased said to his companion, ‘We will both die together.’ He then drew his coat off, shook hands with her, and running a distance of about 10 yards, jumped down a water pit. Several persons witnessed the occurrence, who raised an alarm, and in about two hours the body of the desperate man was taken out of the pit, which was 80 yards deep, quite dead. He had had a few words during the day about a girl at the RED LION, but the excitement of intoxication was regarded as the main cause of his suicidal act. Verdict, Temporary Insanity. *Wolverhampton Chronicle.*”

Staffordshire Sentinel 30/8/1856

“An inquest was held on Saturday last, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the house of Mr. *Benjamin Johnson*, TALBOT INN, Cinderhill, on the body of William Russell, a sinker, abut 35 years of age, whose death occurred by a skip falling on him while at work with two other men in an engine pit, situate at the colliery of Henry Hill, Esq. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/5/1859

“John Hinton, the secretary to a Friendly Society held at the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill, was summoned by Thomas Simeon Wilkes to show cause why he should not be reinstated a member of that society. The complainant, who did not appear in person, was represented by Mr. Ellis, of Sedgley; Mr. J. Whitehouse was engaged for the defence. The facts of the case were thus briefly stated by Mr. Ellis. Wilkes, the complainant, is at present working at the Moss End Ironworks, Lanarkshire. About six years ago he joined a friendly society held at Mr. *Benjamin Johnson*’s, the TALBOT INN, Sedgley, but left this part of the country to go to the place where he is now employed about three years afterwards. He had kept up his payments regularly ever since, and the society had hitherto allowed him a month beyond the feast day to pay the money. After the last

feast day the complainant sent a Post-office order to his mother for the amount due to his society, and Mrs. Wilkes in due course tendered that money, but the secretary would not receive it, stating that they had determined to exclude any member who neglected to make his payments in proper time. The complainant's brother met the defendant about the time of last Christmas feast, and told him that his brother had not yet sent his money, and the defendant then said it did not matter, as it would be all right. Mr. Ellis contended that the Magistrates had power to compel the society to reinstate the complainant as a member, under the 41st sec. 18th and 19th Vic, and the 5th sec. 21st and 22nd Vic.

Mr. Whitehouse here said he was prepared to admit all Mr. Ellis had stated; his defence would be that the complainant had barred himself from all privileges of the society by failing to comply with the 19th rule, namely, that any member going to reside more than four miles from Sedgley shall pay his money on quarterly nights, or shall not be entitled to any benefit from the society, but if he neglects to pay the whole amount at the end of six months he shall be excluded from the society.

Mr. Ellis admitted that the rule had never been altered, but affirmed that it had been constantly and repeatedly broken.

Mr. Kettle said that rule would upset the jurisdiction of the Magistrates; the complainant when he became a member of the society was bound to subscribe to the society's rules, and he must abide by them. Mr. Kettle advised the society to accept the complainant again as a member.

Mr. Whitehouse said they were quite ready to admit him again on the usual terms, but this, Mr. Ellis contended, was not dealing fairly, inasmuch as in the event of illness or death the complainant would not be entitled to any benefit from the society until six months from the time he entered, and the society had already received a great deal of his money without being called upon to pay anything out to the complainant.

The case was ultimately dismissed for the reason above assigned."

Benjamin Johnson was also a coalmaster. [1860], [1861], [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/6/1860 - Married

"On the 24th inst, at Aston, by license, by the Rev. John Campbell, Mr. Isaac *Johnson*, third son of Mr. *Benjamin Johnson*, Esq, Cinderhill Sedgley, to May Ann Ralphs, niece of Mr. James Smith, of Coven House, Coven."

1861 Census

Cinder Hill – TALBOT INN

[1] *Benjamin Johnson* (61), coal master, born Sedgley;

[2] Phoebe Johnson (63), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Nancy Johnson (19), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Jane Johnson (17), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] Elixab Pots (18), housemaid, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/10/1861 - Advert

"To Be Let, at Lady-day next or before, that old-established Inn known as the TALBOT INN, at Cinderhill, near Sedgley. The proprietor, after successfully conducting the business for thirty years is desirous of retiring. Coming-in £700.

For rent and other particulars apply Mr. *Benjamin Johnson*, the proprietor."

Sheffield Independent 19/11/1869

"At the Wolverhampton Police Court, on Wednesday, before the Stipendiary (Mr. I. Spooner), Joseph Walters, an aged man, summoned the secretary of the lodge of the Good Fellows Society, held at the TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, Coseley, for two weeks' sick pay, at 3s a week. Mr. J. Underhill appeared for the defendant. Plaintiff said that he had been a member of the society mentioned for twenty-seven years. He was now unable to work, but the secretary had refused to give him the sick allowance for two weeks. Mr. Haden, surgeon, was called, and said that the plaintiff had varicose veins on the left leg, which had swollen in consequence; that his finger was injured; that he was suffering from advanced age, and was unable to earn his living as a labourer. In cross-examination by Mr. Underhill, plaintiff admitted that he had received from the society 10s a week for twenty-six weeks, and 4s a week for fifty-three weeks. For the defence it was contended on the contrary, that he was able to work. It was alleged, but not proved that he had been employed as a gamekeeper, and the evidence called to show that he had been seen out of his house at four o'clock in the morning. Walters explained that he went out because the pain in his leg prevented him from remaining in bed. The Stipendiary decided the society must pay the amount claimed."

Bradford Telegraph 25/8/1870

"The question of whether a society can claim the cost of a club dinner from a member who has not partaken of it was tried at the Sedgley Police Court on Monday, before Mr. Isaac Spooner, stipendiary. Joseph Cox, a member of the Friendly Society held at the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill, summoned John Hinton, the secretary, to show cause why he had been expelled from the club, and excluded from all its benefits. It appeared that Cox had duly paid all the contributions due, and complied with all its rules (certified by the late Mr. Tidd Pratt) but had refused to pay 2s 7d for a dinner, which the society provided for the members on its last feast day. The stipendiary having read the rules pointed out and relied on by the committee as their justification for excluding Cox from membership, said it was clearly not obligatory on any member to dine, the rule setting out that each member who intended to do so was to pay beforehand. He ordered that Cox be reinstated and the society to pay the costs of the proceedings."

1871 Census

9, Beacon Street

- [1] *Benjamin Johnson* (71), coal master, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Phebe Johnson* (73), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Jane Johnson* (27), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Emma Morriss* (34), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary Jane Clark* (12), servant, born Sedgley:

Benjamin Johnson was described as a coal merchant. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 12/3/1878

“At the Sedgley Police Court yesterday, before Isaac Spooner (stipendiary).....

Richard Harrison, a member of the Friendly Sick Society, held at the TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, near Sedgley, charged *Mr. John Hinton*, the secretary, with refusing to pay the amount due to him while ill, a medical certificate of his illness having been given in. Complainant stated he had been a member of the society for thirty-one years, and regularly paid his contributions, and was not in arrear. When ill he sent for the usual allowance, but it was refused, a proposal being made for him to accept a lump sum of £4 10s in lieu of the weekly payments of 3s a week, this amount to release the club from every obligation. This would, it was said, virtually exclude him from the society, and deprive him of all the other benefits. *Harrison* refused the offer, contending that it was a violation of the rules. The club had not yet paid him the amount due, but wanted to force him to accept a fixed sum in satisfaction of all future demands.

Mr. Hinton said there was no desire to keep the pay from the complainant.

The Stipendiary commented strongly on this conduct, and ordered the payment of the full amount claimed and all costs, adding that the weekly payment accruing to the complainant must be regularly made in future.”

1881 Census

Beacon Street – TALBOT INN

- [1] *Benjamin Johnson* (81), widower, innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Emma Morris* (44), housekeeper, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary Whittle* (19), barmaid, born Sedgley:

Benjamin Johnson died on 18th March 1884.

Darlaston Weekly Times 17/5/1884

“At Bilston, yesterday, the following license transfers were granted.....

TALBOT INN, Sedgley, from the executors of *Benjamin Johnson* to *Daniel Johnson*.”

Daniel Johnson – see also CROWN, Holloway Street, Upper Gornal.

Elizabeth Johnson died on 3rd January 1890.

Birmingham Daily Post 23/8/1890

“The licensing sessions for Bilston division were held yesterday.....

There were two notices of application *Walter William Bailey*, TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, licensed victualler, for a seven days license Refused.”

1891 Census

9, Beacon Street

- [1] *Walter W. Bailey* (31), licensed victualler, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Fanny E. Bailey* (32), wife, born Cookley, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Harry W. Bailey* (1), son, born Kingswinford;
- [4] *Elizabeth Fox* (59), housekeeper, born Deddington, Oxfordshire:

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/6/1899

“*Isaac Hughes*, landlord of the TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, and holder of a six days’ license, was charged on three summonses with selling without a license, on Sunday, April 30, permitting drunkenness on May 1, and selling ale to drunken persons. *Mr. Turton* prosecuted and *Mr. W. A. Foster* defended.

Police-constables *Skidmore* and *Oswell* visited the premises on April 30 and asked defendant’s son to supply them with beer and whisky, which he did, and it was afterwards paid for. On the night of May 1 the officers again visited the house and saw several drunken men supplied with drink. *Mr. Foster* denied the allegations, and strongly deprecated the course taken by the police in inciting publicans to commit offences. The Bench fined defendant £20 and costs for selling without a license, and 40s and costs in each of the other cases.”

Dudley Herald 25/8/1900

“The general annual licensing sessions for Bilston were held yesterday Six notices of applications had been received as follows.....

Samuel Thomas Onions, licensed victualler, TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, for a seven days’ license instead of a six days’ one. Re-

fused.”

1901 Census

9, Beacon Street

- [1] *Samuel Thomas Onions* (40), licensed victualler, brewer, born Great Bridge;
- [2] *Phoebe Onions* (33), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Sarah Onions* (77), mother, widow, born Dudley;
- [4] *James Beaconsfield Onions* (10), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *John Arthur Balfour Onions* (9), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Samuel Thomas Onions* (8), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Charles Henry Onions* (6), son, born Bridgnorth;
- [8] *Daniel Sampson Onions* (4), son, born Bridgnorth;
- [9] *George Frederick Onions* (3), son, born Bridgnorth;

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/8/1901

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston Division was held yesterday.....

On behalf of *Samuel Thomas Onions*, of the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill, Sedgley, Mr. W. A. Foster applied for a seven days’ license in place of a six days’ license.

The Magistrates unanimously refused the application.”

R. Marsh issued tokens from here.

1911 Census

9, Beacon Street – TALBOT INN

- [1] *Richard Marsh* (30), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Ada Marsh* (33), wife, married 7 years, assisting in the business, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Richard Lees Marsh* (6), son, born Coseley;
- [4] *Marjorie Edna Marsh* (4), daughter, born Coseley;

South Staffordshire Times 14/6/1924

“The new bowling green adjoining the TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, was opened last Saturday, by Councillor W. R. Mobberly, who was supported by Mr. A. Swann and Mr. *R. Bates*, the licensee. In opening the green Councillor Mobberly expressed his pleasure at being asked to perform the ceremony. Bowls was an excellent relaxation for a man who had been hard at work all day long, and as it was his wish to further support the neighbourhood, he would be pleased to help them any time. Amid applause, Councillor Mobberly then sent up the first jack and declared the green open. Mr. A. Swann proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor Mobberly, and said bowls was an ancient game, which even the romans played. Besides a sport, bowls was a pastime which promoted friendship. An apology for absence had been received from Councillor T. K. Fellows.”

South Staffordshire Times 14/6/1924

“Mr. *Richard Bates*, licensee of the TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, is one of the foremost bowlers in the locality. Years ago he captained the Staffordshire County team against Yorkshire for nine successive seasons. He had not played for two years, but now that his inn has acquired a new bowling green he hopes once again to demonstrate his prowess.”

AND

“The concert room of the TALBOT INN, Cinder Hill, was crowded on Friday evening last, when a concert arranged by local artistes, was given. Those contributing to the programme were Mr. F. Hyadd (Lanesfield), Mr. Emerson (Bradley), concertina soloist; Mr. George Phillips (Ettingshall), light comedian; Mr. P. Smith (Lanesfield), vocalist; Mr. Flavell (Lanesfield), vocalist; Mr. Bates, jun, and Miss A. Hartland (Sedgley), pianoforte duets.

This was the first of a series of concerts to be held at the TALBOT INN each alternate Friday throughout the summer.”

Dudley Herald 17/1/1931

“Bagatelle. Customers of the TALBOT INN, Cinderhill, played the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, in a friendly match on the formers’ table, on Tuesday night, and the home team followed up their victory of the previous week by trouncing their opponents to the tune of seven games to two. The winners for the TALBOT were J. Hughes, *A. Meese*, W. Harper, C. Picken. J. Bennett, J. Screen and S. Nicholls, while the only winners for the visitors were A. Horton and H. Southall. An enjoyable smoking concert was held afterwards, the following artistes rendering items: W. Wasdell, J. Hughes, H. Elwell, H. Lane, H. Keeling, H. Southall and F. Jeavons. Mr. B. Baker was the pianist.”

The license was transferred in 1957.

TALBOT

Sandyfields, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Joseph John Cartwright

LICENSEES

Thomas Williams [] – **1850**);
George Perry (**1850** – [1851]
Joseph John Cartwright [1855] – [1860]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/8/1850

“Transfer of Victuallers’ Licenses. Monday last being the day appointed for the transfer of licenses in the division of Seisdon North, the county Magistrates granted the following transfers.....
that of *Thomas Williams*, of the TALBOT, Sedgley, to *George Perry*, forgerman.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1855

“The Annual Meeting for Bilston, Sedgley, Gornal, and adjoining places took place on Friday last, at the Police Office, Bilston.....
Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to a house situate at Sandyfields, Sedgley, on behalf of *Joseph John Cartwright*. The house stood at the corner of three or four roads; had been substantially built by the applicant, at an expense of £600, besides the cost of the land, and 13 or 14 acres of land were attached to the premises. Stabling for eight horses had been provided, and the nearest licensed house was from half a mile to a mile distant. Building was also being erected close to the applicant’s house. Refused.”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....
Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to the TALBOT, at Sandy Fields, on behalf of Mr. *Joseph John Cartwright*. Refused.”

Birmingham Journal 21/10/1857 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Building Land, situated at Sandyfields, near Sedgley.
Messrs. Aston and Sollom are instructed to Sell by Auction, on Monday, the 16th day of November next, at Five o’clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. *Joseph John Cartwright*, the TALBOT INN, at Sandyfields aforesaid, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/2/1860 - Advert

“Sale At The TALBOT INN, Sandyfields, Near Sedgley, on Tuesday next, February 7, 1860.
Mr. John Cassere will Sell by Auction, as above, a portion of the Household Furniture, capital Brewing Vessels, well-seasoned Ale Casks, perfectly sweet; 140-gallon Boiler, 16-bushel Mash Tub, Vats, Tubs, &c; Kitchen Chairs and Drinking Tables, two Guns, Carpets, easy Chair, Timepiece, valuable compass Pianoforte, by Stoddard and Co. London, very sweet and powerful in tone, a genuine and perfect instrument; capital Brown Mare, 15 hands high; elegant Whitechapel Pony Trap, set of Pony Harness, lead Pump, Wood Signs, and a variety of effects, the property of Mr. *Joseph J. Cartwright*, who is giving up the public house business. Sale to commence at eleven o’clock.
Catalogues may be obtained at the Offices of the Auctioneer, 51, Snowhill, Wolverhampton.”

THREE CROWNS

102, Dovedale Road, Ettingshall Park, COSELEY

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1960]
A. Wakefield [1992]
Inn Business [2000]
Punch Taverns [2009]

LICENSEES

William 'Harry' Matthews [1969] – **1987**
Mark Smith [] – **1992**
Paul Bradley [1995]
Miss Julie Salt [1999]
Patrick Cross [] – **2000**
Bob Flanagan (**2000** – [2007]
John Salt (**2008** – **2009**)

NOTES

It opened on 29th July 1960.

William Matthews was married to Florence.
He died on 28th July 1987.

Mark Smith was married to Jackie.

It was refurbished in 2001.

Bob Flanagan was married to Diana.

Express & Star 23/4/2007

“Darts legend Eric Bristow has thrown his weight behind the campaign to preserve a traditional Black Country boozier. The trophy laden star was back in the region last night showing off his skills at an exhibition at the THREE CROWNS pub in Coseley. But he also took time out to add his voice to the ongoing campaign to save pubs in the area from the bulldozers. The arrows star, known as ‘The Crafty Cockney’ has already signed his name to the petition to save the BOSCOBEL TAVERN in Tipton from closure, the latest in a long line of Black Country pubs facing the axe in recent months. He is a close friend of BOSCOBEL landlord Mick Bargota and was keen to once again show his support to the Park Lane West venue. ‘I’ve known Mick for ages, we’re family friends,’ he said. ‘It’s a nice pub and it’s doing well. It’s a family pub and that is what it’s all about’.”

John Salt was born c.1972.

It closed in June 2009.
It reopened.

[2018]

THREE CUPS

87, (3), Spring Road, Lanesfield, (near Ettingshall), COSELEY

OWNERS

Enoch Ward
Stephen Cole, coal merchant, Ettingshall
Joseph Ward
Mrs. Perry, Loughborough
Atkinsons Ltd. [1921], [1935]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns Ltd. [1991]
[Jagdeep Takhar](#)

LICENSEES

William Ensor [1861] – [1871]
Joseph Ward [1878] – **1893**;
Lucretia Fanny and Harriet Ward (**1893** – **1894**);
Harriet (Ward) Rolinson (**1894** – **1901**);

Henry Rolinson (1901 – 1903);
James Alfred Deakin (1903);
William Hindley (1903 – 1904);
Aaron Deakin (1904 – 1905);
David Lloyd (1905 – 1906);
Alexander Paul (1906 – 1908);
James Wolverson (1908 – 1911);
Ernest Sidney Hentsch (1911 – 1912);
George Hassell (1912 – 1916);
Enoch Ward (1916 – 1925);
William Hendley (1925 – 1927);
William Thomas Hickman (1927 – 1929);
Robert Victor Fisher (1929 – 1930);
William Robert Holland (1930 – 1932);
Howard Freeman (1932 – 1937);
Mary Ann Mason (1937 – 1938);
William Edmund Walker (1938 – [1940])
Fred Owen [1960s]
J M Morgan [1983] – [1989]
Josephine Homer [1995]
Vanessa Harris [2001]
Robert Lee Kevin ‘Rob’ Gibson [2005] – [2008]

NOTES

3, Spring Road [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901]
3a, Spring Road [1911]
87, Spring Road [2022]

1861 Census

Lanesfield

- [1] *William Ensor* (42), publican, born Nuneaton, Warwickshire;
- [2] Sarah Ensor (40), wife, landlady, born Atherston, Warwickshire;
- [3] Catherine Muston (21), step daughter, milliner, born Coventry;
- [4] Julia Richards (19), step daughter, married, milliner, born Coventry;
- [5] Emela Muston (14), step daughter, school, on visit, born Hinckley, Leicestershire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/4/1862 - Marriages

“On the 31st ultimo, at St. Mark’s Church, in this town, by the Rev. J. B. Hyson, Alfred, fifth son of Mr. John Crowley, timber merchant, Deepfields, to Catherine Charlotte Muston, eldest daughter of Mr. *William Ensor*, of Spring Vale, near this town.”

1871 Census

3, Spring Road

- [1] *William Ensor* (53), licensed victualler, born Warwickshire;
- [2] Sarah Ensor (50), wife, born Mansetten, Warwickshire;
- [3] Catherine Crowley (29), daughter, married, born Coventry;
- [4] Julia Crowley (5), granddaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] William Crowley (3), grandson, scholar, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 3/9/1878

“Annual Licensing Sessions. Bilston.

These sessions were held on Saturday as usual, there were several applications for new licenses.....

Mr. E. F. Fisher, of the Oxford Circuit (instructed by Mr. C. Barrow, Wolverhampton), next applied for a full license for Henry Hyde, of the FORGEHAMMER INN, Ettingshall Road. The house had been rebuilt, and the application was for a renewal to the new inn of the license granted to the old one. This was opposed by Mr. Fellows, for *Joseph Ward*, of the THREE CUPS, Lanesfield. He said this saw a renewal of an application refused last year. There had been no change in the circumstances since then, no new buildings had been erected, and he contended that there was no need for a license. Opposition was also made, through Mr. R. A. Wilcock, by Joseph Preston, BULLS HEAD INN, Catchem, and Mr. B. B. Baker, the OLD ROLLING MILL INN, both of which were in 650 yards of the applicant’s house. There were only fifteen houses between the FORGEHAMMER INN and those of his clients, and only thirty-three houses in the locality. The personal interest of the applicant was consulted before the convenience of the public The Bench refused all the applications without retiring.”

1881 Census

3, Spring Road – THREE CUPS INN

- [1] *Joseph Ward* (53), publican and blacksmith, born Bilston;
- [2] *Lucretia Ward* (56), wife, born Billington (?), Herefordshire;
- [3] *Joseph Ward*, (26), son, blacksmith and boilermaker, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Enoch Ward* (18), son, blacksmith and sinker, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Lucretia Fanny Ward* (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Harriet Ward* (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

1891 Census

3, Spring Road

- [1] *Joseph Ward* (63), widower, publican, born Goldthorn Hill;
- [2] *Fanny Ward* (22), daughter, born Spring Vale;
- [3] *Harriet Ward* (21), daughter, born Spring Vale;
- [4] *Emma Griffiths* (40), sister, unmarried, housekeeper, born Leintwardine, Herefordshire:

Joseph Ward died on 21st September 1893.

Harriet Ward married *James Henry Rolinson* on 24th December 1894.

Birmingham Daily Post 13/12/1895

“Yesterday, Mr. A. R. Smith (district coroner) held an adjourned inquest at the THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield, Coseley, relative to the death of Rhoda Lewis (33), wife of James Lewis, roll-turner, who died suddenly on Monday. In consequence of certain statements made by witnesses at the opening of the inquest on Wednesday – reported in the *Post* – the Coroner decided to adjourn the inquest for the purpose of a post mortem examination.

Edith Lewis (11), daughter of deceased, stated that on Sunday last her mother complained of pains in her head, and was unable to eat any dinner. She denied that there was any quarrel between her mother and her father on the day in question. Her mother and the rest of the family had some mussels for tea. In the evening her father went to a public-house a short distance away, and returned home sober. After witness had gone to bed she heard her mother, who was sleeping in an adjoining room, complain of pains in her head. On going into the room she found her mother sitting up in bed, but unable to speak. Her father applied some cold water to her mother’s head, and at his request witness fetched a neighbour. Witness was with her mother when she died. She did not see her father strike her mother.

Dr. S. A. Smith (Bilston), who had made the post mortem in the presence of *Dr. Mathie* (Bilston), stated that the body was singularly well nourished. There were no external marks of violence. The brain was very much congested, with softening of the anterior lobe of some duration. The tongue was swollen, and the kidneys were congested, but the other organs were healthy. Death was due to apoplexy, brought about by the pressure of blood clots on the brain, which might have been the result of a fall, a blow, or natural causes. In his opinion the blood clots were due to natural causes. He did not think that the apoplexy was brought about in consequence of the consumption of mussels.

Police-constable *Buxton* mentioned that none of the other persons who partook of the mussels had suffered any ill-effect in consequence.

A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.”

1901 Census

3, Spring Road

- [1] *Henry Rolinson* (31), innkeeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Harriet Rolinson* (30), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Lucretia Rolinson* (3), daughter, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 13/2/1909

“Bilston annual licensing sessions were held on the 5th inst.....

Objection was taken to the renewal of the license of the THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield, on the ground that the former tenant had been fined for allowing gambling in the house. A new tenant had been obtained, and the house was now properly conducted; the renewal was granted.”

1911 Census

3a, Spring Road

- [1] *James Wolverson* (53), brewer, born Tipton;
- [2] *Martha Wolverson* (43), wife, married 14 years, household duties, born Tipton;
- [3] *James Wolverson* (13), son, brewers assistant, born Tipton;
- [4] *Gladys Wolverson* (11), daughter, school, born Tipton;
- [5] *Florence Wolverson* (10), daughter, school, born Tipton;
- [6] *Maude Wolverson* (4), daughter, born Tipton;
- [7] *Phyllis Wolverson* (4 months), daughter, born Sedgley:

Enoch Ward brewed his own beer.

Black Country Bugle - Pub of the Month

“.....Arthur Dawes, train driver at Dudley Zoo, then told us about *Enoch Ward*, landlord of the THREE CUPS at Lanesfield. It seems that *Enoch* had a heart attack and was carried up to bed. The doctor was sent for, and after a cursory examination pronounced to *Enoch*'s daughter, Louise ‘I’m afraid he’s dead, Miss Ward.’ *Enoch* roused up and insisted ‘I bate be jed yet’. To which his daughter, Louise, replied, ‘Shurrup an lie still, feyther, the doctor knows best’.....”

South Staffordshire Times 7/2/1920

“Bilston Licensing Sessions....

During the past year plans had been passed for the reconstruction or alteration of the undermentioned houses; LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood; BUSH INN, Gornal Wood; 10, Cinder Road, Gornal Wood; and the WOOD CROSS INN, Cinderhill; THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield; CASTLE INN, Bilston; BULLS HEAD INN, Ettingshall.

The reconstruction or alterations in the case of the LIMERICK INN, BUSH INN, 10, Cinder Road, and WOOD CROSS INN, were in hand, but in the case of the other houses had not commenced In the case of the reconstruction of the THREE CUPS and CASTLE INN the contracts had been made in each for reconstruction.”

It was rebuilt in 1921 on an adjacent site.

South Staffordshire Times 10/9/1921

“The old-fashioned and well-known hostelry, the THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield, near the Rokery, and which had been in the *Ward*'s family for upwards of fifty years, has been taken down and a new up-to-date building has been erected in its place, by Messrs. Atkinson, Aston Park Brewery, Birmingham. It is now tenanted by Mr. *E. Ward*. A courtyard and green have been excellently laid out by Jas. Hy. Green, a well-known landscape gardener of Coventry, and who acted as one of the judges at the Bilston Flower Show. The whole of the stone of which the walls are built was found in the ground when the old foundation was being got out. It points to the possibility of the existence of a monastery centuries ago. The deeper the excavations went the larger they found the stones, which had been fixed by a kind of clay, and at a depth from 14ft they found many forms of fossils.”

South Staffordshire Times 12/11/1921

“A meeting of Coseley Urban District Council was held on Tuesday evening The THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield. It was resolved that the chairman of the committee and members for Spring Vale Ward be requested to inspect the footpath fronting the above mentioned property.”

1939 Register

Spring Road, Coseley UD – THREE CUPS

[1] *William E. Walker*, date of birth 28/6/1898, innkeeper, married;

[2] *Agnes A. Walker*, dob 20/8/1898, home duties, married:

Robert Gibson was born c.1970.

J. M. Morgan = J. M. Morgans

Express and Star 26/11/2001

“Windows at a Bilston pub were shattered by heat early yesterday after a car parked outside was set alight. The blue Ford Sierra was parked close to the THREE CUPS in Spring Road.

Landlady *Vanessa Harris* said someone barred from the pub had threatened her when he tried to get back in on Saturday night. Someone later threw a bottle through a window.”

It had two darts teams, a pool team, and a Sunday football team. [2008]

It closed in 2009.

An arson attack took place in an upstairs bedroom in March 2009.

It reopened.

Express & Star 5/11/2022

“As pubs face the current cost of living crisis, the *Express & Star* continues its Love Your Local series celebrating our local inns. The THREE CUPS pub in Wolverhampton has launched a new restaurant/takeaway within the premises serving up an array of tasty foods, and the early reviews are that it’s a hit with customers loving the food on offer. Jagdeep Takhar, known as Juggy, is Wolverhampton born and bred, and has known pubs since he was a child. Juggy has now owned the THREE CUPS on 87 Spring Road, Lanesfield, Wolverhampton, for eight years now. Speaking about the business of owning a pub, Juggy, 36, says, ‘It’s what I’ve known all my life, being in pubs. My dad has always been in the business of pubs since I was a child, and so it was something that I continued on. We previously owned a post office in Crewe, but the chance to own a pub in Wolverhampton was one I couldn’t turn down.....”

[2022]

THREE FURNACES

Hermit Row, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Elizabeth Hartland, beerhouse keeper, CROWN INN, Sedgley

LICENSEES

Joseph Hartland [1854] – [1871]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/8/1854 - Advert

“Capital Dwelling Houses, Premises, and Land, at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Bateman, at the house of Mr. *Joseph Hartland*, the THREE FURNACES INN, Upper Gornal, on Friday, the 18th day of August instant, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced, and either in one or such other lots as may be determined upon.

All those twelve substantially built Dwelling Houses, Brewhouses, and Premises, and about 6,500 square yards of Land, applicable for building purposes, situated between Mr. Thompson's stone quarry and the THREE FURNACES public house and premises, at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, and now in the respective occupations of Thomas Jordan, Samuel Ellwell, John Allen, William Hickman, Alice Hyde, Sarah Bird, James Parker, Levi Briton, Thomas Rolinson, John Davies, James Lowe, and another, and producing together an aggregate annual rental of £65.

The property is Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley.

Further particulars may be known upon application to Messrs. Bourne, Wainwright and Bourne, solicitors; or the Auctioneer, all of Dudley.”

Joseph Hartland was also a bricklayer. [1860]

1861 Census

Hermit Row – THREE FURNACES INN

[1] *Joseph Hartland* (48), master bricklayer employing 20 men 5 boys, and victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Ester Hartland (52), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Mary A. Hartland (21), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Henry Hartland (19), son, bricklayer, born Sedgley;

[5] Sarah Hartland (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Martha Hartland (11), daughter, scholar, born Dudley:

The license was abandoned.

THREE HORSESHOES

10+12, (16), Ladymoor Road, (10, Lady Moor), ([Broad Lanes](#)), Deepfields, COSELEY

OWNERS

William Webb, clerk, Darkhouse Lane, Deepfields, Coseley

Charlotte Webb, widow

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Edward Onions [1834]
Enoch Merchant [1835]
William Harper [1841] – 1849);
John Lawley (1849 – 1850);
Samuel Jebb (1850 – [1854]
John Jones [1860]
John Skidmore [1862] – 1866);
Richard Reid (1866 – [1870]
Richard A Harper [1870] – 1874);
Charles Felton (1874 – 1881);
Eliza Felton (1881);
John Wright (1881 – 1896);
Sarah Ann (Wright) Ingles (1896 – 1903);
Ernest Holcroft (1903 – 1904);
James Evans (1904 – 1905);
James Edwin Potts (1905 – 1907);
John Williams (1907 – 1908);
Horace John Elwell (1908 – 1909);
Samuel Shone (1909 – 1910);
Alfred Davies (1910 – 1911):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Harper was also a butcher. [1845]

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/9/1846

“The following inquests, all of them arising from mining accidents followed by death, were held by G. Hinchcliffe, Esq, coroner (who acted for T. M. Phillips, Esq) on Saturday last.....

At the THREE HORSE SHOES, Ladymoor, Sedgley, on the body of James Kembray, a lad about eighteen years of age, who was killed by a fall of coal, while at work, on Thursday last, in the Rookery Colliery. The pit was stated to be carefully and properly worked, plenty of timber being allowed, and the death of the deceased was not caused by wounds or bruises, but by suffocation Verdict in each case Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Journal 14/4/1849

“On Monday last a special sessions for the transfer of innkeeper’s licenses.....

that of the THREE HORSE SHOES, Ladymoor Lane, Sedgley, from Mr. *W. Harper* to Mr. *John Lawley*, of Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/8/1849

“On Thursday last an inquest was held at the THREE HORSE SHOES, Ladymoor, in this parish, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of George Garner, a miner, 25 years of age, who met with his death under the following circumstances. On the previous Monday he was employed, with another man, in repairing the shaft of a pit at the Stonefield Colliery, Bilston. The two men were in a skip, and were about twelve yards from the bottom. Whilst they were at work a piece of brick fell out of the brickwork of the shaft, about ten yards above them, and struck deceased upon the head, knocking him out of the skip to the bottom of the shaft. His companion descended to the bottom, and found Garner lying quite senseless. He was taken home, and lingered until Wednesday morning, when he died. The brick caused a fracture of the deceased’s skull. His fellow workman stated at the inquest that he thought the skip had struck the brick in going down. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Samuel Jebb = Samuel Jebbs

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/12/1850

“At a special sessions for the hundred of Seisdon North, held on Monday last, at the office of the county magistrates, Bilston Street, in this town, the following victuallers’ licenses were transferred.....

the license of *John Lawley*, of the THREE HORSE SHOES, at Coseley, Sedgley, to *Samuel Jebbs*, miner.”

1851 Census

Ladymoor

[1] *Samuel Jebb* (51), mine agent, born Sedgley;

[2] Elizabeth Jebb (46), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Lydia Jebb (18), daughter, barmaid, born Sedgley;

- [4] Ann Jebb (13), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Samuel Jebb (11), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Martha Jebb (8), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Elizabeth Jebb (6), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] David Jebb (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [9] Mary Worton (4), visitor, born Tettenhall:

Birmingham Journal 14/10/1854

“Moses Edmonton, a young fellow with about half-a-dozen aliases, was brought up at the Police Court, before J. Loxdale and F. C. Perry, Esqs, on the following charge. Mr. Joseph Smith stated he was a confectioner, residing at New Village, Bilston, and that on the night of the 4th inst, he went to bed, having previously seen his house-door securely fastened. At half-past five on the following morning he was called down stairs by his son, and found the door had been broken open, apparently a poker lay near the spot. On going to bed the preceding night, the prosecutor placed his trousers, a pocket of which contained three five pound notes, three sovereigns, and some silver, under his pillow, and when alarmed by his son the following morning, found the trousers on the floor of his bed-room, and the money gone. Two silver watches were also stolen. The prisoner was his step-son, and had lived at the house up to the Friday before the robbery. The prosecutor identified the watch and two of the five pound notes produced. Mr. Edward Maybury, collector, of Bilston, proved that on the morning of the burglary the accused purchased a suit of new clothes, into which he inducted himself into the shop, and on the same evening he returned, and invested some more money in the purchase of a flannel jacket. Mrs. *Jebb*, whose husband keeps a public-house at Lady’s Moor, Sedgley, stated that at seven o’clock on Thursday morning the prisoner came to her house, and called for some rum and water, for which he paid with the five-pound note produced. The other note was traced to the SPREAD EAGLE, Sedgley, where the prisoner obtained change for it from Mrs. Sheldon, under the pretence that he wanted to pay his men. The watch was purchased by Mr. Hand, Oxford Street, Bilston, to whom the accused offered the two stolen watches for sale. Police-constable Thomas Gettings apprehended the hopeful youth, who had thrice been convicted, at the FOX public house, in Bilston, at nine o’clock on the night of the 5th inst. While being taken to the station he threw away five or six pounds. The prisoner subsequently confessed to having committed the burglary, and was committed for trial at the Assizes.”

[Moses Edmonton appeared at the Stafford Assizes on 12th March 1855, charged with burglary, found guilty and sentenced to four years.]

London Gazette 2/7/1858

“*Samuel Jebb*, late lodging at the Rose and Punch Bowl Inn, Bull-street, Birmingham, in the county of Warwick, carrying out business at the THREE HORSE SHOES INN, Ladymoor, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler, and part of the time a Ground Bailiff and Butty Collier, formerly of the SWAN INN, Broad-lane, in the said parish of Sedgley, and previously of the THREE HORSE SHOES INN aforesaid, Licensed Victualler and Miner, and part of the time Ground Bailiff and for a short time carrying on business as a Butty Collier, in partnership with Abraham Grocutt and Joseph Rudge, under the firm of Jebb and Co. or Jebb, Grocutt, and Rudge.”

Birmingham Journal 1/6/1861 - Advert

“Old-Licensed House, Lady Moor, Deepfields.

To be Disposed of, that capital Old-Licensed House, sign of the HORSE SHOES, Lady Moor, Deepfields, situate in a populous neighbourhood and surrounded by extensive Works, and near the Railway Station. Rent very moderate, and the coming-in will be about £40.

Apply John G. Wright, Auctioneer and Valuer, Dudley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 12/11/1862

“Yesterday morning, at the RISING SUN, Deepfields, before Mr. Phillips, Deputy-Coroner, an inquest was opened relative to the death of Henry Swinnerton, aged thirty-three years, the particulars of whose death we briefly reported yesterday. Mr. Travis, of West Bromwich, appeared for the friends of the deceased.

The first witness called was Mrs. Griffiths, who stated that she knew the deceased, Henry Swinnerton, who worked as a shingler in an ironworks. In consequence of something she heard, she went and saw the deceased on Saturday afternoon, when he said he thought that ‘what he had got in his throat’ would cause his end. He complained of his head and leeches were put on it by Mr. Griffiths, surgeon, and every necessary attention was paid to him. He died about three o’clock on Monday morning. She had known deceased from a child. When he had too much to drink it brought on fits. On Saturday afternoon he told her that two men had knocked him down near Blue Button Engine, with a gutta percha stick, on the Tuesday night before, and had robbed him of about eleven shillings. He was sensible when he said this, and added that he had been at the HORSE SHOES INN. Two men, whom witness did not know, were brought before the deceased by the police, on Saturday night. The deceased said, ‘That is the one, and that is the other.’ He had no hesitation when he pointed them out.

Isaac Kelsey, a puddler, stated that he had known deceased for the last nine or ten years. On the previous Tuesday afternoon witness was going down the Dark Lane, about half-past five o’clock, and deceased overtook him. He was alone, and then went to the ANCHOR, into which they went, and afterwards two girls, named Hannah and Downing came in. After the girls had danced, deceased asked them to drink, and they went up and sat besides him. Deceased and witness, with two other men named Watts and Henshaw, and the girls, next went to Ladymoor. Deceased gave the two men some drink at Ladymoor, at the HORSE SHOES. They had a quart of ale, which was drunk among them. They afterwards had a second quart, and having drunk that, deceased went out with the girl Hannah. Henshaw, Watts, and the other girl, Downing, followed him. Witness went out about ten minutes after,

to the Blue Button Bridge where he had to meet deceased, whom he found down on the ground, close by the canal side. He was sensible, but in great pain. Witness did not see anyone touch the deceased, but when Henshaw and Hannah saw him (witness) coming, they ran away towards Bilston. He heard Watts ask them what they were running for, and call out to them 'come back and throw the b—— in the canal.' They, however, did not come back. Witness picked deceased up, but Watts knocked him over the rails into the field. Witness laid hold of Watts, and begged him to leave the deceased alone. The deceased said the girl Hannah had robbed him of 14s. Witness went back to the HORSE SHOES and told what had happened. It was about eleven o'clock at night that the deceased left the HORSE SHOES. On the Wednesday following the deceased sent for witness and requested him not to say anything about his being 'with such untile,' as he did not want his wife and daughter to know. Mr. *Skidmore*, who keeps the HORSE SHOES INN, at Ladymoor, deposed to deceased being there on the previous Tuesday night, and to his leaving about half-past eleven o'clock, going out through the back way, which would not be his way home. Witness recollected a girl coming down stairs where they were dancing, and asked if deceased was there, but he did not know of any quarrelling or words between them. Witness could not account for the deceased being injured, or give any evidence as to his death. Richard Marston, a waggoner, of Stonyfield, near Bilston, said that on the previous Tuesday night, the deceased came by his work, which was near Blue Button Bridge, and stated that he had been beaten and robbed. He was bleeding. He asked witness to see if he could find a policeman, as he had been beaten badly by two men. He said he could swear to either of them, but mentioned no names. He said the men had taken 4s and left 1s. He seemed 'freshish.' Witness could not stop with him, and returned to his work. Deceased said it would be a lesson for him, for he would not remain out after nine o'clock at night again. Emma Silvester, wife of Thomas Silvester, said she saw deceased about five o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, and he was then quite well. On Wednesday morning he came into her house, and said he had got some rare blows on his jaw at Blue Button Bridge the night before. She saw the injuries on his jaw, which was out of shape, and his mouth was swelled. She saw him again on the same day, and he seemed to have grown worse. On the Saturday morning he called her husband up, and said he thought he should die, and they went to Mr. Smith, surgeon of Coseley. She saw deceased's clothes; they were not cut, but they had some dirt on them. Mr. Griffiths was the first surgeon who attended him, and Mr. Underhill was called on the Sunday. He told them on Wednesday that he had been robbed. Police-sergeant Costello deposed that on Saturday morning last, about six o'clock, he went to the deceased's house and found him in bed. He (deceased) could scarcely speak, but by motions he gave witness to understand that he had been struck with a gutta percha stick, and thought he should die. Witness cleared the room, and deceased desired him to send for Kelsey, which he did. When Kelsey came the deceased said he (Kelsey) knew all about it. Concluding that he would not live, witness took Kelsey to Bilston and apprehended Jesse Watts, Wm. Henshaw, Mary Downing and a girl named Hannah Simmons. He took the two men about nine o'clock the same evening to the deceased's house, when the latter, pointing to the man Watts, said, 'That is the man that has struck me.' He pointed to the other man Henshaw, and added, 'That is the other man that was with him.' Witness asked if he was sure, and he replied, 'I am quite sure.' It was difficult for him to speak at that time. The Coroner at this stage said it was necessary to learn from medical evidence what was the real cause of death. The inquest was then adjourned until Friday in order that a post-mortem examination might be held."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 15/11/1862

"Yesterday morning Mr. W. H. Philips, Deputy Coroner, resumed his enquiry, which had been adjourned from Tuesday, at the RISING SUN public house, Coseley, touching the death of Henry Swinnerton. Mr. Travers, of West Bromwich, appeared for the prosecution, and Major McKnight and Superintendent McCrea were in attendance. The four prisoners, William Henshaw, brothel keeper, Bilston, Mary Downing and Hannah Sims, two prostitutes residing at Henshaw's and Jesse Watts, a companion of the others, who had been arrested on the charge of murder, were also present in custody. The room was cleared, and after consulting about twenty minutes, the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against William Henshaw and Jesse Watts, against whom the Coroner's commitment was made out. The two women, although acquitted by the above verdict, will be brought up, in connection with Henshaw and Watts, before the Magistrates, at Bilston, next week."

Worcester Journal 22/11/1862

"On Tuesday at the petty sessions at Bilston, before the stipendiary, the two men and two women charged with the murder of Henry Swinnerton at Coseley, who died on the 10th inst, were committed for trial at the next Stafford assizes, charged with wilful murder. It was shown that the two male prisoners, and one of the women, had attacked the deceased, one of the men using a life preserver, and also garrotting him, and occasioning a broken jaw, and producing concussion of the brain and lungs. The deceased identified the men before his death."

Bell's Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 7/12/1862

"Assize Intelligence. At Stafford, on Wednesday, Jesse Watts, William Henshaw, Hannah Simms, and Mary Downing were indicted for the wilful murder of Henry Swinnerton, on the 4th of November last, at Sedgley. Mr. Boughy and Mr. Motteram prosecuted; Mr. Brindly defended Henshaw. The other prisoners were unrepresented by counsel; and Mr. Kenealey was instructed by the judge to watch the case in their behalf.

It appears that on the 4th November the deceased was out drinking at several public houses. At one of these public houses, the THREE HORSESHOES, he treated the female prisoners to drink, and he was there joined by the two male prisoners. He accompanied one of the female prisoners out of the house, and was shortly afterwards followed by the other prisoners, who beat him with a life preserver and robbed him, and from the effect of the injuries received he died on the 10th November, in a frightful state of suffering.

Isaac Kelsall was the first witness called. He deposed that he was drinking with the deceased on the night of the murder, the 4th of November, at the ANCHOR public house. The prisoners were there, and were treated to drink by the deceased. They then went to

the THREE HORSESHOES public house, Deepfields, where the prisoners followed them, and were there treated to drink by the deceased, and he took out 14s or 15s to pay for what had been drunk. Deceased and the prisoner Simms then went out together. Watts, Henshaw, and Downing followed them almost immediately. Witness followed them in the direction of Blue Button Bridge. When near the bridge he saw deceased with his jacket off, lying on his back, and bleeding from the mouth. Watts and Downing were by his side, and Henshaw and Simms were about ten yards off. When they saw witness Henshaw and Simms ran away. Deceased was calling for the police. Witness helped him up and put his clothes on. Watts and Downing were standing on either side, and deceased said one of them had robbed him of 14s or 15s, and he said he would have his money before he went. The prisoner Watts then struck deceased and knocked him down over some rails into the field, and was about to strike him again when witness prevented him. Watts and Downing then went towards Bilston, and deceased followed them, and said he would have his money. Witness then went back to the THREE HORSESHOES public house alone.

Other witnesses having corroborated Kelsall, the jury convicted the prisoners of Manslaughter, and sentence was deferred. On Thursday Jesse Watts, William Henshaw, Hannah Simms, and Mary Downing, found guilty on the previous day of the manslaughter of Henry Swinnerton, were brought up to receive sentence. Watts, nine years' penal servitude; Henshaw, 15 months' hard labour; Simms and Downing, six years' penal servitude each."

[Aris's Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1863](#)

"At Bilston Public Office, yesterday, the undermentioned licenses were suspended.....

John Skidmore, THREE HORSE SHOES, Ladymoor."

AND

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863](#)

"The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

The following is a list of those who had been proceeded against and fined in the past year.....

John Skidmore, THREE HORSESHOES, Ladymoor."

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/2/1864 - Advert](#)

"Ladymoor, near Bilston.

Mr. Jabez Morrell will Sell by Auction (by order of the Mortgagee under a power of sale), at the house of Mr. *John Skidmore*, known as the THREE HORSE SHOES INN, Ladymoor, on Monday, the 29th day of February, 1864, at 6 o'clock pm, subject to conditions to be then read, all that Freehold Dwelling House, situate at Ladymoor aforesaid, and now in the occupation of Mr. Isaac Caddick....."

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/9/1864](#)

"Yesterday, at the Borough Police Court, Anne Skidmore, of the THREE HORSE SHOES INN, Ladymore, was charged with having on Saturday been drunk and disorderly in Queen Street, Wolverhampton, and with having assaulted police-officer Turner in the execution of his duty. It seemed that the defendant was quarrelling with another woman, and that her noise attracted the attention of the officer, who ordered her to go away. She said she had as much right where she was as the officer, and dared him to take her into custody. At last he took her in charge, and she then struck him in the face. She had had liquor, and was much excited. The Bench told her she ought to have known better than conduct herself as she had done, and fined her 5s and costs."

[Birmingham Journal 21/4/1866](#)

"Mr. W. H. Phillips, Deputy Coroner, held an inquest at the HORSE SHOE INN, Ladymoor, Deepfields, on Monday, on the body of John Gardner, aged eighteen years, labourer, and Thomas Snape, aged nineteen years, keeper, who died from the effects of injuries received on Saturday last, by an explosion of steam, through the burning of a tuyere of a blast furnace at the works of Mr. Thomas Turley, Deepfields.

The two deceased, and a third man, over whom, as stated below, another inquest was held on Monday, were all killed through the neglect of Snape, who should have tapped his furnace at about 7.30, but was only preparing to do so an hour later. With a singular disregard for his own and others' safety he made the delay less difficult by stopping up the flow of cinder from the 'notch' by which the iron inside was made more rapid.

From the statement made by Snape after the accident, it would seem that the deceased and another man named Williams were all talking together for some time before the explosion, about getting ale at a cheap price, and preparations were made for buying the same. At half-past eight the furnace was about to be tapped, when the contents having risen up to one of the tuyeres, and burnt off the ring, the water which revolves inside the tuyere escaped into the furnace and generated steam, which exploded, blew out the front of the furnace, belching after it the whole contents of the furnace to the weight of perhaps eight tons. Gardner was thrown down and covered with the metal and the scoria, and when he was raked out was a blackened cinder. Snape leaped into the canal, and then ran home, a distance of about half a mile, his clothes all burnt off, and suffering great pain. The third man (Swift) was carried to the South Staffordshire Hospital, in Wolverhampton, and died there on the following day. He alone was married. He leaves a wife and two children.

After the Jury had viewed the bodies, and had inspected the spot where the accident occurred, John Trow was called, and being cautioned, said, about half-past eight o'clock on the night in question he heard the tuyere of No.1 boiler burst. Gardner was killed on the spot. The furnace was tapped every eight hours, and at the time of the explosion it was ready for that operation. The furnace was in good working order, and if Snape had attended to his duties, tapping when he found the water getting warm, the accident might have been prevented. The witness considered that both youths were old enough for the work, Snape having 'kept' a furnace for six weeks. Witness swore positively that he did not delay the tapping of the furnace in any way.

Thomas Williams stated that he was at work near the deceased men when the explosion occurred. He thought that if Snape had

been an experienced man he would have had his iron out an hour and half sooner. This witness stated that he saw something wrong with the furnace at which the deceased were at work; but he declined to interfere for fear of cross words with Snape. The Coroner having pointed out to him his great folly, Williams promised to be more careful in future. John Snape, the father of the deceased of that name, deposed after his son had been brought home he said that he had stopped the notch in which the explosion occurred. He thought his son was to blame; he was afraid he was not looking after his furnace, but talking of drink. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death. They also expressed their opinion that Trow should have exercised more care, from the fact he had so young a man as keeper. Snape evidently thought his work was done properly, because he stood in front of the furnace.”
[At the inquest of Joseph Swift, a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court, on Friday.....

At the commencement of the proceedings, the Superintendent of Police presented the following report.

Bilston Division, August 31, 1866.

‘I beg to submit to the Magistrates the attached list of licensed victuallers who have been complained against during the year. Twenty-five have been convicted, and three have paid costs; one had been convicted three times, and five convicted twice. This is a large increase on last year’s list; but I think it has arisen from the police being more particular in reporting cases of permitting drunkenness – as it was found to be an evil rather on the increase. I believe it has caused landlords to be more careful in supplying drink to persons intoxicated.’

H. McCrea, Superintendent.

Black List.....

John Skidmore, THREE HORSE SHOES, Broad Lane, Bilston License renewed.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The first application for a new license was by Mr. Fellows, on behalf of *Richard Harper*, of the THREE TUNS (?) INN, Lady-moor. The house had previously been licensed by two other persons, but their licenses had been taken away from them in consequence of not having conducted the house in a proper manner.

The application was opposed by Mr. Stokes, on the ground that applicant had not had sufficient experience to keep a licensed house, having only kept a beer-house for about three months, and also because there were four licensed houses within 400 yards. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 28/12/1870 - Advert

“To Saddlers. Wanted, a steady Man; general hand. Constant employment to steady Man. Apply, *R. Harper*, THREE HORSE SHOES, Ladymoor, near Bilston.”

1871 Census

16, Lady Moor Road

[1] *Richard A. Harper* (27), saddler and publican, master, employing 1 man, born Darlaston;

[2] Elizabeth Harper (27), wife, born Willenhall;

[3] Ann M. Harper (3), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[4] Agness Harper (2), daughter, born Bilston;

[5] Ann Perry (16), general servant, born Willenhall:

Charles Felton died on 22nd March 1881.

1881 Census

16, Ladymoor Road

[1] *Eliza Felton* (48), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;

[2] George Felton (19), son, iron moulder, born Sedgley;

[3] Hannah Felton (17), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] Alfred Felton (15), son, iron moulder, born Sedgley;

[5] Jane Felton (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Ann Felton (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] James Felton (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[8] Emily Felton (4), daughter, born Sedgley:

John Wright was married to *Sarah Ann*.

Birmingham Daily Post 28/8/1886

“The annual Licensing Sessions for Bilston were held yesterday.....

The only application yesterday was by *John Wright*, of the THREE HORSE SHOES beerhouse, Ladymoor, Lower Coseley, who

applied for a license to sell wine. This was opposed on the ground that the premises were close to a fully-licensed house, and the application was refused.”

1891 Census

10+12, Ladymoor Road – Public house in one
[1] *John Wright* (46), publican, born Sedgley;
[2] *Sarah A. Wright* (48), wife, born Sedgley;
[3] James Wright (18), son, born Sedgley;
[4] Martha Moore (18), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

THREE HORSE SHOES INN
[1] *Sarah Ann Wright* (56), widow, publican, born Sunderland;
[2] James A. Wright (27), son, coal factor, born Sedgley;
[3] Polly Doughty (14), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Sarah Ann Wright married Thomas Ingles on 16th July 1903.

Ernest Holcroft, beer retailer, Ladymoor. [1904]

Ernest Holcroft – see also SPREAD EAGLE, Ladymoor.

Staffordshire Advertiser 12/2/1910

“The Annual Licensing Sessions were held yesterday.
The licences of the THREE HORSE SHOES INN, Ladymoor were referred for compensation.”

License refused by Compensation Authority on 24th June 1910.
Compensation of £400 was paid on 21st January 1911.

THREE HORSESHOES

Kent Street, (48, Sheepcotwall), (Dudley Road), UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joseph Woodall, yeoman, Great Dodford, near Bromsgrove
Sydney Evershed, Burton on Trent
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Cartwright [1832]
Benjamin Bate [1833] – [1837]
Thomas Cartwright [1841] – 1860);
Henry Fullwood (1860 – 1875);
Joseph Woodhall (1875 – 1886);
William Cartwright (1886 – 1890);
Thomas Nicholls (1890 – 1892);
Isaac Clark (1892 – 1898);
Julia Clark (1898 – 1899);
Joseph Jukes (1899 – 1906);
John Waterfield (1906 – 1908);
John Worton (1908 – 1909);
Herbert Green (1909 – 1910);
Daniel Greenaway (1910 – 1912);
William Smallwood (1912 – 1913);
Arthur Gibberd Cartwright (1913 – 1915);
Charles Coley (1915 – 1916);
William Henry Chambers (1916 – 1918);
Thomas Malpass (1918 – 1921):

NOTES

Dudley Road [1851], [1861]
48, Sheepcotwall [1871]
Kent Street [1881], [1891]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/8/1832 - Advert

“Freehold Messuages and Premises, at Gornal.

To be Sold by Private Treaty.

All that well-known and old-established Public House, known by the sign of the HORSE SHOE, in the occupation of *Joseph Cartwright*, situate at Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, fronting the turnpike-road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton.

Comprising a spacious Kitchen, two Parlours, three Bed-rooms, three Cellars, Brewhouse, Piggeries, Well of Water, a very large and productive Garden, having considerable frontage to the said turnpike-road, and every other convenience requisite for carrying on an extensive trade in the public business.

Also, all those four smaller Dwelling Houses, with the several Gardens thereto, in the respective occupations of William Guest, Mary Nailor, Ann Marsh, and William Jukes, with the two Nail Shops belonging, adjoining or near adjoining the above, two of which front the said turnpike-road, and the others are fronting the road leading out of the said turnpike-road to Lower Gornal; together with the Blacksmith's Shop, in the occupation of Richard Malpass, lying near the said premises, and fronting the said turnpike-road.

To view the premises, apply to the respective tenants; and for price and other particulars, to Mr. J. P. Roberts, of Gospel End, near Sedgley, Land Agent and Auctioneer; or at the offices of Messrs. Robinson and Fletcher, Solicitors, Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 7/11/1832 - Advert

“Staffordshire Freeholds & Freehold Property, in the Borough of Wolverhampton.

Most Eligible Freehold Buildings & Land, at Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Griffin and Marsh, at the HORSE SHOE INN, in Gornal, on Friday, the 9th day of November, 1832, precisely at 4 o'clock in the afternoon; in the following or such other lots and subject to conditions as will then be submitted.....

Lot 5. The well-frequented and old-established Public House, called the HORSE SHOE INN, containing every requisite convenience and accommodation for conducting and extensive business; together with Three Houses connected therewith, and which will be sold with the Public House, or separately, as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, in the several occupations of *Joseph Cartwright*, George Waterfield, William Guest, and May Nailor.

Also an exceedingly valuable piece of Building Land, with 18 yards frontage to the Dudley and Wolverhampton turnpike road, and another with 5½ yards frontage to the Lower Gornal Road, the whole containing 786 sq yds.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/1/1837 - Advert

“Most Eligible Freehold Public House, Buildings, and Land, at Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, at the HORSE SHOE INN, in Gornal, on Monday, the 23rd day of January, 1837, precisely at four o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots, and subject to such conditions, as will then be submitted.

Lot I. The well-frequented and old-established Public House called the HORSE SHOE INN, situate at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, fronting the turnpike road from Dudley to Wolverhampton, and to the public road to Lower Gornal, and in the occupation of Mr. *Benjamin Bate*. The premises contain extensive cellaring, spacious kitchen, parlour, and club-room; convenient brewhouse, with malt room over chambers, private yard, well of water, and garden land; together with Three Dwelling Houses connected therewith, and occupied by James Nailor, William Southall, and David Harris.

The above property comprises every requisite convenience and accommodation for conducting an extensive business.

Lot II. A Dwelling House, stable, garden, and premises, adjoining the public road leading from Lower Gornal into the Dudley and Wolverhampton turnpike road, near the last lot, and occupied by Mr. William Jukes.

The respective tenants will show the whole of the property; and all further information may be had on application to the Auctioneer; or to Messrs. Robinson and Fletcher, solicitors, Dudley.”

London Gazette 14/3/1837

“*Benjamin Bate*, heretofore of Gornall Wood, Sedgley, Staffordshire, Labourer, and late of Upper Gornall, same parish and county, Victualler and Labourer, then Victualler on his own account, and Labourer by contract, in partnership with Thomas Oakley, since Victualler and Miner on his own account, then Victualler on his own account, and Miner in partnership with Thomas Parker, and late Victualler and Labourer on his own account only.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/5/1844

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner.....

On Monday, at the HORSE SHOES, Upper Gornall, on William Brown, a miner, who was killed by falling out of a skip, whilst ascending up the shaft of an ironstone pit. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/6/1844

“The following inquests have been held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....

On Wednesday week, at the HORSE SHOE, Upper Gornall, on a miner named William Hunt, who was killed by falling from a scaffold upon which he was at work in the shaft of a coalpit. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Thomas Cartwright was also a maltster. [1851], [1860]

1851 Census

Dudley Road

[1] *Thomas Cartwright* (43), victualler, maltster, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary Cartwright* (41), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Joseph Male* (66), visitor, brick maker, born Sedgley;

[4] *Elizabeth Blackham* (20), house servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 19/4/1851

“An inquest was held on Thursday last, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Cartwright*, HORSE SHOE INN, Gornall, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of *Job Ennis*, aged twelve years, who died on the 14th instant in consequence of injuries received on the 10th of March last, while working in an ironstone pit at Gravesland Colliery, in the parish of Rowley Regis. It appeared that the deceased was struck in the side by a piece of ironstone from a blast which took place nearly a hundred yards distant. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/10/1858 - Advert

“Freehold Dwelling House, near the Tollgate, Upper Gornal.

Mr. S. Powell will Sell by Auction, by direction of the Proprietor, who is about to leave England for Australia, at the house of Mr. *Thomas Cartwright*, the THREE HORSESHOES INN, Upper Gornal, on Monday, the 1st day of November, 1858, at seven o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read, all that Freehold Dwelling House (lately occupied as a public house), Blacksmith's Shop, Paint Shop, and other Buildings, situate near the Tollgate, Upper Gornal aforesaid, in the occupation of the proprietor, Mr. John Ashcroft. The House consists of a front and back kitchen, cellar, two upper rooms, club room 28 feet by 12 feet 3 inches, and is well supplied with hard and soft water. The land, including the site of the buildings, contains 210 square yards or thereabouts.

Part of the purchase money may remain invested, if required.

To view apply to the Proprietor, on the premises; and for further particulars to Messrs. Whitehouse, Attorneys-at-law, Queen Street, Wolverhampton; or to the Auctioneer, Tipton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/4/1860 - Advert

“Sale of Valuable Freehold Building Land, part of the Abbey Estate, at Lower Gornal, in the Parish of Sedgley at the house of Mr. *Thomas Cartwright*, the HORSE SHOE INN, at Upper Gornal.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861 - AdvertD

“Staffordshire, Valuable Freehold Houses, Leasehold Corn Mill (Equal to Freehold), and Eligible Freehold Building land, situate at Gospel End, Ruiton, and Lower Gornal, all in the parish of Sedgley.

To Solicitors, Capitalists, Speculators, & Others, Mr. Solomon Powell will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Henry Fullwood*, the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, on Wednesday, the 9th day of January, 1861, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to the conditions then to be produced, and in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon.....

Lot 2. All that Flour Mill, situate at Ruiton, in the parish of Sedgley, with Wind-sails, machinery, and two pairs of French Stones, two Store Rooms, Stable, and Piggery; also a messuage or Dwelling House adjoining, consisting of Shop, Parlour, Kitchen, and Three Chambers, Washhouse and Cistern. The whole contains an area of 580 square yards or thereabouts, and is leasehold for the term of 999 years, of which 844 are unexpired.

Lot 3. All that Freehold and Eligible Field of Land, containing 1a, 3r, 27p, and situate opposite the CROSS KEYS INN and WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, approached by a road leading out of the road from Sedgley, through Ruiton to Gornal Wood and Dibdale bank.

This land is supposed to contain the celebrated Gornal Stone so commonly used in the erection of Houses, and for the use of Ironworks and Furnaces; and irrespective of this valuable Mine, the Land is very eligible for Building purpose, being situated on an elevated position, having good falls for drainage, and in the immediate neighbourhood of a large population, and within short distances of works of all kinds.....”

Wellington Journal 26/1/1861 - Deaths

“11th Jan, at Hadley, in this county, in his 54th year, after a short illness, Mr. *Thomas Cartwright*, of the HORSE SHOES INN, Gornal.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/1/1861

“The inquest of the body of a newly-born female child, found in the soil of an out-building, on the Dudley Road at Shaver's End, was concluded before Mr. W. H. Phillips, on Wednesday evening, at the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal. Mr. Ballenden, surgeon, deposed, as a result of the post mortem examination which he had made, that the child was born alive. Corresponding with the mark round the neck there was an internal one, such as might have been produced by a ligature having been fastened round the

neck. Death, in his opinion, had been caused by strangulation. Of this he had no doubt. There was no evidence to establish the identity of the child, and the Jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/2/1861 - Notice

“Re Thomas Cartwright, Deceased.

All Persons having any Claim or demand upon the Estate of *Thomas Cartwright*, formerly of the HORSE SHOE INN, Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Licensed Victualler and Maltster, but late of Hadley, in the county of Salop, Gentleman (deceased) who died on the 11th day of January last, are requested to send the particulars of the same to me the undersigned; or to Mr. William Cullwick, of Tipton, in the county of Stafford, Saddler, or Mr. James Fullwood, of Sedgley aforesaid, Agent, the Executors of the Will of the said *Thomas Cartwright*, in order that the same may be examined and discharged. And all Persons Indebted to the said estate are requested to pay the amount of their respective debts to me the undersigned or to the said Executors forthwith.

Thomas Howard, Solicitor for the said Executors, Dudley, February 18th, 1861.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road

[1] *Henry Fullwood* (35), maltster and licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Anne Fullwood (34), wife, born Brierley Hill;

[3] Edwin R. Fullwood (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[4] James H. Fullwood (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] John L. Fullwood (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] Emily A. Fullwood (3), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] Hannah Bate (19), general servant, born Alvechurch, Worcestershire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/9/1861 - Advert

“Preliminary Notice. Valuable Building land, at Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Fullwood*, the HORSESHOE INN, Upper Gornal aforesaid, on Monday, the 30th day of September, 1861, at six o'clock in the evening, and subject to conditions then to be produced, about twelve lots of valuable Freehold Building Land situate in Upper Gornal.....”

Henry Fullwood was also a maltster. [1864], [1865], [1868], [1870], [1872], [1873], [1874]

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1864

“An enquiry was opened on Monday, and adjourned till yesterday, at the HORSE SHOE, Upper Gornal, before Mr. Phillips, Coroner, on the body of the illegitimate son of Ruth Parkes, a girl about seventeen years old, who died on the 31st of last month, under what were considered suspicious circumstances. The evidence of the mother of the deceased was to the effect that she was confined a short time ago of the deceased. The child was a healthy one; it had, however, been poorly, and on Wednesday night last she obtained, from a druggist in Dudley, some ‘stuff’ for it to take. There was no label on the bottle, and the druggist did not give her any written directions, but simply told her that she must give the child two or three spoonfuls. Between the Wednesday night and the Thursday she gave it altogether five spoonfuls. After taking it the child appeared not to notice anything, and it suddenly died on the Thursday, very much convulsed. Mr. Ballenden, surgeon, who had made a post mortem examination of the body, yesterday gave it as his opinion that the child died from inflammation of the lungs. A verdict to that effect was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/6/1864 - Advert

“Important Sale. To be Sold by Auction, by S. Insull, this day (Monday), June 13, at the house of Mr. *Henry Fullwood*, the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal – that excellent Mare well known as the ‘Dudley Trotting Mare’ (under an execution from the Sheriff), belonging to Mr. George Ansbury, of Dudley.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock in the afternoon. Conditions as usual.

Auctioneer's Offices, High Street, Brierley Hill.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/5/1866 - Advert

“Freehold Property, Upper Gornal, Staffordshire.

Mr. John Bent will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, the 30th day of May instant, at the house of Mr. *H. Fullwood*, the HORSE SHOE INN, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then and there produced.

Lot 1. All those Seven Freehold Dwelling Houses and Out-buildings, situate at the Inhedge, Upper Gornal, and now in the respective occupations of Thomas, Parton, Flavell, Weaver, Stanton, Powney, and one void, producing the low annual rent of £23 3s.

Lot 2. All those Five Dwelling Houses and Out-buildings, situate at Upper Gornal, on the Dudley and Wolverhampton Road, in the parish of Sedgley, and in the county of Stafford, and now in the respective occupations of Morris, Bradley, Allen, Rathbone, and Baker, producing the low annual rent of £23. Also a Plot of Front Building Land and Materials, in Pail Pieces, adjoining the back of the said Property.

The whole of the above Property is well tenanted, and well supplied with water.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. Fredk. Tandy, Solicitor; or the Auctioneer, both of Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 11/7/1866

“On Monday evening, at the HORSE SHOE INN, Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an inquest on the body of Benjamin London, a brewer, aged 36. From the evidence it appeared that he died from injuries received through falling into some wort where he was brewing in Dudley. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 3/9/1866

“Dinner to Dr. Ballenden.

On Friday evening last a dinner was given to the above gentleman at the house of Mr. *Henry Fullwood*, the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal. The dinner, which was of the most *recherché* character, and reflected the highest credit upon the host, was attended by some of the most influential gentlemen in the surrounding district. It was given as a mark of confidence and respect after the late unfounded charge brought against Dr. Ballenden.”

[Dr. Ballenden had been accused of rape by a patient. Sedgley magistrates dismissed it.]

County Express 16/2/1867

“On Monday, the 11th instant, an inquest was held at the HORSE SHOES, Sedgley, on the body of Joseph Round, a collier, late residing at Ruiton, who was killed by a sudden fall of coal in the Earl of Dudley’s No.1 pit, Himley Colliery, on the 8th instant. J. P. Baker Esq, the Government mines inspector for the district, was present to watch the proceedings, and the Earl’s agent, Mr. Jeffries, together with the underground agent and surveyor, attended, with plans of the workings in the pit, to give any information which might be required. The verdict was Accidental Death.”

Stourbridge Observer 4/4/1868

“The adjourned inquest on the body of George Smith, blacksmith, residing formerly at Blackheath, was held on Monday last, before Mr. T. M. Phillips, Coroner, at the house of Mr. *Fulwood*, the THREE HORSE SHOES INN, Upper Gornal.

On the 16th ultimo the deceased was at the house of Mr. Joseph Hackett, of Blackheath [GEORGE AND DRAGON, High Street], and he there became so violent as to render it necessary for police interference.

Police-constable Slym was called in, and the deceased was then in the street in front of the house. He refused to move on, and said he would have revenge for the treatment he had received in the house. The officer, assisted by a second officer, succeeded in taking him to the station, and on the road he struck Slym in the chest, and the officer was compelled to use his staff. During his incarceration he became so ill that it was deemed necessary by Mr. Phillips, surgeon, of Rowley, that he should be conveyed to the Dudley Workhouse, and this course having been adopted, the man was conveyed there, and attended by the medical officer.

He died on the 21st ult, and the certificate of Mr. Haden was to the effect that death was caused by excessive drinking. The wife of deceased, however, demanded an inquest, and Dr. Newnham, of Wolverhampton, was called to make the usual examination, he being totally disinterested. The result of the examination verified the opinion given by Mr. Haden, the Union surgeon, and the jury returned a verdict to the effect that death was by excessive drinking, but they censured the sergeant in charge of the station, and the officer Slym, for not having obtained medical aid sooner to deceased, it having transpired that he had been in custody thirty hours without any medical man being called in.

The Coroner informed the officers of the censure of the jury, and the proceedings terminated.

Captain Congreve, chief constable of Staffordshire, and Mr. Superintendent McCree, were present during the inquiry.”

London Gazette 18/12/1868

“Spon Lane, West Bromwich, and Dibdale, Sedgley, Staffordshire.

In Chancery. – *Berry v. Gibbons.* – *Gibbons v. Gibbons.*

To be sold by auction, pursuant to an Order of the High Court of Chancery, made in the above causes, with the approbation of the Master of the Rolls, by Mr. Bateman the person appointed by the said Judge, at the DARTMOUTH HOTEL, West Bromwich aforesaid, on Monday, the 11th day of January, 1869, at six o’clock in the evening.

A leasehold dwelling-house, stables, and outbuildings, fronting George-street, Spon-lane (formerly Union-street), West Bromwich, with the ironworks, buildings, and yard thereto, the whole covering about 1,493 square yards, and late in the occupation of Mr. Cottam, and are held for the residue of a term, of which about 121 years are unexpired, subject to the rent of £9 6s. 6d. per annum. Also to be sold by auction, pursuant to the said Order and with the like approbation, by the said Mr. Bateman, at The HORSE SHOE INN, at Upper Gornal, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, on Monday, the 18th day of January, 1869, at six o’clock in the evening.

A freehold cottage and premises, fronting to Dewes-lane, Dibdale, Sedgley, Staffordshire, with stabling adjoining; and also two pieces of land in rear, the whole covering 1a 2r 11p or thereabouts, late in the occupation of Mrs. Gibbons or her undertenants. Particulars and conditions may be obtained on application to the Auctioneer or Thomas Wight, Esq, both of Dudley, or Messrs. Palmer, Eland, and Nettleship, No.4, Trafalgar-square, London; Messrs. Dale and Stretton, No.3, Gray’s-inn-square, London ; Messrs. Church and Son, No.9, Bedford-row, London; Messrs. Chilton, Burton, Yeates, and Hart, No.25, Chancery-lane, London; and of Messrs. Ingleby, Wragge, and Evans ; Messrs. James and Griffin; and Messrs. Hodgson and Son, all of Birmingham, Solicitors.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 9/2/1869

“Yesterday forenoon the Deputy Coroner (Mr. Phillips) held an inquest at the house of Mr. *H. Fullwood*, HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, touching the death of Edward Hemmings, 56, married man, whose death was briefly reported in Saturday’s *Gazette*. The evidence showed that on Friday last deceased was at work near to one of Earl Dudley’s limestone pits, in the Tipton Road, and by some unaccountable means he toppled over and fell down the pit, a distance of 136 yards. When taken up the poor fellow was, of course, quite dead, and his body frightfully cut. There was no evidence to show how deceased fell down the pit, and the

jury returned a verdict Accidental Death.”

1871 Census

48, Sheepcotwall – HORSE SHOE INN

- [1] *Henry Fullwood* (45), maltster and victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ann E. Fullwood (44), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Edwin A. Fullwood (21), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] James A. Fullwood (18), son, surveyor, born Sedgley;
- [5] John C. Fullwood (15), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] Emily A. Fullwood (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Frederick Fullwood (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Mary A. Lane (25), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Mail 31/10/1871

“Yesterday afternoon Mr. W. H. Phillips held an adjourned inquest at the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, relative to the death of Edward Hemmings (19), who was killed on Wednesday last, at the Earl of Dudley’s No.1 Limestone Pit, Castle Fields. Thomas Pasfield, superintendent engineer of Earl Dudley’s limestone pits, said that he engaged John Murrall about three weeks ago, in consequence of the engineer being ill, and the work he had to do was to let the men up and down, and draw limestone from four pits. The signals that the engineer had to obey were given by the banksman shouting. Upon the advice of his solicitor, John Murrall, the engineer, gave evidence to the effect that in working the engine slowly at the request of the miners the accident had been caused. The Coroner having briefly summed up, the room was cleared, and, after two hours’ deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against John Murrall. The accused was then committed to the Sessions, but was allowed bail, himself in £25, and two sureties in £25 each.”

[John Murrall was found not guilty of Manslaughter.]

Birmingham Mail 9/12/1871

“Yesterday morning, Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, upon the bodies of Thomas Pritchard (35), Shavers End, and William Astley (14), Pale Piece, Upper Gornal, who were killed by falling down Earl Dudley’s whitestone pit, at the Fox Yards, Coseley, on Tuesday morning. Joseph Thomason, engineer, and John Knipe, banksman, who were apprehended on the morning of the accident, attended the inquiry. From the evidence given, the jury were convinced that it was purely accidental, and they returned, accordingly, a verdict to that effect.”

Dudley Herald 21/6/1872 - Advert

“Wanted. A good general servant, apply at the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/2/1873 - Advert

“Wanted, immediately, a good working Maltster.
Apply at the HORSE SHOE, Upper Gornal, Dudley.”

Joseph Woodhall = Joseph Woodall

Dudley Herald 8/1/1876

“Guest Hospital. At a meeting of the Weekly Board, held on Friday, the 31st ult, the Secretary reported the following subscriptions and donations.....

S. J. *Woodall*, HORSE SHOE INN, Gornal, contents of subscription box, 5s.”

1881 Census

Kent Street – HORSE SHOES

- [1] *Joseph Woodall* (56), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] Sarah Woodall (40), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] Edgar Joseph Woodall (22), son, manager, born Dudley;
- [4] Alice M. Woodall (19), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [5] Julia H. Woodall (17), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [6] Horace T. Woodall (15), son, born Staffordshire;
- [7] Marion S. Woodall (14), daughter, born Staffordshire;
- [8] Alexander E. Woodall (12), son, scholar, born Staffordshire;
- [9] Kate E. B. Woodall (10), daughter, scholar, born Staffordshire;
- [10] Clara Hale (16), domestic servant, born Staffordshire:

Dudley and District News 28/7/1883

“On Wednesday evening Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, touching the death of Noah Oakley (57), a miner, of Dibdale Street, Upper Gornal, who died on Sunday evening from injuries sustained on Wednesday, the 11th inst. On the afternoon of the date named, James Marsh and his wife, neighbours, heard a cry to the effect that Oakley had cut his throat, upon which they went into his house, and found him sitting on the sofa bleeding, his throat cut most severely,

and a bread knife on the table covered with blood. Oakley and his wife had been having tea, and the latter left him lying on the sofa whilst she went into the garden, but a few minutes after, when she returned, she found him sitting up on the sofa with his throat cut. His mind seemed to have been affected, and on the Monday previous she took him to Dr. Ballenden, who gave him some medicine, and observed that he seemed to be troubled very much. For three months he suffered from an injured leg and was troubled in his mind through being unable to work, and being 'on the box' as he said he did not like to live upon poor men. A juryman named James Marsh gave evidence as to the condition in which he found deceased, and added that he had noticed him being very strange in his manner.

Other evidence was given as to the state of deceased's mind and showing that every attention had been paid him.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased committed suicide whilst in a state of temporary insanity."

Birmingham Daily Post 21/9/1886

"Yesterday, at the Sedgley Police Court – before Messrs. B. Whitehouse and F. A. Homer – Edgar Joseph *Woodhall* (26), son of the landlord, and manager of the HORSE SHOES INN, Upper Gornal, was charged, on remand, with stealing one bag of malt on the 7th September, the property of Messrs. Joshua Cartwright and Sons, maltsters, Upper Gornal. Mr. W. Foster prosecuted, and Mr. W. H. Tinsley defended. The case was remanded from last week.

Mr. Foster, in opening, said the charge that day was one of stealing the contents of eight bags of malt and six bags, the property of the above firm. The complainants' premises and the Horse Shoe Yard were common together, and the prisoner had lately been offering malt for sale at less than market price. He had sold some, but declined to give invoices or receipts. The firm had some black oats in some of the malt, and this kind had been sold by the prisoner. Another proof was that one of the bags belonging to Messrs. Cartwright was marked *Fullwood*, and the firm had given strict orders for this not to be sent out; yet it was found that *Woodhall* had been dealing with that particular sack.

Among the witnesses examined was Arthur Elwell, landlord of the HEARTY GOOD FELLOW, Dragon Lane, Dudley, who said he bought six bags at 19s per bag, which was 1s per bag under the market price, and there was about 10lb overweight in each bag. On a second transaction, which related to the specific malt in question, defendant sold him six bags at 18s per bag. There were no invoices. Had never had any of Cartwright's sacks on his premises before. The malt was unground, and the sacks came from the defendant.

PC Gibbs said he was watching in Messrs. Cartwright's malthouse, and overheard a conversation between the defendant, his mother, and Daniel Wright. Mrs. *Woodhall* appeared to be distressed, and asked her son not to do something he spoke of; and Daniel Wright said, 'The — can't swear to malt.' The defendant asked his mother to say nothing about the matter, and she said she would not. During the watching defendant went into his own malt-room several times. Witness had a warrant for *Woodhall*, and took possession of two bags marked Cartwright. Defendant gave him a nudge on the elbow, and said, 'You take no notice of them; leave them alone, and I'll make it right with you. I'll bring an action, and get £500 damages.' Witness went to Elwell's, and seized the eight bags there.

PC Sutton corroborated, and added that at the station defendant said, 'Call and tell Ma to see Joseph Dudley, of the BRITANNIA INN, Queens Cross, and tell him to keep his mouth shut, and say that he had no malt from me.'

PS Goodhall said he apprehended the prisoner, and read the warrant. *Woodhall* said, 'Very well, I have heard something about it; but how is he going to prove it?' Witness afterwards searched, and found seven full bags of malt in defendant's store room, some marked Cartwright and another *Fullwood*.

Mr. Tinsley reserved his defence, and the defendant was committed for trial."

Birmingham Daily Post 22/10/1886

"Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, yesterday.

Joseph *Woodhall*, on bail, a respectably-dressed man, was charged with stealing malt at Sedgley, in September last, the property of William Cartwright. Mr. Whitehouse conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Kettle defended.

Prosecutor is a maltster, carrying on business in Kent Street, Upper Gornal, and the prisoner lived with his mother at the HORSE SHOE INN, which adjoined the prosecutor's premises, a large yard separating the two. In September last prosecutor missed a quantity of malt from his premises, and on one occasion the malthouse window had been burst open, and a quantity of unground malt was missing. About the same time prisoner sold eight bags of unground malt to a publican named Elwell, whom he asked to say nothing about it. One of these bags bore the mark of *Henry Fulwood*, and five empty bags were found on prisoner's premises marked *H. F.*, and one which bore the name of prosecutor's firm, Joshua Cartwright and Son. Prosecutor bought the bags marked *Henry Fulwood* and *H. F.* at the death of Mr. *Fulwood*, of Dudley. It was alleged that all these bags had been stolen from prosecutor's premises. Prosecutor had sold no unground malt to Mrs. *Woodhall*. He had, however, sold her malt, although she had a malt mill.....

Mr. Kettle, in defence, pointed out that it was not an unusual thing for publicans when pressed for money to sell off their surplus stock of malt. With regard to the conversation spoken to by the policeman, it might be that prisoner's creditors were pressing him for money, and he contemplated selling the malt, which, under those circumstances, would be an illegal act, and it was this which led to the remark by Wright.

The jury, after a few minutes' consultation, found the prisoner not guilty.

There was some applause in court when the verdict was given, but it was quickly suppressed."

1891 Census

Kent Street – HORSESHOE INN

[1] *Thomas Nicholls* (36), butcher and publican, born Sedgley;

[2] *Mary J. Nicholls* (31), wife, born Sedgley;

- [3] Joseph D. Nicholls (3), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Nancy L. Nicholls (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Nora M. Nicholls (4 months), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Caroline Clarke (13), servant, born Sedgley;
- [7] Edith Dudley (17), visitor, born Newcastle, Northumberland:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/11/1891

“*Thomas Collins* [sic], landlord of the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, was charged with being drunk on his licensed premises on the 9th inst.

PC Houston, in company with PC Turner, visited defendant’s house at 10.30pm and found him asleep on the taproom floor in a drunken condition.

In reply to Mr. W. A. Foster, who defended, the officers said they visited the HORSE SHOE at 8.30pm and the defendant was drunk.

The Chairman said it was most important that publicans should pay attention to their businesses, especially at busy times as on Sedgley Wake, the day on which the offence was committed.

A fine of 10s and costs was imposed.”

1911 Census

Upper Gornal – HORSE SHOE INN

- [1] *Daniel Greenaway* (39), brewer, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Ann Greenaway* (33), wife, married 7 years, helps in business, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Miriam Greenaway* (12), daughter, at school, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Leonard Greenaway* (10), son, at school, born Sedgley;
- [5] *May Greenaway* (7), daughter, at school, born Sedgley;
- [6] *James Greenaway* (6), son, at school, born Walsall Wood;
- [7] *Moses Greenaway* (2), son, born Walsall Wood;
- [8] *Maud Greenaway* (1), daughter, born Walsall Wood;
- [9] *Lily Naylor* (15), housemaid, born Sedgley:

William Smallwood was fined £5 and costs, on 23rd December 1912, on three counts of permitting gaming.

Staffordshire Advertiser 15/3/1913

“Bilston magistrates granted a renewal of the license of the THREE HORSE SHOES, Upper Gornal.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 23/12/1914

“In another case at Bilston Police Court, *Arthur Cartwright*, the licensee of the THREE HORSE SHOES, Upper Gornal, was summoned under the new Act, for failing to obey the closing order of the local justices, and also with exposing liquor for sale after hours. Eventually the Stipendiary allowed the cases to be withdrawn on payment of costs. He added that the prosecution would serve as a warning.”

Charles Coley was fined £2 and costs, on 22nd November 1915, for permitting drunkenness.

The license renewal was refused by the Compensation Authority on 24th July 1919.

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/7/1919

“The Principal Meeting of the Licensing Compensation Authority for the county was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

THREE HORSE SHOES, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, full licensed house, referred for compensation on the ground of redundancy. Formal application for renewal was made.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/11/1919

“The following amounts have been settled by the Licensing Compensation Authority to be paid in respect of licenses the renewal of which was refused by them at the principal meeting on July 24 last.....

The following cases have been referred to the Inland Revenue Commissioners to decide the amount of compensation payable.... THREE HORSE SHOES, Kent Street, Upper Gornal, full license, owned by Julia Hanson and Sons.”

Compensation of £1,300 was paid on 24th December 1921.

Staffordshire Advertiser 7/1/1922

“Meeting of the Compensation Authority.....

The committee have received the awards of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in the following cases submitted to them..... 1919 case THREE HORSE SHOES, Upper Gornal (full licence). £1, 300.

The amounts awarded have been apportioned amongst the interested parties and were paid on the 24th ult.”

TRAVELLERS REST

Abbey Street, Gornalwood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Daniel Jones [1864] – [1870]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Daniel Jones, beer retailer, Gornal Wood. [1864], [1865], [1868]
He issued tokens from here.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

“Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

Mr. Stokes then applied on behalf of Mr. Joseph Waterfield, NEW INN, and also on behalf of Mr. *Daniel Jones*, TRAVELLERS REST. In applying for a license for the TRAVELLERS REST, Mr. Stokes urged that the residence of Dr. Hickin was immediately adjoining, whose fame was so far and wide that between fifty and sixty patients came weekly, some as far as twenty miles, and needed accommodation that a licensed victualler could alone provide. Mr. *Jones* was a relative of the doctor's, and kept his dispensary and made up prescriptions at the TRAVELLERS REST. Mr. Underhill remarked that Mr. Hickin must be a very old man, for it was about thirty years ago that he left Queen Street, Wolverhampton, where he prescribed bleeding as a panacea for all diseases. Applications refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

“The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.....

Mr. Stokes made a further application on behalf of *Daniel Jones* of the TRAVELLERS REST, Lower Gornal, about a quarter of a mile distant from any licensed house. The house was near to the residence of Dr. Hicken, whose patients came from all parts of the country, to a number of from eighty to ninety a week, and the nearest house was at a distance of 400 yards.....

After the Magistrates had deliberated, Mr. Perry said that they had gone carefully into the four applications, but had decided not to grant either of them.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1865

“Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting of the Bilston division of the county of Stafford was held in the Police Court in that town.....

Mr. Stokes, solicitor, of Dudley, applied for a license each to Mrs. Guest, widow, Lower Gornal, Joseph Waterfield, mine agent, of the same place, and *Daniel Jones* of Gornal Wood, all of whom were keeping beerhouses in a most creditable way, and the application of neither of whom was opposed. Application refused.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1867

“Yesterday the annual Bilston Licensing Meeting was held at the Public Office.....

Daniel Jones, of Lower Gornal, then made an application, through Mr. Stokes, of Dudley, for a license. In support of his application Mr. Stokes stated that the house for which he applied had been built expressly for the purpose of a licensed house. He presented a memorial, signed by a large number of the inhabitants of the district, and also by several licensed victuallers of the neighbourhood, asking that the application might be granted.....

The Bench deferred the consideration of the case until the adjourned licensing day.”

Birmingham Daily Post 28/9/1867

“Bilston Adjourned Licensing Meeting.....

The applications for licenses to a house occupied by Mr. *Daniel Jones*, of Gornal which were adjourned, were refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1868

“Bilston. The annual Licensing Sessions for this district were held yesterday, at the Police Court.....

Mr. Stokes the applied for licenses on behalf of the following: Mr. *Daniel Jones*, of the TRAVELLERS REST There were no opposition to any of the above applicants Application refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 16/4/1869

“The Miners’ National Association.

The unusual number of colliery accidents which have lately taken place has drawn the attention of the colliers to the necessity of strictly watching whether the rules which regulate collieries are properly carried out. On Wednesday evening, a large meeting of miners was held at the TRAVELLERS REST, Gornal Wood, to consider various matters connected with their trade.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/4/1869

“On Wednesday evening about 500 colliers assembled on a piece of ground near the TRAVELLERS REST INN, at Gornal Wood. A discussion took place in respect to the surplus of £2,000 from the Hartley Colliery Fund, and a resolution was passed similar to that passed on Monday at Old Hill. Reference was made to the proposed new mode of assurance; but before coming to any decision it was resolved that Mr. Underwood should be requested to address the men of the district upon the subject.”

Daniel Jones was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness in April 1870.

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

“The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

All the applications for renewal of licenses were granted except the following, who had been fined for various offences during the year, and whose applications for renewal were adjourned until the adjourned licensing day, November 30 Beerhouse Keepers.....

Daniel Jones, TRAVELLERS REST, Gornal.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 1/10/1870

“Bilston. The adjourned licensing sessions took place yesterday, at the Police Court.....

The magistrates stated that they had agreed to grant all the licenses which were suspended at the adjourned licensing day, with the exception of the three following: *Daniel Jones*, TRAVELLERS REST, Lower Gornal; Daniel Marsh, BULL AND BUTCHER, Ruerton [sic]; and Elisha Marsh, of the BELL, Lower Gornal.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1874

“Yesterday, at the Bilston Police Court, the annual Brewster Licensing Sessions came off.....

Mr. Fellows, on behalf of Mr. Edward Bennett, applied for a renewal of the beerhouse license attached four years ago to the TRAVELLERS REST, Lower Gornal; and it was opposed by Mr. Gould, instructed by the landlords of the WHITE CHIMNEYS, RED LION, and QUEENS HEAD public houses. Refused.”

UNION

1, Wallbrook Street, Wallbrook, (Mamble Square), COSELEY

OWNERS

John Skidmore, victualler, Highfields
Harriet Whitehouse, widow, Edge Street, Wallbrook
Samuel Allsopp and Sons Ltd.
Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Harris Snr. [1833] – [1844]
William Colbourn [1845]
Henry Richards [1851]
Mrs. Mary Harris [] – **1852**);
John Skidmore **(1852 – 1865)**;
Whitmer Lathe **(1865 – [1870]**
John Jones [1871]
Enoch Jones [1872]
Edward Phillips []
George Littlewood [1873] – **1874**);
Thomas Whitehouse **(1874 – 1876)**;
Mrs. Harriet Whitehouse **(1876 – 1886)**;

Nathaniel Attwood (1886 – 1890);
James Dicken (1890 – 1891);
James Humphries (1891 – 1892);
Albert Lovatt (1892 – 1893);
Charles Henry Hughes (1893 – 1896);
Thomas Holdnall (1896 – 1904);
Emily Hume Plant (1904 – 1905);
Joseph Challenger (1905 – 1907);
Albert Edward Banner (1907 – 1912);
Joseph Vincent (1912 – 1915);
George Priest (1915 – 1923);
Benjamin Poole (1923 – 1924);
William Thomas Worrall (1924 – 1926);
George Ellis (1926);
John Cottrell (1926);

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/3/1837 - Advert

“Freehold Building and Building Land, near Mamble Square, at Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, and county of Stafford. To be Sold By Auction, by R. S. Corbett, on Monday, the 3rd day of April, 1837, at five o’clock in the afternoon at the house of Mr. *William Harris*, the UNION INN, in Mamble Square aforesaid, subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

1841 Census

Mamble Square

[1] *William Harris* (70), publican;

[2] *Mary Harris* (70);

[3] *Amelia Smith* (15), born Staffordshire:

Arise’s Birmingham Gazette 8/1/1844 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Property At Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford. To be Sold by Auction, by J. Whitehouse (by order of the Mortgagee, with the power of sale) on Wednesday next, the 10th day of January, at three o’clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. *W. Harris*, the UNION INN, Coseley, subject to such conditions as shall then be produced.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/4/1845

“Sale On Wednesday Next, Freehold Houses and Building Land, at Coseley, in the county of Stafford. To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Newbold, on Wednesday next, May 7, 1845 (by order of the mortgagee) at the house of Mr. *William Colbourn*, UNION INN, at Mamble Square, precisely at six o’clock in the evening, in one or more lots, as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions then to be produced.....”

By the 1851 Census, *Mary Harris*, widow, aged 77, was described as ‘proprietor of houses’, born Broseley, Shropshire, and lived in Mamble Square.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/12/1851

“On Monday last special sessions for transferring victuallers’ licenses.....
From *Henry Richards*, late of UNION INN, Mamble Square, Sedgley, to Mrs. *Sarah Harris*, widow, the owner of the house.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/1/1852

“At the Petty and Special Sessions on Monday last, being the day appointed for transferring victuallers’ licenses, the following changes took place.....
The license of the UNION INN, Mamble Square, kept by *Mary Harris*, widow, was removed to another house 100 yards distant, in consequence of the old house being dilapidated by working and getting the mine under the same, the house being thereby rendered unfit for a public house.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/4/1852

“At an adjourned special sessions for the transfer of victuallers’ licenses, within the division of Seisdon North.....
UNION, Wallbrook, Sedgley, from *Mary Harris*, widow, to *John Skidmore*.”

John Skidmore was also a shopkeeper. [1854], [1860]

Birmingham Journal 9/9/1854 - Advert

“Sale Of Valuable Freehold Building Land and Houses, at Coseley, near Bilston, in the County of Stafford.

By J. Dawes, on Wednesday, the 27th day of September, at the UNION INN, Walbrook, Coseley, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.

Lot 5. A Freehold and well-built Old-licensed Public House, with the Outbuildings and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at Walbrook aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. *John Skidmore*, and known as the UNION INN; containing a Front Shop, Tap Room, Parlour, Kitchen, Bar, large Club Room, three Sleeping Rooms, Cellar, Brewhouse, Malt Room, Stable and Loft over.

To view the Lots, apply to Mr. William Harris, WALBROOK TAVERN; and for further particulars, to John F. Adams, Esq, Solicitor, Darlaston; or of the Auctioneer, Wednesbury, at whose Offices a plan of the Property may be seen.”

1861 Census

New Wallbrook

- [1] *John Skidmore* (37), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary A. Skidmore (28), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] William G. Skidmore (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Mary A. Skidmore (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Rachel E. Skidmore (7), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] John F. Skidmore (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [7] Stephen Skidmore (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] Elizabeth Skidmore (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Jeremiah Skidmore (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [10] John J. Skidmore (1 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [11] Mary Ann Skidmore (15), servant, born Wolverhampton:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.

Isaiah Dickin, the STAR INN, Wallbrook. Supported by Mr. Waterhouse, and opposed by the landlord of the UNION INN, situated in the immediate neighbourhood. Granted.”

John Skidmore was described as a butcher. [1864], [1865]

Birmingham Daily Post 8/8/1864 - Advert

“UNION INN, Dwelling Houses, and Premises, at Wallbrook, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Charles Round, at the UNION INN, Wallbrook aforesaid, on Monday, August the 29th instant, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read (unless previously disposed of by private Contract, of which due notice will be given).

All that capital Old-Licensed Inn, situate at Wallbrook aforesaid, and known as the UNION INN, containing Parlour, 13ft 2in by 12ft 7in; Tap Room, 14ft 10in by 13ft 7in; Bar, 14ft 2in by 12ft 4in; Butcher's Shop, 13ft 2in by 12ft 4in; Kitchen 12ft 3in by 12ft 2in, large Club Room, three Bed Rooms, and three excellent Cellars, with large yard, Slaughter-house, two Brewhouses, Stabling for three horses, Piggeries, and Out-buildings in the occupation of Mr. *John Skidmore*, the Proprietor.

Also, all those Three Dwelling Houses, Printers Shop, and Premises adjoining, in the occupation of Messrs. Levi Gough, William Edwards, and William Green, at the yearly rentals of £22 10s 8d.

The Property is Freehold, and is well situate, having a frontage of 19 yards to the main road leading from Princes End to Wallbrook and a frontage of 31 yards to a street leading thereout, called Edge Street, and contains in the whole 564 square yards of Land, with the Mines and Minerals underneath the same.

The Licenses, Goodwill and Possession, Brewing Plant, and Public House Fixtures are now Offered for Sale and may be taken to by Valuation with the Freehold Inn, Dwelling Houses, and Premises, at One Sum.

The above Inn has been carried on by Mr. *Skidmore* for the last twelve years, who has done a good business, not only in the Public Trade, but in the Pork Trade, and is desirous of disposing of the Property simply on account of other engagements.

To parties in want of a sure and safe investment this Property will be found to equal, if not surpass, any Property for sale in the neighbourhood.

A part of the purchase money may remain on mortgage if required.

Any further particulars may be had on application to Mr. *John Skidmore*, on the Premises; or at the Offices of Mr. James Round, Solicitor, High Street; or Charles Round, Surveyor and Auctioneer, Owen Street, both of Tipton.”

John Skidmore – see also [ROLLING MILL, Bradley, Bilston](#), and [COMMERCIAL, Bradley, Bilston](#).

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/11/1864 - Advert

“To Let, that old-established Licensed Victualler's House, known as the UNION INN, Wallbrook, with Pork Shop attached.

Premises extensive, with Slaughterhouse, Stabling, Sausage Machine, and all conveniences for the business, which has been carried on for the last twelve years by the present Proprietor, who can give satisfactory reasons for leaving.

Apply to Mr. *John Skidmore*, ROLLING MILLS INN, Highfields, near Bilston.”

Birmingham Journal 30/12/1865 - Advert

“Monday Next, January 1. UNION INN, Wallbrook, Coseley.

To be Sold by Auction, by Charles Round.

All the Pit Tools and Effects of Mr. Thomas Tonkiss, comprising Skips and Rings, Pikes, Shovels, Dressers, Hammers, Tacklers, Crowbars, Blowing Tools, Dog Hooks, Water Tubs, Corn Boxes, Dring Bottles, two Ale Barrels, Skip Boards, Skip Wheels and Brackets, lot of Iron; three strong and useful Pit Horses, and one Pony, four Sets of Gearing, and other Articles.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.

Auctioneer's Offices, Owen Street and Bloomfield, Tipton.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/6/1867 - Deaths

“On the 10th inst, after a long and painful illness, aged 36 years, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of Mr. *Whitmer Lathe*, of the UNION INN, Wallbrook.”

Whitmer Lathe – see also ROLLING MILL, Highfield Road, Bilston.

1871 Census

Wallbrook Street

[1] *John Jones* (46), publican, born Sedgley;

[2] *Hannah Jones* (44), wife, birthplace not known;

[3] *Enoch Jones* (23), son, coal merchant, born Worcester;

[4] *Abraham Jones* (17), son, born Worcester;

[5] *Thomas Jones* (12), son, scholar, born Worcester:

Birmingham Daily Post 17/1/1873 - Advert

“Malt-Crusher wanted.

Apply, *G. Littlewood*, UNION INN, Wallbrook, Coseley.”

Birmingham Daily Post 6/9/1873 - Advert

“Wallbrook, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford. Desirable Freehold Houses and Premises.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Charles Round, at the House of Mr. *George Littlewood*, the UNION INN, Wallbrook, on Monday next, the 8th day of September, at 6 o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read.....”

George Littlewood – see also RISING SUN.

Dudley Herald 16/10/1880 - Advert

“To be Sold, by Private Contract, Four Freehold Houses, situate at Albert Street, Princes End, No.82 to 84, annual value £23 8s; No.85, annual value £17; Gas and Water.

Apply, *Whitehouse*, UNION INN, Wallbrook, Bilston.”

1881 Census

1, Walbrook Street

[1] *Harriott Whitehouse* (50), widow, licensed victualler, born Tipton;

[2] *Elizabeth Bradeley* (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 10/6/1881

“W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquest on Thursday at the UNION INN, Wallbrook, on the body of a child, aged five weeks, named William Henry Evans, son of William Evans, of Wallbrook.

From the evidence it appeared that on Monday evening last the child went to bed with its mother apparently in good health, and that it was suckled by its mother till five o'clock in the morning. About a quarter to seven the mother woke up and found the child dead in her arms.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

Dudley and District News 7/7/1883

“William Southall, miner of Wallbrook, was charged with refusing to quit the UNION INN, Wallbrook, on Sunday, the 24th ult; also with assaulting Emma Wright, servant, and knocking two of her teeth out, whilst she was assisting the landlady to put him out. The complainant did not wish to press the case, therefore the Bench only fined him 5s for refusing to quit, and ordered him to pay costs of the summons and 10s compensation for the assault.”

Dudley and District News 8/12/1883

“Thomas Grice, Wallbrook, charged Edward Brown with assaulting him. The complainant stated that he went into the UNION INN, Coseley, on Sunday night, the 25th ult, and there saw the defendant, who immediately came up to him and said he proposed to summon a certain person. Complainant advised him to refrain, whereupon Brown attempted to strike him, but was prevented by the interference of one of the company. Defendant then followed complainant outside and assaulted him by knocking him into the gutter.

Brown was also further charged with being drunk and disorderly in Bissell Street.

He was fined 10s for the assault, and 10s for the drunken and disorderly conduct, and was ordered to pay costs.”

Birmingham Daily Post 23/11/1886

“At the Police Court yesterday – before Mr. Neville, the stipendiary magistrate – Mrs. *Harriett Whitehouse*, of the UNION INN, Wallbrook, near Coseley, was charged with supplying two police officers with drink whilst on duty. It appeared that Joseph Little, beerhouse keeper, of the same neighbourhood, met the officers and asked them to take a drink in the defendant’s house. They consented and had three pennyworth of whisky each. The liquor was supplied by the barman, and the defendant knew nothing of the occurrence at the time.

Superintendent Longden gave the house a good character, and the Stipendiary inflicted a fine of 5s only, and costs.”

Wolverhampton Express and Star 23/2/1889

“On Friday afternoon the Deputy Coroner (Mr. E. B. Thorneycroft) held an inquest at the UNION INN, Wallbrook, Coseley, on the body of Simeon Hampton, aged 17 months, of Edge Street, Wallbrook. Deceased’s mother died soon after its birth at Manchester, where the father is now residing. About five weeks ago deceased was taken charge of by Helen Wall, widow, of Edge Street. On the morning of the 20th instant the child was lying in a cradle. A Mrs. Onions took it up, when it suddenly shrieked out, went into a fit, and died in about ten minutes. It had suffered from convulsions. Verdict, Natural Causes.”

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1889 - Advert

“Living Novelty. To be seen Alive, at the UNION INN, Wallbrook, Coseley, near Bilston, a Four-legged Duck, weighing upwards of 12lbs, pronounced to be the greatest living novelty in the Midlands.”

James Dicken = James Dickin

1891 Census

1, Wallbrook Street

[1] *James Dickin* (48), licensed victualler, born Deepfields;

[2] Mary A. Dickin (45), wife, born Bilston;

[3] Catherine Garen (18), domestic servant, born Rushall:

Birmingham Daily Post 16/4/1895 - Advert

“Deepfields. Under Distraint For Rent.

Unreserved Sale of Furniture, Contents of Smoke Room and Taproom, and Bar Fittings, at the UNION INN, Wallbrook (near Deepfields Station).

Shread & White will Sell by Auction, Tomorrow (Wednesday), April 17, at 2.30pm.

Small Quantity Furniture, Contents of Smoke Room, comprising three birch Tables with mahogany tops, five Armchairs; Linoleum, Bar Fittings, including 26ft Counter with mahogany top; Six-pull Beer Machine, six-tap Spirit Fountain, three mahogany top Tables, Cups, Glasses, Spirit Vats, range of Shelves, Ale Measures, and sundry Effects.

Particulars may be had from Messrs. King and Ludlow, Solicitors, Temple Street, Birmingham; or from the Auctioneers Offices, 122, Colmore Row, Birmingham. Telephone 556.”

1901 Census

1, Wallbrook Street – Public House

[1] *Thomas Holdnall* (46), licensed victualler, born Wallbrook;

[2] Mary Ann Holdnall (34), wife, born Soho, London;

[3] Josiah Baker (37), boarder, coal dealer, born Coseley:

Tipton Herald 11/4/1903

“An inquest on the body of William Titley (18), who lived at 50, Edge Street, Wallbrook, and who was killed whilst following his employment at Messrs. Marsh’s pit, Princes End, was held at the UNION INN, Wallbrook, on Thursday morning, by Mr. T. A. Stokes (coroner).

Joseph Titley, father of the deceased, stated that deceased lived with him at Edge Street, and was a driver in the employ of the Rounds Hill Colliery Co. He last saw his son alive on Sunday night, when they went to bed. Deceased was brought home dead about 10.30am on Monday morning.

James Skinner, fruiterer and coal dealer, stated that he was at the colliery with his cart on the day of the accident. He saw the deceased driving a horse attached to two loaded tubs. Deceased brought the tubs from the pit up the incline to the place where the carts were standing to be loaded. On the top there were several other tubs. He brought the two tubs close to the other tubs, and hooked the chain from the first tub to the second. Deceased then proceeded to ‘dog’ or uncouple the two tubs, and while doing so the horse started, and the tubs bumped against each other, deceased’s head being between the tubs. The latter were moved, and deceased fell into witness’s arms. He was bleeding profusely from the mouth and nose, and to witness he appeared dead. The horse had always been a quiet one, and he did not hear any one shout at him.

Mr. Makepeace (Government Inspector of Mines) who was present, stated that he attached no blame to any one.

A juror: It is a common practice to pull the two tubs together when they are being uncoupled.

Another juror: The practice ought to be stopped.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

1911 Census

Wallbrook Street – UNION INN

- [1] *Albert Edward Banner* (35), innkeeper, born Priestfield;
- [2] *Mary Banner* (36), wife, married 10 years, born Princes End;
- [3] *Albert Edward Banner* (7), son, scholar, born Coseley;
- [4] *Samuel John Banner* (4), son, born Coseley;

George Priest was fined £1 and costs, on 24th December 1915, for supplying intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours.

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/12/1916

“*George Priest*, landlord of the UNION INN, Coseley, was charged with supplying intoxicating drink during prohibited hours to his brother-in-law, *Nigel Fisher*, of Queens Road, Tipton, and *Fisher* was charged with aiding in the commission of the offence, but as he was unable to attend, the case against him was adjourned.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted, and said that under the Order of the Central Board of Control the sale or supply of intoxicating drink for consumption on the premises after 9.30pm was prohibited, but at 12.25am the police found *Fisher* on the premises having a drink. The Bench imposed a fine of 20s and ordered the defendant to pay £2 2s advocate’s fee.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 6/3/1926

“At Bilston Adjourned Licensing Sessions yesterday the following beerhouses were referred for compensation on the ground of redundancy.....

UNION INN, Wallbrook.”

License refused by Compensation Authority on 28th June 1926.

Staffordshire Advertiser 31/7/1926 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County of Stafford.

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 28th day of June and the 12th day of July, 1926, to Refuse the Renewal of the Licenses of the Premises specified below.....

UNION, Coseley. Alehouse. Licensee, *Samuel [sic] Cottrell*. Registered Owner, *Julia Hanson and Sons, Limited*.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 18/12/1926

“The Licensing Committee for the County have fixed the following sums as compensation.....

UNION INN, Coseley, alehouse, £1,250.”

Compensation of £1,250 was paid on 24th December 1926.

It closed on 31st December 1926.

UNION TAVERN

Coppice, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Cotterill [1860] – [1870]

UNION TAVERN

Dudley Road, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Bennett [1830]
Thomas Church [1833] – [1842]
William Bennett [1843]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 12/7/1830 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public House in Sedgley, in the county of Stafford.

To be Sold by Auction, by T. Mathews, at the house of Mr. Jenkins, the RED LION INN, in Sedgley aforesaid, on Friday, the 23rd day of July, 1830, at five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be produced (unless previously disposed of by private contract of which notice will be given).

All that very desirable, well accustomed, and substantial Messuage or Public House, known by the name of the UNION INN, in Sedgley aforesaid, with the Garden, Outbuildings, and Appurtenances thereto belonging and appertaining, and now or late in the occupation of Mr. *William Bennett*.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Foster, Attorney, Wolverhampton.”

Thomas Church, wheelwright and blacksmith, and victualler, UNION TAVERN, Sedgley. [1833]

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 8/11/1840

“James Bowyer, of Sedgley, accepts the challenge of Griffiths of Birmingham, providing he will run him 100 yards, for £10 a side; or he will run Broomfield of Wolverhampton, the same distance, for any sum up to £10 a side; or Mills, of Stourbridge, or any man of Westbromwich, on the same terms. His money is ready at the UNION TAVERN, Sedgley.”

Thomas Church, beer retailer, Sedgley. [1841]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/2/1841 - Advert

“To Be Let, and may be entered upon immediately, the house known as the UNION TAVERN, Sedgley.

For particulars apply on the premises, or to Mr. *Bennett*, wheelwright, Bradley.”

1841 Census

Dudley Road

- [1] *Thomas Church* (60), wheelwright;
- [2] Mary Church (55);
- [3] Mary Iken (12), born Staffordshire;
- [4] James Christian (20), ms, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/11/1843 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Eligible Investment.

Freehold Property at Sedgley, three miles from Wolverhampton, and three miles from Dudley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Powell, at the UNION TAVERN, Sedgley, on Thursday, the 23rd day of November, 1843, at six o'clock in the evening, either all together or in lots, as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to such conditions as will be then produced.

All that well-built Public-House, situated in the village of Sedgley, known by the name of the UNION TAVERN, now in the occupation of *William Bennett*; and the House adjoining, in the occupation of Davies.

For viewing the premises apply to Mr. *William Bennett*, on the premises, or to Mr. S. Powell, Tipton auctioneer.”

VINE

47, Dudley Road, (Sedgley Road), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Jukes [1839]
William Hill [1857] – **1863**);
John Aston (**1863** – [1865]
B Fellowes [] – **1866**);
John Rudge (**1866** – **1868**);
Jabez Perkins (**1868** – **1869**);
William Hill (**1869** – []
David Tennant Smith [1868] – [1870]
George Mallen [1872]
John Reeves [1873]

NOTES

Sedgley Road [1862]

[This house sometimes appears under Upper Gornal.]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 5/8/1839 - Advert

“Eligible Property at Gornal, near Sedgley.

To be Sold by Auction, by T. P. Stokes, at the house of Mr. John Cartwright, the GREEN DRAGON INN, at Upper Gornal, mid-way between Dudley and Wolverhampton, To-morrow (Tuesday), the 6th of August, at five o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale, and under conditions as will then be produced.....

Lot 7. Four Dwelling Houses adjoining lot 6, at the junction of the Turnpike Road with the Lower Gornal Road, with the Stable and other Out-buildings, and a plot of Land containing 2144 square yards, one of which Dwelling Houses is called the VINE INN, and is in the occupation of *John Jukes*, the other three being occupied by Richard Bennitt, Stephen Lockley, and James Cox.....
Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12 are Copyhold of the Manor of Sedgley”

Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license on behalf of Mr. *William Hill*, of Sedgley. Refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....

Application For New Licenses.....

The last application was made by Mr. Waterhouse in respect of a house at Sedgley, occupied by Mr. *William Hill*. Mr. Waterhouse stated that the applicant was a respectable inhabitant of Upper Gornal, and had there conducted a beer house for upwards of ten years, and during that time there had not been a single complaint against him. The application was refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers' licenses.....

A license was granted to Mr. *W. Hill*, of Upper Gornal, on the application of Mr. J. E. Underhill.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for the purpose of the renewal and granting of licenses for the township of Bilston and the neighbourhood was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.....

The next application was made by Mr. Underhill for a license to a house at Upper Gornal, kept by Mr. *William Hill*. In support of the application Mr. Underhill stated that Mr. Hill had kept a beerhouse eleven years without any complaint having been made. It was situated in a district where many fresh houses had recently been erected, and where all the adjacent land had been laid out in building plots. There was no opposition. The license was granted.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 1/7/1860

“T. Wright of Sedgley, hearing that Hollies of Can Lane says he was not well when they ran last, informs that he can be accommodated again for his own sum if he (Hollies) will give him two yards start, on the same ground and the same distance they ran before; or T. Hayes on the same terms if he will give Wright five yards start; or Turner of Bilston 120 yards level, or Ambrose Causer 160 yards, or J. Rigby of Wolverhampton 120 yards level, for their own sums. Any of the matches can be made at *W. Hill's*, VINE INN, Sedgley, any night next week, from seven to nine o'clock.”

1861 Census

Dudley Road

[1] *William Hill* (50), innkeeper, born Sedgley;

[2] Martha Hill (51), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Louisa Webb (21), niece, house servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/11/1861 - Advert

“To Be Shot For, at the House of Mr. *Wm. Hill*, VINE INN, Sedgley, 3 miles from Wolverhampton, 2 from Dudley, and 1 from Tipton, on Monday next, November 4th, 1861, A Splendid Pig, Thirty Scores.
(Thirty Tickets At Ten Shillings Each.)
Single Guns 1³/₄oz of Shot, 21yds rise, ³/₄ bore. Double Guns 1¹/₂oz of Shot, 19yds rise, ³/₄ bore.
Shooting to commence at eleven o’clock.
The Best Birds will be Provided.”

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

“To be shot for at Mr. *W. Hill*’s, VINE INN, Sedgley, near Dudley, on Monday, Feb 23, a fat pig; 12 members at 10s each, guns not to exceed ³/₄ bore, shot limited to 2oz. Shooting to commence precisely at eleven o’clock.”

John Aston was also a shopkeeper. [1865]

London Gazette 7/4/1865

“*John Aston*, of the VINE INN, Dudley-road, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Innkeeper, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 3rd of April, 1865, is hereby required to surrender himself to Thomas Walker, Esq., Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 20th day of April instant, at eleven of the clock in the forenoon precisely, at the said Court. Thomas Walker, Esq., is the Official Assignee, and Cornelius Marshall Warmington, of Dudley, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1865 - Advert

“To be Let, or Sold, with immediate possession, that excellent old-licensed House, the VINE INN, Sedgley, situate next to Mrs. Tinsley’s large Nail Warehouse.
Apply at the House; or to Mr. *Hill*, PRINCE OF WALES, Hart’s Hill, Dudley.”

Birmingham Journal 1/11/1865 - Advert

“VINE INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Charles Round, on Tuesday, November 21, 1865, at the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, the above-mentioned Freehold Inn, House and Premises.
Full particulars in next week’s papers, and for further information apply to Mr. Wm. Harthill, Dudley; or the Auctioneer, Owen Street and Bloomfield, Tipton.”

Birmingham Journal 11/11/1865 - Advert

“Sedgley, Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Old-Licensed Inn, House & Premises.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Charles Round, on Tuesday, the 21st day of November, 1865, at the house of Mr. William Jukes, the BRITANNIA INN, Upper Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read. All that very valuable and well-erected Old-Licensed House, known as the VINE INN, situate at Sedgley aforesaid, consisting of Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Kitchen, good Cellaring, two Chambers, large Club Room, Brewhouse, and Malt Room over, Gig House, Stabling for four Horses, and the usual out-Offices and Yard. Estimated yearly rental, £30.
The Premises are most pleasantly situated fronting the Turnpike Road leading from Dudley to Wolverhampton, adjoining the Nail Warehouse of Mrs. Tinsley, and were created a few years since regardless of expense; they are amply supplied with hard and soft Water, and to Persons requiring a good Premises, either as a Public-house or Private Residence, this will be found a good opportunity.
The Purchaser will have the option of taking the Public-house Fixtures by fair valuation.
For further particulars apply to Mr. Wm. Harthill, Dudley; or the Auctioneer, Tipton.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/9/1866

“Yesterday, the adjourned Licensing Session was held at the Police Court, before Captain G. P. A. Pudsey and Mr. H. Ward, when the following licenses were granted.....
John Rudge, VINE INN, Sedgley.”

Dudley Herald 7/12/1867 - Advert

“Sale of a very valuable freehold roadside public house and premises, The VINE INN, Sedgley.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Monday, December 16, at the house of Mr. *Rudge*, the VINE INN, Sedgley, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read.
All that valuable and substantially erected freehold public house and premises – the VINE INN, Sedgley, comprising front parlour, front tap room, bar parlour, large club room, three good chambers, extensive dry cellaring, large and commodious brewhouse (with malt room over), four stalled stable, coach house, coal house, piggeries now in the occupation of Mr. *Rudge* at the very low annual rent of £25.
The Auctioneer respectfully invites the attention of Investors and Capitalists to the above Property, as no expense had been spared in its erection.
For further particulars, apply at the respective Offices of Mr. Frederick Tandy, Solicitor; or the Auctioneer, both of Dudley.”

Dudley Herald 25/4/1868

“*David Tennant Smith* (otherwise *David Tennant* of the VINE INN, Sedgley) was charged with violently assaulting his wife, Hannah, on 14th and 16th inst.”

[He was given 6 months imprisonment.]

County Express 19/2/1870

“On Wednesday an inquest was held at the VINE INN, Sedgley, before Mr. W. H. Phillips (Deputy Coroner), upon the body of William Walker, thirty-nine, who lived in a house on the Dudley Road, but who met with his death on Thursday evening last, under circumstances previously reported.

A witness named Joseph Fellows stated that he was employed at the stone quarry of Messrs. Burton and Waterfield, and the deceased was the foreman at the same place. On the evening in question four of them were engaged at open work, ‘in removing the bearings,’ when a large quantity of soil fell and knocked them to the bottom of the quarry. He (witness) was not very seriously injured, and at once went for the doctor. He thought the accident was caused by a ‘split,’ of the existence of which neither of the men at work was cognisant. He could not attach any blame or carelessness to anyone. The work was being performed in the usual way. He could swear that there was no negligence on the part of any of the men. He could not suggest anything in addition to the means already employed to make the employes any more secure from accident.

Isaac Williams gave corroborative evidence.

In reply to the Coroner, Inspector Thomlinson said the injured man Hunt was not well enough to attend.

The witness Fellows in reply to the Coroner, said several tons weight of debris fell. It was very probably the frost and jarring of the hammers contributed to the fall.

The Jury considered that the occurrence was purely accidental, and that no person was to blame. They returned a verdict accordingly.”

1871 Census

47, Dudley Road – VINE INN

[1] *William Hill* (59), publican, born Tipton;

[2] *Martha Hill* (59), wife, born Tipton;

[3] *Louisa Webb* (30), niece, born Tipton;

[4] *Hannah Nicholls* (10), niece, scholar, born Tipton:

The license was abandoned.

Dudley Herald 20/3/1880 - Advert

“To be Let, good House and Premises, known by the sign of the VINE INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley; rent low.

Apply to Mr. John Jones, BUSH INN, Sedgley.”

Dudley Herald 26/6/1880 - Advert

“To be Let, House and Premises, late VINE INN, Dudley Road, Sedgley.

Apply to Mr. Jones, OLD BUSH INN, Sedgley. Rent low.”

WAGGON AND HORSES

65, Withy Lane, (65, Moore Street), (63+65, Broad Lanes), (42, Broad Lane), Ladymoor, COSELEY

OWNERS

John Preston, boilermaker, Birmingham

Edwin Potts

Thomas Langstone Stone

William Butler and Co. Ltd. [1930s]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Fletcher [1828] – [1842]

Joshua Whitehouse [1845] – **1855**;

Frederick Higgett **1855** – [1865]

Fanny Stanley [] – **1870**;

William Stanley **1870** – [1871]

James Wild [1872] – **1876**;

William Reeves (1876 – 1879);
Edwin Potts (1879 – 1903);
Thomas Langstone Stone (1903 – 1912);
James Howell (1912 – 1914);
Thomas Davies (1914 – 1927);
John ‘Jack’ Fellows (1927 – [1940])
N Wood [1976]

NOTES

42, Broad Lane [1861]
63+65, Broad Lanes [1881]
65, Moor Street [1891], [1911]
65, Withy Lane [1901]

It was known locally as “Leggy’s”.

‘Bilston, Bradley and Ladymoor’ by Ron Davies and Roy Hawthorne

“The pub was a very popular haunt, especially with the men who worked at the steel works, who could get here at any time through the back entrance to the works.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/12/1845

“An inquest was held on Tuesday, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the WAGGON AND HORSES, at Ladymoor, in the parish of Sedgley, on the body of Mary Waterhouse, wife of James Waterhouse, puddler, aged about sixty years. It appeared from the evidence of a daughter of the deceased that on the previous day her mother was sewing in the front kitchen, when she suddenly exclaimed, ‘Oh dear Betsy, my poor eyes,’ and expired in a few minutes afterwards. A surgeon was sent for, but he was from home; and another surgeon arrived about half an hour after her death. The deceased had partaken of a hearty breakfast. She had a similar attack about five years since. The jury returned a verdict of Died from a Visitation of God.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 13/9/1854

“An inquest was held on Tuesday, at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Broad Lanes, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Henry Griffiths, a puddler at Mr. Hickman’s ironworks at Stonefield, near Bilston, who came to his death under the following melancholy circumstances. On Thursday, the deceased was at work puddling at a furnace in the works, when he fell backwards into a bosh of boiling hot water, in consequence of the bar tongues he was then using slipping off a hot puddle bar of which he had hold, and which he was in the act of pulling into the rolls. An alarm was given, and the deceased was taken out of the water frightfully scalded. The unfortunate man died on Sunday following of the effects of scalds. Verdict Accidental Death.”

Frederick Higgett = Frederick Higgitt

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 20/9/1857

“At Mr. *F. Higgitt*’s, WAGGON AND HORSES, Broad Lanes, Bilston, tomorrow (Monday), a fat pig will be shot for, value £10, 20 members at 10s each, 3 birds each, guns $\frac{3}{4}$ bore, 2oz of shot, 21 yards rise; double guns, 1½oz shot, 19 yards rise, 60 boundary. Harding of Aston will supply the best blue rocks. Shooting to commence at one o’clock.”

1861 Census

42, Broad Lane

- [1] *Frederick Higgitt* (35), fitter, innkeeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] Mary Ann Higgitt (37), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Harriett Higgitt (6), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Frederick Higgitt (4 months), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Margaret Jones (15), servant, born Mywood, Wales:

William Stanley = William Standley

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 12/11/1870

“Wm. Trance, James Robinson, John Holmes, and John Smith, were charged with assaulting Police-constables Johnson and Jones on Monday last. About ten o’clock on Monday night the prisoners were in *Stanley*’s public house, Broad Lanes, Bilston, when a fight took place, and the prisoner Robinson took up the poker, and making use of some violent language, threatened to clear the kitchen. The landlord interfered and took the poker from Robinson, and the police were called in and took two persons named Drought and Cooper into custody. On their way to the police station the prisoners followed the police officers, and assailed them with stones and brick ends, one brick thrown by Robinson missing Police-constable Johnson’s head and striking the shutters of a house, smashed them, and three squares of glass. They ultimately got the officers down, and succeeded in liberating the prisoner Cooper. The police were struck several times on the back and the legs with stones. Mr. Sheldon who appeared on behalf of Smith

and Robinson, called witnesses who said that Smith was in the public house during the time that the melee was taking place, and he asked for a remand on Smith's behalf to produce further evidence.

The Bench considered that the charge against Robinson and Trance was fully made out, and, as Robinson had been convicted on four previous occasions, he would be sent to gaol for four months. Trance, against who there were only two previous convictions, was sent to gaol for three months, and Holmes and Smith were remanded for a week."

1871 Census

65, Broad Lanes

- [1] *William Standley* (32), miner, born Bilston;
- [2] *Martha Standley* (30), wife, born Codsall, Shropshire;
- [3] *Fanny Standley* (68), mother, widow, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Paul Standley* (29), brother, miner, born Bilston;
- [5] *Sarah Ann Turner* (17), domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Mary Ann Standley* (9), daughter, born Westley, Staffordshire;
- [7] *William Standley* (4), son, born Westley, Staffordshire;
- [8] *Jane Standley* (2 months), daughter, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

63+65, Broad Lanes

- [1] *Edwin Potts* (27), licensed victualler, born Kidderminster;
- [2] *Eliza Potts* (21), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Mary B. Potts* (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *James Potts* (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Alice Wild* (14), visitor, born Bilston;
- [6] *Mary Ann Hodgkiss* (18), general servant, born Bilston:

Dudley and District News 17/12/1881

"Yesterday Mr. W. H. Philips, district corner, held an inquest at the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Ladymoor, relative to the death of George Rhodes (15), son of Stephen Rhodes, an engineer of Tenscore who was found drowned in the Birmingham Canal, Tenscore, on Tuesday evening last during the prevalence of heavy fog. The deceased was employed by Mr. Thomas Sheldon's Iron Foundry, Ettingshall.

A boy named William Fellows residing at Deepfields, stated that he worked with deceased, and was at work with him on Tuesday last. In the evening, work being over, both left the foundry together for the purpose of going home, but at arriving at Tenscore Bridge separated to go to their respective homes. Rhodes had then to go alone. The deceased's house at the time of parting was only a little distant away, but he had necessity to go along the canal side a short distance. The fog was very heavy, and witness gave to the deceased a piece of lighted candle to help him on his way. A few minutes after leaving witness heard him shout and immediately afterwards went to the place where the voice seemed to come from, which was about 150 yards along the canal side. He found his hat upon the water, but could not see where he had fallen in.

Peter Peters, a labourer, said he assisted other persons to drag for the deceased at the Tenscore on Tuesday evening, and saw the body got out of the water there. There was no mark of injury upon him. There was tallow under his boot, as though he was carrying a lighted candle. The place was not out of repair in any way. The spot where deceased was found was not more than fifty yards away from his home. It was a little after six o'clock when he was found, and the mother of deceased was present. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally Drowned."

Birmingham Daily Post 29/12/1885

"An inquest was held yesterday, at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Broad Lanes, touching the death of Samuel Williamson (57), marine store dealer, who committed suicide on Saturday night, by hanging himself.

Evidence was given that on Saturday the daughter of the deceased was returning from Hallfields, when she saw her father hanging from the clothes line in the garden, his foot resting on the stump, which supported the clothes-post. She immediately took hold of him, and he fell into her arms.

Samuel Williamson, a son of the deceased, heard his sister scream, and on going into the garden he found that his father was dead. Since the death of his wife, in October 1884, deceased had been very depressed. He had twice before attempted to take his life, and had several times threatened to commit suicide. A verdict of Suicide whilst in a state of Temporary Insanity was returned."

1891 Census

65, Moor Street – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Edwin Potts* (37), licensed victualler, born Kidderminster;
- [2] *Eliza Potts* (31), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Mary B. Potts* (13), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *James Edwin Potts* (11), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Arthur Potts* (7), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Alice Potts* (5), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Wilfred Potts* (5), son, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Martha Webster* (16), servant, born Smethwick:

1901 Census

65, Withy Lane – WAGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Edwin Potts* (47), widower, licensed victualler, born Kidderminster;
- [2] James E. Potts (21), son, horse breaker, born Bilston;
- [3] Florrie Potts (22), daughter in law, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] Arthur Potts (16), son, cabinet maker, born Sedgley;
- [5] Alice Potts (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Wilfred Potts (13), son, born Sedgley:

E. Potts was a committee member of the Wolverhampton and District Licensed Victuallers' Association. [1902]

Walsall Advertiser 5/4/1902 - Advert

“Sale Of Freehold Property, Broad Lanes, Bilston.

(By direction of the Executors of the late Mr. Samuel Jones).

Messrs. Walker and Lloyd will Offer for Sale by Auction (subject to Conditions of Sale embodying the Common Form Conditions of the Birmingham Law Society), on Monday, April 14th, 1902, at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston, at 7 o'clock in the evening precisely.

24 Freehold Dwelling Houses and Retail Shop....”

1911 Census

65, Moore Street, Broad Lanes

- [1] Lilian Edith Ward (19), unmarried, sister in law, home duties, domestic servant, born Sedgley;
- [2] Ellen Roberts (19), visitor, born Sedgley:

[Written on this census is 'In this case the tenant is away and these people are caretakers.']

Birmingham Daily Post 1/12/1917 - Advert

“Re *Thomas Langstone Stone* (Deceased).

West Bromwich and Bilston.

Mr. Walter D. Forthsyth will offer for Sale by Auction, at the DARTMOUTH ARMS HOTEL, West Bromwich, on Monday next, December 3, at 7.30pm, subject to conditions to be then produced and read – the Following Freehold Properties, belonging to the above mentioned Estate.

A Freehold Fully-Licensed House, the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Broad Lanes, Bilston. This house is situated in a busy district, and commands a good trade, exceptionally well built, with good living accommodation. Large Smoke Room, Tap Room, Club Room and Brewhouse, Wine and Beer Cellars, with two separate Stables and Coach-house. The Property is let to a lease for ten years from the 25th December 1913 to Messrs. Butlers and Co. Ltd. at the low annual rental of £42 10s.....”

Letter to the Clerk to the Licensing Justices, Wolverhampton 10/10/1979

“WAGGON AND HORSES, Broad Lane (Moor Street), Ladymoor, Coseley.

The above fully licensed premises are subject to a confirmed Compulsory Purchase Order and the Council, having arranged to re-house the Licensee, enabled us to discontinue trading at the end of permitted hours on Sunday, 30th September last.

No doubt you will wish to record this fact in your Licensing Register.

A copy of this letter has been forwarded to the Chief Superintendent of Police for his information.....”

WAGGON AND HORSES

1, Furlong Walk / Ruiton Street, Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Samuel Hyde, miner, John Street, Netherton

John Bennitt, draper and tailor, Dudley

William Parrish, coal agent, The Poplars, Pensnett [1899]

Tom Johnson

Home Brewery Co. Ltd., Quarry Bank

R. A. Harper Ltd., Hall Park Brewery, Bilston

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. (acquired in 1927)

Union Pub Co.

LICENSEES

Thomas Guest [] – 1823);
Samuel Hyde (1823 – []
Joseph Cartwright [1834] – 1848);
Mrs. Sarah Hyde (1848 – 1851);
Isaiah Hyde (1851 – [1854]
Thomas Hyde [] – 1855);
Mrs. Caroline Hyde (1855 – 1860);
Abraham Carter (1860);
Job James Marsh (1860 – [1861]
Isaiah Carter [1861]
George Jones [1863] – [1865]
James Shakespeare [] – 1866);
Alexander Paterson (1866 – 1899);
William H Hale (1899 – 1902);
Isaac Hale (1902 – 1904);
William Lakin (1904 – 1905);
Tom Johnson (1905 – 1909);
Edward Thomas Dando (1909);
Henry Turner (1909 – 1914);
Henry Turner (1914 – 1916);
Samuel Witton (1916 – 1922);
William Henry Westwood (1922 – 1923);
Benjamin Poole (1923);
Horace Castle (1923 – 1926);
Randell Griffiths (1926 – 1927);
John Thomas Caddick (1927 – 1928);
Arthur Wakelam (1928 – 1930);
William Leonard Bradley (1930 – 1939);
John Arnold Lodge (1939 – 1949);
Elizabeth Lodge (1949 – 1966);
Benjamin Flavell (1966);
Reginald Richard Milson (1966 – 1967);
Alan John Cox (1967 – 1968);
Eva Jane Macrae (1968 – 1969);
Thomas Victor Mallen (1969 – 1970);
Kenneth Walter Solloway (1970 – 1971);
Patricia Kathleen Green (1971 – 1976);
John Ernest Wood (1976 – 1978);
Trevor Southall (1978 – 1979);
Derek John Flavell (1979);
Michael Alan Dowell (1979 – 1981);
Peter Geoffrey Taylor (1981 – 1982);
Alfred Jones Oseland (1982 – 1983);
Linda Violet Jones (1983 – 1990);
Zandra Georgina Lee (1990 – 1993);
Sally Ann (Anstee) Butler (1993 – 2004)

NOTES

Joseph Cartwright was also a maltster.

An inquest was held here in 1838 resulting in a verdict of Manslaughter – see BLACK BEAR.

1841 Census

Lower Gornal

[1] *Joseph Cartwright* (55), maltster, born Staffordshire;

[2] Mary Cartwright (55), born Staffordshire;

[3] Mary Hinton (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 21/11/1841

“James Hale, of Gornall, is open to fight Cornelius Guest, or John Gilbert, of Gornall, for £25 a side – but not less. His money is ready at *Joseph Cartwright's*, the WAGGON AND HORSES, Gornall.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 12/3/1845

“Mr. *Joseph Cartwright*, of Sedgley, was summoned for having his house, the WAGGON AND HORSES, open during divine service on Sunday. The case was proved by a police officer named Bond. Mr. *Cartwright*, in explanation, said he had no interest in the house, although his name was over the door. He had allowed his name to be used to serve a widow named *Hyde*, whose son was making free with her property and ruining her. As the case was not an aggravated one, only two persons being in the house, the Bench imposed a fine of 5s observing that they must come to a conviction, but would make the fine much smaller than they usually did when licensed victuallers were convicted.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/11/1847

“The following inquests have been held before W. W. Ward, Esq, officiating for T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner.....
On the 10th inst, at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal, on the body of Patience Northall, a child who died in consequence of a dose of laudanum being given instead of paragonia. The mother of deceased sent to a woman named Fanny Knight, a midwife, for the paragonia, and she by mistake, both medicines being kept in the same cupboard, sent laudanum, which was administered to the deceased. Verdict accordingly.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 25/10/1848

“The following licenses were transferred.....
WAGGON AND HORSES, Gornall, lately in the occupation of *Joseph Cartwright*, to *Sarah Hyde*, the owner of the house.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/3/1851 - Deaths

“On the 23rd ult, of typhus fever, *Sarah*, relict of the late Mr. *Samuel Hyde*, of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, Sedgley, aged 56.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/4/1851

“At a Special Sessions of County Justices, held on Monday last, the 28th instant, for transferring victuallers’ licenses, the following licenses were transferred.....
from the representatives of the late *Sarah Hyde*, deceased, the WAGGON AND HORSES, Gornal, to *Isaiah Hyde*, of the same place.”

1851 Census

Lower Gornal

- [1] *Isaiah Hyde* (31), labourer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Catherine Hyde (29), wife, born Wombourn, Staffordshire;
- [3] Samuel Hyde (7), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Benjamin Hyde (6), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] John Hyde (2), son, born Coseley;
- [6] Joseph Clark (21), lodger, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [7] William Whick (72), lodger, bailiff, born Kingswinford:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/6/1855

“Transfer of victuallers licenses.....
WAGGON AND HORSES, Sedgley, from *Thomas Hyde*, deceased, to *Caroline Hyde*.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....
The following licenses were withheld until the adjourned licensing day for further consideration of the Magistrates, in consequence of the respective applicants having been convicted of offences against their license during the past year.....
Caroline Hyde, the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Valuable Freehold Houses, Leasehold Corn Mill (Equal to Freehold), and Eligible Freehold Building land, situate at Gospel End, Ruiton, and Lower Gornal, all in the parish of Sedgley.
To Solicitors, Capitalists, Speculators, & Others, Mr. Solomon Powell will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. Henry Fullwood, the HORSE SHOE INN, Upper Gornal, on Wednesday, the 9th day of January, 1861, at six o’clock in the evening, subject to the conditions then to be produced, and in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon.....
Lot 3. All that Freehold and Eligible Field of Land, containing 1a, 3r, 27p, and situate opposite the CROSS KEYS INN and WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, in the parish of Sedgley, approached by a road leading out of the road from Sedgley, through Ruiton to Gornal Wood and Dibdale bank.
This land is supposed to contain the celebrated Gornal Stone so commonly used in the erection of Houses, and for the use of Ironworks and Furnaces; and irrespective of this valuable Mine, the Land is very eligible for Building purpose, being situated on an elevated position, having good falls for drainage, and in the immediate neighbourhood of a large population, and within short distances of works of all kinds.....”

1861 Census

Lower Gornal

- [1] *Job James Marsh* (21), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah Marsh* (19), wife, dress maker, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *John Edward Marsh* (9 months), son, born Brierley Hill;
- [4] *Mary Bate* (13), house servant, born Kingswinford:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/7/1863

“The deputy-coroner of the district, Mr. Phillips, resumed his investigation yesterday, at the house of Mr. *Jones*, the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, into the cause of death of Wallace Hyde, an illegitimate child of Mary Hyde. It will be recollected that the evidence at the last inquiry was that at eleven on the Saturday morning the child was perfectly well and healthy, the mother having only an hour previously left the Dudley Union Poorhouse, where she had been to be confined, and that more than a spoonful of ‘comfort’ was given to it in the afternoon of the same day to appease its crying, and that shortly afterwards the child died.

Mr. J. A. C. Tomson, surgeon, of Upper Gornal, now deposed to making a post mortem examination of the deceased child. He explained that it was a difficult thing to trace the action of the cordial that had been given to the child, the death having occurred six days before the examination. He found that death had been caused by congestion of the brain, but how occasioned he could not say. He had examined the ‘comfort’ and it was found to be nothing more nor less than what was called Godfrey’s Cordial. This cordial was opiate, and partook of the nature of opium. The proper dose for a child twenty-three days, the age of the deceased, would be from five to eight drops, according to the constitution (the evidence was that a little more than a spoonful had been given). A spoonful would contain about sixty drops, being about ten times the quantity that should be given. The Coroner strongly cautioned Mrs. Southall, who had sold the ‘comfort’ to put on each bottle directions, as the injudicious sale of the article might get her into trouble. The Coroner gave it as his experience that the habitual administration of such drugs to children produced great injury. A verdict of Died from Congestion of the Brain, but from what cause there was no evidence to show, was returned.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 29/8/1863

“At Bilston Public Office, yesterday, the undermentioned licenses were suspended.....

George Jones, WAGON AND HORSES, Sedgley.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.....

The following is a list of those who had been proceeded against and fined in the past year.....

George Jones, WAGGON AND HORSES, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/9/1863

“The adjourned licensing meeting for the Bilston division of the county was held on Friday.....

Licenses suspended at the annual licensing meeting were now renewed to the following houses, the landlords being cautioned to conduct them more creditably for the future.....

WAGGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal, kept by *George Jones*.”

Birmingham Daily Post 15/5/1865 - Advert

“To be Let, with immediate possession, the WAGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal, with Spirit License, and well-stocked Garden. The Brewing Plant is all new. Satisfactory reasons given for leaving. Incoming about £50 or £60. Apply on the Premises.”

County Advertiser 3/2/1866 - Advert

“To be Let, the OLD WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, now doing an excellent business. There are several clubs to the house. Rent only £18. Coming-in low. The present proprietor is leaving in consequence of domestic affliction.

Apply on the premises, or to Wm. Hinton, Auctioneer, Pensnett.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday, when the Magistrates present were – The Revs. J. Y. Rooker, and W. Lewis, and J. Perks, H. D. Best, A. Sparrow, H. Ward, and W. Hatton, Esqs. At the commencement of the proceedings, the superintendent of Police presented the following report.

Bilston Division, August 31st, 1866.

‘I beg to submit to the Magistrates the attached list of licensed victuallers who have been complained about during the year. Twenty-five have been convicted, and three have paid costs; one had been convicted three times and five twice. This is a large increase on last year’s list; but I think it has arisen from the police being more particular in reporting cases of permitting drunkenness – as it was found to be an evil rather than an increase. I believe it has caused landlords to be more careful in supplying drink to persons intoxicated.’

H. McCrea, Superintendent.

Black List.....

James Shakespeare, WAGGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal, Sedgley..... left over until the adjourned licensing meeting on the 28th of September.”

Alexander Paterson = Alexander Patterson

1871 Census

1, Furlong Walk – WAGGON AND HORSES

[1] *Alexander Paterson* (36), draper, tailor and victualler, born Scotland;

[2] Elizabeth Paterson (38), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Margaret A. Paterson (10), daughter, scholar. born Sedgley;

[4] Mary A. Paterson (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[5] Emma Paterson (2), daughter, born Sedgley;

[6] Sarah Jones (16), general servant, born Sedgley:

Alexander Paterson was also a traveling draper. [1873]

Dudley Guardian 7/3/1874

“The Late Election Riots At Sedgley.

On Monday last, at the Sedgley Police Court, before I. Spooner, Esq (Stipendiary), Alexander Turner, butcher and cattle dealer, William Roberts (18), miner, and James Taylor (28), miner, were charged with riotously assembling together, with others unknown, and wilfully damaging property, by breaking windows, on the 5th ult. Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Stokes), appeared for the prisoner Turner, the other prisoners were undefended.

Joshua Cartwright, landlord of the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, said that on the day in question, a large mob assembled in front of his house and broke his windows. Roberts and Taylor were among the crowd and Roberts went to witness and told him to turn out of his house a person named Colbourn. Witness said ‘Do you want to murder the man,’ and Roberts replied ‘If you turn him out we will go.’ Witness then sent to see if Mr. Colbourn was in the house and upon the messenger returning he said that Mr. Colbourn had gone across the fields. The mob then left.

By Mr. Young: I know Mr. Turner to be a very respectable man. He was not in the crowd.

Ann Smith, domestic servant, said that on the day in question, as she was putting up the shutters of her master’s shop she saw the prisoner Roberts throw two stones, one at the window which was broken and the other at her (witness).

Isaac Hyde, bricklayer, said that on the day in question he was near Mr. *Patterson*’s public house, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, and between three and four o’clock a large mob assembled, among them being the prisoner Turner, and they commenced breaking Mr. *Patterson*’s windows. He saw Turner throw at the windows of Mr. *Patterson*.

Charlotte Passmore, wife of Thomas Passmore, said she saw the prisoner Turner among the mob that assembled in front of Mr. *Patterson*’s house, and he was carrying a little dog covered with blue ribbons. She did not see the prisoner throw.

Herbert Hughes and Robert Harris also swore to having seen Turner among the mob.

PC Moffatt said he apprehended the prisoner Turner, and when he charged him the prisoner said ‘Mrs. Jones sent me to see her pig and that is what took me there.’

Sarah Jones said it was correct that she sent for the prisoner Turner to see if he would buy her pig, but he did not go.

That was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Young for the defence contended that it was impossible for the witness Hall, who was standing 70 yards from the prisoner Turner, to have seen him throw stones.

Mr. Spooner: I shall not call upon you to answer that, but I shall call upon you to answer for his being there.

Mr. Young said he could answer the latter charge as his client, at the time the windows in Mr. *Patterson*’s house were broken, was standing talking to two or three people at Mr. Charles Hughes’s house which was 70 or 80 yards down the street.

He then called Geo Hale, miner, John Malpass, miner, and Thomas Timmins, labourer, who corroborated the above statement.

Mr. Spooner said he believed the prisoner Turner to have been one of the spectators, and much more mischief was done by them than other persons; but as there was a fair doubt about it, he should give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt and discharge him.

Mr. *Patterson* thought it unfair that the prisoner should be discharged, especially as the prisoner had offered to compensate him if he would withdraw the case.

Mr. Spooner said that was the first he had heard of it.

Mr. *Patterson* said he informed Mr. Spooner’s clerk of the fact some time before.

Mr. Spooner said he knew nothing about it, and as he had discharged the prisoner the case was ended.

The other two prisoners were then asked if they had anything to say, but they both replied that they had nothing to say.

Mr. Spooner said Roberts deserved any punishment he could give him, he not only took part in the crowd which was very blamable and to be regretted, but he did that which showed him to be a savage bad man, he actually asked Mr. Cartwright to turn a man out of his house, which showed how malicious and bad his intentions were. For such a person he had no commiseration, and if he could he would give him more. He then sentenced Roberts to two months’ hard labour for breaking the windows, and three months’ hard labour for assaulting Ann Smith. Taylor was ordered to find two sureties in £25 each, or, in default, go to prisoner for three months.

Thomas Elden Cox (19), Joshua Jones (25), William Harris (17), and Benjamin Marsh (19), were charged with similar offences on the 5th ult, at Lower Gornal. Mr. Stokes defended Cox. Jones was discharged, there being no evidence against him. Harris was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment, with hard labour, whilst Cox and Marsh were each ordered to find two sureties of £25 each to be of good behaviour, or in default to go to prison for three months.

John Aston (18), miner, was charged with rioting at Upper Gornal, on the 5th ult. Mr. Stokes appeared for the prisoner, who was ordered to find two sureties of £25 each to be of good behaviour, or in default to go to gaol for three months.”

Dudley Guardian 4/7/1874

“Important Meeting of Colliers at Dudley.

On Monday morning a district meeting, representing forty-five lodges belonging to the Dudley district, was held at the Central Lodge House, SHAKESPEARE INN, New Mill Street, Dudley.

Mr. Joseph Lee occupied the chair, and in opening the proceedings, he said he should have been glad to have met the delegates under more gratifying circumstances, but it appeared that they could not turn back. How long the struggle would last it was not for him to say; in fact, he did not know. It rested with the delegates who represented the men to say what was the feeling of their constituents – whether they were disposed to play on, or go to work at the reduction – (cries of ‘No’). The masters, by their conduct, did not seem disposed to give way, or offer any conciliatory terms; but the men, on the other hand, wanted to have the dispute amicably and honourably settled They had carried on the fight for thirteen weeks. . . .

The reports from each delegate were then verbally given. . . .

No.41 Lodge, WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, 68 members. We mean to stick out, and the men at work pay the levy first-rate. No blacklegs.”

[The consensus was overwhelmingly to remain on strike.]

It was the headquarters of the Thistle Lodge of the Order of Free Gardeners. [1874]

County Express 29/7/1876

“The members connected with the Thistle Lodge, of the United order of Free Gardeners, held their annual meeting at the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal. About eighty members were present, each wearing for the first time his regalia. Previous to the dinner the members of the Victoria Sax-horn Band paraded the principal street. Upwards of one hundred persons sat down to dinner which was catered by Bro. *Paterson* in an excellent style. After the cloth was drawn the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were drunk, coupled with songs and recitations which rendered the day a very pleasant one. The principal toast was that of Success to ‘the Thistle Lodge,’ proposed by the Chairman who commented at great length on the advantages which were obtained from such institutions. He was pleased to state that their lodge was in a prosperous condition, and was likely to be so, owing to a further increase in members.”

Dudley Herald 26/7/1879

“The members of ‘The Thistle Lodge’ of the United Order of Free Gardeners held their annual dinner on Monday afternoon, at the house of Bro. *A. Paterson*, the WAGON AND HORSES INN, when a large number of members were present. An excellent dinner having been partaken of, Mr. Grost (surgeon) presided, and Bro. *A. Paterson* (Grand Master of the Order) occupied the vice-chair. The loyal and patriotic toasts having been honoured, the Chairman proposed ‘Success to the Thistle Lodge,’ and Bro. *A. Paterson*, in responding, said he was pleased to state that notwithstanding the depressed state of trade a large number of members continued to be connected with the lodge (hear, hear). Many advantages were to be derived from friendly societies, and if a larger number of working men were enrolled members of friendly societies the rates would be considerably less, inasmuch as there would be less money expended in parish relief, the heavy burdens of the ratepayers would be lightened, and the position of working men would be greatly improved (hear, hear). He trusted that men in position would encourage working men to join friendly societies, for by so doing they would be conferring a boon upon the country at large (applause).

After toasts had been given, the remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony and conviviality.”

Dudley and District News 8/1/1881

“On Thursday evening last a large gathering of Free Gardeners of the Dudley and Netherton and Wolverhampton districts assembled at the house of Brother *Alexander Paterson*, the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lower Gornal, the occasion being a complimentary dinner given to the worthy host, late Grand Master of the Order, who is deservedly held in high esteem by his brethren. Among the guests were Bro. George Turner (Sheffield), Grand Master, Bro. Brierley (Oldham), Grand Secretary, Bro. R. Harris, PDM (Brierley Hill), Councillors W. Smith and M. Smith, Messrs. G. Morris, J. Jordan, J. Humphreys, S. Hill, and many others. After an excellent dinner, served in first-class style, Bro. G. Turner, GM, took the chair, Councillor W. Smith occupying the vice chair.”

Dudley and District News 22/1/1881

“A meeting of the miners employed in this district was held at the house of Mr. *Alexander Paterson*, the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Upper [sic] Gornal, on Tuesday evening, for the double purpose of considering the Employers’ Liability Bill and for taking the necessary steps for forming a separate branch of the Miners’ Association for Gornal and Himley district. Mr. *A. Paterson* was asked to preside, and in a few appropriate words placed before the men the position in which they stood with respect to the new Act, and the additional necessity there was for securing effective union. It was, he said, impossible for them to secure the full benefits of that or any other Act without greater union and organisation than they at present possessed.

The meeting was then addressed by several miners, one of whom said that although he did not think they were in a position at the present time to fight for the measure, they should always keep it before their eyes, and with proper union they might eventually secure it. It hurt him to think that before commencing work he had to sign an agreement foregoing the benefits of an Act specially passed in his behalf. He contended for the preservation of the field-pay system, with the provisions of the bill.

A miner said that if the field-pay system was to be preserved, a balance sheet should be presented to the men periodically. At present they had no knowledge to go upon; they could not say whether the rate of subscription to the field club was sufficient for its purposes or not, and hence could not with any certainty appeal to the masters for a contribution sufficient to equalise the

burden.....”

Dudley and District News 12/3/1881

“On Thursday, a well attended meeting was held at the house of Mr. *A. Paterson*, Lower Gornal. Mr. *Paterson* was voted to the chair. In a few appropriate remarks he dwelt upon the fact that if the men wanted anything done to improve their condition, and to remove those difficulties and troubles under which they laboured, they must do it themselves. He had during this week been over to Sheffield, and on visiting several of the leading works of that town, he had made it his business to inquire into their trade organization, and he was informed that each separate branch of the cutler’s trade had its distinct organization, without which, as his informants stated, they would have now been working at half their present rate of wages. Several of these operatives with whom he conferred, had desired him specially to urge upon the men of this district of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire that they must secure organization, without which they would be trampled on. He had visited Brown’s great steel works; he had gone among the very coal heavers, and found everywhere the same complete organization, and that they were fully employed, fully paid, and fully able to defend their rights. If this could be done in Sheffield, why could it not be done in the Black Country? If it were not done here, depend upon it their position would be worse in the future than it was at the present. He concluded with an earnest appeal to the men to promote the organization set on foot among them.

Mr. Breakwell also pressed upon those present the necessity for procuring union among themselves, illustrating its advantages by the effective opposition the men of South Yorkshire were able to offer through their organization. The delegates appointed to attend the Conference at Wolverhampton on Monday last, presented their report; a full report of these proceedings appears in another column. It was stated that it would be necessary to elect delegates to attend the adjourned meeting in a month hence. Mr. Tomlinson, in the course of his remarks, contrasted the benefits which the men of North Stafford, who had contended for the provisions of the Liability Act, had secured with those of the Gornal district – increased accident and sick allowance – which were greater than they could look for under the system which they were inaugurating.

Mr. Davis took exception to the decision of the Conference as to the constitution of the representative board, to the exclusion, or partial exclusion of Gornal; but he hoped this would be rectified during the month which would elapse before the next Conference. He also referred to the appeal of South Yorkshire, and asked all those who had not already given assistance to their cause to do so. If they now assisted their fellows in that district they could in turn seek help in need, but not otherwise.

A miner made a few sensible reflections upon the condition of the miners of Gornal district, and moved a resolution to the effect that the support of this district be given to the South Yorkshire men, which was carried unanimously.

The meeting was brought to a close by the usual votes of thanks.”

1881 Census

1, Furlong Walk – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Alexander Paterson* (46), licensed victualler and draper, born Ayrshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Paterson* (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Mary Agnes Paterson* (19), daughter, assistant to her father, born Sedgley;
- [4] *John Paterson* (17), son, carpenter’s apprentice, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Emma Paterson* (12), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [6] *James Paterson* (9), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Dudley and District News 23/7/1881

“At Wolverhampton, on Wednesday, before the Stipendiary, Sarah Timmins and Caroline Oakley, of Lower Gornal, were summoned by Betsy Westwood, of the same place, for the non-payment of £5, alleged to be due to her from the Woman’s Death Club, held at the WAGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal, in respect of the death of her husband, Samuel Westwood.

Mr. Dallow appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Tinsley, of Sedgley, defended.

The defendants are stewards of the club, of which the plaintiff had been a member for twenty-five years. According to the rules (a copy of which was handed in to Mr. Boughey, who described them as being very loosely drawn) a member was entitled to £5 on the death of her husband.

For the defence, it was contended that Westwood had committed bigamy with the complainant, and that his first wife being still alive the plaintiff was not entitled to the £5.

Mr. Dallow pointed out that the man Westwood was not the member of the club, but the plaintiff herself.

Mr. Tinsley said that the plaintiff was cautioned when she entered the club that she would have no benefit from the death of Westwood, whose first wife was living in Dudley Workhouse.

Mr. Green said that the difficult point for the defence to get over was the receipt of her subscriptions ever since she had been a member.

Mr. Boughey said that, according to the rules, it was provided that if any person be admitted a member, and it was afterwards proved that she were in any way afflicted at the time of entrance, the contribution money should be returned to her. By that he might say that the woman was afflicted with an illegal marriage. He decided that the defendants must pay the money and costs within a fortnight, and said that it was a pity that there should be such clubs with rules like those of this club. Many thousands of pounds subscribed by working people had been lost by badly managed clubs.”

Dudley and District News 24/9/1881

“Lower Gornal Horticultural Society. On Thursday the members of this flourishing society celebrated their eighth anniversary by a dinner at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN (Mr. *A. Paterson*). There was a large number of members and friends present.....”

Dudley and District News 15/9/1883 - Advert

“Mr. B. Bellingham has received instructions to Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *Alexander Paterson*, the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday, September 25th, at Six o'clock.....

All those Two Free Copyhold Butcher's Shop and Private Dwelling House, being numbered 95 and 96, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, together with the Stable, Piggeries, and usual outbuildings and land belonging thereto.

The Butcher's Shop and Premises are in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Southall, at a rental of £10 clear of all rates and taxes. The private Dwelling House, producing an annual rental of £5 4s, but now void.....”

1891 Census

1, Furlong Walk

- [1] *Alexander Paterson* (56), draper and licensed victualler, born Scotland;
- [2] Elizabeth Paterson (59), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary A. Paterson (28), daughter, barmaid, born Sedgley;
- [4] John Paterson (27), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Emma Paterson (22), daughter, barmaid, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

1, Furlong Walk – WAGGON AND HORSES INN

- [1] *William H. Hale* (38), widower, licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Hannah Hale (59), mother, housekeeper, born Lower Gornal;
- [3] Charles Bradshaw (15), stepson, brickmaker's labourer, born Barrow in Furness;
- [4] Thomas Hale (12), son, born Dudley;
- [5] Catharine Aston (19), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] John T. Hale (26), brother, fender moulder, born Gornal:

William Hale died on 1st July 1902.

A boxing match between British welterweight champion Jabez White and Tom Edmond was held here in 1904.

1911 Census

1, Furlong Walk – WAGGON AND HORSES INN

- [1] *Henry Turner* (53), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Priscilla Turner (53), wife, married 34 years, born Sedgley;
- [3] Nellie Stevens (20), niece, born Featherstone, Yorkshire:

South Staffordshire Times 24/4/1920

“Sedgley Petty Sessions.....

“Samuel Share, secretary of the Benefit Society for the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lower Gornal, and Samuel Witton, treasurer of the Society, answered a summons issued against them for not sending in the necessary returns in pursuance of the Friendly Societies Act.

Mr. Mervyn, barrister, Legal Assistant to the Central Office of the Chief Registrar, appeared in support of the complaint.

Mr. Share acknowledged that the returns had not been sent in as they should have been, and he was sorry for the delay, but the accounts were not fully made up.

Mr. Witton said he had nothing to do with the society beyond acting as treasurer, and only accounted for the funds he received.

Mr. Mervyn said that he appeared on behalf of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, and the society in question was registered at 1, Furlong Street, Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, and Mr. Share was the secretary. The society was one that paid funeral benefits, collecting contributions from its members, and they were charged jointly with having failed to send in the annual return in December 18, and though they had been given five months, the return which arrived on May 31st was quite incomplete, and the Chief Registrar sent it back to the registered address of the society on the 6th August, and pointed out what the mistakes were, and how they should be corrected. Reminders were sent afterwards, and on January 21st 1919, a threat was sent that proceedings would be taken by the Chief Registrar. That warning was repeated on February 19, but no answer was made, and a summons was applied for on April 8th and granted. The returns applied for were very important, not only for the protection of the public, but also for the National Insurance Commissioners.

Mr. Mervyn then gave evidence, producing the office file of the Benefits Societies for deaths. The annual return from this society had not been received by March 1st 1920, or on the 15th April, when he left London. He produced a copy of the rules of the society which had been registered at the central office.

Mr. Sharpe said the returns had been sent up, but they were returned. He knew nothing about their being returned until after these proceedings were taken.

The Acting Magistrates' Clerk: It is a registered society.

Mr. Share said it was, and further admitted that he received letters from the solicitor, but the documents returned had not been received by him. He did not know of the alterations that had to be made in them. He was secretary to other societies, and had received the returns for those societies, but had not received back from London any of these papers and could consequently not make any corrections in them.

The question arose as to the delivery of letters addressed to the society. They were addressed to the clubhouse at the house named,

but they were kept and handed over to the officers of the Society when they came to meetings.

Mr. Witton acknowledged he was treasurer, but said he had received none of these returns. He was not a member of the society, only its treasurer.

Mr. Mervyn said he did not ask for a penalty against the treasurer but the society.

In reply to the Acting Magistrates' Clerk Mr. Mervyn said that all the letters sent from London to the society were enclosed in official envelopes. The Central Society did not ask for a heavy fine in this case, but costs had been incurred in connection with the case which should be covered.

Mr. Share expressed his regret at what had occurred, but he had not seen all the letters.

A penalty of 40s was inflicted upon Mr. Share, and the society was fined £5 and £4 4s costs. Too many cases of that kind, said the Chairman, had occurred in that neighbourhood, and they were bound to protect the public."

Dudley Herald 2/5/1931

"Miners of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire will lose a conscientious official of their association by the death of Councillor *Arthur Wakelam*, at his residence, the SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, on Thursday last.

Councillor *Wakelam*, who was 55 years of age, had been a member of the Sedgley Council since 1919, and was re-elected to that authority last month. He had occupied the position of Chairman of the Roads Committee for several years until it was merged into the Public Works Committee. He was one of the pioneers of the Labour movement in the Sedgley district, but held no official position in it.

A native of Lower Gornal, Councillor *Wakelam* was for many years the steward of the Miners' Welfare Club, Lower Gornal, but resigned that position to take up the license of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, which he held until last year. He was an ardent trade unionist and belonged to the South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire Miners' Association, a branch of the Miners' Federation of Great Britain. He had been a trustee of the association for about 15 years, and had occupied the position of president for nine years. He was greatly esteemed and respected by all the members of the association, and his loss will be keenly felt. Councillor *Wakelam* had only been ill for about a week, his death being due to pneumonia. He attended the first meeting of the newly-constituted Council last Tuesday week, and took an active part in the discussion, urging that the newly fixed rate should be further reduced. He leaves a widow and six children. His demise will necessitate an election in Wood Ward."

Dudley Herald 9/5/1931

"Amidst many manifestations of sorrow and sympathy, the funeral took place at Sedgley Parish Church, on Tuesday afternoon last, of Councillor *Arthur Wakelam*, of the SHAKESPEARE INN, Upper Gornal, who died on Thursday last week.

The cortege which proceeded from Upper Gornal, was met at the Council House by many Councillors and officials, who attended the church service to pay their last respects to Councillor *Wakelam*, who had sat on the council continuously for the past twelve years....."

William Leonard Bradley – see also LIMERICK, Lower Gornal.

1939 Register

Ruiton Street – WAGGON AND HORSES INN

[1] *John Arnold Lodge*, date of birth 13/11/1903, hotel manager, married;

[2] *Elizabeth Lodge*, dob 3/5/1907, wife, married;

[4] *Bernard (R.) Lodge*, dob 11/8/1932, at school, single:

'Do You Remember?' by John R. Stenson

"....when *John Arnold Lodge* was landlord, but Lizzie ran the pub. There was a long bar in the front, which was frequented mainly by miners, and at the back was a snug where the womenfolk would drink their Mackies [Mackeson's]."

Tipton Herald 15/9/1956

"On Monday Lower Gornal Darby and Joan Building Fund benefitted by £50 from the auction of goods received from customers of the WAGGON AND HORSES INN.

The goods were auctioned by Mr. S. Jeavons, who has helped to raise £3,000 for different charities. The WAGGON AND HORSES is the fifth public house to have helped in raising money for the construction of a hall for the local Darby and Joans. Work on the hall has now started.

So far £3,300 has been raised towards the £3,750 needed, and members of the Fund are organising five more auctions."

Linda Violet Jones was married to Anthony.

Sally Butler was born circa 1955.

She was married to Paul.

It closed in 2008. [2009]

It was converted into housing. [2015]

WALLBROOK

6, Chapel Street, (Wallbrook Street), Wallbrook, COSELEY

OWNERS

James Dainty
Clarissa Jenkins
Emily Waldron
Atkinsons Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mann [1847]
William Harris Snr. [1851] – [1861]
James Dainty [1868] – **1896**;
Clarissa Jenkins (**1896 – 1897**);
Edward Thomas Houching (**1897 – 1898**);
Emily (Waldron) Ellis (**1898**);
William Ellis (**1898 – 1899**);
James Cox (**1899 – 1900**);
Patrick Higgins (**1900 – 1901**);
Joseph Mason (**1901 – 1902**);
Joseph Gabriel (**1902 – 1909**);
Richard Clee (**1909**);
Robert Bainbridge (**1909 – 1912**):

NOTES

It had an ante'69 beerhouse license.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/11/1847 - Advert

“Freehold Houses and Land, at Coseley, near Bilson Staffordshire.

To Be Sold By Auction, by J. Dawes, on Tuesday, November 30, 1847, at the FOUNTAIN INN, Princes End, at five o'clock in the evening, and subject to conditions then and there to be produced.....

To view the same apply to Mr. *Mann*, WALLBROOK TAVERN, Coseley.”

1851 Census

Wallbrook

- [1] *William Harris* Snr. (52), butcher, born Sedgley;
- [2] Catharine Harris (40), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] William Harris Jnr. (25), son, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [4] Catharine Harris (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Elizabeth Harris (13), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] Ann Harris (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] Rhoda Harris (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] Jane Harris (7), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [9] Agnes Harris (4), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [10] John Harris (1), son, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 9/9/1854 - Advert

“Sale Of Valuable Freehold Building Land and Houses, at Coseley, near Bilston, in the County of Stafford.

By J. Dawes, on Wednesday, the 27th day of September, at the UNION INN, Walbrook, Coseley, at Five o'clock in the afternoon, subject to conditions then to be read, in the following or such other lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.....

Lot 5. A Freehold and well-built Old-licensed Public House, with the Outbuildings and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at Walbrook aforesaid, in the occupation of Mr. John Skidmore, and known as the UNION INN; containing a Front Shop, Tap Room, Parlour, Kitchen, Bar, large Club Room, three Sleeping Rooms, Cellar, Brewhouse, Malt Room, Stable and Loft over.....

To view the Lots, apply to Mr. *William Harris*, WALBROOK TAVERN; and for further particulars, to John F. Adams, Esq, Solicitor, Darlaston; or of the Auctioneer, Wednesbury, at whose Offices a plan of the Property may be seen.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 22/2/1856

“On Monday last, at the INN OF WALLBROOK, Wallbrook, near Bilston, T. M. Phillips, Esq, held an inquest on the body of James Warren, aged 10 years, who met his death under the following shocking circumstances. Deceased was employed at the chain manufactory of Mr. Parkins, at Tipton, and on Thursday he was going to the engine when he fell into a tank of boiling water, for the supply of the engine, the top of which was several feet below the level of the pathway, and was without any fence around or against it, though, as one of the witnesses observed, an expenditure of 5s would have provided such protection. His screams brought some men to his aid, and he was got out as quickly as possible, but was so severely scalded from head to foot, that the skin peeled from his body as his clothes were taken off. He died of his injuries on Saturday. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, pointing out the necessity of erecting a fence round the tank.”

Birmingham Journal 10/7/1858 - Advert

“Desirable Freehold Public House, Butcher’s Shop, Building Land and Premises, known as WALLBROOK TAVERN situate in Wallbrook Street, Coseley, in the Parish of Sedgley. Mr. Bateman will sell by auction upon the premises on Tuesday the 13th day of July 1858, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced, and either in one lot or such other lots as may be determined upon at the time of sale, all that very desirable freehold public house known as the WALLBROOK TAVERN with the butcher’s shop, Stable, Outbuildings, Yard and Premises and also a piece of spare Building land, adjoining, situated in Wallbrook Street, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley now in the occupation of Mr. *William Harris*, at the yearly rent of £24. The house contains bar, parlour, kitchen, brewhouse, large club room, good cellaring, and three bedrooms and attic. For further particulars, apply to Mr. Bolton, Solicitor, Wolverhampton, of the Auctioneer, Dudley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/12/1858 - Advert

“Freehold Property, at Walbrook & Cinder Hill, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford. Mr. Bateman will Sell by Auction, at the house of Mr. *W. Harris*, the WALBROOK TAVERN, in Walbrook Street, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, on Tuesday next, the 21st day of December, at six o’clock in the evening (unless disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given), in the following lots, subject to such conditions as shall be then and there produced.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/12/1860

“An inquest was held on Monday afternoon, by Mr. Phillips, coroner, at the WALBROOK ARMS, Coseley, on the body of John Stephenson, a miner, who committed suicide and attempted to commit murder on Tuesday week, under the circumstances already before the public. The jury returned a verdict of felo-de-se. The poor woman still remains in a very precarious state, and the surgeon deems her recovery very improbable. Nothing is known about Stephenson except that he is a native of Henley, in Lancashire, but is without surviving relatives.”

[See Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/1/1861 below.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/1/1861

“The adjourned inquest on the body of the infant child found strangled in a field at Coseley, on the 7th of October last, was held at the house of Mr. *Harris*, publican, Walbrook, on Monday, before W. H. Phillips esq, deputy coroner. The inquiry was adjourned from the 4th December, since which time the police have succeeded in gaining a clue to the case, and on Monday they produced a witness named Prudens, a girl living at Great Bridge, who left Sedgley workhouse on the 28th of September last with the woman who is believed to be the mother of the child. The woman accompanied Prudens to Tipton, and left her in Wood Street of that town, telling her that she had to call on some friends who lived in the immediate locality, and she had not been seen since. In order that the matter might be further investigated, the inquest was further adjourned to the 26th of February next.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/1/1861

“It may be remembered that in November last John Stephenson, who had lodged at the house of an engineman named Lewis, at Wallbrook, near Coseley, shortly after dinner followed the wife of Lewis, who was thirty years old, upstairs, where she was scouring a floor, and on her rejecting his advances, cut her throat with a razor and afterwards cut his own. His death was the immediate result, and for some time it was thought that there was no hope of the recovery of the poor woman. However, by the unremitting care of Mr. Smith, surgeon, she gradually recovered. The wound, which had almost entirely severed her windpipe, healed, and the patient was permitted to take a liberal diet, and was able to sew in her bedroom. The unfortunate woman’s imprudence, however, rendered all the efforts made for her preservation abortive. On Sunday, the 6th instant, she went downstairs and took cold, which led to bronchitis, and the result was that coma and asphyxia supervened, and she died on the 21st instant. An inquest was held before Mr. W. H. Phillips, deputy coroner, at the WALLBROOK TAVERN, on Thursday last, when the facts above named were deposed to. Mr. Smith, with the consent of the deceased’s husband, made a post mortem examination, and the appearances presented by the wound showed that but for the imprudence of the poor woman a complete and remarkable recovery would have been effected. The windpipe had been completely severed except for the membranous portion at the back, yet the parts had been brought into perfect apposition and effectually united, although the wound was in so dangerous a place, being immediately below the larynx. It is due to Mr. Smith to say that for the time and pains he devoted to this case he had no hope of obtaining a recompense. The jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against the deceased Stephenson.”

1861 Census

Chapel Street

[1] *William Harris* (63), butcher, born Sedgley;

[2] *Catherine Harris* (50), wife, born Sedgley;

- [3] Eliza J. Harris (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Agnes Harris (14), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Edward Harris (11), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Eliza Elwell (18), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 13/4/1867 - Advert

“Desirable Building Land, Public House, Butcher’s Shop, & Premises, at Wallbrook, Coseley.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Charles Round (by order of the Mortgagee), at the house of Mr. Arnold W. Wolverson, the SWIFT PACKET INN, Wallbrook, on Wednesday, May 1, 1867, at Six o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read.
Lot 1. All that very valuable Public House, known as the WALLBROOK TAVERN, at Wallbrook, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, for many years in the occupation of Mr. *William Harris*, deceased.
The House and Premises consist Butcher’s Shop, Bar, Parlour, Club Room, Malt Room, four Chambers, four Cellars, Brewhouse, Slaughterhouse, and Stabling, with the usual Out-offices, and the whole covers an area of 387 square yards of Land, and has a frontage of 11 yards to Wallbrook Street, and carries the same frontage throughout to the other end fronting to Hedge Street.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1868

“Bilston. The annual Licensing Sessions for this district were held yesterday, at the Police Court.....
Mr. Best applied for a license to the WALL BROOK INN, Sedgley, on behalf of Mr. *James Dainty*; and Mr. Underhill opposed on behalf of a licensed victualler in an adjoining street Application refused.”

1871 Census

- 6, Chapel Street
- [1] *James Dainty* (39), publican, provision dealer, born Sedgley;
 - [2] Ann Dainty (38), wife, born Sedgley;
 - [3] T. H. Jenkins (20), son, railway clerk, born Sedgley;
 - [4] Alice Dainty (8), daughter, born Sedgley;
 - [5] Sarah Bradley (23), general servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 27/11/1880

“Enoch Lowe, collier, Coseley, was charged at Wolverhampton on Wednesday, under adjournment, with having unlawfully assaulted William Garbett, also a miner of the same place. Chief-Superintendent Longden conducted the prosecution, and Mr. R. A. Willcock appeared to defend.
The prosecutor’s head and face were partially enveloped in bandages, and his articulation was difficult. He stated that on the night of the 9th inst. he went to *Dainty*’s beerhouse at Wallbrook, about half-past ten o’clock. The defendant and his father were there at the time, and witness and prisoner quarreled over a money transaction of some time previous. The defendant struck witness, and witness was requested by the waiter to leave so as to prevent further disturbance. He went out, and he was followed by the accused and his father. The young Lowe knocked him down and kicked and struck him; the father did not strike, but asked the defendant not to kick witness. He became insensible for a time. The next morning he was carried to the Hospital at Wolverhampton, where it was found that his jaw was broken in three places. He remained in the Hospital up to today, and after leaving the Court he would have to go back.
George Jones, a waiter at the house, and Henry Billingham, one of the people drinking at the house, both swore to the accused striking Garbett in the house, but Bellingham said Garbett asked for a second blow, saying that he had not had enough, and neither witness saw any kicking.
Mr. Willcock said his client admitted having given the injury, but pleaded that he did not kick the complainant. The latter provoked him to strike the first blow, and then asked him for a second, and the defendant turned round and gave him a blow in the face.
Mr. Rogers said it was questionable whether Garbett would ever thoroughly recover from his injuries. These displays of passion must be put down, and the defendant would be committed to Stafford for two months. He (Mr. Rogers) was sorry the bench could not commit him for a longer term.”

1881 Census

- 6, Chapel Street
- [1] *James Dainty* (49), widower, beerseller, born Sedgley;
 - [2] Alice Jones (18) daughter, married, born Tipton;
 - [3] Thomas Henry Jenkins (31), son in law, married, railway clerk, born Tipton;
 - [4] Clara Jenkins (28), daughter in law, married, born Wednesbury;
 - [5] Elvira Jones (1), granddaughter, born Sedgley;
 - [6] Alice Jenkins (4), granddaughter, born Sedgley;
 - [7] Harold Jenkins (3), grandson, born Sedgley;
 - [8] Rosehannah Davis (12), nurse, born Sedgley:

Evening Express 25/10/1881

“Joseph Darby and Maria Bennett, alias Roper, were charged by Mr. *James Dainty*, of Wallbrook, with drunken and disorderly conduct at his public house, and refusing to quit, and Mr. *Dainty* was charged, on a cross summons, with kicking Mrs. Roper. Mr.

Stokes appeared for Mr. *Dainty*, and Mr. Fellows for Mrs. Roper.

It appears that Darby and Bennett both went to the public house of complainant, and because he would not supply beer and have them there drinking they abused him, and refused to quit. Several witnesses proved this. Mrs. Roper charged him with 'brutal violence' to her by kicking her.

The defendants were fined 5s each and costs, for refusing to quit. The charge of assault was dismissed."

Dudley and District News 13/1/1883

"Thomas Pickerill (21), ironworker, Roseville, was charged with refusing to quit the WALLBROOK INN, and also with damaging a window. He was further charged with assaulting Thomas Henry Jenkins.

On Saturday night the prisoner, when drunk, went to the WALLBROOK INN, Coseley, and created a disturbance, and upon being requested to leave he assaulted the landlord (Mr. *James Dainty*), and also two men named Lewis and Jenkins. He was taken into custody by PC Reynolds, and when liberated on Sunday he threw a stone through Mr. *Dainty's* window, doing damage to the amount of 3s.

The prisoner said he should not have committed the offence had he not been drunk.

The prisoner was fined 10s and costs for refusing to quit; 5s and costs for the assault; and 5s and costs and 3s damages for breaking the window."

1891 Census

6a, Chapel Street

[1] *James Dainty* (59), widower, publican;

[2] Amy Groves (15), servant:

Emily Waldron married *William Ellis* on 16th September 1898.

1901 Census

Chapel Street – WALLBROOK INN

[1] *Patrick Higgins* (26), beerhouse keeper, born Foxton, Kent;

[2] Laura Higgins (25), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Patrick H. Higgins (4), son, born Dudley:

Joseph Gabriel, beer retailer, Walbrook. [1904]

1911 Census

Chapel Street – WALLBROOK INN

[1] *Robert Bainbridge* (59), publican, born West Bromwich;

[2] Selina Bainbridge (56), wife, married 30 years, born Great Bridge;

[3] Matilda Bainbridge (18), daughter, house work, born Broad Street, Coseley;

[4] John Bainbridge (11), son, born Broad Street, Coseley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 17/2/1912

"Bilston Annual Licensing Sessions were held on the 9th inst.....

The licenses of WALLBROOK INN, Coseley were referred to the compensation authority for closing as not being required."

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1912 - Notice

"Notice Of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

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 Shire Hall, Stafford, at Eleven o'clock am, on Thursday, the 18th Day of July, 1912.

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 (Consolidation) Act, 1910, 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 Justices of the Licensing District). List of Licensed Premises.....

WALLBROOK INN, Wallbrook. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Robert Bainbridge*."

License refused by Compensation Authority on 18th July 1912.

Staffordshire Sentinel 18/7/1912

"The principal meeting of the County Compensation Authority was held in the Shire Hall, Stafford, today.....

WALLBROOK INN, Wallbrook agreements had been entered into, and there was no opposition."

Staffordshire Advertiser 3/8/1912 - Notice

"The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 18th day of July, 1912, 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 Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 26th day of August, 1912, for the purpose of enabling 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.....

WALLBROOK INN, Wallbrook. Beerhouse, ante 1869. Licensee, *Robert Bainbridge*. Registered Owner, Atkinsons Brewery Ltd.”

Lichfield Mercury 3/1/1913

“Staffordshire Quarter Sessions.....

The County Licensing Committee presented the following report. The committee went into great detail into all the figures submitted to them upon which the persons interested claimed compensation, and heard evidence put forward by the claimants. The committee consider that the amounts of compensation agreed upon are satisfactory, both from the point of view of the parties interested and the compensation fund.

In the following twenty-five cases the committee fixed the compensation.....

WALLBROOK INN, Wallbrook, beerhouse ante 1869, £515.....

The money has been apportioned among the interested parties and will be paid out on the 21st of December.”

Compensation of £515 was paid on 21st December 1912.

WHITE CHIMNEYS

20, Abbey Road, Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joshua Cartwright
North Worcestershire Brewery Ltd.
Wordsley Brewery Co. Ltd.
Plant's Brewery Ltd., Netherton
Ansell's Ltd. [1953]

LICENSEES

John Smith Carter [] – 1852);
Joshua Cartwright (1852 – 1892);
William Meanley Cartwright and James Arthur Fullwood (1892 – 1893);
John Bradley (1893 – 1904);
Henry Kennedy (1904 – 1910);
John Thomas Bird (1910 – 1916);
Luke Walters (1916 – 1920);
William Edward Darby (1920 – 1929);
John Henry 'Jack' Jones (1929 – 1934);
Edith Gertrude Jones (1934 – 1938);
Thomas Sidney Marsh (1938 – 1960);
Sarah Marsh (1960 – []
Anthony Leonard 'Tony' Cashmore [1983]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was formerly the ROSE AND CROWN.

It had stables at the rear.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/5/1849

“An inquest was held on Friday last, at the ROSE AND CROWN, Gornal Wood, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body

of George Nock, a married man, about twenty-five years old, who met with his death under the following circumstances. On the 13th of April Nock and several other colliers were at the bottom of a coalpit in the parish of Kingswinford, the property of Lord Ward. The doggy, Elijah Wilcox, before the deceased or any of the men commenced work, tried the workings with a safety lamp, and as there did not appear to be any sulphur, the men commenced working, and continued at their work up to about one o'clock in the day, when an explosion of sulphur took place. The deceased, as well as the other workmen, made the best of their way to the bottom of the pit, but before they reached there it was discovered that deceased was dreadfully burnt upon various parts of his body. Nock was taken home, and during his illness stated that it was his candle which set fire to the sulphur. One of the workmen, who was examined at the inquest, said that the pit and workings were well ventilated, and he did not think there was any blame to be attached to the doggy or owner of the pit. He could only account for the explosion by the foul air emerging from the thick coal measures, which had been gotten, and were over the place where they (the men) were at work. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

AND

"On Friday last, an inquest was held at the ROSE AND CROWN, Gornall Wood, in this parish, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of William Wakelam, a single man, about 20 years of age. It appeared that on the 18th April, Wakelam was at work in a coal pit at Stand Hill, in the parish of Kingswinford, the property of Messrs. Oakes and James; and about ten o'clock in the morning whilst he was in the act of throwing some coal from behind him towards the skip, a large quantity of coal suddenly fell from the roof upon the deceased and covered him. It also struck John Smart, a fellow workman, but he was able to assist in removing the coal from deceased, who was dreadfully cut and bruised upon various parts of his body. He was afterwards attended by Mr. Hudson, surgeon, of Brierley Hill, but died on Wednesday last. The coal that fell was not propped, as it was in a gateway, where it was considered perfectly safe, and the place being too narrow to prop. Verdict Accidental Death."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/6/1850

"An inquest was held on Wednesday, at the ROSE AND CROWN, Gornall Wood, in this parish, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Phoebe Marsh, nine months old, who died on Monday afternoon from injuries received by her clothes catching fire whilst lying on the kitchen floor, on Sunday morning, during the absence of her mother, her father being in bed at the time. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, but expressed an opinion that there had been great want of proper thought and care on the part of the deceased's mother in leaving a child of such tender age on the kitchen floor opposite a fire in the grate."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/1/1852

"At the Petty and Special Sessions on Monday last, being the day appointed for transferring victuallers' licenses, the following changes took place.....

John Smith Carter, of the ROSE AND CROWN, Sedgley, transferred to *Joshua Cartwright*, of the same place."

London Gazette 10/2/1852

"In the Matter of the Petition of *John Smith Carter*, at present and for sixteen years last past residing at Gornall Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, and being for the first twelve years thereof a Cordwainer and Licensed Retailer of Beer, his Wife being a Milliner and Dress Maker, and for the last four years being a Licensed Victualler and Retailer of Spirituous Liquors and Tobacco, and for the first year of the last-mentioned period being also a Licensed Retailer of Wines, an Insolvent Debtor.

Notice is hereby given, that the County Court of Worcestershire, at Dudley, acting in the matter of this Petition, will proceed to make a Final Order thereon, at the said Court, on the 20th day of February instant, at twelve o'clock at noon precisely, unless cause be then and there shewn to the contrary."

Worcestershire Chronicle 17/5/1854

"On Thursday, an inquest was held at the house of Mr. *Cartwright*, the sign of the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Gornal Wood, before W. H. Phillips, Esq, Deputy Coroner, on the body of Joshua Jones, aged twenty-eight, who was killed by a piece of coal falling from the roof, in a pit belonging to Mr. Gibbons, at the Yew Tree Colliery, the parish of Kingswinford, on the previous Monday. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned."

London Evening Standard 11/1/1855

"On Wednesday last, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Gornal Wood, on the body of John Marsh, ten years old, who was killed by a piece of coal falling upon him whilst at work on the previous Saturday evening in a pit, the property of Messrs. John and William Pearson, situate at Kingswinford. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Morning Post 15/3/1855

"An inquest was held on Thursday, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Gornal Wood, Sedgley, before W. H. Phillips, deputy-corer, on the body of William Hicklin, a chemist and druggist, at Gornal, and who came by his death under the following extraordinary circumstances. A witness named Benjamin Hicklin stated that, on Tuesday, about two o'clock, the deceased came on the bank of the Red Hall pit, rather intoxicated, and, going to the hovel, drank some beer out of the pit bottles. He turned to go away, and immediately afterwards witness lost sight of him. Seeing the rope shake, he went and looked down the shaft, and saw deceased about ten yards down, lowering himself down by the rope. He directly afterwards lost his hold, and fell to the bottom of the shaft, where his body was found lifeless. It appears that the deceased was a powerful man, and took a pride in performing the feat of lowering himself down the pit shaft by the ropes. On the present occasion it is supposed that deceased lost his hold in consequence of his inebriation. Verdict, Accidental Death. *Wolverhampton Chronicle*."

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/10/1855

“Peter Jones, Joseph Bradley, Amos, Paul, and Mary Russell, and Louisa Jones, were charged with committing a most desperate assault on Joseph Beale and Benjamin Wassell, parish constables of Sedgley, on the night of the 5th instant. The accused are all relatives, and the assault took place at the lawless locality, Gornal Wood. The officers had a warrant for one Moses Russell (since fined £3, or three months’ imprisonment), and on the night in question went to the WHITE CHIMNEYS public house to execute it. After having hold of the prisoner, they were assailed by the defendants, who were engaged in a dance, and received desperate treatment, their heads and hats being cut through with jugs and stones. The two constables, however, with the aid of the landlord, Mr. *Joshua Cartwright*, and Beale’s son, secured the prisoners, and displayed an amount of resolution in the affair which reflects great credit on them. The magistrates convicted all the accused in the following penalties: Peter Jones, £5 and costs, or one month; Joseph Bradley, to find sureties; Amos and Russell and Louisa Jones, £1 each and costs.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/12/1855

“On Friday last, T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, concluded an inquiry into the death of William Clarke, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Gornal Wood.

According to the evidence of William Clarke, the deceased, who was his father, was 72 years of age when he died. He had been a miner, but was unable to work from ill health. His wife had so inhumanly neglected her aged partner as to leave him from that time in an outhouse, where he lay bedridden, uncared for, and in a filthy condition, and he believed that the poor old man had died from the criminal neglect of his wife.

However, upon a post mortem examination of the body, there were traces of organic disease of long standing quite sufficient to cause death, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/11/1857

“*Joshua Cartwright*, publican, Gornal Wood, was charged before Mr. Leigh, on Tuesday, with permitting gaming and drunkenness in his house. Edward Fellows and William Brooks, the witnesses subpoenaed by the police, to prove the first charge flatly swore that they never saw gaming going on in Mr. *Cartwright*’s house, either on the day stated in the summons, or any other day, and that they never said so to Sergeant Tomlinson and Police-constables Smith and Humphries; and that they did not know any of these officers. The Sergeant, however, and the two men positively swore that on the night of the previous Monday week Fellows and Brooks came up to them and asked if anything could be done against *Cartwright* for card playing. They then said that on Monday morning *Cartwright* and some other men were playing at ‘all-fours’ in the house. Smith and Humphries gave similar evidence. The charge of permitting drunkenness on the night of the 17th was gone into and proved by the officers. Mr. Waterhouse, for the defence, called a woman and *Cartwright*’s waiter, who both swore that the company in the house that night were perfectly sober. Another man swore that the company was in a nice comfortable way, better than he had seen for a long time, and acting as men ought to do. The charge of gambling was dismissed, but *Cartwright* was fined 10s and costs on the charge of allowing drunkenness.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 10/2/1858

“*Joseph Cartwright*, landlord of the WHITE CHIMNEYS public house, at Lower Gornal, was summoned upon an information laid by the police for allowing disorderly conduct in his house at about two o’clock on the previous Tuesday morning. The defendant had already been convicted of a similar offence, and the Magistrates therefore fined him £5 and costs.

Four men were fined 10s each and expenses for riotous conduct on leaving Mr. *Cartwright*’s house on the morning in question.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1858

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday last.....

The following licenses were withheld until the adjourned licensing day for further consideration of the Magistrates, in consequence of the respective applicants having been convicted of offences against their license during the past year.....

Joshua Cartwright, the WHITE CHIMNEY, Gornal Wood.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 2/10/1858

“Bilston Adjourned Licensing Day.....

The license of *Joshua Cartwright*, of the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Gornal Wood, suspended on the first day, was renewed, *Cartwright* being cautioned as to his future conduct.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/11/1858 - Advert

“Notice Is Hereby Given that the Partnership hereto subsisting between us, the undersigned William Bradley and Richard Bradley, carrying on the several trades or businesses of contractors, farmers, and Royalty masters, at Gornal Wood, under the style or firm of William and Richard Bradley, was Dissolved by mutual consent this thirteenth day of November instant. All Debts due to and owing by the late firm will be received and paid by Mr. James Bradley, of Pensnett, in the parish of Kingswinford, in the county of Stafford; or Mr. *Joshua Cartwright*, of Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley, in the said county, Victualler.

Dated this thirteenth day of November, 1858.

The mark X of William Bradley. The mark X of Richard Bradley.

Witness to the mark X of William Bradley – Geo. Lowe, Attorney, Dudley.

Witness to the mark X of Richard Bradley – Thos. P. Burbury, Attorney, Brierley Hill.”

Huddersfield Chronicle 16/7/1859

“On Sunday Morning last a horrible case was made known at a small place called Lower Gornal, which is a small town of cottages belonging to Lord Ward, in the parish of Sedgley. The scene of the event is not more than four miles from the Moat Colliery, the place of the late outrage. For some time a man of the name of William Hyson, a brewer, and occasionally a gardener, and who was formerly a publican, and kept the OLD HOUSE AT HOME in Dudley, and had been in the police force of this county, has kept loving company with a smart-looking and very attractive young woman of 18 years of age, named Mary Smith, the daughter of William Smith, a shoemaker, of Gornal Wood, who is very respectable, though humble to do. Hyson is double Miss Smith’s age. He represented himself as a single man and without incumbrance, and she received him as a suitor for her ‘heart and hands.’ Through domestic differences with her sister she did not, though in opposition to her father’s wish, reside at home, but lived with a woman named Mary Ann Hickman, as a lodger, during which time Hyson is said to have been received in favour, and that by his manifestations purposed marrying her, having offered two guineas a short time ago to buy her a new silk dress. She was receiving 7s a week as a letter bag carrier for Messrs. Creswell, ironmaster, Tipton, in addition to having a respectable dressmaking business. On Saturday she confessed to her sister that Hyson had ill-used her the previous night. She kissed her sister and her sister’s child, repeatedly telling them she should ‘never see them more.’ On Sunday morning, about four o’clock, she was discovered floating in Askey Bridge Pool. On being taken out she presented the appearance of having been used roughly, as both her arms were bruised. She was neatly attired. She was found by two policemen. Two persons named James Marsh and Jonah Hickman having declared to Policeman Taylor that they saw Hyson with the deceased from a quarter past ten o’clock to twelve at night, on the Himley Road, near the National School, Lower Gornal. On the discovery of the body, Taylor went and fetched Hyson out of bed. Hyson denied that he had been with the girl at that time, but said that, on coming from Dudley, he overtook a girl on the Himley Road, near Cooper’s Bank toll gate, and merely walked with her along the road. A Mrs. Carter says she saw Miss Smith a little after twelve o’clock at night, alone, near to the place where she was found drowned, and that she observed nothing unusual in her conduct. It was found on Monday afternoon that the body required almost immediate burial. A jury was therefore summoned. The jury assembled at the WHITE CHIMNEYS public-house, Gornal Wood, and, without hearing any witness, after seeing the body had evidently been unfairly handled, by the appearance of the bruises on the arms, ordered a post mortem to be made by Dr. J. M. Ballenden, of Sedgley. Nothing additional transpired to strengthen the supposition of murder. The presentiment that she was not going to live long, by her kissing her brother-in-law and others saying she should ‘never see them more,’ lead to the belief that she might have committed self-destruction. A person on the night in question heard a ‘bubbling’ of the water about the time the unfortunate girl was seen walking alone on the Himley Road. The body was found within a few feet of the place where the sound was said to have been heard; and the belief now is that the poor girl threw herself over the bridge adjoining the road. The investigation stands adjourned to Monday evening next.”

[At the adjourned inquest, the jury returned a verdict of ‘deceased was Found Drowned, but from what cause there was no evidence to show, and that there was no suspicion attending it.’]

1861 Census

Mason End – WHITE CHIMNEY INN

- [1] *Joshua Cartwright* (43), head;
 - [2] Sarah Jane Cartwright, wife;
 - [3] Mary Cartwright, daughter;
 - [4] Phoebe Cartwright, daughter;
 - [5] *William Cartwright*, son;
 - [6] Mary Baker, servant;
 - [7] Eliza Hyde, servant;
- [This page is damaged.]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/9/1861

“Applications For New Licenses.....

Cornelius Guest, of Lower Gornal, applied through Mr. Waterhouse for a license to his house, the QUEENS HEAD. He was opposed by Mr. *Cartwright*, landlord of the WHITE CHIMNEY, in the same locality. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/6/1862

“An enquiry was opened yesterday afternoon, at the BULLS HEAD INN, Lower Gornal, into the cause of the death of Mary Ann Higgins, whose body was found under peculiar circumstances, in a pit at Red Hall, late on Monday night. The Deputy Coroner, Mr. Phillips, was present.

Police-constable Sheldon deposed, that on Monday night he saw Joseph Bate and the deceased, Mary Higgins, ‘in company,’ leaning against some railings near to Mr. Hickins’ colliery, and on passing them he heard Bate say to deceased, ‘You may go and drown yourself, for what I care.’ He put the expression down on a piece of paper. The deceased afterwards replied and said, ‘I have a good mind to have taken you up for that.’ About a quarter of an hour after Sarah Malpass met me and said, ‘That young woman that you saw with Bate is down the pit.’ I immediately went in search of Bate. Went to the WHITE CHIMNEY INN. Saw Bate and told him he was the man I wanted, when he said he could not help it. Took him in custody to the pit, and saw deceased got out. It was properly fenced. The distance from the place I saw them standing was about twenty yards. Bate seemed to have had drink.

Elizabeth Jordan and Samuel Clarke, when at Red Hall, heard a kind of screaming, and a ‘wrackle’ twice, and directly afterwards saw Bate approach them, and say a young girl had thrown herself into the pit. Did not think he had time to come from the mouth of the pit from the time of the screaming.

Benjamin Greenway found her, after the alarm had been raised, at the bottom of Hickins' pit, on her back, quite dead. The pit was fifty or sixty yards deep.

The enquiry was adjourned till tomorrow (Friday) morning."

[At the adjourned inquest the jury returned a verdict that the deceased committed Suicide whilst suffering from Temporary Insanity.]

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 10/9/1864

"Yesterday the magistrates sat in Special Sessions for the consideration of the applications for the renewal of old and the granting of new licenses to victuallers.....

The following houses and their landlords had been complained about and fined during the last year.....

Joshua Cartwright, WHITE CHIMNEY, Lower Gornal."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 4/2/1865

"T. Jones of Gornal will fight J. Collins, for £10 a side, left open for £20, and the match can be made any night at *Cartwright's*, the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Lower Gornal."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 27/6/1866 - Advert

"Freehold House and Garden, Lower Gornal.

Messrs, Aston and Sollom will Sell by Auction (by order of the mortgagee), on Tuesday, the 3rd of July, at the house of Mr. *Cartwright*, the WHITE CHUNNIES INN [sic], Lower Gornal, at six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions of sale.

All that new and substantially-built Dwelling House situate in a street branching out of the Dudley and Himley turnpike road to Upper Gornal, with the Garden, Brewhouse, Pigsty, and outbuildings, now in the occupation of Daniel Greenaway.

The property is detached and well supplied with hard and soft water.

For further particulars apply the Auctioneers, Darlington-street; or Messrs. Prichard and Shelton, Solicitors, Queen Street, Wolverhampton."

Dudley Herald 7/3/1868

Joshua Cartwright was fined 20s and costs for "preventing PC Sheldon from entering".

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 18/4/1868

"J. Hughes of Gornal, will run his bitch Bonny against Turner's dog Nelson, 200 yards, at 17lb weight, at Burnt Tree Ground, Dudley Port, for £15 or £20 a side. A match can be made at Mr. *Joshua Cartwright's*, WHITE CHIMNIES [sic] INN, Gornal."

Dudley Herald 1/8/1868

"*Joshua Cartwright*, alehouse keeper, WHITE CHIMNEYS, Lower Gornal, was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness."

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 26/2/1870

"Isaac Hughes of Gornal Wood, will run his dog Spring 200 yards against Marwick's Fan of Oldbury, Bates's Blossom of Tipton, or Coxon's Polly of Willenhall, on the usual handicap law, or he will give Turner's Nelson of Oldbury three yards for half a pound in weight. Either of these matches can be made at *Joshua Cartwright's*, WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Gornal Wood, for £20 or £25 a side."

Birmingham Daily Gazette 11/5/1870

"On Monday, at the Police Court, four boys, named, James Bedddard (14), Dennis Bradley (13), John Clarke (14), and Isaac Clarke (12), were charged with barbourously torturing a dog belonging to Mr. *Joshua Cartwright*, of the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal. From the evidence it appeared that at about nine o'clock at night, on the 26th April last, the four defendants, having succeeded in capturing the dog, which is about 12lb in weight, they procured some grease and paper and set fire to it, and continued their cruel treatment until the poor thing was very badly scorched, and it seemed, from the appearance of the dog, which was produced, that the offenders had chosen to torture it in places where it was most sensitive to pain. The defendants gave no explanation of their conduct. They were sent to goal (yesterday) for ten days, no one having come forward to pay the fine imposed."

1871 Census

20, Abbey Road – WHITE CHIMNEYS INN

[1] *Joshua Cartwright* (60), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] Sarah Cartwright (41), wife, born Dudley;

[3] Phoebe Cartwright (15), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] *William Cartwright* (14), son, born Sedgley;

[5] Eliza Hopkins (23), general servant, born Sedgley;

[6] Mary Beardmore (21), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 18/8/1873 - Advert

"By Mr. John Bent, This Day (Monday), at the WHITE CHIMNEYS Inn, Lower Gornal, valuable Freehold Property in Summer Row, and Barr's Meadow, Lower Gornal."

Dudley Guardian 7/3/1874

“The Late Election Riots At Sedgley.

On Monday last, at the Sedgley Police Court, before I. Spooner, Esq (Stipendiary), Alexander Turner, butcher and cattle dealer, William Roberts (18), miner, and James Taylor (28), miner, were charged with riotously assembling together, with others unknown, and wilfully damaging property, by breaking windows, on the 5th ult. Mr. Young (instructed by Mr. Stokes), appeared for the prisoner Turner, the other prisoners were undefended.

Joshua Cartwright, landlord of the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, said that on the day in question, a large mob assembled in front of his house and broke his windows. Roberts and Taylor were among the crowd and Roberts went to witness and told him to turn out of his house a person named Colbourn. Witness said ‘Do you want to murder the man,’ and Roberts replied ‘If you turn him out we will go.’ Witness then sent to see if Mr. Colbourn was in the house and upon the messenger returning he said that Mr. Colbourn had gone across the fields. The mob then left.

By Mr. Young: I know Mr. Turner to be a very respectable man. He was not in the crowd.

Ann Smith, domestic servant, said that on the day in question, as she was putting up the shutters of her master’s shop she saw the prisoner Roberts throw two stones, one at the window which was broken and the other at her (witness).

Isaac Hyde, bricklayer, said that on the day in question he was near Mr. Patterson’s public house [WAGGON AND HORSES], Ruiton Street, Lower Gornal, and between three and four o’clock a large mob assembled, among them being the prisoner Turner, and they commenced breaking Mr. Patterson’s windows. He saw Turner throw at the windows of Mr. Patterson.

Charlotte Passmore, wife of Thomas Passmore, said she saw the prisoner Turner among the mob that assembled in front of Mr. Patterson’s house, and he was carrying a little dog covered with blue ribbons. She did not see the prisoner throw.

Herbert Hughes and Robert Harris also swore to having seen Turner among the mob.

PC Moffatt said he apprehended the prisoner Turner, and when he charged him the prisoner said ‘Mrs. Jones sent me to see her pig and that is what took me there.’

Sarah Jones said it was correct that she sent for the prisoner Turner to see if he would buy her pig, but he did not go.

That was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Young for the defence contended that it was impossible for the witness Hall, who was standing 70 yards from the prisoner Turner, to have seen him throw stones.

Mr. Spooner: I shall not call upon you to answer that, but I shall call upon you to answer for his being there.

Mr. Young said he could answer the latter charge as his client, at the time the windows in Mr. Patterson’s house were broken, was standing talking to two or three people at Mr. Charles Hughes’s house which was 70 or 80 yards down the street.

He then called Geo Hale, miner, John Malpass, miner, and Thomas Timmins, labourer, who corroborated the above statement.

Mr. Spooner said he believed the prisoner Turner to have been one of the spectators, and much more mischief was done by them than other persons; but as there was a fair doubt about it, he should give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt and discharge him.

Mr. Patterson thought it unfair that the prisoner should be discharged, especially as the prisoner had offered to compensate him if he would withdraw the case.

Mr. Spooner said that was the first he had heard of it.

Mr. Patterson said he informed Mr. Spooner’s clerk of the fact some time before.

Mr. Spooner said he knew nothing about it, and as he had discharged the prisoner the case was ended.

The other two prisoners were then asked if they had anything to say, but they both replied that they had nothing to say.

Mr. Spooner said Roberts deserved any punishment he could give him, he not only took part in the crowd which was very blamable and to be regretted, but he did that which showed him to be a savage bad man, he actually asked Mr. *Cartwright* to turn a man out of his house, which showed how malicious and bad his intentions were. For such a person he had no commiseration, and if he could he would give him more. He then sentenced Roberts to two months’ hard labour for breaking the windows, and three months’ hard labour for assaulting Ann Smith. Taylor was ordered to find two sureties in £25 each, or, in default, go to prisoner for three months.

Thomas Elden Cox (19), Joshua Jones (25), William Harris (17), and Benjamin Marsh (19), were charged with similar offences on the 5th ult, at Lower Gornal. Mr. Stokes defended Cox. Jones was discharged, there being no evidence against him. Harris was sentenced to two months’ imprisonment, with hard labour, whilst Cox and Marsh were each ordered to find two sureties of £25 each to be of good behaviour, or in default to go to prison for three months.

John Aston (18), miner, was charged with rioting at Upper Gornal, on the 5th ult. Mr. Stokes appeared for the prisoner, who was ordered to find two sureties of £25 each to be of good behaviour, or in default to go to gaol for three months.”

Midland Counties Evening Express 29/5/1875

“At the Dudley County Court on Saturday, before Mr. Rupert Kettle, a case was heard in which a miner named Jordan claimed £30 as compensation for injuries inflicted by George Kirby, the well known pedestrian. Plaintiff said a quarrel took place at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, and he and the rest of the party had turned into the street. Here the defendant struck him so violently that he broke his jaw. For the defence, it was denied that Kirby inflicted the injury, and witnesses were called who stated that plaintiff, and his brother were fighting a man named Tomlinson, and that defendant declaring it to be unfair pushed one of the assailants on one side. He then went into the house, and left the two men fighting. His honour gave a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 11/12/1875

“Samuel Cook, for being disorderly and refusing to quit the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, on the 25th ult, was fined 10s and costs, and for assaulting Henry Price, at the same time and place, he was fined £2 and costs.

Henry Price was then charged with assaulting John Cox, brother-in-law to the last defendant, and the aforesaid John Cox was sent

to prison for a month for being drunk and riotous, he having been nine times convicted for similar misconduct. Mr. Spooner said the publican ought to have been summoned for allowing men to get drunk.”

Dudley Herald 22/1/1876

“At the Police Court, on Monday, before I. Spooner (Stipendiary), and F. A. Homer, Esq, *Joshua Cartwright*, WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, was charged with permitting drunkenness in his house on the 25th of November, 1875. Mr. J. Stokes defended.

PC Rowland stated that a quarter to eight o'clock on the evening in question, he was sent for to the defendant's house, and on his way thither he saw two men named Cox and Clarke, fighting about twenty yards from the defendant's house.

Cross-examined: Two other public house were near the men who were fighting. I understand Mr. *Cartwright* sent for me.

Henry Price, miner, Gornal Wood stated that he had been convicted and fined for assaulting Cox in the defendant's house on the evening in question.

Cross-examined: I did not see anyone drunk in the house. I was ordered out by Mrs. *Cartwright* about seven o'clock in the evening. I did not return to the house again that night.

Samuel Cook, fruiterer, Gornal, stated that when he went to the defendant's house about four o'clock in the afternoon Cox and Price were there, and when he left about eight o'clock they were drunk.

Cross-examined: I was summoned and fined for refusing to quit.

Mr. Spooner said the case was a proper one to be inquired into, but as the evidence was so doubtful he should not feel justified in convicting. The case would therefore be dismissed.”

Dudley and District News 21/2/1880 - Advert

“The Abbey Farm, near the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal.

To be Sold By Auction, by Mr. James Whitehouse, on Tuesday, March 2nd, 1880, the whole of The Live and Dead Farming Stock, particulars of which will appear in our next week's issue.”

Dudley Herald 21/2/1880 - Married

“On the 22nd of December, at Old Church, Walsall, *William*, only son of *Joshua Cartwright*, maltster, Lower Gornal, to Ada E., only daughter of John Colbourn, ironmaster, Woodsetton, Sedgley. No cards.”

1881 Census

20, Abbey Road – WHITE CHIMNEY INN

[1] *Joshua Cartwright* (62), maltster, born Lower Gornal;

[2] Sarah J. Cartwright (51), wife, born Lower Gornal;

[3] Ann Cartwright (19), daughter, scholar, born Lower Gornal;

[4] Martha E. Cartwright (12), daughter, born Lower Gornal;

[5] Mary Guest (22), general servant, born Lower Gornal:

Dudley and District News 24/5/1884

“Richard Jones, of Upper Gornal, in the employment of Mr. *Joshua Cartwright*, maltster, was charged with stealing a shovel and two malt bags. The shovel was missed from the malthouse about six weeks ago, and was found in a house in Kent Street, where accused had taken it. Mary Shaw, a hawker, proved the purchase from defendant of the two bags belonging to Mr. *Cartwright* about four years ago. Jones in defence, said he only borrowed the shovel, but, ‘he supposed he should have to plead guilty as to the bags, as he had forgotten all about the transaction.’ Fined 20s and costs in each case.”

Sheffield Evening Telegraph 30/12/1887 - Deaths

“December 24, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Gornal Wood, near Dudley, Ann Pepper *Cartwright* (née Palmer), late of the QUEENS HEAD, Wood Green, aged 60.”

1891 Census

20, Abbey Road – WHITE CHIMNEYS

[1] *Joshua Cartwright* (73), married, maltster, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Sarah Colbourn (32), daughter, born Lower Gornal;

[3] Annie Cartwright (29), daughter, born Lower Gornal;

[4] Martha Ellen Cartwright (22), daughter, born Lower Gornal;

[5] Nellie Genevieve Colbourn (9), granddaughter, born Lower Gornal;

[6] Elizabeth Jones (23), general servant, born Lower Gornal;

[7] Mary Guest (14), general servant, born Lower Gornal:

Birmingham Daily Post 7/4/1891

“Yesterday, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest on the body of James Wakelam (58), miner, who died on the 4th inst from injuries received on the 2nd in the No.9 Colliery, Himley. Mr. W. B. Scott, Government inspector, was present; and Mr. Cole represented Lord Dudley. Deceased was a pikeman, and it was alleged that he unskillfully removed a tree and a fall of coal took place. He was crushed before he could get out of the way. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Joshua Cartwright died on 8th June 1892.

William Meanley Cartwright and *James Arthur Fullwood* were executors for the will of *Joshua Cartwright*.

County Advertiser 31/12/1892 - Advert

“Gornal Wood and Lower Gornal.

Sale of a Valuable Full-Licensed Road-side Public House, with Model Brewery and Field of Pasture Land; Freehold Dwelling Houses, Building Land, and 12 Quarter Brewery. On Monday 23rd, 1893.

Messrs. Thomas Skidmore and Son have received instructions from the Executors of the late Mr. *Joshua Cartwright*, to Sell by Auction, on the Premises of the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Abbey Road, Lower Gornal, at 6.30 for 7 o'clock in the Evening, subject to Conditions of Sale to be then read, the following Properties.

Lot 1. That Well-known Old Established Full-Licensed Free Copyhold Public House, with Model Brewery, called the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Abbey Road, Gornal Wood, being on the main road from Gornal to Himley, for upwards of 40 years in the occupation of the late Mr. *Joshua Cartwright*. The Premises are commodious and extensive, with excellent Model Brewery and Cellaring; also a Piece of Pasture Land in the rear.

Note. The purchaser will be required to take to the Public House Fixtures, Trade Effects, Brewing Plant, and Stock, at a Valuation in the usual way.....”

London Gazette 17/2/1893

“Notice is hereby given, that all creditors and persons having any claims or demands upon or against the estate of *Joshua Cartwright*, late of the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, in the county of Stafford, deceased (who died on or about the 8th of June, 1892, and whose will was proved by *William Meanley Cartwright*, of the LION INN, Upper Gornal, Licensed Victualler, and *James Arthur Fullwood*, of the GREEN DRAGON INN, Upper Gornal, Licensed Victualler, the executors therein named, on the 9th day of September, 1892, in the Principal Registry of the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice), are hereby required to send in the particulars of their claims and demands to the said *William Meanley Cartwright* and *James Arthur Fullwood*, or to the undersigned, their Solicitor, on or before the 25th day of March, 1893; 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 part thereof, so distributed, to any person of whose debt or claim they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 2nd day of February, 1893.

A. E. Marston, 94, Upper High-street, Dudley, Solicitor for the Executors.”

John Bradley was convicted, on 11th June 1894, for two cases of permitting gaming.

1901 Census

20, Abbey Road – WHITE CHIMNEYS INN

- [1] *John Bradley* (30), licensed victualler, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] Mary E. Bradley (30), wife, born Tansey Green;
- [3] Isaac Bradley (16), brother, pot boy, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Annie Baker (20), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] Sarah J. Southall (20), domestic servant, born Lower Gornal:

Tipton Herald 27/6/1903

“On Thursday evening last, a meeting was held at the WHITE CHIMNEYS HOTEL, Lower Gornal, in connection with the South Wolverhampton Liberal Unionist Association. There was a good attendance. Mr. B. Bowers was elected chairman. Opinion was expressed that the district required organising. Many votes were lost at the last election through lack of organisation. At the next election, with proper organization, their prospects would be exceedingly good. Several items of business were transacted, and the company then enjoyed a smoking concert.”

Tipton Herald 22/8/1903

“*John Bradley*, landlord of the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Gornal, was charged with permitting drunkenness on the licensed premises of the OLD BULLS HEAD on the 22nd day of July. He was also charged with selling to a drunken person, and, further with attempting to bribe a policeman.

Mr. A. Turton (Wolverhampton) represented the police, and Mr. W. Waldron (Brierley Hill) defended.

Mr. Waldron applied for an adjournment, stating that defendant wished to be represented by counsel, considering the seriousness of the charges. As endeavour had been made to get Mr. Plumtre, but, unfortunately he had not been successful, and therefore he had to apply for an adjournment. The police wanted them to pay the costs, but considering that the police would not be put to any inconvenience he did not think that the prosecution ought to be allowed costs.

Mr. Clayton: When was the summons served?

Inspector Moss: Ten days ago.

Mr. Waldron: Is it that long?

Mr. Waterhouse: It was served on the 7th of August.

Mr. Turton said he was instructed by the police to strongly oppose any such adjournment, which he considered most unreasonable

when the length of time the summons had been served was taken into account.

Mr. Waldron said it was the police who were prosecuting, and not independent parties. They had nothing to gain, but if it was the wish of the Court he would pay the costs. He felt they were somewhat late in making the application, but if he was willing to pay the costs, he could not see any cause why the Bench should not grant the application.

Mr. Clayton: It is a very unusual ground for an application.

The Bench decided to go on with the case.

Mr. Turton dealt with the case of permitting drunkenness, and stated that on July 28th Police Constables Poulson and Challenor went to the OLD BULLS HEAD, a licensed house not kept by the defendant, but by a nephew named Isaac Bradley, for whom the defendant was trustee. When the police visited the house on the date in question they saw one William Horton, of Garden Walk, in the house. There were five persons in the same room, including the manager, who was only a youth about 19 years of age.

As soon as Horton saw the police he said, 'I am going to drink my beer, I am going, whereupon he picked up a pint cup of beer and drank. When he got up from his seat the police noticed he was very drunk. The officers went out of the house, followed by Horton. When a few yards down the street Horton was taken home by a man who gave the name of Mark Dunn. The police then went in the house again, and some conversation took place between them and the young manager. The police told him that the man was drunk, and, sitting as he was, he (the manager) ought to have known that he was drunk. The manager replied, 'I know I had.' PC Poulson told him that he would report the case, when the manager said, 'I hope nothing will come of it. There is £2000 to wipe off this house, and it would be a serious matter for me.' As far as defendant was concerned he was trustee to the property. PC's Poulson and Challenor were called in support of this statement.

For the defence Mr. Waldron submitted that there had been a mistake with regard to the condition of the man.

The defendant was called, and stated that he visited the house twice a day, but on the date in question he was away from home.

The manager was the next witness, and stated that the man was not drunk. He was refused drink and requested to go.

In cross-examination by Mr. Turton witness said he considered that the man had had enough beer to carry him home safely. He was blind in one eye, while the other one was defective. It was a dark night, and the lamps were not lit that night.

Several witnesses were called, all stating that Horton was sober, but in cross-examination neither could say why the manager had ordered him out.

Defendant, re-called, said he could not offer any explanation why all the witnesses stated that he was on the premises on the date in question. He was in Birmingham all day, and did not go near the house.

The Bench considered the case proved, but it was not of a serious nature. Defendant would be fined 20s and costs.

John Bradley was then charged with attempting to bribe Thomas Poulson.

Mr. Turton prosecuted, and Mr. Waldron defended.

Mr. Turton stated that on the 29th of July, the day after Horton was found on the premises of the OLD BULLS HEAD, the officer visited the WHITE CHIMNEYS. He told the defendant that he would have to report the proceedings that took place the previous night. The defendant said he hoped that nothing would come of it as they had spent much money on the premises. He was instructed to press the charge.

PC Poulson was called, and stated that the defendant expressed a hope that nothing would come of it, and at the same time put a sovereign into his hand and asked him to have a drink, but he refused. He reported the case to the chief.

Defendant said he did not give the money to the constable for a bribe, but for the information the officer gave him in consequence with the previous case, which information he considered was valuable.

The Bench fined the defendant £5 and costs.

William Horton, Garden Walk, was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk on the premises."

Tipton Herald 5/9/1903

"On Saturday last Messrs. *John Bradley*, Joseph Marsh, Eli Jones, and John Marsh, invited about 80 friends to supper at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN. Amongst the company were Messrs. John Davies, S. James, E. Turner, W. Darley, and others of the leading residents of the district. The supper was served up in Mrs. *Bradley's* most commendable style, and after the cloth was removed Mr. S. Hyde and Mr. John Davies were elected chairman and vice-chairman respectively....."

Tipton Herald 20/11/1909 - Advert

"To the Brewing Trade.

Highly Important Sale by Auction of a Freehold, Fully-Licensed Public House, so well and widely known as the WHITE CHIMNEYS, Lower Gornal, near Dudley.

Alfred W. Dando & Co have received instructions to Sell by Auction upon the Premises as above, on Tuesday December 7th 1909, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced, the Exceedingly Valuable and Important Property known as the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN situate in the centre of Lower Gornal, within easy distance of the Baggeridge Woods Collieries, now about to commence operations (see recent newspaper reports) with the consequent great employment of labour.

The house, which is in the most perfect state of repair, having an imposing elevation with Cement and Salt-glazed Brick Front, contains Entrance Hall, Smoke and Tap Rooms, Bar, Ground Floor Club Room about 48ft x 18ft 6in, Living Kitchen, Four Capital Bedrooms, range of Cellars, together with Stabling for about Five Horses, Coach-house with Loft above, Brewery and other Out-buildings, as let to Mr. *Henry Kennedy* whose tenancy expires at an early date, consequently the purchaser will have the benefit of an absolutely Free House with possession.

The foregoing has an extensive Frontage to the Road with Two Double-gateway Entrances, spacious Yard and Garden, and is well worth the attention of the trade generally, as not only is it situate in the midst of a large working class population, but it is also one of the nearest and most important Houses to the great Coal Field referred to, and for this reason alone will undoubtedly continue

to increase in value.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. Speechly, Mumford & Craig, Solicitors, 10, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, London, WC; Messrs. Thompson & Warmington, Solicitors, Castle Street, Dudley; or the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (Telephone 56)."

Leominster News 11/3/1910

"On Friday, at the WHITE CHIMNEYS INN, Lower Gornal, Sedgley, an enquiry was held by Mr. T. A. Stokes into the circumstances connected with an extraordinary accident at No.20 pit, belonging to the Earl of Dudley and worked under charter by Messrs. Bates and Bunn, of Tipton, which resulted in Henry Hunt (43), sinker, Low Town, Woodside, being killed, and two other sinkers narrowly escaping the same fate.

John Moss, of Lower Gornal, master sinker, said he was employed to carry out certain cleansing operations at No.20 pit, Himley Colliery. There were two shafts, 15 yards apart, No.1 being used for winding coal and No.2 for drawing water. A culvert connecting the shafts had become stopped, and the water had collected above it up to the workings. Witness gave instructions to Hunt and other sinkers to unstop the culvert. The water having been pumped out of the 'sump' of No.2 shaft, the men went along the culvert to remove the obstruction and establish a connection with the 'sump' of No.1 shaft. It was whilst this was being done that the accident occurred. Witness was not aware there was water in No.1 shaft, but had come to the conclusion he had decreased it sufficiently for the work to proceed in safety.

By Mr. Felton: Steps were taken to ascertain the depth of water in No.1 shaft, and this was done about six o'clock on the evening of the 2nd inst. They did not ascertain the depth of water below the scaffold. They found that the water was below the inset, and was below the scaffold. They did not take steps to ascertain the depth of water below the scaffold.

Mr. Felton: You could have dropped a line through the scaffold and ascertained the depth of the water below? – Witness: It might have been done.

Don't you think it desirable that this should have been done? – We did not think it necessary because the water was running off. Did you take steps to put a bore-hole into No.1 shaft? – There was no necessity. You could not do anything with dirt and sludge.

Mr. Felton read General Rule 13, which referred to putting in a bore-hole where there was a dangerous collection of water.

Witness replied he was not aware of the existence of the rule. He thought everything was done that could be done.

William Cox, North Street, Lower Gornal, said that at the time of the accident they were in the culvert probing through dirt with an iron bar. They knew there was water in No.1, but had no idea its volume was so great as proved to be the case. Whilst they were probing with the bar the water came out of No.1 shaft 'all of a rush,' and washed them nine or ten yards along the culvert into the sump of No.2 shaft. Witness got out of the sump by climbing on to the water barrel.

Robert Evans, Mill Street, Ruiton, described the position of the men in the culvert, which, he said, was 4ft 6in in diameter. The water came in suddenly, and washed them all into the sump. Witness climbed up the guides, and got on to the water barrel. Afterwards he and Cox were drawn up.

Joseph Bradley, sinker, said that when he went down the pit on the morning following the accident there was 5ft of water in the sump, and tanking operations had been going on for some time. He ultimately recovered the body of Henry Hunt from the bottom of the sump.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and expressed the hope that greater care would be taken in carrying out such operations in future."

1911 Census

20, Abbey Road

[1] *John Thomas Bird* (28), publican, manager, born Bradley;

[2] *Emily Bird* (34), wife, assisting in the business, born Gornal Wood;

[3] *Elizabeth Ballard* (21), general servant, born Princes End:

Edith Gertrude Jones was fined £1 and £3 3s 0d special costs, on 14th August 1936, for permitting drunkenness.

1939 Register

Abbey Road – WHITE CHIMNEYS INN

[1] *Thomas S. Marsh*, date of birth 21/9/1903, public house manager, married;

[2] *Sarah Marsh*, dob 11/2/1907, unpaid domestic duties, married;

A football team was based here.

Anthony Leonard Cashmore was married to June Beryl.

Closed

Demolished

WHITE HORSE

2, (64), Upper Ettingshall Road, (5, Ettingshall Road), (Ettingshall Lane) / Shaw Road, COSELEY

OWNERS

Moses Stanley
William Foster and Samuel Spencer Bannister, coal masters, Ettingshall
Holder's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Bass Ltd.
Enterprise Inns

LICENSEES

Eber Stanley [1849] – 1868);
Moses Stanley (1868 – 1873);
Michael Peake (1873 – 1878);
Mary Ann Griffiths (1878 – 1880);
John Fellows (1880 – 1910);
Telia Millicent Fellows (1910 – 1911);
Joseph Large (1911 – 1925);
John William Davies (1925 – 1927);
Benjamin Harvey (1927 – 1938);
Horace Wilfred Horne (1938 – [1940]
Sam Large []
Barry Parsons [1985]

NOTES

Ettingshall Lane [1851]
5, Ettingshall Road [1871], [1881]
Upper Ettingshall Road [1896], [1904], [1912]
64, Upper Ettingshall Road [1901], [1940]
2, Upper Ettingshall Road [1985]

Eber Stanley = Ebenezer Stanley

Eber Stanley, beer retailer, Coseley. [1849], [1850]

[Birmingham Journal 25/8/1849](#)

“A Special Sessions, for granting and transferring innkeepers licenses, was held at the Public Office, Wolverhampton, on Thursday. Sixty-nine applications were made for new licenses, but only twelve were granted, a few postponed, and the remainder refused. The new licenses granted in this neighbourhood were.....

Eber Stanley, Ettingshall.”

AND

[Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/8/1849](#)

“Annual Licensing Day For Seisdon North.....

As the number of applications for fresh licenses was very considerable, it was arranged by the legal gentlemen that in addressing the Bench they should confine themselves to a simple statement of facts of each case, and not occupy more than two minutes. Under this arrangement between thirty and forty applications were heard, most of which were opposed. The statements in support of the applications were almost uniformly to the effect that the applicant had for many years kept a beerhouse without complaint, and that the premises were suitable for a public house, which was required in the neighbourhood. Licenses were granted to the following persons.....

Eber Stanley, Ettingshall.”

1851 Census

Ettingshall Lane

- [1] *Eber Stanley* (62), widower, victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Mary Stanley* (42), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *William Stanley* (26), son, butcher, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Hannah Stanley* (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Henry Stanley* (23), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Sarah Ann Carrier* (19), house servant, born Sedgley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/11/1851

“A coroner’s inquest was held on Friday, before W. W. Ward, Esq, (acting for T. M. Phillips, Esq), at the WHITE HORSE, Ettingshall, on the body of Mary Grainger, a girl thirteen years of age. It appeared that the deceased, with some other children, was playing on Tuesday evening, near to a pit in a field belonging to Mr. Pemberton, and ran to a fire which was burning to get some hot coal; as she was running back again, her companions heard her tumble against something, and at once concluded that she had fallen into the pit. Benjamin Walters, a miner, on hearing the children cry out, immediately went down the pit, and bought up the body of the deceased. Several of her limbs were broken, and she was quite dead. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

Eber Stanley was also a shopkeeper. [1854], [1860]

1861 Census

Can Lane – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *Eber Stanley* (72), widower, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Stanley (50), daughter, blind, born Sedgley;
- [3] Henry Stanley (32), son, dealer in horse corn, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Stanley (37), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Jane Stanley (18), daughter, born Sedgley:

Eber Stanley was also a shopkeeper. [1865]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 15/1/1868 - Deaths

“On the 5th instant, *Eber Stanley*, of Ettingshall, in his 80th year.”

Birmingham Journal 18/1/1868 - Advert

“WHITE HORSE INN, near Can Lane Toll Gate, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction (by direction of the Executors of Mr. *Eber Stanley*, deceased), on Monday Next, Jan. 20 upon the Premises as above, at half-past Ten o’clock am.

All the Household Furniture, Public-House Effects, and a large quantity of Screws, as detailed in catalogues, which may be obtained at the place of Sale, and of the Auctioneer, Owen Street, and Bloomfield, Tipton.”

Aris’s Birmingham Gazette 8/2/1868

“Yesterday, at Bilston Police Court, the following transfer of licenses were granted..... from the executors of *E. Stanley* to *Moses Stanley*, WHITE HORSE.”

1871 Census

5, Ettingshall Road

- [1] *Moses Stanley* (49), corn factor, born Sedgley;
- [2] Lucy Jane Stanley (41), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Henry Stanley (44), brother, no employment, born Sedgley;
- [4] Ann Toy (18), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [5] Sarah Richards (61), general servant, born Sedgley:

Moses Stanley was also a corn dealer. [1872]

Birmingham Daily Post 6/1/1873 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Malthouse, Dwelling Houses, Barn, Stables, Gardens, and Premises, at Ettingshall Road, near Deepfields; Dwelling Houses, in Stanley’s Lane, near Can Lane; and Dwelling Houses, at Sodom, Coseley, all in the parish of Sedgley.

Mr. Charles Round will Sell by Auction (by the direction of the Trustees of Mr. *Eber Stanley*, deceased), on Monday Next, January 13, at the house of Mr. *Moses Stanley*, the WHITE HORSE INN, Ettingshall Road, near Deepfields, at 6 o’clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be read, and in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale.....”

London Gazette 9/5/1873

“Notice is hereby given, that all creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of *Eber Stanley*, late of Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Innkeeper, deceased (who died on the 5th day of January, 1868, and whose will was proved in the District Registry of Her Majesty’s Court of Probate at Lichfield, on the 27th day of March, 1868, by Joseph Stanley, *Moses Stanley*, and Henry Stanley, the sons of the said deceased, and the executors in the said will named), are hereby required to send, in writing, particulars of their claims and demands to us, the undersigned, Solicitors to the said executors, at our office, No.9, King-street, Wolverhampton, in the said county of Stafford, on or before the 5th day of July next, at the expiration of which time the said executors will proceed to apply and distribute the whole of the unapplied assets of the said testator *Eber Stanley*, deceased, in accordance with the provisions of his said will, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have had notice, and they will not be liable or answerable for such assets, or any part thereof, to any person of whose claim they shall not then have had notice.

Dated this 6th day of May, 1873.

Thorne, Smith, and Thorne, Solicitors to the said Executors”

Michael Peake was also a shopkeeper. [1873]

1881 Census

5, Ettingshall Road – WHITE HORSE INN

[1] *John Fellows* (33), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;

[2] *Susannah Fellows* (34), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Richard Hill* (17), lodger, ironworker, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 1/9/1883

“Bilston. Yesterday at the Police Court, the annual licensing sessions for Bilston and Sedgley district were held.....

The Bench then heard the following applications.....

John Fellows, Ettingshall Lane, to remove the license of an existing ale-house from WHITE HORSE INN to new premises in the course of construction. Granted.”

On 31st August 1883 a Provisional Order was granted, sanctioning the removal of this license to new premises at the corner of Hurst Hill Road and Upper Ettingshall Road.

On 3rd October 1883 such Order was confirmed by the County Licensing Committee and on 1st August 1884 it was declared Final.

Birmingham Daily Post 27/8/1889

“Mr. W. H. Phillips, yesterday, held an inquest at the WHITE HORSE INN, Hurst Hill, Coseley, on the body of John Thomas Pickering (16), of Hurst Hill, Coseley, who was killed on the 23rd inst, at the Ettingshall Colliery, Meadow Lane, near Deepfields. Mr. W. B. Scott (Government inspector of mines) and Mr. W. H. Pickering (assistant inspector) were present. Mr. W. H. Tinsley, of Sedgley, appeared on behalf of Mr. Joseph Davies, the royalty master.

Thomas Clark, of the Coppice, stated that he was employed in the pit. On the morning of the 23rd inst twelve men went down, the under-ground manager (Henry Davies) having previously examined the mine with a sulphur lamp. Deceased was cleaning the rails, and the witness was at work in the opening with a naked candle, when an accumulation of gas occurred and extinguished the candle. An hour and a half later another accumulation occurred, and Davies then called the men out into the ‘winding.’ Davies sent witness to call deceased and another miner out. He found them both lying insensible. They could not ‘knock sense’ into the deceased, and he died in the pit. The other man was groaning when found. He was now in the Wolverhampton Hospital, and, although he had been rendered deaf, was recovering.

Henry Davies stated that he was the overman at the pit for his brother James, who worked it under royalty for Mr. Foster, of Woodsetton. It was a downcast shaft, the upcast being worked by James Fellows. A new airway was completed a fortnight ago by the direction of Mr. J. A. Fullwood, the ground bailiff. Witness had never known any damp in the pit until the 23rd inst, and on that day there was an accumulation which extinguished the candles. He sent Samuel Nicholls, the cager, to find what was happening in the other pit, and the air then became better. But in two hours the damp came on again, and he called the men out. He went along the airway to Fellow’s pit, and found the airway stopped up with slabs of timber. These had prevented the air from leaving witness’s pit. In answer to Mr. Scott, the witness said he had complained to Fellows of his stopping up the old airway, and Fellows had not complained of witness’s sending damp into his workings.

Samuel Nicholls, Hurst Hill, the cager, said that when he first went along the airway he found it stopped with bags. He pushed them on one side, but about two and a half hours later the pit again became filled with damp, and he was sent again. He then found that someone had stopped up the airway at the place where the bags had been with slabs of timber heaped up with dirt. These he had been unable to push down. They were not nailed up. After the accident he found that the timber had been removed, and that the airway was all right.

James Davies, the royalty master, stated, in answer to Mr. Scott, that Fellows had not complained that witness was sending the foul air from his pit into that of Fellows.

James Arthur Fullwood, ground bailiff for Mr. Foster, said that for some considerable time past both lessees had continually accused each other of foul play. Witness suggested that a new airway should be driven, that Fullwood should drive to Davies’s pit, and that Davies should ‘thirl’ into Fellows road. This was ultimately arranged. Witness did not consider that Fellows had a right to stop up the airway.

Peter Fellows, lessee of the adjoining pit, stated that he had the air in his pit from Davies’s pit. His pit was well supplied with air up to November last, when owing to some alterations in Davies’s pit, the air did not come so fresh as it did before. This was because the air from Davies’s pit was sent round his workings before reaching witness’s pit. On the 23rd inst he found that ‘fire-stink’ was coming from Davies’s pit. He did not withdraw his men. Witness declared that he put up neither bags nor slabs in the airway. One slab only was left there to prevent the fall of dirt. Between eight and nine o’clock on the 23rd inst, when the accident happened, witness’s father James Fellows, was in charge of the pit.

Benjamin Davies, a pikeman, in Fellow’s pit, said he was working near the airway on the day of the accident. He knew nothing of bags or slabs being put upon it, and he could not tell how the air was stopped from leaving Davies’s pit. He did not see any bags or slabs, except one which Joseph Fellows put up at 7.30 in the morning and removed at 9.30. The dirt was then four feet high, and witness helped in its removal. The enquiry then adjourned until Friday.”

[At the adjourned inquest, the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against some person or persons unknown, adding that the hole was stopped, but there was no evidence to show who stopped it.]

Birmingham Daily Gazette 27/9/1889

“The Home Secretary has requested Mr. W. B. Scott (Government Inspector of Coal Mines) to hold a formal inquiry, at the WHITE HORSE INN, Can Lane, Sedgley, into the circumstances attending the death of a youth named John Thomas Pickering, who died from the effects of inhaling noxious gases in the Ettingshall Colliery. At the Coroner’s inquest the jury returned a verdict of Manslaughter against some person or persons unknown.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/10/1889

“Yesterday Mr. W. B. Scott, the Government inspector of mines resumed his enquiry at the WHITE HORSE INN, near Deepfields, as to the circumstances und which John Thomas Pickering (16), a loader, lost his life by suffocation in a pit in the neighbourhood. Mr. Pickering, the assistant inspector, was also present. Mr. T. Dallovs represented Messrs. Fellows, and Mr. S. Ward Mr. James Davies. It was alleged at the inquest that an airway was blocked up, and that in consequence of the fouling of the air the youth was suffocated. Yesterday it was denied that any authority had been given to interfere with the airway, and such a proceeding, it was said, would have been severely punished.”

1891 Census

Upper Ettingshall Road - WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *John Fellows* (44), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Susannah Fellows* (43), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Sarah J. Fellows* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Hannah Smart* (19), general servant, born Sedgley:

1901 Census

64, Upper Ettingshall Road

- [1] *John Fellows* (54), widower, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Sarah J. Bates* (19), daughter, married, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Jennie Fellows* (19), niece, born Sedgley:

1911 Census

Upper Ettingshall Road

- [1] *Telia Millicent Fellows* (52), widow, licensee, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Sylvia Proctor* (84), mother, widow, pensioner, born Blynhill, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Victor Bell Proctor Hollis* (20), son, brewing, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Cecil Proctor Hollis* (17), son, motor machinery, motor works, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Mary Ellen Evans* (23), domestic servant, born Hurst Hill, Coseley:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 30/8/1939

“Wilfred William *Horne*, aged 17, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Hurst Lane, Coseley, was fined 5s at Wednesbury yesterday for not having an insurance policy, charges against him of taking away a car without the owner’s consent and stealing £16 being dismissed on payment of 19s 6d costs.

He was also disqualified from driving a private car for three years and put on probation for two years.”

1939 Register

Upper Ettingshall Road – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *Horace (W.) Horne*, date of birth 22/2/1896, hotel manager, married;
- [2] *Emily Horne*, dob 18/12/1897, unpaid domestic duties, married;

Evening Despatch 22/2/1940

“Two young men, David Budd, aged 19, of Catherines Cross, Darlaston, and Wilfred William *Horne*, aged 17, of the WHITE HORSE INN, Hurst Hill, Sedgley, who admitted giving false names and addresses, appeared at Wolverhampton Police Court today charged under the Aliens Order with giving false information.

Budd, who was also charged with altering a motor Excise license was sentenced to three months’ hard labour. The case against *Horne* was adjourned for seven days to enable him to join the navy.

The Chairman, Mr. J. E. Deidderidge, told Budd that he would be called up before his sentence expired and he hoped he would pull himself together. It was a misfortune that he had been left means and did not need to go to work.

Budd denied that he altered the Excise license, and said that someone must have taken the car away and coloured the license blue. *Horne* said he saw the coloured license and another one in Budd’s bedroom at the hotel.

Det-con Thomas said Budd’s father died four years ago and he lived with relatives. When he left school just after he was 16 he was given an appointment in which he received £4 a week in wages. At the age of 21 he would benefit from his father’s estate, from which he received allowance from time to time.

Horne said he wanted to join the navy, but the magistrates’ clerk, Mr. H. M. Foster, said he doubted whether he would be accepted.”

It was renovated in 1961.

A team from here took part in the *Sports Argus* Inn Quiz competition. [1974/5]

London Gazette 16/8/1985

“*Parsons, Barry* unemployed residing at 11, Bennetts Avenue, Woodsetton, Dudley in the metropolitan county of West Midlands, lately residing at 32, Upper Ettingshall Road, Coseley formerly trading from the WHITE HORSE Tenant Publican Date of First Meeting – 11th September 1985.....”

[2008]

Closed [2009]

It was converted into a restaurant [2011]

WHITE HORSE

12, (26), (21), (30), Dudley Street, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Benjamin Stanley

Henry Partridge

Joseph York

William Tomlinson, licensed victualler, Woodsetton

Julia Hanson and Sons Ltd.

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

Amber Taverns [2014], [2018]

LICENSEES

Benjamin Stanley [1859] – 1879);

Henry Partridge (1879 – 1886);

Joseph York (1886 – 1895);

Alfred Law (1895);

Joseph Tomlinson (1895 – 1897);

Alfred Sheldon (1897);

William Hartill (1897 – 1912);

William Edward Darby (1912);

William Downing (1912 – 1915);

Benjamin Bradley (1915 – 1916);

Thomas Aston (1916 – 1923);

George Henry Guggiari (1923 – 1929);

Thomas Broadhurst (1929 – 1932);

Charles Ernest Frost (1932 – 1934);

John Sankey Garner (1934 – 1936);

George Henry Sheldon (1936 – 1937);

Alfred Potter (1937 – 1938);

David Sheldon (1938 – 1939);

George Deeming (1939);

William Caddick (1939);

William Henry Watson (1939 – 1945);

Herbert Ernest Dixon (1945 – 1948);

John William Elcock (1948 – 1950);

Kenneth William Blackbill Stevens (1950 – 1951);

Thomas Sourbutts Dewhurst (1951 – 1954);

Leroy Gideon Bourne (1954 – 1957);

Fred Edwards (1957 – 1959);

Ronald Frank Beach (1959 – []

John J ‘Jack’ Russell (1971 – 1985);

Ron Drinkwater (1985 – []

Jim Harris [1988]

John Walters [1992] – [2001];
Tracey Michelle Macefield [2003] – **2011**);
David and Lesley Hughes (**2011 – 2012**)
Steven Gill [2013]
Shirley Fenner [2014]

NOTES

30, Dudley Street [1862]
21, Dudley Street [1871]
26, Dudley Street [1911], [1939]
12, Dudley Street

It was next door to the National School Home.

It had a beerhouse license.

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/8/1859

“Yesterday a special sessions was held at the Public Office, Bilston, for the renewal and granting of victuallers’ licenses.
An application by Mr. Waterhouse for a license for Mr. *B. Stanley*, Sedgley, was refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 31/8/1859

“The annual meeting of Magistrates for the purpose of the renewal and granting of licenses for the township of Bilston and the neighbourhood was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.
Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license to a house occupied by Mr. *Benjamin Stanley*, situate at Sedgley, and on behalf of the applicant handed in a testimonial numerous and respectably signed. There was no opposition. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1860

“The annual meeting for the renewal of spirit licenses, and also for hearing fresh applications for the same, was held at the Bilston Police Court on Friday last.
Mr. Waterhouse applied, on behalf of Mr. *Benjamin Stanley*, for a license to a house kept by him at the Bull-ring, Sedgley. Re-fused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/7/1862 - Advert

“Sedgley. Sale Of Household Furniture, Home-Cured Bacon, 23 Store Pigs, &c, &c.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Thomas Richards, on Monday Next, July 7th, upon the Premises of Mr. *Benjamin Stanley*, at Sedgley, the undermentioned Household Furniture, comprising cane-seated and Windsor Chairs, four-post and other Bedsteads, mahogany Chest of Drawers, mahogany Washstand, mahogany Card Tables, Hall Chairs, twenty-two Store Pigs, one breeding Sow, &c, &c, detailed in catalogues which may be had at the offices of the Auctioneer, 17, Church Street, Bilston.
The Sale to commence at Twelve o’clock in the morning.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/9/1862

“The Annual Licensing Meeting. This meeting was held in the Police Court on Friday last.
Mr. Waterhouse applied on behalf of Mr. *Benjamin Stanley* for a license to a house, situated on the outskirts of the parish of Sedgley, on the main road between Sedgley and Upper Gornal. The application was refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 2/9/1863

“The meeting for the renewing and granting of licenses was held on Friday, at the police-office.
Mr. Waterhouse then made application for a license for *Benjamin Stanley*, of Sedgley. The house occupied by the applicant contains five room upstairs and four down. The house stood on ground which cost £309, and there was considerable traffic by the house. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 10/9/1864

“The annual licensing sessions for the district of Bilston was held yesterday, at the Police Court, in that town.
Mr. Stanley applied, on behalf of *Benjamin Stanley*, of Dudley Road, Sedgley, which was unopposed. The application was not granted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1865

“Yesterday, the annual licensing meeting of the Bilston division of the county of Stafford was held in the Police Court in that town.
Mr. Underhill then made the last application. It was on behalf of *Benjamin Stanley*, for a house within the village of Sedgley, on the road running between Wolverhampton and Dudley. Mr. *Stanley* had a butcher’s shop adjoining the house, had kept the beerhouse eight years, brewed 600 bushels of malt a year, was not opposed, but, on the contrary, had the singular good fortune

to possess a memorial, praying that the application might be granted, from three licensed victuallers in the locality. Application refused.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court, on Friday.....

Mr. Underhill applied for a license on behalf of *Benjamin Stanley*, to a beerhouse situated in the centre of the town. The property was very commodious, and well adapted for a licensed house. It was not granted.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 31/8/1867

“Yesterday the annual Bilston Licensing Meeting was held at the Public Office.....

Mr. H. Underhill applied on behalf of *Benjamin Stanley* for a house at Sedgley. The applicant had erected the house at a very considerable expense. No license had been granted for houses in that neighbourhood for thirteen years. Applicant had previously kept a beerhouse for nine years. Mr. Underhill urged upon the Bench the necessity of another licensed house, as petty sessions were held at Sedgley, and persons required to attend had no convenient place to put their horses. Refused.”

Birmingham Daily Post 29/8/1868

“Bilston. The annual Licensing Sessions for this district were held yesterday, at the Police Court.....

Mr. Stokes the applied for licenses on behalf of the following *Ben. Stanley*, of the Dudley Road, Sedgley There were no opposition to any of the above applicants Application refused.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/8/1869

“The annual licensing meeting for the Bilston division took place yesterday, at the Police Court.

The following beerhouse keepers had been fined during the past five years.....

For keeping open during prohibited hours.....

Benjamin Stanley, Dudley Street, Sedgley, 1s and costs.....

Benjamin Stanley, of Dudley Street, Sedgley, applied personally for a license, and said that since his last application his house (which had no sign) had been considerably improved, and was now suitable. Refused.”

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 27/8/1870

“The annual sessions for the renewal of existing and the granting of new licenses to licensed victuallers and beersellers in Bilston and Sedgley, was held yesterday at the Police Court, Bilston.....

There were six applications for new licensed victuallers' licenses The following were refused.....

Benjamin Stanley, Dudley Road, Sedgley.”

1871 Census

21, Dudley Street – Retail Beerhouse

[1] *Benjamin Stanley* (47), butcher and retail brewer, born Sedgley;

[2] Hannah Stanley (43), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Henry Stanley (17), butcher's assistant, born Sedgley;

[4] Cornelius Darby (16), stepson, nail warehouseman, born Sedgley;

[5] Sarah Stanley (15), daughter, domestic servant, born Sedgley;

[6] Benjamin Darby (14), stepson, factor's apprentice, born Sedgley;

[7] Hannah Darby (12), stepdaughter, domestic servant, born Sedgley;

[8] John Grafton Stanley (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[9] William Stanley (11), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[10] Benjamin Stanley (8), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[11] Jabez Stanley (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[12] Frederick H. Stanley (5), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

[13] Albert E. Stanley (2), son, born Sedgley;

[14] Francis A. Stanley (5 months), son, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 26/8/1871

“Bilston Annual Licensing Session.....

The following applications were also refused.....

Benjamin Stanley, Dudley Road, Sedgley, for an ale license.”

Dudley Herald 25/10/1879 - Advert

“Thursday, October 30th, 1879.

Important Sale of the Freehold Premises, known as the WHITE HORSE INN, at Sedgley.

Mr. Thomas Richards will Sell by Auction, on Wednesday, the 30th day of October, 1879, at the COURT HOUSE INN, Sedgley, subject to conditions of Sale, which will incorporate the common form conditions of the Birmingham Law Society, at Six for Seven o'clock in the evening.

The Important and Valuable Freehold Premises, known as the WHITE HORSE INN, situate near the Bull Ring, on the Dudley

Road, Sedgley, in the occupation of the proprietor, Mr. *Benjamin Stanley*.

The House contains Tap Room, 13ft 9in by 13ft 3in; Front Parlour, 12ft 9in by 13ft; Back Parlour or Smoke Room, 13ft 3in by 10ft 9in; Bar, 13ft 9in by 13ft 3in; with lofty Cellaring under each of these rooms; Wine Cellar under entrance hall; and Four Chambers, two of which can be used as a Club Room, if required.

Adjoining is a Capital Butcher's Shop, 16ft 9in by 13ft; and a China Pantry, 9ft 4in by 4ft 9in.

The Outbuildings consist of Brewhouse (with Maltroom over), Two Closets, Gighouse, with houses for sheep and pigs, and room over the whole 31ft 9in by 12ft 3in, two-stall Stable, with house for four beasts, and Loft over; Slaughterhouse, Two large Piggeries, Wash Cistern, Boiler, &c, the whole occupying a site of 795 square yards or thereabouts, in an enclosed yard with large entrance gates.

The Premises have a frontage to the main road of 25 yards 1ft 4in, or thereabouts; are tastefully and substantially erected, and are replete with every convenience for carrying on the business of a Publican, and Butcher, and Cattle Dealer.

There is an abundant supply of both Hard and Soft Water.

Further particulars may be obtained, and a plan of the Property inspected, upon application to Messrs. T. M., J., and A. Whitehouse, Solicitors, Queen Street, or the Auctioneer, 6, King Street, Wolverhampton."

1881 Census

Dudley Street – SHINGLERS ARMS

[1] *Henry Partridge* (56), widower, beer retailer, born Tipton;

[2] *Marianne Partridge* (25), daughter, born Tipton;

[3] *Henry Partridge* (20), son, born Tipton;

[4] *Etta Harper* (13), general servant, born Sedgley:

[The licensing register indicates it was the SHINGLERS ARMS for a time.]

[Birmingham Daily Post 9/7/1886](#)

"Bankruptcy Proceedings.....

Yesterday, at the Dudley County Court, a petition was filed on behalf of *Henry Partridge*, of the SHINGLERS ARMS, Sedgley."

[Huddersfield Chronicle 24/7/1886](#)

"Bankrupts. (By telegraph, from last night's *London Gazette*). Adjudications.....

Henry Partridge, SHINGLERS ARMS, Sedgley, beerhouse keeper."

[Birmingham Daily Post 31/7/1886](#)

"Bankruptcy Proceedings.....

In re *Henry Partridge*, innkeeper, Sedgley.

The bankrupt came up yesterday for his public examination at the Dudley County Court, before Mr. Registrar Walker. Mr. E. P. Jobson, the official receiver, conducted the examination, and the debtor was represented by Mr. Deeley (Messrs. F. W. and F. Deeley).

The debtor stated that he had worked as a shingler, and saved £1,400. After 'playing' for four or five years he bought the SHINGLERS ARMS at Sedgley. He gave £790 for the house and stock, and he had a mortgage of £500 on it. His liabilities were £72 2s 1d and the mortgage; and after giving credit for the mortgage on the premises, he estimated his assets at £650, which showed solvency. It was shown that this depended on the price fetched by the house. The debtor said that his premises were good, and he sold as good ale as any one in Sedgley, but it did not take, and he had lost money for the last six or seven years.

He was allowed to pass."

1891 Census

Dudley Street – WHITE HORSE INN

[1] *Joseph York* (49), blacksmith and beer retailer, born Sedgley;

[2] *Elizabeth York* (41), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Susannah York* (18), daughter, born Sedgley;

[4] *Sarah York* (17), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] *Mary York* (15), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[6] *Florance York* (10), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[7] *Alice York* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

[Staffordshire Advertiser 24/8/1895](#)

"Bilston Brewster Sessions.....

Mr. T. F. Waterhouse applied on behalf of *Joseph Tomlinson* for a wine and spirit license for the WHITE HORSE INN, Sedgley, of which he is tenant. The magistrates unanimously refused the application."

[Dudley Herald 24/9/1898](#)

"*William Hartill*, landlord of the WHITE HORSE INN, Dudley Street, Sedgley, was charged with permitting drunkenness on September 3rd. Mr. W. A. Foster defended, and Mr. Turton (on the instructions of the chief constable of the county) prosecuted.

In opening the case Mr. Turton said that on the date named, about half-past 10, PS Moss was passing defendant's house, when he saw the defendant and another man carry out of the house a man named Croydon. This man was left on the footpath, but was

unable to walk about his business. Sergeant Moss addressed defendant's wife, telling her that the man Croydon was very drunk. She said, 'It always gets inside his legs – he's been rolling about inside.' In company with PC Jones, the sergeant then entered the house and found another man, named Edwards, the worse of drink, and sitting at a table. There was also a third man, named Southall in a state of intoxication in the vaults in the act of drinking from a pint cup. The defendant was serving his customers, and the sergeant addressed him, saying, 'Edwards and Southall are the worse for drink,' and asked him how he accounted for it. The defendant made no reply, and the officers left the house. Shortly afterwards Edwards came out of the house with two other men. The officers visited the house at about five minutes to eleven, by which time most of the men in the house were drunk. Sergeant Moss asked defendant how he accounted for the man Croydon being drunk, and defendant said, 'He came into the house and went to sleep. We put him out as soon as we saw his state.' The Sergeant said, 'Well, but this is no excuse for these men being found in such a drunk state in the house.'

PS Moss bore out the statements of the prosecuting solicitor. He stated that he saw the defendant and another man carry a man named Croydon out of the house, and place him on the footpath. Croydon was helplessly drunk, and was unable to walk away. Defendant went back into the house, but his wife remained at the door, and witness, addressing her said that Croydon was very drunk. She replied, 'Yes, it always gets to his legs – he's been falling all over the shop inside.' Then in company with PC Jones witness visited the house. In the vaults he saw a number of persons. Sitting on a stool near the counter he saw a man named Richard Edwards apparently asleep. He aroused him and saw he was drunk. Going up the vaults, near the top end witness saw another man named James Southall in the act of drinking from a pint cup containing beer. He was also drunk. The defendant was present in the vaults and witness said to him, 'Edwards and Southall are drunk,' but defendant made no reply. Witness then left the house and remained in Dudley Street with PC Jones. Shortly afterwards he saw the man Edwards leave the house with two other men. He was staggering about the street and began shouting. Soon afterwards the man Southall came into Dudley Street and went staggering down the road. At five to eleven witness re-visited the house and said to defendant, 'How do you account for the man Croydon being in such a helpless condition when you took him from your house to-night?' Defendant replied, 'He came into the house and went to sleep. As soon as I saw him I carried him out.' Witness served the summons on the 13th inst, when defendant said, 'Well sergeant who was drunk in my house.' Witness said Croydon was helpless and defendant replied, 'I've told the chap many a time to go out of my house.' Witness said, 'It's your duty to get them out,' and added that Edwards was drunk. Defendant said, 'Well, I know he was asleep when you were in, but he seemed to go away all right.'

Cross-examined by Mr. Foster, the witness said Edwards was near the counter and was leaning his head on his hands.

PC Jones corroborated the statements of the previous witness.

Cross-examined by Mr. Foster, however, he admitted that as far as he could say the defendant's house was perfectly orderly at five minutes to 11.

In defence, Mr. Foster addressed the bench at some length. He pointed out that it was the duty of the police to help publicans to eject drunken men from licensed houses, but as far as he could judge they never told these men they were drunk and it would be better for them to leave the house. He also pointed out that before such a charge as that brought against defendant should be proved it was necessary to prove that he had connived at drunkenness. The defendant had conducted his house with satisfaction to the police for 14 months and during the whole of that time he had never had a charge brought against him. Neither had the defendant been summoned for any offence during the whole of his life. Mr. Foster suggested that it would require evidence much stronger than that which had been given to induce the magistrates to come to the conclusion that there ought to be a conviction registered against the defendant.

The defendant, *William Hartill*, gave evidence in which he denied that he had supplied Croydon with drink. Croydon came into the house and fell asleep. In reply to Mr. Turton defendant admitted that on the day in question there had been a running match at Rough Hills, the names of the competitors being Evans and Guest.

Mr. Turton: Wasn't Guest your man, and did he not train at your house? – Witness: I had nothing to do with his training.

But just before the race he spent a great deal of time at your house? – Yes.

And, of course, you celebrated the victory of your man? – No.

Did you win any money over the race? – Not a halfpenny.

Further cross-examined, defendant denied that he had ever been spoken to by Sergeant Moss or any other officer about the conduct of his house.

Albert Bradley, defendant's brother-in-law bore out his statements.

Another witness who was in the house at the time said Croydon came in, and the landlord refused to serve him 'because he was drunk.' Croydon was put out soon afterwards.

The Bench inflicted a fine of £5 saying they considered the case established.

Richard Edwards, the man found drunk in the previous defendant's house, was then charged with being drunk on licensed premises.

PS Moss proved the case, and defendant was fined 5s and costs.

James Southall was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk on licensed premises.

Frederick Croydon was charged with being drunk in Dudley Street, on September 3rd. Fined 2s 6d and costs."

1901 Census

26, Dudley Street – WHITE HORSE

[1] *William Hartill* (38), publican, born Upper Gornal;

[2] Clara Hartill (35), wife, born Upper Gornal;

[3] William Hartill (17), son, cabinet maker, born Upper Gornal;

[4] Lilly Hartill (15), daughter, born Upper Gornal;

[5] Frederick H. Hartill (13), son, born Upper Gornal;

- [6] Albert Hartill (11), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [7] Howard Hartill (9), son, born Upper Gornal;
- [8] Clara E. Hartill (6), daughter, born Upper Gornal;
- [9] Sarah Bradley (29), general servant, born Lower Gornal:

William Hartill, beer retailer, Dudley Street. [1904]

A billiards license was granted on 4th March 1908.

A Sick and Dividend Society was held here. [1911]

1911 Census

26, Dudley Street – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *William Hartill* (48), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Clara Hartill (45), wife, married 27 years, costumier, born Sedgley;
- [3] Lily Hartill (25), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Albert E. Hartill (21), son, carpenter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Howard Hartill (19), son, tailoring, born Sedgley:

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions WHITE HORSE, Sedgley, 8s 8½d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d and WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.]

David Sheldon – see also CROWN, Upper Gornal.

1939 Register

26, Dudley Street

- [1] *William H. Watson*, date of birth 26/10/1873, beer retailer, married;
- [2] Edith Watson, dob 15/2/1876, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Thomas Sourbutts Dewhurst – see also PRINCE ALBERT, Wall Heath, FOX AND GRAPES, Pensnett, and LEOPARD, Kingwinford.

Leroy Gideon Bourne was granted a divorce in 1957.

Birmingham Daily Post 6/7/1957

“Judge Forbes, granting a decree nisi and damages of £350 at Birmingham Divorce Court yesterday, said, ‘It is a case where all too frequently a man spends too much money on drinking in a public house and falls in love with the woman behind the bar – whose husband is the licensee.’ And he added, ‘It’s not the first case of its kind I have heard by any means.’

Mr. *Leroy Gideon Bourne* of Fairhaven, Foundry Road, Wall Heath, was granted a decree because of adultery by his wife, Mrs. Maureen Marion Bourne, of 25 Grange Road, Dudley, with Mr. Duncan James, of 8, Norfolk Street, Dudley. Adultery was admitted but the case was contested on the issue of damages.

Judge Forbes said that until the appearance of the co-respondent Mrs. Bourne appeared to have been a good wife.

Mr. *Bourne* not only lost his wife, but he also lost a helper – not only a domestic helper but a helper in his work as a licensee. It was possible he could have got another person to help him but it would be very different. He could trust his wife and when he left her in charge of the public house he had no further worries as far as money was concerned. Apart from the financial side there was also scandal. This public house was in a village and it was unreasonable to expect a man to carry on as a licensee when his wife had gone off with a customer.”

Jack Russell was the brother of *Ben* (GRAND JUNCTION).

It was refurbished at a cost of £60,000, and reopened in August 1995.

John Walters was married to Gillian.

See also CROWN.

Tracey Macefield was married to Paul.

Express & Star 4/4/2013

“Thousands In The Dark After Sedgley Power Cut.

About 4,800 properties were understood to have been left in the dark at various times as a result of the power cut. The town’s pubs were among just a few businesses still open when the first cuts happened about 7pm. But while some, such as The CLIFTON and The RED LION, said they were not affected, just metres up the road, The WHITE HORSE had been. Licensee *Steven Gill* said, ‘The power went off for about 20 minutes at about 7.30pm and then came back again for about five minutes before it went again. It came back on about 8pm though’.”

Express & Star 27/2/2015

“A cobbler will hang up his tools for the final time when he retires after more than 50 years of repairing shoes. Roger Crutchley will close his well-known shop, in Dudley Street, Sedgley, on Saturday. He has traded there for more than 20 years. The 66-year-old, from Willenhall, said he had decided to retire after the lease ran out on the shop, which trades as Roger’s Shoe Repairs but is better known as Wulfrun Services. And although his loyal customers have asked him to stay on longer he said the time felt right for him to take it easy.

The lease on the shop has recently been taken on by Amber Taverns, which runs the WHITE HORSE pub next door.

Mr. Crutchley said, ‘To be honest the end of the lease came at the right time. I wanted to retire and I would not have taken on a new one at my age. Amber Taverns would have been obliged to offer me a new lease under law but I would not have gone for it. There are a lot of things I want to do but haven’t had the time because I am working six days a week. I’ll now get the chance to do them.’

Mr. Crutchley said the thing he would miss most was the customers. ‘They have been wonderful through the years and very loyal,’ he said. ‘If I have been away on holiday they have always waited until I have come back rather than go somewhere else. They are more like friends than customers and I will miss them dearly. Some have even asked me to take my machines with me so I can carry on mending their shoes for them.’

He learned the trade at other companies in Wolverhampton, including Smart Shoe Repairs and C and C Shoe Repairs, before taking on the shop in Sedgley 23 years ago. Mr. Crutchley said he planned to spend his retirement fishing, embarking on wood turning projects in his workshop and growing vegetables.”

Express & Star 15/7/2015

“Sedgley has become a hive of Pokemon Go activity with a range of Poke Centres, gyms and Pokemon hotspots all in close proximity, ideal for players to level up.

The WHITE HORSE, The GRAND JUNCTION, The COURTHOUSE, the local Scout hut and Sedgley Library are all Poke Centres which offer the opportunity for players to collect Poke balls and other useful items quickly.”

[2018]

WHITE HOUSE

1, Daisy Street (Daisy Brook Road), (1, Bank Street) / Harding Street (Brierley Lane), (Highfield), Daisy Bank, COSELEY

OWNERS

William Taft

Samuel Spruce, mining engineer, Tamworth

Hereford and Tredgar Brewery

Plant’s Brewery Ltd., Netherton

Ansells Ltd. (acquired in 1937)

Holt, Plant and Deakin [1984], [1989]

[Edward and Kath Melia](#)

LICENSEES

Elisha Whitehouse [1851] – [1862]

[Hannah Whitehouse](#) [] – 1862);

William Taft (1862 – 1873);

Isaac Whitehouse (1873 – 1876);

Thomas Nicholls (1876 – 1881);

Joseph James Lane (1881 – 1882);

Sarah Turley (1882 – 1883);
Isaac Whitehouse (1883 – 1885);
Samuel Spruce (1885 – 1886);
William Spare (1886 – 1887);
John Jones (1887 – 1893);
Job Light (1893 – 1895);
Harriet Light (1895 – 1897);
John Light (1897– 1903);
Thomas Cooper (1903 – 1910);
Roseannah Cooper (1910 – 1911);
Thomas Henry Astbury (1911 – 1922);
Elizabeth Marshall (1922 – 1932);
Joseph Sidney Jones (1932 – [1940])
Sid Ives (1984 – []
Christopher John Griffiths [1985]
Edward ‘Ed’ Melia [1987] – [2006]

NOTES

Brierley Lane [1851], [1854], [1860]
Highfield [1862]
Daisy Street [1881], [1904], [1912], [1940]

It was listed as the WHITE HORSE in a 1932 Directory.

1851 Census

Brierley Lane

- [1] *Elisha Whitehouse* (23), retail brewer, born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Whitehouse (19), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Isaac Whitehouse (4), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Emma Swain (16), house servant, born West Bromwich:

Staffordshire Advertiser 23/8/1851

“The annual assembly of magistrates for granting victuallers’ licenses within the hundred of Seisdon, took place on Thursday last, at the Magistrates’ Office, Bilston Street.....

There were thirty-six applications for new licenses, thirty of which were refused, and one deferred (that of *Elisha White* [sic], Daisy Bank, Sedgley), and five granted.....”

Staffordshire Advertiser 27/9/1851

“The adjourned annual meeting of the magistrates, acting in the division of Seisdon North, to reconsider applications for victuallers’ licenses, was held on Monday last.....

The application of *Elisha Whitehouse*, of Brierley, in the parish of Sedgley, for a new license to a house in his occupation at that place, was refused.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 28/8/1852

“Thursday last was the general annual licensing day of the division of Seisdon North, when there were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses The successful applicants for new licenses were.....

Elisha Whitehouse, Brierley, Sedgley.”

AND

Wolverhampton Chronicle 1/9/1852

“The annual licensing day for the division of Seisdon North was held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, on Thursday last.....

There were about forty applications for new [spirit] licenses, of which eight were granted.....

Mr. Underhill applied on behalf of Mr. *Elisha Whitehouse* for a house on the direct road from Bilston to Sedgley, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Stour Valley Railway, and at a considerable distance from any old licensed house. Application granted.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 20/3/1855

“On Monday last an inquest was held at the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, before T. M. Phillips, Esq., coroner, on the body of Francis Davis, 10 years of age, and who met with his death under the following circumstances: On the previous Friday morning the deceased was sent to a coal pit, at Ladymoor, with his two brothers’ breakfast, who were employed in working the pit. The waggon was over the mouth of the pit, and the skip was hanging about a yard above. The deceased walked upon the waggon, and whilst in the act of putting the breakfasts into the skip for them to be sent down the pit, the banksman, who had his back to deceased, drew the wagon from the mouth of the pit, and the deceased in trying to jump off, fell down the pit, a distance of 150

yards. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/10/1855

“Uttering Counterfeit Coin.

At the Petty Sessions, on Friday last, before E. Best, T. Barker, and H. Ward, Esqs, and the Rev. H. S. Fletcher, two men, named John Williams and William Gill, were again brought up to answer this charge. The case had been remanded from Tuesday in order to ascertain from the Mint authorities whether they would be prosecuted. An answer having been received in the affirmative, the case was fully gone into. It seemed that on Saturday, the 23rd of September, in the morning, the prisoners went into the WHITE HOUSE, at Daisy Bank, kept by Mr. *Elisha Whitehouse*. Williams called for a pint of ale, which was brought, and he tendered what purported to be a 5s piece in payment for it. He was informed that it was counterfeit, which he denied. After some conversation, the other prisoner gave a good half-crown in payment, and the change was given to him. The prisoners afterwards left the house and were watched by the landlord to the public house of Mr. Jeavons, at Hall Green, where, under similar circumstances, another counterfeit crown was endeavoured to be put off. While some conversation was taking place the prisoner Gill got up from his seat and stood before the other prisoner, who was sitting down. Williams then stooped and put his hand under the bench, and after the prisoners had been given into the custody of the police, the place was searched, and it was found that the prisoner had put a box, containing three counterfeit crown pieces, into Mr. Jeavons’s slipper. The prisoners were committed for trial.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 20/10/1855

“The Michaelmas Quarter Sessions for this county were commenced on Monday afternoon last, in the Shire Hall, Stafford.....

John Williams, 29, collier, and John Gill, 40, labourer, were indicted for uttering at Sedgley a counterfeit crown piece. Gill was defended by Mr. Kettle, the prosecution was conducted by Mr. Kynnersley. The prisoners went together to the WHITE HORSE [sic] INN, at Sedgley, on the 23rd of September, and in payment for a pint of ale Williams tendered a bad crown piece. The landlady refused to take it, and then Gill paid for the ale. When they went out, the landlord followed them to a beerhouse about a quarter of a mile away, where he found Williams had again tendered the bad crown piece, and he then gave them into custody. Whilst the prisoners were in the house, before the police came, Williams concealed under the bench where he was sitting a small box containing three counterfeit crown pieces.

The police officer who apprehended Gill said that the prisoner, in reply to the charge of passing a counterfeit crown knowing it to be such, said, ‘We were told down at the other house that it was bad, and we wanted to see whether it was bad or not.’

Mr. Kettle made a powerful speech on behalf of his client, arguing that there was nothing in the evidence to fix Gill with any knowledge that the money was bad, and that he had acted in concert with Williams in attempting to dispose of the money.

The jury acquitted Gill. Williams was sentenced to twelve months’ imprisonment.”

Birmingham Journal 19/6/1858 - Died

“On the 30th ult, after a few days illness, aged four years, Paul Thompson, second son of Mr. *Elisha Whitehouse*, of the WHITE-HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, near Bilston, deeply regretted.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1859

“Yesterday, before a respectable Jury, of which Mr. James Lewis was the foreman, an inquest was held at the WHITE HOUSE, Daisy Bank, as to the death of John Taylor, one of the sufferers by the accident which occurred at the works of Messrs. Gibb Brothers, Deepfields, on Friday night.

The first witness called was Josiah Swinnerton, living at Princes End, who deposed to having returned to the works about eleven o’clock on the night in question, and to finding that the fly wheel had flown through the wall. He got the deceased from under the ruins, but he was very much injured, as were four other persons, but Taylor died soon after.

James Walters, a puddler, living near Darkhouse Chapel, Deepfields, deposed: I was working near the engine on the night in question, and William Fletcher was the engineer. About eleven I heard something roar, and something caught me on the wrist; the engine had been standing, and had just started about a minute, it having been stopped to remedy the rolls which had just had a ‘collar.’ A ‘collar’ is when the iron in being rolled twists round the rolls. About two minutes after the engine had started, the wheels fled, and I made my escape. The work was knocked down. I rescued a little lad, when the work was in ruins. I do not know the cause of the accident. The same engineer had been employed for more than six years.

William Fletcher, engineer at the works, deposed: I have been employed at Deepfields Iron Works for twelve years. I went there about six o’clock on Friday afternoon and took the place of George Bourne. There is more work on in the day than at night.

About eleven o’clock I was required to stop the engine in consequence of there being a ‘collar,’ but when it was all set right I started it again. I threw a shovel full of slack on the fire, and I heard a noise, and on going round I saw the whole place in ruins. The roof of the work fell on the rolls, and stopped the engine. The fly wheel fled some distance away; and a piece was knocked out of the 14-foot wheel. The wheel must have caught a column supporting the roof to have caused it to fall. The whole of the wheels and machinery were in good order at the time.

John Fletcher, manager of the works, deposed that he had been manager for about eighteen years, that the entire machinery was in good order, and that they had had no trouble with it for twelve years. It was not usual to see if there was anything the matter with the wheels after there had been a ‘collar.’ There are frequent collars, sometimes several times a day. That part of the machinery could not have been constructed on a better principle. He had examined the works, and thought there was no blame to be attached to anyone.

Charles Booth deposed to having been employed at the works for nine days previous, and up to Friday night, setting up cinder rolls. He had occasion to see the wheels, but could not say what was the cause of the accident.

Rhoda Taylor, who seemed very affected, gave evidence as to the death of her brother, a quarter of an hour after he was brought

home.

The enquiry was then adjourned in order that the opinion of some practical engineer might be taken, a course which the Coroner regarded as necessary for the public satisfaction. Mr. Holcroft was appointed to make an examination of the works.

In reference to the report which appeared in yesterday's *Post*, we are requested to state that it was not the large driving wheel that broke, but the shaft of the wheel turning the forge train. This wheel then appears to have fallen against the fly wheel and broken it, and it was the pieces of the fly wheel that destroyed the pillars of the roof. The loss, instead of being £2,000 to £3,000, cannot be estimated at more than about £600."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/11/1859

"The adjourned inquest on the body of John Taylor, who was killed at Messrs. Gibbs's ironworks at Deepfields, last week, under the circumstances described in our last, was held at the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, on Thursday last, when Mr. J. Holcroft, jun, stated the result of the examination he had made with the view of discovering the cause of the breaking of the machinery, which produced the accident. In his opinion the shaft connecting the driving wheels with the rolls was nearly broken by the jar from the 'collar' and on the engine being started it broke, on which the driving wheel fell into the fly-wheel, which was making 90 revolutions per minute, and was naturally broken to pieces. The whole of the machinery was in good working order, and he had no reason to believe that the accident had arisen from the neglect of any person. On this evidence the jury, without hesitation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Birmingham Journal 3/12/1859

"Ancient Order Of Foresters. On Tuesday last, the interesting ceremony of opening a new court in connection with the Wolverhampton and Tipton District, took place at Mr. *Elijah [sic] Whitehouse's*, WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, when a numerous and respectable meeting assembled. The brothers from the opening court 'King of the Forest,' and court 'Flag of Liberty,' Great Bridge, having met in full regalia, on the arrival of the Sub-district Chief Ranger, Edward Dutton, PCR, and the opening officers, Brothers W. H. Hatt, PCR, and Joseph Jones, PCR, the proceedings commenced. The dispensation having been read by the SDCR, the new court, 'The Merry Woodmen,' was acknowledged with applause. Brothers Joseph Jones, *Elijah [sic] Whitehouse*, and W. H. Hatt were unanimously elected to the offices of Chief Ranger, Treasurer, and Secretary, and twenty young and healthy candidates, accompanied by their intended surgeon, were initiated in the mysteries of Forestry. At the conclusion of the business, upwards of fifty of the members of Forestry and their friends sat down to a most excellent supper. The chair was occupied by Mr. Samuel Bills, supported by Messrs. William Wright and William Craddock; the vice-chair by SDCR Dutton, supported by Brothers John Clee and William Bird. The conviviality of the evening was prolonged to an early hour."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/7/1860 - Advert

"Molineux Ground, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton.

The First Grand Fete of the Season! Grand Demonstration and Gala Festival, for the purpose of establishing a Fund for the Widows and Orphans belonging to the Wolverhampton and Tipton District of the Ancient Order of Foresters, will be held in the Grounds of C. E. Molineux, Esq, on Monday, July 30th, 1860.....

Tickets may be had of the Committee, and at the various Court Houses.....

WHITE HORSE [sic], Daisy Bank."

Staffordshire Advertiser 4/8/1860

"On Monday last a fete was held on the Molineux Grounds, Waterloo Road, Wolverhampton, for the benefit of the Widows and Orphans Fund of the Wolverhampton and Tipton District of the Ancient Order of Foresters. The extreme fineness of the day brought together a numerous assemblage, which recalled the successful fetes held a few years ago in these grounds, since which there had been a sad falling off.....

The following were the lodges, with number of members from each present.....

Merry Woodmen, WHITE HOUSE, Daisy Bank, 48."

1861 Census

Daisy Bank

- [1] *Elisha Whitehouse* (33), victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah Whitehouse* (28), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Isaac Whitehouse (10), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Whitehouse (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] Ellen Winter (21), general servant, born Sedgley;
- [6] John Dixon (26), brewer, born Bilston:

Elisha Whitehouse died in the 4th quarter of 1861.

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/5/1862 - Marriages

"On the 12th inst, at Aston parish Church, by the Rev. George Peake, Mr. *William Taft*, of Coseley, to *Hannah*, widow of Mr. *Elisha Whitehouse*, of the WHITEHOUSE INN, Daisy Bank."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 18/6/1862

"At Bilston Police Court, on Friday, the following intermediate transfers were made.....

WHITE HOUSE, *Hannah Whitehouse to William Taft, retail brewer.*”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/6/1864

“Shocking Accident At Dimmack’s Colliery. Two men Killed.

On Saturday last, T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, on the bodies of David Owens and Isaac Edwards, who had been killed at the above named colliery, which is the property of Messrs. Philip Williams and Sons, under the following circumstances. On Thursday morning the deceased were descending the pit, which is about 140 yards deep, and worked by a horse and gin, when the horse, which was in charge of a boy, galloped part of the way round the ring and then ran away with the shafts and machinery connected with them. The consequence was that the rope ran off the gin wheel and the unfortunate men were precipitated to the bottom of the shaft, a distance of 134 yards, and killed almost upon the spot. The evidence showed that the horse only began to work at the pit a day before the occurrence, but he appeared quiet. His breaking away in the manner described could not be accounted for. The shaft and everything connected with the gin and pit were said to be in perfect working order. Upon the evidence the jury had no alternative but to return a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Journal 5/10/1867 - Advert

“Staffordshire. Important Freehold Properties, at Coseley and Broad Lanes, in the Parish of Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by T. W. Coldicott, at the House of Mr. *William Taft*, the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, near Bilston, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of October, inst, at Six o’clock in the evening, in the following or such other Lots as may be agreed upon at the time of sale.....”

Birmingham Daily Post 30/9/1870 - Advert

“For Sale a useful Butcher’s or Grocer’s Trap, to suit horse 14 or 15 hands high, fist-class make, new last February. Cost £16; Price £10; also a Horse.

Apply, WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, near Bilston.”

1871 Census

1, Bank Street

- [1] *William Taft* (38), publican and maltster, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Hannah* Taft (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Sarah Whitehouse (19), step daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [4] Sarah Roberts (18), domestic servant, birthplace not given;
- [5] Margaret Rhoden (16), domestic servant, birthplace not given:

Dudley Herald 21/6/1873 - Advert

“To be sold by auction All that free old-licensed public house and premises known as the WHITE HOUSE INN situate at Daisy Bank with the brewhouse, large yard and outbuildings thereto belonging, in the occupation of Mr. *William Taft* The above old licensed house has not changed hands for the last 20 years and contains tap room, smoke room, parlour, kitchen, club room, and three bed rooms, with large cellaring. The premises are well supplied with hard and soft water. There are two large clubs connected therewith, each numbering more than 100 members.”

Dudley Herald 7/8/1880

“An inquest on the body of a girl aged 16 years, named Sarah Smith, who met her death on Saturday afternoon, by falling against a wall while in the act of running after her brother, was held on Tuesday at the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank.

Benjamin Pountney said on Saturday afternoon he was unloading his cart at his own door, when he saw deceased’s brother run into the road followed by deceased. As she tried to lay hold of him the lad sprang aside, and she caught her foot against a stone and fell head foremost against the wall. When she fell her brother was about ten yards away, and no one touched her. She became insensible, and he assisted to carry her home. That was about ten minutes after three, and at half-past three he heard she was dead. A surgeon was sent for, but he did not arrive until she was dead.

Sarah Smith, the mother said she saw deceased running after her brother, and not being able to catch him she picked up a stone to throw at him, but before she could do so she fell with great violence. The deceased and her brother had been playing, and had at last quarrelled. Deceased had never had fits; she never spoke after she fell.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Birmingham Daily Post 19/9/1880 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale of Licenses, Fittings, Brewing Plant, Casks, Furniture, and Effects, at WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, near Bilston.

By Messrs. Frank Smith & Wilson, on Monday Next, September 22, at 11.30 – the whole of the Public House Fittings, Furniture, and Effects.

The first lot offered will be the Licenses, and Goodwill of the Full-licensed House.

Auctioneers’ Offices, 37, Cannon Street, Birmingham.”

Dudley Herald 2/10/1880 - Advert

“To be Let, capital good Old-Licensed House, situate at Daisy Bank, known by the sign of the WHITE HOUSE INN; Incoming including goodwill, unexpired lease for about five years, together with the Stock-in-Trade, Fixture, &c, £500.

Further particulars apply, James Bywater, Princes End.”

1881 Census

1, Daisy Street

- [1] *Thomas Nicholls* (42), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Mary A. Nicholls* (40), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Emma J. Nicholls* (9), daughter, scholar, born Tipton;
- [4] *Florence Nicholls* (4), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 24/12/1881

“At the Bilston Police Court, yesterday, the following licenses were fully transferred.....
Thomas Nicholls, WHITE HOUSE, Daisy Bank, to *Joseph James Lane*, ironworker.”

Birmingham Daily Post 1/12/1882 - Advert

“Old-established full-licensed, highway Country Inn, the WHITE HOUSE, Daisy Bank.
Halse, Cherry Street.”

Birmingham Daily Post 20/9/1884 - Advert

“Unreserved Sale of Licenses, Fittings, Brewing Plant, Casks, Household Furniture, and Effects, at the WHITEHOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, near Bilston.
To Be Sold By Auction, by Messrs. Frank Smith & Wilson, on Monday Next, September 22, at 11.30.
The whole of the Public House Fittings, Furniture and Effects.
The first lot offered will be the Licenses and Goodwill of the Full-Licensed House.
Auctioneers’ Offices, 37, Cannon Street, Birmingham.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/11/1884 - Advert

“Inn (good), full license. The WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank. Rent £40.
Halse, Cherry Street.”

Eddowes Journal and General Advertiser 27/6/1888

“Mr. W. H. Phillips (South Staffordshire Corner) held an inquest on Thursday afternoon, at the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, Coseley, touching the death of *Thomas Leonard Carrington* (15), Hall Green Street, Bradley, Sedgley, who had been found dead on the Great Western Railway, Daisy Bank.
John Randolph Carrington, father of deceased, said his son had been employed at Mr. Perry’s foundry at Highfields. On Monday evening he left home to sell some newspapers, and returned at a quarter past 10 o’clock. Witness remonstrated with deceased for staying out late, and told him to go to bed. On the following morning, at a quarter to six o’clock, deceased came into his bedroom and asked for some matches, which he said he should require at his work. After the matches had been given him he bade witness ‘good morning.’ Witness had noticed that deceased had lately been very changed in his manner, and considerable difficulty had been experienced in getting him to go to a Sunday School or to a place of worship. He was not more strange on Tuesday morning. On an iron plate on the railway bridge was written in blue pencil, ‘It is my father and mother’s fault I have done this; but never mind. God bless you all. M.F.S.J.A.M.’ The initials he thought, were intended for the witness and the deceased’s mother, brothers and sisters. He heard of the deceased’s death shortly before eight o’clock. The deceased had not occasion to go in the direction of the railway station when going to his work. When the deceased was about five or six years of age he was knocked down by a horse and trap and his skull fractured, which he thought had since mentally affected him.
Evidence was next given of the finding of the deceased’s headless body on the line, the head being close by.
A boy named *Albert Edward Nesbitt* said that at 7.25 on Tuesday morning he met deceased in *Skidmore’s Row*, and after a short conversation deceased bade him ‘Good morning’ twice, and afterwards remarked, ‘I shall never speak to you again in this world, or anyone else.’ Deceased afterwards went in the direction of the railway bridge. He did not seem to be in trouble.
William Henry Shorthouse proved seeing deceased writing on a plate on a railway bridge, and upon asking him what he was writing, he replied, ‘Not much.’ Witness subsequently heard of deceased’s death. The body was found a distance of 150 yards from the railway bridge.
The jury returned a verdict of Suicide when of Unsound Mind.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 15/1/1889

“National Order Of Free Gardeners.

The annual district meeting of the Bilston, Walsall, and Cannock District, was held at Mr. *Jones*’s, WHITE HOUSE, Daisy Bank, near Coseley, yesterday. Upwards of 100 delegates were present. Bro. H. T. Finch (Permanent Grand Secretary of the Order, Leeds) presided as Master, and Bro. H. J. Keen, of Hednesford, as Deputy-Master.
After the Worthy Master’s address, setting forth the advantages to be derived from the Order and the position in which the Order stood, the business was of the usual character.
The auditors presented the annual balance-sheet, which showed that the district had vastly improved its position during the year. Grants was made to brothers in distress amounting to £212.
Votes of thanks to the Master and Deputy-Master for presiding closed the meeting.”

1891 Census

1, Daisy Street

- [1] *John Jones* (41), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] *Elizabeth Jones* (36), wife, born Hallfields;
- [3] *Nellie Jones* (14), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *James Jones* (36), boarder, japanner, born Bilston;
- [5] *Sarah Edwards* (16), general servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 9/4/1895

“Yesterday afternoon, at the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Bank, Mr. W. H. Phillips resumed the enquiry relative to the death of Ann May Gough (9), daughter of Henry Gough, Daisy Bank. Mr. H. S. Pratt (Bilston) represented a teacher at Daisy Bank Board School whose name did not transpire at the previous enquiry, and Mr. A. E. Greenway (clerk to the Sedgley School Board) also attended.

The evidence at the former enquiry showed that on January 24 the girl, who was then in good health, attended Daisy Bank Board School, and when she returned home, shortly before one o'clock, she appeared to be very ill. She complained of pains in the back of her head, and informed her mother that a teacher had struck her. Subsequently the child vomited and about 1.45 was seized with a fit, remaining insensible for nearly an hour and a half. Deceased, who continued to complain of pains in her head, was kept at home for a fortnight. She went regularly to school until the 21st ult, when she was again kept at home in consequence of the pains in her head. On the morning of the 24th ult she was seized with a fit similar to the one she had on January 24. A doctor attended her once during her first illness, and several times during the last attack. Since the child was alleged to have been struck her appetite declined, and each week she became thinner. The enquiry was adjourned for the purpose of a post mortem examination.

Dr. Johnson, who had made the post mortem examination stated that he found the right lung bound down by adhesion to the pleura of the diaphragm. This had evidently occurred from birth, and had prevented the expansion of the lungs. Pneumonia supervened as the result of the condition described, causing death from suffocation. There was no symptom of any injury having been received.

The Coroner asked how he accounted for the convulsions. Replying, witness stated that the convulsions would result from an insufficient supply of oxygen to the lungs.

No further evidence was given, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence – namely, that death was due to the effects of pneumonia.”

Job Light died on 27th April 1895.

West Bromwich Weekly News 15/12/1900

“A freehold full-licensed house known as the WHITE HOUSE INN, Daisy Street, Brierley Lane, Coseley, was sold for £1,750.”

1901 Census

1, Daisy Street

- [1] *John Light* (41), publican &c, born Coseley;
- [2] *Emma Light* (41), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *David Herbert Light* (15), son, born Coseley;
- [4] *Ethel Mary Light* (11), daughter, born Coseley;
- [5] *Harriet Downes* (20), domestic servant, born Daisy Bank:

1911 Census

Daisy Bank – WHITE HOUSE INN

- [1] *Rossanna Cooper* (47), widow, publican, born Coseley;
- [2] *Maud Gough* (22), servant, born Dudley;
- [3] *Joseph Dickson* (9), nephew, school, born Smethwick:

A music license was granted on 2nd March 1928.

1939 Register

Daisy Street – WHITE HOUSE HOTEL

- [1] *Joseph Sidney Jones*, date of birth 29/1/1892, licensed victualler, master sheet trade, married;
- [2] *Gwendoline E. Jones*, dob 26/4/1887, unpaid domestic duties, married:

A team from here took part in the Coseley Crib League. [1946]

A team from here took part in the Bradley Darts League, Second Division. [1946]

Closed

It reopened on 12th December 1984 as a Holt, Plant and Deakin pub.

Edward 'Ed' Melia was married to Kath.

Sandwell Evening Mail 22/1/1994

“Down Your Local. WHITE HOUSE, Coseley.

There was *Ed Melia* working behind a bar in Birmingham – when in came this pretty young colleen called Kath who came to assist. For some reason, it took them three months to start chatting each other up. But after another 18 months, it was wedding bells.

Their chance meeting has proved a success story, not only for them, but also for families living in the Coseley area. Six years ago they took over the WHITE HOUSE in Daisy Street which was, shall we say, a little run-down. Two years ago they took a further plunge – by buying it! Now it's proving a gem of a pub in the old Black Country tradition.

The first thing to strike the visitor is the warmth of the atmosphere and the welcome the stranger receives. And then, of course, there's the pub's colony of exactly 509 cats! Big cats, small cats, black cats, white cats, ginger Toms – they all leer at customers from shelving erected around the lounge. It all started when *Ed* and Kath bought the pub from the Holt, Plant and Deakin's Brewery. In the inventory of fixtures and fittings were five or six china cats. Kath bought a few more and then the customers decided to join in. ‘Whenever any of the customers go on holiday, they seem to bring us a cat back,’ explains *Ed*. ‘There are so many now that I think I might have to put some more shelving up.’ The only thing missing is real cats – but then again, the family's two Staffordshire Bull Terriers might not approve.

Irish-born *Ed* trained as a carpenter, but getting wed the couple took on a succession of three pubs in the Birmingham area. He went back for a while to being a chippie – but his path to Black Country fame was laid when he first set eyes on the WHITE HOUSE....

Price of a Pint: Holt's Entire £1.26, Holt's bitter £1.13, Holt's mild £1.07. Also two guest beers at any one time. This weekend, Atlas Strong and Hardington Moonshine, £1.60.”

It closed in 2015.

WHITE HOUSE

Darkhouse Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Turner [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Darkhouse Lane –WHITE HOUSE INN

[1] *James Turner* (62), publican and brickmaker, born Sedgley;

[2] Ann Maria Turner (58), wife, born Rowley Regis;

[3] Joseph Turner (19), son, clerk at brickyard, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/10/1861 - Advert

“To Be Let, and entered upon immediately, the Beerhouse known as the WHITE HORSE [sic] INN, situate at Dark Lane, Coseley, in the centre of the Iron and Mining Districts, and now in the occupation of Mr. *James Turner*. The Brewing Utensils and Fixtures to be taken at a valuation.

Apply to Mr. Carmi Rollason, Hurst Hill, Sedgley; or to the Landlord on the premises.”

WHITE LION

13, Castle Street, Roseville, COSELEY

OWNERS

Samuel Hill

Joseph Townshend
Mary Ann Hill
William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Andrew Smart, Red Lion, Wordsley
John Seedhouse and Sons Ltd.
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.

LICENSEES

Samuel Hill [1868] – 1883);
George Simmons (1883 – 1885);
Thomas Lancaster (1885 – 1888);
James Hill (1888 – 1891);
Joseph Townshend (1891 – 1892);
Robert Shorthouse (1892 – 1893);
William Smallman (1893 – 1902);
William Yorke (1902 – 1906);
John Thomas Whitehouse (1906 – 1907);
Joseph Albert Bates (1907 – 1908);
David Pearson (1908 – 1914);
Alfred Jeavons (1914 – 1915);
John Horton (1915 – 1924);
William Jephcott (1924 – 1928);
Daniel Smart (1928 – 1930);
Albert Ashford (1930 – 1932);
Frederick Goodridge (1932);
James Henry Yates (1932 – 1937);
Bert Webb (1937 – 1962);
Dolly Webb (1962 – 1972);
Major Douglas Webb (1972 – []
P Dobell [1995]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as “Webbie’s”.

Samuel Hill, beer retailer, Rose Villa. [1868]

Samuel Hill, beer retailer, Castle Street, Roseville. [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

13, Castle Street

- [1] *Samuel Hill* (50), whitesmith, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Ann Hill (48), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] David Hill (26), son, engine turner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Ester Hill (24), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] Samuel Hill (22), son, pattern maker, born Sedgley;
- [6] William Hill (19), son, blacksmith, born Sedgley;
- [7] Sarah Hill (17), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] Mary Jane Hill (15), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] John Hill (14), son, box iron fitter, born Sedgley;
- [10] Emma Hill (13), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [11] Lydia Hill (11), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [12] Richard Hill (9), son, scholar, born Bilston;
- [13] *James H. Hill* (5), son, scholar, born Bilston:

1881 Census

13, Castle Street

- [1] *Samuel Hill* (60), licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Ann Hill (57), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Emma Hill (21), daughter, dressmaker, born Tipton;

- [4] Lydia Hill (19), daughter, barmaid, born Tipton;
- [5] Richard Hill (17), son, carpenter, born Bilston;
- [6] *James Hill* (15), son, saddler's apprentice, born Bilston;
- [7] David Price (17), boarder, groom, born Welshpool:

1891 Census

Castle Street

- [1] *James Hill* (25), son, public house, born Bilston;
- [2] Lydia Hill (29), daughter, born Tipton;
- [3] Richard Hill (27), son, carpenter, born Bilston:

1901 Census

13, Castle Street

- [1] *William Smallman* (37), beer retailer, born Coseley;
- [2] Martha A. Smallman (37), wife, born Coseley;
- [3] Leonard Smallman (14), son, born Coseley:

William Yorke = William York

William York, beer retailer, Castle Street. [1904]

A team from here took part in the Coseley and District Air Gun League. [1909]

1911 Census

13, Castle Street – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *David Pearson* (51), cast iron holloware turner and beerhouse keeper, born Coseley;
- [2] Martha Pearson (49), wife, married 28 years, born Coseley;
- [3] Albert G. Jenkins (19), boarder, brewer and miner (below ground), born Birmingham:

David Pearson, beer retailer, Castle Street. [1912]

William Jephcott died in 1928.

Bilston & Willenhall Times 24/11/1928 - Advert

“Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions [from exors of *William Jephcott*] to Sell By Auction at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Wolverhampton, on Monday, December 19th, 1928 An important, well-arranged Beerhouse-On and premises known as the WHITE LION INN, situate in a thickly populated district in the centre of Roseville, Coseley, containing Entrance Passage, Long Vaults from front to back with outdoor department, Smoke Room front, Sitting Room, Scullery, Club Room, 3 Bedrooms and excellent Cellars together with most substantially erected spacious two floor Brewery, 2 floor Stores, Coal Place, Piggery and the usual Outbuildings.

The foregoing double-fronted Property has a side approach, occupies a total area of 620 Square Yards or thereabouts, extends to Green Street at the rear with double gateway therefrom, is situated in a thickly populated district and had always done a large trade and should command the attention of those in search of a Home Brewing Public House for occupation or to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage.”

[It sold for £2,425.]

Dudley Herald 20/6/1931 - Advert

“To Brewers And Others.

Important Announcement of Sale By Auction of a well-known Freehold Home-Brewing Beerhouse-On at Roseville, Coseley.

Alfred W. Dando & Co. have received instructions from the Owner to Sell By Auction at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, on Friday, July 10th, 1931, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely, subject to Conditions of Sale then to be produced.

A valuable, well-arranged Beerhouse-On and Premises, known as the WHITE LION INN, situate in a thickly populated district in the centre of Roseville, Coseley, containing Entrance Passage, Long Vaults from front to back, with Outdoor Department, Smoke Room front, Sitting Room, Scullery, Club Room, three excellent Bedrooms and Cellars together with most substantially erected spacious two-floor Brewery, two-floor Stores, Coal-place, Piggery, and the usual Outbuildings.

The foregoing double-fronted property has a side approach, occupies a total area of 620 square yards or thereabouts, extends to Green Street at the rear, with double-gateway approach therefrom, has always done a large trade, and should command the attention of those in search of a Home Brewing Public House for occupation, or Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage.

The property is let to Mr. *Ashford* on a quarterly tenancy, and notice has been given to determine this tenancy on September 29th next.

Note: The usual Trade, Fixtures, Fittings, Brewing Plant and Effects as per inventory are to be taken at valuation.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. W. A. and H. M. Foster, Solicitors, 31, Queen Street, Wolverhampton (Tel. No.194), or of the Auctioneers, 193 Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (Tel. No.256).”

1939 Register

Castle Street – WHITE LION INN

[1] *Bert Webb*, date of birth 28/10/1901, publican, married;

[2] Doris M. Webb, dob 22/9/1904, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Express and Star 9/8/1999 - Advert

“2 room community operation. Lounge and Bar. Car park and outside drinking area. Purely wet led and games oriented. 2 bed-room private accommodation. Last 12 months wet trade – 100 Barrels. Tenancy. Approximate ingoings from £3,500 (purchase plan available for fixtures and fittings).”

[2001]

Closed

It was converted into a Chinese takeaway.

WHITE LION

104, (56), Bilston Street, (Bilston Road), (Can Lane), SEDGLEY

OWNERS

Edward Powers

Thomas Richards

Edward Sower

Alfred Caswell

Lucy Elizabeth Caswell

Frank Myatt Ltd. [1924]

Ansells Ltd.

Pubmaster [1997], [1998]

John and Pauline Coombes (acquired in 2010)

Keith Garbett (acquired in 2013) [2018]

LICENSEES

Joshua Baker [1818]

Joseph Baker Snr [1828] – **1850**;

Joseph Baker Jnr (**1850** – []

Sarah Baker [1851]

Joseph Baker [1854]

John Baker [] – **1858**;

John Thompson (**1858** – [1862]

James Evans [1863]

Samuel Ensor [1864]

Samuel Evans [1865] – [1866]

William Cameron [1869] – **1870**)

Samuel Hancox [] – **1871**;

Mrs. Mary Ann Saunders (**1871** – **1872**)

Thomas Joseph Richards [] – **1872**;

Edward Sower (**1872** – **1884**);

Joseph Stone [1874] ?

Alfred Caswell (**1884** – **1900**);

Lucy Elizabeth Caswell (**1900** – **1902**);

William Williamson (**1902** – **1904**);

William Thomas Worrall (**1904** – **1905**);

Thomas Wassell (**1905** – **1906**);

Francis Evans (**1906** – **1920**);

Mrs. Mary Evans (**1920** – **1921**);

William Edward Evans (**1921**);

Arthur James Breakwell (**1921** – **1922**);

George Frederick Eccleshall (**1922** – **1923**);

Frederick Allsopp (1923 – 1924);
George John Neville (1924 – 1927);
Charles William Surman (1927);
Thomas Osborne Ayre (1927 – 1930);
Thomas George Lawrence (1930 – 1938);
William Edward Dunn (1938 – 1940);
Alfred George Yardley (1940 – 1947);
Reginald David Thomas (1947 – 1950);
Samuel John ‘Sammy’ Bolton (1950 – 1959);
George Simkins (1959 – 1960);
David Whitehouse (1960 – []
Jim Bennett [1986]
Miss Nicola Penny (m. Sharratt) (1997 – [2000]
Chris Southall (2002 – [2004]
Paul Jones (2008)
Keith Garbett [2013] – 2016)

NOTES

Bilston Road [1833]
Bilston Street [1849]
56, Bilston Street [1871], [1881], [1891], [1901], [1911]
104, Bilston Street

LION [1845], [1849]

1841 Census

Bilston Street

[1] *Joseph Baker* (55), victualler, born Staffordshire;
[2] Sarah Baker (60), born Staffordshire;
[3] George Baker (25), born Staffordshire;
[4] *Joseph Baker* (20), born Staffordshire;
[5] Catharine Baker (20), born Staffordshire;
[6] Harriet Westwood (15), fs, born Staffordshire:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 8/9/1841 - Advert

“Public House, Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Private Contract.

All that excellent and well-accustomed Freehold Public House, known as the WHITE LION, in Sedgley, now in the occupation of Mr. *Joseph Baker*. And also those four Messuages adjoining to the public-house.

The outoffices and appurtenances attached to the WHITE LION are commodious and convenient, and the garden at the back of the same contains nearly a quarter of an acre. There is also a pump of never failing water on the premises.

For further particulars apply to Mr. Robinson, solicitor, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 29/11/1848

“An inquest was, on Monday, held at the WHITE LION, Sedgley, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, on the body of Samuel Evans, a boy about six years of age, who was accidentally burnt on the previous Tuesday, while reaching to stir some broth which was on the fire, and died in consequence on the morning of the inquest. It appeared in evidence that the father of the deceased was a carpenter, but had been transported, and his wife had eight small children, towards whose keep she received 5s per week from the parish, and worked at nail making in a shop some distance from her house, which exhibited extreme poverty.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 9/10/1850

“Sedgley, Gornal, and Woodsetton.

Ricks of Wheat, Barley, Hay, Oats, and Straw (all to go off), New Milch Cow, New Pony Phaeton, Furniture, Miners’ Tools, and numerous miscellaneous articles.

To Be Sold by Auction, by Mr. Thomas Page, on Friday, October 11, 1850, at the WHITE LION INN, Can Lane, Sedgley, at eleven o’clock in the morning, by order of the executors of the late Mr. *Joseph Baker*.

Catalogues may be had at the place of sale, or from the Auctioneer, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/10/1850

“At the special sessions for transferring Victuallers’ Licenses, held at the Public Office, Bilston Street, in this town, on Monday last, by County Justices, the following licenses were transferred from the representatives of the late *Joseph Baker*, of the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley, to his son, *Joseph Baker*.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 3/1/1855

“On Monday last the thirtieth anniversary of the Loyal Lodge of Good Fellows was celebrated at the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley; and after a splendid repast, provided by the worthy host, Mr. *J. Baker*, it was proposed by PGM Thomas Lee, and seconded by PGM Stephen Sheldon, that the sum of £5 should be given to the Patriotic Fund. The proposition was sanctioned by the unanimous decision of the whole society. After the usual loyal toasts, some able speeches were delivered by PG Henry Baker, PG George Sheldon, and PG J. Fellowes; and the company, after enjoying an intellectual evening, enlivened by some excellent singing, separated at a reasonable hour. The company presented upwards of 150 members.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/4/1855 - Advert

“Sedgley Patriotic Fund.

Amount already advertised £454 19s 0d

Lodge meeting at Mrs. *Baker's*, WHITE LION £5 0s 0d.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/10/1857 - Advert

“To Innkeepers. To Be Let or Sold, in consequence of the present proprietor retiring from the business, that old-established and well-accustomed House, known as the WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley. Stock and Fixtures to be taken at a valuation. For further particulars apply Messrs. Aston and Sollom, Auctioneers, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.”

John Thompson was also a seedsman. [1860]

Birmingham Journal 21/7/1860 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold and Leasehold Messuages, at Sedgley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. S. Powell, on Thursday, the 2nd day of August, 1860, at the house of Mr. *John Thompson*, the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley, at Six o'clock in the evening and subject to conditions then to be read.”

1861 Census

Bilston Street – WHITE LION

[1] *John Thompson* (56), victualler, born Westdean, Sussex;

[2] Ann Thompson (43), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] Roseannah Pownly(?) (14), stepdaughter, barmaid, born Sedgley;

[4] Ann Aston (21), house servant, born Sedgley:

Wolverhampton Chronicle 16/10/1861 - Advert

“To Publicans. To Be Let, that old-established House known as the WHITE LION INN, with four tenements adjoining, situate in Bilston Street, Sedgley. Possession on Christmas day.

For further particulars apply Mr. Joseph Baker, Penn Fields, Wolverhampton.”

Birmingham Daily Post 17/7/1862 - Advert

“The WHITE LION INN, Sedgley.

The above Old-licensed and Old-established Inn, is now to Let on advantageous terms. It is situated in a flourishing neighbourhood, doing a good Trade, and has two large Clubs in connection, numbering about 350 members. Satisfactory reasons for leaving can be given. Coming-in about £120.

Apply on the premises, Bilston Street.”

Birmingham Journal 3/1/1863 - Advert

“Building Land, at Cinder Hill, in the parish of Sedgley, and county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. Bateman, on Monday, the 19th day of January, inst, at Six o'clock in the evening, at the House of Mr. *James Evans*, known as the WHITE LION INN, in Bilston Street, Sedgley aforesaid, subject to conditions then to be produced.”

Birmingham Daily Post 5/4/1864 - Advert

“Leasehold And Copyhold Properties.

By Mr. S. Powell, at the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, Sedgley, this day (Tuesday), at Six o'clock.

Desirable Residence, Cottages, and Land situate in Bilston Street, Sedgley.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 21/3/1866 - Advert

“Bilston Street, Sedgley. Valuable Dwelling Houses, Garden Ground, and Premises.

Mr. Charles Round will Sell by Auction, at the WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley, on Monday, the 26th day of March instant, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions to be then read, and in the following lots.

Lot 1. All those four very desirable Freehold Messuages or Dwelling Houses, Nailshops, Brewhouse, and Piggeries, with large Garden at the back, situate adjoining the WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley, in the several occupations of Benjamin Hill, Joseph Cooper, Hannah Mitchell, and one void, and producing, when let, the annual rental of £21 13s 4d.

Lot 2. All that Messuage or Dwelling House, with the Pigsty, and small Plot of Garden Ground thereto belonging, situate nearly

opposite the last lot, and having a frontage to a road leading out of Bilston Street aforesaid, and formerly in the occupation of Thomas Beach, at the yearly rent of £5 4s.

For further particulars, and to inspect plan, apply Mr. James Round, Solicitor, High Street; or to Mr. Charles Round, Surveyor and Auctioneer, Owen Street, Tipton.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 5/9/1866

“The annual meeting for the renewal of existing licenses, and for receiving applications for fresh ones, was held at the Police Court on Friday.....

Mr. Thurstans made an application on behalf of Abraham Carter, an innkeeper, of Bilston Street. The house had been built at an outlay of about £600 for the express purpose of a licensed house, and there was every requisite accommodation. Mr. Young opposed on behalf of Mr. *Evans*, keeper of the WHITE LION INN, and it was refused.”

Dudley Herald 5/3/1870 - Died

“On 28th ult, aged 27, Mr. *William Cameron*, late of the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley, formerly of this town.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/4/1870 - Advert

“The WHITE LION INN, Sedgley.

To be Let, in consequence of the death of the Proprietor, the above Old-established Public-House. The Premises are replete with every convenience, with an excellent Garden attached. There are two good Clubs held at the house, and a good in and out-door trade is being done.

For further particulars, apply to Mr. John Bent, Auctioneers, and Publican’s Valuer, Dudley.”

Samuel Hancox was fined £5 and costs for permitting drunkenness, in January 1871.

1871 Census

56, Bilston Street

[1] *Mary A. Saunders* (32), widow, licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;

[2] Sarah Saunders (16), stepdaughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

[3] Samuel Saunders (9), son, born West Bromwich;

[4] Hannah Lloyd (20), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Dudley Herald 17/6/1871

Mary Ann Saunders was fined £1 and costs, and her license was endorsed, for permitting drunkenness.

Birmingham Daily Post 20/4/1872 - Advert

“Unserved Clearing-out Sale, at the WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley.

To Publicans, Brokers, and Others.

To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. John Bent, on Monday Next, April 22nd – the whole of the Public House Fixtures, Brewing Plant, well-seasoned Store Casks, hogshead and half-hogshead ditto, pair Cooling Vats, Mash-tub, 175-gallon Copper Boiler, five-pull Beer Machine, mahogany-top Spirit Counter, Cups, Jugs, Glasses, 12-bushel Malt Crusher, two fine and healthy Store Pigs, three couple Fowls, three couple Ducks, &c, together with the Household Fixtures, belonging to Mrs. *Mary Ann Saunders*, who has taken to the WHITE HORSE, Brettle Lane.

Sale to commence at Eleven o’clock.”

County Express 19/2/1876

“Robert Caswell and Evon Lloyd were each fined 10s and costs for refusing to quit the WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley.”

County Express 16/3/1878

“Joseph Mills, secretary to a friendly society held at the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley, was summoned for refusing to pay eight weeks’ sick pay due to a member named James Lester. The complainant said he was a member of the Hearty Good Fellows’ Lodge held at the WHITE LION INN, Cinder Hill, and since November last he had been very ill, and not able to follow his employment, but for some reason the defendant had refused to pay him eight weeks’ sick pay amounting to £2 8s.

Mr. Spooner to defendant: Why don’t you pay him the money you owe him? – Defendant: Because we have no money in hand.

Mr. Spooner: You will pay £1 16s, six weeks pay, and the costs or else go to prison.

Defendant said he could not pay any money, as the whole of the money belonging to the society was invested in property. For some time efforts had been made to sell the property, but up to the present time the society had not succeeded in doing so. Mr. Spooner said the sick members ought not to suffer through the bad arrangements of the managers of the society.

Defendant said there were several members in a similar position to the complainant.

Mr. Spooner: Then I hope they will come here, and then you will have to pay the money owing to them.”

Dudley Herald 17/1/1880

“Mr. Haden Corser, deputy-stipendiary, gave his decision, on Monday, at the Sedgley Police Court, in a case which had come before him a fortnight ago. The particulars of the case were as follows. A man named Emmanuel Anson, a member of the Beacon

Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners, held at the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley, sued Mr. Joseph Brown, the secretary, for the sum of £7, which was alleged to have become due, on the death of the prosecutor's wife, from the Lodge. It was contended for the defence that the defendant was not entitled to the money, as he had ceased to be a member of the Lodge, having received sick pay when he was able to work, and had been dismissed from the Society in consequence, in accordance with the rules. At the commencement of the case objections were raised as to the case being heard, as the summons ought to have been taken out at a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, viz, a Stipendiary Court, where the case could be heard. The Deputy Stipendiary decided to hear the case, and take a note of the objection raised. The case was heard, and Mr. Corser adjourned it until Monday last, in order that he might have time to consider whether it was in his power to give judgement.

On Monday Mr. Corser gave his decision, and said that when the case came last before the Court Mr. Wilcox, who appeared for the defendant, raised an objection to the case being heard. He decided to hear the case, but deferred giving judgement until he had looked through the Friendly Societies' Act. Having carefully studied the various clauses of the Act, he was of opinion that, as the county magistrate had no power to hear the case under the Friendly Societies' Act in a district where a stipendiary magistrate sat, he had no power to issue such summonses, and consequently, as no summons had been issued from the stipendiary's office, he had no alternative but to dismiss the case. If the parties were willing, he would give his opinion of the case. Plaintiff and defendant assented to this, and the Deputy Stipendiary said the facts of the case were that the plaintiff obtained money from the Society when feigning sickness, and he thought the Society was fully justified in expelling him for having committed a fraud, and he was consequently not entitled to the £7 he claimed. Plaintiff had the power to take out a summons from the stipendiary's office, and have the case heard again; but if he could not alter the evidence that had been given he would advise him not to do so."

Dudley Herald 2/10/1880

"W. H. Phillips, Esq, district coroner, held an inquiry at the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, Sedgley, on Thursday evening, into the death of John Stanley, son of John Stanley, of the same street, who died on Tuesday morning, from severe burns received on the previous night. The deceased, who was three and a half years old, was taken to bed on Monday night, when Rebecca Stanley, the mother, left the candle burning at the top of the stairs during her temporary absence. The child got out of bed (as he explained to his mother afterwards) and fetched the candle to search for a flea. His clothes caught fire, and his screams awoke his father, who was asleep on the sofa downstairs. The flames were as soon as possible extinguished, but not before shocking injuries had been sustained, from the effects of which the child died some hours afterwards. In reply to the Coroner, the mother stated that she was compelled to leave the room, but she had been accustomed to leave the light while the child went to sleep, and he had never before interfered with it. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned. The Coroner considered it an unwise course to leave a lighted candle within reach of a child."

1881 Census

56, Bilston Street – WHITE LION

[1] *Edward Sower* (53), publican, born Bilston;

[2] *Eliza Sower* (47), wife, born Bilston:

Dudley and District News 30/12/1882

"The members belonging to the 'Pride of Cinderhill' Lodge of Oddfellows, No.1376, held their annual dinner on Tuesday, at the house of Mr. *Edward Tower* [sic], WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley. After partaking of the good things provided and well served up by the host and hostess, Bro. Moses Johnstone was voted to the chair, and Bro. Fieldhouse to the vice-chair. The usual business over, a programme of sentimental and comic songs were sung by several members, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. It was stated by the secretary that the lodge was in a flourishing condition."

Birmingham Daily Post 20/5/1885

"On Monday, Mr. W. H. Phillips, coroner, held an inquest at the WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, on the body of Maria Lloyd (60), who was fatally burnt by the explosion of a paraffin lamp.

William Lloyd, the husband, said his wife was trying to extinguish the lamp, before retiring, and the flames caught her nightdress. Harriet Humphries, a neighbour, said that Mrs. Lloyd told her before her death that she tried to extinguish the lamp by blowing down the glass chimney.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and the coroner said there had been a recklessness in the use of the lamp. Oil dealers and sellers ought to explain to customers the dangers of improperly using the material."

1891 Census

56, Bilston Street – WHITE LION INN

[1] *Alfred Caswell* (39), publican, born Bilston;

[2] *Lucy E. Caswell* (30), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] *Alfred E. Caswell* (15), son, fitter, born Priestfield;

[4] *Mabel Caswell* (14), daughter, scholar, born Priestfield;

[5] *Elizabeth Caswell* (10), daughter, scholar, born Priestfield;

[6] *Maud Caswell* (8), daughter, scholar, born Priestfield;

[7] *Joseph Caswell* (6), son, scholar, born Priestfield;

[8] *Burt Caswell* (1 month), son, born Sedgley;

[9] *Elizzie Evans* (23), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Alfred Caswell brewed his own beer.
He was married firstly to Joanna.
He married secondly Lucy Myatt.

Dudley Herald 21/4/1900

“Iron Safe Engineers’ Society.

The ninth annual meeting of the executive council was held at the WHITE LION, Sedgley, on Tuesday, delegates from London, Bolton, Dudley and Wolverhampton attending. The president, in his address, congratulated the members as to the continued prosperity of the society, and impressed upon the council the importance their decisions that day would have upon the work of the society for the ensuing year.....”

Kent & Sussex Courier 20/6/1900

“*Alfred Caswell* was found hanged in the smoking room of his hotel at Sedgley.”

Alfred Caswell – see also ORANGE TREE, Bilston.

1901 Census

56, Bilston Street – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *Lucy E. Caswell* (39), widow, licensed victualler, born Sedgley;
- [2] Frederick Caswell (24), son, engineer’s fitter, born Bilston;
- [3] Ethel Caswell (20), daughter, born Bilston;
- [4] Maud Caswell (18), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] Joseph Caswell (16), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Albert Caswell (10), son, born Sedgley;
- [7] Katherine Caswell (8), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [8] Mary Jones (21), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Tipton Herald 12/9/1903

“The members of the WHITE LION Winchester Rifle Club, Sedgley, sat down to a repast catered for by the host and hostess on Saturday, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. A. Hewitt occupied the chair, and an excellent musical programme was given.....”

Tipton Herald 26/6/1909

“At a meeting of the representatives of the friendly societies in Sedgley and Gornal districts, held on Tuesday night, at the RED LION INN, Lower Gornal, it was unanimously decided that they form themselves into a committee to hold a Sunday service and parade on August 22nd 1909, in aid of the local charitable institutions. The following officers were elected:

President, Councillor L. Foster; chairman of committee, Councillor John Harvey; vice chairman of committee, Councillor T. Southall; treasurer, Mr. T. Malpass; secretary, Mr. W. A. Lee.

All societies who are not represented are invited to send a delegate to attend next meeting at WHITE LION HOTEL, Bilston Street, Sedgley, on Wednesday July 7th 1909.”

1911 Census

56, Bilston Street – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *Francis Evans* (42), widower, brewer for sales, born Smethwick;
- [2] Francis Henry K. Evans (15), son, tin plate worker, born Coseley;
- [3] Mary Harper (41), housekeeper, born Aston, Warwickshire:

Francis Evans died on 27th March 1920.

South Staffordshire Times 9/2/1924

“Bilston Licensing.....

Alterations at the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, Sedgley, which were passed on 8th July, 1921, were only partly completed, and he had served a notice of objection to the renewal of the license on those grounds.....

It was stated with regard to the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, Sedgley, that only a portion of the repairs had been carried out, but the upstairs alterations had been commenced and had been left in that state for some months.

Mr. F. J. Myatt gave reasons for the delay and promised that the house would be altered according to the plans and to the satisfaction of the police.”

South Staffordshire Times 8/3/1924

“The adjourned Licensing Sessions for the Bilston Division were held yesterday, before a full Bench of Justices, Mr. E. Hickman presided.....

Applications were made for the renewal of the licenses of the SEVEN STARS, Gospel End Street, Sedgley; the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, Sedgley; the COTTAGE OF CONTENT, Clarence Street, Upper Gornal, which were adjourned from the last sitting of the justices for certain structural alterations to be carried out. The police were satisfied in each instance, and the licenses were

granted.”

Dudley Herald 28/2/1931

“The bagatelle tournament between customers of the WHITE LION which has been running for the past three weeks was brought to a conclusion on Friday night last, when A. Jones defeated A. Slater in the final by 151 to 113. Afterwards the licensee (Mr. G. Lawrence) presented prizes to the finalists.”

Dudley Herald 28/3/1931

“Customers of the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, met Upper Ettingshall Bagatelle Club in a friendly match during the week, and the latter team were successful by the odd game of nine....”

Dudley Herald 4/4/1931

“Customers of the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, spent an enjoyable evening last Saturday when a musical concert was given by Mr. J. Caddicks (Upper Gornal) and his party. Mr. H. Elwell was in the chair.”

Dudley Herald 25/4/1931

“Bagatelle. The customers of the WHITE LION, Bilston Street, visited the GATE HANGS WELL on Monday evening, and an enjoyable game ended in the home team winning by eight games to two. The winners for the successful side were J. Turner, J. Phillips, C. Baker, W. Aston, B. Sheppard, J. Bryan, N. Hyde and S. Weaver, while E. Elwell and J. Bird were the only winners for the visitors. A smoking concert followed, presided over by Mr. G. Lawrence, the licensee of the WHITE LION.”

Dudley Herald 2/5/1931

“Bagatelle. Customers at the WHITE LION entertained a team representing the GATE HANGS WELL, on Tuesday last, in a return match. After a number of interesting games the home team ran out the winners by six games to three, thus avenging the defeat sustained a week ago. The winners for the WHITE LION were N. Adams, H. Fownes, G. Lawrence, F. Richards, E. Woodhall and H. Lane, while C. Bird, T. Bird and J. Phillips were successful for the visitors. A smoking concert followed under the chairmanship of Mr. C. Bird and items were rendered by Messrs. W. Wasdell, J. Beardsmore, T. Jeavons and C. Bird. Mr. B. Baker was the accompanist.”

Dudley Herald 20/6/1931

“At Bilston Police Court on Friday of last week, Joseph Herbert Stevens (23), 13, The Priory, Sedgley, was charged with stealing, at Sedgley, two gents’ bicycles and one lady’s cycle.
Samuel Benjamin Brown, 72, John Street, Ettingshall, said on Tuesday, May 26th, at about 1pm, he went to the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley, leaving his cycle outside. When he went for it about an hour later it was missing. On Friday, June 5th, he saw the cycle at the Police Station. The value was 25s.
Arthur Edward Collins, 36, Union Street, Wolverhampton, bought the cycle from Stevens, whom he saw in Union Street, Wolverhampton, at about 1.30pm, on Whit Tuesday. Witness asked him if the machine was alright and whether it had been stolen. Stevens told him it was alright.
Police-sergeant Martin said he recovered the cycle from Green’s garage in Willenhall Road, Wolverhampton. When charged, Stevens said, ‘Yes, I pinched it.’
Stevens pleaded guilty, stating that he had money in his pocket at the time and that he had no need to steal.
The next charge was of stealing a lady’s B.S.A. cycle, value 15s, the property of Thomas Clifford Allen, advertising agent, 38, Greenway, Sedgley, who said he left the machine outside the Working Men’s Club in School Street, Sedgley, at about 11am, on May 27th. The cycle was gone at about 12 o’clock.
Inspector Jones said when he told Stevens he was making enquiries about the cycle he said, ‘That’s nothing to do with me. I don’t know anything at all about it.’ Later in the day, upon being charged with stealing it, he said, ‘I have nothing to say. I took it.’
Stevens was also charged with Sidney John Cartwright (20), 4, Dean Street, Sedgley, with stealing a gent’s cycle, value 15s, the property of Hubert Bastock, 14, Arsenal Street, Small Heath, Birmingham. Bastock said on Wednesday, June 3rd, he left the cycle at his uncle’s house at Sedgley, and on going out later it was missing.
Inspector Jones said that at 12.30pm, on June 5th, he interviewed Cartwright at his home. He was arrested and charged with the offence, and he said, ‘I might as well tell you the truth. Stevens took it from out of the yard, and we hid it on the Tenscore.’ He then made a statement in which he said Stevens fetched the cycle out of the yard and witness told him to take it back. He said he was going to work on it, as he could find a customer. Stevens sold the cycle for 8s, and gave him 3s 6d.
Mr. Mathews, on behalf of Cartwright, pleaded not guilty. He said it must be evident that Stevens was the dominating factor in the case. Since his schooldays Stevens had had some sort of domination over him. He had been foolish in being passive. He had been ten times a fool in accepting the 3s 6d from Stevens. What he ought to have done was to have told the police, but he was afraid.
Stevens told the magistrates he was very sorry, and asked them not to send him to gaol or he would lose his job.
Stevens was sentenced to two months’ hard labour on each charge, the sentences to run concurrently. Cartwright was ordered to pay costs, and was bound over for 6 months.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 21/9/1937 - Deaths

“On the 17th inst, at 30, Wynn Road, Wolverhampton, *Lucy Elizabeth*, widow of *Alfred Casswell*, late of the WHITE LION, Sedgley, passed away suddenly.”

Evening Despatch 31/5/1939

“These Dogs Were Prize Winners.....

Mr. Campbell, of Bilston, judged all the classes in a show at the WHITE LION HOTEL, Sedgley. A Staffordshire bull terrier, owned by Mr. Brannon, was judged to be the best exhibit of the show.....”

1939 Register

Bilston Street – WHITE LION INN

[1] *William Edward Dunn*, date of birth 6/4/1909, licensed victualler, married;

[2] *Lily May Dunn*, dob 12/5/1903, unpaid domestic duties, married:

A team from here took part in the Sedgley and District Domino League. [1946]

Tipton Herald 30/7/1960

“Penalties totalling nearly £400 were imposed by Bilston magistrates, on Tuesday, on five Bradley youths convicted of what the Chairman (Mr. W. L. Hughes) described as an unprovoked and brutal assault upon a Sedgley publican’s son-in-law, who had gone to the assistance of another youth.

Such conduct, said Mr. Hughes, was unfortunately all too prevalent these days, and the bench were determined to do all in their power to wipe it out.

‘You are all under 21 years of age, therefore it is not possible to send you to prison. So we have decided to hurt you in another way,’ he told the accused – Phillip Howard Hindley (17), furnace hand, of 14, Baker Road, Peter Terence Howell (17), singer, of 37, Attlee Crescent, Batman Hill Estate, Brian Thomas (18), iron moulder, of 25, Attlee Crescent, Robert John Heath (17), soldier, of 1b, Wesley Street, and Brian Cunliffe (18), furnace hand, of 3, Wesley Street.

‘You’ve all got good jobs,’ Mr. Hughes went on, ‘and the only thing it can be possibly said in your favour is that you all seem to be fairly decent workmen. I hope you will keep those jobs, because you are going to need them for the fines we are going to inflict upon you. It seems terrible when young men of 17 and 18 can go to a public house and can buy up to 11 pints of beer in a night, and then as a result of it go out and commit this dastardly assault. The bench have purposefully been severe because we hope it will teach not only you young men here, but also others, that we are not going to tolerate violence in this division.’

The case arose out of an incident at the WHITE LION INN, Bilston Street, Sedgley, on Saturday night, June 18th, in which, the prosecution alleged, the licensee’s son-in-law, William Donald Edwards, of 6, Lester Place, Hateley Heath, West Bromwich, was severely booted when he went to the assistance of a customer, a youth named William Raymond Denner, of 11, Sherwin Avenue, Woodcross, Coseley, who was being set upon.

Thomas, pleading guilty to both charges, was fined £50 for inflicting grievous bodily harm upon Edwards and £50 on a similar charge relating to Denner. He was also ordered to pay £9 9s 6d costs.

Hindley, Howell and Heath were found not guilty of inflicting grievous bodily harm upon Denner but, together with Cunliffe, were fined £50 each on the charge relating to Edwards. All pleaded guilty to this charge, except Hindley, but the magistrates, retiring to consider their verdict, found him guilty. They were ordered to pay £5 10s each costs.

Hindley (two summonses) and Heath (two summonses) were fined £2 each and Howell and Roy Thomas Price (17), of 6, Attlee Crescent, were fined £1 each for being under 18 years of age and purchasing intoxicating liquor for their own consumption in licensed premises.

Hindley, pleading guilty, was also fined £25, and ordered to pay £2 2s 3d costs, for stealing a motor cycle, fined £25 and disqualified from driving for three years, for using the machine without being insured, and fined £2 for driving without a licence.

Yet another youth, Sidney Silk (18), of 43, Oliver Crescent, Batman Hill Estate, pleaded guilty to being an accessory after the fact to the theft of the motor cycle, and was fined £5 with £2 2s 3s costs.

Mr. E. Hiscox (prosecuting) said that a fight at the WHITE LION near closing time between Denner and one of the accused was followed by a more general set-to. The licensee was away from the house on relief duty and his wife sent her son-in-law, Edwards, to see what the trouble was and straightaway he became embroiled. It was, said Mr. Hiscox, no ordinary fist fight. A number of the youths set about Edwards and he was really beaten up and savagely kicked.

Dr. J. A. Donaldson, of Sedgley, said he saw Edwards at the WHITE LION at 10.50pm on June 18th and found him to be suffering from a severe eye injury, bruised lips, broken false teeth and extensive bruising of the left shoulder, ribs and hands. ‘My general impression was,’ said Dr. Donaldson, ‘that he had had a severe booting.’

Edwards was sent to West Bromwich and District Hospital and after treatment was allowed to go home.

Denner, who was detained in the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, for two days, had bruising of his left shoulder, right eye and a cut at the back of his head requiring stitching. Dr. T. G. Burcher, the hospital’s Senior House Officer said he was slightly drowsy when examined, having been unconscious.

Denner, a labourer, gave evidence that the accused followed him downstairs from the lounge bar of the WHITE LION at about 10pm and ‘started on him’ in the toilets. ‘Thomas hit me first. Someone must have hit me with a bottle or glass and I didn’t know any more,’ Denner said. ‘I started to run to the front of the house. One dragged me back into the porch and knocked me down and kicked me. I don’t know who it was. I got away after I’d had a couple of kicks and a couple more punches.’

Edwards told the court there was ‘a bit of a fight’ in the hall and then the crowd went through the front door into the street. When he went outside there were 12 to 15 fighting, all setting about one chap. He went towards them shouting ‘Break it up. Break it up!’ and they all ‘dived’ on him. They punched and kicked him and he went down receiving kicks on his face and shoulder.

Roy Holmes, of the BUSH INN, Bradley, said he went to the WHITE LION INN, Sedgley, with Thomas ‘and the rest of them.’ Thomas and Denner were arguing in the toilets and Denner said to him ‘I’ll have a fight with him (Thomas). Will you see it’s a

fair fight?' Thomas then hit Denner, there was a scuffle and Denner was outside with the others following him. Mrs. Alice Simpkins, wife of the licensee, said she saw three or four youths throw her son-in-law into the road and one begin kicking him. She fell over her son-in-law to protect him and she was kicked in the back. In statements to the police Howell was alleged to have admitted having had six and a half pints of beer, Heath 11 pints, Thomas 10 pints, and Cunliffe 11 pints. Thomas, it was alleged, told PC Arthur Golding 'Denner said he wanted to fight so I hit him with my fist and there was a scuffle between Denner and two of my mates. While we were on with Denner in the street a man came out and tried to part us. I hit this man with my fist. He went down; he was kicked; I don't know who kicked him.' In his statement Cunliffe was alleged to have said, 'I saw the barman (Edwards) and Thomas having some blows so I joined in to help Thomas.' He also admitted kicking Edwards three times. Hindley did not make a statement, but he gave evidence, in court, admitting being in the WHITE LION, but denying taking any part in the fighting. Blood on his shirt and a cut on his hand were the result, he said, of a 'fair fight' he had with another youth in a field after leaving the WHITE LION. Cunliffe, called as a witness for Hindley, said he did not see Hindley in any fight in the WHITE LION, but he did have a 'fair fight' in a field later. 'I was in the fight in front of the WHITE LION, but Hindley wasn't,' Cunliffe said. On the charges relating to purchase of intoxicating liquor, which were admitted, Mr. Hiscox said some of the youths called at the GREYHOUND INN, Cross Street, Bradley, before going to the WHITE LION. If their statements were correct, the accused consumed large quantities of beer; something like 11 pints seemed to be the average. The motor cycle stolen by Hindley, he said, was worth £75 and belonged to Job Mills, of Walter Road, Bradley. It was taken between 11pm on July 15th and 7.45am on July 16th from open ground near his home. When PC Bennett saw Hindley on July 16th he denied knowing anything about the motor cycle and said, 'If I can find out who pinched it I'll help you.' Silk had already been seen by PS Skerratt and said, 'I don't know anything about the motor cycle being pinched. I can't help you.' Later that night, said Mr. Hiscox, Hindley and Silk were arrested as a result of the public spirit displayed by a civilian who came upon them as he was cycling along Holyhead Road, Wednesbury. Hindley and Silk were pushing a motor cycle in the direction of Bilston and as a car passed them they pushed the machine over the footpath and let it fall down an embankment on to waste land. The cyclist reported the incident to the police and the two youths were seen at a dance in Darlaston and were arrested. In a statement admitting the theft, Hindley said that after taking the motor cycle from Walter Road he left it in Hill Street, Bradley, until the evening when he rode it to Darlaston and met Silk. Silk was alleged to have told the police he guessed Hindley had 'pinched' the motor cycle because it was like one the police had previously asked him about. The magistrates were told that Thomas earned £12 a week, Cunliffe £8 10s to £10, and Heath £9 10s a week, until he joined the Army on a nine-years regular engagement eight days after the incident. He had volunteered on June 10th."

Samuel John Bolton died in 1982.

Nicola 'Niki' Penny's partner was David Ralph. She married Mr. Sharratt.

Paul Jones – see also LITTLE BARREL, Dudley

It closed in 2008.

It reopened on 13th July 2010.

Keith Garbett was married to Lyn.

Black Country Bugle 9/11/2000 - Advertising Feature

"Keilyn Enterprises is a modern day success story, set right here in our own region, with all the parts played by a Black Country family. *Keith* and *Lyn Garbett*, from Bradley and Bilston respectively, have built their own little empire of four fine pubs, from a grass roots beginning. They started it all with Bradley ale-house the CROWN AND CUSHION. The couple originally owned the pub during the early nineteen-nineties, before selling it to Banks's Brewery in 1996. Though they missed the place, *Keith* and *Lyn* consoled themselves by buying another, the OLD CHAINYARD in the centre of Coseley. Their new acquisition had originally been called the RED LION, at least officially, but locals had always known it better as the 'OLD CHAINYARD', a nickname it had taken from the smithy which once stood behind it. The pub's pseudonym finally became its official title less than ten years ago, when it was transformed from an old-fashioned drinking den to a more open-plan, altogether brighter house. It was at this point that the *Garbets* took over, and a pub that was finally on the up after so many years as an also-ran became one of Coseley's best-loved meeting places. *Lyn* and *Keith* performed a similar feat with the RED COW in nearby Edge Street, though most emphasis here was to retain its most appealing, traditional aspects. It remains to this day a typical Black Country boozery, with darts, darts, crib; and of course gray pays.

By now though, *Keith* tell us, the couple had come to realise that they were still very much attached to the CROWN AND CUSHION – in fact they couldn't bear to see it in someone else's hands. So, some two years after selling it, they bought it back and added it to what could now be called their own chain of public houses. Team games and entertainment four nights a week are among its major attractions now. The most recent addition has been a little further afield, though still within the borders of the Black Country. The JOLLY CRISPIN in Upper Gornal's Clarence Street has always been a popular haunt of local ale enthusiasts, but

never has it been in such fine form. A grand total of fifty different cask ales from around the country are served up at the CRISPIN each month, with at least nine on offer at any one time. And with food having been added to the list of attractions, the pub is far from short of temptations. So the Keilyn empire now boasts four pubs, each with its own unique, highly individual appeal. But the key to their success couldn't be simpler. 'We offer nice, friendly pubs with a warm atmosphere,' says Lyn, 'and serve a good pint for a good price'."

[After leaving the pub trade Keith and Lyn came out of retirement to buy and run the WHITE LION.]

An extension was added in 2014, for use as a restaurant.

Express & Star 1/7/2015

"Former football stars Dean Saunders and Lee Hendrie were the special guests as a team celebrated its 30th anniversary. More than 700 people associated with Sedgley White Lions attended a special ceremony at The Venue in Dudley to mark the occasion. The club were formed at the WHITE LION pub in Bilston Street, Sedgley, in 1985 and have gone on to become a successful side in the Midlands at various age groups.

The first team most recently played in the Dudley and Cradley league but will move to the Wolverhampton Sunday League from next season.

The Lions currently has teams all the way down to Under 9s, but will be extending that further with an Under 8s team set to launch....."

Express & Star 4/1/2023

"The popular Sedgley pub, the WHITE LION INN in Bilston Street, is on the market for £595k, offered for sale with Sidney Phillips Limited, The Midlands. Sales particulars on rightmove.co.uk say the popular pub is appointed to a good standard and let for a term of 15 years from 2016 – generating a rental income £41,000 per annum."

[2023]

WHITE LION

1, The Fold, Duke Street, UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

William Laws

Stephen Wilkes, nail factor, Sedgley

William Penn, Worcester

John Parkes, brewer's traveller, 9, Parkdale

William Butler and Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

Sarah Darbey [1833] – [1839]

Stephen Law [1841] – [1846]

William Law [1851] – 1887);

Stephen Wilkes (1887 – 1888);

Mark Dovey (1888 – 1892);

John Timmins [1896] ?

Joseph Holtom (1892 – 1904);

John Aston (1904 – 1911);

John Timmins (1911 – 1913):

NOTES

It had a 6-day license.

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 26/8/1839 - Advert

"Sale Of Farming Stock, &c, Upper Gornal.

To be Sold by Auction, by Jesse Wright, on Monday next and Tuesday, September 2 and 3, all the Live and Dead Farming Stock, Growing Crops of Wheat, Barley, Oats, Potatoes, Peas, twenty tons of well-got Hay, Farming Implements, Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Copper Furnaces, and other effects belonging to Mrs. Sarah Darby, of the RED LION [sic], Upper Gornal, in

the parish of Sedgley, who is retiring from business.

Order Of Sale.

First day – Growing Crops, Ricks of Hay, Cows, Horses, Carts, Waggon, Gearing, and Farming Implements.

Second day – Household Furniture, Brewing Vessels, Bedding, &c.

Catalogues of the particulars may be had on application to the Auctioneers after Wednesday next.

Sale to commence each day at ten o'clock in the morning.”

1841 Census

Cottwallend

- [1] *Stephen Law* (46), farmer, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Prudence Law* (43), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Winnifred Law* (18), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *William Law* (16), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Stephen Law* (13), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Jueliean Law* (11), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Mary Law* (9), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *John Law*(7), born Staffordshire;
- [9] *Ann Law* (5), born Staffordshire;
- [10] *Prudence Law* (2), born Staffordshire;
- [11] *Richard Smith* (66), agricultural labourer, born Staffordshire;
- [12] *Ann Bowyer* (26), born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Journal 25/7/1846

“At the Bilston Police Court, on Tuesday, Mr. *Stephen Law*, landlord of the WHITE LION, at Gornal, appeared before the Bench to prefer a charge against John Lowe and John Hickman, for damaging a crop of growing wheat. The defendants did not appear, but the evidence showed that on the 8th of July they got over a fence into a crop of wheat, and went across the field, doing damage to the amount of 3d each. The Bench fined them of the damage and costs. Mr. *Law* said he was obliged to take this course as a warning to others, as his wheat was continually being trampled down.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/1/1847

“Coroner’s Inquests.....

At the WHITE LION, Upper Gornal, on the body of Henry Wild, a boy about four years old, who died from burns occasioned by his clothes taking fire on the 17th ult. Verdict, Accidental Death.”

1851 Census

Spout House

- [1] *Prudence Law* (53), widow, farmer 77 acres, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Winfride Law* (29), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Stephen Law* (24), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Juliane Law* (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Anne Law* (15), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Prudence Law* (12), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Richard Smith* (75), brother, agricultural labourer, born Dudley:

Staffordshire Advertiser 25/6/1853

“Yesterday, at an inquest before T. M. Phillips, Esq, a verdict of ‘Died Suddenly from a ruptured blood vessel of the lungs,’ was returned in the case of *Prudence Law*, a farmer’s widow, who in perfect health, went out into a meadow of a farm to milk her cows, becoming suddenly ill, and, returning home, died before medical aid could arrive.”

William Law was also a farmer. [1854], [1860], [1870], [1872]

1871 Census

The Fold

- [1] *William Law* (47), public house keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Law* (45), wife, housewife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Prudence Law* (22), daughter, serves at houses, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Stephen Law* (21), son, farmer, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Joseph Law* (18), son, nail factor, born Sedgley;
- [6] *John Law* (15), son, farm labourer, born Sedgley;
- [7] *Mary Law* (9), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [8] *Edmund Law* (7), son, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [9] *Alfred Law* (2), son, born Sedgley:

1881 Census

Fold – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *William Law* (56), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Elizabeth Law (55), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Mary Law (19), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Edward Law (16), son, farm boy, born Sedgley;
- [5] Alfred Law (12), son, scholar, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 7/1/1890

“Yesterday, at the Police Court – before Mr. F. A. Homer and Mr. Wilkes – Frank Harvey, John Powell, and Benjamin Guest, all of Gornal Wood, were charged with stealing three vases, the property of *Mark Dovey*, the landlord of the WHITE LION INN, Upper Gornal.

Police-constable Houston apprehended the defendants, who at once pleaded guilty. They had been served with a pint of ale, and when they left the property was missed.

Guest said he must have been mad to have taken the goods.

As the men were of good character, the Bench bound them over for three months to appear for judgement if called upon.”

1891 Census

The Fold, Duke Street – WHITE LION

- [1] *Mark Dovey* (52), brass worker and licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] Emma Dovey (45), wife, born Daisy Bank;
- [3] Mark Dovey (28), son, brass worker, born Sheffield;
- [4] Luke Dovey (23), son, brass bedstead maker, born Daisy Bank;
- [5] Sarah Bailey (19), daughter, brass worker, born Swindon, Yorkshire;
- [6] James Bailey (17), son, brass worker, born Swindon, Yorkshire;
- [7] Mary Bailey (15), daughter, born Swindon, Yorkshire;
- [8] Hannah Dovey (8), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley;

Birmingham Daily Post 25/8/1894

“Bilston. The annual licensing sessions for this division were held yesterday.... The magistrates refused a seven days’ license to the WHITE LION, Sedgley.”

Joseph Holtom = Joseph Holton

1901 Census

1, The Fold – WHITE LION INN

- [1] *Joseph Holtom* (52), licensed victualler and safe maker, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Holtom (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Annie Holtom (23), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] Joseph Holtom (21), son, fitter, electric, born Sedgley;
- [5] Beatrices Holtom (10), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] George Holtom (5), son, born Sedgley;

1911 Census

The Fold – WHITE LION

- [1] *John Aston* (60), widower, bricklayer and publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Mary Aston (40), daughter, staple maker, born Sedgley;
- [3] Ada Aston (35), daughter, tailoress, born Sedgley;
- [4] Arthur Aston (31), son, widower, bricklayer, born Sedgley;
- [5] William Aston (24), son, motor body machinist, born Sedgley;
- [6] George Henry Newton (38), son-in-law, boat builder, born Sedgley;
- [7] Hannah Newton (38), daughter, married 12 years, born Sedgley;
- [8] John Newton (10), grandson, school, born Sedgley;
- [9] Gladys Ena Newton (8), granddaughter, school, born Sedgley;
- [10] Sidney Newton (2), grandson, born Sedgley;

Staffordshire Sentinel 7/6/1913

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. Notice of Principal Meeting. County of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Principal Meeting to be held pursuant to the Licensing Rules, 1901, by the Compensation Authority for the above Area, will be held at the Shirehall, Stafford, at 10-45 o’clock am on Thursday, the 24th day of July, 1913.

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 (Consolidation) Act, 1910, they are bound to give an opportunity of being heard.....

List of Licensed Premises.....

WHITE LION, Upper Gornal. Alehouse. Licensee, *John Timmins*.”

License refused by Compensation Authority on 24th July 1913.

Staffordshire Advertiser 26/7/1913

“The principal meeting of the Staffordshire Licensing Compensation Authority was held at the Shirehall, Stafford, on Thursday.....

Seven houses were scheduled in Bilston division.....

WHITE LION, Upper Gornal, alehouse.....

Renewal was formally applied for and refused.”

Lichfield Mercury 1/8/1913

“Staffordshire Licensing Committee.

Seven licenses were referred from the Bilson petty sessional division, namely, the BIRD IN HAND, the BOAT BUILDERS ARMS, the COTTAGE SPRING, and the OLD ROUND OF BEEF, Bilston; the NEW INN, Woodsetton, Coseley, and the WHITE LION, Upper Gornal. The last named was an alehouse, and the others were described as ante 1869 beerhouses. There being no opposition to the report of the justices below, the committee refused to renew the seven licenses.”

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/8/1913 - Notice

“The Licensing (Consolidation) Act, 1910. County Of Stafford.

Notice Is Hereby Given, that the Compensation Authority for the above area, having decided at their Principal Meeting, held on the 24th day of July, 1913, 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 Licensee and the Registered Owner of the said Premises) are required to send to the Compensation Authority Notice of their Claims before the 7th day of September, 1913, for the purpose of enabling 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.....

WHITE LION, Upper Gornal, Sedgley. Alehouse. Licencee, *John Timmins*. Registered Owner, W. Butler and Co. Ltd.”

Compensation of £275 was paid on 24th December 1913.

Lichfield Mercury 9/1/1914

“The annual report of the County Licensing Committee fixed the following amounts.....

WHITE LION, Upper Gornal, Sedgley, £275.”

WHITE SWAN

Broad Street, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Prince [1862]

NOTES

Birmingham Journal 13/12/1862 - Advert

“Valuable Freehold Public House And Premises, situate in Broad Street, Coseley, in the county of Stafford.

To Be Sold By Auction, , by Mr. S. Powell (by order of the Mortgagee), on Tuesday Next, the 15th of December, at the house of Mr. John Skidmore, UNION INN, Wallbrook, Coseley, at Six o'clock in the evening, subject to conditions then to be produced – all that well-erected Public House and Premises, known as the WHITE SWAN INN, fronting Broad Street, Coseley aforesaid; comprising Cellar, Bar, Parlour, Tap Room, and Kitchen, large Club Room, and two Chambers; there is also a Brewhouse, with Room over, and other suitable Out-offices, and the whole of the property is now in the occupation of Mr. *Prince*, at a low rental of £15 per annum.

The above Property is substantially built, well supplied with water, and in every respect calculated for carrying on an extensive business,

Further particulars may be obtained from Mr. James Round, Solicitor or the Auctioneer, both of High Street, Tipton.”

WINDMILL

Coseley Moor, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

James Page [1834] – [1851]
Thomas Martin [1866]

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/3/1834 - Advert

“Buildings And Land, At Coseley.

To Be Sold By Auction, by Mr. W. Aston, on Thursday, the 10th day of April, 1834, at the Dwelling-house of Mr. *James Page*, known by the sign of the WINDMILL, at Coseley Moor, at four o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lots as shall be agreed upon at the time of sale, and subject to conditions as will be then produced.....”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/10/1839 - Advert

“Notice To Debtors And Creditors.

All person having any claim upon the estate of the late Mr. James Round, of Coseley, blacksmith, are requested to meet the executors thereof on Friday, the 25th day of October instant, at half-past four o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. *James Page*, WINDMILL INN, Coseley Moor, when a statement of his affairs will be laid before them; and all persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to pay the amount thereof to the executors forthwith.

Samuel Round. John Cooper.

Coseley, October 22, 1839.”

1841 Census

Coseley Moor

[1] *James Page* (35), publican, born Staffordshire;

[2] Mary Page (25), born Staffordshire;

[3] Hannah Walters (15), fs, born Staffordshire;

[4] Sarah Bucknall (10), fs, born Staffordshire;

[5] Robert Mason (15), ms, born Staffordshire:

Birmingham Daily Post 22/11/1866 - Advert

“To be Let, the WINDMILL INN, Coseley, Sedgley.

Apply to *Thomas Martin*, Landlord; or to Mr. Samuel Grainger, House Agent, Deepfields.”

WOODCROSS

48, (46), Woodcross Street, (Woodcross Road), Cinder Hill, COSELEY

OWNERS

Edward Jones, galvanizer, Wood Cross

Joseph Massey, blacksmith, Sedgley (acquired January 1882)

J. and J. Yardley and Co. Ltd.

John Thomas Mottram and William Clift, Market Street, Bilston

John Thomas Mottram, Market Street, Bilston

Richard Marsh [1919], [1931]

David Humphrey Fones

Job Butler

Darby's Brewery Ltd., Greets Green, West Bromwich

LICENSEES

Edward Jones [1857] – **1858**);
John Martin (**1858** – [1860]
George Beard [1861]
Edward Jones [1862] – **1863**);
Walter Irving Hair (**1863** – [1866]
William Tyler [] – **1867**);
Edward Jones (**1867** – [1869]
William Tyler [1871]
James Fellows [1871] – **1876**);
Frank Blakeman (**1876** – **1877**);
Mary Ann Griffiths (**1877** – **1878**);
Michael Peake (**1878** – **1882**);
Joseph Massey (**1882** – **1889**);
Josiah Hyde (**1889** – **1898**);
Thomas Hinton (**1898** – **1904**);
Horace Edward Foxall (**1904** – **1906**);
William Hindley (**1906** – **1908**);
Robert Thomas Groves (**1908**);
Richard Bates (**1908** – **1913**);
Richard Marsh (**1913** – **1930**);
George Harold Hughes (**1930** – **1931**);
David Humphrey Fones (**1931** – **1932**);
Job Butler (**1932** – **1935**);
Arthur Edward Hickman (**1935** – **1937**);
Joseph Harry Cartlidge (**1937** – **1938**);
Leonard Mills (**1938** – [1940]

NOTES

46, Woodcross Street [1891], [1901]
48, Woodcross Street

It had a pigeon fliers club.

[Staffordshire Advertiser 5/9/1857](#)

“This day being the annual licensing meeting there were a number of applications for new licenses, only one of which, however, was granted, to *Edward Jones*, of Cinder Hill, Sedgley.”

AND

[Birmingham Journal 5/9/1857](#)

“The annual licensing meeting for Bilston and its neighbourhood was held on Friday.....

Mr. Whitehouse applied on behalf of Mr. Mills, of Can Lane, for a license to the SUMMER HOUSE INN, of which the latter is owner and occupier. The applicant had occupied the house in respect of which he (Mr. Whitehouse) applied for a license for six or seven years, and no complaint had been made as to the manner in which it had been conducted, and further, Mr. Mills’s certificate was numerously signed. As regarded the house itself, it cost Mr. Mills at least £1,000, and possessed such accommodation as was highly necessary for a public house. The last license to the neighbourhood was granted twenty-five years ago, to a most miserable house. Since that time 238 houses had been erected, 130 of them within a period of six years. Between twenty and thirty had been erected since last year, and a large piece of land had been divided into building lots, and would, no doubt, be built upon in the course of next summer. Mr. Loxdale observed that the Bench had decided upon granting one license in the neighbourhood; the question was whether it would be to the house of Mr. Mills, Mrs. Hobday, or Mr. *W Jones*. Mr. J. E. Underhill, on behalf of Mr. Screen, of the BOAT INN, the next house to Mr. Mills’s, opposed the application, principally on the ground that no other licensed house was required.

Mr. Waterhouse applied for a license on behalf of Mrs. Hobday. The buildings which Mr. Whitehouse had said had been recently erected stood at the Coppice, and he apprehended that it was in respect to that district that the license was required. He therefore contended that the house of Mrs. Hobday stood in the most convenient situation.

Mr. Waterhouse then applied for a license to the house of Mr. *Jones*, at Wood Cross, one of the three cases selected by the Magistrates. The grounds of the application were the increase of population and the great probability of a further increase, and that there was no public house in the village. The nearest inns were at Cinder Hill, one 493 and the other 517 yards from the applicant’s house. Mr Whitehouse opposed the application on the part of the innkeepers of Cinder Hill, the ground of the opposition being that a sufficient increase had not taken place in the population to demand further public house accommodation, or render another licensed house necessary. Mr. Whitehouse added that there were already three licensed houses and five beer-houses in the neighbourhood.

The Bench granted the application of Mr. *Jones*, and refused that of Mr. Mills and of Mrs. Hobday.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 13/2/1859

“At Mr. *John Martin*’s, WOOD CROSS INN, Sedgley, near Deepfield Station, tomorrow (Monday), a fat pig, weighing upwards of 20 score, value £10, will be shot for, by 20 members at 10s each. Conditions: 5 birds each, guns $\frac{3}{4}$ bore, 2oz shot, 21 yards rise, double guns $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz shot, allowed 2 yards; H. and T. traps used; the field the boundary. Shooting to commence at 12 o’clock. The best blue rocks will be provided by Crossbee of Aston. Dinner at five o’clock.”

London Gazette 23/11/1860

“Whereas a Petition of *John Martin*, at present and for nine months and three weeks last past residing at Old End, Coseley, in the parish of Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, out of business, and for two years and five weeks previously residing at Woodcross, Cinder Hill, in the parish of Sedgley aforesaid, and carrying on there the business of a Licensed Victualler and Dealer in Tobacco, an insolvent debtor, having been filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, at Dudley, and an interim order for protection from process having been given to the said *John Martin*, under the provisions of the Statutes in that case made and provided, the said *John Martin* is hereby required to appear before the said Court, on the 11th day of December next, at ten of the 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 *John Martin*, or that have any of his effects, are not to pay or deliver the same but to Mr. Thomas Walker, Registrar of the said Court, at his office, at the Court-house, Priory-street, Dudley, the Official Assignee of the estate and effects of the said insolvent.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 10/3/1861

“To be shot for at Mr. *G. Beard*’s, WOODCROSS INN, Cinder Hill, near Deepfield station, tomorrow (Monday), March 11, a £10 sweepstakes, by 20 members at 10s each. First prize £7, second £2, third £1.....”

1861 Census

Wood Cross – Public House

- [1] *George Beard* (32), sheet iron roller, born NK, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Mary Beard* (32), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Amelia Ann Beard* (7), daughter, school, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Charles Henry Beard* (5), son, school, born NK, Durham;
- [5] *Harriot A. Beard* (2), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Sarah Ann Clark* (18), house servant, born Sedgley;

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 19/10/1862

“To be shot for, at Mr. *E. Jones*’s, WOOD CROSS INN, Cinder Hill, Sedgley, five minutes’ walk from Deepfields station, on the Stour Valley line, on Monday, Nov 3, a fat pig, 20 score.....”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 13/8/1863

“On Monday the anniversary of the society called the Noble Bearens took place in the pleasure grounds and premises of Mr. *Hair*, of Woodcross, Cinder Hill. The president, Mr. Edward Jones, was present and occupied the chair at the dinner, the vice-chair being occupied by Dr. Greene. After the report of the proceedings of the past year had been disposed of, about fifty of the members sat down to an excellent dinner. The flourishing condition of the society was warmly spoken of, as it promises to be of increased usefulness in the district before long; and after a few jovial hours had been spent in several games, &c, they separated about nine o’clock. Mr. Smith presided at the piano-forte, there being music among many other things to beguile the time.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/1/1865

“At the WOODCROSS INN, near Deepfields station, on Monday, Feb 6, a splendid fat pig, weighing upwards of 16 score, will be shot for, by 18 members, at 10s each, 3 birds each, single guns $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz shot, 21 yards rise; double guns $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz of shot, 19 yards rise, 60 yards boundary. Shooting to commence at 12 o’clock. Guns not to exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ bore.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 11/2/1865

“At Mr. *Hair*’s, the WOODCROSS INN, Woodcross, near Bilston, on Monday, a match between Mr. Solomons and Young Noon came off at 3 birds each, for £5 a side, won by Noon, killing his two birds in succession. Afterwards a sweepstake by 9 members, at 10s each, came off at 3 birds each. Messrs. Bumford, Lester, and Burgess tied, killing three birds in succession, and agreed to divide.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 28/10/1865

“At *W. J. Hair*’s, WOOD CROSS INN, Deepfields, Staffordshire, 10 minutes’ walk from N. W. Railway Station, on Monday, Nov 6, two pigs, of the value of £5, will be shot for by 20 subscribers, at 5s each, 3 pigeons each, 21 yards rise, single guns, $\frac{3}{4}$ bore, $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz of shot, the field the boundary, first and second best shots to take pigs or money. Also a sweepstakes of 10s each, at 3 birds each. Shooting at one o’clock.”

Birmingham Daily Post 4/12/1865 - Advert

“By Mr. Samuel Baker, at the house of Mr. *Hair*, This Day (Monday), at the WOODCROSS INN, Sedgley, at Six o’clock – Free-

hold Property at Cinder Hill.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 6/6/1866 - Advert

“WOODCROSS INN, near Sedgley. To be Let, and may be entered on June 25th next, in consequence of the proprietor having other engagements, this well known established road side Inn. It contains bar, parlour, large tap room, club room, extensive cellaring, and pleasure ground. The house is delightfully situated in the most healthy part of the parish and surrounded by Ironworks and mining operations. To Parties in want of a public house this is an opportunity rarely to be met with. Apply to Mr. *Walter Hair*, on the premises.”

Dudley Herald 18/5/1867

“*William Tyler* fined 5s and costs prohibited hours first offence.”

Birmingham Journal 8/8/1868 - Advert

“Mr. Thomas Richards will offer for Sale by Auction, at the House of Mr. *Edward Jones*, the WOODCROSS INN, situate at Woodcross, in the parish of Sedgley, on Tuesday, the 18th day of August, at Six o’clock in the evening, and subject to conditions of sale then to be produced, in one or two lots, as may be determined upon at the time of sale, the undermentioned Valuable Freehold Property.

All that Freehold Old-Licensed Public House, with the large Pleasure Grounds, Gardens, and Premises thereto belonging, situate at Woodcross, in the parish of Sedgley aforesaid, known by the Sign of the WOODCROSS INN, at present in the occupation of the Proprietor, Mr. *Edward Jones*.

Together with Eight Freehold Dwelling Houses, Gardens, and Premises adjoining thereto, in the several occupations of Joseph Malpass, John Humpheries, and others, the whole occupying a site of 4,025 square yards of Land, and producing at low rentals the sum of £100 per annum.

The Auctioneer would respectfully call the attention of Capitalists and others to this extremely valuable Property, which, being situate in one of the most pleasant parts of the parish of Sedgley, commanding extensive views of the surrounding neighbourhood, and also being within easy walking distance of the large Ironworks of the district, and the Deepfields Railway Station on the Stour Valley Railway, offers an opportunity for investment rarely to be met with.

The WOODCROSS INN contains four Bed Rooms, Bar, Tap Room, Smoke Room, two Kitchens, large Lodge Room, 48ft by 17ft 9in, with extensive Cellaring under the House and Lodge Room; the whole of the Property is well supplied with both hard and soft Water.

Plans and particulars of the Property may be obtained from Mr. *Jones*, upon the Premises; and also from the Office of Wm. Shakespeare, Esq, Solicitor, Oldbury; and the Auctioneer, 11, Queen Street, Wolverhampton.”

Bells Life in London and Sporting Chronicle 25/12/1869

“Mr. Davis’s Sam of Deepfields and M. Smith’s Rose of Bilston have signed articles to run the best of 21 courses, for £10 a side, on Jan 3. £2 a side is down in the hands of Mr. *Jones* of Wood Cross, the final stakeholder.”

1871 Census

48, Woodcross Street

- [1] *James Fellows* (47), WOODCROSS INN Public House, born Sodom;
- [2] Sarah Fellows (45), wife, born Sodom;
- [3] James Fellows (16), son, born Bradley;
- [4] Phoebe Fellows (14), daughter, born Bradley;
- [5] John Fellows (11), son, born Bradley;
- [6] Sarah Fellows (8), daughter, born Bradley;
- [7] Henry Fellows (70), brother, shingler, born Sodom;
- [8] Phoebe Nichols (30), widow, born Sodom:

Midland Counties Evening Express 13/4/1875

“Occasional licenses were granted to *James Fellows* of Wood Cross, Sedgley for the sale of refreshments at the [Wolverhampton] Races on Thursday and Friday next.”

1881 Census

48, Woodcross Street – WOODCROSS INN

- [1] *Michael Peake* (45), born Sedgley;
- [2] Hannah Peake (51), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Moses Henry Peake (21), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Hannah Peake (15), daughter, scholar, born Sedgley:

Joseph Massey was also a blacksmith.

Dudley and District News 27/12/1884

“George Lawfield, under-hand puddler, was charged with threatening to murder Edward Birch, ironworker, on the 14th inst. Mr. J. W. Stokes, of Dudley, who prosecuted, stated that his client and the defendant were for some time employed at the Manor

Ironworks, Ettingshall, but in consequence of the defendant getting intoxicated whilst at work one day he was discharged. Since then the defendant alleged that the complainant was the cause of him being discharged, and in consequence had threatened to kill him. Under these circumstances he asked for the defendant to find substantial sureties to keep the peace. Evidence was afterwards given that the defendant when in the WOOD CROSS INN, Cinderhill, threatened that when he could get at complainant he would knock him to bits, and afterwards throw him into a fire. Defendant admitted that he had threatened the complainant, but added that it was when complainant was not present. Mr. Stokes said his client was afraid that defendant would kill him, and asked that he should be bound over. The Deputy-Stipendiary said he did not consider it a case in which he should call on the defendant to find sureties to keep the peace. He would, however, warn him that if he was caught threatening or assaulting the complainant he would be severely dealt with.”

1891 Census

46, Wood Cross Street

- [1] *Josiah Hyde* (30), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] Jane Hyde (24), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] Ephraim Hyde (4), son, born Sedgley;
- [4] Josiah Hyde (1), son, born Sedgley;
- [5] Hyde (1 day), son, born Sedgley;
- [6] Caroline Hill (16), general servant, born Wolverhampton:

Birmingham Daily Post 2/6/1894

“At the Wolverhampton Police Court, yesterday, *Josiah Hyde*, landlord of the WOOD CROSS INN, Coseley was summoned for selling drink during prohibited hours. Mr. A. Whitehouse prosecuted, and Mr. Foster defended. The evidence showed that about four o’clock in the afternoon of Sunday, May 13, some men were seen to enter the defendant’s house, and on two police officers gaining admittance, six of the men said they came from Greet’s Green, West Bromwich, and the seventh from Wood Street, Tipton, which was within the three-miles radius. They further stated that they were on business, as an excursion was to be carried out the following day, and they had come into the district to purchase flowers. Evidence in support of the charge having been given several witnesses were called to show that the men had been going round the district to purchase flowers, and they called at the defendant’s house to get some bread and cheese and ale. The Stipendiary Magistrate said there must be a conviction with regard to the man from Tipton, who lived within the three-miles radius. It appeared to him absurd that seven men would go out on a Sunday for a distance of six miles simply to buy flowers. It was shown, however, that the men had been in two public-houses and this evidence was not consonant with bona fide travelling. The law cast a duty upon publicans to ascertain whether the statements of travellers were correct. A fine of 20s and costs was imposed.”

Josiah Hyde was convicted on 28th January 1896 for two cases of suffering gaming on licensed premises.

Dudley Herald 23/7/1898

“*Josiah Hyde*, WOOD CROSS INN, Sedley, was charged with unlawfully selling intoxicating drink during prohibited hours. Mr. W. A. Foster appeared for the defence. PC Day stated that on June 27th, about 11.45pm, he was on duty in Wood Cross Street in company with PC Bridgwood, when he observed a large light in the window of the bar parlour of the WOOD CROSS INN. At the same time he saw two men named Low and Salt coming down the road. When they were opposite the WOOD CROSS INN Low went walking steadily on, and Salt knocked at the door of the inn. Witness heard him say ‘Right, Right,’ and in the course of a few minutes the landlord came to the front door and received something that sounded like copper coins from Salt and then he handed Salt the quart bottle of ale produced. Salt put the ale in his right-hand inside pocket, and defendant closed the door. Salt then proceeded up Wood Cross Street, and witness followed with the other officer. They overtook Salt in company with Low, and witness said ‘You have received a quart bottle of ale from Mr. *Hyde*, of the WOOD CROSS INN, and have it in your right-hand inside pocket.’ He then took the bottle from Salt’s pocket. Salt, however, said that his landlady ‘brewed’ and he had had the ale from his house. Low said he knew nothing about it, and could not afford a quart of ale for his supper. Witness then went back with Salt and Low to the WOOD CROSS INN, and when defendant came to the door he denied having supplied anyone with ale. Witness then went a short way down the road with PC Bridgwood, and they saw *Hyde* in company with Salt and Low go to Salt’s house. They followed and saw *Hyde*, Salt, and Low in conversation with Mrs. Salt in the back kitchen. Witness entered the house and said ‘Mrs. Salt, do you brew ale here?’ and she replied ‘No, I’ve not brewed ale for a long time.’ Salt said ‘If you don’t get out of this — house I’ll throw you out.’ *Hyde* laughed, and Low said ‘No, don’t do that.’ Mrs. Salt said ‘The quart of ale is what I paid for before closing time.’ Witness stated that when he took the ale from Salt there was froth on it, and it appeared to be quite fresh. Cross-examined by Mr. Foster, witness denied that he was standing by Mr. Wheeler’s shop when Low and Salt passed, and thought they could not possibly have observed him before they went to the inn. PC Bridgwood corroborated the statements of the other officer. Mr. Foster said the defence was that no beer was supplied at the time suggested on the night in question. His instructions were that what happened was that Mr. *Hyde* and his wife were sitting in the house, and the man Salt and his companion in passing the house knocked at the door. *Hyde* went to the door, and Salt said ‘There are two policemen in plain clothes up the road. I don’t know what they are about,’ to which defendant replied ‘I don’t care what they are up to.’ That, Mr Foster was instructed, was the honest version of the story, and he called the defendant, who corroborated the statement. *Hyde* also said that the quart of ale had

previously been served to Salt's mother before closing time. *Hyde* also asserted that PC Day had a grudge against him as he had had cause to report the officer.

The Superintendent: To whom did you report the officer? – Defendant: To the sergeant's wife. (Laughter.)

The Stipendiary: What nonsense.

Mrs. *Hyde*, Joseph Thomas Baker, William Henry Collins, and George Frederick Rolason were called for the defence and deposed that Mrs. Salt had been supplied with the ale before 'closing time.' The witness Rolason said that the bottle produced was not the one he saw filled for Mrs. Salt.

Salt and Low were also called and corroborated *Hyde's* statements.

The Stipendiary: I have not the slightest doubt that the witness Rolason was right when he said the bottle produced was not the bottle filled for Mrs. Salt before closing time. It was a different one entirely. To defendant: There are three convictions against you for similar things before and this makes it a serious matter.

Mr. Foster pointed out that the previous cases had been tried by his worship and the fines he had imposed showed that he had not then considered them so serious.

The highest previous penalty had been a fine of 20s.

The Stipendiary: It rather looks as if a penalty of 20s and costs is not enough to keep you in order. He inflicted a fine of 40s and costs."

Wolverhampton Express and Star 26/8/1898

"Bilston annual licensing sessions.....

Superintendent Walters objected to the renewal of the WOOD CROSS INN, Coseley, on account of their being four convictions against the landlord *Josiah Hyde* on July 18th last, in January 1896, in 1895 and 1894.

Mr. Foster, who applied for the renewal, said there had been a temporary transfer to *Thomas Hinton*. Nothing could be said against Mr. *Hinton's* character. The public house was the only one at Wood Cross, the population of the place numbering about 156. A brewery firm had purchased the house, and *Hinton* had paid the ingoing. Three witnesses spoke to the good character of the house previous to the convictions. License renewed."

Bridgnorth Journal 11/2/1899

"Mr. W. H. Phillips (South Staffordshire Coroner) held an inquest on Saturday at the WOODCROSS INN, Cinderhill, near Sedgley, concerning the death of Hannah Bowen (34), the wife of James Bowen, a blacksmith, residing at Woodcross, who was found dead in bed on the morning of the 2nd inst, by her daughter. Information was given to the police by several persons that the deceased had been badly ill-used by her husband. Dr. Allen, who made a post mortem examination, ascertained that death was not the result of violence, but was due to pleurisy and syncope.

In reply to the Coroner the doctor said the body was bruised, but he could not say that death had been accelerated by violence.

The Coroner said there was no doubt the unfortunate woman had been subjected to violence, and it was a pity that some protection had not been afforded her.

Police-sergeant Shaffery said there were three witnesses present prepared to give evidence respecting the ill-treatment of deceased.

Dr. Allen stated that there was one child five months old, and a woman who was the mother of 17 children had offered to rear it.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence."

1901 Census

46, Woodcross Street

[1] *Thomas Hinton* (48), iron bar worker, born Sedgley;

[2] Ann Hinton (49), wife, born Sedgley;

[3] William Hinton (19), son, tobacconist's assistant, born Sedgley;

[4] Joseph Hinton (17), son, iron tuyers moulder, born Sedgley;

[5] Henry Hinton (15), son, brickmaker, born Sedgley;

[6] Edward Hinton (13), son, born Sedgley;

[7] Sarah Jones (24), general servant, born Yorkshire:

London Gazette 16/6/1908

"To be Sold, pursuant to an Order of the High Court of Justices, Chancery Division, made in an action of re The Albion (Burton on Trent) Brewery Ltd, *Graham v The Albion (Burton on Trent) Brewery Limited*, 1903 on Wednesday the 15th day of July, 1908 Certain freehold licensed properties, shop and dwelling houses, situate at and around Wolverhampton known as the WOODCROSS INN, Wood Cross, Coseley, and 8 dwelling houses adjoining the SPREAD EAGLE, Ladymoor, Coseley, the WHEATSHEAF, Great Brickkiln Street, Wolverhampton....."

Staffordshire Advertiser 16/4/1910

"Col. T. E. Hickman, MP for Wolverhampton South, made a tour of part of his constituency on Saturday night, several dinners were held in celebration of the victory in the General Election. At each of these the Member was accorded an enthusiastic reception.....

The hon. member also visited the WOODCROSS INN, where the members of the No.2 section of the Hurst Hill Polling District Committee were entertained under the chairmanship of Mr. W. H. Robinson....."

1911 Census

127, Woodcross Street

[1] *Richard Bates* (twice married) (31), publican, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Jenny Bates* (30), wife, married 5 years, born Coseley;

[3] *Doris Bates* (9), daughter, born Coseley;

[4] *Richard Bates* (4), son, born Bilston:

Richard Marsh was also a brewer. [1912]

South Staffordshire Times 11/10/1919

“Mr. *Richard Marsh*, owner and licensee of the WOOD CROSS INN, applied for alterations for the premises.

Mr. Foster (Wolverhampton) made the application. There was no objection on the part of the police, the improvements being in the direction of accommodation for the family.

The Magistrates pointed out that there was an increase in the drinking area, but Mr. Foster said the clubroom was reduced. The object was to give more air space. It was also intended to put in a bath-room.

The Magistrate’s Clerk: Will you put a bath in it?

Mr. Foster: We will do that.

The application was granted.”

South Staffordshire Times 7/2/1920

“Bilston Licensing Sessions....

During the past year plans had been passed for the reconstruction or alteration of the undermentioned houses; LIMERICK INN, Gornal Wood; BUSH INN, Gornal Wood; 10, Cinder Road, Gornal Wood; and the WOOD CROSS INN, Cinderhill; THREE CUPS INN, Lanesfield; CASTLE INN, Bilston; BULLS HEAD INN, Etingshall.

The reconstruction or alterations in the case of the LIMERICK INN, BUSH INN, 10, Cinder Road, and WOOD CROSS INN, were in hand, but in the case of the other houses had not commenced In the case of the reconstruction of the THREE CUPS and CASTLE INN the contracts had been made in each for reconstruction.”

Birmingham Daily Gazette 24/9/1921

“As a result of a collision between two motor-cars, the one driven by Mr. Edgar Westley, of North Street, Dudley, and the other by Mr. Claude Heath, of Birmingham Road, Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. *Richard Marsh*, of WOOD CROSS INN, Bilston, who were riding in Mr. Westley’s car, were both injured, but the drivers escaped injury.

Mrs. *Marsh* was detained at the Dudley Guest Hospital, and her husband, after having his left arm dressed, was conveyed home.”

Bilston & Willenhall Times 31/1/1925

“The annual distribution of prizes and medals gained by the Woodcross Bowling Club, Hurst Hill, which took place at the WOODCROSS INN, on Saturday, was an occasion upon which was good grounds for congratulations upon the success of the last season. About eighty members and their friends sat down to supper, provided by Mr. *Marsh*, and at the close of the repast, Mr. L. Foster, the president of the club, after the loyal toast had been honoured, gave a resume of the club’s performance during the season.....”

Dudley Herald 6/6/1931 - Advert

“To Brewers and Others. Important announcement of Sale By Auction of a valuable well known Freehold Home Brewing Fully Licensed Property at Hurst Hill, near Bilston.

Alfred W. Dando and Co., have received instructions from the owner, Mr. *Richard Marsh*, to Sell By Auction at the DUDLEY ARMS HOTEL, Dudley, on Tuesday, June 23rd, 1931, at Seven o’clock in the evening precisely, subject to conditions of sale then to be produced.

The substantially erected double-fronted Public House, known as the WOODCROSS INN, containing Entrance Passage, Bar, Smoke Room 13ft x 11ft 6in, Tap Room 26ft x 10ft 6in, Private Smoke Room 17ft x 10ft 6in, glazed Verandah leading to Kitchen, Club Room 45ft x 20ft, with separate approach, 4 Bedrooms on one floor, Bath Room fitted (hot and cold), lavatory basin, W.C., pantry and cellar.

In a spacious yard with covered double gateway approach is a 3-floor Brewery with fermenting room under, arched cellars, various timber built erections, and the usual conveniences.

At the side of the property with unbuilt open frontage is a plot of land with ranges of open shedding (which with little expenditure could be converted into a pleasure garden), kitchen garden and adjoining a well-kept Bowling Green, about 31 yards by 26 yards with pavilion entirely walled in.

The foregoing property has a frontage to the road of about 80 yards, extends to a public footpath at the rear with entrance therefrom, occupies a considerable area of land, is situate in the midst of a large contemplated Housing Scheme, is in an excellent state of repair, the present owner having quite recently made a large expenditure on the property, the internal fittings throughout being of a very high class character. The house has always done a large and profitable trade and should command the attention of those requiring a Home Brewing Property with vacant possession, or to Brewers wishing to increase their barrelage.

Further particulars may be obtained of Messrs. W. A. & H. M. Foster & Co., Solicitors, 31, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, (Tele. No. 194), or of the Auctioneers, 193, Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (Tele. 2256).”

Job Butler was also a brewer.

Arthur Edward Hickman died in 1937.

1939 Register

Woodcross Road – WOODCROSS INN

[1] *Leonard Mills*, date of birth 23/7/1903, licensed victualler, married;

[2] Lily May Mills, dob 25/8/1905, unpaid domestic duties, married;

[3] George Ernest Mills, dob 1/7/1939, under school age, single:

Closed

Demolished

WOODMAN

2, Wakelams Fold, (Louise Street), (New Street), Gornal Wood, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

William Hughes

John Jones

William Wakelam

Julia Hanson and Son Ltd.

Chris Swindells

Stan Owen Group (leased) [2013], [2018]

LICENSEES

William Hughes [1849] – **1880**);

Isaac Hughes (**1880 – 1887**);

John Jones (**1887 – 1926**);

William Wakelam (**1926 – 1934**);

Hannah Bradley (**1934 – 1937**);

Isaac Bradley (**1937 – 1940**);

Benjamin Rowley (**1940 – 1953**);

Arthur Elwell (**1953 – 1957**);

Benjamin Collins (**1957 – []**)

Dennis B Fowkes [1990]

Tony Jones [1991] – **2003**);

Mrs. Jackie Jenkins (**2003 – [2005]**)

Chris Swindells (**2006 – [2008]**)

Dave ‘Curly’ Hill [2018]

Rebekah New (2023 – [])

NOTES

Louise Street

New Street [1932], [1940]

2, Wakelams Fold [1939]

It had a bull terrier club.

www.zoarchurch.co.uk

“Zoar chapel began its existence as a result of members being ejected from the Wesleyan congregation at Himley Road in 1835. They were part of a dispute which reached way beyond the Black Country and concerned the authority of the national Conference over and above the local Circuits and chapels. Using at first the club room of the WOODMAN INN, then the barn at the FIDDLERS ARMS, these ‘exiles’ took over a wooden building (known as the ‘Wooden Tabernacle’), near the LIMERICK INN on Summit Place. They were one of 19 similar groups (totalling some 1,500 members) from Societies in the Dudley Wesleyan Circuit who banded together to quit Wesleyanism and join the Methodist New Connexion. By 1837 the MNC Society in Gornal Wood had a brick building (‘Brick Tabernacle’) on structures. The original front was subsequently plastered over. In the Sedgley

Tithe Survey of 1844 the occupiers were recorded as 'Trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel'.

Mount Zion began with a group of people meeting in the same two cottages the Kent Street congregation had used. It had reverted to two dwelling places, but was restored as a place for worship and served during the week as a day school. It was replaced with a new chapel building, opened in 1878. One stone laid recorded the name of Sir Horace St. Paul, a local landowner and coal-master who for a time lived at Ellowes Hall.....

(The information contained in this brief historical record is based on information gathered by the Revd. A. Ward Jones, for a research project on the history of Methodism in the Black Country and incorporates material contained in 'Forward - The Methodist Church Gornal and Sedgley Circuit Souvenir Brochure' (a brochure produced in 1962 to mark the launch of the Circuit) and written by the late Andrew Barnett, local historian and sometime headmaster of Red Hall Junior School.)"

Black Country Bugle 14/4/2005

'The Birth of a Gornalwood Church'

"According to his [Eddie Attwood] research, in 1835 a number of Gornal people were expelled from the Himley Road Methodist Church for disagreeing with certain rules and regulations On the first Sunday after their expulsion the group were forced to hold their service in the open air. However, the next Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. *William Hughes* licensees of the WOODMAN INN allowed them the use of the club room attached to that place The *Hughes* family seemed to have kept up a connection with both the pub and the new Methodist group for many years. *William Hughes* is recorded as landlord as late as 1865, and Mrs. *Hughes* became a fully fledged member of the church, remaining so until her death.

As the group grew in number, they decamped a few hundred yards away to a barn, at yet another public house, the FIDDLERS ARMS....."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 30/8/1848

"Licensing Day. The Public Office, on Thursday last, was numerously attended by legal gentlemen, innkeepers, and others, on the occasion of renewing innkeepers' licenses, and the hearing of applications for fresh ones. The magistrates who attended in the course of the sitting were H. Hill, W. Mannix, G. Briscoe, J. Barker, W. Tarratt, W. Fryer, D. Fereday, W. Baldwin, H. Foster, and J. Loxdale, Esqs. During the early part of their sittings G. B. Thornycroft, Esq, mayor of the borough, was on the bench. There were about fifty applications for new licenses, and upwards of twenty were granted. The following is a list of the successful applicants.....

Licenses were also granted to.....

William Hughes, Gornall Wood."

Wolverhampton Chronicle 23/5/1849

"On Friday last an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the house of Mr. *William Hughes*, the WOODMAN, Gornall Wood, on the body of Thomas Marsh, a collier, aged 31 years, who was killed on the previous Wednesday while engaged in loading a skip in a coal pit at Kingswinford, the property of Messrs. Oakes and Jones, by a quantity of coal falling from the roof. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death."

Staffordshire Advertiser 1/6/1850

"On Saturday last, an inquest was held before T. M. Phillips, at the WOODMAN at Gornall Wood, on the body of Mary Short, three years and four months old, whose clothes caught fire, a few days previously, during the temporary absence of her mother, and she received such severe injuries that death terminated her suffering some days after the occurrence. Verdict Accidental Death."

Aris's Birmingham Gazette 28/10/1850 - Advert

"To be Sold by Auction, by Mr. T. P. Stokes, on Thursday next, the 29th day of October, at the house of Mr. *William Hughes*, the WOODMAN INN, at Gornal Wood, in the parish of Sedgley.

A capital portable Steam Threshing Machine, Engine mounted on Wood Carriage, with three-inch Wheels, and two Threshing Boxes, &c, all complete.

Also one seven-inch Steam Cylinder, with Slide Brasses, Piston, &c, to work an eighteen-inch stroke, complete; five new Heel Rakes, thirty Hay Rakes, two new Wheelbarrows, thirty dozen of Pike Helves, with other useful Implements, the whole being nearly new, and will be sold without reserve, in consequence of a Dissolution of Partnership.

The sale will commence in the morning punctually at eleven o'clock."

1851 Census

Gornal Wood

[1] *William Hughes* (47), contractor, timber dealer, farmer 50 acres, employs 2 men + 2 lads, born Sedgley;

[2] *Esther Hughes* (42), wife, born Kingswinford;

[3] *William Hughes* (19), son, farmer, born Sedgley;

[4] *Esther Hughes* (17), daughter, born Sedgley;

[5] *John Hughes* (15), son, born Sedgley;

[6] *Martha Hughes* (13), daughter, born Sedgley;

[7] *Jonah Hughes* (10), son, born Sedgley;

[8] *Joseph Hughes* (7), son, born Sedgley;

[9] *Sarah Hughes* (5), daughter, born Sedgley;

- [10] Helen Hughes (3), daughter, born Sedgley;
[11] Charlotte Elizabeth Hughes (2), daughter, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Journal 24/4/1852

“An inquest was held on Saturday, at the WOODMAN INN, Gornall Wood, Sedgley, by Thomas Moss Phillips, Esq, Coroner, on the body of John Hall [see below] on the body of Edward Marsh, nineteen years of age, miner, who was killed by a fall of coal, at eight o'clock on the morning of the 15th instant, while at work in a pit at Kingswinford, belonging to Mr. Benjamin Gibbons, coal master, and a verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 28/4/1852

“On Saturday, the 17th instant, and inquest was held by T. M. Phillips, Esq, coroner, at the sign of the WOODMAN, Gornall Wood, on the body of John Hall, a miner, about twenty years of age, whose death was occasioned by a fall of clod and stone, while he was at work in an ironstone pit, at Pensnett, on Thursday, the 15th instant.
The deceased was so much injured that he died in the course of the same day. He had been told to put some timbers in the pit, but neglected to do so. On Wednesday last (the inquiry having been adjourned in order to give notice to the Secretary of State) corroborative evidence was given, and a verdict of Accidental Death returned.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 4/5/1853

“On Friday evening last an inquest was held at the WOODMAN, Gornall Wood, before W. H. Philips, Esq, deputy coroner, on the body of Sarah Marsh (infant daughter of Fanny Marsh, single woman) who had been found dead in a sink or well, near the house of her grandmother, on the previous Wednesday afternoon. It is believed that the child accidentally fell into the water, but the jury found a verdict to the effect that there was not sufficient evidence to show by what means she came to her death.”

William Hughes was also a lockmaker and engineer. [1854]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/12/1856

“On Monday last an adjourned inquest was held at the WOODMAN INN, Gornal Wood, on the body of Richard Tomlinson, a boy between ten and eleven years old, whose death had taken place in consequence of burns received by an explosion of sulphur in a coalpit, at Kingswinford, the property of Messrs. Arthur, Ayre, and Hunter. The pit was said to be well ventilated. The Jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

William Hughes was described as an engineer and contractor. [1860], [1868], [1872]

Wolverhampton Chronicle 22/8/1860

“An inquest was held on Monday evening last, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, at the WOODMAN, Lower Gornall, on the body of Stephen Hall, an engineer, aged nineteen years, whose death occurred on the previous Thursday under the following singular circumstances. Deceased was on the afternoon in question attending to his engine, and had just packed the piston, and set it in motion. Unfortunately it started the reverse way, and drew the balance weight, commonly called ‘the dolly’, over the pulley above the pit frame. Deceased tied a rope to the weight to pull it into position again, and got into the barrel, used to draw the water for that purpose. The barrel was hanging by the chain over the pit, and the runner was over the mouth. Deceased pulled the balance weight back again over the pulley, when it fell, and in falling struck deceased on the back of the head, cut it open, and broke his neck. He was carried by Joseph Woodhall into a hovel close by, and died instantly. The ‘dolly’ weighed about half a ton. Deceased appeared to have been entirely responsible for the accident. The jury found a verdict of Accidental Death.”

1861 Census

Gornal Wood – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *William Hughes* (57), contractor, born Gornal Wood;
- [2] *Esther Hughes* (53), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *John Hughes* (25), son, land and mine agent, born Gornal Wood;
- [4] *Isaac Hughes* (20), son, rifle corps, born Gornal Wood;
- [5] *Joseph Hughes* (17), son, born Gornal Wood;
- [6] *Sarah Hughes* (15), daughter, born Gornal Wood;
- [7] *Ellen Hughes* (13), daughter, born Gornal Wood;
- [8] *Charlotte Hughes* (11), daughter, born Gornal Wood;
- [9] *Henry J. Hughes* (10), son, born Gornal Wood;
- [10] *Mary J. Hughes* (7), daughter, born Gornal Wood:

Birmingham Daily Gazette 7/12/1863

“Lower Gornal. To the Editor of the Birmingham Daily Gazette.

Sir. There seems at last a stir among the people in this locality about their streets, which are in a wretched condition. Owing to, I believe, the perseverance of the Rev. J. Y. Rooker, incumbent, and the Local Board, in wishing to meet the requirements of the ratepayers in such streets, two meetings have been held, one on Monday last, at Mr. *W. Hughes*'s, the WOODMAN INN, and at the National School Room, on Friday night, when the rev. incumbent presided. Several propositions were made, and resolutions carried, and if acceded to by the Board (which is adjourned for a fortnight) will, I have no doubt, be heartily responded to by the

ratepayers; and then I sincerely hope we shall see these streets, almost main streets, a credit to the ratepayers, the Board, and the village. By inserting this in your valuable *Gazette* you will show to our neighbours that, however much they have abused us, we literally mean to redeem the mis-spent moments past, so that it shall not be said that we are a people that live in dirt and mire, which is a disgrace to our property.
Yours truly, A Daily Subscriber.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 24/2/1864

“An inquest was held at the WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, before T. M. Phillips, Esq, Coroner, yesterday, touching the singular death of a boy named Enoch Smith. The evidence was to the effect that the deceased worked at the Church Colliery, Kingswinford, and on Friday last, he was descending one of the pits in company with five other workmen, and when about twenty yards from the bottom, he unaccountably fell out of the skip and tumbled to the bottom of the shaft. He was found to be very severely injured on the head and neck; indeed, the latter was broken, and he died immediately. It was stated that he had had a fit some time previously. A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

1871 Census

2, Wakelams Fold

- [1] *William Hughes* (67), contractor, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Esther Hughes* (63), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *Ellen Hughes* (21), daughter, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Henry J. Hughes* (20), son, agricultural labourer, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Mary J. Hughes* (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Esther Thompson* (15), domestic servant, born Sedgley:

Birmingham Daily Post 25/12/1879

“Yesterday, at the Sedgley Police Court, before Mr. F. A. Homer, James Henry Bradley (22), carter, of Luke Street, was brought up in custody charged with wilfully causing the death of Mr. Thomas Smith, the manager of the fire-brick works, at Deepdale, Lower Gornal, on Tuesday morning. Prisoner appeared to suffer very much from depression of spirits.

Police-sergeant Goodhall said the prisoner was apprehended on the previous day for intentionally causing the death of Smith. Bradley, in reply to the charge, stated he wished to say how it occurred, and proceeded to state that a short time before the occurrence there was a bother about the work, when Smith knocked him down on the floor near the kiln. He added, ‘I then threw a brick at him, which I believe killed him.’ Sergeant Goodhall applied for a remand to next Monday.

Prisoner: I should like to get off by then.

Mr. Homer: You mean, I suppose, by Monday to have your hearing.

Prisoner: That is it, sir.

Bradley was then removed, and will be brought before the deputy-stipendiary that day. The prisoner, previous to the case being heard, asked to see a surgeon, saying he had been injured by Smith in the head, and that he was ill. The police surgeon visited him.

Mr. W. H. Phillips, district coroner, held the inquest yesterday afternoon, at the WOODMAN INN, Gornal Wood. Mr. Stokes, of Dudley, appeared for the accused man, named Henry Bradley.

After evidence had been given similar to that taken before the magistrate, Dr. Ballenden said he had made a post mortem examination of the body of deceased. At the back of the right ear there was an abrasion but no fracture. Internally he found that the small blood-vessels were ruptured, which caused an effusion of blood on the brain, and which was the cause of death. The effusion of blood had not been caused by natural causes, but by an external injury.

The Coroner having summed up at length, the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against James Henry Bradley, who was committed on the coroner’s warrant to take his trial at the next Staffordshire Assizes.”

Staffordshire Sentinel 26/1/1880

“Staffordshire Assizes.....

James Henry Bradley was indicted for killing and slaying Thomas Smith on the 23rd December, 1879 prisoner, who was given an excellent character, was found guilty.

His Lordship said he fully believed prisoner did not intend to kill deceased, and that he had apparently suffered provocation. He must, however, mark his sense of the wrongfulness of such an act as had resulted in the death of deceased, and prisoner would, therefore, be sent to gaol for a fortnight with hard labour.”

Dudley and District News 12/2/1881

“Another meeting, held with the view of furthering the union which is taking place among the miners of the district of Lower Gornal, was held on Wednesday evening, at the WOODMAN INN.

There was a large gathering of miners, and one of themselves presided; Mr. Breakwell being also in attendance. Much interest was taken in the meeting, which was opened by song, composed specially for miners, being lustily sung.”

1881 Census

Wakelams Fold

- [1] *Isaac Hughes* (40), contractor, public house, born Lower Gornal;
- [2] *Mary Hughes* (34), wife, born Lower Gornal;

- [3] Mary Hughes (16), daughter, born Lower Gornal;
- [4] Esther Hughes (10), daughter, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [5] Hezekiah Hughes (6), son, scholar, born Lower Gornal;
- [6] Herbert Hughes (1), son, born Lower Gornal;
- [7] Daniel Hughes (24), nephew, labourer, born Lower Gornal:

Evening Express 1/11/1881

“*Isaac Hughes*, landlord of the WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, was charged with keeping a disorderly house and permitting riotous conduct on his premises on Saturday, the 15th inst. Mr. John W. Hall (Bilston) prosecuted on behalf of the Chief Constable, and Mr. Joseph Stokes appeared for the defence.

Police-constable Gibbs stated that on the evening referred to he, with another officer in plain clothes, visited defendant’s house. They found, in a kind of concert room, about one hundred persons drinking, a large number of whom were women and children. They saw three separate sets of men fighting, and great disorder prevailed on the premises. During the time the fighting was going on the landlord was standing in the centre of the room, with his arms folded, quite unconcerned, and he did not try to stop the row. When remonstrated with he began cursing and swearing and used some offensive expressions, saying he would turn them all out. He declared that if he had been at the entrance door he would have taken care that the officers would not have come in at all. Gibbs pointed out to defendant a number of persons in the room, whom he considered to be drunk, but Mr. *Hughes* denied it. There were also a number of children being supplied with ale. Defendant followed the officer into the street and used some very foul language to him, and caused a number of people to assemble. The landlord himself was not sober, and there was a boy about 11 or 12 drinking in the same room. When informed of this at the time, the defendant merely said, ‘Oh, he is a pauper on the parish; his mother is with him.’ It was further shown that the conduct was very unseemly. At this stage, Mr. Stokes applied for an adjournment, on the ground that he had not been instructed a sufficient time to bring his witnesses.

It was contended by Mr. Hall that the summonses had been issued long enough, and Mr. Stokes might have been instructed before if defendant had chosen.

The Stipendiary, however, agreed to adjourn the case, the defendant to pay all costs on both sides.”

Dudley and District News 3/12/1881

“On Monday afternoon, at the Sedgley Police Court, before W. F. F. Boughey, Esq, Stipendiary, and F. A. Homer, Esq, the case preferred against *Isaac Hughes*, landlord of the WOODMAN INN, Gornal Wood, was resumed. He was charged with keeping a disorderly house and permitting riotous conduct, on the 15th October last. The hearing attracted considerable attention.

Mr. J. W. Hall appeared for the prosecutor, and Mr. Joseph Stokes defended.

PC Gibbs stated that he visited defendant’s house about forty minutes past ten o’clock, in company with PC Drury. In one of the rooms witness saw several men fighting. The house at that time was very disorderly, and there were three couples fighting, but witness could not recognise them, as the gas partly went out. About 100 persons were present. All the fighting men were turned out before witness left. There was a stage at one end of the room, and the gas at the other end was turned off when it was announced that two policemen in disguise were present.

PC Robert Drury said that he found two men ‘punching each other’ in the passage when he went in. There were some women trying to part them, and making a row. In the concert hall there were four more men fighting in front of the landlord, and two men fighting behind him. The landlord did not interfere, but stood with his coat off and his arms folded, quietly looking at the pugilists. A waiter went to *Hughes* and told him of the presence of the police, and then *Hughes* began ‘pushing’ them all about, saying ‘All you — get out.’ *Hughes* became excited and said to the officers, ‘If I had been at the door I would not have let you two — come in.’ He also used bad language. A drunken man was pointed out, when the defendant swore the person was not drunk, and said he would take him to a local magistrate to prove this. There was so much cursing and swearing that witness could not tell all that took place, but the row was very disorderly, about 100 persons, chiefly women and youths, being present. *Hughes* followed witness and his fellow officer out and asked for their numbers, and being excited again used foul words to them.

PC Bonser, who visited the house half an hour before the last witness, found a number of persons in the concert hall standing on the benches shouting and swearing. At that time there was a woman dressed in man’s clothes on the stage. She had a lighted cigar in her mouth (laughter) and she both sang and smoked before the company. Several of those present were under the influence of drink. Witness afterwards returned to the house when he met Gibbs and Drury leaving it. Mr. *Hughes* was then stripped to his shirt, and declared that if he had known the officers they should not have been admitted. There was music going on, and a great noise.

PC Sutton gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. J. Stokes, in a long address, dwelt on the improbability of the allegations, and said he was instructed to give a flat denial to all the charges. He should produce a certificate of good character, and the evidence of nine persons to rebut the statements.

The defendant himself was then sworn and he contradicted in toto the officers’ statements.

Eight other witnesses, some of whom were present, denied the fighting and riotous conduct, but two admitted the scene of the woman in man’s garb on the stage.

The Bench said they had no hesitation in convicting defendant. He would be fined £5 and costs, and his license would be endorsed.”

Dudley and District News 10/12/1881 - Correspondence

“‘The so-called disgraceful scenes at a Gornal Inn.’

I. H. – Your letter being an ex parte statement, we cannot insert it after the declaration of the justices.”

Dudley and District News 27/12/1884

“Sedgley. William Harris, butcher, and John Cox, miner, were each fined 11s 6d, or in default fourteen days’ imprisonment, for being drunk and creating a disturbance in the WOODMAN INN. The prisoners were found by PC Sutton fighting and creating a disturbance.”

Birmingham Daily Post 22/4/1890

“*John Jones*, WOODMAN INN, Gornal Wood, was charged with entering 28lb of sugar in his book, and then using 56lb in a brewing. Mr. Barradale again prosecuted, and Mr. Marston (Messrs. Deeley and Marston) was for the defence. Defendant pleaded guilty, but the Stipendiary said he would prefer hearing something of the case. Mr. Giffey said the defendant’s returns showed better results than the entries warranted. He took samples of the worts on the defendant’s premises; defendant did not brew himself. Mr. Marston pleaded that the defendant was a haulier, and employed a paid brewer. He was not a rich man, and had borne an excellent character. The Stipendiary said the defendant had been carrying on a dangerous trade without due education. A fine of £10 would be inflicted, and a fortnight allowed for payment.”

1891 Census

2, Wakelams Fold

- [1] *John Jones* (39), licensed victualler, born Oakengates, Shropshire;
- [2] *Mary Jones* (39), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Hannah James* (14), niece, domestic servant, born Kingswinford;
- [4] *Annie M. Jones* (12), niece, scholar, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Sarah J. Greenway* (46), visitor, born Sedgley;
- [6] *Eliza Wicks* (42), visitor, born Sedgley:

County Express 21/4/1900

“Mr. Joseph Hyde, a well-known colliery engineer, who lived in the Straits Road, Gornal Wood, near Himley, met with a shocking death during Monday night, at No.6, Himley Colliery, belonging to the Earl of Dudley. The deceased was employed in raising water out of the pits, and in consequence of the water barrel when ascending the shaft being raised too high it became wedged in the top of the pit frame. The deceased ascended the frame to a height of 36ft for the purpose of releasing the barrel when he overbalanced himself, and fell near the mouth of the shaft. He was found dead, his skull being fractured and one of his legs broken. The deceased, who was 57 years of age, was for many years a warden at St. James’s Church, Lower Gornal, and also a member of the Sedgley School Board and the Local Board. He was much respected.

The inquest was held on Wednesday, by Mr. T. A. Stokes, at the WOODMAN INN, Gornal Wood. Mr. W. H. Pickering (assistant Government inspector of mines) attended, and Mr. J. Newey (mining engineer) represented the Earl of Dudley, the owner of the pit.

On Saturday evening, it was stated, the deceased was engaged in drawing water from the pit by means of a tank, the ropes of the two shafts being worked by the same winding drum. The cage of the working shaft was over-wound, and the caplin became wedged in the top of the pit frame. Deceased ascended the pit frame for the purpose of attempting to release the cage, and was endeavoring to do so when John Parker, the watchman, arrived. Parker saw deceased fetch a spanner from the engine-house, and again ascend the pit frame. Parker who had accompanied deceased remained in the engine-house for a short time, and on returning found deceased lying near the mouth of the pit, dead.

In reply to Mr. Pickering, Parker stated that the deceased must have fallen a distance of nearly thirty feet. When deceased ascended the pit frame a second time it was dark. Deceased commenced work at about four o’clock that afternoon, and he and witness were the only persons at the colliery at the time of the accident. The steps up the pit frame were in good order.

Police-constable Lewis said he went to the pit at about 9.30pm, and found deceased lying on the bank dead, with his left leg broken, a cut on his forehead, and numerous bruises about the body.

Samuel Hyde, son of deceased, was of the opinion that the length of the rope was not sufficient to allow water being fetched from the bottom of the sump without the caplin of the cage becoming jammed.

Mr. Shaw, a juryman, also thought that the accident might not have happened if the rope had been two yards longer, and that the top of the pit frame ought to have been fenced.

Mr. Pickering pointed out that that there was no statutory obligation to provide fencing at the top of the pit frame. Mr. Newey said the lengthening of the rope, as suggested, was impractical, and even if it could be done it would not prevent over-winding.

Deceased ought not to have attempted to release the cage.

The Coroner said the evidence did not show that any blame could be attached to the manager of the colliery.

A verdict of Accidental Death was returned; and the jury passed a vote of condolence with the relatives of deceased, who was well known throughout the parish.”

1901 Census

1+2, Wakelams Fold – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *John Jones* (49), licensed victualler, born Ironbridge, Shropshire;
- [2] *Mary Jones* (49), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Annie Turner* (23), niece, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary A. Turner* (17), niece, born Yorkshire:

1911 Census

Wakelams Fold – WOODMAN INN

- [1] *John Jones* (59), widower, licensed victualler, born NK, Shropshire;
- [2] *William Wakelam* (35), nephew, assurance agent, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Annie Maria Wakelam* (32), niece, domestic duties, born Sedgley;
- [4] *Mary Evylinn Wakelam* (7), niece, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Eliza Hale* (23), servant, born Sedgley:

John Jones issued tokens from here.
He died on 2nd October 1925.

William Wakelam was married to *Annie Maria*.

Dudley Chronicle 8/9/1927

“Some 12 or 18 months ago it was thought the Sedgley, Upper Gornal and Lower Gornal District Friendly Society Committee would become defunct owing to lack of funds to enable them to carry on with the good work, but the new president (Councillor C. A. Pratt, JP) came along, and offered a cup for competition amongst the licensed houses and clubs of the district, the cup to be held by the inn or club collecting the largest amount of money. The committee at once got to work, and to the surprise of all, the new president’s move has more than justified itself by the magnificent financial result.

Very keen rivalry has been displayed throughout, more especially with the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL and the WOODMAN INN boxes respectively, the GREEN DRAGON HOTEL having just come out on top, thus winning the cup for the first time.

It is very gratifying, indeed, in being able to state that the united efforts have raised £112 18s 2d, which has been placed in the bank, and will, as necessity arises, be allocated to the various institutions.

The Contributions WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal, £25 2s 10d.”

[GREEN DRAGON, Upper Gornal, £26 11s 2d.]

It had a bowling green and club. [1930], [1932]

Black Country Bugle - Pub Of The Month

“big *Ernie Malpass* who lived in a cottage which was once attached to the pub, and who brewed the beer on the premises before the then owner, *Bill Wakelam* sold the WOODMAN to Hansons just before World War Two. . . .”

1939 Register

2, Wakelams Fold

- [1] *Isaac Bradley*, date of birth 16/11/1911, skilled electrician for power plant, married;
- [2] *Ada E. Bradley*, dob 20/7/1909, unpaid domestic duties, married:

Arthur Elwell was married to *Millicent*.

Tipton Herald 8/10/1960

“Connected with the licensing trade in Dudley and Wednesbury districts for the last 20 years, Mrs. *Millicent Elwell*, wife of the licensee of the CROSS KEYS INN, New Rowley Road, Dudley, died in the Guest Hospital, on Monday. She was 55.

Mr. and Mrs. *Elwell* kept the NEW INNS in Flood Street, from 1940-44. Later they moved to the OLD ROYAL OAK, Wednesbury, where they stayed for four years, and then kept the WOODMAN INN, Lower Gornal for five years.

They returned to Dudley in September 1957, to take charge of the CROSS KEYS, one of the newly built licensed premises in the town.

Mrs. *Elwell* had been a member of the ladies’ section of the Licensed Victuallers’ Association in the Wednesbury, Wolverhampton and Dudley branches.

Married for 33 years, Mrs. *Elwell* leaves two daughters and two sons. A married daughter lives at Horseley Heath and a married son resides at Millfields, West Bromwich.

The funeral service took place at St. John’s Parish Church, Kates Hill, on Thursday morning, followed by cremation at Perry Barr.”

The Gornal Wood West End Flying Club were based here. They met on Friday evenings.

Tony Jones was married to *Linda*.

He was born in Barr Street, Lower Gornal.

It had a pigeon club. [2000], [2003]

Jackie Jenkins was married to *Geoff*.

Closed

It reopened on 17th November 2006 after an £80,000 refurbishment.

Express & Star 19/10/2023

“A funny sign written in the Black Country dialect has been placed outside a closed Gornal pub. The comedic sign, which appeared on the gates of the WOODMAN, on Wakelams Fold, Gornalwood, pokes fun at the pub’s seemingly long renovation period. The sign, which says ‘Good new’s. The CROOKED HOUSE will be reopen befour the WOODMAN,’ appears to have been placed by a member of the public, and has since been rubbed out. The picture, which was shared to social media, gained hundreds of likes and shares, with people pointing out the spelling, and hoping the pub will reopen soon. One Facebook user, Luke Allsop said, ‘Love the spelling’ with Chris Harris replying that it’s ‘Gornal spake.’ The pub owners have been contacted for more information on the situation with the pub.”

Express & Star 20/10/2023

“The team at the WOODMAN, on Wakelams Fold, has revealed to the *Express & Star* that they will soon reopen as a Peaky Blinders-themed venue after being closed since March. The pub closed its doors in March this year to undergo renovations after changing hands. The new licensee revealed the alehouse will now reopen as a Peaky Blinders-themed pub. *Rebekah New*, the new licensee of the WOODMAN, said, ‘It’s been a longer delay than we expected, but it’s just one of those things that has to happen. A lot of money has been put into this to give the pub a fresh new look and we are giving it a brand new Peaky Blinders theme.’

Rebekah said they are just waiting to cut through the red tape before they open to service their community. The licensee continued, ‘We are really just waiting for ourselves. The new pub is going to be over 18s, we are going to serve real ales at reasonable prices and just offer a really friendly experience. It’s just cutting through all the red tape. But we really can’t wait to start serving everyone.’

The pub made headlines recently when a comical sign was placed outside its doors by an unknown pub lover, saying ‘Good New’s, the CROOKED HOUSE will re-open befour the Woodman.’ *Rebekah* said of the sign, ‘We thought it was really funny, I only saw it through a friend but it was a shock yeah but it was really funny. We didn’t actually put it on there ourselves – obviously someone wants us to come back!’

The sign gained a lot of attention online, gaining hundreds of likes and shares, with people pointing out the spelling and hoping the pub will reopen soon. The WOODMAN is earmarked to re-open with a hard open event in late November.”

[2023]

Beerhouse - Unnamed

7, Can Lane, COSELEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Walters [1871]

NOTES

1871 Census

7, Can Lane – Beer House (no name)

[1] *Samuel Walters* (65), beer retailer, born Batemans [Batmans] Hill;

[2] *Lydia Walters* (60), wife, born Bilston;

[3] *Rebecca Walters* (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Deepfields;

[4] *Barbara E. Walters* (17), daughter, dressmaker, born Deepfields;

[5] *Benjamin Walters* (75), lodger, no occupation, born Batemans Hill:

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Barrs Meadow, LOWER GORNAL

OWNERS

Joseph Jones

LICENSEES

Joseph Jones [1873]

NOTES

The license was abandoned.

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Cinder Hill, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Hillman [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Cinderhill – Public House

[1] *John Hillman* (56), cole mine contractor, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;

[2] Sarah Hillman (46), wife, born Woaton, Shropshire;

[3] Mary Ann Hillman (22), daughter, house servant, born Penkridge, Staffordshire;

[4] Jane Hillman (15), daughter, dress maker, born Sedgley;

[5] Rebeca Hillman (11), daughter, house servant, born Sedgley;

[6] Ellen Hillman (9), daughter, school, born Sedgley;

[7] Walter Stodart (44), lodger, excavator, born Gooth Mill, Montgomeryshire:

London Gazette 31/3/1868

“*John Hillman*, now and for five months last past of Cinderhill, Sedgley, in the county of Stafford, Labourer, previously of the same place, Retailer of Ale, Porter, and Tobacco, also being employed as a Cowkeeper and Labourer, having been adjudged bankrupt under a Petition for adjudication of Bankruptcy, filed in the County Court of Worcestershire, holden at Dudley, on the 26th day of March, 1868, is hereby required to surrender himself to Thomas Walker, Esq, Registrar of the said Court, at the first meeting of creditors to be held before the said Registrar, on the 14th day of April next, at twelve o’clock at noon precisely, at the said Court. Thomas Walker, Esq, is the Official Assignee, and Charles Barrow, of Wolverhampton, is the Solicitor acting in the bankruptcy.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

Straits, SEDGLEY

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Dulham Tamlyn [] – **1842**

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 14/9/1842

“William Wherton and Harriet Whale were charged with stealing four gallons of ale, the property of *John Dulham Tamlyn*, of Sedgley. The prosecutor, it appears, had kept a public house at the Straits, in the parish of Sedgley, but quitted it in May last. There was nothing left in the house but some ale in barrels, and a gun. On the 21st of August the prosecutor found out that about twenty gallons of ale had gone. John Thompson saw the male prisoner go into the house and fetch out ale, some of which he gave to other boys around, and Thomas Southall stated that he saw Harriet Whale fetch some ale away in a can. The house it appears had been broken open. The prisoners, who did not say anything in answer to the charge, were committed to the sessions.”

Wolverhampton Chronicle 26/10/1842

“Staffordshire Michaelmas Sessions.

Not guilty.....

William Wherton and Harriet Whale for stealing four gallons of ale, the property of *T. D. Tamlyn*, at Sedgley.”

Beerhouse - Unnamed

UPPER GORNAL

OWNERS

John Waterfield, coalmaster, Wall Heath

LICENSEES

John Davies [1873]

NOTES

The license was abandoned.