

HITCHMOUGH'S BLACK COUNTRY PUBS



SMETHWICK
(INC. BEARWOOD, LONDONDERRY, WARLEY)

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INTRODUCTION

Well over 40 years ago, I began to notice that the English public house was more than just a building in which people drank. The customers talked and played, held trips and meetings, the licensees had their own stories, and the buildings had experienced many changes.

These thoughts spurred me on to find out more. Obviously I had to restrict my field; Black Country pubs became my theme, because that is where I lived and worked. Many of the pubs I remembered from the late 1960's, when I was legally allowed to drink in them, had disappeared or were in the process of doing so.

My plan was to collect any information I could from any sources available. Around that time the Black Country Bugle first appeared; I have never missed an issue, and have found the contents and letters invaluable. I then started to visit the archives of the Black Country boroughs. Directories were another invaluable source for licensees' names, enabling me to build up lists. The censuses, church registers and licensing minutes for some areas, also were consulted. Newspaper articles provided many items of human interest (eg. inquests, crimes, civic matters, industrial relations), which would be of value not only to a pub historian, but to local and social historians and genealogists alike.

With the advances in technology in mind, I decided the opportunity of releasing my entire archive digitally, rather than mere selections as magazine articles or as a book, was too good to miss. This would allow those people with interests, such as mentioned above, to search for relevant information. (sic) The files contain information about every pub that has been found to exist in each of the districts within the Black Country, along with a number of illustrations.

Originally a series of 3 CDs was for sale, covering the Black Country boroughs. After 2 editions of each CD I am now producing individual files for each township sub-area. These files are available for free download by anyone interested.

A number of years have passed since the first CD came out. In that time I have looked at a lot more sources of information (discovering some new old pubs), acquired many more photographs, and made many helpful friends. Thanks to the many people such as Denis Harper and Robert Walker, who have allowed their own photographs to be used. In 2010 I was asked by the relatives of the late John V. Richards to sort through his own archive of material, in order to redistribute it to appropriate groups. This has been very useful in confirming, and providing new, information. I have also been asked to disseminate information gathered by Jim Laws, Wolverhampton CAMRA's pub preservation officer/pub historian, who is unfortunately incapacitated.

I hope you find this file useful. Please, if you can, show your appreciation by contributing information or photographs. If you feel so inclined you can even make a donation via the [downloads](#) page on the website to help defray our expenses.

The work, as ever, continues.

Tony Hitchmough
June 2013

With many thanks to the 'back office': Janet, Sam and Gavin.



Hitchmough inspects

DISTRICTS

The districts covered by the CDs were generally based on the modern places created in the 1970's, ie, Sandwell, Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

These are then subdivided into the old townships which had existed for many years previous, and are as follows:-

SANDWELL

Oldbury (inc. Causeway Green, Langley, Oakham, Rounds Green, Tividale)

Rowley Regis (inc. Blackheath, Cradley Heath, Old Hill, Whiteheath)

Smethwick (inc. Bearwood, Londonderry, Warley)

Tipton (inc. Dudley Port, Great Bridge, Princes End, Toll End)

Wednesbury (inc. Kings Hill, Leabrook, Mesty Croft)

West Bromwich (inc. Golds Green, Greet Green, Hill Top, Lyndon)

DUDLEY

Brierley Hill (inc. Pensnett, Quarry Bank, Round Oak)

Dudley (inc. Harts Hill, Kates Hill, Priory, Woodside)

Halesowen (inc. Colley Gate, Cradley, Hasbury, Lapal)

Kingswinford (inc. Himley, Wall Heath)

Netherton (inc. Darby End, Dudley Wood, Saltwells, Windmill End)

Sedgley (inc. Coseley, The Gornals, Woodsetton)

Stourbridge (inc. Lye, Wollaston, Wollescote)

WALSALL & WOLVERHAMPTON

Bilston (inc. Bradley, Hallfields)

Darlaston (inc. Butcroft, Moxley, Wood's Bank)

Walsall (inc. Bloxwich, Leamore, Palfrey, Pelsall, Rushall, Shelfield, Walsall Wood)

Wednesfield (inc. Ashmore Park, Fallings Park, Heath Town, Moseley Village, Park Village, Wood End)

Willenhall (inc. Bentley, New Invention, Portobello, Short Heath)

Wolverhampton (inc. Blakenhall, Codsall, Oxley, Penn, Tettenhall, Whitmore Reans)

UPDATES

I am planning to continue my researches, and will be producing updated versions of each file (for free download) as sufficient additional content is found. I anticipate releasing about 3 files per year. Hopefully new old pubs will continue to be discovered, as will some mysteries be cleared up.

I maintain an Update service on the website to advise of pub discoveries made during the interim between releases.

If anyone is able to provide extra, relevant information and / or pictures, about any of the pubs and people contained within this work, I would be grateful to hear from you, initially by e-mail at: thitchmough@hotmail.com

I look forward to hearing from you.

Tony Hitchmough

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ABOUT THIS FILE

It is a PDF file and requires Adobe Acrobat Reader.

This reference work is designed to be viewed on a computer but can be printed. It is text based so one can search and find within the contents.

BOOKMARKS

Clicking on the Bookmarks in the panel on the left will take you to the chosen location.

If your computer uses Windows, Bookmarks with a + (a plus sign) on the left hand side have submenus and clicking on the plus sign (which will change to a minus sign) will reveal the contents. Clicking on the minus sign will hide the contents of the submenu.

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ABBEY

Abbey Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Honore Bernard Parker **(1931 - 1937);**
Joseph 'Joe' Le Vine **(1937 - 1963);**
Arthur William Whitehouse **(1963 - [1965]**
Sid Facer [1981]

NOTES

Provisional Order to remove the license of the CASTLE was granted on 13th February 1929.
The license was transferred from the CASTLE in 1929.

It opened on 2nd October 1931.
The architects were Wood and Kendrick of West Bromwich.

Smethwick Telephone 10/2/1934

"Alderman E. H. Charnock presided at the social gathering under the auspices of the Bearwood and Warley Woods Unionist Association at the ABBEY HOTEL on Thursday."

Smethwick Telephone 21/4/1934

"..... Mr. *Parker* of the ABBEY HOTEL, applied for an extension of the license on the occasion of the ABBEY Musical Society's annual dinner. An assurance was given that the attendance would be limited to members of the Society.

Superintendent Challinor enquired as to whom he had to look for if he visited the hotel; would each guest have a ticket?

The Chairman said that question did not arise.

Superintendent Challinor said that he was entitled to know. The licensed premises would remain open, if the Magistrates granted the application, for an extra hour and it was important that the Justices wishes in regard to granting the concession should be observed.

Mr. *Parker* explained that ninety tickets had been sold.

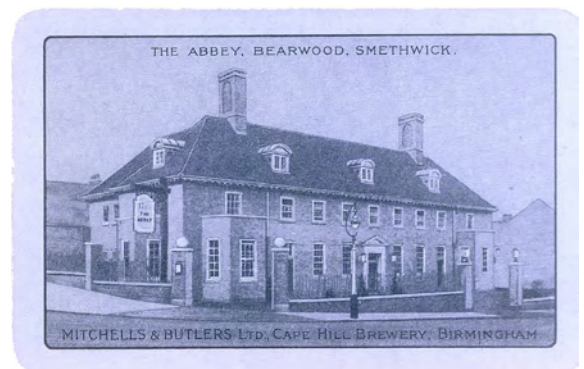
The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Anthony Shakespeare) said it would be a bit awkward if the Justices did not grant the extension.

Superintendent Challinor said that if an officer went to the hotel during the extension hour he was entitled to know the Magistrates conditions and to point out to the licensee if they were not being complied with that an offense was being committed.

Alderman Jones said they had the assurance of the licensee that none would be admitted who had not purchased a ticket beforehand.

Mr. *Parker* said that the Mayor had promised to preside.

The application was granted."



Playing Card

Joseph Le Vine – see also NEW CHURCH.

It was the headquarters of Black Mamba FC.

Smethwick Musical Society met here from 1931 – []

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1938

“The Abbey Musical Society held its seventh annual dinner at the ABBEY HOTEL on Tuesday last. During the evening, the host (Mr. *Joe Le-Vine*) presented a cheque for £50 to Mrs. W. M. Lones (Chairman of the Committee of the Cripples’ Union) on behalf of the Musical Society. In accepting the cheque, Mrs. Lones outlined the vast amount of good work that was being done at the new Clinic for the cripples at Holly Lane. Mr. George Laugher (President) spoke of the struggle the Society had had during the early part of 1937. They had triumphed over their difficulties, and emerged with the second highest cheque ever presented by the Abbey Society. The President appealed for continued support. A delightful concert followed the dinner....”

Arthur William Whitehouse was married to Edith.
See also ABBEY and PARK.

Sid Facer was married to Betty.
See also GEORGE, Grove Lane, PARK, Newlands Green, and OLD CROSS, Oldbury.

News Telephone 9/4/1981

“Regulars at the ABBEY INN at Bearwood have helped raise £1,000 in 18 months for a Smethwick charity. A cheque for £1,000 was handed over to Mrs. Eileen Willetts, of the Smethwick Cripples Outing and Welfare fund, by the hosts *Sid* and *Betty Facer*. The money was raised through raffles and the occasional discos, organised by Mrs. *Facer* with the help of customers *Martha Lomas* and *Ivor Gronow*....”

[2013]



2009



2013

BARLEYCORN

Bearwood Road / Dawson Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Frank Bryant (1939 - 1941);
Winifred Vera 'Winnie' Bryant (1941 - 1944);
Frank Bryant (1944 - 1948);
Walter Robert Hammond (1948 - [1965])
Mike Walsh [1981]
Eric Cousins [1995]



NOTES

Provisional Order to remove the license from the GLASSHOUSE TAVERN was granted on 10th February 1937.

Smethwick Telephone 12/2/1938

“.....Mr. F. M. Tomkinson applied on behalf of Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers for the renewal of the provisional grant in respect of premises to be erected at the corner of Bearwood Road and Dawson Street.

He said that the (Licensing) Justices were aware that certain delays arose by reason of the applicants being able to submit new plans for their consideration. Considerable difficulties had to be overcome in regard to town planning and ribbon development. He understood the appropriate authorities were now satisfied. The exact position was that tenders were in and were being considered by the Board this week.

The Chairman recalled that the Licensing Committee had final plans before them and certain amendments were made.

The Chairman asked when it was expected to commence building operations, and when the premises would be finished.

It was intimated that it was expected the work would commence in three weeks or a month, and would be finished in about a year..... The application was granted.”

It was built by George Webb.

It opened on 6th April 1939.

Bert Bryant had served in the R.A.F.

He married Winnie Gibbs.

They left to take over the Embankment Hotel in Bedford.

Bearwood Young Conservatives held a dance here in 1950.

Smethwick Telephone 6/3/1964 - Advert

“Smethwick Allotments Council. Annual General Meeting will be held at the BARLEYCORN HOTEL. Monday March 9th, 7.30pm.”

News Telephone 19/3/1981

“Regulars at the BARLEYCORN pub in Smethwick were right on target when they handed over a cheque for £300 to the borough’s Scanner appeal last week. The lads, all members of the darts club, raised the cash by holding dances and a challenge match against a local rifle club. Secretary, Mr. Bob Taylor, said, ‘We plan to go on raising money, but next time for a different charity.’.....”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

[2008]

It closed in 2009.

It became a banqueting suite in 2012.



1997



2013



2004

BARLEY MOW

9+10, (9), High Park Road, Six Ways, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Bucknall's Brewery, Kidderminster
Worcestershire Brewing and Malting Co., Kidderminster

LICENSEES

William Raybould **(1871 - [1872])**
Francis Osbaldeston [1881] - [1883]
Francis Dicken []
I Duffield []
William Henry Barnsley [1890] - [1891]
Thomas Morris Snr. [1893] - **1898)**
William Morris [1894] (?)
Thomas Morris Jnr. [1900]
Mrs. R A Morris [1901] - [1903]
Henry Portsmouth [1908] - **1909);**
Horace Stephen Newey **(1909 - 1910);**
John Andrew Wilkinson **(1910):**

NOTES

9 High Park Road [1881], [1883]
9+10 High Park Road [1890], [1891], [1900], [1903], [1909]
It was situated on the south-west side of High Park Road.

It had a beerhouse license.

William Raybould, beer retailer, High Park Road. [1872]

Francis Dicken issued tokens from here.

I Duffield issued tokens from here.

1881 Census

9 High Park Road – BARLEY MOW INN
[1] *Francis Osbaldeston* (34), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
[2] *Sarah Osbaldeston* (40), wife, born Shropshire;
[3] *Kate Osbaldeston* (8), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
[4] *Sarah Ann Britton* (15), general servant, born Wednesbury:

Francis Osbaldeston, beer retailer, 9 High Park Road. [1883]

William Henry Barnsley, 9 and 10, High Park Road, beer retailer. [1890]

1891 Census

9+10, High Park Road – BARLEY MOW

- [1] *William Henry Barnsley* (35), publican, born Rowley;
- [2] *Mary A. Barnsley* (44), wife, born Rowley;
- [3] *Mary M. Barnsley* (20), niece, barmaid, born Rowley;
- [4] *Frank H. Barnsley* (18), nephew, turner in engine shop, born Rowley;
- [5] *Harry L. Barnsley* (15), nephew, turner, born Rowley;
- [6] *Frederick J. Barnsley* (13), nephew, wire drawer, born Rowley;
- [7] *Ada M. Barnsley* (9), niece, scholar, born Rowley;
- [8] *William Henry Barnsley* (9), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [9] *Horace B. Barnsley* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 6/10/1894

“Herbert Farr (23), of Reynolds Street, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the BARLEY MOW INN, High Park Road and also with assaulting *William Morris*, the landlord of the house It appeared that about 8 o’clock on Saturday night, the 22nd ult. the defendant with six others went to the BARLEY MOW INN. And were served with a pint of beer. They afterwards became rather noisy, and when they cried for more beer, the landlord refused to serve them, and he also had to tell them to leave. The defendant then went up to the counter, and asked for beer, but was ordered to leave. He thereupon took up a glass of beer off the counter, and threw it at the complainant. It struck him on the back of the head, and broke into several pieces, doing him serious injury. – Defendant pleaded that he met with an accident to his head in the sewerage works, West Smethwick, some time ago, and when he had a pint of beer he did not know what he was doing the Bench considered the offences serious and fined defendant 40s and costs, amounting in all to £2 10s; in default one month imprisonment with hard labour.”

Smethwick Telephone 9/11/1895

“On Friday night (the 1st inst) the members of Nettlefolds band celebrated its inauguration by organizing a dinner, confined to the members and a few invited guests, which was held at the BARLEY MOW INN, High Park Road. An excellent repast was served by the host (*Mr. Morris*).....”

Thomas Morris, beer retailer, 9 & 10, High Park Rd. [1897]

He died in July 1898.

Thomas Morris, beer retailer, 9 & 10, High Park Road. [1900]

1901 Census

High Park Road – BARLEY MOW

- [1] *R. A. Morris* (43), widow, publican, born Dudley;
- [2] *John Morris* (24), son, iron screw turner, born Dudley;
- [3] *Ruth A. Morris* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *William Morris* (17), son, iron turner (lathe), born Smethwick;
- [5] *Eliza Morris* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Alfred Morris* (12), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Agnes Morris* (11), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Ellen Morris* (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Joseph Morris* (6), son, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 18/4/1908

“.....In the second case there was a remarkable conflict of evidence, and the first summons against *Henry Portsmouth*, licensee of the BARLEY MOW, High Park Road, was dismissed. There was a second charge, however, which the Magistrate considered proved. - The officer in this case was again Police constable Wilshaw, who visited the house on March 23rd, and saw four men sitting in the bar playing at dominoes. The landlord was alleged to have been there during the whole of the time, and the two losers paid for the drinks – three pints of beer and a bottle of stout. After this game two other men played for two pints of beer. It was during the progress of this game that one of the men was called into the passage, and when it was over the landlord said to Wilshaw that he was suspected of being a policeman, and that a publican in Smethwick was caught by a man dressed like he was. To this, the officer said that if he was in the way he had better clear out, while the landlord went to the table, and said there would be no more playing that night. One of the men who played spilled some beer over him (witness), and he asked the landlord to pay for half a pint for the damage. (Laughter)

The independent witness was called, and corroborated Wilshaw's statement. He said that when the officer was suspected of being a policeman, one man denied it, observing that he had known him for twenty years. (Renewed laughter) This witness said he had a conversation with the landlady, after the officer had gone. She said that she had told him to keep his mouth shut, for it might have cost them their license. She said they had had many a game before, but they had always paid for their beer on the sly when there had been strangers about. When a customer said he was sure he was a policeman, Mrs. Portsmouth said he could not hurt them because he had got no one to prove his statement, and added that that was the way they caught a man at Bilston.

It transpired that the police witness had taken part in a 'sing song' on the occasion of one visit he had paid, while several witnesses who were subsequently called admitted that they had suspicions about the plaster which the constable had on his nose. Mr. Chapman contended the officers were wholly mistaken and also called attention to differences in their statements.

The men who were playing dominoes were called. Two of them denied that they had ever seen dominoes played for drink, but a man named Lane admitted that he had played for beer and money at the BARLEY MOW – just recently for beer.- Considerable amusement was caused by the examination of a subsequent witness – a man named Harrison, whom it was alleged endeavoured to sell the constable a watch.- In this case a fine of £2 and costs was imposed.”

Henry Portsmouth, beer retailer, 9 & 10, High Park Road. [1909]

It closed on 27th October 1910 under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act 1910.

BEAR

500, Bearwood Road (Bear Lane) (Bearwood Lane) / Three Shires Oak Road, Bearwood, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John Reynolds [] - **1830)**
Mary Jane Sankey, Willow Avenue, Edgbaston
Holt Brewery Co. [1906]
Ansell's Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Cater [] - **1739)**
Thomas Clift [1818]
Richard Sankey [1834] - [1873]
William Sankey [1878] - [1884]
Charles Wilkes [1891] - **1892);**
William Henry Cook **(1892 - 1899);**
William Raybould **(1899 - 1903);**
Mrs. Jane Raybould **(1903 - 1906);**
John Francis Cook **(1906 - 1914);**
George Frederick Whitehouse **(1914 - 1916);**
Arthur Job Foster **(1916 - 1922);**
Frederick Walter Smith **(1922 - 1923);**
Charles Hill **(1923 - 1927);**
Leonard Gifford **(1927 - 1928);**
Henry Keeling **(1928 - 1947);**
Joseph Henry Hutton **(1947 - 1949);**
Henry Keeling **(1949 - 1951);**
William Alderman **(1951 - 1954);**
Charles Gordon Lewis **(1954 - 1959);**
Dennis Raymond Beale **(1959 - 1960);**
Frank Brown **(1960 - []**
Chris Wilde [1993] - [1995]
Mark Whitehead [] - [2001]



NOTES

Bear Lane [1851], [1861]
Bearwood Road [1871], [1911]

It originally fronted Three Shires Oak Road

It was described in 1718 as a farmhouse and inn.

BEAR INN [1841], [1861], [1871], [1891], [1899], [1901]
BEAR HOTEL [1897], [1908], [1942], [1948], [1960]
BEAR TAVERN [1993]

It had a billiard room.

Richard Cater died in 1739.

Thomas Cliff was also a farmer.

Richard Sankey was also a horse dealer. [1834], [1864], [1865], [1870]

1841 Census

BEAR INN

- [1] *Richard Sankey* (45);
- [2] *Ann Sankey* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Caroline Sankey* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Mary Sankey* (15), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Sarah Sankey* (10), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *George Biddle* (40), manservant;
- [7] *John Reding* (30), manservant;
- [8] *Henry Newby* (30), manservant;
- [9] *Thomas Gray* (35), manservant;

1851 Census

Bear Lane

- [1] *Richard Sankey* (56), horse dealer, born London;
- [2] *Ann Sankey* (55), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Caroline Sankey* (25), visitor, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Sarah Sankey* (20), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William Sankey* (19), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Ann Sankey* (18), niece, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Jane Docker* (4), granddaughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *William Dukes* (50), general servant, born Smethwick;
- [9] *George Biddle* (40), general servant, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Joseph Hall* (39), general servant, born Smethwick;
- [11] *Eliza Davis* (18), general servant, born Smethwick;

1861 Census

Bear Lane – BEAR INN

- [1] *Richard Sankey* (67), licensed victualler, born London;
- [2] *Ann Sankey* (67), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *William Sankey* (28), son, dealer in horses, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Lucy Docker* (8), granddaughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Elizabeth Darrin(?)* (19), granddaughter, house servant, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Philip Lewis* (18), servant, carter, born Wales;
- [7] *George Biddle* (55), servant, waggoner, born Birmingham;

1871 Census

Bearwood Road – BEAR INN

- [1] *Richard Sankey* (77), farmer and licensed victualler, born London;
- [2] *Ann Sankey* (75), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *William Sankey* (30), horse dealer, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Amelia Thursfield* (28), general servant, born Birmingham;

William Sankey was also a horse dealer. [1878], [1879], [1883]

1881 Census

- [1] *William Sankey* (48), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Jane Sankey* (41), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Sarah Anne Bundy* (27), niece, widow, visitor, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Maud Bundy* (2), niece, born Moseley [Birmingham];
- [5] *Anne Maria Arler* (36), domestic servant, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Mary Whitehouse* (12), domestic servant and nurse, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 17/5/1884

“*William Sankey*, landlord of BEAR INN kept the house nearly 40 years.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/3/1885

“The BEAR INN, Bearwood Road. Mr. Thomas Howell is instructed by the executrix of the late Mr. *William Sankey* to sell by auction the whole of the valuable live and dead farming stock and implements of husbandry.....”

1891 Census

Bearwood Road – BEAR INN

- [1] *Charles Wilks* (46), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Harriet Wilks* (50), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Elizabeth Mead* (36), sister in law, unmarried, barmaid, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 9/4/1892

“A smoking concert in connection with the Bearwood district of the Smethwick Liberal Association was held on Monday evening at the BEAR INN, Bearwood. Mr. H. Gilzean Reid, the Liberal candidate presided, and there was a good attendance.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/2/1897

“A smoking concert was held at the BEAR HOTEL, Bearwood, on Wednesday night, to celebrate the return of Mr. J. J. Rollason as a member of the District Council for the South West Ward. Mr. W. H. Cooke (president of the Ratepayers’ and Electors’ Association) presided.....”

An application for alterations here was sanctioned at the adjourned annual general licensing sessions, on 13th September 1899 “subject to certain little modifications”.

[These modifications included the provision of an outdoor department.]

West Bromwich Weekly News 2/11/1900

“Trade questions formed the subjects for discussion at a meeting of the Smethwick Grocers’ Committee, held on Monday evening at the BEAR HOTEL, Bearwood, under the presidency of Mr. J. Austin.....”

1901 Census

BEAR INN

- [1] *William Raybould* (50), publican, born Netherton;
- [2] *Jane Ann Raybould* (36), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Victor M. H. Raybould* (13), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Grace Raybould* (11), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Jennie Raybould* (10), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Jenett Emily Parsons* (29), barmaid, born Bath;
- [7] *Eliza Ann McCarthy* (23), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [8] *Emma Elliott* (61), cook, born Birmingham;
- [9] *Joseph Sambrook* (20), waiter, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Weekly News 26/10/1901

“Richard Price, Corbett Street, Smethwick, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the BEAR HOTEL, and with assaulting Harry Hassall, barman at the hotel, on the 19th inst. Mr. Clulow appeared to prosecute.

William Raybould stated that at three minutes after 11 o'clock on Saturday night last, the defendant entered the hotel, but was refused. He then left the house, but returned by another door, and because he was again refused he kicked the barman on the arm. He was then ejected, but he used filthy language.

Harry Hassall proceeded to give evidence, when the prisoner used obscene language towards the witness, Mr. Clulow, Superintendent Ainsworth, and even the magistrates.

Mr. Ellis, at last stopped the case, and said it was manifest the defendant was not in a fit condition to be tried that day, so he would be remanded in custody for a week.

Defendant pleaded that he was sober enough.

Superintendent Ainsworth: You must learn to behave yourself.”

Demolished c. 1906

It was rebuilt in 1906 - 1907.



Postcard c1904



Postcard 1910

Black Country Bugle 8/8/2002 - Anthony Page

“The old building was completely taken down and the foundations moved about seven feet backwards to allow for road widening and for tram tracks to be put in place.”

Smethwick Telephone May 1907

“The improvement for which Bearwood has waited patiently, and the urgency of which has been so apparent for a long time, will soon be completed. It will be seen that from an architectural point of view, the new hotel will be a decided addition to the locality. But what is of even more importance, perhaps, so far as the community is concerned is the public improvement which is being carried out. There have been many complaints as to the dangerous corner at this particular spot. The tram line is very close of the footpath, which is also narrow. Owing to the heavy vehicular and pedestrian traffic, there has been great risks of serious accidents. Since the opening of the tram line it has been recognized that something should be done with a view to widening the road, and it gave great satisfaction when it was announced in October last that this desirable result would be effected through the enterprise of the Holt Brewery Co. Ltd., the proprietors of the BEAR HOTEL. The Magistrates gave the scheme their approval, and the work of rebuilding is already well advanced. The contractors are Messrs. W. J. Morris of Kings Heath, and we understand that there will be considerably more than £5,000 spent on the improvement. The present hotel was altered about ten years ago from the old fashioned wayside inn to its present ample proportions. At that time licensing matters in Smethwick were governed by the Magistrates at Handsworth, and although it was said that the owners were willing to carry out a scheme on the present lines, it was evidently considered that a hotel of any such proportions would be out of all keeping with such a district as Bearwood was then or appeared ever likely to become. But a history of Smethwick during the past ten years would have to have a separate chapter devoted to the development of the Bearwood district. It has been phenomenal. The advent of the trams with the double set of rails made the Bearwood Causeway a particularly dangerous spot; four roads converge and a constant stream of buses and trams make the traffic incessant. The improvement which is now being made would have been almost impossible for the local authority to have carried through and therefore it is something in the nature of a public spirited project which the owners are engaged upon. As to the hotel it will be seen that there will be a clock tower, and that the design is new to the district. Faience will be adopted as the style for the elevation. The interior rooms will be lofty, easy of supervision, and modelled on the most approved and up to date style. The architect (Mr. C. H. Collett, Carlton House, High Street, Birmingham) is to be complimented on having embodied so well the wishes of the owners, the requirements of the Magistrates and the peculiar demands which the district made in the carrying out of a long desired public improvement.”

Smethwick Telephone – August 1907

“The old BEAR INN is fast disappearing. Few remnants of the old hostelry remain and business is being carried on in the first instalment of the new hotel, which the Holt Brewery Company are erecting. It is quite evident that the new premises will comprise one of the most commodious houses in the Borough. But what most people are interested in more particularly is the splendid street improvement which is being carried out through the demolition of the old building. To bring the premises into line with the shops is a very generous move by the owners, and it will be seen in a short time what a valuable concession has been made. Looking from the Bearwood Schools the road will be in a straight line without the awkward corner, while ample space will remain on either side of the tramway. The progress of the work has been delayed considerably, but now the work is being pressed forward.”

Smethwick Telephone 28/3/1908

“A smoking concert promoted in aid of the Hamstead Colliery Relief Fund was held at the BEAR HOTEL on Tuesday night. There was a crowded attendance, nearly two hundred being present.....”

John Francis Cook married Jane Raybould (widow of William).

1911 Census

Bearwood Road – BEAR HOTEL

- [1] *John Francis Cook* (54), public house manager, born Studley, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Jane Cook* (45), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Victor William Raybould* (23), stepson, builder, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Grace Lilian Raybould* (21), stepdaughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Jenny Raybould* (20), stepdaughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Sarah Ann Pettifor* (67), mother in law, widow, born Oldbury;
- [7] *Maggie Phipps* (26), domestic servant, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Fanny Edwards* (23), domestic servant, born Wednesbury;
- [9] *Lily Dodwell* (25), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [10] *Josephine Lowles* (19), barmaid, born Aston:

Smethwick Telephone 3/2/1912

“The thirty-eighth annual meeting of the Smethwick, West Bromwich and District Licensed Trade Protection and Benevolent Association was held at the BEAR HOTEL, Bearwood, on Wednesday. Mr. J. S. Round (President) was in the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 12/10/1912

“The annual concert of the Bearwood Orchestral Society on Friday, at the BEAR HOTEL, was a pronounced success. Mr. Preston occupied the chair, and made complimentary references to the progress which the Society had made.....”

Frederick Walter Smith – see also PHEASANT.

Smethwick Telephone 31/3/1928

“The Royal Garrison Artillery dance will be held at the BEAR HOTEL on Monday night.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1934 - Advert

“Dancing / BEAR HOTEL Ballroom (Bearwood Road Entrance) / Special Old and New Patrons Invited / Sat. 8 till 11 /Note! Two Persons, 1/- only / We give the best value in Smethwick / MC: Prof. Fowler.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1934 - Advert

“Select Dancing / BEAR HOTEL Ballroom (Bearwood Road Entrance) / Sat. 8 till 11 / 1/-, two persons 1/6 / Beginners free. Instruction Classes commence Friday, January 26th, 8 till 10.30. Old and New Dances. / Instructor Prof. Fowler, quickest teacher in Midlands. Beginners only invited.”

Smethwick Telephone 10/3/1934

“As a result of a dance at the BEAR HOTEL last week, approximately £11 is to be handed over to the Fund for assisting the Smethwick unemployed. The function was organised by Mrs. F. Tobutt, and some 170 dancers spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/8/1934

“A man whose record was described by the Chairman of Magistrates (Mr. B. G. Lloyd), on Thursday, as ‘terrible’ was sent to gaol for three months with hard labour, for stealing a Children’s Hospital collecting box from the BEAR HOTEL on Saturday last.

The accused was George Henry Olnier, aged 61, described as a bookmaker’s clerk, of no fixed abode, but a native of Birmingham..

There were some singular features in the case, which was heard by Messrs. B. G. Lloyd, J. S. Round, and T. Collins. Mr. *Henry Keeling*, the licensee of the BEAR HOTEL, said that on Saturday evening the accused called at the hotel. Witness saw that the Children’s Hospital box – made in the form of a child’s cot – was on the mantel-shelf of the room into which the man had walked. Mr. *Keeling* said that when he had served Olnier he noticed that the box was under his raincoat and he gave a waiter instructions to keep the man under observation while he went for a policeman. William George Day, the waiter at the hotel, said that while he had the man under observation, Olnier called for a drink and as witness turned to get it he heard a click and saw the accused put the cot back on the corner of the mantel-shelf where he was sitting.

Frederick Odell, the head porter at the Children’s Hospital, said that he issued the box to Mr. *Keeling* two months ago. An examination of the box revealed that it had been damaged, it contained 8½d.

Police-constable Loveridge said that he interviewed Olnier in the smoke room at the BEAR HOTEL and told him the nature of the complaint made by the licensee to which he replied, ‘The box is on the shelf, so how can it be stolen.’ When charged with the theft of the box, the accused replied, ‘I have nothing to say.’

Olnier told the Magistrates that he was not guilty of stealing the box, but of attempting to steal it. He handed in a long statement to the Magistrates, which he said explained the whole matter.

Superintendent Challinor said that Olnier was an inveterate collecting box stealer. Before reading out his previous convictions, he mentioned that twelve months ago, Mr. *Keeling* found him stealing the same box, from the same place in the Smoke Room of the Hotel. On that occasion he was allowed to go. But it was the reason why Mr. *Keeling* kept him under observation on Saturday. The accused had been sent to gaol on many occasions since 1927; in recent years the offences had been for the theft of collecting boxes. In December last he was charged with loitering with intent to commit a felony and everyone being anxious to give him assistance, the case was adjourned for six months. He had been in the workhouse, and immediately he came out he went to the BEAR HOTEL, where he had been before and repeated an act for which he was dealt with so leniently before. It would appear that he lived on the proceeds of such robberies when he was not in an institution.

Accused told the Magistrates that he stayed in the workhouse for 17 months without a day’s absence, and when he came out before Christmas he was ‘had’ for loitering. He went back until last Saturday and then when he came out he had some drink and this old business came up again.

The Chairman said that although Olnier had a terrible record they were not taking it into consideration in dealing with him for the offence which was proved; indeed, he admitted attempting to steal the collection box.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/10/1934

“On Monday at the BEAR HOTEL a dance was arranged by Miss Irene Powles for the benefit of Mr. William Manns, who officiates as MC at her dances. A very happy evening was spent by the guests, a musical interlude contributing to the enjoyment.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1938 - Advert

“Dancing / BEAR HOTEL / (Bearwood Road Entrance) / Tuesdays and Fridays, 8-11. 9d. / Saturdays, 1/- / No Bookings after 10 o’clock. / Lounges, Orchestras. Free Car Park. / MC: Prof. Fowler CTD. Blackpool.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1938 - Adverts

“W. Manns’ Popular Dances / BEAR HOTEL. Every Thursday / 8-11 Admission 9d / Keep fit and happy by dancing. There is a Jolly Dance Every Thursday at the BEAR HOTEL. Varied programme of dances. Brooklyn Band. / Free Car Park / Private Dancing Lessons / By appointment 2/6 per lesson / Tango, Foxtrot, Waltz etc. / Apply W. Manns, 21, Shireland Road, Smethwick / or phone BEARwood 1586.”

AND

“BEAR HOTEL / Magnificent New Lounge / Now Open / Seating Capacity for 300 Persons. / Orchestra Playing Every Night / 7.30 till 10. / Ansells – The Better Beer. / Entrance Three Shires Oak Road. / Manager . *H. Keeling*.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/8/1938

“In celebration of the birthday of Miss Irene Powles, a ball was held on Wednesday at the BEAR HOTEL, Bearwood. Miss Powles, who is well known in Smethwick as an organiser of dances and social functions, is very highly esteemed among her many friends and patrons, who had subscribed towards a birthday gift. The presentation was made by Mrs. Brown, who spoke in glowing terms of Miss Powles’ efforts on their behalf, and asked her to accept a beautiful bedspread.

Miss Powles, in reponse, extended thanks to all who had contributed towards the gift.”

Dennis Raymond Beale was fined £25 and £7 7s 0d costs, on 3rd September 1959, for contravening the Betting Act of 1853.

News Telephone 16/4/1981

“A police constable was assaulted during a disturbance outside a Bearwood pub, Smethwick magistrates heard. Mark Andrew Payne (22) an engineer, of Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury, pleaded guilty to assaulting PC Nigel Lumby in the execution of his duty.

He was fined £75 and ordered to pay £25 costs.

Mr. Roger Smallman, prosecuting, said, ‘Payne was in a group of a number of people who had been celebrating a friend’s stag party and had visited a number of pubs before finishing up at the BEAR HOTEL in Bearwood.

‘They went into the pub, bought drinks and started singing and shouting in a way which was not pleasant to other customers.

The licensee asked the group to quieten down but he called the police as he thought things might get out of hand.....”

It was refurbished in 2001 at a cost of £500,000.

It reopened in November 2001.

Mark Whitehead was married to Cathy.

‘Crafty Muthas’, a group of Sandwell craftswomen, held meetings here. [2010]

[2013]



1994



2013

BEEHIVE

153, (132), (133), Raglan Road, (Cape Hill), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

James Jones, Heathfield Road, Handsworth
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry W Morgan [1864] – [1881]
Samuel Horton [1883]
Edward Mason [1891] – [1901]
Frederick Mason [1903] – **1911**);
Frank Read **(1911 – 1914)**;
Charles Butler **(1914 – 1923)**;
Emily Agnes Butler **(1923 – 1925)**;
James Richard Taylor **(1925 – 1927)**;
Arthur James Davis **(1927)**;
John Edwin Ryder **(1927 – 1929)**;
William Henry Brown **(1929 – 1938)**;
Harry George Harbart **(1938)**;
William Howard Cotterill **(1938 – 1940)**;
John Clive Holder **(1940 – 1941)**;
Frank William Welch **(1941 – 1944)**;
Arthur Edward Shorthose **(1944 – 1945)**;
Harold Jones **(1945 – 1947)**;
Dennis Harold Moody **(1947 – 1951)**;
Arthur Gilbert Barnett **(1951 – 1953)**;
Gerald Vanston **(1953 – 1959)**;
Reginald Edwin Evans **(1959 – 1960)**;
Henry Blackburn **(1960 – 1962)**;
James Harris **(1962 – 1966)**;
Albert Samuel Lambert **(1966 – []**

NOTES

132, Raglan Road [1881], [1891], [1897]
133, Raglan Road [1901]
153, Raglan Road [1909], [1942], [1948], [1959], [1960], [1965]

It was situated on the north-east side of Raglan Road.

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a Sick and Dividend Society for which tokens were issued.

Henry Morgan, beer retailer, Cape Hill [1864], [1870], [1878], [1879]
He issued tokens from here.

1881 Census

132, Raglan Road

- [1] *Henry W. Morgan* (55), beer retailer and breeze dealer, born Bristol;
- [2] *Mary Ann Morgan* (55), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Fanny M. Morgan* (26), daughter, barmaid and domestic servant, born Oldbury;
- [4] *George N. C. Phillips* (13), stepson, scholar, born Birmingham:

Samuel Horton, beer retailer, 132 Raglan Road [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 27/7/1889

“On Monday evening an inquest at the BEEHIVE INN, The Cape.....”

1891 Census

132, Raglan Road – BEE HIVE

- [1] *Edward Mason* (33), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Emma Mason* (32), wife, born Himley;
- [3] *Frederick Mason* (15), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Elizabeth Jennings* (18), general servant, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 20/1/1893 - Advert

“Notice. BEEHIVE Angling Society. This society has taken 14 acres pool fishing, near Kidderminster. Anyone wishing to become a member, kindly give in his name to Mr. *E. Mason*, BEEHIVE INN, Cape Hill, Smethwick. Subscriptions 6d weekly.”

Edward Mason, beer retailer, 132, Raglan Road [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies. BEE HIVE, Cape Hill. The report and balance sheet of this society for the past year has this week been submitted to the members numbering 161. The contributions for the year amounted to £160 7s 9d, and the expenditure to £50 6s 5d a dividend of 12s 7d per member was declared.....”

Edward Mason, beer retailer, 132, Raglan Road. [1900]

1901 Census

133, Raglan Road

- [1] *Edward Mason* (43), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Emma Mason* (43), wife, born Wemley, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Thomas Gwynne* (82), father in law, born Clifton on Tame, Worcestershire;
- [4] *May Wood* (19), general servant, born Oldbury:

Frederick Mason, beer retailer, 153, Raglan Road. [1909]
Check also RAILWAY TAVERN.

1911 Census

Raglan Road – BEEHIVE INN

- [1] *Frank Read* (33), beer retailer, born Heath Town, Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Clara Read* (29), wife, assisting in business, born Rounds Green, Oldbury;
- [3] *Nellie Ruby Read* (8), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Frank Read* (6), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Clara Read* (3), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Nellie Beatrice May Keyte* (24), servant, born Aston:

Smethwick Telephone – October 1911

“Smethwick has enjoyed a remarkable immunity from serious tramway accidents. Since the electrification of the lines there has been an absence of untoward incidents on the route. On Sunday night, however, this record was broken by one of the most extraordinary fatalities which has ever occurred in the annals of the tramway service, and the affair has provided the chief topic of conversation throughout the week, which has been an eventful one in other respects. Taking place as it did at a late hour on Sunday night, the news did not spread with that rapidity which usually marks such disasters, and it was well on the day following that people began to realise the awfulness of the whole thing, and the evening papers found a ready sale. In their editions were recorded the death of one of the passengers, and the greatest solicitude was extended to all who were in the collision.

It is now possible with some degree of precision to record the facts. A car (No. 177) belonging to the Corporation left Edmund Street for Bearwood at 9.45pm. All went well until Montague Road was reached. This is a Board of Trade stopping place, and the driver pulled up to enable passengers to alight. It is at the end of the straight part on the incline; afterwards the track bends until the top is reached.. As soon as the driver attempted to restart his car it began to go backwards. This is not altogether a novel experience. But it never occupies more than a second or two. In this case the driver found that the brakes failed to respond, and the car began to gain momentum in its descent. There were a goodly number of passengers, and they became frantic when they realised their peril. Coming up the hill was a car – No. 34 – belonging to the Birmingham and Midland Tramways, and there was no time to avert a collision. The impact came to a point immediately outside the gates to the Cape Hill Brewery nearest Kelvin Grove, and the crash was terrible. The passengers had been restrained from jumping from either of the cars. Several men, however, were thrown violently off the Spon Lane car, the driver of which remained at his post until the moment when the crash came, when he jumped clear of his platform and thus escaped what would have been certain death. Everything was smashed – the woodwork and glass – but the bogeys kept to the rails and the passengers had the further fright on finding that both cars now commenced to run with increasing speed down the hill. The impetus was sufficient to carry them right to the stage at the boundary, where, outside the LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE INN was a further car – No. 180 – belonging to the City. Into this third car the two battered and wrecked cars came into violent collision, and although the damage done at this point was not so severe, yet the passengers had a further severe shaking, and the glass and splinters flew like fireworks.

From the moment of the first mishap it was realised by those in the vicinity that there could not be anything but very severe injuries sustained by a number of the passengers, and all assistance possible was summoned – doctors, ambulance men and police – for a long time the work of attending to a number of patients was watched by a crowd of spectators.

One of the outstanding features of a very remarkable affair was the splendid service rendered by the ambulance men connected with Mitchells and Butlers Brigade. It was a fortunate circumstance that the first part of the mishap occurred opposite the residence of the Superintendent Chris Taylor, the chief officer of the Brewery Ambulance Corps, and within a few seconds he was on the spot. He heard the crash of the collision and was in the street in time to see the two battered cars descending the hill. Intuitively, he realised that there would be need for as much skilled assistance as could be obtained at that hour, and he rushed across to the Brewery to summon all who could be of service. Before he reached the gates where the first collision occurred he found a man lying in a serious condition. He rendered immediate service, and while he went for appliances left the man in charge of another. Captain Chandler had the care of the most serious cases, using the BEEHIVE INN as a base.

The official records of the Chief Officer – which are unique in the annals of the Brigade – show that the following cases received attention at the hands of the members:-

George Wright (29), St. Mary’s Road, Bearwood, fractured base of the skull. Fatal.

Samuel Westwood (52), of High Street, Smethwick, concussion.

Mary Davis of Church Road, Smethwick fractured base of the skull.

These three cases were those treated at the BEEHIVE INN by the medical gentlemen who were present. They were afterwards taken to the General Hospital, all being in a critical condition when admitted.

[Other minor injuries are also recorded. Mary Davis later died of her injuries.]

A sum of £3 1s 5d was raised here for the Smethwick Poor Children’s Xmas Treat and Clothing Fund, in March 1912.

Frank Read – check SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN.

William Henry Brown, beer retailer, 153, Raglan Road. [1935], [1936]
He was married to Emily.

A wine license was granted on 9th February 1938, and confirmed on 6th April 1938.

Frank William Welch – see also SEVEN STARS.

A Publican's license was granted on 10th February 1948, and confirmed on 3rd April 1948.

Albert Samuel Lambert – see also OLD CORNER HOUSE.

It was the subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order, in May 1965, as part of the Soho Ward Clearance.

It closed on 4th June 1968.

Demolished

BELL

107, Cross Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Holder's Brewery Ltd., Midland Brewery, Birmingham
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Saul Thompson [] - **1870**);
Elizabeth Bridges (**1870** - [1871]
John Deakin [1879] - [1883]
Samuel Tate [1889] - [1891]
William Perrins [1895] - [1897]
William Whitfield [1898]
Joseph Bailey [1900] - **1913**);
George William Woodward (**1913** - **1914**);
Henry Thomas Gazey (**1914** - **1924**);

NOTES

It was situated on the south-east side of Cross Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *Elizabeth Bridges* (50), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Blunhill (?), Staffordshire;
- [2] *George Cooper* (10), son, beerhouse keeper's assistant, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Emily Whitehead* (21), general servant, born Princes End;
- [4] *Francis Hughes* (38), lodger, engineer at glass works, born Smethwick:

John Deakin, beer retailer, Cross Street. [1879]

1881 Census

107 Cross Street - BELL Public House

- [1] *John Deakin* (52), ironworker, born Tipton;
- [2] *Maria Deakin* (51), wife, born Handsworth;
- [3] *Arthur Charles Deakin* (21), son, ironworker, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mary Ann Deakin* (13), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Beatrice A. Deakin* (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Emily Johnson* (9), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Florence E. Johnson* (2), daughter, born Smethwick:

John Deakin, beer retailer, 107 Cross Street [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 3/5/1884 - Advert

“Debating Society: BELL INN, Cross St., Smethwick: Every Sunday evening”

Smethwick Telephone 16/11/1889

“BELL INN, Cross Street, Smethwick. Mr. W. H. Pass is favoured with instructions from Mr. *Tate* who is giving up brewing to sell by auction upon the above premises the whole of the valuable brewing plant and effects, comprising 180 gallon cast iron boiler (new), 80 gallon cast iron boiler (new), mash tub, deal vats, hop press, fermentation vessels, large casks and other effects.”

Samuel Tate, beer retailer, 107, Cross Street [1890]

1891 Census

107, Cross Street – BELL INN

[1] *Samuel Tate* (42), publican, born Bradley, Staffordshire;

[2] *Mary Tate* (43), wife, born Bilston;

[3] *Samuel Tate* (19), son, professor of music, born Priestfield:

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1894

“BELL INN Sick and Dividend Society. – A general meeting of this society was held on Monday evening after the claims had been paid, he [the secretary] was pleased to announce a dividend of 15s 4d. The secretary is Mr. *Joseph Lane*, 98, Union Street, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 5/10/1895

“The annual supper in connection with the BELL INN Cricket Club, Smethwick, took place on Thursday evening, September 26th, 30 members sitting down to a capital spread provided by the host Mr. *W. Perrins*.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/1/1896

“BELL INN Sick and Dividend Society. The annual general meeting of this society was held at the BELL INN, Cross Street, Mr. *George Mycroft* presiding over a good attendance of members. The Chairman, after a few well chosen remarks, called upon Mr. *J. Price* (the secretary pro tem) to read the annual report Mr. *H. C. Smith* of South Road was appointed secretary On Friday last (December 27th) a meeting of an interesting character took place at the BELL INN a goodly number of members of the BELL INN Sick and Dividend and the BELL INN Smoking Clubs being in attendance. After a capital spread by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Perrins*) Mr. *J. Smith* was elected to the chair, and Mr. *J. Price* to the vice-chair they had met this evening to present to their late Secretary (Mr. *J. Lane*), who was leaving Smethwick for Rotherham, a handsome writing case as a mark of respect and esteem.....”

William Perrins, beer retailer, 107 Cross Street [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 23/4/1898

“*William Whitfield* (36), landlord of the BELL INN, Cross Street, was summoned for assaulting *John Dyke* also of Cross Street the Bench dismissed the case.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies BELL INN, Cross Street. – The balance sheet of this society shows that the contributions for the year amounted to £60 9s 4½d, and the expenditure to £26 1s 6d, leaving a balance of £31 0s 10½d to be divided amongst 65 full members and one half yearly member. After carrying forward a balance of £3 10s 1d in the general fund; £5 in the sinking fund; and £1 in the benevolent fund, a dividend of 9s 5d was declared.”

Joseph Bailey = Joseph Bayley

Joseph Bailey, beer retailer, 107 Cross Street. [1900]

1901 Census

107, Cross Street – BELL INN

- [1] *Joseph Bailey* (56), beerhouse keeper, born London;
- [2] Elizabeth Bailey (50), wife, born Buckingham;
- [3] Harry Bailey (20), son, pattern maker, born Birmingham;
- [4] Jane Gilbert (20), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

Joseph Bailey, beer retailer, 107, Cross Street. [1909]

Smethwick Telephone 26/9/1908

“The annual outing of the customers of the BELL INN, Cross Street, took place on Saturday last, when they journeyed to Earlswood by char a banc. A splendid tea was provided by Mr. *Bailey* (host).”

1911 Census

107, Cross Street

- [1] *Joseph Bailey* (66), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] Elizabeth Bailey (54), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] Annie Bullen (21), servant, born Smethwick:

The license was surrendered on the grant of the removal of the VINE, Cross Street to Shireland Road. It closed on 16th April 1924.

BIRD IN HAND

300, (323+324), (283+284), Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John Jordan and Co. Ltd.
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Clarke [1879] – [1881]
William Spencer [1883]
Isaiah Hodgetts [1890] – [1891]
Samuel J Parfrey [1900]
Emily Hodgetts [1901]
Edward Adams [1903] – **1906**;
Edwin Tee **(1906)**;
Richard Gillam **(1906)**;
Albert Basford **(1906 – 1908)**;
Mrs. Elizabeth Basford **(1908 – 1909)**;
Isaac William Lunn **(1909 – 1910)**;

NOTES

323+324, Oldbury Road [1881]
324, Oldbury Road [1890]
283+284, Oldbury Road [1891]
300 Oldbury Road [1901], [1903]

It was situated between Spon Lane and Albert Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

Robert Clarke, beer retailer, Oldbury Road. [1879]

1881 Census

323 & 324 Oldbury Road - BIRD IN HAND

[1] *Robert Clarke* (31), beer retailer and fruiterer, born Blaby, Leicestershire;

[2] *Deborah S. Clarke* (30), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Arthur W. Clarke* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

William Spencer, beer retailer, 323, Oldbury Road [1883]

Isaiah Hodgetts, beer retailer, 324, Oldbury Road [1890]

1891 Census

283+284, Oldbury Road – BIRD IN HAND INN

- [1] *Isaiah Hodgetts* (41), greengrocer, publican, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] *Emily Hodgetts* (43), wife, born Brierley Hill;
- [3] Reuben Hodgetts (18), son, coal miner, born Sedgley;
- [4] Annie Hodgetts (9), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] Lizzie Hodgetts (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] Harriet Hammond (14), general servant, born Pemberton, Lancashire:

Isaiah and Emily Hodgetts – see also NEW INN, Ault Street, West Bromwich.

Isaiah Hodgetts died in 1900.

Samuel J. Parfrey, beer retailer, 300, Oldbury Road. [1900]

1901 Census

300, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Emily Hodgetts* (50), widow, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] Lizzie Hodgetts (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [3] John Williams (21), nephew, coal miner, born Ilkeston, Derbyshire;
- [4] George Noble (21), visitor, wheelwright, born St. Helens, Lancashire:

Edwin Tee – check GOLDEN CUP, West Bromwich.

It closed on 27th October 1910, under the Compensation Clauses of Licensing Act 1908.

BLUE GATES

100, (49), High Street / Stoney Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John Wickins (owned the land)
Thomas Jones (acquired in 1772) (he owned the land)
Samuel Aris (acquired in 1772) (he owned the land)
John Buckley
Thomas Hassard
John Hodges
Joseph Hadley, maltster, West Bromwich (acquired on 29th July 1786)
George Hallan Smith (acquired in 1851)
Samuel Thompson, maltster, Smethwick (acquired in December 1852)
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. (acquired in April 1890) [1898]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1909], [1912], [1914]
Cannon Inns (acquired in 1972)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in May 1976)

LICENSEES

Daniel Holloway* [1781] – [1785]
Daniel Holloway* [1818] – **1822**;
Mrs. Ann Holloway (**1822** – [1834])
Elizabeth Holloway [1839]
Sarah Holloway [1841]
John Detheridge [1841] – [1848]
Mrs. Harriet Chandler [1850]
George Hallen Smith [1851] – **1890**
Frederick W Bridle [1891] manager
Henry Mitchell Jnr. [1892] – [1895] non-resident
E Bayliss [1893] – **1894**); manager
E J Diver (**1894** – [1895]) manager
William Raybould [1896]
James M Lones [1897] – [1899] manager
Harold Lort Williams [1901] manager
Granville [1903]
William Pick []
Frederick Groom [1911]
W Green [1912] manager
Frederick Groom [1914] – **1918**);
William Alfred Porter (**1918** – **1920**);
Frank Locke (**1920** – **1921**);
Bernard Lane Cartwright (**1921** – **1925**);
George Robert Blake (**1925** – **1929**);
Arthur Alexander Skidmore (**1929** – **1946**);
Albert Ireland (**1946** – **1950**);
Arthur Allan Hedgecox (**1950** – **1951**);
Richard Francis Summers (**1951** – **1952**);
Leonard Sydney Hill (**1952** – **1953**);
Ernest West (**1953** – **1963**);
Robert George West and Derek William Cotter (**1963** – [1964])



Malkiat Singh Deu [1980]
Surjit Singh Deu [1997] – [2002]

NOTES

It was situated on the west side of High Street.

49, High Street [1891], [1892], [1897], [1900], [1901]
100, High Street [1909], [1911], [1929], [1935], [1948], [1959], [1961], [1983], [1990], [1995]

BLUE GATES COMMERCIAL HOTEL [1870]
BLUE GATES HOTEL [1894], [1929], [1948], [1959], [1961]

It was the headquarters of Smethwick Musical Society.

It was first mentioned as a public house on 28th August 1781.

John Wickins was also a Birmingham tobacconist.

Samuel Aris was a Birmingham bookseller.

Joseph Hadley was also a maltster and farmer.

* probably the same person

Daniel Holloway was also a farmer. [1818]
He was married to *Ann*.
He died on 22nd September 1822.

Smethwick Telephone 9/7/1948 **'Old Smethwick' by W. Ellery Jephcott**

"*Daniel Holloway* was described as victualler and farmer. The land he cultivated lay at the rear of the house and extended as far as the end of Stoney Lane, where it adjoined the Smethwick House estate."

Mrs. *Ann Holloway* built Greenfield House for her three daughters.

1841 Census

BLUE GATES

- [1] *Sarah Holloway* (45), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Holloway* (40), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Mary Berry* (45), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Mary Jordon* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Ralph Summers* (35), born Staffordshire;
- [6] *Benjamin Jewkes* (40), born Staffordshire;
- [7] *Mary Jewkes* (35), born Staffordshire;
- [8] *Charles Tildesly* (50), born Staffordshire;

In 1842 it was described as a "Shop and public house". It had 5-pull beer machines and sundry spirit fountains.

It was put up for sale by auction on 16th August 1848.

It was described as "comprising bar, bar parlour, tap room, club room, five bedrooms, kitchen, brew-house, cellarage, stables, gig house with loft over, eight-quarter malt house, garden and croft, containing altogether one acre 25 perches....."

It was used as the headquarters of the Local Inland Revenue Department. [1851]

1851 Census

Oldbury Road

- [1] *George Smith* (22), unmarried, victualler, born Gloucester;
- [2] *Susan Wood* (28), barmaid, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *George Perry* (29), brewer, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Charlotte Magness* (50), house servant, born Willenhall;
- [5] *James Lowe* (75), coal agent, born Pershore:

It was put up for auction, in December 1852, "pursuant to an Order of the High Court of Chancery made in the case of *Addison v Hadley* large and commodious bar, bar parlour, tap room, spacious club room and five bedrooms, cellaring, stables, gig house with loft over, eight quarter malt house, garden and croft....."

1861 Census

High Street West

- [1] *George F(?) Smith* (32), victualler, born Gloucester;
- [2] *Louisa Smith* (28), wife, born Aston;
- [3] *Leisa Smith* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Susan A. Smith* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *George A. Smith* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Martha Allarton* (45), aunt, governess, born Aston;
- [7] *Joseph Oliver* (26), servant, brewer, born Warwickshire;
- [8] *Rebekkah Bissett* (24), nurse, born Pensnett;
- [9] *Ann Wildbore* (18), housemaid, born Londonderry [Smethwick], Shropshire;
- [10] *Joseph Jacob* (41), boarder, proprietor of mines, born Bumn, Moravia:

1871 Census

High Street – BLUE GATES INN

- [1] *George H. Smith* (42), wine and spirit merchant, born Gloucester;
- [2] *Frederick H. Smith* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Annie Allerton* (18), niece, barmaid, born Warwickshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Dovey* (20), barmaid, born Ledbury;
- [5] *Henry Harris* (21), man servant, born Paxford, Worcestershire:
[Paxford is about 11 miles ESE of Evesham.]

1881 Census

High Street - BLUE GATES INN

- [1] *George H. Smith* (52), widower, wine and spirit merchant, born Gloucester;
- [2] *William H. Smith* (18), son, ironmonger, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Daniel J. Aston* (30), visitor, gentleman, born Oldbury;
- [4] *James A. Thomas* (22), visitor, magisterial clerk, born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Louis Thomson* (20), visitor, clerk (engineers), born Rochdale;
- [6] *Elizabeth Dovey* (30), housekeeper, born Malvern;
- [7] *Annie E. Allarton* (27), barmaid, born Warmley, Worcestershire;
- [8] *Martin Jones* (27), cellarman, born Raven Holt, Worcestershire:

George H. Smith was a member of Smethwick Local Board of Health.

He attended the Old Church, and placed in it a stained glass window as a monument to his wife and two daughters.

Evening Star 1/2/1882

“This afternoon, a woman named Sarah Riley, (72), Watery Lane, Birmingham, in crossing the line at Smethwick London and North Western Station, where she was knocked down by the twelve o’clock express from Wolverhampton, the head being nearly severed from the body. Several pieces of the unfortunate woman’s skull were afterwards picked up on the line. Information was given to the police, and the body was removed to the BLUE GATES INN to await an inquest.”

Evening Star 2/2/1882

“As briefly stated in our latest edition last night, a frightful and fatal accident occurred at the Smethwick London and North Western Railway station, on Wednesday afternoon, the victim being Caroline Ryley (72), of Watery Lane, Birmingham.

The woman, it appears, resided with one of her sons, who kept the White Hart Inn, and she left her home in the forenoon for the purpose of seeing a man named John Aldritt, of Broomfield, Smethwick, about the letting of a plot of land at Smethwick, of which she was the owner. On arriving at Smethwick, she proceeded to the man’s house, and after transacting her business left at about 1.15 for the purpose of returning to the station. At 1.44 she was seen crossing the line from Wolverhampton side of the platform to the Birmingham side, and the 1.20 express from Wolverhampton coming up at the time, the signalman and several other people who stood near the station gates seeing her perilous position, called out to her; the driver of the engine also blew his whistle, but the unfortunate woman was so stupefied by the danger of her position that ere she had time to move she was knocked down and her head almost severed from her body, the latter being also frighteningly cut and mangled all over, and both her legs being broken. The train was, it is stated, travelling at the rate of nearly 60 miles an hour, but to give an idea of the promptitude with which it was pulled up, a gentleman who was on it stated that considering the rapid rate at which it was travelling he never saw a train pulled up so short a distance (about 300 yards) before in his life.

Deceased appeared to have been first struck by the right hand lamp in front of the engine, and her mangled body was a distance of about 17 or 18 yards from the spot where it was first struck by the engine. A large crowd of persons soon gathered round the station and the entrance was completely blocked, but the police having received information of the occurrence, Inspector Hinton and Police- constable Gee arrived on the spot a few minutes afterwards, and after clearing the way to the station the body was carefully gathered up in the clothes the deceased was wearing and conveyed on a board to the BLUE GATES INN, a short distance from the station, where it now lies awaiting an inquest, which will probably be held tomorrow. The man Aldritt was the first person to identify the body, and he stated that deceased’s name was Sarah Ryley. Subsequently, however, the friends of the deceased, having been communicated with, her two sons arrived at Smethwick at eight o’clock last night, and identified the body, stating that her Christian name was Caroline.”

Evening Star 3/2/882

“This morning, E. Hooper, Esq, Coroner, held an inquest at the BLUE GATES INN, High Street, on the body of Caroline Ryley (70), of Watery Lane, Birmingham

Rupert Ryley, son of the deceased, said he was a retail brewer, of the White Hart, Watery Lane, Birmingham. The dead body the jury had seen he identified as that of his mother, who was a widow. She was seventy years of age last birthday, and had the use of all her limbs. Her eyesight was good, and she was in perfectly good health.

.....The inquest was then adjourned till Tuesday afternoon next at five o’clock.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/12/1951

‘Smethwick And Round About’ by W. Ellery Jephcott

“.....and in 1883 a Court [Ancient Order of Foresters] was established with the name ‘William Caldow’. This met at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, where for many years his [William Caldow’s] portrait in oil, hung in the meeting room.....”

Smethwick Telephone 8/3/1884

‘Smethwick By An Old Inhabitant’

“In the early part of the present century Smethwick was a small country village. We find that in 1811 the population of Smethwick was 1,328, while the population of Birmingham was 85,753. What is now High Street had then only two houses on its western side between Stony Lane and Coopers Lane and namely the BLUE GATES INN and Hadley’s farm house, which stood somewhere on the spot now occupied by Powell’s Buildings opposite the Goods Station.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/2/1891

“Smethwick Swimming Club. The third annual general meeting of the members of the above club was held on Tuesday at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.....”

1891 Census

High Street – BLUE GATES HOTEL

- [1] *Frederick W. Bridle* (31), hotel manager, born Portsmouth;
- [2] *Nora Bridle* (29), wife, hotel manageress, born Richmond, Surrey;
- [3] *Charlotte Bridle* (51), mother, born London;
- [4] *Eliza Hicks* (23), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *John Fletcher* (23), barman, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 29/8/1891

“Annual Licencing Sessions. Handsworth plans for erection of additional bedroom and an assembly room at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick and providing an entrance in Stoney Lane”

- Approved.

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1892

“The fourth annual dinner, in connection with the Smethwick Swimming Club, will be held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Wednesday evening.”

Smethwick Telephone 9/4/1892 - Advert

“BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick. The New Bar is now open.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/5/1892

“On Monday evening the fourth annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick Industrial Loan and Investment Society was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/7/1892 - Advert

“BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick / The extensive alterations and re-decorations are now completed / Model Smoke Room and Commodious Club Room / for Private and Public Parties, Auction Sales etc. / Mitchell & Co's Ales”

Smethwick Telephone 1/10/1892

“1st V. B. South Staffordshire Regiment. ‘H’ Company, Smethwick. Detail The usual Smoking Concert will take place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, on Friday 14th October, commencing at 8pm. Members of the Corps will attend in Undress Uniform.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1892

“BLUE GATES HOTEL – a series of high class Smoking Concerts will be held in the Assembly Room at the above hotel every Saturday and Monday evening at 8 o'clock, commencing tonight (Saturday). Chairman – Mr. Lawrence Grenville. Pianist – Mr. A. E. Morris.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/1/1893

“Mr. and Mrs. *Baylis* of the BLUE GATES HOTEL have not been unmindful of the poor of the neighbourhood during the hard frost. On Monday last a great number of people were supplied with a plate of beef and on Tuesday evening an even greater number were supplied with good soup.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/3/1893

“Major S. N. Thompson will preside at ‘The Bachelors’ first annual smoking concert which will be held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.....”

AND

“Smethwick Property Owners’ Association – On Wednesday night a meeting in connection with the above association was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL. Mr. H. Raybould, who presided, said the drainage question had now been satisfactorily arranged, and the question was whether the association should be continued or not. It was decided to continue the association, and a committee of management was appointed to draw up rules etc.. Reference was made to the forthcoming Local Board election.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/3/1893

“A meeting of brewers, licensed victuallers, beer and wine sellers, and others interested in the trade was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, on Thursday afternoon, “to protest against the provision of the Liquor Traffic (Local Control) Bill, introduced into the House of Commons by Sir W. Harcourt, on February 29th last.” Mr. Edward Cheshire (Chairman of Smethwick Branch, National Trade Defence Fund) presided over a large attendance, which included Mr. Henry Mitchell (Chairman of Mitchell & Co.), Mr. H. Mitchell Jnr. Mr. Henry Mitchell Snr. Proposed the following resolution “That this meeting emphatically protests against the proposals contained in the Liquor Traffic (Local Control) Bill introduced by the [Liberal] Government into the House of Commons, on the ground that such proposals are uncalled for and an unnecessary interference with the liberties of the people and ruinous to those engaged in the Trade.”.....Mr. J. R. Rae [Agent, National Trade Defence Fund] supported the resolution which was adopted unanimously.”

Smethwick Telephone 25/3/1893

“The fifth annual dinner, in connection with the Smethwick Swimming Club, was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, High Street.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“A dinner took place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of celebrating the jubilee of the Smethwick, West Bromwich and District of the Ancient Order of Foresters.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/10/1893

“Mr. William Hackett, Auctioneer of Oldbury and Oldbury Road, West Smethwick, conducted a sale of freehold properties at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick on Wednesday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 3/2/1894

“BLUE GATES HOTEL This noted hostelry has, in addition to its commodious bar and comfortably model smoke room, a large Assembly Room capable of seating 200 persons. Suitable for auction sales, dinners and public gatherings. Also a splendid Billiard Room and Bowling Green. Mitchells Prize Medal Ales, wines, spirits, cigars etc. of first class quality. Chops and steaks.”

BLUE GATES HOTEL,
SMETHWICK.

This Noted HOSTELRY has in addition to its
COMMODIOUS BAR & COMFORTABLE
MODEL SMOKE ROOMS,

A
LARGE ASSEMBLY ROOM

Capable of seating 200 Persons,
Suitable for Auction Sales, Dinners, and Public
Gatherings. Also a SPLENDID

BILLIARD ROOM & BOWLING GREEN.

MITCHELL'S
PRIZE MEDAL
ALES, WINES, SPIRITS, CIGARS, &c.,
Of First-class Quality.

CHOPS AND STEAKS.

Advert 1893

Smethwick Telephone 3/3/1894

“Smethwick Bowling Club. The first Annual Dinner will be held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Friday March 9th 1894 at 7pm prompt. Tickets 2 shillings and 6 pence each.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/11/1894

“A change of management at the BLUE GATES HOTEL is shortly to take place. The present manager (Mr. E. Baylis) having been offered another house under the firm of H. Mitchell and Co. Ltd. Mr. E. J. Diver, the well-known Warwickshire cricketer will be the incoming manager next Wednesday week. The whole of Mr. Diver’s time will be required for the business; consequently we may safely say that Mr. Diver’s cricketing days are o’er.”

BLUE GATES HOTEL

HIGH STREET.

Commercial Gentlemen and others will find every accommodation.

LARGE ASSEMBLY ROOM
For Banquets, Balls, Auction Sales, &c.

BILLIARD, SMOKE AND CLUB ROOMS.

FINEST WINES, SPIRITS & CIGARS.

MITCHELL'S ALES.

Advert 1895

Smethwick Telephone 9/2/1895

"The first annual dinner of the employees of the Birmingham and Midland Tramways Company Limited was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Wednesday night. Through the kindness of the Company, upwards of 70 employees were enabled to be present, the service of trams being discontinued that evening at seven o'clock....."

Smethwick Telephone 9/3/1895

"The seventh annual meeting of the Smethwick Swimming Club was held at the BLUE GATES on Tuesday evening [5/3]."

Smethwick Telephone 23/3/1895

"The annual meeting of the Smethwick Cricket Club was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Thursday evening....."

E. J. Diver was the foreman of the jury at the inquest on Charles Henry Johnson (3), held at the NORTH WESTERN, on 24th June 1895. The boy had been run over by a waggon on High Street.

Smethwick Telephone 29/6/1895

"Mr. *E. J. Diver* has promised to play for Smethwick against Walsall to-day if the match at the County Ground, Edgbaston, is finished time enough to admit of it."

Smethwick Telephone 4/8/1895

"Mitchells Brewery Cricket and Athletic Club. A dinner in connection with the above club was held on Friday evening, the 28th ult, at the BLUE GATES HOTEL....."

Smethwick Telephone 15/2/1896

"A new Masonic Lodge, to be known as the Lewisham Lodge, No. 2582, was consecrated on Tuesday The ceremony of inauguration took place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL."

Smethwick Telephone 7/3/1896

"The annual dinner in connection with the Cape Hill Brewery Fire Brigade was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, on Friday evening host Mr. *William Raybould*....."

Smethwick Telephone 14/3/1896

"Building Committee the following plans be approved H. Mitchell and Co. Ltd.: extension of BLUE GATES HOTEL."

Smethwick Telephone 4/7/1896 - Advert

"BLUE GATES HOTEL, High Street. Commercial Gentlemen and others will find every accommodation. Large Assembly Room For Banquets, Balls, Auction Sales &c. Billiard, Smoke and Club Room. Finest Wines, Spirits & Cigars. Mitchell's Ales."

Smethwick Telephone 25/12/1897

"The annual prize distribution in connection with the Smethwick Volunteer Company took place at a smoking concert held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, High Street, last Friday night. Mr. Henry Mitchell presided over a large assembly of Volunteers and friends....."

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1898

"The annual dinner of the Smethwick Fire Brigade took place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL last (Friday) evening. Superintendent E. J. Forster presided....."

Smethwick Telephone 12/2/1898

"Last Tuesday evening, Bro. J. Edwin Mitchell was installed as Worshipful Master of the Lewisham Lodge of Freemasons, at the BLUE GATES HOTEL....."

Smethwick Telephone 13/8/1898

“A good number of the employees of the Birmingham Railway Carriage and Wagon Co., assembled at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, on Saturday evening, for the purpose of manifesting in a substantial manner their respect for Mr. William Barratt, who has recently been compelled through failing eyesight to relinquish the position of foreman blacksmith, which capacity he has filled for the past ten years Mr. N. Retallack, the manager, occupied the chair, and he was supported by Mr. W. Jeffries (secretary of the company).....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/1/1899

“The draymen employed at the Cape Hill Brewery held their annual dinner at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, High Street, last Friday night. Mr. J. E. Mitchell presided, and there were also present, in addition to about 150 draymen.....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/2/1899

“The Smethwick postmen had their annual dinner at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, on Wednesday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 18/2/1899

“The anniversary festival of the Lewisham Lodge No. 2582, and the installation of the Worshipful Master for the ensuing year took place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/3/1899

“The members of the B Department (Tangyes Ltd.) met on Saturday last, at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, for their annual dinner. Mr. John Griffiths presided whilst the catering of Mr. *Lones* left nothing to be desired.”

Smethwick Telephone 15/4/1899

“The annual meeting of the Smethwick Cricket Club was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, High Street, on Wednesday night. The President (Mr. Walter Harley JP) presided.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/10/1899

“The first anniversary of the ‘Pride of the Lion’ Lodge (Sheffield Equalized Independent Druids), was celebrated on Saturday night, when a dinner took place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 17/2/1900

“On Tuesday an installation ceremony in connection with the Lewisham Lodge of Freemasons took place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL. The ceremony was performed by Worshipful Brother W. H. Kendrick.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 14/4/1900

“Smethwick Cricket Club. The annual meeting of the members of this club was held on Monday evening, at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, under the presidency of the Rev. G. Astbury.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 26/6/1900

“On Monday night a well attended meeting of grocers of Smethwick was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL to complete the formation of a grocers’ association for the borough.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 23/2/1901

“A meeting of the representatives of the swimming clubs, comprised in the Birmingham and District Water Polo League, was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, Mr. G. A. Potter presiding.....”

1901 Census

49, High Street – BLUE GATES

- [1] *Harold Lort Williams* (40), manager, born Moseley, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Annie Williams* (34), wife, born Pimlico, London;
- [3] *Mary A. Bannard* (21), barmaid, born Banbury;
- [4] *Rosetta Hunt* (28), housemaid, born Brownhills;
- [5] *Emily M. Vernon* (23), waitress, born Weymouth;
- [6] *Jane Butler* (23), cook, born Hill Top, Staffordshire;
- [7] *Mary T. Whitehouse* (26), waitress, born Burton on Trent;
- [8] *Ernest E. Slim* (31), barman, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Joseph Higgs* (28), barman, born Birmingham;
- [10] *William Henry Wright* (22), barman, born West Bromwich;
- [11] *John Wright* (19), potman, born West Bromwich:

Harold Lort Williams – see also SANDWELL, West Bromwich.

Smethwick Weekly News 1/2/1902

“A charge was brought against Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers Co, Ltd, of Cape Hill, Smethwick, for permitting drunkenness on the licensed premises of the BLUE GATES HOTEL, and also for supplying drink to a drunken person. Mr. J. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. Clulow, of Brierley Hill, defended.

It appeared that on the 14th inst two men, named Thomas Walter Gummer and Walter Gummer entered the BLUE GATES at about 10.30 on the 14th, and went into the bottom bar and began consuming ‘whisky and tea’. Just after 12 o’clock a man named William Satchwell entered the same room. He knew the Gummers, and Thomas ‘treated’ him to some beer. The three men left at about 3.20 in the afternoon. Satchwell had taken about ten pints of beer, and the Gummers had about ten whiskeys each, a very large amount to consume at one sitting. About 2.30 Satchwell, who had been asked to ‘tip up’, was quite drunk, and no check had been put upon the men. They did not leave till they were refused some drink. Satchwell had to be led out. He was seen by PS Heapey coming out of the BLUE GATES, and was locked up. He had been up before the Court, and had been fined. PS Heapey asked the barman how it was that the man was drunk upon the licensed premises. The barman was very candid, and said he had noticed the man’s condition. He had spoken to the manager about them before he went to dinner at about 12.30.

Mr. Sharpe here remarked that this was gross neglect, and either they could not or would not check any mismanagement that occurred. The barman had admitted to the manager that the men were drunk, and the manager said he had told the barman at about 1.30 not to supply them with any more, and they were drinking for quite two hours after this, which was a case of gross neglect.

PS Heapey corroborated, as did PC Meighan, who locked Satchwell up, and William Satchwell, who admitted being drunk, said the others were certainly the worse for beer.

Mr. Clulow brought witnesses to prove that the three men were requested to leave at about two o’clock owing to their being noisy.

Alderman Lones said the Bench considered the case proved, and defendants would have to pay £5 and costs, in all £8 14s 4d, but the license would not be endorsed.”

Smethwick Weekly News 15/2/1902

“On Tuesday evening there was a large gathering of Masons at Smethwick, in connection with the Lewisham Lodge, No. 2582, held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, when the installation of Bro. William S. Webb as WM took place.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 12/4/1902

“The annual meeting of the Smethwick Swimming Club was held on Monday evening at the BLUE GATES HOTEL. Mr. H. L. Summerton occupied the chair.....”

1911 Census

100, High Street

- [1] *Frederick Groom* (39), married, public house manager, born London;
- [2] *Henry Alfred Johnson* (20), barman, born Wolverhampton;
- [3] *Matilda Gratridge* (25), waitress, born Liverpool;
- [4] *Clara Annie Twell* (23), barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Beatrice Annie Perkins* (19), general servant, born Easthope;
- [6] *Violet Meeson* (16), nurse, born Beswick;
- [7] *Sarah Ann Ashmore* (46), general servant, born Woolwich;
- [8] *Annie Lydall* (23), barmaid, born Brownhills;
- [9] *Ernest Leonard Hadley* (23), billiard marker, born Liverpool;
- [10] *Edward Wellavize* (24), potman, born Gloucester;
- [11] *Ernest Lewis Wellavize* (18), potman, born Gloucester:

Smethwick Telephone 20/1/1912

“There was an interesting ceremony in connection with Court ‘Watt Villa’ of the Ancient Order of Foresters at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Monday night. On this occasion there were initiated into the Order, the Deputy Mayor (Councillor C. Woodcock, JP), Mr. Herbert Jeffries, who recently succeeded to the position of solicitor to the Smethwick and West Bromwich District of the Order, Mr. *F. Green*, the manager of the hotel; and a number of new financial members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/1/1918

“Woman or Strong Girl, for housework. Wanted at once, sleep in or out. – Apply BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/4/1928

“Smethwick is to have a Rotary Club. There was an inaugural meeting at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, on Monday last, when Rotarian H. Foulkes, of Stourbridge, presided, and an outline of the ideals and principles of the Rotarian movement were given by Rotarian C. A. Smith of Birmingham.....”

In 1929 an Order was granted ‘to remove to a new premises to be erected on land forming part of the present site and part upon which the Law Courts now stand.’ It was confirmed on 10th April 1929.

Arthur Skidmore was married to *Dorothy*.

It was demolished and rebuilt

Final Order granted on 6th October 1932.

It reopened on 7th October 1932.



1926



1930



Dining Room 1932

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1934

“The West Bromwich and Smethwick Licensed Trade Association will hold their 59th annual dinner at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Thursday, January 18th.”

Smethwick Telephone 20/1/1934

“A complimentary dinner to the Officers and Men of the Staffordshire Constabulary stationed in the Borough, was given by the Magistrates of the Borough, on Wednesday evening, at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.....”

AND

“About two hundred were present at the dance organised by the Spon Lane Ward Men’s Unionist Association, and held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, on Monday evening. Councillor John Brockhurst and Mr. C. E. Williams were the joint MC’s and the music was rendered by the ‘Elite’ Band.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1934

“The annual dinner of the Smethwick Musical Society is regarded as one of the happiest functions in the social calendar. It was the case on Wednesday evening, when the large assembly room at the BLUE GATES HOTEL proved inadequate for all who wanted to attend the dinner.

Mr. J. Ernest Brain presided, and he was supported by the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. E. Hewitson).....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1934

“There was a good attendance at a smoking concert held on Monday evening at the BLUE GATES HOTEL. It was in aid of the Benevolent Fund associated with the 148th Smethwick Heavy Battery Royal Garrison Old Boys’ Association. A capital programme was gone through. As a result of the concert, it is expected that the fund will benefit considerably.”

AND

“The annual dinner of the Halesowen Golf Club was held on Friday evening at the BLUE GATES HOTEL. Mr. E. Parkes (President) presided.....”

Smethwick Telephone 3/3/1934

“A dance will take place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Wednesday, in connection with the Smethwick Hairdressers’ Association, whose President is Mr. J. H. Barrowcliffe. Mr. W. Downes will be the MC.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/3/1934

“Major A. J. Adams presided at the annual dinner of the Smethwick and District Social Air-Gun League, which was held on Monday evening at the BLUEGATES HOTEL. The expansion of the league during the past season – from six teams to nine – was reflected in the increased attendance, about 84 members being present.....”

Smethwick Telephone 31/3/1934

“The Annual Dinner in connection with the Cape Hill Brewery Fire Brigade and Ambulance Corps will take place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Friday April 13th.”

Smethwick Telephone 20/10/1934

“A very successful dance was held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, on Friday last, in aid of the Queen’s Hospital. The arrangements were carried out by several of the students in the Massage Department (Miss M. Sawyer, Miss C. Young, Miss K. Healy, Miss J. Merry, and Miss Marjorie Briant). As a result of this effort upwards of £15 will be handed over to the Hospital.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1938 - Advert

“Scribbans’ Welfare Club / A New Year’s Dance / will be held at the / BLUE GATES HOTEL / High Street, Smethwick / To-day (Saturday), 1st January. / Dancing, 7.45 – 11.45pm. Novelties etc. / The Brooklyn Dance Band / Admission 1/6 / Date of Next Canteen Dance / 15th January 1938.”

AND

“Mr. W. E. Morton will preside over the concert to be given under the auspices of the Smethwick Musical Society at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Tuesday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1938 - Advert

“Clifton Cricket Club / Dance / at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, / Today (Saturday), January 22nd. / ‘Denza’ Dance Band / Dancing 7.45 – 11.45 Tickets 1/6.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/2/1938

“Mrs. Melville, President, was in the chair at the annual meeting of the Women’s Unionist Association, held at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Wednesday afternoon.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/3/1938

“Chamber of Trade. Mr. Percy P. James will preside at the dinner, which takes place on Wednesday night at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/8/1938

“Mr. P. T. H. Wood will speak on Road Safety at the meeting of the Rotary Club on Monday next at the BLUE GATES HOTEL.

There were a number of visitors at the meeting on Monday last. Rotarian F. J. Simpkins (of the Stourbridge Club) was accompanied by Mr. Lunt (Stourbridge).....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/11/1938

“The Mayor of Oldbury (Alderman H. H. Robbins), who is a member of the Rotary Club of Smethwick, was congratulated by his fellow members at the luncheon at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Monday, on his elevation to the highest office that a Borough can bestow on a citizen.....”

AND

“The members of the 148th (Smethwick) Heavy Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery Old Boys’ Association met at the BLUE GATES on Saturday for their fourteenth annual reunion. Twenty years after the cessation of hostilities, the Battery, which had a strength of 250, has dwindled in numbers, so that now less than a hundred men remain, but such is the spirit of comradeship which was engendered during the war years that they come, every year, from as far afield as Yorkshire and Wales, Nottinghamshire and Hertfordshire, to renew old friendships.

Major H. S. Browning, RA, is the President of this very live Association. Much to the regret of the members, he had found it impossible on this occasion to attend and so Mr. Percy Holdsworth took his place in the Presidential chair.....”

Robert George West's address was given as BLUE GATES.

Derek William Cotter's address was given as 11, Summercourt Drive West, Kingswinford.

Smethwick Telephone 9/4/1964

“Smethwick Chamber of Trade. Members are reminded that the AGM of the above association will take place at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick on Thursday next, April 9th.....”

The Smethwick Cricket Club held a Championship dinner here, on 4th October 1968, after winning the Birmingham League.

It was known as the BLUE DUCK from 1972 to 1976.

The main bar was destroyed by fire on 12th September 1980.

News Telephone 9/4/1981

“The BLUE GATES John Bull pool team swept the board in the league honours at their presentation evening. John Bull took the Division One league title, the team competition, and the BLUE GATES Shield to complete a memorable season on the table for the 7-man team.....”

[2013]



1997



2013

BOATMAN

31, (29), Great Arthur Street, (Canalside), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John William James Kingstone Ltd.
Hubert R. Twist, 9, Union Street, Birmingham
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1940)

LICENSEES

George Thompson [1834]
Isaac Whitehouse [1851]
George Orton [1861] – [1879]
John William James Kingstone [1879] – **1926**);
John Henry Horton [1911] manager?
John James Kingstone **(1926 – 1928)**;
Samuel Richardson **(1928 – 1929)**;
George Henry Collins **(1929)**;
John Hugh Roberts **(1929 – 1931)**;
John Thomas Franklin **(1931 – 1940)**;
William Henry Olds **(1940 – 1944)**;
John Henry 'Jack' Merchant **(1944 – 1952)**;
Isaac Louraine Mogan **(1952 – 1955)**;
Thomas Lehane **(1955 – 1957)**;
Noel Donald Herbert Spurrier **(1957 – 1961)**;
Norman Sidney Price **(1961 – 1962)**;
Harry Walker **(1962 – []**

NOTES

Canalside [1851], [1878]
29, Great Arthur Street [1890], [1891], [1904], [1909]
31, Great Arthur Street [1942], [1948], [1961], [1965]

BOAT [1834], [1851], [1887], [1899]
BOATMANS INN [1865]
BOATMAN [1870], [1872], [1879], [1891], [1896], [1897], [1912], [1936], [1948], [1961], [1965]

J. W. J. Kingstone had his brewery next door.

It was the unofficial headquarters of Sandwell Athletic FC.

1861 Census

Great Arthur Street – BOATMAN INN

- [1] *George Orton* (39), publican, born Longton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Jane Orton* (38), wife, born Whittington, Staffordshire;
- [3] *William Parett* (19), nephew, fitter and turner in iron works, born Whittington, Staffordshire:

1871 Census

Great Arthur Street – BOATMAN'S ARMS

- [1] *George Orton* (49), licensed victualler, born Langdon (sic), Staffordshire;
- [2] *Jane Orton* (48), wife, born Whittington, Staffordshire:

1881 Census

29, Great Arthur Street

- [1] *John W. J. Kingstone* (24), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *William Binns* (48), father in law, moulder, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Elizabeth M. Binns* (48), mother, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Elizabeth J. Kingstone* (17), sister, milliner, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Louisa R. Cross* (25), visitor, tailoress, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 16/2/1887

“On Saturday night a meeting was held at the BOAT INN, Great Arthur Street, the object of which was ‘to devise the best possible means of extricating ourselves from the iron grasp of monopoly and for ever banishing the evil of poverty’. Representatives of the Knights of Labour attended the meeting and delivered addresses.”

1891 Census

29, Great Arthur Street – BOATMAN INN

- [1] *John W. J. Kingstone* (34), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *L. R. Kingstone* (35), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *L. E. Kingstone* (9), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *J. J. Kingstone* (6), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *C. H. Kingstone* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *D. H. Kingstone* (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *E. Kingstone* (3 months), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Mary A. Andrews* (36), domestic servant, born Harborne:

A license for music and singing was granted on 28th September 1892.

Smethwick Telephone 28/12/1895

“BOAT INN Sick and Dividend Society which is held at the BOATMANS INN declared a dividend for the year of 11s 5d per member. The membership is now 107.....”

J. W. J. Kingstone was a committee member of West Bromwich and District LVA. [1902]

He issued tokens from here.

He was a councillor. [1895], [1896]

SUMMIT BREWERY [1903]

Smethwick Telephone 25/1/1896

“BOAT INN Sick and Dividend Society – The annual dinner and convivial meeting in connection with the above society was held at the club house, Great Arthur Street on Wednesday evening membership now reached close on 150 the dividend paid for the last year amounted to 11s 5d per member host Councillor *J. Kingstone*.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/6/1896

“The Building Committee recommend that the following be approved *J. W. Kingston*, w.c. and urinal, BOAT INN, Great Arthur Street.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/9/1896

“On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Albert E. Betham (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the BOATMAN INN touching the death of Samuel Slater (62), who resided in Great Arthur Street and who died suddenly whilst following his employment at Doulton Pottery Works, Smethwick on Tuesday He had been unwell for some time, suffering from chronic bronchitis Death from natural causes.”

Smethwick Telephone 31/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies The BOAT INN, Great Arthur Street. – This old established society has returned a dividend of 10s 3d per member.....”

It had a Sick and Dividend Society. [1899]

1901 Census

29, Great Arthur Street

- [1] *John Kingstone* (44), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Louisa Kingstone* (45), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Elizabeth Kingstone* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *John Kingstone* (16), son, brewer's assistant, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Harry Kingstone* (14), son, machine minding, born Smethwick;
- [6] *William Kingstone* (13), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Martha Kingstone* (8), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Clara Kingstone* (4), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Eva Tyrell* (21), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]
They won the league in 1908.

1911 Census

Great Arthur Street – The BOATMAN INN

- [1] *John Henry Horton* (45), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *May Isabella Horton* (47), wife, married 19 years, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Joseph Harold Horton* (17), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Marion Horton* (16), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Ethel Horton* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *John Horton* (13), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Amy Horton* (9), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Edna Horton* (3), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 19/1/1918

“Mr. G. C. Lewis (Coroner) held an inquest at the BOAT INN on Wednesday, concerning the death of Maurice James Lucas (15), a furnaceman’s helper, of St. George Street, Smethwick, whose death took place on Monday under singular circumstances.

The mother of the boy told the jury that the boy was taken home from the works on Monday, January 8th. He told her that he had fallen into the canal at the works. Dr. Robb was called and attended the lad until his death.

A boy named Harold Langstone, of Waterloo Street, Tipton, said that he was employed along with Lucas at the works of William Mills Ltd, Atlas Works, Grove Lane. During the dinner time interval on January 8th, they were playing in order to keep themselves warm. He was chasing Lucas, who ran over some cokes which were on the side of the canal-arm at the works. The cokes gave way under the boy and he fell backwards into the water. It was five minutes before Lucas was taken from the water, and after he had been ‘brought round’ he was seen by Dr. Ainscow and then taken home.

In reply to Mr. Chapman, the witness said that when he realised it would be impossible for him to get Lucas from the water he sent two boys for help. He admitted that the boys at the works had been warned about playing in that part of the yard.

Samuel E. Winn, 1, Rose Place, Tudor Street, Winson Green, who is also employed at the works, said that a boy went running into the works, and said a man was in the canal. He went to the place, but could see no trace. They were dragging for the boy with a boat-shaft, and he told those on the canal side to stop those operations so that he could find the place where Lucas was. Witness said that he then noticed bubbles, and he dashed into the water and found the boy lying face downwards at the bottom of the canal. He was able to raise him by his clothing, and with the assistance of the men on the bank, the lad was taken from the water. Winn said that he used artificial means of respiration, and when he had succeeded, handed the lad over to the members of the Ambulance Corps at the works, who cared for the patient, and afterwards saw to his removal home in a motor.

In reply to Mr. Chapman, the witness said it was a very cold day. He was suffering from influenza at the time.

The Coroner asked whether Winn was any worse for the experience, and being assured that he was recovering, Mr. Lewis said he was very glad to hear it.

Answering Mr. Chapman, the witness said that he had warned the boys repeatedly about playing at the place.

The Coroner said that he was sure the jury would agree with him when he said that every credit was due to the witness Winn for his behaviour; it was extremely plucky.

Winn: But I had to do it.

The Coroner said that it was not everyone who ought to perform a duty who did it, and the man’s endeavour was very praiseworthy.

Winn said that he had made five or six rescues from drowning, and he was very sorry that in this case the rescue had not been successful in saving the boy from a fatal termination as the result of the accident.

The Coroner said that great credit was due to him.

The Foreman (Mr. J. Bannister) said that the Jury also wished to commend the action of the witness who had behaved splendidly.

Mr. Chapman also endorsed what the Coroner had said.

Dr. Robb said that he had attended the boy since the day of the occurrence. The boy was suffering from shock, and developed acute bronchitis. Death was due to bronchial pneumonia, caused by the immersion.

The Coroner said it was unfortunate that boys in their play would not keep from danger spots. The representatives of the firm did all that they could.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental death.

Mr. Chapman, on behalf of the firm, expressed sympathy with the relatives.”

It was sold at auction on 23rd February, 1928 with the adjoining freehold brewery, offices and premises, known as the Summit Brewery, for £8.300.

Smethwick Telephone 30/6/1928

“The Justices, on Monday, assented to the transfer of the BOATMAN INN, Great Arthur Street, from Mr. *Kingstone* to Mr. *Sam Richardson*. The old hostelry has been acquired by a Birmingham Firm. Mine host is the old ‘warhorse’ of the Albion team, and like so many players, has doffed his football boots and taken to pumps.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/7/1928

“Mr. *Sam Richardson*, who won fame as an Albion half back, was instituted a member of the ‘Summit Lodge’ of the RAOB, held at the BOATMAN INN (of which he is mine host) on Wednesday.”

Plans were approved for alterations to the front bar (by taking in an adjoining office), and the provision of an Outdoor Department, on 29th October 1931.

The addition of an Assembly Room was approved in 1936.

John Thomas Franklin – see also GLOBE, Reform Street, West Bromwich.

Smethwick Telephone 8/1/1938

“An extensive scheme of alterations has been undertaken at the BOATMAN INN, Great Arthur Street, Smethwick, as a result of which one of the borough’s oldest licensed houses has been brought thoroughly up-to-date. During the seven years that Mr. and Mrs. *J. T. Franklin* have been in charge of this ‘free house’ the patronage has increased to such an extent as to necessitate considerable extensions and there has now been provided a large assembly room, whilst the old smoke room has been doubled in size. An effective scheme of decoration, in red and gold, gives a cosy appearance in the new rooms.

Mr. F. Randle was the architect; the builders were Messrs. Green, of King Edward’s Road, Birmingham.

Further alterations are contemplated. There is to be provided outside a pavilion, whilst a rock garden is in the course of construction.”

Smethwick St. George’s FC was based here. [1950’s]

John Henry Merchant was fined £10 plus £2 2s 0d costs, on 12th May 1952, for supplying intoxicating liquor not during permitted hours.

See also BELL, Rounds Green, Oldbury.

Teams from here won the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League 'A' Section in the 1959/60 and 1960/61 seasons.

Norman Sidney Price – see also QUEENS HEAD.

It closed on 3rd January 1971.

Demolished

BOILERMAKERS ARMS

166, Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Elizabeth Bennion [1870]
James Weaver [1871]
John Brown [1879] – **1888**)
John Tate [1890]
Jenks [] – **1890**);
Thomas Foley (**1890** – []
John James Underwood [1891] – [1894]
Thomas Simkin [1903] – **1905**):

NOTES

BOILERMAKERS ARMS [1870], [1871]
MOULDERS ARMS [1881], [1891], [1899]
MOULDERS AND BOILERMAKERS ARMS [1870], [1888], [1894], [1898], [1903]

It was an ante 1869 beerhouse.

1871 Census

Rabone Lane – BOILER MAKERS ARMS

- [1] James Weaver (35), cut nail maker at factory, born Birmingham;
- [2] Ellen Weaver (47), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Sarah Weaver (12), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] Ellen Weaver (10), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] Laura Weaver (5), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] Fanny Hazlewood (22), step daughter, glass polisher, born Birmingham;
- [7] Annie Hazlewood (19), step daughter, domestic servant, born Birmingham:

James Weaver – see also SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN.

1881 Census

Rabone Lane - MOULDERS ARMS

- [1] John Brown (54), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] Louisa Brown (54), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Sarah Brown (17), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Joseph A. Brown (19), son, fitter (engine factory), born Birmingham:

John Brown, beer retailer, Rabone Lane [1870]
John Brown, beer retailer, 166, Rabone Lane [1883]
John Brown died on 24th July 1888.

John Tate, beer retailer, 166, Rabone Lane. [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 19/4/1890

“Smethwick Police Court. Samuel Tate Snr. of Rabone Lane, Smethwick was summoned for unlawfully selling intoxicating liquor which he was not licensed to sell – P.C. Smyth visited the BOILERMAKERS ARMS, Rabone Lane on Thursday and saw the defendant’s son serve several persons with ale. The officer spoke to defendant about it, and he said he was very sorry if he had done anything wrong. – Mr. Shakespeare said defendant was the lessee of these premises and a license was in existence in the name of *Jenks*, who had left the place. He had been looking out for another manager, and he now wished to apply for the license to be transferred from *Jenks* to this person. The Magistrates imposed a fine of 1s and costs.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/9/1890

“*Thomas Foley*, landlord of the BOILER MAKERS ARMS, Rabone Lane, Smethwick was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his premises on the 20th ult.....”

- He was fined 20s and costs or 14 days imprisonment.

1891 Census

166, Rabone Lane – MOULDERS ARMS INN

- [1] *James Underwood* (31), publican and mineral water seller, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Clara Underwood* (30), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Esther Calloway* (57), mother in law, widow, born Wednesfield;
- [4] *John Calloway* (31), brother in law, engine fitter and turner, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Thomas Calloway* (22), brother in law, machine tool planer, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Olive Amphlett* (2), niece, born Smethwick:

John James Underwood issued tokens from here.

He was also a mineral water dealer.

Smethwick Telephone 8/12/1894

“*James Underwood*, landlord of the MOULDERS’ AND BOILERMAKERS’ ARMS, Rabone Lane, Smethwick, was charged with permitting gaming on his licensed premises on the 5th and 12th November last the landlord knew and also took part in the gaming, receiving money and paying it himself.- Police Constable Steele stated that he visited the defendant’s house about six o’clock on the 5th November. There were six persons in the bar, but the landlord was not present then, another man being behind the bar. One of the men challenged another to play a game of cards for half a gallon of beer. The challenge was accepted, and the man behind the bar gave them a pack of cards on being requested. The two men then played at ‘cribbage’ for half a gallon of beer, and the losing man paid for it The landlord came in about seven o’clock, and, sitting down by his (witness’s) side said, ‘We’ll make it a four handed game, and throw ‘Jacks’ for it. There were seven persons in the house, and, as they all wanted to play, each paid one penny for the cards, those four drawing the ‘Jacks’ playing;- 4d of the money went to the two who won, and the other 3d went for beer. Several games were played in this manner. He also visited the house on the 12th November, when gambling again took place Mr. Ansell, for the defence, pointed out that Mr. Justice Hawkins recently remarked that evidence of this kind should be received with the utmost possible care. He admitted at once that card-playing took place, but, if his instructions were correct, without the knowledge of the landlord. It had been brought home by the importation of an officer into this district, and he seemed to have had a sort of general instruction to get a conviction in some form or other. The officer did not seem to have shown the slightest reluctance to play at cards. – Defendant was then sworn, and in the course of a cross-examination by Mr. Sharpe, admitted that he knew at the time that one game was played for a quart of beer, but remarked that he should discontinue the practice of allowing card-playing in his house in the future. – The defence having broken down, Mr. Ansell pointed out that the house in question had been known for a very considerable number of years, and had been exceedingly well conducted, both before and since the defendant became the licensee. – The Bench took into consideration that defendant had admitted frankly that gambling took place, and fined him £5 and costs, intimating that they should leave the license alone. – The costs amounted to £1 15s 6d.”

John James Underwood was born in Halford Street, Smethwick c. 1860.
He was described as a beerhouse keeper in August 1895.
He died in January 1934, aged 74, and was buried at the Uplands Cemetery.
See also – SWAN, STAR, BRIDGE, Smethwick, and CAPE HOTEL, West Bromwich

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1898

“The first show of the Smethwick Homing Society was opened at the MOULDERS AND BOILERMAKERS ARMS, Rabone Lane, on Monday, and remained open on Tuesday. There were large attendances on both days. The entries, which numbered 71, were of excellent quality.....”

The license was surrendered on 5th April 1905.

Closed
Demolished

BOOT AND SLIPPER

110, (1), Rolfe Street / Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. [1898]
J. C. Holder's Brewery [1894], [1902]
Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd., Oldbury
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

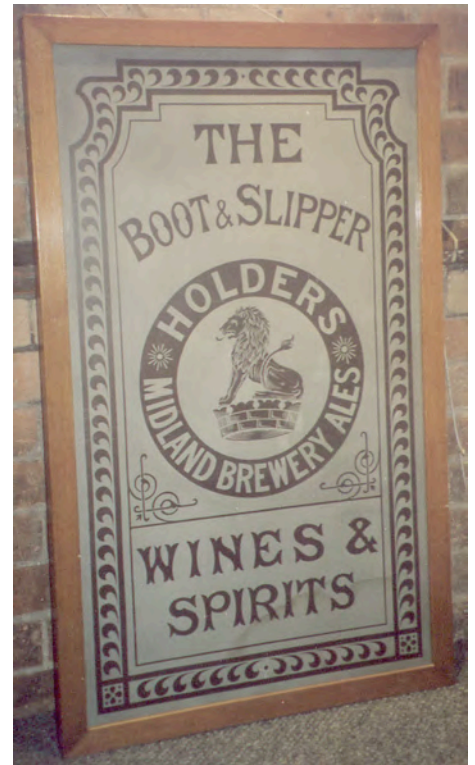
John Taylor [1850] – [1858]
John Vaughan [1860] – [1863]
Benjamin Edward Rogers [1864] – [1865]
William Farmer [1867]
Theophilus Wilder [1870]
William Dutton [] – **1870**;
William D Turner **(1870 – [1871]**
Henry Corbett [1872] – [1873]
Richard Griffiths [1878] – [1883]
Mrs. Elizabeth Griffiths [1890]
Alfred Benjamin Parker [1891] – **1895**;
Joseph Haden **(1895 – 1902)**;
Harry Shirley [1901] manager?
James Walters Bayley **(1902)**;
Samuel Cooper **(1902 – 1904)**;
Louisa Cooper **(1904)**;
Thomas Webb **(1904 – 1909)**;
George Yarnell **(1909 – 1910)**;
Frank Grey **(1910)**;
Hannah Alice Grey **(1910)**;
Alfred Charles Rose **(1910 – 1911)**;
Alfred Alt Kinsey **(1911 – 1912)**;
Jabez Henry Cutler **(1912 – 1927)**;
Selina Cutler **(1927)**;
Frederick Charles Sheppard **(1927 – 1932)**;

NOTES

1, Rolfe Street [1871]
110, Rolfe Street [1881], [1891]

It was situated on the north side of Rolfe Street.

BOOT INN [1878], [1879], [1883], [1890], [1897]
BOOT AND SLIPPER [1891]



1851 Census

Rolfe Street (47)

- [1] *John Taylor* (50), victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Jane Taylor* (46), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Hannah Taylor* (24), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Thomas Taylor* (22), son, moulder, born Tipton;
- [5] *Mary A. Taylor* (19), daughter, born Tipton;
- [6] *Josefe (?) Taylor* (14), daughter, born Spain, British citizen;
- [7] *Jane Taylor* (15), daughter, born Tipton;
- [8] *John Taylor* (10), son, born Tipton;
- [9] *John Peet* (10), visitor, born Wednesbury;
- [10] *James Burford* (24), lodger, smith, born Wednesbury;
- [11] *Charles Allen* (22), lodger, moulder, born Smethwick;
- [12] *David Jenkins* (31), lodger, moulder, born Leicester;
- [13] *John Dobson*, lodger, fitter, born Glamorgan;
- [14] *Joseph Brunner (?)*, (50), lodger, moulder, birthplace not known:

1861 Census

Rolfe Street

- [1] *John Vaughan* (32), publican, born Hodnet, Shropshire;
- [2] *Ann Vaughan* (32), wife, born Market Drayton;
- [3] *Mary R. Vaughan* (7), daughter, born Silsoe, Bedfordshire;
- [4] *John F. Vaughan* (5), son, born Silsoe, Bedfordshire;
- [5] *Reginald Vaughan* (4), son, born Silsoe, Bedfordshire;
- [6] *Gertrude Vaughan* (2), daughter, born Silsoe, Bedfordshire;
- [7] *Joseph Hatton* (25), lodger, engineer master, born Atherstone:

John Vaughan issued tokens from here.

William Farmer issued tokens from here.

1871 Census

1, Rolfe Street – BOOT AND SLIPPER INN

- [1] *William D. Turner* (38), licensed victualler, born West Derby, Lancashire;
- [2] *Mary Turner* (29), wife, born Oakengates, Shropshire;
- [3] *Mary Turner* (6), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *William D. Turner* (4), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Edith Turner* (2), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Charles Turner* (10 months), son, born Harborne;
- [7] *George Jameson* (25), visitor, commercial traveler, born Kendal, Lancashire;
- [8] *George J. Gaskell* (42), visitor, general dealer, born Kendal, Lancashire;
- [9] *Fanny Taylor* (19), general servant, born Tipton;
- [10] *Mary A. Mannion* (14), nursemaid, born Birmingham:

1881 Census

110, Rolfe Street - BOOT AND SLIPPER Public House

- [1] *Richard Griffiths* (57), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Elizabeth Griffiths* (51), wife, born Leicestershire;
- [3] *Kate Griffiths* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Charles R. Griffiths* (10), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Clara Griffiths* (6), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Elizabeth Lar...??* (79), mother in law;
- [7] *Isabella Giles* (22), niece;
- [8] *Sarah Jones* (20), domestic servant:

Smethwick Telephone 21/12/1889 - Advert

“BOOT AND SLIPPER INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick. The proprietress of the above wishes to inform the Inhabitants of Smethwick that the Spacious Room will be Open For Dancing on Boxing Night, 26th December at 7.30 pm and every following Monday until further notice. Admission free.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/12/1890

“Knights of Labour a meeting in connection with the Knights of Labour LA 7952 held its regular meeting on Sunday evening at the BOOT AND SLIPPER.....”

1891 Census

110, Rolfe Street – BOOT AND SLIPPER INN

- [1] *Alfred B. Parker* (56), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Harriet Parker* (58), wife, born Erdington;
- [3] *David Parker* (26), son, waggon builder, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Amelia Parker* (17), daughter, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 6/5/1893

“Smethwick Petty Sessions. *Alfred Benjamin Parker* of the BOOT AND SLIPPER INN, Rolfe Street, was summoned for keeping a dog without a license on the 8th ult. – Police sergeant Shaffery visited defendant’s house on the day named, and found that he had two dogs and only one license. He had since taken out another license. – A fine of 10s and costs was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/12/1894

“*Albert Benjamin Parker*, landlord of the BOOT AND SLIPPER INN was summoned for permitting gaming on his licensed premises on the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th November last Mr. Sharpe [prosecution] explained that the defendant kept a full-licensed house. In consequence of certain instructions which had been given to him, Police-constable Steele visited the defendant’s house on 2nd November, about a quarter past nine. He was disguised as a soldier, and represented that he was out on furlough. Therefore no suspicion was attached to him whatever, and he went and sat down in the tap room, where there were two men playing at ‘cribbage’. They were playing for 6d a game, which went on for some time, when the stakes changed to 1s, and afterwards 2s and 4s during the play, and when money was passing, the landlord came into the tap room on several occasions On the 3rd of November, the following day, the same officer visited the house On the 5th, Steele again visited the house, and saw the landlord and another man playing at a game called ‘don’ for beer. It was then suggested, he thought, by the constable that they should have a four-handed game, and several games were played for money, the landlord taking part in them Steele stationed at Bilston, then gave evidence in support of Mr. Sharpe’s statement Mr. *Parker*, the landlord of the house in question, had been accustomed to the trade something like 30 years, and during that time he had always done his best to conduct his house in a satisfactory manner to himself and customers, to the police, and in strict accordance with law. They did not deny card-playing but that was not illegal.....

The soldier was imported for the purpose of getting a case, and he seemed to have done his level best. He certainly did his best to incite gambling The Bench considered that gambling did take place, and with the knowledge of the landlord. They should inflict a fine of £10 and costs, but should take no notice of the license. The costs amounted to £1 19s 6d.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/12/1895

“An inquest was held by Mr. Edwin Hooper (district coroner), at the VICTORIA HOTEL on Thursday morning, concerning the death of John Prust (45), who resided at 45, High Park Road, and who was found dead in the cellar of the BOOT AND SLIPPER INN, Rolfe Street, on Wednesday afternoon. The foreman of the jury was Mr. J. H. Shaw.

Jane Prust, wife of deceased, stated that her husband was a painter. She last saw him alive on Tuesday dinner-time, when she took his dinner to the BOOT AND SLIPPER INN, where he was at work whitewashing. Deceased then asked her for twopence, but she told him that she had not got it.

The Coroner: Was he sober?

Witness: I could see he had had a drop.

In reply to further questions, witness said the next she heard of deceased was that he was dead. He had always enjoyed the best of health, and was generally a sober man, having 'half a pint' now and again. Deceased's life was insured for a small amount.

The next witness called was *Joseph Haden*, landlord of the BOOT AND SLIPPER INN. He stated that he knew deceased, who had been working on his premises for Messrs. Harley for about two or three months. Deceased came to work at his house about eight o'clock on Tuesday morning He saw deceased several times during the day, the last time at about half past two deceased was whitewashing a cellar in which there were plenty of spirits, but he could not get at them so far as he (witness) could tell. There were a lot of spirits in cases at the other end of the cellar which were open, and deceased might have had 'a bottle or two' out, but he (witness) could not tell. Deceased appeared to be drunk between one and two o'clock – witness when requested by deceased, refusing to supply him with any beer for his dinner At twelve o'clock he gave him a pint of 'fourpenny' and he had had half a pint previously. At ten minutes past three he found deceased at the bottom of the cellar steps, his head reclining between a jar and the wall; and he seemed to be lying in such a comfortable position that witness thought he was asleep. He called some of the men out of the front bar to come and see deceased, remarking that that was the sort of thing they had to contend with Ultimately the jury returned an open verdict of 'Found Dead', expressing the opinion that there was no suspicion of any kind."

Smethwick Telephone 18/1/1896

"The annual dinner of the Soho and Smethwick Goods Department (L & NWR) was held at the BOOT AND SLIPPER last Saturday night. Upwards of 60 sat down to dinner, which was well catered for by the host, Mr. *J. Haden*....."

Smethwick Telephone 25/1/1896 - Advert

"*Joseph Haden*, BOOT AND SLIPPER INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick. (late of the OLD CRYSTAL PALACE, Cranford Street). Ales, Wines, Spirits and Cigars of the finest quality. Good Club Room to let. Recently renovated, suitable for large club trade."

JOSEPH HADEN,
BOOT AND SLIPPER INN,
ROLFE STREET, SMETHWICK
(Late of the Old Crystal Palace, Cranford Street).
ALES, WINES, SPIRITS, AND CIGARS OF THE
FINEST QUALITY.
GOOD CLUB ROOM TO LET,
Recently Renovated. Suitable for large Trades Clubs

Advert 1986

Smethwick Telephone 22/2/1896

"A well attended meeting of brass workers was held at the BOOT AND SLIPPER INN on Monday last, to receive report of delegates who were appointed to convey to the Executive Council, a resolution in favour of a minimum rate of wages in the brass trade accepted upwards of 120 members being present."

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1898 - Advert

"BOOT AND SLIPPER INN Sick and Dividend Society, Rolfe Street, Smethwick. Proprietor – Mr. *J. Haden*. The above society re-commenced Monday, December 29th 1897. New members admitted free up to the end of January 1898. Contributions 3 ½ d per week. No levies. Benefits – Death of Member, £3; Death of Member's Wife, £1 10s; Sick Pay, 6s per week. Dividend for 1897 – 11s 6d per member."

Smethwick Telephone 18/6/1898

"Building Committee recommended that the following plans be approved H. Mitchell and Co. Ltd., addition to BOOT AND SLIPPER INN, Rolfe Street....."

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

"Sick and Dividend Societies BOOT AND SLIPPER INN – Monday last was the general meeting night of this society, and there was a large number of members. Mr. W. Wilson presided a dividend of 9s per member was declared....."

1901 Census

Rolfe Street – BOOT AND SLIPPER INN

- [1] *Harry Shirley* (28), coach finisher, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Adelaide Shirley* (30), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Joseph Shirley* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Agnes Grimmett* (15), domestic servant, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Mary A. J. Butler* (26), visitor, dressmaker, born Birmingham:

Samuel Cooper was also a wine and spirit merchant.

George Yarnell – see also FORGE TAVERN, ROYAL EXCHANGE, and STAR.

Thomas Webb was fined £5 and £5 11s 6d costs, on 1st May 1909, for permitting drunkenness.

1911 Census

Rolfe Street – BOOT AND SLIPPER

- [1] *Alfred Alt Kinsey* (29), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Elizabeth Kinsey* (27), wife, born Aston;
- [3] *Dennis Alt Kinsey* (1 month), son, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 2/3/1912

“*Thomas Morris* (27), of High Street, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the BOOT AND SLIPPER INN, Rolfe Street, on Saturday, Feb. 17th.

Mrs. Cutler, the landlady, said that the defendant went to the house. She refused to serve him, and *Morris* then picked up another man’s beer and drank it; he also struck one of the customers. He had previously been warned not to go to the house.

The Magistrates regarded it as a bad case, and imposed a fine of 40s and costs, in default, a month’s imprisonment.”

It closed on 8th July 1932.

The license was transferred to the TWO BREWERS.

Smethwick Telephone - January 1933

“A real need is met by *Mr. Tom Smith*’s provision of a gymnasium at the premises formerly known as the BOOT AND SLIPPER, Rolfe Street, Smethwick. Accommodation for boxers is provided, and a number of exponents are to be seen at the practice class.....”

It later became a printer’s shop.



c1903



BRIDGE

28, Bridge Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mann, Crossman and Paulin Ltd. [1891]

LICENSEES

George Pearsall [1881] – [1883]
Mrs. Dinah Hill [1886] – [1890]
Kenneth C Cooke [1891]
Emery [1892]
Thomas Lowe [1894]
Alfred Cotterill [1897]
Arthur Biddulph [1898] – **1904**);
George Edward Ash (**1904 – 1909**);
Alfred Kite (**1909**);
William A Newall (**1909 – 1913**);
Thomas Henry Cole (**1913 – 1915**);
John Edward Dade (**1915**);
John Horton (**1915 – 1917**);
John James Underwood (**1917 – 1925**);

NOTES

It was situated on west side of Bridge St.

BRIDGE STREET TAVERN [1904]

It had a beerhouse license.

Tokens were issued from here bearing 'M, C & P'.

1881 Census

28, Bridge Street - BRIDGE INN

- [1] *George Pearsall* (43), beer seller, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Hannah Pearsall* (42), wife, born Swadlincote;
- [3] *George Pearsall* (17), son, printer, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Elizabeth Pearsall* (15), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Florence M. Turner* (13), niece, scholar, born Alfreton;
- [6] *Caroline Charles* (20), unmarried, niece, dressmaker, born Greasley, Derbyshire;

THE BRIDGE INN, BRIDGE ST., SMETHWICK.

Proprietor - - - MR ARTHUR BIDDULPH

A SELECT HARMONIC

Is held in the above House

EVERY SATURDAY AND MONDAY EVENING

BEST TALENT ENGAGED.

TO-NIGHT | MR. BOB HARDING,
SATURDAY | The Popular Character Comedian
NEXT | MR. HARRY TOMLINSON,
MONDAY. | Comic and Descriptive Vocalist

Chairman—Mr. Fred Lackey. Pianist—Mr. J. Smith

Chair taken at Eight p.m. prompt.

MITCHELL'S ALES IN GRAND CONDITION
CHOICE CIGARS.

Advert 1898

Smethwick Telephone 14/12/1889

“Moses Hill of Bridge Street, Smethwick was summoned for threatening his wife *Dinah Hill* on the 29th November the complainant who was the landlady of the BRIDGE INN had been married to the defendant about 18 months. It was her own public house and she managed the business. Since their marriage he had not earned anything and he lived on her entirely. For this kindness he repaid her by continually getting drunk and causing her to go in fear of her life. She was obliged to sleep with the servant girl for protection The Magistrates ordered the defendant to be bound over in two sureties of £10 to keep the peace for six months; and also to pay the costs.”

Moses Hill, beer retailer, 28, Bridge Street. [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 19/4/1890

“*Dinah Hill* of the BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick was charged with keeping open her licensed premises on 14th March and also with harbouring P.C. Bateman whilst on duty the defendant was a highly respectable woman who had kept this house for five years without a complaint.” - She was fined 2s 6d and costs.

Smethwick Telephone 18/10/1890

“.....Alfred W. Dando has received instructions to Offer for Sale By Auction on Wednesday, October 29th 1890 all that Truly valuable, Well-accustomed Freehold Double-Fronted Beerhouse, known as the BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick, containing Bar, Snug, Tap and Smoke Rooms, Club Room (capable of seating over 100 persons), three good Bed Rooms; together with Brewhouse, Malt Room, Stabling, Shedding, and other Conveniences. The foregoing property is well and substantially built, and is situate quite adjacent to several very important Manufacturing Properties/ The trade now being done is very considerable, and the admirable position of the premises will always command a large custom.....”

1891 Census

Bridge Street – BRIDGE INN

[1] *Kenneth C. Cooke* (27), public house manager, born St. Pancras, London;

[2] *Harriet Cooke* (24), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Frederica V. Cooke* (5), daughter, born Balsall Heath, Worcestershire;

[4] *Kenneth C. V. Cooke* (3), son, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 11/4/1891

“Plans approved by the Local Board – Mann Crossman and Co. – addition to BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/5/1892

“Women’s Sick and Dividend Society. This society, which is held at the BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick has just paid a dividend of 11s each member. It will commence again on May 23rd and anyone wishing to become a member can apply to the proprietor Mr. *Emery*, BRIDGE INN, or the secretary.....”

Smethwick Telephone 20/10/1894

“James Golding, of Pope Street, Smethwick, was charged on a warrant with assaulting *Thomas Lowe*, landlord of the BRIDGE STREET TAVERN, Smethwick, on September 1st. – Complainant stated that prisoner was asleep in his house on the date named, and when he roused him up struck him. – Prisoner denied the assault, but when ordered to pay a fine of 5s and costs (amounting in all to 16s 6d) or go to gaol for 14 days, asked the Bench to allow him a week in which to pay the fine, - ‘for the sake of the little children’.- Mr. Lees remarked that he had the worst record that had ever been brought into that court. – Ultimately the appeal was granted.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/12/1894

“*Thomas Lowe*, landlord of the BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick, was summoned for selling intoxicating liquors during prohibited hours on the 18th ult., and William Ray, 23, Melbourne Avenue, Smethwick, and Frank Smith, 11, Albert Street, Handsworth, were charged with being on the premises during prohibited hours The Bench dismissed the case.....”

Alfred Cotterill, beer retailer, 28, Bridge Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 15/1/1898 - Advert

“The BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick / Proprietor Mr. *Arthur Biddulph* / A Select Harmonic / Is held in the above House / Every Saturday and Monday Evening / Tonight Saturday – Mr. Bob Harding, The Popular Character Comedian / Next Monday – Mr. Harry Tomlinson, Comic and Descriptive Vocalist / Chairman – Mr. Fred Lackey: Pianist – Mr. J. Smith / Chair taken at Eight pm prompt. / Mitchells Ales in Grand Condition / Choice Cigars.”

Arthur Biddulph, beer retailer, 28 Bridge St. [1900]

1901 Census

Bridge Street – BRIDGE INN

- [1] *Arthur Biddulph* (47), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Ellen Biddulph* (34), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Arthur G. Biddulph* (11), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *William Biddulph* (10), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Nellie Biddulph* (8), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Ellen May Biddulph* (3 months), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Weekly News 5/10/1901

“On Saturday evening Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) held an inquest at the BRIDGE INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick, concerning the death of *Annie Fletcher* (46), a married woman, formerly residing in Bridge Street, whose dead body was found in the Birmingham Canal near her home on the previous Thursday night. The evidence showed that deceased had for the last seven months suffered from heart disease and pains in the head, and she had threatened to destroy herself several times.

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

Alfred Kite, beer retailer, 28, Bridge Street. [1909]

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

1911 Census

Bridge Street – BRIDGE INN

- [1] *William Newall* (42), manager, publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Newall* (40), wife, born Burton on Trent;
- [3] *William Newall Jnr.* (18), son, engineer's turner, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Thomas Newall* (16), son, motor mechanic, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Fred Newall* (10), son, schoolboy, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Herbert Noons* (27), boarder, barman, born Smethwick:

William A. Newall, beer retailer, 28, Bridge Street. [1912], [1914]

Thomas Henry Cole, beer retailer, 28, Bridge Street. [1914]

See also NEW INN, Union Street.

John James Underwood was born in Halford Street, Smethwick c. 1860.

He was described as a beerhouse keeper in August 1895.

He died in January 1934, aged 74, and was buried at the Uplands Cemetery.

See also – SWAN, STAR, and BOILERMAKERS ARMS, Smethwick, and CAPE HOTEL, West Bromwich

It closed on 30th April 1925.

The license was surrendered on the removal of the license of the TRAVELLERS REST, Brasshouse Lane, to the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lewisham Road.

BRITANNIA

277, (261), (301), Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

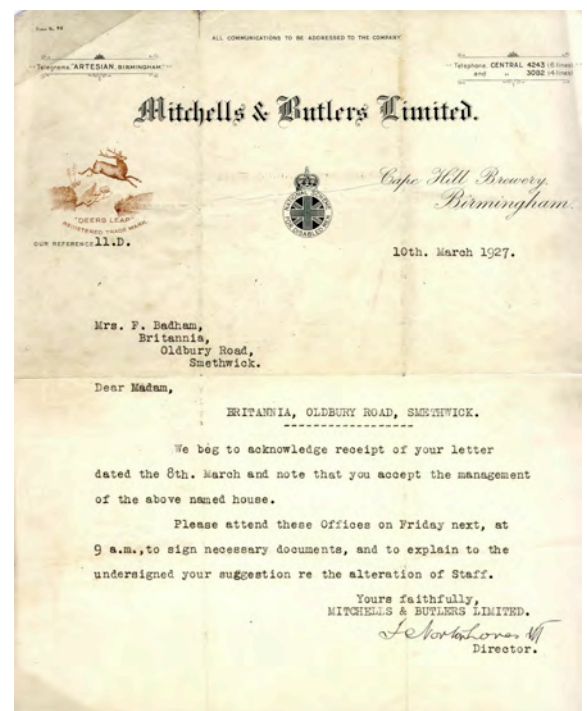
George Thompson and Sons (maltsters), Oldbury
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. [1897]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (founded 1898) [1927]

LICENSEES

G Smith [1839]
Thomas Smith [1850]
William Underhill [1858] – [1873]
Mrs. Betsy Green [1878] – [1879]
William Colbourne [1883]
John A Lucas [1885] – **1900**;
Mrs. Mary Lucas (**1900 – 1918**);
Henry Edward Clark (**1918 – 1922**);
Frank Waterhouse (**1922 – 1923**);
Alfred George Clinton (**1923 – 1924**);
John 'Jack' Badham (**1924 – 1927**);
Mrs. Florence Badham (**1927 – 1947**);
Robert Henry Sherwood (**1947 – 1949**);
Ernest Foxall (**1949 – 1956**);
Hetty May Foxall (**1956 – 1957**);
Robert Noel Worrall (**1957 – 1959**);
Stanley Rock Bryan (**1959 – 1960**);
Gordon Griffin (**1960**);
Richard Cotgrave (**1960 – 1961**);
Desmond Leslie Whitehouse (**1961 – 1962**);
Anthony McMahon (**1962**);
John Samuel Baker (**1962 – 1965**);
Peter Gorrie (**1965 – []**)



1930s



Letter 1927

NOTES

301, Oldbury Road [1883], [1890]
261, Oldbury Road [1891], [1897]
277, Oldbury Road [1900], [1901], [1909], [1911], [1935], [1936], [1948], [1959], [1961], [1965]

OLD BRITANNIA [1858]

1861 Census

Oldbury Road – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] William Underhill (45), innkeeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] Mary Ann Underhill (35), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] William Underhill (1), son, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] William Underhill (64), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] Mary A. Underhill (46), wife, born Shropshire;
- [3] John Underhill (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] Eliza Jane Underhill (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 11/7/1885

“John Lucas, landlord of the BRITANNIA INN, Oldbury Road, was charged with supplying intoxicating drinks after hours, to be drunk on his premises on 5th June public house opposite to where the Tramway Company were erecting a large depot fined 10s and costs.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/3/1888

“A Publican’s Trick To Deceive Policemen. John Lucas, landlord of the BRITANNIA INN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick, was charged with keeping his house open for the sale of liquors during illegal hours on the 11th inst.”

- Three men were hiding under a bed upstairs. - “The landlord’s wife said, ‘Make it as light as you can for us, as we are doing very little trade’.”

- He was fined 40s and costs and license endorsed.

1891 Census

261, Oldbury Road – BRITANNIA INN

- [1] John Lucas (46), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] Mary Lucas (46), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] Nellie Lucas (16), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] Lilly Lucas (6), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] Harriet Lucas (77), mother, widow, living on her own means, born Hereford:

Smethwick Telephone 21/8/1897

“The Licensing Acts 1872 and 1874 We, Henry Mitchell and Company Limited, of Cape Hill Brewers, being interested as owners in certain premises about to be constructed for the purpose of being used as a house for the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors to be consumed on the premises, and being situate in Oldbury Road (upon the site of which proposed premises The BRITANNIA INN now stands) do hereby give notice that it is our intention to apply at the adjourned annual general licensing meeting to be held at the Police Court in Thornhill Road, Handsworth, on Wednesday, the 8th day of September next, for the provisional grant and confirmation of a license to hold in respect of the said premises any of the Excise Licenses that may be held by publicans.....”

“Building Committee The committee recommended that the following plans be approved..... Mitchell & Co. proposed extension of the licensed area of BRITANNIA.....”

- These plans were refused at the licensing sessions on 8th September 1897.

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1898

“BRITANNIA Sick and Dividend Society. – The members of the above society held their seventh anniversary dinner on Saturday evening at the BRITANNIA INN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick, when upwards of 40 sat down to an excellent repast, served up in grand style by the host, Mr. *J. A. Lucas*. Mr. James Ingram was voted to the chair and Mr. Edward Bown to the vice chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/9/1898

“Building Committee had approved the following plans Mitchells and Butlers Ltd., addition to BRITANNIA INN, Oldbury Road.....”

1901 Census

277, Oldbury Road – BRITANNIA

- [1] *Mary Lucas* (55), widow, licensed victualler, born Harbourne (sic);
- [2] *Nellie Lucas* (25), daughter, barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Lilly Lucas* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Harry Clark* (28), barman, born Smethwick:

1911 Census

277, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Mary Lucas* (65), widow, licensed victualler, born Harborne;
- [2] *Nellie Lucas* (35), daughter, barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Lily Lucas* (26), daughter, barmaid, born Harborne;
- [4] *Henry Clark* (37), boarder, barman, born Harborne:

John 'Jack' Badham married *Florence Green* in September 1914.

He died in 1927.

See also VINE, Cross Street.

Florence Badham was only 5'2" tall.

O.K. Lodge (No.5058) Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

Smethwick Telephone 30/7/1938

“The distribution of medals gained by the Smethwick Highfield Football Club will take place at the BRITANNIA INN, Oldbury Road, on Friday, August 12th.”

Ernest Foxall died in 1956.

Check also TALBOT, West Bromwich.

Stanley Rock Bryan – see also NEW NAVIGATION, and SEVEN STARS.

Gordon Griffin was fined £75 and £2 8s 0d costs, on 11th July 1960, for contravening the Betting Act of 1853.

Anthony McMahon – see also NEW CHURCH.

A team from here took part in the Spon Lane Domino League, South Section. [1966], [1967], [1968]

Closed

Demolished

BRITANNIA

32, Spon Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mary Underhill [1881]

William Joseph Moore [1911]

NOTES

1881 Census

32 Spon Lane - BRITANNIA INN

[1] *Mary Underhill* (39), unmarried, licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;

[2] *John Underhill* (32), unmarried, brother, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Mary L. Underhill* (25), unmarried, sister, born Smethwick;

[4] *Mary A. Powell* (23), general servant, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 27/11/1948

'Public House Changes at West Smethwick'

".....The BRITANNIA still stands at the corner of what used to be a thoroughfare giving access to the glassworks. On a map of 1858 it is shown with a few houses adjoining and open fields at the back, since swallowed up by Chance's ever expanding works."

1911 Census

32, Spon Lane

[1] *William Joseph Moore* (41), licensed house manager, born Walsall;

[2] *Frances Minnie Moore* (37), wife, married 17 years, born Smethwick;

[3] *Hilda Towey* (22), general servant, born Birmingham:

BRITISH ENGINEER

18, Wellington Street, (18, (19), Slough Lane), (19, (18), Sloe Lane), Merry Hill, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Alfred Edwin Lloyd (acquired in 1907)
J. C. Holder's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William George Knight [1861]
John Stamps [1864]
Joseph Stamps [1865]
Charles White [1867] – [1875]
Edward Phillips [1879]
Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips [1884] – **1902**);
John Howard Heron (**1902 – 1907**);
Alfred Edwin Lloyd (**1907 – 1909**);
Harry Wormall (**1909 – 1910**);
Leonard Mellor (**1910**);
Richard Gough (**1910 – 1919**);
Arthur Cecil Scott (**1919 – 1920**);
Edward John Hastilow (**1920 – 1924**);
Edgar Sproson (**1924 – 1931**);
Arthur Edward Jacombs (**1931 – 1942**);
Harry Leonard Simons (**1942 – 1956**);
John James MacKenzie (**1956 – 1957**);
John Knowles (**1957**);
John George Greenhalgh (**1957 – 1961**);
Raymond Cyril Cottrell (**1961 – 1965**);

NOTES

Slough Lane [1864], [1879], [1891]
19, Slough Lane [1890]
19, Sloe Lane [1900], [1909], [1912], [1914]
18, Sloe Lane [1911], [1935]
18, Slough Lane [1935]
18, Wellington Street [1936]

1861 Census

Slough Lane – THE BRITISH ENGINEER
[1] *William George Knight* (25), publican;
[2] *Caroline Knight* (27), wife;
[3] *Edward Tandy* (22), brother, joiner;
[4] *Mary Parsons* (20), servant, born West Bromwich;
[5] *Louisa Sarah Knight* (9 months), daughter, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Slough Lane – BRITISH ENGINEER

- [1] *Charles White* (35), licensed victualler, born Evesham;
- [2] *Ann White* (38), wife, born Newport, Shropshire;
- [3] *Mary Ann White* (5), daughter, scholar, born Evesham;
- [4] *Charlotte Elizabeth White* (4), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Thomas Henry White* (2), son, born Smethwick:

Charles White issued tokens from here.

Edward Phillips issued tokens from here.

1891 Census

Slough Lane – BRITISH ENGINEER

- [1] *Elizabeth Phillips* (53), widow, licensed victualler, born Newport, Shropshire;
- [2] *William Phillips* (45), brother in law, brewer, born Leicester;
- [3] *Elizabeth France* (25), niece, general servant, born Market Drayton, Shropshire:

Smethwick Telephone 16/5/1891

“Smethwick Police Court. *William Phillips*, Slough Lane, Smethwick was summoned for assaulting *Elizabeth France*, domestic servant, Slough Lane on 7th inst., *Mr. Sharpe* defended. The complainant, it appeared, and the defendant were employed at the BRITISH ENGINEER INN and on the day in question complainant asked defendant a question, which the latter alleged was an offensive one, whereupon he struck her on the eye, blackening it, and afterwards knocked her down and knelt upon her. In reply to *Mr. Sharpe* she admitted that she threw a jug at the defendant.”

- The defendant was fined £1 2s 6d or 14 days.

Smethwick Telephone 28/7/1894

“Honourable Order Of Modern Masons. On Saturday last, Lodge 199 of the above Order held their annual dinner at the BRITISH ENGINEER, Slough Lane, Smethwick. There was a fair number of members present, but not quite so many as on former occasions, owing perhaps to the general slackness of trade. Hostess *Phillips*, in her usual hospitable manner, had again provided a most substantial repast.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/11/1898

“*Sarah Ann College* (27), *Maria Groves* (25), and *William Price* (22), all of Vittoria Street, Smethwick, were charged with assaulting a married woman named *Hannah Price*, also of Vittoria Street, on Friday night last.....Complainant alleged that on the night in question she went for her husband to the BRITISH ENGINEER INN, Slough Lane. When she got inside, her brother-in-law asked her to have a drink, which she did. Just afterwards another man wanted to fight her brother-in-law, but she prevented them from fighting. *Mrs. College* then ran in, struck her on the body, knocked her down, and kicked her. As soon as she could recover herself *Mrs. Groves* threw a pint cup at her. It struck her on the side of the head, and inflicted a severe wound, while the force of the blow caused the cup to break into several pieces. The defendant *Price*, who was no relation to her whatever, afterwards hit her underneath the jaw. – Several witnesses were called, and gave corroborative evidence. For the defence, *Mr. Shakespeare* said it appeared from his instructions that the complainant struck the first blow. She struck *Mrs. College*, and a struggle then took place between them, in the course of which complainant’s head was knocked against a table, thus causing the injury to her head. *William Price* went into the room, and saw the struggle going on, when complainant’s husband set about him. *Mr. Shakespeare* also denied that *Mrs. Groves* threw the cup at complainant. – Several witnesses were called in support of this statement. – The Bench considered the cases proved against *College* and *Groves*, and fined each 10s and costs (amounting to £1 4s); in default, 14 days imprisonment. There appeared to be a doubt in the case against *Price*, and they should give him the benefit of it, and therefore discharge him.”

1901 Census

19, Sloe Lane

[1] *Elizabeth Phillips* (60), widow, licensed victualler, born Market Drayton, Shropshire;

[2] *William Phillips* (56), brother in law, manager of public house, born Leicester;

[3] *Thomas Collier* (23), nephew, barman, born Smethwick;

[4] *Matilda Prout* (20), general servant, born Tipton;

[5] *Fanny Nock* (20), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Smethwick Telephone 23/11/1908

“There were some important cases under the Betting and Licensing Acts at the Borough Police Court on Thursday. The prosecutions arose out of a raid made under the direction of Superintendent Goodwin, at a Merry Hill public house on October 17th. Summonses had been issued against *Alfred Edwin Lloyd*, licensee of the BRITISH ENGINEER INN, Slough Lane, for allowing his licensed premises to be used in contravention of the Betting Act 1853, on October 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th; while summonses were also issued against *James Wells*, Kitchener Street, for using the licensed premises for the purpose of betting with persons resorting thereto on the same days Mr. Glover [prosecution] outlined the facts of the case at considerable length. Evidence was given by Police constable Wilshaw, who had visited the house on quite a number of days – his visits extending from October 9th to October 17th, with the exception of Sunday. He went to the house on each day in plain clothes, and whilst the landlord was at times in the bar, and also his brother and a barman, saw men on most of the days write out betting slips and hand them to Wells with money. On one occasion the barman told a man not to write out the slips, but Wells took the slip. The officer, himself, wrote out slips and signed them ‘B. Thomas’

Superintendent Goodwin gave evidence as to the raid. He was accompanied by Detectives Barker and Draper. He arrested Wells for using the licensed premises for the purpose of betting. In his pocket he found a purse containing 13s 11d, and slips relating to horse racing He told the Superintendent it was a ‘fair cop’

At the resumed hearing on Friday evidence was called by the defence to show that the betting, if done at all, was not done openly, whilst sporting papers were not supplied at the house.

The landlord was called, and said the house (which he had owned twelve months) cost him nearly £3,000. He previously assisted his father in the management of another house in Aston, and was assisted at Merry Hill by his brother (*Vernon Lloyd*)

In respect of the 13th the case was dismissed, but in each of the other four cases they [the Bench] imposed a fine of £10 and costs. There was some contention as to the costs, but eventually the Magistrates decided that the total to be paid by Wells was £47 12s. The alternative was one month in each case, to run concurrently.

After a luncheon interval, the case against the publican was commenced.....”

- He was fined £5 and costs totaling £19 17s, or fourteen days.

1911 Census

18, Sloe Lane

[1] *Richard Gough* (55), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] *Agnes Gough* (54), wife, married 33 years, born Birmingham;

[3] *Ethel Gough* (32), daughter, no occupation, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 9/3/1912

“An inquest was held at the BRITISH ENGINEER, Merry Hill, on Wednesday, before Mr. Gerald C. Lewis (Coroner), concerning the death of *Sarah Ann Bonehill*, of Sloe Lane, who died on Monday.

Mr. T. Heeley was foreman of the jury.

The evidence showed that deceased had been in failing health since August last. She had been attended by Dr. Forrest, of the Dispensary. Mrs. Bonehill died suddenly in a neighbour’s house.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

John George Greenhalgh – see also THREE MILE OAK, West Bromwich.

It closed at 10.30 pm on 16th May 1965.

Demolished

BROOMFIELD TAVERN

7, Broomfield, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Mann [1871] – [1884]
Alfred Richards [1890] – [1891]
Mrs. Sarah Richards [1892] – **1899**
Alfred Richards [1901] – **1909**;
Herbert Tuckley (**1909**);
Francis Lyster (**1909 – 1923**):

NOTES

It was situated on the south side of Broomfield.

It had a beerhouse license.

William Mann issued tokens from here.

1871 Census

Broomfield – BROOMFIELD TAVERN

- [1] *William Mann* (38), retail brewer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Ellen Mann* (34), wife, born Peterborough;
- [3] *Mary Mann* (12), daughter, scholar, born Peterborough;
- [4] *Elizabeth A. Mann* (9), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Kate R. Mann* (6), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Alice Mann* (4), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *William H. Mann* (3), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *John Mann* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Thomas Mann* (49), brother, inspector engineer for Indian Railways, born Smethwick:

William Mann, beer retailer, Broomfield [1872], [1879]

William Mann, beer retailer, 7, Broomfield [1883]

1881 Census

Broomfield

- [1] *William Mann* (45), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Ellen Mann* (44), wife, born Peterborough;
- [3] *Kate R. Mann* (16), daughter, teacher of music, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Alice Mann* (14), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William Henry Mann* (13), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *John Mann* (11), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Ellen Mann* (9), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Gertrude Mann* (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Richard Thomas Mann* (6), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

Alfred Richards, beer retailer, 7 Broomfield. [1890]

1891 Census

7, Broomfield – BROOMFIELD TAVERN

[1] *Alfred Richards* (60), publican, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Sarah Richards* (58), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Matilda Richards* (17), daughter, born Smethwick:

A license for music and singing was granted on 28th September 1892.

An inquest was held here in 1892.

Smethwick Telephone 28/9/1895

“Mr. John Richards (72), who resided at 69 Broomfield, was seized with a fit on Tuesday evening, and died shortly afterwards. The deceased was very prominently associated with the Nut and Bolt Makers’ Association, having acted as secretary of the Smethwick Branch since its foundation in 1872. He was also vice chairman of the Midland Counties Trades Federation, and was greatly respected by his fellow trades unionists, by whom his services were greatly appreciated The inquest on the body was held by Mr. Edwin Hooper (coroner) at the BROOMFIELD TAVERN, Broomfield, on Thursday afternoon. Mr. J. Chatterley was foreman of the jury.- From the evidence of *Sarah Richards* [was she the licensee below?], daughter of the deceased, it appears that he enjoyed very good health Died from natural causes.”

Mrs. *Sarah Richards*, beer retailer, 7, Broomfield. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies BROOMFIELD TAVERN – The balance sheet of the society held at this house shows that the total contributions for the year amounted to £101 13s 5d, and the expenditure to £61 5s 6d. The sum of £5 11s 3d had been carried to the reserve fund, and the balance allowed a dividend of 6s 6d each to 111 members. Considering the large amount of sickness this was regarded as satisfactory.”

Smethwick Telephone 25/3/1899

“Mrs. *Sarah Richards*, landlady of the BROOMFIELD TAVERN, died on Thursday in her 68th year.”

1901 Census

7, Broomfield – BROOMFIELD TAVERN

[1] *Alfred Richards* (44), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;

[2] *Harriet Richards* (32), wife, born West Bromwich:

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8]

Herbert Tuckley, beer retailer, 7, Broomfield. [1909]

See also CHURCHFIELD TAVERN, West Bromwich.

1911 Census

7, Broomfield

[1] *Francis Lyster* (31), unmarried, beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;

[2] *Ann Lyster* (51), mother, born Birmingham;

[3] *Thomas Nicholls* (51), boarder, general labourer, born Tamworth:

Francis Lyster, beer retailer, 7, Broomfield. [1912], [1914]

A sum of £1 6s 8d was raised here for the Smethwick Poor Children’ Xmas Treat and Clothing Fund, in March 1912.

It closed on 21st November 1923, under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act of 1910.

BUFFALO INN

22, Vittoria Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Hunt [1864] – [1865]
Joseph Perry [1871]
Thomas Whatton [1879] – [1883]
James Godson [1890] – [1891]
Joseph James Averall [1897] – **1904**);
Ernest Caulkett (**1904 – 1905**);
Alfred Edwards (**1905 – 1914**);
Alfred John Wickes (**1914 – 1915**):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Hunt, beer retailer, Victoria (sic) Street. [1865]
He issued tokens from here.

1871 Census

Vittoria Street – BUFFALO INN

- [1] *Joseph Perry* (53), retail brewer, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Eliza Perry* (46), wife, born Cleobury Mortimer;
- [3] *Joseph Perry* (22), son, gun maker, born Harborne;
- [4] *Thomas Perry* (18), son, bolt turner, born St. Helens;
- [5] *Mary Ann Johnson* (21), servant, born Stourbridge:

Smethwick Telephone 1/10/1887

Inquest at BUFFALO INN, Vittoria Street.

Thomas Whatton, beer retailer, 22, Vittoria Street. [1879], [1883]

James Godson, beer retailer, 22, Vittoria Street. [1890]

1891 Census

Vittoria Street – BUFFALO INN

- [1] *James Godson* (47), beerhouse keeper, born Ilmington, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Jane Godson* (43), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Maria Godson* (16), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Jane Kitchen* (81), mother in law, widow, born Bewdley;
- [5] *Joseph Groves* (47), boarder, metal roller, born Birmingham:

Joseph James Averall, beer retailer, 22, Vittoria Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 3/9/1898

“For refusing to quit the licensed premises of the BUFFALO INN, Vittoria Street, on August 18th, Albert Broom, of Winson Green, was fined 2s 6d plus costs. – The landlord (*Joseph James Averall*) proved the case.....”

Smethwick Telephone 13/5/1899

“William Wolfindale (35), 10, Vittoria Street, Smethwick, was brought up on a charge of attempting to rob the till of *Joseph Averall*, at the BUFFALO INN, Vittoria Street, on the 3rd inst.- It was alleged that the prisoner was found by the barmaid leaning over the counter, and trying to abstract some money from the till. He was arrested by Police constable Lawton, to whom he admitted being there.- Prisoner, who bore a good character, said that he was trying to get a light from near the counter.- Mr. Hadley said that prisoner would have the benefit of the doubt, and was therefore discharged.”

1901 Census

20, Vittoria Street – BUFFALO TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph J. Averall* (47), widower, licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Beatrice Averall* (15), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Florenec Wall* (16), general servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Weekly News 17/8/1901

“Thomas Deakin (24), of Foundry Lane, Smethwick, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the BUFFALO INN, Vittoria Street, Smethwick, and also with assaulting the landlord, *Joseph James Averall*, on the 4th inst.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe stated that on the 3rd inst the prosecutor observed that defendant (who was in the house) was drunk. He was ordered to leave, but he refused to do so, and the landlord ejected him, the next day defendant said he had come to apologise, and prosecutor remarked that he intended to summon him, and defendant then struck him on the face, knocking him down. For each offence he was fined 10s and costs, in all £2, or one month imprisonment with hard labour in default.”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Air-gun League. [1902]

Alfred Edwards, beer retailer, 22, Vittoria Street. [1909], [1914]

1911 Census

Vittoria Street

- [1] *Alfred Edwards* (36), publican, born Wordsley;
- [2] *Isabella Edwards* (35), wife, married 15 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Isabella Edwards* (13), daughter, school, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Florrie Edwards* (10), daughter, school, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Lizzie Edwards* (9), daughter, school, born Bilston;
- [6] *Alfred Edwards* (7), son, school, born Bilston;
- [7] *Charles Edwards* (6), son, school, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Bert Edwards* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Jessie Edwards* (6 months), daughter, born Smethwick:

It closed on 30th September 1915.

Check COTTAGE SPRING.

BURTON TAVERN

81, George Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Samuel Woodhall Ltd. [1897]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Eli Dixon [1870] – [1891]
Robert Tyrrell [] – **1893**;
John Ticknor **(1893 – [])**
Joseph Parry [] – **1896**;
Benjamin Green **(1896 – [1897])**
George Osborne [1900]
Eli Whitehouse [1901]
Henry Gould [1903] – **1907**;
Francis George Fletcher **(1907)**;
Arthur James Edmonds **(1907)**;

NOTES

It was situated on the north side of George Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

George Street – BURTON TAVERN

- [1] *Eli Dixon* (41), beer retailer, born Brampton, Huntingdonshire;
- [2] Ann Dixon (39), wife, born Winhill, Derbyshire;
- [3] Henry Dixon (18), son, machine fitter, born Winhill, Derbyshire;
- [4] Charles Dixon (17), son, moulder in iron works, born Winhill, Derbyshire;
- [5] John Dixon (15), son, blacksmith's striker, born Winhill, Derbyshire;
- [6] Arthur Dixon (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] Alice Ann Dixon (6), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] Annie Dixon (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [9] Elizabeth Round (17), general servant, born West Bromwich;
- [10] Annie Hardy (9), visitor, scholar, born Winhill, Derbyshire:

Eli Dixon, beer retailer, George Street [1870], [1878], [1879], [1890]

Eli Dixon, beer retailer, 81 George Street [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 17/8/1889

“Inquest at BURTON TAVERN, George Street, West Smethwick respecting the death of Charlotte Griffiths, (53) who formerly resided with her husband at 127 Roebuck Lane, Smethwick and who was found dead in a bedroom at No.40 Victoria Street, her brother in law's house on Thursday morning.....Died from taking poison whilst temporarily insane.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/8/1889

“Smethwick Petty Sessions. *Robert Tyrrell*, landlord of the BURTON STORES INN, George Street made an application for a music and dancing license for his house for 14 days The applicant withdrew the portion of his application relating to dancing, after which the license was granted for music only.”

1891 Census

81, George Street – Tavern and Shop (Butcher's)

[1] *Eli Dixon* (61), widower, publican, born Huntingdon;

[2] *Louisa Dixon* (22), daughter, born Smethwick;

[3] *Harriett Dixon* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;:

Benjamin Green, beer retailer, 81, George Street [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1897

“*Benjamin Green*, landlord of the BURTON TAVERN, George Street, West Smethwick, was summoned for keeping open and using a room licensed for the purpose of public music and singing, after eleven o'clock at night, this forming a breach of the conditions under which the license was granted Police-constable Heatherly stated that on 24th December (Christmas Eve) he went to the BURTON TAVERN and told Mr. *Green* that he must cease music and singing at the usual time, eleven o'clock, as his license did not extend beyond that time. The defendant said 'All right', and witness then left the house. On the 26th December (when the publicans had an extension of time), he (Police-constable Heatherly) again visited the house at 11.35 pm, and in a club room upstairs, he found a number of people sitting down, while a man was playing the piano and another singing. He spoke to *Green* about the matter, and he said he did not think it was doing any harm Mr. *Green* did his best to stop the music and singing at eleven o'clock. He told the company that although they might remain in the room, music and singing must cease, and he sent the regular piano player downstairs. He was busy that night, and did not notice that the people upstairs continued to have some music the Bench ultimately dismissed the case.....”

George Osborne, beer retailer, 81 George Street. [1900]

1901 Census

81, George Street – BURTON TAVERN

[1] *Eli Whitehouse* (68), widower, beer retailer, born Pensnett;

[2] *Eliza Bates* (50), servant, born Pensnett:

Smethwick Weekly News 8/2/1902

“*Alfred Higgins* was charged with selling ale without a license.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe, who prosecuted for the police, said defendant applied at the Handsworth Court on January 17th for the transfer of the license of the BURTON TAVERN, George Street. His character was not satisfactory, and it was refused. On the 24th ult PC's *Buckle* and *Smith* entered the inn, and called for some ale, which was served in the presence of the defendant. Since his refusal at Handsworth he had continued to sell the ale.

PC *Dix* stated that he was in the Handsworth Court when the application was made.

Defendant said that anything wrong had been done in ignorance, and the business had been carried on under the supervision of the old owner, *Mr. Whitehouse*, but he had not slept there.

A fine of £1 and costs, in all £3 13s 6d, or in default 14 days' imprisonment, was imposed.”

Francis George Fletcher – see also TWELVE BELLS, West Bromwich.

The license was surrendered in 1907, as part of the package in support of licensing the WATERLOO.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

251, (196), (210), Cape Hill, (Cape Road), (Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mrs. Lucy Gorton, Lichfield Road, Birmingham
James Mason (sold to Henry Mitchell)
Henry Mitchell and Co. (acquired 1896) [1901]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1909]

LICENSEES

Richard Yeomans [1835]
William Pennell [1841] – [1842]
William Lee [1850] – [1855]
T Turner [1855]
Joseph Gorton [1858] – [1867]
Mrs. Lucy Gorton [1870] – [1873]
Thomas Moseley [1878] – [1879]
James Mason [1879] – **1896**
Henry Simmonds [1897]
William Downing [1901] – [1911]
John Henry Jeffrey [1914] – **1917**;
Ernest Harmer **(1917 – 1920)**;
Albert Edward Farmer **(1920 – 1923)**;
Albert William Owen **(1923 – 1926)**;
Ernest Moore **(1926 – 1929)**;
Henry Tomkins **(1929 – 1933)**;
George Cottrell Coombes **(1933 – 1940)**;
Albert Thomas Cole **(1940 – 1950)**;
Henry Arthur Partridge **(1950)**;
James Sutherland Evans **(1950 – 1963)**;
Vincent Geoffrey Maun **(1963 – 1964)**;
Samuel Bernard Bowen **(1964 – [])**



1900s

NOTES

Oldbury Road [1858]
196, Cape Hill [1881], [1883]
210, Cape Hill [1890], [1891], [1901]

CAPE STORES [1879], [1883], [1897]
CAPE HOTEL

It was situated on the north side of Cape Hill.

1841 Census

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

- [1] *William Pennell* (50);
- [2] *Jane Pennell* (45), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Price Pennell* (10), son, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Lucy Pennell* (10), daughter, born Staffordshire:

Joseph Gorton = *Joseph Gordon*

Joseph Gorton was also a butcher. [1860], [1861]

1871 Census

Cape Road

- [1] *Lucy Gorton* (40), widow, licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *John Gorton* (13), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Ann Gorton* (11), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Alfred Gorton* (4), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Betsy J. Pennell* (16), general servant, born Smethwick:

1881 Census

196, Cape Hill

- [1] *James Mason* (59), publican, born Sutton, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Phoebe Mason* (56), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *William Mason* (38), son, fitter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Henry Mason* (34), son, boilermaker, born Harborne;
- [5] *Benjamin Mason* (31), son, turner, born Harborne;
- [6] *Sarah Jane Mason* (29), daughter, domestic servant, born Harborne;
- [7] *Thomas Mason* (21), son, turner, born Harborne;
- [8] *Keziah Mason* (16), daughter, servant, born Harborne;
- [9] *Walter Mason* (14), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [10] *John Mason* (11), son, scholar, born Harborne:

Smethwick Telephone 27/3/1886 - Advert

“CAPE OF GOOD HOPE INN, Cape Hill / proprietor *J. Mason* / A Select Free and Easy / every Saturday and Monday / at 8 o'clock / Augmented by professional talent / Admission free – Mitchell's Ales – Choice Wines and Spirits.”

The inquest on *Benjamin Handy* (14), of Montague Road, was held here on 4th June 1887. He had been killed on May 26th, when a wall of the derelict Shireland Hall fell on him whilst he was playing there with other children.

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1887

“Marriage: *Harris – Mason*. On the 16th inst. At Smethwick Old Chapel *Frank Harris* of Montague Road, Smethwick to *Keziah*, youngest daughter of Mr. *James Mason*, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE INN, Smethwick.”

1891 Census

210, Cape Hill

- [1] *James Mason* (72), licensed victualler, born Sutton, Shropshire;
- [2] *Sarah Mason* (75), wife, born Harborne, Staffordshire;
- [3] *William Mason* (54), son, publican's assistant, born Warwickshire;
- [4] *Walter Mason* (23), son, born Smethwick:

James Mason was the father of *Titus Mason*, who founded the mineral water company.

Smethwick Telephone 10/10/1891

“The annual meeting of the West Bromwich, Smethwick and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association was held on Tuesday evening at the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Cape Hill.....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/9/1897

“Sequel To A Lovers’ Tiff. Joseph McGawley (21), cycle maker, High Street, Bordesley, Birmingham, was charged with committing an aggravated assault on Selina Forster, domestic servant at the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE INN, Cape Hill, on Saturday last Complainant stated that prisoner had been courting her for about three years, but she had not had anything to do with him for about twelve months. She saw him in the house about 9.15 pm, but he said nothing to her. At ten minutes to eleven, however, he came to her in the passage and struck her a violent blow on the nose, rendering her unconscious. One of her eyes was blackened, while her nose was cut complainant said she and McGawley had had what was called a lovers’ ‘tiff’, and she broke off the engagement because she wished to better herself. Prisoner had visited her four times during the last twelve months, and had threatened her with a knife, although he had not struck her until on this occasion She did not wish to press the charge if prisoner would promise not to molest her again The defence pleaded that prisoner, who had never been in a Court before, committed the offence in the heat of temper The accused was a very respectable man, and had been in regular employment for some years Mr. Harley said that the magistrates were determined to put a stop to that kind of offence. It was a most dastardly and cowardly thing for a man to assault a woman However, they would take into consideration prisoner’s previous good character, and impose a fine. Prisoner was fined £5 and costs (11s); or in default two month’s imprisonment with hard labour.”

1901 Census

210, Cape Hill

- [1] *William Downing* (35), manager of public house, born Bilston;
- [2] *Minnie N. Downing* (30), wife, born Alton, Hampshire;
- [3] *Percy V. Downing* (5), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Beatrice M. Downing* (4), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Hilda M. Downing* (11 months), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Edith Slater* (28), sister in law, born Alton, Hampshire;
- [7] *Thomas W. Wedgbury* (23), barman, born Birmingham;
- [8] *Harry Bancroft* (25), barman, born Edgbaston;
- [9] *Eliza Butler* (26), general servant, born Langley;

1911 Census

251, Cape Hill – CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

- [1] *William Downing* (45), manager licensed trade, born Bilston;
- [2] *Minnie Downing* (38), wife, manageress, born Alton, Hampshire;
- [3] *Percy Victor Downing* (15), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Beatrice Minnie Downing* (14), daughter, school, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Hilda Downing* (10), daughter, school, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Harold Stanley Downing* (6), son, school, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Vera Downing* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Mrs. Horton* (63), widow, domestic servant, born Dudley;

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1925.

It reopened on 23rd December 1925.



Late 1920s

Smethwick Telephone 31/3/1928

“A case of more than usual interest under the Unemployment Insurance Acts was heard at the Borough Police Court on Monday, before Messrs. James Hill (chairman), Joseph S. Round, W. H. Harris and Thomas Woodhouse. It was a charge of making a false representation to obtain benefit, preferred against Thomas Salter, labourer, of 3, Sherbourne Street, Birmingham.

Mr. Passey represented the Ministry of Labour.

The defendant pleaded not guilty, contending that if he drew unemployment pay he did so quite innocently.

Mr. Passey said the defendant first applied for unemployment benefit on the 5th July 1927. At that time a leaflet was handed to him explaining the conditions under which he could draw benefit. The prosecution was in reference to December 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 26th, and 27th last – days upon which he signed, or was excused from signing, the unemployment register. On each occasion before actually signing at the Exchange he was asked specifically whether he had worked since last signing. In answer to the question he said ‘No’! The information was, in fact, false, because upon those days he was employed by Mr. *Moore*, as a smoke room waiter at the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE HOTEL. On December 30th, Salter went to the Exchange and drew benefit in respect of those days, at the rate of 2d per day.

On February 1st he was interviewed by the Manager of the Exchange (Mr. A. H. Shurrock) who reminded him that last July he (defendant) had been before the Court of Referees on this question of a subsidiary occupation, when the wages in respect of it were at the rate of 3s 6d per evening. It was then definitely decided that the man could not get unemployment benefit and at the same time be at work receiving more than 3s 4d. That particular question arose in respect of similar occupation and the ruling was definite on the point and was communicated to the man in writing. Mr. Passey contended that it was a perfectly clear case where a man knew, at the time of the commission of the offence, that he ought not to claim benefit when he was receiving wages as a smoke room waiter at the rate of 3s 6d per evening.

Evidence was given by Mr. *Moore*, officials at the Employment Exchange and Mr. Shurrock.....

The Magistratres imposed a fine of £5. The amount was immediately paid.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/2/1934

“Cape Mutual Investment and Loan Society. The fifty-third annual meeting was held at the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE INN, Smethwick, on Tuesday evening, Mr. F. Reay presiding over a good attendance of members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/6/1934

“A concert was held on Wednesday evening at the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, Smethwick, in connection with the bowling tournament of the Waterloo Bed Fund. Mr. T. Fox spoke of the good work that was being done by the fund to help the crippled children of Smethwick and district, and in response to his appeal the sum of £2 6s 1d was raised.....”

Henry Arthur Partridge – see also NORTH WESTERN.

James Evans was a Freeman of Berwick on Tweed.

George Cottrell Coombes died in 1953 aged 55.

It had a bowling club. [1965]

It closed on 7th July 1994.

It was demolished in 1995.

A MacDonald’s fast food outlet was built on the site.



1948

CAPE TAVERN +

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Cragg [1850]

CASTLE

23, Cranford Street / Fawdry Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John Rowe, 24, Cranford Street, Smethwick
Holder's Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Ann Wesson [1861]
Walter Wesson [1867] – [1868]
Eugene Bregy [1871] – [1873]
Mrs. Sarah Bregy [1873]
James Wood [1879] – [1883]
Charles Henry Hinsley [1885]
Alfred Fletcher [1890]
Peter Leeds Sculthorpe [1891] – **1892**);
Arthur Naden (**1892 – 1893**);
Arthur West (**1893 – 1897**);
Lincoln Wilkes (**1897 – 1903**);
Albert Reid Wilkes (**1903 – 1904**);
Joseph Frank Morton (**1904 – 1905**);
Joseph Smith (**1905 – 1906**);
Walter Hamer (**1906 – 1908**);
Samuel Lyons (**1908 – 1910**);
William Lakin (**1910 – 1912**);
Alfred Whitby (**1912 – 1916**);
Robert Harvey (**1916 – 1921**);
George Russell (**1921 – 1927**);
Elsie Russell (**1927 – 1929**);
Reginald Alfred Millichamp (**1929 – 1931**):

NOTES

It was situated on the south-west side of Cranford Street.

1861 Census

Cranford Street

- [1] *Walter Wesson* (37), engine fitter, born Nottingham;
- [2] *Ann Wesson* (33), wife, beer seller, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Frederick Wesson* (7), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Mary A. Wesson* (5), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Emma Wesson* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Elizabeth Wesson* (4 months), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Harriet Greenwood* (18), servant, born Birmingham:

Dudley Herald 29/2/1868

Walter Wesson, licensed victualler, Cranford Street was fined 20s and costs for selling beer on Sunday.

Walter Wesson, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1870]

1871 Census

Cranford Street

- [1] Eugene Bregy (34), innkeeper, born France;
- [2] Sarah Bregy (31), wife, born Spon Lane;
- [3] Marie Bregy (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] James Underhill (12), nephew, scholar, born Spon Lane;
- [5] Emmanuel Woodhall (54), general servant, born Dudley:

1881 Census

Cranford Street – CASTLE

- [1] Rose Wood (22), daughter of head of household, innkeeper, born Rowley;
- [2] Ann Wood (18), daughter, dressmaker, born Oldbury;
- [3] William Wood (15), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [4] Thomas Underfield (52), servant, brewer, born Oldbury:

Evening Star 9/4/1882

“A meeting of the men of the Smethwick branch of the Nut and Bolt Makers’ Association was held at the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, on Thursday night. Mr. Juggins in the chair – for the purpose of considering the principles of joint insurance under the Employers’ Liability Act, and also receiving the report of the deputation that waited upon Mr. A. Keen with reference to small bolts.

The following resolutions were passed:-

1. That it be an instruction from the meeting to our secretary, to invite Mr. Gibbs at his earliest convenience, to revisit us for the purpose of submitting the scale of payments by the workmen under a joint insurance for the nut and bolt trade, and to give any additional information that may be desired.
2. That this meeting instructs Mr. Juggins to inform the secretary of the Employers’ Association that the men of the Smethwick District demand wages in accordance with the list of 1872 after the 28th inst.”

Evening Star 21/4/1882

“Last night a large and important meeting of nut and bolt makers of the Smethwick branch of the association, was held in the large room at the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, Six Ways, Smethwick, convened for the twofold objects of deciding what further steps should be taken with reference to the notice sent to the employers in the Smethwick district demanding the list of 1872, and of hearing an address from W. Gibbs, Esq, on the Employment Liability Act, and the best way of assurance without contracting out of the Act.....”

Evening Star 20/6/1882

“The Nut and Bolt Makers’ Dispute at Smethwick. Last night, a meeting was held at the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, Six Ways, Smethwick, for the purpose of hearing the report of the persons appointed to count the votes of the men on the question as to whether they should reject the masters’ terms and strike, or accept them and continue their work.

The Branch Chairman presided, and in opening the meeting said every attention had been paid to this counting of the votes, and the total number recorded was 212. There were for the accepting of the masters’ concessions and against the strike, 145 votes; against it and in favour of the strike, 67, being a majority of 78 against the strike – (shame!)

All the men had had an opportunity of expressing their opinion.....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/2/1885

“Smethwick Petty Sessions. Charles Henry Hinsley, landlord of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street was charged with being drunk up in his own licensed premises on 31st ult. - PC Willis stated that he visited the defendant’s house on Saturday 31st January at 11 o’clock pm and found the defendant in the tap room. He called defendant’s attention to the fact that it was time the house was closed and he got up, but immediately fell on to the table, being so drunk as to be unable to stand.”

- He was fined £1 11s 6d and costs.

Smethwick Telephone 16/2/1889

“An important meeting of nut and bolt makers was held at the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, Smethwick on Thursday evening to consider what action workmen employed in the trade at Smethwick should take regarding the men on strike at Darlaston a resolution was unanimously passed consenting to the payment of a levy of 6d per head.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/1/1890

“Last Friday night a numerously attended meeting of nut and bolt makers belonging to the Smethwick district was held at the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, Smethwick for the purpose of considering various matters concerning the trade.....”

Smethwick Telephone 31/1/1891

“A meeting of Nut and Bolt makers was held on Thursday night at the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street.....”

- Another such meeting was reported in the Smethwick Telephone, on 18th July 1891.

1891 Census

23, Cranford Street

[1] *Peter L. Sculthorpe* (47), innkeeper, born Beoley, Worcestershire;

[2] *Hannah Sculthorpe* (49), wife, born Weston Longville, Norfolk;

[3] *Lucy Greaves* (22), barmaid, born Smethwick;

[4] *Mary A. Stanway* (55), general servant, born Darlaston:

Arthur Naden was non-resident at the house.

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“James Bryan, of Upper Grove Street, Smethwick, was charged with assaulting *Arthur West*, landlord of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, Smethwick, on the 9th inst.- *West* stated that on the day named, defendant came to his house in an intoxicated condition. He asked witness to supply him with some beer, and when he refused to do so, threw a glass at him. – Defendant was fined 5s and costs; in default, 14 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/8/1894

“Margaret Payne (18), of no fixed abode, Sarah Jane Smalley (18), and Lucy Ellis (18), of Fawdry Street, Smethwick, were placed in the dock on a charge of stealing 2s, in coppers and a quantity of tobacco, the money and property of *Arthur West*, landlord of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street. Smethwick Payne was a servant in the employ of the prosecutor, and that on Sunday afternoon last, at the time the house was closed, her master and mistress went out for a drive. Taking advantage of their absence, Payne asked her two friends (the other prisoners) to go into the house. As prosecutor had been missing money from the bar, and other articles, he had arranged on that particular day that a police constable should be concealed on the premises for the purpose of trying to detect the thief; and therefore, when the three girls entered the house the policeman was hiding in the bar. The officer would tell them that the girls had as many ‘drinks’ as they had a fancy for, and also a little tobacco. They also talked about money, and whether the master and mistress would be back unexpectedly. The policeman took them by surprise, which was so considerable that two of them fainted. He also found 2s in coppers, which had been previously marked, upon the servant Mr. Harding said they should take into consideration the previous good character of Smalley and Ellis, and let them go this time, but they hardly knew what to do with Payne. They considered prosecutor was much to blame for having left his premises unlocked, and for leaving the girl in charge. Under the circumstances they should fine her 2s 6d., and she would have to go back to the Workhouse. Prosecutor owed her one week’s wages, so that she could pay her fine with it.....At the conclusion of the business of the Court, a woman stepped forward and offered to take Payne into her house until she could find something to do.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/8/1897

“Benjamin Fieldhouse, Fawdry Street, Smethwick, was summoned by *Lincoln Wilkes*, the landlord of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, for refusing to quit. Mr. J. Clark prosecuted, while Mr. C. H. Darby defended. It appeared from the evidence of a number of witnesses that last Saturday morning, between 10 and 12 o'clock, Fieldhouse went into the CASTLE INN, and had some beer, after which he became very noisy, and started to cause a disturbance. Complainant requested him to go several times, but defendant repeatedly refused. He was then ejected by the landlord, who refrained from using any violence towards the man; but, unfortunately, Fieldhouse (who had imbibed a little too freely) slipped down on the gravel path, and cut his face very badly. Mr. Darby, for the defence, said the landlord, by prosecuting this man, was trying to hoodwink the police. He thought that the Bench would deal lightly with Fieldhouse, as he bore a good character and had already suffered sufficiently.

The defendant was ordered to pay 5s and costs (in all 21s); or, in default, go to prison for 21 days.”

Smethwick Telephone 31/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies CASTLE INN, Cranford Street – The annual meeting of the above society was held on Thursday week, when Mr. E. Whittington presided over a large attendance..... a dividend of 10s 9d per member was declared.....”

Lincoln Wilkes was initiated an honorary member of Court ‘St. Matthew’ Ancient Order of Foresters in December 1898.

He was a committee member of West Bromwich and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association. [1902]

West Bromwich Weekly News 14/4/1900

“*Lincoln Wilkes*, licensee of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, Smethwick, was summoned for supplying drink to a drunken person.- Mr. Turton prosecuted in this case, and Mr. Shakespeare defended. Mr. Turton explained that after Bonehill left the FOUNTAIN INN he called at the CASTLE INN, and there called for and was supplied with a half quatern of whisky. He drank a portion of it, and the landlord then told him to go home.- After evidence had been called, Mr. Shakespeare argued that the landlord, though he might have committed a technical offence, was not himself aware of the man’s condition.- The Bench ultimately dismissed this case also.”

1901 Census

Cranford Street – CASTLE INN

[1] *Lincoln Wilkes* (28), licensed victualler, born Wordsley;

[2] Eliza Wilkes (28), wife, born Edinburgh;

[3] Florence Wilkes (2), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] Thomas Worrall (27), barman, born Wordsley:

Provisional Grant given on 2nd March 1904.

Final Order granted on 6th October 1904.

It was rebuilt in 1904.

An inquest was held here in 1905.

Samuel Lyons – see also PRINCE ALBERT.

Smethwick Telephone 18/4/1908

'Shooting For Beer'

".....The first case was that in which *Walter Hamer*, the licensee of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, was summoned in respect of three dates on which gaming was alleged to have taken place. Mr Sharpe outlined the case, and observed that if his statement was borne out in evidence the Magistrates would regard it as a rather serious offence.- Police constable Wilshaw, of Pensnett, stated that at 9.30 on March 29th, he visited the CASTLE INN, and found four men in the bar. They shot in turn with an air gun at a target for two pints of beer, the losers paying. Later a man in the bar bet another that he would not get eighteen points with five shots. The one who made this bet lost, and paid for a pint of beer – 2d. During the whole of the time the landlord was behind the bar, and could see what was going on. Witness agreed to shoot a man for a pint of beer, and when he lost he paid the landlord.. The officer paid another visit on March 21st about nine o'clock. The landlord was in the bar, and he (witness) played a man at draughts on the table in front of him for a pint of beer, which he won

Superintendent Goodwin said that he saw the landlord on March 28th and informed him that there were reports against him in respect to allowing gaming on his premises on three dates. He replied: 'I only bought the air gun last week, and the draughts I had off the children. I didn't think there was any harm. I let them have a game. I only let the men play to keep them together, as trade is so bad. You have to do something to keep them together. But if you say it must be stopped, I will see it doesn't occur again.'

The Chairman said that the defendant had had considerable experience in the trade, and they considered that he was quite aware of what was going on. They imposed a fine of £1 and costs in each of the three cases; the total amount being £9 5s 3d."

The renewal to *Samuel Lyons* was refused, by the Licensing Committee on 10th March 1909, on the grounds that the premises had been ill-conducted.

The license was renewed on appeal at Stafford on 7th April 1909.

1911 Census

23, Cranford Street – CASTLE INN

[1] *William Lakin* (37), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Marion Lakin* (31), wife, married 8 years, born Birmingham:

Reginald Millichamp – see also CROWN AND ANCHOR, and LONDON WORKS.

It closed on 1st October 1931.

The license was removed to the ABBEY.

COCK

8, Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

J. and A. Thompson, Oldbury
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Ansells Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Wood [1864] – [1871]
John Fletcher [1881] – [1883]
Charles Lees [1890]
Thomas Darby [1891]
John William Haines [1894] – **1904**);
Mrs. Clara Haines (**1904 – 1915**);
William Henry Davies (**1915 – 1917**);
Robert Powell (**1917 – 1918**);
Jane Powell (**1918 – 1919**);
Arthur Morris (**1919 – 1921**);
George Albert Green (**1921 – 1923**);
Alfred Samuel Hemming (**1923 – 1924**);
Alfred Whittle (**1924 – 1927**);
Arthur Harvey (**1927 – 1930**);
Samuel Johnson (**1930 – 1935**);
Albert Hemming (**1935 – 1939**);
James Frederick Ashdown (**1939 – 1940**);
Walter Edgington (**1940 – 1952**);
Kenneth William Lake (**1952 – 1954**);
Joseph Beresford (**1954 – 1956**);
Leslie Alfred Whitehouse (**1956 – 1957**);
William Herbert Parton (**1957 – 1958**);
Richard Henry James Reeves (**1958 – 1959**);
Henry Anthony Taylor (**1959 – 1960**);
Dragoljub Jurisic (**1960 – [1964]**)
Gurdev Singh (**1984 – [1986]**)

NOTES

It was situated on the west side of Brasshouse Lane.

It had a beerhouse license.



1939

John Wood, butcher and beer retailer, Brasshouse Lane. [1864], [1865], [1870]

1871 Census

Brasshouse Lane - public house – COCK

- [1] *John Wood* (65), butcher, born Shropshire;
- [2] *Ann Wood* (66), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Maria Wood* (21), granddaughter, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *John Wood* (17), grandson, born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Edward Wood* (8), grandson, born Staffordshire:

1881 Census

Brasshouse Lane

- [1] *John Fletcher* (27), beer retailer, born Langley;
- [2] *Sarah Fletcher* (31), wife, born Handsworth;
- [3] *Martha Fletcher* (2), daughter, born Langley;
- [4] *Sarah Fletcher* (1), daughter, born Langley:

John Fletcher, beer retailer, 8, Brasshouse Lane [1883]

Charles Lees, beer retailer, 8, Brasshouse Lane. [1890]

1891 Census

8, Brasshouse Lane – The COCK

- [1] *Thomas Darby* (36), publican, licensed victualler, born Langley;
- [2] *Julia Darby* (36), wife, born Wychbold, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Frederick W. Darby* (13), son, scholar, born Langley;
- [4] *Henry Darby* (11), son, scholar, born Langley;
- [5] *Albert E. Darby* (9), son, scholar, born Langley;
- [6] *Alice M. Burgess* (17), general servant, born Smethwick:

Thomas Darby – check also GOLDEN CROSS.

Smethwick Telephone 31/12/1892

“A lodge of the Birmingham Equalized District Order of Druids will shortly be opened at the COCK INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 25/9/1893 - Advert

“COCK INN, Brasshouse Lane. This Well Accustomed House (Being one of the best beerhouses in Smethwick) To Be Let. Rent £35. 10 Years Lease. Proof Trade. Price £750. Apply on the premises or to Mr. W. H. Pass, Auctioneer, Church Street, Oldbury.”

Smethwick Telephone 5/5/1894

“*Thomas Whitehouse* of 29, Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick and *Sarah Wright* of 3, Great Arthur Street, Smethwick were summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the COCK INN.....on the 20th March *William John Haines*, landlord of the COCK was summoned for selling intoxicating liquor to drunken persons and also with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the same date the case was dismissed.”

John William Haines, beer retailer, 8, Brasshouse Lane. [1897]

He was the son of *John Haines*. (WHITE SWAN)

He was born in the WHITE SWAN.

He died on 26th May 1904.

See also BRIDGE (Old Hill), WHITE SWAN (Oldbury) and OLD ENGINE.

Smethwick Weekly News 9/2/1901

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) held an inquest on Monday at the COCK INN, Brasshouse Lane, concerning the death of the newly born child of Joseph and Matilda Round, of 12, Brasshouse Lane. The child was born at 4.30am on the 1st inst, but it died in a very few minutes after birth. Dr. Pitt was called in, but death had taken place. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally suffocated.”

1901 Census

8, Brasshouse Lane

- [1] *John W. Haines* (33), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Clara Haines* (40), wife, born Capenfield, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Leonard Haines* (9), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mabel Haines* (6), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Weekly News 2/11/1901

“A guinea club dinner was held at the COCK INN, Brasshouse Lane, on Monday evening last. After a hearty repast was partaken of Mr. Samuel Baker occupied the chair.....”

1911 Census

Brasshouse Lane – The COCK INN

- [1] *Clara Haines* (50), widow, beer retailer, born Capenfields;
- [2] *Leonard Haines* (19), son, assistant in above, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Mabel Haines* (16), daughter, helping at home, born Smethwick:

Mrs. Clara Haines, beer retailer, 8, Brasshouse Lane. [1912]

She was fined 5s and 8s 6d costs, on 16th February 1905, for selling beer to a child under 14 years of age, and not delivering same in corked and sealed container.

Arthur Harvey – check also WAGGON AND HORSES, Oldbury, and OLDE BULLS HEAD, Oldbury.

Closed
Rebuilt

Samuel Johnson, beer retailer, 8, Brasshouse Lane. [1935], [1936]

A full license was granted, and confirmed on 5th April 1948.

Richard Henry James Reeves – check also WAGGON AND HORSES, Oldbury, and BULLS HEAD, Rowley Regis.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2]

Closed
The building became the Galton Valley Centre. [2008]



1962

COCK

174, (173), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John Wood
Edward Cheshire

LICENSEES

John Wood [1851] – [1861]
Edward Cheshire [1870] – [1871]
John Payton [1875]
William Price [1879] – [1884]
Joseph Wood [1890] – **1898**
Mrs. Lucy Wood [1900] – [1903]

NOTES

173, Rolfe Street [1881], [1891]
174, Rolfe Street [1901]

It was situated on the south side of Rolfe Street.

1851 Census

Rolfe Street

- [1] *John Wood* (45), retail brewer, born Worfield;
- [2] *Ann Wood* (46), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Enoch Wood* (19), son, butcher, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Maria Wood* (17), daughter, servant, born Wolverhampton;
- [5] *James Wood* (13), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Samuel Wood* (10), son, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Ann Wood* (6), daughter, born Smethwick;

1861 Census

Rolfe Street

- [1] *John Wood* (55), retail brewer, born Worfield;
- [2] *Ann Wood* (56), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Ann Wood* (16), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *John Wood* (7), grandson, scholar, born Smethwick;

John Wood was the grandfather of Sydney Barnes, the cricketer.

This was where *Edward Cheshire* commenced his career as a licensee and brewer.

1871 Census

Rolfe Street - COCK INN

- [1] *Edward Cheshire* (28), retail brewer, born Langley;
- [2] *Ann Cheshire* (26), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] *Annie Cheshire* (2), daughter, born Harborne;
- [4] *John E. Cheshire* (7 months), son, born Harborne;
- [5] *Elizabeth Fenton* (18), general servant, born Harborne;

Edward Cheshire issued tokens from here, bearing the name 'GAME COCK'.
Edward Cheshire, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1870]
See also NEW CHURCH.

Midland Counties Evening Express 11/1/1875

“At the West Bromwich Police Court, on Saturday, James and Edward Owen were charged with being drunk and disorderly at the COCK INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick, and *John Payton*, the landlord of the house for unlawfully allowing drunkenness. On the 23rd November, Police constables Buckley and McClure went to the COCK INN, where they found the two Owens drunk, and fighting in the yard. They secured the men after a struggle, and brought them to the Police Station. The prisoners were fined 10s and costs each.”

1881 Census

173, Rolfe Street - COCK Public House

- [1] *William Price* (40), beer retailer, born Wales;
- [2] Ann B. Price (31), wife, born Aston, Staffordshire;
- [3] William T. Price (12), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] John James Price (6), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] Joseph Price (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] George Price (4 months), son, born Smethwick:

William Price beer retailer, Rolfe Street [1879] 173, Rolfe Street [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 3/5/1884

“West Bromwich Police Court - Frank Humphries (13) of Smethwick charged with stealing 10s belonging to *William Price*, landlord of the COCK INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick 10 strokes of the birch rod.”

- Humphries was a paper boy and had delivered the paper while the room was unattended. He and a friend (who appeared as a witness) spent the money on a trip to the theatre, oranges and ginger beer.

1891 Census

173, Rolfe Street – COCK INN

- [1] *Joseph Wood* (40), beerseller, born Hyde, Cheshire;
- [2] *Lucy Wood* (42), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Ann Wood (17), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] William H. Wood (16), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] Florence Wood (12), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] Joseph H. Wood (6), son, born Birmingham;
- [7] Rose Wood (4), daughter, born Birmingham:

Joseph Wood was fined £5 and costs for permitting betting on 20th July 1892.

Joseph Wood, beer retailer, 173, Rolfe Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1898

“Mr. *Joseph Wood*, landlord of the COCK INN, Rolfe Street, died suddenly on Sunday afternoon last [16/1]. The deceased was attending to his customers during the afternoon, but at 3 o'clock he was taken ill and died almost immediately from pneumonia. The funeral took place on Thursday afternoon at the Uplands Cemetery.”

Mrs. *Lucy Wood*, beer retailer, 173 Rolfe Street. [1900]

1901 Census

174, Rolfe Street – COCK INN

- [1] *Lucy Wood* (50), widow, beer retailer, born Birmingham;
- [2] Florrie Wood (22), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [3] Joe Wood (16), son, foundry labourer, born Birmingham;
- [4] Rose Wood (14), daughter, born Birmingham:

COCK AND MAGPIES

26, Hagley Road West, (Beech Lanes), (Oldbury), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Miss Mary Barclay Galton, New Street, Birmingham (later at Droitwich)
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. [1892], [1896]
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1907]
Harvester (acquired in 2000)

LICENSEES

Joseph Sankey [1830's]
John Sankey [1854] – [1871]
James Clarke [1872] – [1873]
William Cosby [1879]
Charles Cotterill [1879] – [1883]
Arthur Partridge [1884] – **1885**;
Mrs. Clara Waite **(1885 – 1888)**;
Alfred Thomas **(1888 – 1892)**;
William Thomas Ingram [1892] manager?
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. **(1892 – 1896)**;
William Acton Batsford **(1896)**;
Richard Parish **(1896 – 1897)**;
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. **(1897 – 1906)**;
Charles Henry Busby **(1906 – 1907)**;
Alfred George Soobroy **(1907 – 1912)**;
Albert Tarver **(1912 – 1916)**;
Henry Harvey **(1916 – 1920)**;
Frederick Henry Harvey **(1920 – 1927)**;
Joseph Powell **(1927 – 1943)**;
Ellen Elizabeth Powell **(1943 – 1944)**;
Charles William Morrison Niblett **(1944 – 1946)**;
David Roland Farr **(1946 – [1948]**
John Abeal [1995] – **1999**);



NOTES

[1822]

COCK AND MAGPIE [1870], [1872], [1888], [1891], [1892]

It was originally under the jurisdiction of Halesowen magistrates. [1872]
It moved under the jurisdiction of Oldbury magistrates until 1st April 1928.

1861 Census

Beech Lane - COCK AND MAGPIE

- [1] *John Sankey* (65), victualler and farmer (20 acres), born Dudley;
- [2] *Ann Sankey* (56), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] *William Sankey* (30), son, employed at home, born Beech Lane;
- [4] *Thomas Whitehouse* (39), visitor, victualler, born Tipton:

1871 Census

Beech Lanes – COCK AND MAGPIE INN

- [1] *John Sankey* (74), innkeeper, born Harborne;
- [2] *Ann Sankey* (64), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] *William Sankey* (40), son, born Beech Lanes:

Stourbridge Observer 1/6/1872

“*James Clark*, landlord of the COCK AND MAGPIE, Halesowen, was charged with selling ale during prohibited hours on the 19th ultimo. Mr. Motteram appeared for the defendant.

Police-constable Lampett, stationed at Beech Lane, said on the 19th ult he visited the defendant’s house about a quarter to ten, and again at twelve. The first time he visited the house he saw a man eating some breakfast, and two came in from the back. The landlord told him they had been having breakfast. The one that was having breakfast had some meat on a plate, and was drinking coffee. The second time he visited the house he found two glasses in the tap room with ale in them. There was no one in the room. He went into the parlour and found about twelve people eating and drinking. They were drinking beer out of cups and glasses. He did not know anyone that was in the room. He went on to the green at the back, and found about 30 people there; some of whom were standing, and others lying down. There were about 12 or 14 cups, some of them with beer in and others empty. He looked round and asked the landlord how it was that so many were there, and he said they were all strangers, and had come from Birmingham. He asked witness to look round amongst them, and he did so, but could not identify any of them.

By Superintendent Overend: There appeared to be a great deal of drinking. One that came from the back door appeared a little the worse for drink.

Cross-examined by Mr. Motteram: I was asked to go and see the people, and I did so, but did not tell anyone of them. Mr. Motteram said there was no case.

The Bench dismissed the case.”

Stourbridge Observer 28/6/1873

“Refusing to quit.– *William Sankey* was charged by *James Clarke*, with being disorderly and refusing to leave his house when requested. Complainant said he kept the COCK AND MAGPIE INN, Beechlanes. On the 14th inst about eight o’clock, defendant came into the house. A man named Fox also came in and defendant commenced a quarrel with Fox. Witness told defendant to go out and he refused. Witness went on with his work and in about two minutes Fox and defendant were fighting. P. C. Simpson said he saw the defendant on the night in question. He was not drunk but had been drinking. He complained that complainant had turned him out. Witness told him to go home and he went away. Defendant was fined 10s and costs, or 14 days.”

Charles Cotterill = *Charles Cottrill*

1881 Census

Beech Lanes – COCK AND MAGPIES INN

- [1] *Fanny M Cottrill* (19), innkeeper’s daughter, born Droitwich;
- [2] *Charles E. Cottrill* (16), son, carpenter, born Droitwich;
- [3] *Roland Cottrill* (12), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *John C. Cottrill* (6), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Elisabeth Wright* (21), general servant, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Samuel Powell* (19), inn servant, born Quinton:



Wednesbury Herald 2/9/1882

“At the West Bromwich Police Court, on Saturday, *Charles Cotterill*, of the COCK AND MAGPIE INN, Beech Lane, was summoned for keeping his house open during illegal hours on Sunday 16th July.

Mr. Jesse Herbert, of Birmingham, instructed by Mr. S. H. Forrest of Oldbury, appeared for the defence.

It will be remembered that this case came before the last Court, when the magistrates (Messrs. Cartland and Wilcox) were unable to agree upon a decision, so the case was adjourned. Superintendent Hardman had visited the house twice, and each occasion was supplied with ale. He also saw great numbers of people going into the house on each occasion. No questions were asked as to whether these people were travellers, although a man was placed at the door presumably for that purpose. It was explained that the house was in a place resorted to by large numbers of people from Birmingham during the summer months. Two or three witnesses were called to prove that every precaution was taken to prevent anyone but bona-fide travelers obtaining refreshment, and the Bench while expressing their opinion that it was a proper case to bring before them, dismissed the case.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/6/1885

“Petty Sessions, Oldbury. Joseph Martin (30), hammer maker of Beech Lanes and William Pugh (23), potman of Bromsgrove were charged on remand with stealing a gold watch and chain, two silver bracelets, a 12 chambered revolver and 40s in money, the property of Florence and Elizabeth Bohrs Ann Wagborn deposed that she was a servant at the COCK AND MAGPIE INN, Beech Lane Pugh had been a potman there and Martin lived close by Committed for trial.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/9/1888

“Mrs. *Clara Waite*, landlady of the COCK AND MAGPIE, Warley has just been served with a writ by the Excise officer to appear in London, charged with being the vendor of part of the whisky recently manufactured at the illicit still in Birmingham. The claim against her is £800.”

1891 Census

Hagley Road – COCK AND MAGPIE INN

- [1] *Alfred Thomas* (30), licensed victualler, born Harwell, Berkshire;
- [2] *Mary Elizabeth Thomas* (27), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Charles Edward Thomas* (4), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Thomas Gardener* (19), brother in law, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Ellen Gardener* (24), domestic servant, born Rowley:

Alfred Thomas was convicted of keeping open during prohibited hours, and for permitting drunkenness, on 24th June 1892.

Smethwick Telephone 19/11/1892

“*Frederick Newey* of Oldbury was charged at the Oldbury Police Court on Tuesday with appropriating to his own use a coat of which he was bailee, belonging to *William Thomas Ingram* of the COCK AND MAGPIE INN, Warley. The prisoner was engaged to play the piano at the public house on the night of the 15th October. It was a very wet night, and on leaving prisoner asked prosecutor’s wife to lend him a coat, but he failed to return it and was afterwards arrested in Birmingham – A sentence of one month’s imprisonment was imposed.”

Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd.’s license was refused on 24th August 1897, but renewed on appeal in October 1897.

It was the headquarters of Smethwick Harriers athletic club. [1960]

It had a bowling green and club [1965]
The bowling green closed circa 1972.

It was renovated in 1997.

[2013]



2013

COTTAGE OF CONTENT

Canalside, (The Stop), (Batson and Ratcliff Passage), Bridge Street, (Great Harford Street), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

J. W. J. Kingstone Ltd.
Joseph Greenhill

LICENSEES

Isaac Whitehouse [1850] – [1873]
James Davis [1878]
Joseph Greenhill [1879]
George Greenhill [1881]
Joseph Greenhill [1883] – **1893**)

NOTES

It was situated adjacent to the canal.

Its name was changed to the BOAT. [1850's]

Its name was changed back to COTTAGE OF CONTENT.

Isaac Whitehouse, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1851]

1861 Census

Canal Banks - COTTAGE OF CONTENT

- [1] *Isaac Whitehouse* (62), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] S (?) *Whitehouse* (62), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] J (?) *Whitehouse* (33), son, boat steerer, born Tipton;
- [4] *F. Whitehouse* (22), son, boat steerer, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Sarah Whitehouse* (20), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *J. Whitehouse* (18), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *E. Whitehouse* (15), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Thomas Pardon* (21), servant, boatman, born Smethwick;
- [9] *William Hadley* (21), servant, boatman, born Smethwick;
- [10] *John Shepherd* (22), servant, boatman, born Sutton Drub(?), Warwickshire;
- [11] *William Bayse* (28), servant, boatman, born Great Barr;
- [12] *Samuel Pardon* (18), servant, boatman, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Canalside - COTTAGE OF CONTENT

- [1] *Isaac Whitehouse* (63), boatman, born Dudley Port;
- [2] *Isabella Darby* (36), daughter, born Dudley Port;
- [3] *Benjamin Darby* (43), son in law, farmer of 30 acres employing 1 man, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Ellen Darby* (7), granddaughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Benjamin Darby* (6), grandson, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Louisa Darby* (4), granddaughter, born Smethwick:

Its name was changed to BOAT AND FORGE. [1878]

The name was changed back to COTTAGE OF CONTENT.

1881 Census

Bridge Street - COTTAGE OF CONTENT

[1] *George Greenhill* (23), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Emma Greenhill* (23), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Elizabeth Danwell* (60), mother in law, dressmaker, born Gloucester:

Joseph Greenhill was known as "Daddy".

1891 Census

Batson and Ratcliff Passage, Bridge Street

[1] *Joseph Greenhill* (70), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Mary Greenhill* (71), wife, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 22/4/1893

"*Joseph Greenhill* (73), landlord of the COTTAGE OF CONTENT public house, Bridge Street, Smethwick was charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor on the 9th inst defendant had already been fined for assault, permitting gaming in his house, and twice for keeping open on Sundays, he was not fit to keep a public house. He would be fined £10 and costs, and his license would be endorsed."

The license renewal was refused to *Joseph Greenhill* on 26th September 1893. It had been endorsed on 19th April 1893, for being open before 12.30pm on a Sunday.

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

".....The next application to be considered was by *Joseph Greenhill* opposed on three grounds 1, that *Greenhill* was convicted April last 2, that he was not a fit person to hold a license; and 3, that the license was not necessary for the requirements of the neighbourhood The license would be refused."

COTTAGE SPRING

Vittoria Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Hunt [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Vittoria Street - COTTAGE SPRING

[1] *William Hunt* (54), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Mary Hunt* (53), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Anne Taylor* (17), visitor, born Birmingham;

[4] *John Wilby* (3), visitor, born Birmingham;

[5] *Thomas Wilson* (27), lodger, blacksmith, born Liverpool;

[6] *James Atkins* (18), lodger, button cutter, born Birmingham:

Check BUFFALO.

CROSS

101, Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Normansell(?) [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

101 Oldbury Road - CROSS INN

[1] *Joseph Normansell* (?) (32), publican, steerer employing 2 boys, born Smethwick;

[2] *Mary A Normansell* (31), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Phoebe Lee* (16), general servant, born West Bromwich;

[4] *Richard H. Brookes* (18), servant, steerer, born Hartlebury;

[5] *David Holloway* (16), servant, steerer, born Birmingham;

[6] *John Walker* (44), lodger, tube worker, born Smethwick:

Check GOLDEN CROSS.

CROSS +

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Lewis [1818]

NOTES

Edward Lewis was also a farmer. [1818]

Check GOLDEN CROSS.

CROWN

47, (120), High Street, (26, (478), (120), Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Hemingway Clay [1851]
John Fitchew [1855]
Henry Mitchell Snr. **(1854 - 1861);**
Henry Mitchell Jnr. **(1861 - [1871])**
William Grigg [1870]
Charles Griffiths [1872] - [1873]
Henry Mitchell [1879]
Henry Andrews [1879] - [1883]
Mrs. Mary Ann Andrews [1889] - **1902);**
Betsy Andrews **(1902 - 1907);**
George Price Davies **(1907 - 1908);**
Mrs. Mary Ann Davies **(1908 - 1921);**
Frank Smith **(1921);**
Harry North **(1921 - 1924);**
Benjamin Randolph Mutlow **(1924 - 1926);**
Alfred Henry Beard **(1926 - 1938);**
John Simkins **(1938 - 1952);**
Henry Page **(1952 - 1955);**
Leslie James Kelly **(1955 - 1961);**
Alan John Capstick **(1961 - 1964);**
Leonard Keogan **(1964 - 1965);**
Patrick Thomas Neary **(1965 - []**
Sydney Heritage **[] - 1981);**



c1900

NOTES

Oldbury Road [1851]
26, Oldbury Road
478, Oldbury Road [1881], [1883], [1889], [1890]
120, High Street [1891], [1897], [1900], [1901]
120, Oldbury Road [1892]
47, High Street [1909], [1911], [1912], [1914], [1921], [1928], [1935], [1936], [1942], [1948], [1965]

It was originally known as the BOAT.

1851 Census

Oldbury Road

- [1] *Hemingway Clay* (26), publican, born Higham, Derbyshire;
- [2] *Eliza Clay* (22), wife, born Hartington, Derbyshire;
- [3] *Hemingway Clay* (1 month), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Anthony Gould* (48), father in law, born Sheen, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Elizabeth Gould* (40), mother in law, born Sheen, Staffordshire;
- [6] *Sarah Gould* (16), sister in law, born Carsington, Derbyshire;
- [7] *William Copley* (26), carpenter, born Crofton, Yorkshire;

Smethwick Telephone (1979)

'100 Years Roll By – And Still Brewing Strong'

“.....But the story of how the brewery [M&B] came to be built is one that stretches back nearly 200 years, when *Henry Mitchell Snr.* was born

After working at a variety of jobs from the age of 14, by 1851 he was the landlord of the ODDFELLOWS ARMS, a beerhouse in Hall Street, West Bromwich.

In those days, innkeepers often brewed their own beer. *Henry Mitchell* must have been successful, because in 1852 he moved to larger premises – the CAPE INN, which stood on the West Bromwich side of the canal

The canal was a help in building up the Mitchell business in the days when a lot of goods were carried by water, and when *Henry* moved again

His new inn was the CROWN in Oldbury Road

Henry was joined there by his son – also called *Henry*.

Business went from strength to strength – the CROWN was in an ideal position backing on to the canal and facing the Dudley Turnpike road.

When *Henry, the elder*, retired in 1861 and passed the business to his son, the CROWN was valued at £510 10s. The description of the properties of the CROWN at valuation were listed as:- Kitchen, Jack Crane and Meat Jack, Tap Room, Kitchen, Bar of Liquor Shop, Malt Room, Two Attics, Club Room at the front of the house. Sign, Long Water Trough, Lamp, Four Cellars.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/10/1950

'At The Cape and The Crown' by W. Ellery Jephcott

“.....But *Henry Mitchell* did not stay long at the CAPE INN. In 1854 he removed to the CROWN INN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick. This must not be confused with the present CROWN INN, which stands some three hundred yards nearer to Birmingham, and was at that time known as the BOAT INN. It is described as such on a sale bill of 1831 preserved in the Smethwick Reference Library, and the change of name probably took place after the original CROWN INN had ceased to exist.....”

Henry Mitchell Snr. was born in 1810.

1861 Census

26 Oldbury Road - CROWN INN

- [1] *Henry Mitchell* (50), innkeeper, born Bromyard;
- [2] *Ruth Mitchell* (53), wife, born Oldswinford;
- [3] *Henry Mitchell* (23), son, born Worcester;
- [4] *Joseph Parker* (21), ostler and brewer, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Matilda Underhill* (16), general servant, born Smethwick;

Dudley Herald 19/1/1870

“*William Grigg* fined 10s and costs allowing dominoes to be played.....”

Ruth Mitchell died on 30th December 1870.

Henry Mitchell Snr. retired to St. Pauls Road.

He was elected to the Smethwick Local Board of Health in March 1860.

He served on the Finance and Highways and Buildings committees.

He last attended a meeting in September 1868.

He died on 14th April 1881.

Henry Mitchell Jnr. was born on 9th November 1837.

He built the CROWN Brewery on land adjoining the pub, in 1866.

He married Ann Walker on 2nd December 1861, at St. Pauls Church, Smethwick.

She was the daughter of Edward Walker, horse dealer.

He died on 2nd November 1914.

The CROWN Permanent Money Society was founded here on 3rd November 1868.

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – BREWERY

[1] *Henry Mitchell* (33), brewer and licensed victualler and maltster employing 12 men and 1 boy, born Worcester;

[2] *Anne Mitchell* (28), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Henry Mitchell* (8), son, born Smethwick;

[4] *Edward John Mitchell* (5), son, born Smethwick;

[5] *Laura Mitchell* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;

[6] *Herbert Mitchell* (10 months), son, born Smethwick;

[7] *Elizabeth Parson* (22), domestic servant, born Kingswinford;

[8] *Sarah Ann Hall* (17), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

AND

Oldbury Road - THE CROWN

[1] *Charles Griffiths* (34), barman, born Bromsgrove;

[2] *Ann Griffiths* (35), wife, born Lye;

[3] *Ellen Griffiths* (7), daughter, scholar, born Lye;

[4] *William Griffiths* (4), son, scholar, born Lye;

[5] *Minnie Griffiths* (3), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[6] *Sarah Griffiths* (1), daughter, born Smethwick;

[7] *Marie Ann Robinson* (15), domestic servant, born Smethwick;

[8] *Catherine Lane* (13), domestic servant, born Smethwick;

[9] *Samuel Harrod* (15), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

Henry Mitchell and Co., brewers, Oldbury Road. [1878]

Henry Mitchell and Co., brewers, Cape Hill [1879]

1881 Census

478, Oldbury Road – public house

[1] *Henry Andrews* (40), publican and farmer, 16 acres, employing 2 men, born Alvechurch;

[2] *Mary Ann Andrews* (40), wife, born Oldbury;

[3] *Betsy Andrews* (13), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *Walter Andrews* (11), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

[5] *Fred Andrews* (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

[6] *Kate Andrews* (8), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[7] *Harry Andrews* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

[8] *Joe Andrews* (2), son, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1888

“Death. Andrews – On 10th inst. at CROWN INN, Smethwick, Walter, eldest son of the late *Harry Andrews*, aged 19 years.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/1/1889

“CROWN Permanent Money Society’s Annual Dinner. On Monday evening last the members of the above club held their annual dinner at the CROWN INN, Oldbury Road.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/6/1889

“The CROWN Money Society. At a meeting held by the members of the above society at the CROWN INN, 478, Oldbury Road, Smethwick the secretary (Mr. Davey) had been established viz 21 years.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/9/1889

“Fred Andrews (18), son of Mrs. *Mary Ann Andrews*, landlady of the CROWN INN, Oldbury Road, Smethwick, met with serious injuries on Thursday week and died from the effects of the same on Tuesday last. The inquest took place at the CROWN INN, High Street, Smethwick Mr. Joseph Deakin, beerhouse keeper, Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick was summoned to serve on the jury but did not attend. The coroner said he would be fined 10s The first witness was Betsy Andrews, aunt to the deceased. She stated that the deceased left home last Thursday morning for the purpose of going to Blackheath with a travelling van. About 12 o’clock the same day he was brought home in a cab. He was conscious at the time, but was very ill. Deceased told them that he ran between two vans to stop his horse and got crushed Accidental death.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/4/1890

“Court Hearts of Oak which for many years has held its meetings at the GALTON INN, having removed to the CROWN INN, Oldbury Road.....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/3/1891

“CROWN Money Society. The 22nd annual general meeting in connection with the above society took place at the CROWN INN, High Street, Smethwick.....”

1891 Census

120, High Street – CROWN INN

[1] *Mary Ann Andrews* (50), widow, licensed victualler, born Oldbury;

[2] *Betsy Andrews* (23), daughter, born Smethwick;

[3] *Kate Andrews* (18), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *Harry Andrews* (15), son, clerk at glass dealer, born Smethwick;

[5] *Betsy Andrews* (43), sister, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 22/8/1896

“Notice. Sell By Auction, by Mr. Thomas Day, Growing Potatoes, Oldbury Road, Smethwick, opposite the CROWN INN instructions from Messrs. Summerton Bros on Friday next, August 28th 1896. 8 acres of Sutton Abundance and Bruce potatoes in lots to suit purchasers. An excellent crop and growing in fields adjoining the Main Road. The Company is requested to meet at the CROWN INN at 5 o’clock sharp.....”

Court Forest Oak (No. 1600) of the Ancient Order of Foresters met here. [1898]

Smethwick Telephone 1/10/1898

“An inquest was held before Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) at the CROWN INN, High Street, on Tuesday afternoon, concerning the death of Thomas Underhill (26), waggoner.....Death from natural causes.”

An application to make alterations was refused at the adjourned annual general licensing sessions on 13th September 1899.

West Bromwich Weekly News 15/12/1900

“An inquest was held by Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) on Wednesday, at the CROWN INN, High Street, Smethwick, in which the circumstances were of a rather peculiar nature. The enquiry concerned the death of Arthur Martin (10) who lived with his parents at 112, Sabell Road, and who died on Monday from the effects of injuries caused by being run over on the 4th inst.

Evidence was adduced which showed that shortly after 5pm on the date mentioned, the lad was in High Street, near the junction with St. Pauls Road, and, after waiting for a tram to pass, he proceeded to cross the road. As he was doing so, a horse and trap driven by John Lewis of Halburton Street, Birmingham, knocked him down, it being impossible for the driver to see the lad owing to the tram being between them. The unfortunate youth was taken to the West Bromwich District Hospital, when an examination failed to reveal any broken bones, and he was taken back home with instructions that if a change for the worse took place a medical man should be called in.

On the 7th this did take place, and though Dr. Pitt attended, death took place about midnight on Monday. The cause was concussion of the brain, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental death.

It was stated that the father of the deceased was in very poor circumstances, and the jury expressed their sympathy with him. This taking a practical form in the shape of a collection, which amounted to 10s 6d, and which was handed to him.”

1901 Census

120, High Street

- [1] *Mary Andrews* (60), widow, licensed victualler, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Betsy Andrews* (33), daughter, assistant, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Kate Andrews* (28), daughter, assistant, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Joe Andrews* (22), son, assistant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Weekly News 20/12/1902

“On Monday last the officers and members of Court ‘Forest Oak’, Ancient Order of Foresters, celebrated the opening of their new court room, belonging to the CROWN INN, Oldbury Road. It is a magnificent room, capable of seating about 100, and Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers, to whom the house belongs, have spared neither pains nor expense furnishing the room in such a lavish manner.....”

1911 Census

47, High Street – CROWN INN

- [1] *Mary Ann Davies* (45), widow, hotel manageress, born Dilwyn, Herefordshire;
- [2] *Mary Elizabeth Davies* (11), daughter, school, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Robert Alfred Davies* (5), son, born Harborne;
- [4] *Edward Edwards* (25), hotel barman, born Rhosnessney, Denbighshire;
- [5] *John Jones Whitenor* (17), hotel barman, born Dudley;
- [6] *Emily Elizabeth Drymore* (21), hotel waitress, born Harborne;
- [7] *Bessie Dearn* (44), hotel barmaid, born Edgbaston;
- [8] *Edith Maria Douglas* (15), hotel maid, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1912

“The annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick and District Fanciers’ Society was held at the CROWN HOTEL on Thursday (Jan. 18th). Mr. G. N. Ediss presided.....”

Smethwick Telephone 7/12/1912

“Mr. J. S. Round will open the annual show of the Fanciers’ Society, which will be held at the CROWN HOTEL, his (Saturday) afternoon. There is every prospect of a record exhibition. It is of interest that the auction sale of pure-bred stock will commence at eight o’clock.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/3/1919

“On Saturday the Coroner (Mr. Gerald C. Lewis) held an inquest at the CROWN HOTEL, concerning the death of Benjamin Jones, aged 70, of Oldbury Road, a gas-producer attendant, who died from injuries sustained on February 18th.

Mr. Cooke, H.M. Inspector of Factories, was present, while Mr. Herbert Walls, represented the employers of the deceased – the District Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.

William Richards, who worked with Jones, explained the way in which the old man sustained his injuries. He was in the act of releasing some of the ashes from the furnace when some of them fell into a tank and he was scalded about the arms. He was taken to the West Bromwich District Hospital and on the 14th of February was brought home, where he was attended by Dr. Watts. He died on February 20th. The doctor said that death was due to shock following the injuries.

The Coroner recorded a verdict of Accidental death.

It was mentioned that Jones had been in the service of the company for over fifty years, and was a well-known and highly-esteemed workman.

Mr. Walls expressed the sympathy of the employers with the bereaved family, and paid a tribute to the man's qualities.

The Coroner concurred in these expressions.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/1/1928 - Advert

“The Midland Minorca Club / Second Visit of ‘The All Blacks’ / Third Annual Club Show / At the CROWN HOTEL, High Street / Today (Saturday), Jan. 7th / Show open 2pm Admission 6d / The only Show in the world of its kind.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/1/1928

“The trophies won by Smethwick Fanciers during the past year will be distributed at a gathering next Thursday night at the CROWN HOTEL.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/3/1928

“The show organised by the Fanciers’ Society and held at the CROWN HOTEL on Saturday night provided evidence to the increasing membership and was a very happy augury for the year’s shows.

The poultry section was as good as at any members’ exhibition in recent years. The strongest section was that for Old English Game; some beautiful birds were shown.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1934

“RAOB Children’s Party. The Black Prince, Galton and O.K. Lodges of the RAOB combined in arranging the annual party, a hundred children being entertained at the CROWN INN, High Street, on Saturday. After an enjoyable tea, there were three hours of fun and entertainment, to which Mr. Dunn with his Punch and Judy show, and other artistes contributed. Each youngster received a present, together with a bag of fruit and sweets. Credit is due to the work on the honorary secretary (Mr. H. Round), the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *Beard*), and to the Ladies Committee who provided the tea.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/2/1934

“The Ancient Order of Foresters is this year celebrating its Centenary – an event which is being celebrated by the various Courts throughout the country. The Court ‘Watt Villa’ (No. 2,455) which serves the Smethwick and West Bromwich districts made its contribution to the celebrations on Tuesday, when there was a centenary dinner at the CROWN HOTEL, High Street, Smethwick. The local Court, which was formed over sixty years ago, has well over a hundred members, so that the attendance was a good one.....”

Smethwick Old Time Boxers’ Association met here. [1950’s]

Christine Round

“It had a motor scooter club in the 1950’s. My husband, John, was a member.”

Alan John Capstick – see also SOHO FOUNDRY.

Patrick Thomas Neary – see also WAGGON AND HORSES, and HARMONIC, Oldbury.

Smethwick Telephone 26/2/1981

'Last Orders At Two Pubs'

"The cry of "last orders please" was called for the last time ever at two Smethwick pubs on Sunday.

The two pubs, the CROWN and the GEORGE, are facing the bulldozer as they are scheduled to be demolished under the Smethwick High Street By-pass scheme.

Before the two Victorian buildings come down later this year, workmen from Mitchells and Butlers will be moving in to strip the CROWN of its fittings. The mahogany bar fittings, the engraved glass windows and the magnificent tiles in the CROWN will all be found new homes in other pubs."

It closed in 22nd February 1981.

It was demolished in 1981.



1981

CROWN AND ANCHOR

65, Cross Street / Rolfe Street / Hill Street, (New Street), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell and Co. (acquired 6th January 1893)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Warwick [1851] – [1865]
Mrs. Sarah Warwick [1870] – [1872]
Richard Duffield [1871] – **1891**);
Elizabeth Griffiths (**1891 – 1892**);
Charles Richard Griffiths (**1892 – []**)
John Wassell [1893] – [1897] manager
Joseph Fullwood (**1899 – 1905**);
William Watson (**1905 – 1908**);
Joseph Harrison (**1908 – 1912**);
Thomas Tew (**1912 – 1913**);
Joseph Charles Cox (**1913 – 1915**);
Albert Rose (**1915 – 1916**);*
Mrs. Jenny Rose (**1916 – 1919**);
Albert Rose (**1919 – 1920**);
Bernard Molineux (**1920 – 1926**);
William Bowser (**1926 – 1932**);
Reginald Alfred Millichamp (**1932 – 1934**);
Henry Lucien Reason (**1934 – 1936**);
Frederick George Capewell (**1936**);
Enoch James Joseph Bedson (**1936 – 1938**);
Frederick George Roath (**1938 – 1946**);
Herbert David Jones (**1946 – 1951**);
Albert Edward Cottee (**1951 – 1952**);
John Arthur Lowcock (**1952 – 1953**);
Albert Daniel Davies (**1953 – 1954**);
Thomas Parker (**1954 – 1958**);
Thomas Burnell Morgan Milton (**1958**);
Paul Joseph Byrne (**1958 – 1963**);
Joseph John Foster (**1963 – 1964**);
Ronald Turner (**1964**);
Malcolm Sidney Davies (**1964 – 1965**);
Patrick Joseph D’Arcy (**1965 – []**)



1997

NOTES

New Street [1858]

It was situated on the south-east side of Cross St.

CROWN [1903]

William Warwick, beer retailer, Cross Street. [1851]

1851 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *William Warwick* (39), retail brewer, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Sarah Warwick* (39), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Catherine Warwick* (18), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Susannah Warwick* (16), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *John Warwick* (12), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Marion Warwick* (8), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *William Warwick* (6), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Sarah Warwick* (4), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Jane Warwick* (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Mercy Warwick* (4 months), daughter, born Smethwick:

1861 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *William Warwick* (49), innkeeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Sarah Warwick* (47), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *William Warwick* (16), son, labourer, forge, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Sarah Warwick* (14), daughter, servant, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Jane Warwick* (12), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Mercy Warwick* (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Matilda Warwick* (8), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Cross Street

- [1] *Richard Duffield* (51), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
 - [2] *Sarah Duffield* (52), wife, born Birmingham;
 - [3] *Matilda Warwick* (18), daughter in law, born Smethwick;
 - [4] *Mary Duffield* (16), daughter, born West Bromwich;
 - [5] *Stephen Duffield* (14), son, born West Bromwich:
- [Was Sarah Duffield previously Sarah Warwick?]

1881 Census

65, Cross Street - CROWN AND ANCHOR

- [1] *Richard Duffield* (61), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Sarah Duffield* (62), wife, born Birmingham:

1891 Census

65, Cross Street – CROWN AND ANCHOR

- [1] *Richard Duffield* (71), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Sarah Duffield* (75), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *William Warwick* (46), son, widower, general labourer, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mary A. Whitehouse* (48), daughter, widow, laundress, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 27/6/1891

“.....sell by auction during month of July next Lot 3. All that commandingly situated freehold victualling house known as the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Rolfe Street, Cross Street, and Hill Street, Smethwick. This house has been successfully carried on for the last 30 years, and has never changed hands, and is being sold solely in consequence of deaths. The house is now in hand and immediate possession will be given to the purchaser; such purchaser will be required to take to the Trade Fixtures and Effects at a price to be named at the time of sale.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/6/1893

“In Memoriam. *Duffield* – In loving memory of *Richard* and *Sarah Duffield*, late of the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, who died June 4th 1891. Their end was peace.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/6/1893 - Advert

“CROWN AND CUSHION INN (sic) [this was corrected the following week], Cross Street, Smethwick. This old-established and well-known Inn has been almost entirely RE-BUILT, and TO-DAY (Saturday) June 17th 1893, Will be RE-OPENED. Being now replete with EVERY modern improvement and convenience. Mitchell’s Gold Medal Ales, Wines, Spirits and Cigars.”

CROWN AND CUSHION INN,
CROSS STREET, SMETHWICK.

This old-established and well-known Inn has been almost entirely RE-BUILT, and
TO-DAY (Saturday), JUNE 17th, 1893,
WILL BE RE-OPENED,
Being now replete with EVERY
MODERN IMPROVEMENT & CONVENIENCE.

MITCHELL'S
GOLD MEDAL
ALES, WINES, SPIRITS, AND CIGARS.

Smethwick Telephone 16/6/1894

“On Saturday evening the members and friends of the ‘Sir Walter Tyrrell’ Lodge (A.O.F.), celebrated their removal to new quarters, the CROWN AND ANCHOR, corner of Hill Street and Cross Street, by a dinner, which was admirably served up by the host Mr. *Wassall*.....”

CROWN AND ANCHOR INN,
CROSS STREET, SMETHWICK.

This old-established and well-known Inn has been almost entirely RE-BUILT, and

IS NOW OPEN
Replete with EVERY MODERN IMPROVEMENT
LARGE CLUB ROOM, SMOKE ROOM, &c.

MITCHELL'S
GOLD MEDAL
ALES, WINES, SPIRITS, AND CIGARS.

Smethwick Telephone 25/12/1895

“CROWN AND ANCHOR Sick and Dividend Society – the second annual meeting held at the club house, Cross Street on Monday last, when a dividend for the year amounting to 9s per member was paid.....”

CROWN AND ANCHOR INN.
CROSS STREET, SMETHWICK.

MANAGER - - - - JOHN WASSALL.

The FIRST of a SERIES of FORTNIGHTLY
SMOKING CONCERTS
Will be held on
THURSDAY NEXT, NOVEMBER 16th, 1893,
Which a
TALENTED ARRAY OF ARTISTES
ARE ENGAGED TO APPEAR.

Club to be taken at 7.30 prompt.
Adverts 1893

Smethwick Telephone 26/2/1898

“On Saturday last, at a Court meeting of ‘Sir Walter Tyrrell’ (2,342 A.O.F.), held at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Smethwick, Bro. R. Owen Hughes of Dudley Road, Birmingham was elected an honorary member of the Court.”

Smethwick Telephone 3/6/1899

“Mr. H. A. Pearsn (coroner) held an inquest at the CROWN AND ANCHOR HOTEL, Rolfe Street, Smethwick, on Saturday, concerning the death of Benjamin Rollason (78), who died suddenly whilst on a visit to Smethwick.- It appears that the deceased, who was a retired nail maker, and resided with his son at Wilnecte, near Tamworth, came to visit his daughter, Mrs. Mullett at 190, Rolfe Street, Smethwick on Whit Monday Death from Natural Causes.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 6/1/1900

“On Wednesday evening the office staff and foremen of the Patent Rivet Co. Ltd., Rolfe Street, Smethwick, held a very enjoyable dinner at the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Rolfe Street. The host (Mr. *Fullwood*) served up a really excellent repast.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 29/9/1900

“West Bromwich and District Licensed Trade Association. A meeting of the committee of the above association was held on Thursday afternoon, at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Rolfe Street.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 9/3/1901

“A meeting of the Smethwick and West Bromwich Licensed Victuallers’ and Trade Association was held at the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Rolfe Street, on Wednesday. Mr. J. B. Round presided.....”

Joseph Fullwood = Joseph Fulwood

1901 Census

Cross Street – CROWN AND ANCHOR

- [1] *Joseph Fulwood* (47), licensed victualler, born Dudley;
- [2] Emma J. Fulwood (46), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] Ernest Fulwood (22), son, commercial clerk, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Clarence Fulwood (19), son, barman, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Joseph Fulwood (18), son, iron turner, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Mary Ann Fulwood (12), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [7] Albert Fulwood (4), son, born West Bromwich;
- [8] Gertrude Hollingsworth (19), domestic servant, born Oldbury;
- [9] Clara Cook (14), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Joseph Fullwood was a committee member of West Bromwich and District LVA. [1902]
Check also RESERVOIR, West Bromwich.

Court 'Sir Walter Tyrrell' (AOF) met here. [1903]

Smethwick Telephone 25/7/1908

“Edward Harrison (23), Lime Street, was summoned for stealing a ring, value 10s, belonging to Clara Crowley, a barmaid at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Cross Street, on February 1st fine of 5s without costs; in default 3 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/11/1908

“On Monday afternoon Mr. G. C. Lewis held an inquest at the CROWN AND ANCHOR INN, Rolfe Street, concerning the death of Philip William Powell (59), of Cross Street, Smethwick, whose death occurred under singular circumstances on Sunday. The evidence of Mrs. Powell went to show that deceased, who worked at Middleton's Bedstead Works, was in good health until Sunday morning. He then had breakfast of bacon and eggs, and shortly afterwards complained of pains in the abdomen. He was given some brandy, and he was relieved until after dinner, when he had to go to bed. At 11.30pm, he complained again to his wife, but he almost immediately expired.- Dr. Robb (who was called in) said that death was due to heart failure. He did not think that the breakfast, of which deceased had partaken, had anything to do with the death.- The jury returned a verdict of death from Natural Causes.”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1908/9]

1911 Census

Cross Street – CROWN AND ANCHOR INN

- [1] *Joseph Harrison* (35), manager of hotel, born Tipton;
- [2] Susan Harrison (35), wife, assisting in business, born Tipton;
- [3] Joseph Harrison (6 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] Rose Simonds (19), general servant, born Smethwick:

Thomas Tew – see also HARMONIC, Oldbury.

Joseph Charles Cox – check also DUDLEY ARMS.

Albert Rose was married to *Jenny*.

He served in the First World War, and retook the license in 1919.
Check also DOG AND PHEASANT, West Bromwich.

William Bowser – see also TWO BREWERS.

Reginald Alfred Millichamp – see also LONDON WORKS.

Frederick George Roath – see also KING AND CONSTITUTION, West Bromwich.

Albert Daniel Davies – see also GEORGE.

Thomas Parker – check PLOUGH, West Bromwich.

Paul Joseph Byrne – see also LONDON WORKS TAVERN, and SPON CROFT.

Malcolm Sidney Davies – see also SIR ROBERT PEEL.

It closed on 7th September 1975.



2013



2004

CRYSTAL PALACE

1, High Park Road, (Six Ways), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell and Co. (acquired on 6th October 1893)

LICENSEES

Charles Earle [1870] – [1885]

William Thomas Shirley Bishop [1890] – **1892**):

NOTES

CRYSTAL PALACE [1878], [1879], [1890], [1891]

NEW CRYSTAL PALACE [1882], [1885], [1889], [1890]

1871 Census

High Park Road

[1] *Charles Earl* (40), licensed victualler, born Bristol;

[2] *Jane Earl* (45), wife, born Warwickshire;

[3] *Charles Earl* (15), son, watchmaker (apprentice), born Warwickshire;

[4] *Caroline Earl* (14), daughter, scholar, born Warwickshire;

[5] *Rosa Earl* (12), daughter, scholar, born Warwickshire;

[6] *Nancy Earl* (5), daughter, scholar, born Warwickshire:

1881 Census

1, High Park Road - CRYSTAL PALACE INN

[1] *Charles Earle* (49), licensed victualler, born Bristol;

[2] *Jane Earle* (56), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Charles Earle Jr.* (25), son, unmarried, watch and clock maker, born Birmingham;

[4] *Rose Earle* (22), daughter, born Birmingham;

[5] *Nancy Earle* (18), daughter, born Birmingham;

Evening Star 16/5/1882

“Yesterday afternoon E. Hooper Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the CRYSTAL PALACE INN, Six Ways, Smethwick, touching the death of Elizabeth Ridley (25), of No.2 High Park Row, Smethwick, who was found dead on the floor at her home, about 8.35 the same morning.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

AND

“An inquest was held last evening at the NEW CRYSTAL PALACE INN, Six Ways, before E. Hooper, relative to the death of Thomas Jones (41), formerly residing in Lower Cross Street.

Sarah Jones, wife of the deceased, said on Wednesday last her husband, who had been recently strange in his manner, attempted to cut his throat with a piece of glass. On Saturday morning about half past seven o'clock, she went upstairs to dress him, but had occasion to leave the room for two or three minutes. Upon returning she found him hanging to the bedroom door by means of a handkerchief. He was quite dead,

Joshua Watts said the handkerchief was not tied round the neck of deceased, but was simply placed underneath his chin.

The jury returned a verdict to the effect that deceased committed suicide whilst in a state of temporary insanity.”

Smethwick Telephone 23/2/1884

“Assault By A Publican. *Charles Earle*, publican, Smethwick was summoned by William Mackay, builder for assault. It appeared that on November 20th last complainant was in the defendant’s smoke room about 7.30 where he had an appointment with a timber merchant, and while in conversation the defendant went up to him and struck him a violent blow on the nose.....”

- Witness George Allen was present.

“.....complainant had given provocation by calling the defendant a thief and a robber, and when cautioned not to repeat such a statement, immediately did so.”

- Case dismissed.

Charles Earle was a brewer at the Model Brewery, NEW CRYSTAL PALACE, Six Ways [1884], [1885]

Smethwick Telephone 13/4/1889

“Foundation of Truth Lodge (Manchester Unity of Oddfellows) held at CRYSTAL PALACE, Six Ways.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/6/1889

“Inquest held at the NEW CRYSTAL PALACE INN, Six Ways, Smethwick regarding the death of Francis Albert Birch aged 3 years and 11 months, who formerly resided with its parents at No.10 High Park Road, Smethwick and who died on the 23rd June from injuries received on the 4th December last – It appears that on this date the deceased and his sister went into the coal house for some coal and whilst there his shirt which was the only garment he had on caught fire.....”

- Accidental death

Smethwick Telephone 18/1/1890

“On Wednesday evening the second annual social gathering of Mr. *Bishop*’s friends and neighbours took place at the NEW CRYSTAL PALACE INN, Six Ways, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/9/1890

“.....Mr. *Bishop* of the CRYSTAL PALACE, Six Ways, also applied for permission to convert a part of his premises, which is now used as a brewery, into domestic offices. – Application was granted.”

1891 Census

1, High Park Road – CRYSTAL PALACE

[1] *William Bishop* (42), licensed victualler, manager, born Shropshire;

[2] *Agnes Bishop* (46), wife, born Staffordshire;

[3] *William C. Bishop* (16), son, fitting engineer’s apprentice, born Staffordshire;

[4] *Mabel Bishop* (15), daughter, scholar, born Staffordshire;

[5] *Frederick Bishop* (12), son, scholar, born Staffordshire;

[6] *Carry Bishop* (10), daughter, scholar, born Staffordshire;

[7] *Rachel Smith* (30), general servant, born Staffordshire:

Smethwick Telephone 18/4/1891

“The Loyal Foundation of Truth Lodge (Manchester Unity of Oddfellows), which is held at the CRYSTAL PALACE, Six Ways is making arrangements for the celebration of its jubilee.....”

AND

“Dinner At Six Ways. On Wednesday evening last, the members of committee and canvassers of Mr. J. Stones met at the house of Mr. *W. Bishop*, CRYSTAL PALACE, Six Ways to offer their congratulations to the former on being returned at the head of the poll on the occasion of the late Local Board Elections.”

Smethwick Telephone 25/4/1891

“Dinner at Six Ways. A happy idea, suggested by one of the patrons of Mr. *Bishop*’s Smoke Room, CRYSTAL PALACE, Six Ways, resulted in a general gathering of the patrons of that locally famous room at dinner on Wednesday evening. Mr. *Bishop* is an excellent caterer, and consequently a great success At the dinner Councillor S. Smith presided and Mr. Hambridge was in the vice chair. In addition to these the company included Messrs. John Newey, John Stones, E. J. Harris, G. Bowden, J. Gosling (members of the Board), S. R. Wheeler, A. Hambridge, C. Earle, B. Raybould, S. Ellis.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/7/1891

“The Local Board recommended planning approval for plans submitted by H. Mitchell & Co. for the rebuilding of the CRYSTAL PALACE INN, Six Ways.”

Closed

It reopened on 6th February 1892 as the VICTORIA HOTEL.

<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>X Ale</td> <td>1s0d per Gallon</td> <td>XXXX Ale</td> <td>2s0d per Gallon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>XX Ale</td> <td>1s3d "</td> <td>Pale Ale</td> <td>1s6d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>XXX Ale</td> <td>1s6d "</td> <td>Stout</td> <td>1s6d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">N.B.—All Ales brewed from Malt and Hops only. No adulterations.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No. 1 French Brandy</td> <td>£1 10 0</td> <td>No. 1 Port</td> <td>18s6d per Gallon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>1 0 8</td> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>16s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Irish Whiskey</td> <td>0 18 8</td> <td>3 ditto</td> <td>13s4d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Scotch ditto</td> <td>0 18 8</td> <td>1 Sherry</td> <td>15s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Rum</td> <td>0 18 8</td> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>16s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>0 16 0</td> <td>3 ditto</td> <td>13s4d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Gin (Hollands)</td> <td>0 18 0</td> <td>1 Claret</td> <td>13s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Gin</td> <td>0 16 6</td> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>7s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 Gin</td> <td>0 13 4</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	X Ale	1s0d per Gallon	XXXX Ale	2s0d per Gallon	XX Ale	1s3d "	Pale Ale	1s6d "	XXX Ale	1s6d "	Stout	1s6d "	N.B.—All Ales brewed from Malt and Hops only. No adulterations.				No. 1 French Brandy	£1 10 0	No. 1 Port	18s6d per Gallon	2 ditto	1 0 8	2 ditto	16s0d "	1 Irish Whiskey	0 18 8	3 ditto	13s4d "	2 Scotch ditto	0 18 8	1 Sherry	15s0d "	1 Rum	0 18 8	2 ditto	16s0d "	2 ditto	0 16 0	3 ditto	13s4d "	1 Gin (Hollands)	0 18 0	1 Claret	13s0d "	2 Gin	0 16 6	2 ditto	7s0d "	3 Gin	0 13 4			<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>No. 1 Port</td> <td>18s6d per Gallon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>16s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 ditto</td> <td>13s4d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Sherry</td> <td>15s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>16s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 ditto</td> <td>13s4d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 Claret</td> <td>13s0d "</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 ditto</td> <td>7s0d "</td> </tr> </table>	No. 1 Port	18s6d per Gallon	2 ditto	16s0d "	3 ditto	13s4d "	1 Sherry	15s0d "	2 ditto	16s0d "	3 ditto	13s4d "	1 Claret	13s0d "	2 ditto	7s0d "
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DEVONSHIRE ARMS

George Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Richard Bickford [1861]

Sarah Bickford [1864] – [1865]

NOTES

Richard Bickford, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

1861 Census

George Street - DEVONSHIRE ARMS

[1] *Richard Bickford* (41), retail brewer, born Chellerton, Devon;

[2] *Sarah Bickford* (41), wife, born Chellerton, Devon;

[3] *Elizabeth Bickford* (7), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[4] *Agnes Bickford* (5), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

Sarah Bickford, beer retailer, George Street. [1864], [1865]

DOG

8, Hagley Road West, (Beech Lanes), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Miss Galton, New Street, Birmingham
H. H. Hewitt
J. A. Thompson, maltster, Oldbury
Major Thompson
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1900]
Ember Inns [2001], [2007]



1931

LICENSEES

John Adams [1854]
William Peace [1861] – [1870]*
Marion Peace* [1871]*
Maria Pace* [1876]
John Milward Fincher [1878] – [1881]
Maria Peace* [] – **1885**);
Joseph Peace (**1885** – []
Alfred Fewtrell [1891] – **1902**);
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (**1902** – **1906**);
George Arm [c. 1902] manager?
John Hill (**1906** – **1908**);
Vincent Slade (**1908** – **1936**);
John James Holmes (**1936** – **1941**);
Dora Holmes (**1941** – **1947**);
William Thomas Whale (**1947** – **1949**);
Reginald George Edward Mason (**1949** – **1954**);
Frank Leslie Fewkes (**1954** – **1956**);
Vernon Wynn Rees (**1956** – **1957**);
Raymond Thomas Ford (**1957** – **1961**);
Henry Northwood Millner (**1961** – []
John Ainsworth [1987]
Tom Morrissey [1993]

NOTES

It was originally known as the TALBOT [1854], [1870], [1871], [1887]
DOG AND TALBOT [1876]
DOG [1899], [1907], [1942], [1970], [2006]

It came under the jurisdiction of Oldbury magistrates until 1st April 1928.

1861 Census

Beech Lane

- [1] *William Peace* (43), poultry dealer and victualler, born Beech Lanes;
- [2] *Ann M. Peace* (44), wife, born Beech Lanes;
- [3] *Lucy Tonkins* (22), daughter, widow, born Beech Lanes;
- [4] *Ann Peace* (20), daughter, dressmaker, born Beech Lanes;
- [5] *Sarah A. Peace* (14), daughter, stay maker, born Beech Lanes;
- [6] *Joseph Peace* (12), son, gun filling, born Beech Lanes;
- [7] *Emma Peace* (9), daughter, scholar, born Beech Lanes;
- [8] *Thomas Peace* (5), son, scholar, born Beech Lanes;
- [9] *Elizabeth Peace* (2), daughter, born Beech Lanes:

William Peace, TALBOT INN, Beech Lane, Quinton. [1870]

1871 Census

Beech Lanes – TALBOT INN

- [1] *Marion Peace* (54), widow, farmer and publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *John Peace* (23), son, born Harborne;
- [3] *Thomas Peace* (17), son, born Harborne;
- [4] *Elizabeth Peace* (12), daughter, born Warley;
- [5] *Betsey Peace* (10), daughter, born Warley:

* probably the same person

Dudley Herald 30/9/1876

“*Maria Pace*, DOG AND TALBOT, Beech Lane, Oldbury fined £2 and costs for serving during prohibited hours (Sunday).”

Hohn Milward Fincher = John Miller Fincher

John Millward Fincher, beer retailer, Hagley Road. [1878], [1879]

1881 Census

Hagley Road - TALBOT INN

- [1] *John Milward Fincher* (66), innkeeper, born Stratford on Avon;
- [2] *Mary Fincher* (54), wife, born Wellesbourne, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Mary E. Shufflebotham* (28), widow, daughter, born Wellesbourne, Warwickshire;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Fincher* (26), daughter, born Wellesbourne, Warwickshire;
- [5] *Fanny Fincher* (20), daughter, born Wellesbourne, Warwickshire;
- [6] *William A. Fincher* (15), son, born Newbold Preen (?), Warwickshire;
- [7] *Sidney M. Shufflebotham* (2), grandson, born Birmingham;
- [8] *William Cook* (81), father in law, retired farmer, born Stratford on Avon;
- [9] *Martha Coley* (17), general servant, born Halesowen:

Smethwick Telephone 18/2/1899

“DOG INN Sick and Dividend Society – The annual supper of the above society took place at the club house, Beech Lanes, on Wednesday evening. A most enjoyable spread was provided by Mr. *Fewtrell*.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 25/8/1900

“Mr. J. S. Pritchett (instructed by Mr. J. W. Clulow) appeared to support this application to rebuild the TALBOT INN, (better known as the DOG INN), Beech Lanes, belonging to Mitchells and Butlers Ltd., on a new site. He explained that the present premises were old and inconvenient, and it was necessary they should be rebuilt in some way or other. They could not be properly supervised by the police, and it was proposed to make the new premises face Galton Road. The drinking area would be practically the same, and the house would be of a superior kind.....”
[It was refused at an adjourned meeting.]

1911 Census

Warley – DOG INN

- [1] *Vincent Slade* (38), inn manager, born Hagbourne, Berkshire;
- [2] *Selina Slade* (36), wife, married 13 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Elsie May Slade* (12), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Frederick Gordon Slade* (9), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Emily Freeman* (21), servant, born Aston:

George Arm (1868 - 1960). See also OLD NAVIGATION.

It was the headquarters of Black Mamba FC.

[2013]



2007



2013

DUCK

364+365, (365), (386), (348), (26), Oldbury Road / Bridge Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Charles Wheeler
Elizabeth Wheeler, 1, Bridge Street West, Smethwick
Ansells Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Hopkins [1870] – [1871]
Charles Wheeler Snr. [1881] – **1907**);
Charles Wheeler Jnr. **(1907 – 1917)**);
Mary Isabella Wheeler **(1917 – 1920)**);
Charles Wheeler III **(1920 – 1937)**);
Malgwyn Thomas Knight **(1937 – 1939)**);

NOTES

386, Oldbury Road [1881], [1890]
348, Oldbury Road [1891], [1897]
365, Oldbury Road [1900], [1901]
364+365, Oldbury Road [1909], [1911], [1912], [1914]

It was situated on the north-east side of Oldbury Road, opposite the WAGGON AND HORSES.

It was originally the WHITE SWAN.

It was known locally as the "Dirty Duck".

Its sign featured a Muscovy duck.

William Hopkins, beer retailer, Oldbury Road. [1870]

1871 Census

26, Oldbury Road - DUCK INN

- [1] *William Hopkins* (51), beer seller, born Coton, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Jane Hopkins* (55), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Elizabeth Hopkins* (15), daughter, born Wall, Staffordshire;
- [4] *George Harrison* (33), lodger, labourer out of employment, born South Littleton, Worcestershire;
- [5] *Henry Harrison* (27), lodger, labourer out of employment, born South Littleton, Worcestershire;
- [6] *George Bateman* (19), lodger, labourer out of employment, born Bristow, Norfolk;

1881 Census

386, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Charles Wheeler* (24), beer retailer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Elizabeth Wheeler* (25), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Clara Perkins* (16), domestic servant, born Smethwick;

Charles Wheeler, beer retailer, 386, Oldbury Road. [1890]

1891 Census

348, Oldbury Road – The DUCK INN

- [1] *Charles Wheeler* (34), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Elizabeth Wheeler* (35), wife, born Wall, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Charles Wheeler* (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Lucy Wheeler* (5), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William Wheeler* (4), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Florence Wheeler* (3), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Wheeler* (1 day), son, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Clara Perkins* (36), general servant, born Smethwick;
- [9] *James Woodhouse* (42), boarder, canal boatman, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Allen Wheeler* (17), brother, assistant brewer, born Smethwick:

Charles Wheeler, beer retailer, 348, Oldbury Road. [1897]

Charles Wheeler, beer retailer, 365 Oldbury Rd. / Bridge St. West. [1900]

1901 Census

365, Oldbury Road – DUCK INN

- [1] *Charles Wheeler* (43), beer retailer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Elizabeth Wheeler* (44), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Charles Wheeler* (18), brewer, beer, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Lucy Wheeler* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William Wheeler* (14), son, assistant brewer, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Florence Wheeler* (13), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Agnes Wheeler* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Mary E. Hughes* (17), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

1911 Census

364+365, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Charles Wheeler* (28), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Isabella Wheeler* (26), wife, married 3 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Charles Wheeler Jnr* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Nellie Hinton* (25), general servant, born Birmingham:

Charles Wheeler, beer retailer, 364+365, Oldbury Road / Bridge Street West. [1912], [1914]

He was the brewer here and at the nearby PLOUGH.

Charles Wheeler, beer retailer, 364+365, Oldbury Road. [1935] – [1936]

The license was surrendered in 1939 as part of the consideration for the granting of the license for the BARLEYCORN.

It closed on 5th April 1939.

It became a coffee house.

DUDLEY ARMS

Cape Hill / Roseberry Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Bass Ltd.

LICENSEES

Frederick Norton Lones (1915);
Joseph Charles Cox (1915 - 1916);
Edwin Yardley (1916 - 1919);
John Dorrington (1919 - 1925);
Charles Lane (1925 - 1929);
Edwin Philip Thursfield (1929 - 1938);
Arthur Riley (1938);
Frank Hazlehurst (1938 - 1941);
Mrs. Elsie Hazlehurst (1941 - 1946);
William Tinsley (1946 - 1948);
James Rutter (1948 - 1950);
Cyril Smith (1950 - 1956);
Charlie Stych (1956 - 1961);
Harold Cyril Bates (1961 - 1965);
Colin Graham Birch (1965 - 1966);
Vincent Patrick Bracken (1966 - []
Denise Williams [1993] - [1997]



1997



2004

NOTES

Order granted on 4th March 1914, and confirmed on 2nd April 1914.

Final Order granted on 1st July 1915.

It opened in 1915 with the license removed from the OLD ENGINE, Rabone Lane.

Joseph Charles Cox – check also CROWN AND ANCHOR.

Charlie Stych was married to Dora.

Harold Cyril Bates – see also LONDON WORKS TAVERN

Vincent Patrick Bracken – see also LONDON STORES.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

[2004]

Closed [2011]

It was converted into a shop.

EXCELSIOR

Cranford Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Smethwick Telephone 9/3/1889

“On Saturday the 16th ult. a ‘Slogging Gang’ from Birmingham visited Smethwick. They entered the EXCELSIOR INN, Cranford Street where they became disorderly. Police Sergeant Willis and two other officers were called to the disturbance. Two men were ejected from the house whereupon the gang commenced an attack upon the policemen, striking and kicking them very severely.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1897

EXCELSIOR Workman’s Club, 50, Cranford Street was closed in January 1897.

FALCON

361, Messenger Road / 85, Baldwin Street / Thomas Street, ((65), (85), (86), High Park Road), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Edward Cheshire, Windmill Brewery [1887]
Cheshire's Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Sandwell Council

LICENSEES

Henry Williams [1861]
Mrs. Mary Garvey [1881] – [1883]
Samuel Tomlinson [1887] – [1894]
Mrs. Margaret Tomlinson [1897] – [1900]
William Higgins [1900] – **1908**);
William James Payne (**1908 – 1912**);
George Simpson (**1912 – 1916**);
Lily Simpson (**1916 – 1919**);
George Simpson (**1919 – 1921**);
Jesse Tonks (**1921 – 1923**);
Joseph Jones (**1923 – 1926**);
Ernest Selby (**1926 – 1927**);
George Theodore Mackerness (**1927 – 1928**);
George William Hudson (**1928 – 1961**);
Dennis William Budge (**1961 – 1963**);
Alan Garbett (**1963** – [1965]
Mrs. S O'Neill [1993]
Debbie Jarrett [2001]



1996

NOTES

86, High Park Road [1883], [1887]
65, High Park Road
85, Baldwin Street [1890]
High Park Rd. [1891], [1903]
85, High Park Road [1890], [1901], [1911], [1912], [1942], [1948]
361, Messenger Road [1959], [1961]

It was situated on the south side of High Park Road.

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

High Park Road – FALCON INN

- [1] *Henry Williams* (35), retail brewer and button manufacturer, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Sarah Williams* (29), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Henry Williams* (1), son, born Aston;
- [4] *Eleanor Williams* (5 months), daughter, born Smethwick:

1881 Census

High Park Terrace - FALCON INN

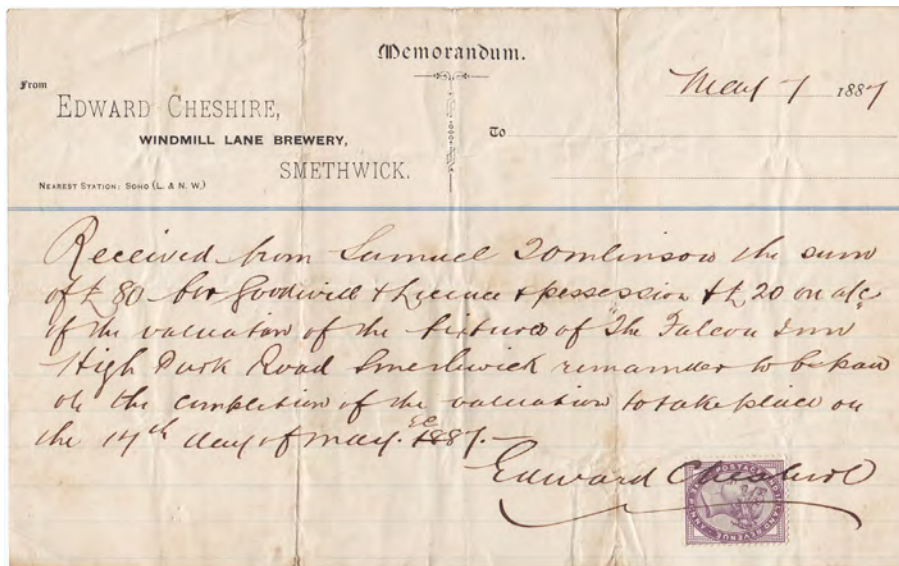
- [1] *Mary Garvey* (62), widow, publican, born Montgomeryshire;
- [2] *Mary Simmonds* (31), daughter, widow, coal dealer, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Elizabeth Adams* (14), granddaughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *John Simmonds* (2), grandson, born Smethwick:

Mrs. *Mary Garvey*, beer retailer, 86, High Park Road. [1883]

Memo dated 7/5/1887

“Received from *Samuel Tomlinson* the sum of £80 for goodwill and license and possession and £20 on account of the valuation of the fixtures of the FALCON INN, High Park Road, Smethwick remainder to be paid on the completion of the valuation to take place on the 17th day of May 1887.”

- It was signed by *Edward Cheshire*.



Samuel Tomlinson, beer retailer, 85, Baldwin Street [1890]

An inquest was held here in 1891.

1891 Census

High Park Road – FALCON INN

- [1] *Samuel Tomlinson* (55), widower, mill sawyer and publican, born Hanley, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Margaret Lodwick* (49), sister in law, unmarried, housekeeper, born Llanhairder, North Wales:

Smethwick Telephone 13/10/1894

“The Sanitary and Highways Committee recommended that the sum of £25 be offered, without prejudice to Mr. *Tomlinson*, of the FALCON INN, in full settlement of his claim for compensation.”

Mrs. *Margaret Tomlinson*, beer retailer, 85, High Park Road. [1897], [1900]

It had a Sick and Dividend Society. [1899]

1901 Census

85, High Park Road

- [1] *William Higgins* (54), retailer of beer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary A. Higgins* (52), wife, born Pennygated, North Wales;
- [3] *William E. Higgins* (27), son, manufacturtr'er's clerk, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Gertrude E. Higgins* (23), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Gregory C. Higgins* (22), son, railway coach builder, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Edith M. Higgins* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Gladys M. Higgins* (12), daughter, born Smethwick:

W. Higgins was a committee member of the West Bromwich and District LVA. [1902]

Smethwick Telephone 15/8/1908

“On Monday the Coroner (Mr. G. C. Lewis) conducted an inquest at the FALCON INN, High Park Road, concerning the death of Walter Gittings, aged 8 years, the son of a pattern maker. The evidence showed that the lad had never been strong, and on Wednesday, in the holiday week he was taken ill and continued to become worse until Saturday, when he died death from natural causes.”

1911 Census

85, High Park Road

- [1] *William James Payne* (36), manager public house, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Ada Harriett Payne* (35), wife, married 6 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *William Edward Payne* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Marie Lilian Ada Payne* (2), daughter, born Smethwick:

William James Payne, beer retailer, 85, High Park Road. [1912]

George Simpson, beer retailer, 85, High Park Road. [1914]

Jesse Tonks – check also RISING SUN, Tipton.

Smethwick Telephone 7/1/1928

“Wanted – Bar General, experienced, live in; age 18-25 – Apply, FALCON INN, High Park Road, Smethwick.”

George William Hudson, beer retailer, 85, High Park Road. [1935], [1936]

Black Country Bugle 28/7/2005

Letter from C. S. Rowley

“.....in connection of the bombing of houses in High Park Road She was certainly correct as regards Air Raid Warden *George Hudson* of the FALCON INN They were both awarded Commendation for Brave Conduct in Civil Defence.....”

A Publican's license was granted on 7th February 1950, and confirmed on 3rd April 1950.

Dennis William Budge – see also NEW NAVIGATION.

Smethwick Telephone 15/1/1965

“About 60 children of customers of the FALCON INN, Messenger Road, Smethwick, enjoyed a party organized by the licensee and his wife Mr. and Mrs. *A. Garbett* and helpers at St. John's Church Hall on Saturday.”

Closed
Reopened

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

[2010]

It closed in March 2011.

It was damaged by fire on 17th March 2011.

Demolished



2008



2009

FILE MAKERS ARMS

Cranford Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Bamford* [1870] – [1872]

William Barry Bamford* [1878]

NOTES

* possibly the same person

1871 Census

Cranford Street

[1] *William Bamford* (37), licensed victualler, born Cheltenham;

[2] Sarah Bamford (38), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] William C. Bamford (12), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

[4] M. A. Bamford (9), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[5] Harry Bamford (3), son, born Smethwick;

[6] Alfred Bamford (2), son, born Smethwick;

[7] Mary Hughes (27), domestic servant, born Great Bridge;

[8] Sarah Beech (13), nurse girl, born Birmingham:

FITTERS TAVERN

Hill Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Whitford [1861] – [1864]

NOTES

1861 Census

Hill Street - FITTERS TAVERN

[1] *Benjamin Whitford* (44), retail brewer, born Newport, Monmouthshire;

[2] *Mary Whitford* (37), wife, born Smethwick:

Benjamin Whitford, beer retailer, Lower Hill Street. [1861], [1864]

FIVE WAYS

303, (326), (325½), (286), (70), Oldbury Road / Albert Road, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Showell's Brewery Ltd.
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. [1897]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Daniel Surman [1864] – [1871]
Charles J Gibbs [1881]
John Grosvenor [1883]
Joseph Homer [1890]
Emma Underhill [1890]
William Aldridge [1891]
Thomas Pearson [1892]
Richard Jukes [1898] – [1901]
H W Woodhouse [1903]
Peter Churchley [] – **1907**);
Edgar Daniel Whitehouse (**1907 – 1914**);
William Thomas Hall (**1914 – 1921**);
Charles Jacques (**1921 – 1922**);
John Frederick Ravenscroft (**1922 – 1923**);
Henry James Casley (**1923 – 1928**);
William Underwood (**1928 – 1931**);
Francis William Fisher (**1931**):

NOTES

325, Oldbury Road
70, Oldbury Road [1871]
326, Oldbury Road [1881]
325½, Oldbury Road [1890]
286, Oldbury Road [1891]
303, Oldbury Road [1900], [1901], [1903], [1911]

It had a beerhouse license.

Daniel Surman, beer retailer, Oldbury Road. [1864], [1865], [1870]

1871 Census

Oldbury Road - FIVE WAYS

- [1] *Daniel Surman* (44), beer retailer, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Mary Ann Surman* (43), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *William Surman* (21), son, brewer's clerk, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mary Surman* (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Elizabeth Jordan* (46), visitor, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Ellen Jordan* (4), niece, scholar, born Brittle Lane: [Brettell Lane]

1881 Census

326 Oldbury Road - FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *Charles J. Gibbs* (23), beer retailer, born Warwickshire;
- [2] *Caroline L. Gibbs* (21), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Caroline L. Gibbs* (4 months), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mary Casey* (21), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

John Grosvenor, beer retailer, 325 Oldbury Road. [1883]

Joseph Homer, beer retailer, Oldbury Road. [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 26/7/1890

“*Emma Underhill*, landlady of the FIVE WAYS INN, West Smethwick was charged with selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken man.....”

- She was fined 20s and costs.

1891 Census

286, Oldbury Road – FIVE WAYS INN

- [1] *William Aldridge* (31), married, publican, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Louisa Lukes* (60), mother in law, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Thomas H. Lukes* (28), boarder, sawyer, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Albert A. Lukes* (18), boilermaker, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 1897

“Building Committee The committee recommended that the following plans be approved *H. Mitchell and Co.* proposed extension of licensed area of FIVE WAYS.....”

- These were refused at the licensing sessions on 8th September 1897.

Smethwick Telephone 21/5/1898

“*Thomas Weaver* (26), *Thomas Wilson* (25), and *Samuel Phipps* (30), all of West Smethwick, were summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the FIVE WAYS INN, West Smethwick, on Sunday. – Defendants did not appear to answer the charge, and *Mr. A. S. Glover*, who appeared to prosecute, asked for a warrant for their arrest. This was granted. – Prisoners were directly afterwards arrested on the warrants and placed in the dock. – *Mr. A. S. Glover* said that on Sunday night the Prisoners went to prosecutor’s house and called for beer. The barmaid refused to serve them, whereupon they made use of abusive language towards her. She fetched *Mr. Jukes*, the landlord, who eventually persuaded them to leave, although they refused several times.- Defendants pleaded that they did not refuse to quit, and that they did not ask to be served. The Bench fined each defendant 10s and costs (21s each).”

Richard Jukes, beer retailer, 303 Oldbury Rd. / Albert St. / Victoria St. [1900]

1901 Census

303, Oldbury Road – FIVE WAYS TAVERN

- [1] *Richard Jukes* (37), basket maker and publican, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Mary A. Jukes* (36), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Harry Jukes* (14), son, mechanic, engine fitter (steam), born Oldbury;
- [4] *Frederick R. Jukes* (10), son, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Gladys M. Jukes* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Agnes Aldridge* (18), domestic servant, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Weekly News 1/2/1902

“On Monday an inquest was held by the Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) at the FIVE WAYS INN, West Smethwick, concerning the death of William James Howell (35), formerly residing at 39, Church Street.

Evidence was given to the effect that on Saturday he complained of being ill, and decided to go to the doctor’s. He called at the chemist’s shop of Mr. T. Cooper, who advised him to go to Dr. Pitt’s, and he was on his way there when he fell down on the pavement and died shortly afterwards.

Dr. Ashton made a post-mortem examination of the body, but there were no suspicious circumstances.

The jury returned a verdict of Death by Natural Causes.”

Smethwick Weekly News 15/3/1902

“Richard Peters (29), of Feeder Street, was charged with being drunk and disorderly on the licensed premises of the FIVE WAYS INN on the 8th inst.

Richard Jukes, the landlord, said defendant came in and called for some beer, but complainant saw he was drunk, and refused to serve him, but requested him to go out. On refusal he was ejected, but he came back, and had to be ejected again.

He was fined 2s 6d and costs, 11s in all, or 7 days.”

Peter Churchley – see also STORES, Oldbury, and RED LION, West Bromwich.

1911 Census

303, Oldbury Road

[1] *Edgar Daniel Whitehouse* (49), beerhouse keeper, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Whitehouse* (52), wife, married 21 years, assisting in business, born Oldbury;

[3] *Florrie Whitehouse* (16), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *Marrian Whitehouse* (14), daughter, tailoress, born Smethwick;

[5] *Dan Whitehouse* (13), son, born Smethwick;

[6] *Fred Whitehouse* (10), son, born Smethwick:

[Was Edgar Daniel known as Dan?]

Dan Whitehouse issued tokens from here.

Edgar Daniel Whitehouse – see also HALFWAY HOUSE.

Smethwick Telephone 25/5/1912

“The second inquest was held at the FIVE WAYS INN, West Smethwick. Mr. Fred Summerton was foreman of the jury. The circumstances related to the death of Eva Viney, aged six years, the daughter of a glass maker, residing at Albert Street.

The father said that he saw nothing of the accident. He wished the child good-night just before going to work on Friday afternoon, and in less than an hour he was fetched to her. She had met with an accident and was dead.

Mrs. Telford, a neighbor, said that shortly before five o’clock she saw the child from her bedroom window, lying on the floor in the yard near a broken wall. There were a number of bricks near her. Witness called to her, and as she got no response called for assistance. On going to the child they found her dead lying near the wall with a number of bricks round her. One large piece of debris, composed of about a dozen bricks was near the child’s head, and the face was covered with blood. Witness said that she saw the wall in the morning, there were some bricks on the floor. More had fallen in the evening after the accident. The children usually played about there, climbing the wall, which had been in a broken-down condition for some years, gradually getting worse.

Dr. Pitt said he was called to the child at 5.15 on Friday night. She was then dead. There were two deep cuts on the forehead, and a fracture of the base of the skull.

The Coroner said that the jury had seen the condition of the wall, and there could be no doubt that the child was killed by the falling of some of the bricks whilst it was doing what all children would do – ‘climbing about the ruins’. A juror said that youths had also made a practice of climbing the wall as a near cut.

The Coroner said that in a sense children who played in such places were the authors of their own mischief. It was to be hoped that this sad fatality having happened, those responsible for the wall would see to it that it was made no trap for others to injure themselves by.

A representative of the owner of the property said the wall had been built up before.
The Coroner said the best thing would be to pull the wall down and not build it up.
The representative said that the children went over the wall instead of going the right way.
The Coroner said that he was old enough to know that children did not go only where they ought. The place was obviously unsafe.
The Borough Surveyor (Mr. Alex Hosken), who attended the inquiry with the Building Inspector (Mr. Barton) said that the local authority would bring what pressure they could to get the danger removed.
The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

William Thomas Hall – see also IVY BUSH, and CAPE HOTEL, West Bromwich.

Charles Jacques – check PARK, Tipton.

John Frederick Ravenscroft – check also PARK, Tipton.

Henry James Casley – see also GEORGE, Warley.

Francis William Fisher – see also GLASSHOUSE.

The license was surrendered on the grant of Removal Order of CASTLE, Cranford Street to Abbey Road.
It closed on 17th August 1931.
It was later used as The Spon Croft Café.

FORGE TAVERN

Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Nott [1851]

NOTES

Thomas Nott, beerhouse, Brasshouse Lane. [1851]

1851 Census

Brasshouse Lane – FORGE TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Nott* (29), retail brewer, born Leigh, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Nott* (23), wife, born Bromsford, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Thomas Nott* (11 months), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Elizabeth Bowker* (15), general servant, born Shrewsbury;
- [5] *William Tomkinson* (31), visitor, millwright, born Bilston:

FORGE TAVERN

177, (176), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Rushton's Brewery Co. Ltd., Aston

LICENSEES

William Duncan [1864] – [1878]
Mrs. Mary Duncan [1879] – [1883]
Frederick Tew [1889]
Charles Albert Tew [1890] – **1896)**
Frederick Tew [1899] – **1906);**
George Yarnell **(1906 – 1909);**
William Holmes **(1909 – 1910);**
Edward Wright **(1910):**

NOTES

176, Rolfe Street [1891]
177, Rolfe Street [1901]

It was situated on the south side of Rolfe Street.

It had a beer and cider license.

1871 Census

Rolfe Street - FORGE TAVERN

- [1] *William Duncan* (58), publican, born Scotland;
- [2] *Mary A. Duncan* (61), wife, born Alvechurch;
- [3] *Frederick Newbold* (30), boarder, butcher, born Harborne;
- [4] *Ann Newbold* (27), boarder, born Bradford;
- [5] *William Newbold* (3), boarder, born Harborne:

William Duncan, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1864], [1865], [1870], [1878]

Mrs. Mary Duncan, beer retailer, 176, Rolfe Street. [1879], [1883]

Charles Albert Tew, beer retailer, 176, Rolfe Street. [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 4/1/1890

“FORGE TAVERN Permanent Sick and Dividend Society – The annual supper in connection with the above society took place on the 31st inst. [December] at the club house, Rolfe Street.....”

Smethwick Telephone 3/1/1891

“FORGE TAVERN Permanent Sick and Dividend Society – The fourth annual supper in connection with the above society took place on Wednesday at the house of Mr. *C. Albert Tew*, Rolfe Street.....”

1891 Census

176, Rolfe Street – Public House

[1] *Charles A. Tew* (37), unmarried, publican, born Kidderminster;

[2] *Margaret Tew* (22), sister, born Birmingham;

[3] *Fred Tew* (18), brother, barman, born Birmingham;

[4] *Polly Bullingham* (28), servant, born Kings Heath:

Smethwick Telephone 14/1/1893

“FORGE TAVERN Permanent Sick and Dividend Society – The sixth annual supper, in connection with the above society took place on Wednesday evening, January 4th at the club house, Rolfe Street, Smethwick, when about 40 members and friends sat down to an excellent repast provided by the worthy host (*Mr. C. A. Tew*) The secretary (*Mr. T. Bradbury*) then briefly reviewed the work of the society during the six years of its existence, showing that at the termination of the first year it paid a dividend of 10s 10d, second year 15s 10d, third year 13s 4d, fourth 9s, fifth 7s 8d and for last year 10s.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/1/1893

“Smethwick Petty Sessions. *Eliza Jane Westbury* (49), charwoman, back of 25 Hill Street, Smethwick, was charged with stealing a lump of coal, three glasses, and two forks, the property of *Charles Albert Tew*, landlord of the FORGE TAVERN, Rolfe Street fined 10s including costs, or in default 7 days hard labour.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/5/1893

“*William Stevens* (18), 12, London Street; *Thos. Walker* (21), Price Street; *Edward Purcell* (18), Mullett Street; *William Porter* (18), Grove Lane; *Arthur Griffin* (20), Reynolds Street; and *Albert Gill* (21), Lime Street, were charged with riotous and disorderly conduct on the premises of the FORGE TAVERN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick, on the 13th inst. – Gill did not put in an appearance, notwithstanding that he had been served with a summons. Detective *Robinson* stated that he saw *Gill's* mother on Tuesday morning, when she said that if they wanted him they must fetch him. – *Mr. J. Clarke* appeared to prosecute. – *Charles Albert Tew*, landlord of the FORGE TAVERN, stated that on Saturday evening, the 13th inst., the defendants visited his house, and were served with something to drink. They had not been there long, before they became very disorderly, pushing and knocking each other about the house. He remonstrated with them, and told them they had better clear out. Shortly afterwards, a young man named *Howard* came in, when they began interfering with him, and assaulted him very badly. They then indulged in riotous conduct, and one of them, arming himself with a thick stick, began flourishing it about in a threatening manner. They declined to leave the premises and the landlord, after much trouble, managed to eject them. They tried to force their way into the house again, and when they found they could not do so, two of them struck witness, and then the others got round him. One struck him a violent blow on the top of the head with a stick, in consequence of which he had been attended by a doctor. He had not charged them with assault, as he could not swear who had committed the assault. - *Walker* stated that he had nothing to do with the disturbance, but he was knocked down insensible by a blow from a pint jug which was thrown at him. – *Frederick Tew*, brother of the last witness, deposed to defendants visiting the house, and being supplied with beer. One of them went out into the yard, and returned with a potato masher in his possession. When the man *Howard* came into the house, one of them said, ‘This is him,’ and all of them then set about him. One of them threw a jug at *Howard*, but instead of hitting him it struck *Walker*. - *Joseph Howard* also gave evidence in support of the case. *Stevens* said he was not in the house at the time, while *Porter* produced evidence to the effect that he was at the VINE INN, Cross Street, all the evening, but that he passed by the house at the time the offence took place. – *Purcell*, *Griffin*, and *Gill* were each fined 20s and costs (amounting in each case in all to £1 9s 6d); *Stevens* was fined 10s and costs (amounting in all to 19s 6d); and *Porter* was discharged, the Bench giving him the benefit of the doubt.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1894

“FORGE TAVERN Permanent Sick and Dividend Society the 7th annual supper.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/11/1895

“*Thomas Hackett* (50) of Cross Street, Smethwick was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the FORGE TAVERN a fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/8/1896

“Last Friday night (31st ult.), Mr. *Charles Albert Tew*, landlord of the FORGE TAVERN died very suddenly at his residence. Shortly after ten o’clock, it is said that there was a little disturbance in the bar, and Mr. *Tew* went in and quietly remonstrated with the men. There was nothing unusual about this, but Mr. *Tew* returned to the sitting room, adjoining the smoke room, and was observed to suddenly fall down. Assistance was quickly rendered him, but it was of no avail, for he expired within a few minutes. Dr. Arthur Jackson was sent for, but when he arrived he pronounced life extinct. Deceased, who was a bachelor, and was 42 years of age, enjoyed good health, and his death came as a great surprise. He was greatly respected by a large circle of friends, and much sympathy is felt with the family in the sad bereavement. It is stated that deceased was shortly to be married.- The inquest was held before Mr. Albert A. Betham (deputy coroner) at the FORGE TAVERN, and the jury, after hearing evidence of Mrs. Martha Tew (mother), Mr. *Frederick Tew* (brother) and Mr. James Harris, of Mornington Road, returned a verdict of ‘Died from Natural causes’.- Mr. Harris stated that he had heard deceased complain, at different times, of pains in the chest, but he suspected that indigestion was the cause.- The funeral took place at the Uplands Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, being attended with every mark of respect. The Rev. Hugh Singleton was the officiating minister.”

Charles Tew, beer retailer, 176 Rolfe Street. [1897] [see ST 8/8/1896]

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1899

“.....To be sold by auction The FORGE TAVERN has a modern front and a commodious Bar. There is also a Club Room, Smoke Room, Kitchen, Bed Room accommodation, and good Cellarage, with rolling way from Yard, Brewhouse, Outoffices, and Gateway Entrance. There is a large space of ground with Outbuildings in the rear of the Property, which might be profitably utilized. This Property is situated in the immediate neighbourhood of large works and the Public House is doing a large business.”

It had a Sick and Dividend Society. [1899]

Frederick Tew, beer retailer, 176 Rolfe Street. [1900]

West Bromwich Weekly News 31/3/1900

“On Tuesday evening a complimentary smoking concert to Mr. Frank Thomas took place at the FORGE TAVERN, Rolfe Street. There was a very large gathering, and a good array of artistes gave some capital songs.....”

1901 Census

177, Rolfe Street – FORGE TAVERN

[1] *Frederick Tew* (28), unmarried, beer retailer, born Birmingham;

[2] Margaret Tew (32), sister, housekeeper, born Birmingham:

George Yarnell – see also BOOT AND SLIPPER, and ROYAL EXCHANGE.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

It closed on 27th October 1910, under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act 1904.

FOUNTAIN

20, Cranford Street / London Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Downing, Holly Lane, Smethwick
Joseph Forrest, Winson Green Road, Birmingham
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1927)

LICENSEES

Benjamin Darby [1881] – **1896**);
Joseph Homer (**1896 – 1904**);
Philip Rickhurst (**1904**);
Frederick Darby (**1904 – 1907**);
Charles Sayers (**1907 – 1908**);
Joseph James Averall (**1908 – 1909**);
Daniel Potts (**1909 – 1913**);
Henry John Hope (**1913 – 1914**);
Joseph Henry Nock (**1914 – 1922**);
Thomas Harris (**1922 – 1926**);
Harry Moulding (**1926 – 1927**);
Henry Joseph Williams (**1927 – 1932**);

NOTES

It was situated on the south-west side of Cranford Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

1881 Census

Cranford Street - FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *Benjamin Darby* (32), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Lucy Darby* (27), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Frederick Darby* (9), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Daniel Darby* (7), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Mary Darby* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Elizabeth Rushton* (20), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Benjamin Darby, beer retailer, 20 Cranford Street. [1883], [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1887

“A working man’s Flower and Vegetable Show was held at Mr. *B. Darby*’s public house, the FOUNTAIN INN, Cranford Street on Monday last [17/10]. There was a good number of exhibits, prizes being given for the best show of dahlias, chrysanthemums, bouquet of garden flowers, carrots, parsnips, leeks and celery.”

1891 Census

20, Cranford Street – FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *Benjamin Darby* (41), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Lucy J. Darby* (38), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Frederick Darby* (20), son, fitter, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Daniel Darby* (18), son, pattern maker, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Mary Darby* (14), daughter, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Emma Jones* (19), domestic servant, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1892

“The FOUNTAIN INN Sick and Dividend Society. – The annual meeting of the above society was held at the FOUNTAIN INN, Cranford Street, Smethwick, on Thursday evening; a large number of members being present. This is the third year of the Society’s existence The committee then recommended a dividend of 8s 6d each which is very satisfactory. The total amount of expenditure for the year for deaths and sick benefits was £22.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/12/1896

“FOUNTAIN INN Sick and Dividend Society – the annual meeting of the above society was held at the FOUNTAIN INN, Cranford Street on Tuesday evening Mr. *Joseph Homer* (host) was duly elected treasurer.....”

Joseph Homer, 20 Cranford Street, beer retailer. [1900]

1901 Census

Cranford Street – FOUNTAIN INN

- [1] *Joseph Homer* (43), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Eliza Homer* (44), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Joseph Homer* (17), son, wheelwright, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Nellie Homer* (14), daughter, milliner, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Frank Reddell* (6), nephew, born Birmingham:

Joseph Homer – see also NEW NAVIGATION.

Smethwick Telephone 11/7/1908

“In the licensing case *Joseph James Averall*, the licensee of the FOUNTAIN INN, a beerhouse, in Cranford Street, was summoned for keeping open his licensed premises for the sale of intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours, and further, with refusing to admit a police constable, who demanded entrance in the execution of his duty. Mr. A. J. Glover appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Police, and Mr. T. Clulow defended.- Mr. Glover explained that although *Averall* was the licensee, he did not always sleep upon the premises. On the night of June 21st he did not remain at the house, but two daughters – Mrs. Vaughan and Miss Averall – remained there. At 3.25am Sergeant Harris and Police constable Hall were on duty in Cranford Street, and heard some persons talking inside the FOUNTAIN INN. This was unusual, and the officers remained outside for some minutes. Looking through the front window they could see in the back kitchen the defendant [Ernest] Wilkes sitting on a chair talking with other people. On the table were two empty glasses, and a few moments later Miss Averall went into the bar and drew some beer which she carried away. Wilkes had a drink from a glass, the other having been taken away. At 3.15 Wilkes and Miss Averall came into the front tap room and saw the officers outside. Police constable Hall knocked the door loudly in order to get into the house to see what was taking place. Miss Averall asked what they wanted, and they replied that they wanted to see who was on the premises. No answer was made, but the two went right away to the kitchen. The officers could not get in, and then while Hall remained at the front, Sergeant Harris climbed over two walls and reached the back of the premises. There he found the back door open, and in the kitchen were Miss Averall and Wilkes. When asked why they had not been admitted, Miss Averall said that she was frightened. Although Mrs. Vaughan said there was no one else on the premises the Sergeant found Mr. [William] Vaughan, her husband, upstairs. When asked how he accounted for being on the premises, Wilkes said he was courting Miss Averall and that was why he was there. A conversation followed as to Wilkes being on the premises before closing time, while Vaughan said he went there after his wife. Incidentally Mr. Glover mentioned that the landlord had committed an offence by leaving the premises – he should be the resident occupier.

.....After a prolonged hearing, lasting nearly four hours, the Magistrates said that the weight of evidence was not sufficient to allow them to convict. Taking all the circumstances together, they dismissed all of the cases with costs.-
Averall had to pay £2 17s and the other defendants 3s each.”

Joseph Averall, beer retailer, 20, Cranford Street. [1909]

1911 Census

20, Cranford Street

[1] *Daniel Potts* (41), licensed victualler, born Coseley;

[2] *Ellen Potts* (41), wife, married 18 years, born Dudley;

[3] *Leonard Potts* (5), son, born Coven;

[4] *Thomas Potts* (69), father, born Tipton;

[5] *Maggie Williams* (17), niece, domestic servant, born Hednesford:

Daniel Potts, beer retailer, 20, Cranford Street. [1912]

Plans were approved for alterations to the domestic arrangements on 4th July 1912.

Henry John Hope, beer retailer, 20, Cranford Street. [1914]

See also PRINCE ALBERT, and LODGE TAVERN, West Bromwich.

Joseph Henry Nock married Sarah Elizabeth Forester.

He died in 1928.

Henry Joseph Williams – see also LONDON WORKS TAVERN.

The licence was surrendered.

It closed on 8th July 1932.

FRENCH WALLS TAVERN

French Walls Row, French Walls, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Samuel Newton [1851] – [1865]

NOTES

Samuel Newton, beerhouse, Smethwick. [1851]

1851 Census

FRENCH WALLS

- [1] *Samuel Newton* (52), retail brewer, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Catherine Newton* (45), wife, born Warwick;
- [3] *Lydia* (?) *Barker* (21), servant, born Birmingham:

1861 Census

French Walls - FRENCH WALLS TAVERN

- [1] *Samuel Newton* (63), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Catherine Newton* (58), wife, born Warwick;
- [3] *Susannah Wood* (21), servant, born Oakley, Staffordshire:

Samuel Newton, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861], [1864]

Samuel Newton, beer retailer, French Walls Row. [1865]

GAIETY

Crocketts Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Graham Pinches []
Vivienne Colstock [2003]

NOTES

[1979]

Graham Pinches was married to Margaret.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

Closed

It reopened on 21st December 2001.

[2003]

Closed

Demolished [2005]

GALTON BRIDGE INN

69, Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Chatwin [1861]
John Howell [1871]

NOTES

Henry Chatwin issued tokens from here.

Henry Chatwin, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

1861 Census

69, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Henry Chatwin* (28), glass maker and beerseller, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Ellen Chatwin* (28), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *James H. Chatwin* (4), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Anna M. Chatwin* (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *George J. Chatwin* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Ellen Hill* (14), niece, general servant, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

69, Oldbury Road

- [1] *John Howell* (23), teaser at glassworks, born Campden, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Maria Howell* (32), wife, born Bradford, Wiltshire;
- [3] *George Priest* (12), stepson, bellows blower at steelworks, born Dudley;
- [4] *Thomas Priest* (7), stepson, scholar, born Cradley, Worcestershire;
- [5] *John Priest* (4), stepson, scholar, born Cradley, Worcestershire;
- [6] *William Howell* (under 1 month), son, born Smethwick:

Court Hearts of Oak met here before moving to the CROWN, Oldbury Road. [c. 1890]

GATE

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

1868 - John Yardley had a stall where he sold meat, in the yard of the GATE INN.

Check BLUE GATES

GEORGE

13, Albert Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Whyman [1879] – [1883]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Whyman, beer retailer, Albert Street [1879]

Thomas Whyman, beer retailer, 13, Albert Street [1883]

1881 Census

13 Albert Street - GEORGE INN

[1] *Thomas Whyman* (58), beerhouse keeper, born Loughborough;

[2] *Elizabeth Whyman* (59), wife, born Shepshed, Leicestershire;

[3] *Thomas Whyman* (22), draughtsman, born Oldbury;

[4] *William Whyman* (13), scholar, born Smethwick;

[5] *Elizabeth Field* (16), domestic servant, born Oldbury:

Check THREE CROWNS

GEORGE

102, Grove Lane / Grove Street, (1, Oldbury Road), (Cape Lane), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell (acquired on 4th January 1895)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1900]

LICENSEES

Thomas Silvester [1860] – [1875]
Mrs. Thomas [probably Justina] Silvester [1878] – [1879]
Frederick Silvester [1881] – [1883]
Samuel Porter [1890] – [1893]
John Henry Jeffery [1895] – [1897]
John W Paynting [1901]
Arthur Morris [1903] – [1905]
Mitchells and Butler Ltd. [1909]
William Elliott [1911] manager
John Capell Field [1914] – **1930**;
John Ernest Reeves **(1930 – 1943)**;
Mary Pettet **(1943 – 1945)**;
Leslie Pettet **(1945 – 1947)**;
John Francis Goodman **(1947 – 1952)**;
Albert Daniel Davies **(1952 – 1953)**;
George Nurse **(1953 – 1965)**;
Clifford Sydney Gayden **(1965 – []**
Sid Facer []
Dennis W Goodman [1976] – [1983]



1997

NOTES

1, Oldbury Road [1861]

It was situated on the eastern side of Grove Lane.

1861 Census

1 Oldbury Road - GEORGE INN

- [1] *Thomas Silvester* (31), publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Justinia Silvester* (32), wife, born Corley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Harriet Silvester* (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Frederic Silvester* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Alice M. Silvester* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Walter Silvester* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Annie Silvester* (17), sister, servant, born Smethwick:

Thomas Silvester, beer retailer, Cape Lane [1864], [1865]

1871 Census

Grove Lane - GEORGE INN

- [1] *Thomas Silvester* (42), wine and spirit dealer, born Walsall;
- [2] *Justina Silvester* (43), wife, born Corley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Harriet Silvester* (17), daughter, scholar, born Harborne;
- [4] *Frederick Silvester* (15), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [5] *Alice M. Silvester* (13), daughter, scholar, born Harborne;
- [6] *Walter Silvester* (11), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [7] *Justina Silvester* (4), daughter, scholar, born Harborne;
- [8] *Harriet King* (28), domestic servant, born Walsall:

1881 Census

102, Grove Lane

- [1] *Frederick Sylvester* (25), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Sarah Jane Phillips* (25), housekeeper, barmaid, born Stockton, Herefordshire;
- [3] *Ann Wilson* (23), domestic servant, born Southampton:

Frederick Silvester issued tokens from here.
He was the son of Thomas and Justina.

An inquest was held here in 1884.

Smethwick Telephone 20/10/1888

“Unreserved Auction Sale. GEORGE INN, Grove Lane to sell by auction the whole of the brewing plant and effects, comprising iron boiler, vats, with lead piping, cooper-made casks, sack weighing machine and weights (by Avery), surplus household furniture and other effects.....”

1891 Census

102, Grove Lane – GEORGE INN

- [1] *Samuel Porter* (48), licensed victualler, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Martha Porter* (56), wife, born Kingswinford;
- [3] *Agnes J. Porter* (19), daughter, barmaid, born New South Wales, Australia (British subject);
- [4] *Sarah Porter* (18), daughter, born New South Wales, Australia (British subject);
- [5] *Beatrice M. Porter* (12), daughter, scholar, born Kingswinford;
- [6] *Charles Padbury* (54), lodger, born Kingswinford;
- [7] *Elizabeth Dimock* (17), general servant, born Bilston:

Smethwick Telephone 9/12/1893

“At the Handsworth Police Court, yesterday, John Ferneyhough (18), puddler, 86, Reynolds Street and Albert Blewitt, 93, Reynolds Street were charged with violently assaulting *Samuel Porter*, landlord of the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane. Mr. Clulee who prosecuted, stated that the prisoners belonged to a gang of roughs known in the locality as the ‘Forty Thieves’. On the night of 25th ult. prisoners, with several other men, went to the prosecutor’s house and asked to be served with some beer. He refused, as he had previously done, to serve them. They became noisy, and on prosecutor attempting to eject them they struck and kicked him. They were afterwards arrested under warrants by P.C. Smith. Prisoners were sent to gaol for 2 months and the Bench regretted that they could not give them more.....”

Smethwick Telephone 6/7/1895

“Frederick Farr, a navvy, of Smethwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly in Grove Lane, Smethwick, on the 29th ult. and also for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane, on the same date. – The cases were proved by Police sergeant Dowler and *John Henry Jeffery* (landlord of the GEORGE INN) – Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk and 5s and costs for refusing to quit.”

Smethwick Telephone 2/11/1895

“Frederick Farr (22) of Wills Street, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane, on Saturday night last.- The case was proved by the landlord and Police-constable Barrow, and a fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/7/1897

“Selina Saunders (57), 23, Wills Street, Smethwick, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, on Saturday night, while a further summons charged her with using threats towards the landlady, Harriet *Jeffery*.- The complainant asserted that on Saturday night the defendant went into the house, where her husband preceded her, and commenced to create a disturbance. She left the house after a time, and returned half an hour afterwards, when she again commenced a disturbance.. Witness ordered her to leave, but she refused, breaking a guard [watch chain] off her (witness's) neck, and threatening to ‘blind her’ with a glass. Witness's husband also ordered the defendant to leave, but she would not go.- Defendant pleaded that her husband, who was drunk, was in the house, and she went to get some money off him. She was annoyed at him being allowed to remain in the house.- The Bench fined defendant 5s and costs for refusing to quit, but dismissed the other case.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/5/1899

“A peculiar accident having fatal results was enquired into by Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) at the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, on Wednesday morning. The inquest concerned the death of Rosannah Duffield, aged three years, who resided at 60, Grove Lane. From the evidence adduced, it appears that on Wednesday morning, the 26th ult., the deceased, who was a healthy child, fell down a step and hurt her head; but this did not prevent her from continuing to play. Later in the day, she went to her grandfather's house in Reynolds Street, and on leaving there with her sister she stumbled over a brick in the entry and fell down. A short stick which she was carrying at the time penetrated her right nostril to a distance of about 2½ inches, and her grandfather had to snatch it out. Her nose then began to bleed profusely, and it was bathed by her grandmother. On Saturday her condition became serious, and Dr. Stephen who was called in found the child unconscious. It was a hopeless case, and the girl died on Sunday night. He attributed death to an acute abscess on the brain Accidental death.....”

Smethwick Telephone 26/8/1899

“The coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) and a jury enquired into a distressing case on Thursday morning at the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick. The subject of the inquiry was the death of Lily Louisa Middleton, aged 11 weeks, who resided with her parents at 24, Mona Avenue, Wills Street, Smethwick, and who died on Tuesday night under peculiar circumstances.- The mother, Charlotte Middleton, stated that on the 12th inst. the deceased was being wheeled up and down the yard by a little girl. The child was asleep, and in order to turn round without making a noise with the wheels the girl tilted the vehicle [perambulator]. The infant was not strapped in, and consequently she was thrown violently to the other end. Although deceased cried for nearly two hours, there were no marks of injury, and she appeared to be quite well the next day. On Monday witness took the child to Dr. Stephen's surgery, and she was treated for scarlet fever by his locum tenens, but on the following day she received different treatment, and was attended by Dr. Stephen up till her death on Tuesday [Dr. Stephen] attributed death to meningitis and said it was extremely likely that the accident was the cause of death.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/10/1899

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) held an inquest at the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, on Monday morning, concerning the death of William Cottrell, aged two months Accidental death.”



West Bromwich Weekly News 22/12/1900

“The danger of the ever-destroying paraffin lamp has been frequently commented upon, but a fatal case of burning, caused through its instrumentality, at Smethwick, presented some very sad but peculiar features.

The circumstances were investigated at an inquest held at the GEORGE INN, Grove Lane, on Monday, by Mr. H. A. Pearson, (coroner) upon the body of Frederick Arthur Amos (5), who lived with his parents at 9, Mona Avenue, Wills Street, Smethwick, and who succumbed on Monday morning to the effects of shocking burns sustained on the previous day. The evidence showed that the deceased was left alone in the kitchen about 9 o'clock on Sunday night, his mother going upstairs for a short time. She suddenly heard screams, and, on rushing downstairs, she found the boy wrapped in flames. He had evidently upset a paraffin lamp which had been left upon the table, but this was not alight, and it was surmised that his saturated clothes must have come into contact with the fire, and so been ignited. The flames were put out, and the unfortunate lad was conveyed at once to the surgery of Dr. Stephen. He was found to be terribly burnt all over the body, and though everything possible was done to alleviate his sufferings, he expired about 9.30 the next morning.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental death.”

Smethwick Weekly News 2/2/1901

“Robert Dunwood, Grove Lane, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GEORGE INN, and was fined 10s and 15s costs in each case.”

1901 Census

102, Grove Lane

- [1] *John W. Paynting* (40), hotel manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Caroline Paynting* (38), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *John H. Paynting* (17), son, barman, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Lillian E. Paynting* (16), daughter, barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Ida L. Paynting* (13), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Alice M. Paynting* (11), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Charles Paynting* (9), son, born Birmingham;
- [8] *Mabel Paynting* (7), daughter, born Birmingham:

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. were fined 5s and £2 10s 0d costs, on 8th October 1909, for selling liquor to a drunken person.

1911 Census

102, Grove Lane

- [1] *William Elliott* (43), manager hotel, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Thirza Elliott* (42), wife, married 12 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Ernest Elliott* (21), son, barman, born U.S.A., naturalized 15 years;
- [4] *Clara Ann Watkins* (55), widow, servant, born Gloucestershire:

Albert Daniel Davies – see also CROWN AND ANCHOR.

Sid Facer was married to Betty.

See also ABBEY, PARK, and OLD CROSS, Oldbury.

[2006]

Closed [2007], [2008]

It reopened as MAAN'S BAR. [2009]

Also called HONO BAR. [2013]



2008

GEORGE

113, (149), High Street, (Oldbury Road) / Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Rushton's Brewery Ltd., Aston [c. 1910]
Ansell's Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1929)

LICENSEES

Josiah Boswell [1864] – [1865]
Major Wood [1871]
Harry Baker [1891]
Samuel J Swarbrick (1895 – [1900])
Samuel Tebbutt [1901]
Silas W Richards [1903]
Thomas Hayward [1904] – 1923);
William Joseph Fisher (1923);
Thomas Henry Turner (1923 – 1932);
Reginald Sidney Angell (1932 – 1933);
Jack Thomas Dale (1933 – 1939);
Arthur George Kenewall (1939 – 1941);
Mrs. Nellie Kenewall (1941 – 1946);
Arthur George Kenewall (1946 – 1947);
Bernard Lole (1947 – 1954);
Frederick Charles Yates (1954 – 1955);
James Howard Colclough (1955);
Frederick Ashcroft (1955 – 1960);
John Frederick Kelly (1960 – 1962);
Lewis Arthur Cowen (1962 – 1964);
Albert Thomas Cain (1964 – []
Mohinder Singh Aujla [] – 1981):



NOTES

149, High Street [1891], [1900], [1901]
113, High Street [1909], [1911], [1912], [1914], [1942], [1948], [1965]

It was situated on the east side of High Street.

PORTER STORES [1904]

It had a beer, cider and wine license.

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – THE GEORGE

- [1] Major Wood (31), commission agent, born Smethwick;
- [2] Mary Wood (28), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] Florence Wood (1), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] Emma Rollason (25), domestic servant, born Oldbury;

Smethwick Telephone 3/4/1964

“The Smethwick Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners was formed by seven men in 1876 and met at the GEORGE INN, Oldbury Road.”

1891 Census

149, High Street

- [1] Harry Baker (37), beer retailer, born Tividale;
- [2] Mary Baker (45), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Florence Wood (21), stepdaughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] Catherine M. Wood (19), stepdaughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] Minnie Wood (18), stepdaughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] Major D. Wood (16), stepson, butcher, born Smethwick;
- [7] James C. Wood (15), stepson, iron filer, born Smethwick;
- [8] Alice M. Baker (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] Ernest H. Baker (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

Harry Baker – see also STORES.

Smethwick Telephone 6/7/1895 - Advert

“Under New Tenancy / Mr. S. J. Swarbrick / The GEORGE / corner of Brasshouse Lane, High Street, Smethwick / Good accommodation for travellers / ales and wines of finest quality / cigars of the choicest brands / All Friends Made Welcome.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/9/1896

“William Howell, of Roebuck Lane, West Bromwich, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the GEORGE INN, High Street, Smethwick Fined 2s 5d.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/1/1898

“A Dishonest Domestic – A Chance To Reform Thrown Away.- Sarah Emma Wood (16), of Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick, was charged with stealing £3 9s, the money of Ellen Swarbrick, landlady of the GEORGE INN, High Street, on Sunday last.- Prosecutrix stated that the girl had been a domestic servant in her employ for about two weeks, being engaged without a character. On Sunday afternoon she missed the money from her dress-pocket, which was in her bedroom. She asked prisoner if she had seen it and she replied in the negative. Prosecutrix had missed several small items that she had not mentioned. The money was not in a purse, being loose in the pocket. Police constable Collier deposed to arresting prisoner, who admitted having taken the money, which was hid underneath a brick near the yard gate, and recovered.- Alderman Fallows said it was a great pity the girl had not followed the proper course. She had been there before on a similar charge and was given a chance under the First Offenders Act, but she had not availed herself of it. She would now have to go to gaol for three months with hard labour.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/10/1898

“GEORGE INN Sick and Dividend Society.- the third quarterly meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday evening at the house of Mr. S. J. Swarbrick, GEORGE INN, High Street.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies GEORGE INN, High Street. The annual general meeting of the members of the above society was held at Mr. S. J. Swarbrick’s A dividend of 12s 4d per member was declared.....”

Samuel J. Swarbrick issued tokens from here, bearing the name **GEORGE INN**, High Street.
Samuel J. Swarbrick, beer retailer, 149 High St. [1900]

1901 Census

149, High Street

- [1] *Samuel Tebbutt* (48), beer retailer, born Carlton, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Tebbutt* (40), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Alice Whithead* (21), lodger, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Edward Whithead* (22), lodger, brush maker, born Bristol:

Thomas Hayward was fined 10s and £2 10s 6d costs, on 14th January 1904, for selling intoxicating liquor to a drunken person.

T. Hayward issued tokens from here, bearing the name **GEORGE INN**, High Street.

Thomas Hayward, beer retailer, 113, High Street. [1909], [1912], [1914]

1911 Census

113, High Street

- [1] *Thomas Howard* (49), publican, born Daisy Bank;
- [2] *Clara Hayward* (48), wife, married 27 years, assisting in business, born Smethwick;
- [3] *George Hayward* (22), son, assisting in business, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Arthur Hayward* (20), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Harold Hayward* (19), son, draughtsman, railway carriage works, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Maria Carrington* (22), general servant, born Dudley:

Jack Thomas Dale, beer retailer, 113, High Street. [1935], [1936]

A Publican's License was granted on 7th February 1950 and confirmed on 3rd April 1950.

Frederick Charles Yates – see also **NEW INN**, West Bromwich.

Frederick Ashcroft – see also **ROYAL OAK**, Oldbury.

John Frederick Kelly – see also **WINDMILL**.

Lewis Arthur Cowen – see also **OLD CHAPEL**.

Mohinder Singh Aujla – see also **OLD CORNER HOUSE**.

It closed on 22nd February 1981.

It was demolished as part of the ring road plan.



1981

GEORGE STREET TAVERN

15, George Street / Victoria Street, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Samuel Allbrooke, St. Pauls Road, Smethwick
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

Charles Harris [1882] – [1890]
Mrs. Elizabeth Gillam [1891] – [1900]
William Crees [1901] – **1922**:

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

Charles Harris, GEORGE TAVERN. [1882]

Wednesbury Herald 4/3/1882

“*Charles Harris*, landlord of the GEORGE STREET TAVERN, West Smethwick was charged [with keeping his house open during prohibited hours].

Police-constable William Warsey stated that at 12.30 on the morning of the 19th ult he saw a woman enter the back door of the defendant’s house. Afterwards she came out with a bottle containing about two quarts of ale. Mr. Sharpe appeared for the defence. The time was admitted, and the defence was that the beer had been paid for before eleven o’clock.

The Bench inflicted a fine of £5 and costs.”

Smethwick Telephone 10/8/1889

“On Wednesday at the Police Court, *Charles Harris*, landlord of the GEORGE STREET TAVERN, West Smethwick was charged with permitting betting on his premises on June 25th, July 17th and 18th Fined £11 12s 6d.....”

- The license was not renewed at the West Bromwich Licencing Session, 28th August.

Charles Harris, beer retailer, 15, George Street / Victoria Street. [1883], [1890]

1891 Census

15, George Street – GEORGE STREET TAVERN

[1] Richard Gillam (46), moulder, born Bewdley;

[2] *Elizabeth Gillam* (46), wife, publican, born Bridgnorth;

[3] Minnie Potter (14), niece, born Birmingham;

[4] Amy Potter (5), niece, born Kidderminster:

Smethwick Telephone 9/11/1893

“John Parkes (24), of Corser Street, West Smethwick, was charged with being drunk in George Street on the 2nd inst., and also with assaulting *Richard Gillam*, landlord of the GEORGE STREET TAVERN on the same date.- It was alleged that on Saturday night last, defendant was in the above named public house, when he used bad language and created a disturbance. Complainant ordered him to leave the house, and as he refused to do so he went round into the bar to eject him. Defendant thereupon struck *Gillam*, knocking him onto the fire. He also broke a number of jugs which were upon the table.- Police-constable Heatherley stated that defendant was drunk and created a disturbance in George Street, and it was some time before he could be persuaded to go home.- The Bench fined defendant 2s 6d and costs for being drunk and 10s and costs for the assault for the assault (amounting in all to £1 9s 6d); in default of payment, 21 days imprisonment.

Benjamin Billington, of George Street, West Smethwick, was also charged with assaulting *Richard Gillam* on the same time.- Billington was in the GEORGE STREET TAVERN on the night of the 2nd inst., and offered to make a bet. The landlord told him that he would have to stop that or leave the house. Defendant thereupon used bad language, and struck *Gillam* on the nose, making it bleed. Mrs. *Gillam* attempted to separate the men when defendant turned and struck her. A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed; in default of payment, 7 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/11/1896

“George Farrar, of Langley, applied for a temporary music license for the GEORGE STREET STORES, West Smethwick, which he intended to use for the purpose of a dancing class.- Superintendent Ainsworth offered no objection, and the application was granted.”

Mrs. *Elizabeth Gillam*, beer retailer, 15, George Street. [1897], [1900]

William Crees = William Creese

1901 Census

15, George Street – GEORGE TAVERN

[1] *William Creese* (21), unmarried, innkeeper, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Louisa Reeves* (48), housekeeper, born West Bromwich:

1911 Census

George Street – GEORGE STREET TAVERN

[1] *William Crees* (31), beer seller, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Emily Crees* (31), wife, married 7 years, assisting in business, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Edith Lilian Crees* (7), daughter, born West Smethwick;

[4] *Florance May Crees* (5), daughter, born West Smethwick;

[5] *Ethel Crees* (8 months), daughter, born West Smethwick:

The license was surrendered on 31st May 1922.

GLASSHOUSE TAVERN

58, George Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Bedford, Stone Street, West Bromwich
Miss Viney, Stechford
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Rock [1861] – [1873]
Andrew Perkins [1878] – [1881]
William Powell [1883] – [1887]
Robert Perkins [1890] – **1892**);
George Woodhall (**1892 – 1894**);
George Henry Bedford (**1894 – 1898**);
William Bedford (**1898 – 1899**);
Ellen Elizabeth Bedford (**1899 – 1905**);
George Henry Bedford (**1905 – 1922**);
William Bedford (**1922 – 1925**);
Sidney Leonard Birchfield Francis (**1925 – 1926**);
Herbert Guest (**1926 – 1931**);
Francis William Fisher (**1931 – 1939**);

NOTES

It was situated on the north side of George Street.

GLASSHOUSE [1864]
GLASSHOUSE TAVERN [1871], [1881], [1891], [1898]
GLASSMAKERS TAVERN [1894]

1861 Census

Oldbury Road – beer house

- [1] *Thomas Rock* (37), crown glass blower, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Louisa Rock* (34), wife, born Wellington, Shropshire;
- [3] *Emily Rock* (12), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Sarah Jane Rock* (8), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *William Thomas Rock* (5), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Hiram Rock* (3), son, born West Bromwich;
- [7] *Elizabeth Grice* (20), general servant, born West Bromwich:

1871 Census

George Street - GLASSHOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Rock* (46), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Louisa Rock* (44), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Jane Rock* (17), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Thomas Rock* (15), son, commercial clerk in glass works, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Hiram Rock* (12), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Lizzie Rock* (9), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

[It seems likely that these two families were the same, despite changes of names and birthplaces.]

1881 Census

58, George Street - GLASSHOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *Andrew Perkins* (51), licensed victualler, born Sunderland;
- [2] *Caroline Perkins* (45), wife, born London;
- [3] *Robert C. Perkins* (17), son, glassmaker, born Smethwick;
- [4] *George L. Perkins* (16), son, engine fitter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Henry E. Perkins* (14), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Walter A. Perkins* (12), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Arthur J. Perkins* (10), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Andrew G. Perkins* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [9] *James A. Perkins* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Harriett Crowley* (17), domestic servant, born Oldbury;
- [11] ? *Middlehurst* (7), female, visitor, born America:

Smethwick Telephone 27/11/1948

'Public House Changes at West Smethwick'

“Sixty five years ago the GLASSHOUSE TAVERN was the scene of a remarkable fatality. *William Powell*, the licensee, and his eighteen year old son, *William Edward*, were in the cellar, where the father was boring a cork hole in a barrel of rum. As soon as the tool he was using penetrated the wood, a stream of liquor spurted out and became ignited by coming into contact with a gas jet burning on one side of the cellar. The cask of liquor exploded and the licensee, blown several yards away by the force of the explosion was rendered unconscious. When he recovered sensibility he found his son lying on the cellar floor also unconscious and badly burned. The unfortunate youth was taken to West Bromwich Hospital where he died a few days later.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/12/1887

“Ancient Order of Foresters, Smethwick and West Bromwich Division. At close of business of the Ordinary Quarterly finance meeting, held at the District House, GLASSHOUSE TAVERN, George Street, West Smethwick on Thursday evening host *Powell*.”

1891 Census

58, George Street – GLASSHOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *Robert Perkins* (57), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Ann Perkins* (60), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Mary Ann Perkins* (14), granddaughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Sarah Rushton* (20), general servant, born Smethwick:

Robert Perkins – see also NORTH WESTERN.

Smethwick Telephone 28/11/1891

“*Robert Perkins*, landlord of the GLASS HOUSE TAVERN, West Smethwick, was charged with selling whiskey not of the nature or quality demanded by the purchaser.”

[He was visited by a representative of the Inspector of Food and Drugs Act, who bought half a pint and had it analysed. He was fined £2 2s and costs.]

Smethwick Telephone 9/4/1898

“The annual dinner in connection with Court ‘Pride Of The Forest’ (A.O.F.) was held last Saturday evening at the GLASSHOUSE TAVERN, George Street A capital spread was well served by Bro. *Bedford* (host).....”

1901 Census

58, George Street – GLASS HOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *Ellen Bedford* (47), widow, beer retailer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *William Bedford* (25), son, steerer and contractor, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Georgiana Bedford* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Andrew Bedford* (16), son, house carpenter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Arthur Bedford* (13), son, born Smethwick:

1911 Census

George Street – GLASS HOUSE TAVERN

- [1] *George Henry Bedford* (38), publican, full license, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Alice Bedford* (40), wife, married 14 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Dorothy Bedford* (12), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Lillian Bedford* (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Julia Davis* (36), general servant, born Tyburn, Worcestershire;
- [6] *Alice Davis* (5), daughter, born Birmingham:

Francis William Fisher – see also FIVE WAYS.

Order for Ordinary Removal to premises to be erected at the corner of Bearwood Road and Dawson Street granted on 10th February 1937, and confirmed on 14th April 1937.

It closed on 5th April 1939.

The license was transferred to the BARLEYCORN.

GLOBE

201, Grove Lane, (Cape Lane), Six Ways, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

S. Thompson, maltster [1882]
Holders Brewery Ltd. [1893]

LICENSEES

Henry Cook [1858] – [1861]
Thomas Franks [1864] – **1869**;
Joseph Edwards (**1869** – [1881])
Christopher Arthur Prust (**1882**) manager
Edwin Deacon [1890] – **1892**;
Caroline Deacon (**1892 – 1894**);
William Holding (**1894**);
Albert Edward Holding (**1894 – 1898**);
Peter Higgins (**1898 – 1910**);

NOTES

Cape Lane [1858]

It was situated on the west side of Grove Lane.

Henry Cook = Henry Cooke

1861 Census

Grove Lane

- [1] *Henry Cook* (40), publican, born Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Mary Cook* (46), wife, born Worcestershire;
- [3] *Caroline Roper* (22), niece, born Birmingham:

1871 Census

Grove Lane - GLOBE INN

- [1] *Joseph Edwards* (54), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Mary A. Edwards* (53), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Sarah Smith* (27), barmaid, born Smethwick:

1881 Census

201, Grove Lane - GLOBE INN

- [1] *Joseph Edwards* (64), publican, born Tipton;
- [2] *Mary Ann Edwards* (63), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Sarah Smith* (27), barmaid, born Smethwick:

Evening Star 11/2/1882

“Yesterday, E. Hooper, Esq, coroner, held an inquest at the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane, Six Ways, Smethwick, on the body of Christopher Arthur Prust, who died from the effects of drinking a quart of brandy, on Tuesday night.

Elizabeth Prust, wife of the deceased, identified the body, and stated that deceased was formerly vaccination officer for the south west district of Islington, London, but lost his situation three weeks ago in consequence of neglecting his business. Deceased had been in the habit of drinking more than was good for him. A fortnight ago he came to manage the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane, for Mr. S. Thompson, maltster. Deceased had been strange in his mind ever since he lost his situation, and he had often asked her (witness) to poison herself with him, which she should have done had it not been for the children.

On Monday last, about four o'clock, he took a jug full of something into his bedroom, and on witness going upstairs she smelt brandy, and saw deceased vomiting. There was about a teaspoonful of brandy left in the jug on the washing stand. At the suggestion of her sister in law, Mr. Johnstone, surgeon, and another doctor whose name she did not know, were sent for to the deceased. They applied the stomach pump, but expressed their opinion that he had gone too far.

Elizabeth Read, the sister in law referred to, spoke to hearing deceased say on one occasion that he was tired of his life and wished he could jump into the canal.

Another witness, having given evidence, the jury returned a verdict that deceased poisoned himself by drinking brandy, whilst in a state of temporary insanity.

A jurymen, named George E. Wheway was fined 20s and costs for neglecting to attend the inquest after being warned.”

1891 Census

201, Grove Lane – GLOBE INN

- [1] *Edwin Deacon* (40), licensed victualler, born Chippenham;
- [2] *Caroline Deacon* (38), wife, born Chippenham;
- [3] *Eliza M. Deacon* (16), daughter, scholar, born Chippenham;
- [4] *Kate Deacon* (15), daughter, scholar, born Chippenham;
- [5] *Minnie Deacon* (14), daughter, scholar, born Chippenham;
- [6] *Maud Deacon* (13), daughter, scholar, born Chippenham;
- [7] *George Deacon* (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Berty Deacon* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Bertha Deacon* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [10] *May Deacon* (2), daughter, born Smethwick:

Caroline Deacon = *Caroline Deakin*

Smethwick Telephone 1/7/1893

“*Caroline Deakin*, landlady of the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, was summoned for refusing to admit the police on the 2nd ult: and *Harry Levick*, of 17, Raglan Road, and *John Smith* and *John Hillier*, both of Bolham Road were charged with being on the premises during prohibited hoursMrs. *Deakin* was fined £2 and costs (amounting to £2 12s in all); but the other cases were dismissed.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/7/1893

“*Robert Archer*, of 32, Reynolds Street, Smethwick, *Ada Archer*, his wife, and *Matilda Nash* were charged with assaulting *Caroline Deakin*, landlady of the GLOBE INN on the 23rd inst. *Robert Archer* was also charged with stealing a gold watch and chain, the property of *Caroline Deakin* The case against Mrs. Archer was dismissed, but *Robert Archer* was fined £1 12s, including costs, and Mrs. Nash 14s 6d.”

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“The renewal of the license of the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, was opposed by Superintendent Whitehurst, on the ground that the tenant, *Caroline Deacon*, had been convicted of refusing to admit the police, and also on the ground that she was not a fit person to hold a license..... Evidence was given to the effect that in June last applicant was fined £2 and costs for refusing to allow a policeman to visit her house. When the officer got into the house at a later period, and after closing hours, he found three men lying behind the beer barrels in the cellar. (Laughter.) The men were also summoned, but were discharged, the defence raised being that one was engaged to *Deacon* and the other two to her daughters. (Laughter.) With regard to the general conduct of the house during the last twelve months – since the death of *Deacon’s* husband – the evidence was that there had been frequent disturbances there, and disorderly conduct which called for the interference of the police she [*Deacon*] was a tenant under a lease. She received all of the profits, but was ‘tied’ for beer to Messrs Holder. There were two and a half years of the lease to run.”

- The license was renewed.

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1894

“Edward Jones (29) of Poplar Street, Smethwick, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GLOBE INN (kept by *William Holding*), Grove Lane, Smethwick on Saturday night. Defendant was fined 15s including costs, in default 7 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/7/1895

“James Knowles of Poplar Street, Smethwick, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick on the 1st inst. – *Albert Holding*, the landlord of the house in question, said the defendant came to his house the worse for beer, and refused to quit when ordered to do so. – Defendant was fined 12s 6d and costs.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/2/1898

“John Knowles of Poplar Street, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane on Saturday last. – *Peter Higgins*, landlord, stated that defendant went to his house and commenced to create a disturbance. He was requested to leave, but refused to do so, and was ejected by the police.- Defendant, who had a very bad record, was now fined 10s and costs (19s in all) or in default 14 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1898

“James Knowles (45), of Poplar Street, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane, on the 17th inst., and also with being drunk in Grove Lane on the same date.- The case of refusing to quit was withdrawn, but defendant was fined 10s and costs for being drunk.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/9/1898

“*Peter Higgins* (50), landlord of the GLOBE INN was summoned for being drunk on his own licensed premises on the 8th inst Mr. Sharpe said that he had never defended a man who had a better character than the defendant. He had been a licensed victualler for four years. The house which he now occupied had not been previously well conducted, but during the past twelve months it had greatly improved. Defendant had resided in Smethwick for thirty years, and had been bandmaster to the Smethwick Volunteers for twenty years. There had never been any previous charge against him, and he had never been drunk in his life. On the day in question he only had three glasses of ‘lemon and a dash’. He strongly denied that he was drunk.- This statement was supported in evidence by the defendant and several customers, who were in the house at the time.- The case was dismissed.”

Smethwick Telephone 31/12/1898

“Samuel Bridges (26), Ada Road; William Chester, Cape Street; and Thomas Lucas (24), London Street, were all charged with being drunk and disorderly in Grove Lane, Smethwick, on Boxing night. Bridges was also charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GLOBE INN, doing wilful damage there, and assaulting *Peter Higgins*, the landlord; While Chester was further charged with refusing to quit and doing wilful damage, and with assaulting *Mary Higgins*, the landlady, PS Hall and PC Wright the same night it appears that at 11.15 on Boxing night PS Hall was called to the GLOBE INN and he went there with PC Wright. The three prisoners were outside the house, creating a disturbance, and trying to force their way into it. The three men were arrested and taken to the police station. Sergeant Hall afterwards went into the GLOBE INN, and found the place in a fearful mess. Glasses,

jugs, bottles, plate glass panels, a tea urn, and numerous other things had been smashed, and there were several marks on the walls etc., showing where the glass had crashed. The story of the fracas in the house was told by the landlord and landlady. Bridges and Chester entered the house, and one of them picked up a jug of beer belonging to another customer, and was told to put it down by Mrs. *Higgins*. Hearing an altercation, Mr. *Higgins* came out of the smoke room where he had been serving, and immediately he entered the bar, Bridges threw a jug at him. This hit him on the head and crashed through a glass panel. He ordered them to leave the house, and as they refused to go he sent for the police. Prisoners then laid hands on everything they could, and commenced throwing them at both landlord and landlady. They smashed many things, and did damage to the extent of between £3 and £4. Chester threw an urn, containing hot water, at Mrs. *Higgins*, and also knocked her against the door-case and punched her in the mouth. Their language was most filthy.....

On the way to the station, Bridges and Chester behaved very violently. The latter was like a madman, kicking PC Wright about the legs and punching him in the mouth. While Sergeant Hall was putting Bridges into the cell, Chester (who had previously been put in) rushed out and also struck him in the mouth PS Hall said that Lucas was only drunk and behaved quietly.- With a reminder from the Bench that he should keep out of such company, Lucas was discharged: but both Bridges and Chester were sent to gaol for two months with hard labour.....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/2/1899

“On Friday night, the 27th ult., a man visited the GLOBE INN, Grove Lane, and offered some oranges for sale, which he was carrying in a bag. When the premises were closed, the landlord went to the back of the premises, where he had four ducks in a pen. He found that these had disappeared, and the only clue to the thief was a bag containing oranges. The matter was placed in the hands of the Six Ways police, and on Saturday morning P.C. Miles arrested the owner of the bag and oranges, in the person of Owen Edwards (36) of Talbot Street, Birmingham. On the way to the station the prisoner said that he should not say anything that would do him any harm, while in answer to the charge he said he must have been a fool to leave his bag behind, because if it had not been for that they would never have found him.- Prisoner now protested his innocence. He admitted that the bag belonged to him, but he supposed the landlord (Mr. *Peter Higgins*) had put it in the duck pen. (Laughter)- Col. Wilkinson; Were they alive or dead? - Prisoner; I didn't see them. (renewed laughter) - Col. Wilkinson said it was a case of very grave suspicion, and in giving prisoner the benefit of the doubt, said he was lucky to get off.- Prisoner had a record of previous convictions.”

1901 Census

201, Grove Lane – GLOBE INN

- [1] *Peter Higgins* (53), publican and victualler, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Mary Higgins* (42), wife, born Liverpool;
- [3] *Frederick Higgins* (19), son, barman, born Handsworth;
- [4] *William Higgins* (14), son, turner, gas engine works, born Birmingham;
- [5] *May Higgins* (12), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Ada Higgins* (10), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Rose Higgins* (8), daughter, born Smethwick:

Peter Higgins was a committee member of West Bromwich and District LVA. [1902]

Smethwick Weekly News 18/1/1902

“Charles Berry (27), London Street, was charged with being disorderly and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GROVE (sic) INN, kept by *Peter Higgins*.

It appeared that defendant was on the licensed premises from nine till about three. He was creating a nuisance, and complainant ordered him to leave the premises. He refused, so an officer was called in.

A fine of 5s and costs, in all 19s 6d, or in default 14 days, was imposed.”

The license was removed to the IVY BUSH, St. Pauls Road, in 1910.

GOLDEN CROSS

68, (65), (66), High Street, (Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd.
Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

Thomas Newby [1835]
John Lewis [1841] - [1842]
William Grigg [] - **1870**;
Henry Hinsley (**1870** - [])
Robert Barnsley [1870] - [1871]
William Taylor [1883] - [1890]
Ann Cooper [1891]
Thomas Darby (**1895** - [1901] tenant
William Henry Hammond [1903] - **1904**);
Ernest Edward Cowley (**1904**);
Henry William Johnson (**1904** - **1906**);
Thomas Darby (**1906** - **1907**);
Julia Darby (**1907** - **1911**);
Henry William Johnson (**1911** - **1912**);
Mrs. Edith Smith (**1912** - **1913**);
William Henry Hammond (**1913** - **1914**);
William Henry 'Harry' Hooper (**1914** - **1921**);
Sarah Jane Hooper (**1921** - **1922**);
Frederick 'Fred' Nabbs (**1922** - **1929**);
Thomas Edward Thomas (**1929** - **1936**);

NOTES

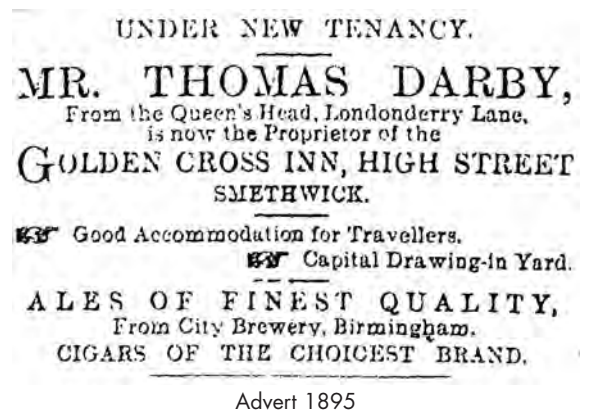
66, High Street [1891]
65, High Street [1901]
68, High Street [1911]

It was situated on the western side of High Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

Mary Bodfish surmised that this was the CROSS mentioned in 1818. It was also known as the RED CROSS.

It was known locally as "The Stuffed Donkey". A stuffed donkey stood in the passageway.



Robert Barnsley, beer retailer, High Street. [1870]

1871 Census

Oldbury Road - THE GOLDEN CROSS

- [1] *Robert Barnsley* (41), retail brewer, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Ann Barnsley* (42), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Mary Barnsley* (22), daughter, domestic servant, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Arthur Barnsley* (18), son, painter, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Maria Barnsley* (16), daughter, domestic servant, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Eleanor Barnsley* (14), daughter, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [7] *Jane Barnsley* (12), daughter, scholar, born Rowley Regis;
- [8] *Richard Barnsley* (10), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [9] *John Barnsley* (8), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [10] *Robert Barnsley* (6), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [11] *Joseph Barnsley* (4), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [12] *Harry Barnsley* (2), son, born Oldbury;
- [13] *Amey Barnsley* (1), granddaughter, born Smethwick:

William Taylor, beer retailer, 66 High Street. [1883], [1890]

1891 Census

66, High Street – GOLDEN CROSS

- [1] *Ann Cooper* (73), widow, innkeeper, born Rowley;
- [2] *George Brain* (36), servant, general labourer, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Agnes Harrison* (24), general servant, born Dudley:

Ann Cooper – see also GOLDEN FLEECE.

Smethwick Telephone 15/6/1895 - Advert

“Under New Tenancy. Mr. *Thomas Darby*, From the QUEENS HEAD, Londonderry Lane, is now the proprietor of the / GOLDEN CROSS INN, High Street, Smethwick / Good accommodation for Travellers. Capital Drawing-in Yard. / Ales of Finest Quality, from City Brewery, Birmingham. Cigars of the Choicest Brand.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/8/1895

“Smethwick District Council Building Committee This committee recommended that the following plans be approved *T. Darby*, addition of bay windows to GOLDEN CROSS INN.....”

- This was disapproved at the meeting on 10th September.

Thomas Darby, beer retailer, 66, High Street. [1897], [1900]

Smethwick Telephone 9/12/1899

“The GOLDEN CROSS Guinea Club. A dinner was held by the members of the above club on Tuesday at the house of Mr. *T. Darby*, GOLDEN CROSS INN, High Street Mr. *Harry Powell* (the well known host of the VOLUNTEER INN) was voted to the chair.....”

1901 Census

65, High Street – GOLDEN CROSS TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Darby* (46), beerhouse keeper, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Julia Darby* (46), wife, born Stoke, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Frederick W. Darby* (23), son, iron moulder (grates), born Oldbury;
- [4] *Henry J. Darby* (23), son, beerhouse barman, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Albert E. Darby* (19), son, general labourer, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Ann Rancy* (35), general servant, born Birmingham:

William Hammond = William Hammonds

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

1911 Census

68, High Street

[1] *Julia Darby* (55), widow, innkeeper, born Wychbold, near Droitwich;

[2] *Frederick William Darby* (32), son, moulder, born Rood End;

[3] *Albert Edward Darby* (25), son, barman, born Rood End;

[4] *Joseph Whittingham* (34), boarder, sash and casement fitter, born Brownhills:

Smethwick Telephone 2/11/1912

“.....The Magistrates assented to the transfer of the license of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, High Street, from *Henry William Johnson*, to Mrs. *Edith Smith*. It was stated the outgoing tenant was going on the stage, and as he would be travelling, he asked to be excused from attendance at the Licensing Sessions.”

Thomas Edward Thomas – see also BRIDGE.

Smethwick Telephone 10/3/1928

“..... Mr. Willison applied for a wine license to be granted to Mr. *Fred Nabbs*, the licensee of the GOLDEN CROSS INN, High Street (owners Messrs. Showells).

He could not conceive that there should be any reasonable objection to an application of that description, because it did not in any way create a new license: there was a licensed house already there, and so the granting of the further concession did not mean entering into any controversial field. The view which some people had with regard to spirits did not arise. (Laughter)

It was only reasonable that a house of that description reasonable facilities should be given to customers, who so desired, to partake of a glass of wine instead of a beer. It seemed to him that nobody could have any objection. The drinking of wine was being recommended. For instance, they could partake of Empire brands. (Laughter)

Having mentioned the excellence of the house, Mr. Willison mentioned that a lodge of the RAOB was held there, a lady's club, a sick and dividend society with 120 members, and the members of the National Union of Corporation Workers held meetings on the premises. During the winter suppers were held, and it was rather a ridiculous position that while people could partake of beer they could not alternatively have a glass of claret on such an occasion. It could not be said that that was any worse than partaking of beer. Further, the two houses licensed for beer 'on' in the vicinity were also able to sell wines.

The licensee (Mr. *F. Nabbs*) gave evidence as to the organisations meeting at the house, and also presented a petition signed by 914 customers. The application was made in order to deal with the continuous demands from people for a glass of wine. He had to refuse people daily.

Mrs. *Grace Peach*, the treasurer of the Ladies' Club, that meets on Wednesday evenings, attended on the authority of that organisation to support the application. 'I think we should have a drop of port wine for visitors on Wednesday.' Said the witness, who added that it was also desirable that it should be available so that when a man took his wife into the smoke room.

Mrs. *Rosetta Matthews*, the Secretary of the Club, said that in her opinion there was a definite and reasonable demand for wines.

Mr. *Percy Holdsworth* said there was a general necessity for the supply of wines, for which there was an absolute demand. It was a modern house at which flourishing Clubs were held.

The Chairman enquired if there was any opposition.

There was no response and Mr. Willison said he did not see how there could be. (Laughter)

The appeal was granted.”

The license was surrendered on the grant of an off license in Devonshire Road.

It closed on 30th April 1936.

The site was later occupied by a bank.

GOLDEN FLEECE

17, Oldbury Road / St. Paul's Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Robertson [1871]
Mrs. Ann Cooper [1878] – [1890]

NOTES

It was situated on the south-western side of Oldbury Road.

1871 Census

17, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Joseph Robertson* (43), beer seller, born Halesowen;
- [2] *Sarah Robertson* (39), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Thomas Robertson* (16), son, glass maker, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Susannah Robertson* (14), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Ann Robertson* (12), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Martha Robertson* (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Joseph Robertson* (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Alice Robertson* (6), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Benjamin Robertson* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Robert Robertson* (2), son, born Smethwick:

Mrs. Ann Cooper, beer retailer, 17, Oldbury Road. [1878], [1879], [1883], [1890]

1881 Census

17 Oldbury Road

- [1] *Ann Cooper* (62), widow, beer house keeper, born Rowley;
- [2] *George Basin* (25), boarder, brewer, born Smethwick;
- [3] *William Wright* (22), boarder, labourer (works), born Smethwick;
- [4] *Anne Southall* (19), general servant (domestic), born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 1/11/1884

“Police Court. *Ann Cooper*, publican, GOLDEN FLEECE, Oldbury Road, Smethwick summoned William Summerton, Brasshouse Lane and Samuel Weaver, Great Arthur Street, for refusing to quit and threatening. Complainant stated that the defendants came into her house on the 14th inst. and called for a quart of ale, refused to pay for it, and threatened to strike her across the head with the jug. Defendants, who expressed deep contrition, appealed to the Bench to be lenient....”

- They were fined 20s and costs or 14 days hard labour.

Ann Cooper – see also GOLDEN CROSS.

GRAND TURK

204, Wattville Street, BIRMINGHAM

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Henry Borrow [1911]
Benjamin Henry Whittingslow [c. 1933]
Thomas Oakes [1935] – [1942]
Jack Williams [1949]

NOTES

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies The GRAND TURK INN, Wattville Street.- The annual general meeting of the members of the above society was held last Wednesday night: Mr. R. Beouclere presiding over a large attendance a dividend of 11s 5d per member was declared.....”

1911 Census

204, Wattville Street

- [1] *Thomas Henry Borrow* (40), publican, manager for brewery, born Silverdale, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Annie Borrow* (40), wife, married 9 years, born Davenham, Cheshire;
- [3] *Laura Pearce* (22), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

Thomas Oakes, beer retailer, 204, Wattville Street. [1935]

[This pub was just over the Handsworth border.]

GRAPES

Hill Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Leonard Albert Barlow [1929]

GRAPES

375, (368), (396), (359), Oldbury Road / Bridge Street, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Thomas Richards, Lysways Street, Walsall
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

David Malcolm [1861]
George Stamps [1878] - **1906**;
Thomas Shirley (**1906 - 1917**);
Louisa Shirley (**1917 - 1919**);
Ernest Mallin (**1919 - 1921**);
Elsie Smith (**1921 - 1923**);

NOTES

396, Oldbury Road [1881], [1883], [1890]
359, Oldbury Road [1891], [1897]
375, Oldbury Road [1901], [1911]
368, Oldbury Road [1903]

It was known locally as "Shirley's" or "Stamp's".

It had a beerhouse license.

David Malcolm, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

1861 Census

Oldbury Road - The GRAPES

- [1] *David Malcolm* (31), glass maker, born Leith;
- [2] *Mary Ann Malcolm* (29), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Sarah Newey* (20), niece, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Mary Ann Newey* (1 month), niece, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Emma Haywood* (16), born Bristol:

George Stamps = George Stamp

George Stamps, beer retailer, Oldbury Road [1878], [1879]

1881 Census

396 Oldbury Road - The GRAPES

- [1] *George Stamps* (44), beer retailer, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Maria Stamps* (44), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Susan Stamps* (18), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Louise Stamps* (15), daughter, school teacher, born Smethwick;
- [5] *John Stamps* (13), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Charles Stamps* (12), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Maria Stamps* (9), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [8] *Robert Stamps* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

George Stamps, beer retailer, 396 Oldbury Road [1883], [1890]

1891 Census

359, Oldbury Road – The GRAPES INN

- [1] *George Stamp* (54), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Maria Stamp* (54), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *John Stamp* (23), son, brewer, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Maria Stamp* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Robert Stamp* (17), son, horse driver, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Josephine Stamp* (17), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 23/7/1892

“*George Stamps* of the GRAPES INN, Albert Street, West Smethwick, was summoned for permitting gaming The offence consisted in playing a game at cribbage such a game was illegal If the defendant paid the costs and the solicitor’s fee.....”

George Stamps, beer retailer and 359 Oldbury Road [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 14/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies GRAPES INN, West Smethwick. The annual meeting of this society was held on Monday evening.- The secretary [Mr. J. Ingram] declared a dividend of 10s per member.....”

1901 Census

375, Oldbury Road – GRAPES TAVERN

- [1] *George Stamp* (64), publican, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Maria Stamp* (64), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *John Stamp* (33), son, servant, born Smethwick:

Thomas Shirley, beer retailer, 375, Oldbury Road. [1909], [1912]

1911 Census

375, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Thomas Shirley* (47), glass cutter, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Louisa Shirley* (44), wife, married 20 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Beatrice Shirley* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *William Shirley* (17), son, clerk, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Alice Shirley* (12), daughter, school, born Smethwick:

Louisa Shirley was the daughter of *George Stamps*.

It closed on 21st November 1923 under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act 1910.

It became a fish and chip shop.

GREAT WESTERN

18, Rabone Lane / Foundry Lane, (Rabone Bridge), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

George Zeller [1870] – [1879]
Emile George Louis Zeller [1881] – [1883]

NOTES

It was situated on the east side of Rabone Lane.

George Zeller, beer retailer, Rabone Bridge. [1870]

1871 Census

Rabone Lane - GREAT WESTERN TAVERN

- [1] *George Zeller* (44), publican, born France;
- [2] *Emma Zeller* (35), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Sarah Johnson* (58), mother in law, widow, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Rebecca Skidmore* (16), servant, born West Bromwich:

1881 Census

18, Rabone Lane

- [1] *Louis Zeller* (24), unmarried, victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Emma Piggott* (19), cousin, barmaid, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Elizabeth Rogers* (26), general servant, born Harborne:

Wednesbury Herald 30/6/1883

“At the Police Office, High Street, West Bromwich, on Tuesday, before Alderman Farley (Mayor), *Emile George Louis Zeller* (26), landlord of the GREAT WESTERN INN, Rabone Lane, Smethwick, was charged with shooting, with intent to murder, Joseph Thomas Fisher, a moulder of 3, Edith Place, Winson Green Road, Birmingham, at Smethwick on the 24th inst.

Mr. Sharpe (Jackson and Sharpe) defended.

Superintendent Whitehurst, in asking for the prisoner to be remanded, said between one and two o'clock on Sunday morning the prisoner was in his own house with two customers. Some quarreling – he was not prepared to say what – took place, and in the end a pistol was produced by the prisoner, and two shots fired, one of which struck Fisher in the face. He was taken to the hospital. The bullet had not been extracted yet, and the man was to some extent in danger, but he heard a good account from the Hospital that morning. There was no danger of the man's life at present, but erysipelas might set in. He asked that the prisoner might be remanded till Saturday, and in the meantime, if Fisher got worse and was likely to die, he had arranged to take the prisoner over and have the dying man's depositions taken.

Mr. Sharpe: We of course are anxious to have the statement taken, and we are anxious, if there is any danger, that it should be taken before the man is unconscious or in a weak state. I should also like to state now that it has been mentioned in the press that a quarrel took place. I think there is an erroneous idea about that, and a different construction will be placed upon it when evidence is given.

The Mayor: Was there any other person present at the time?

Superintendent Whitehurst: There was another person present.

Mr. Sharpe: There were two other persons present.

The Mayor: They understand the case then. Assuming that the man died without his deposition being taken, there are other persons who can give a correct version of the affair?

Superintendent Whitehurst: Yes, Sir.

The Mayor: Then it does not appear that the prisoner would be likely to suffer if the depositions were not taken?

Mr. Sharpe: Still I should like to have the principal man's statement.

Superintendent Whitehurst: We have a statement from the injured man.

Mr. Sharpe said he would like Fisher's statement taken, as he might get into a state of extreme weakness, and not be able to give a coherent account of what took place.

The Mayor thought the Hospital authorities would give the Superintendent due notice, and Mr. Sharpe had the Superintendent's assurance that he would communicate with him if the man was in danger.

The prisoner was then remanded until Saturday."

GREYHOUND

95, Soho Street, Six Ways, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Henry Green [1890] – [1900]
George Harriman [1901] – **1906**;
George Gilson Collier **(1906 – 1915)**;
Thomas Sabin Gardner **(1915)**;
Samuel Jones [1909] ?
William Blisset [] ?

NOTES

It was situated on the east side of Soho Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

Smethwick Telephone 22/3/1890

“The inauguration of a new branch or lodge in connection with the Birmingham Amalgamated Society of gas workers, brickmakers and labourers took place on the 16th inst. at the GREYHOUND INN, Six Ways Smethwick Branch formed.”

Henry Green, beer retailer, 95, Soho Street. [1890], [1900]

1891 Census

95, Soho Street

- [1] *Henry Green* (43), beer retailer, born Lenby, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Samuel Green* (17), son, steam engine fitter, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Jane Green* (36), wife, born Kidderminster;
- [4] *Elizabeth Green* (18), daughter, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Henry Green* (13), son, pattern maker, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Florence Green* (9), daughter, born Oldbury;
- [7] *Ernest Green* (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Emma Walker* (24), domestic servant, born Oldbury:

A license for music and singing was granted on 28th September 1892.

Smethwick Telephone 16/12/1893

“On Wednesday evening the annual meeting of the GREYHOUND Sick and Dividend Society was held at Host *Green*'s, Six Ways, Smethwick, took place in the large club room, which was well filled.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1894

“The second annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Gasworkers, Brickmakers and Labourers, took place at the GREYHOUND INN, Soho Street, Six Ways on Monday evening. Upwards of 50 members and friends sat down to a sumptuous repast, which was admirably served by the host.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/12/1895

“GREYHOUND INN Sick and Dividend Society The Society is still making steady progress, with a membership of 293, and keeping its position as the largest of its kind in Smethwick. The treasurer is Mr. *H. Green*, and the secretary Mr. J. Mitchell, Poplar Street, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/8/1896

“Walter Hemming (49), a navy, of Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick, was charged with attempting to steal money from the till of the GREYHOUND INN, Soho Street, Smethwick.- It appears that on the 1st inst. the prisoner went to the GREYHOUND INN in the afternoon, and was served with half a pint of beer. He was left in the bar by himself for a few moments, and when Miss *Green*, the daughter of the prosecutor, returned, she saw him leaning over the counter, his hand being in the till. He at once dropped what money he had taken into the till, and left the house. He was quite sober at the time.....

He would be fined 10s and costs (£1 8s in all); In default 21 days imprisonment with hard labour.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/12/1896

“GREYHOUND INN Sick and Dividend Society.- The ninth annual meeting of the above society was held on Wednesday (9th inst.) at Host *Green*'s GREYHOUND INN, Six Ways.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies GREYHOUND INN, Six Ways. The eleventh annual meeting of the above society was held on Wednesday The total receipts for the year amounted to £455 8s 4d. The expenditure was as follows: 3,307 days' sick pay, funeral payments, printing, officers' salaries, committee and other expenses £225 2s; a dividend of 8s 6d each was recommended.....”

1901 Census

Soho Street – GREYHOUND INN

- [1] *George Harriman* (31), beer retailer, born Tividale;
- [2] *Elizabeth H. Harriman* (26), wife, born Sedgley;
- [3] *Blanche E. Dickenson* (15), niece, barmaid, born Sedgley:

'Liberty' Lodge (National United Order of Free Gardeners) met here. [1903]

Smethwick Telephone 2/12/1905 - Advert

“General wanted at once for Public Business; age 18; good character - Apply Mrs. Collier, GREYHOUND INN, Six Ways.”

Samuel Jones, beer retailer, 95, Soho Street. [1909] ?

1911 Census

95, Soho Street – GREYHOUND INN

- [1] *George Gilson Collier* (39), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Elizabeth Collier* (39), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Leslie Marsh Collier* (12), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Sarah Williams* (19), domestic servant, born Tipton:

It closed on 30th September 1915 under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act 1910.

GROVE TAVERN

130+131, (201), Grove Lane, (Cape Lane), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Charles Wheway, Reynolds Street, Smethwick
Joseph James Wheway, Willows Avenue, Smethwick [1903]
S. White and Son, Winson Street, Birmingham (leased)

LICENSEES

Sarah Ann Wheway [1861]
Charles Henry Hastings Wheway [1864] – [1879]
George Frederick Wheway (1880 – [1883])
Joseph James Wheway [1890] – 1912);
Thomas Field (1912 – 1913);
Thomas Edwards (1913);
Charles Henry Cooke (1913):

NOTES

201, Grove Lane [1883]
131, Grove Lane [1890], [1909]
130+131, Grove Lane [1891]

It was situated on the western side of Grove Lane.

It was locally known as 'Wheway's'.

It had a beer and wine license.

Charles Henry Hastings Wheway was born in 1822, in Birmingham.
He married *Sarah Ann Campton* (b. B'ham 1823).
He was described as a beer retailer, Cape Lane [1864]
He was described as a beer retailer, Cape [1870], [1878]

1861 Census

Grove Lane

- [1] *Charles Wheway* (39), tube maker, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Sarah Wheway* (37), wife, beer seller, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Emily Wheway* (17), daughter, barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Emilia Wheway* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Charles Wheway* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Sampson Wheway* (4), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *George Wheway* (3), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

Charles Wheway, beer retailer, Cape Lane. [1865]

1871 Census

Grove Lane - GROVE TAVERN

- [1] *Charles Wheway* (48), beer retailer, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Sarah A. Wheway* (46), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Charles Wheway* (17), son, born Harborne;
- [4] *Sampson Wheway* (14), son, born Harborne:

George Frederick Wheway was born circa 1858, in Smethwick. He was the son of *Charles* and *Sarah*, and brother to *Joseph*. He married *Mary Ann Hephzibar Dancer* in 1880.

1881 Census

130+131 Grove Lane

- [1] *George Wheway* (22), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Ann H. Wheway* (22), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Florence E. Woollet* (15), barmaid:

Smethwick Telephone 8/8/1885

“Failure of a Publican. The meeting of creditors of *George Frederick Wheway*, late of the GROVE TAVERN, Grove Lane, beerhouse keeper, but now living in lodgings in Reynolds Street, out of business, was held at the Oldbury County Court yesterday morning. Mr. J. S. Sharpe of West Bromwich represented the debtor. The statement of affairs showed liabilities to the extent of £395 16s 1d : Assets £22 9s 5d, leaving a deficiency of £ 373 6s 8d. The failure was attributed to the depression in trade, strikes, and the pressure of creditors.

Mr. C. Woollett, chief clerk to the Official Receiver, remarked that it was very unsatisfactory that the debtor should have commenced business as he had done, with no capital, and then run up a lot of debts. - The debtor stated that he commenced business in 1880 without any capital further than £30 lent to him by his father. Twelve months ago he could have paid 20s in the £. He had given credit to the extent of £120. He admitted that he had done a little betting, but had never lost more than a shilling at a time. - The examination was then concluded.”

Joseph James Wheway was born in 1861, in Smethwick
He was the son of *Charles* and *Sarah*, and brother to *George*.

1891 Census

130+131, Grove Lane – GROVE TAVERN

- [1] *Joseph J. Wheway* (29), licensed victualler and lead glazier, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary C. Wheway* (27), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Beatrice F. Wheway* (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Daisy A. Wheway* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Thomas C. Bainbridge* (16), brother in law, bedstead maker, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Lizzie Carpnaill* (18), general servant, born Smethwick:

Joseph Wheway was described as a beer retailer. [1900], [1909]

Smethwick Telephone 31/3/1894

“George Jukes of Unett Terrace, Reynolds Street, Smethwick was summoned for being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GROVE TAVERN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, on the 24th inst. – *Joseph James Wheway*, the landlord stated that defendant was in his house on the date named and used very bad language. He ordered him to leave, but he refused to do so, and he had to be ejected. – A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/2/1899

“An inquest was held before Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) at the Public Buildings, High Street, on Tuesday morning, concerning the death of John Wellings (28), a puddler, who resided at 123, Grove Lane, Smethwick, and who died under peculiar circumstances on Friday last.

The wife of deceased, Rosannah Wellings, was the first witness called, and she stated that deceased had enjoyed very good health for the past seven years. On Saturday, the 21st inst. her husband sent for her at the GROVE TAVERN to give her his money. Later, deceased went home to his dinner, and she noticed that he had been drinking. He returned to the GROVE TAVERN, and at about 6.30, she went to fetch him away with the intention of going to the theatre. However, after they had done some shopping, they went back to the public house, and had a drink with several friends. A man named William Fleet came in, and began to quarrel with her husband, but they ‘made it up’, and Fleet paid for more beer. Soon afterwards a woman named Thompson came in, and she struck at witness, who avoided the blow. She and Thompson then fought, and William Fleet, who was her brother, struck the deceased on the mouth and knocked him over. Mr. *Wheway*, the landlord, ejected all of them, and the two men took off their coats to fight. Although no blows were struck, Fleet tripped deceased up several times, and eventually he fell with his shoulders in the gutter, his head coming into violent contact with the kerbstone. He was picked up and carried home, where he was out to bed. On Sunday he complained of pains in the head, and a noise in the ears, but he thought these were caused by the beer. On Monday morning he seemed well again, and being a night workman went to bed in the afternoon. When he got up for the purpose of going to work, he again complained of giddiness, and consulted Dr. Sutton in the evening. On Wednesday night deceased went to his employment, but only worked ‘half a turn’, and returned home at ten o’clock. He went to the doctor’s again in the morning. However, he gradually got worse, and on Friday he was unable to speak. She again went to Dr. Sutton at nine o’clock, and asked him to call and see her husband, but he did not do so. As deceased was very ill, she went again at two o’clock, and Dr. Sutton paid a visit about an hour afterwards. She had been applying ice bandages to deceased’s head. The doctor said the deceased had a fractured skull, and a twisted vein, and that he could do nothing for deceased. Witness was quite certain that the doctor made this statement, and there were two other women who heard it.- In reply to further questions from the jury, witness said deceased told the doctor that he slipped down coming out of *Wheway*’s on the previous Saturday night. When the doctor first saw her husband he said it was the result of a drunken bout.

..... Dr. F. W. Sutton stated that on Monday week the deceased went to his surgery and complained of pains in his head. He said he had had too much to drink on the Saturday previous, and had slipped on the kerbstone. Witness examined the man’s head very carefully, but could find no trace of any injury, and advised the man to go to bed. He put the pains down to the drink, and he thought deceased would have delirium tremens. He saw the deceased again on Friday afternoon, when he was dying. He then told deceased’s wife that she should have acquainted him with the true facts of the case, as the symptoms then apparent were consistent with a fracture of the base of the skull or rupture of the vessels of the brain. He had made a post mortem examination of the body, and found that the alleged accident had nothing to do with the cause of death. There was a slight wound on the back of the head. Death was due to uranic coma, which was greatly accelerated by drink The jury eventually returned a verdict of death from natural causes.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 16/6/1900

“..... ‘Publicans must be protected in the conduct of their business.’ Said Mr. Lees, in imposing a fine of 10s and costs upon John Hadley, of Wills Street, Smethwick, who was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GROVE TAVERN, Grove Lane, kept by *John Wheway* (sic) on May 25th.”

Smethwick Weekly News 2/2/1901

“Joseph James Robinson, of Ada Road, was charged with refusing to quit the GROVE TAVERN, and fined 5s and costs.”

1901 Census

131, Grove Lane

- [1] *Joseph Wheway* (39), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Wheway* (37), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Beatrice Wheway* (18), daughter, sewer, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Daisy Wheway* (12), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Eliza Carpnaill* (28), servant, born Smethwick:

1911 Census

131, Grove Lane

- [1] *Joseph James Wheway* (49), innkeeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Campton Wheway* (47), wife, married 28 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Joseph Edward Wheway* (8), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Winifred Mary Wheway* (6), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Eliza Carpnaill* (38), general servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1912

“For about sixty years the name *Wheway* has been associated with the proprietorship of one of the best known licensed houses in the town – that of the GROVE TAVERN, Grove Lane.

The retirement of Mr. *J. J. Wheway* has brought about the first change during this long period. He has been the license holder for over a quarter of a century, and is therefore one of the oldest members of the Trade in the Bar. It is interesting to mention that the license was granted in the days when the licensing authority was at West Bromwich – over seventy years ago – and so familiar did the name of mine host become that the house was famously known as ‘Wheway’s’.

The sign has always been something of an enigma – a huge bunch of grapes being suspended outside the GROVE situate in such an industrial centre, the GROVE has played a large part in the social life of the district, while the manner in which it has been conducted has always reflected great credit on the management.”

Thomas Field issued tokens from here.

It closed on 29th November 1913 under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act 1910.
Demolished

GUNMAKERS ARMS

19, London Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Fawdry Brothers, Grove Lane, Smethwick
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Hopkins []
David Jesson []
John Tagell [1881] – [1883]
James Hewlett [1890]
Joseph Tippler [1891]
Henry Bailey [1894]
Arthur George [1897]
Arthur G Shrimpton [1900] – [1901]
Daniel Potts [1903] – **1904**;
Simeon Slater **(1904 – 1905)**;
Ann Elizabeth Ellis **(1905 – 1907)**;
Henry John Hope **(1907 – 1908)**;
Alfred Edward Fewtrell **(1908 – 1909)**;
Charles James Udall **(1909 – 1910)**;
John Pillow **(1910)**;
Charles Ernest Wilson **(1910 – 1911)**;
David Mason **(1911 – 1912)**;

NOTES

It was situated on the north side of London Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

Smethwick Telephone 20/5/1950

'More Six Ways Memories' by W. Ellery Jephcott

“.....Ann Wakelin, William's [Wakelin] only child married *John Hopkins*. He was a native of Stroud, in Gloucestershire. A machinist by trade, he walked all the way to Smethwick to find employment.....

He got a job in the fitting shop at Nettlefolds – became acquainted with Ann Wakelin, and they were married. His father-in-law set him up as a baker in London Street But he did not make a success of it, and returned to his former occupation, first in Birmingham and later at Smethwick again.

At one period he also kept the GUNMAKERS ARMS INN, which was next door to the bakehouse. There was a connecting doorway between the two houses, but Mrs. *Hopkins* found the frequent fighting of the public house customers too disturbing, so it was bricked up. The premises of the GUNMAKERS ARMS still exist, but it lost its license nearly 40 years ago.”

David Jesson issued tokens from here.

1881 Census

19, London Street - GUNMAKERS ARMS

- [1] *John Tagell* (47), licensed victualler and engineer, born Congleton;
- [2] *Mary Tagell* (42), wife, born Tunstall;
- [3] *Ann J. Tagell* (24), daughter, barmaid, born Crewe;
- [4] *William Tagell* (15), son, engine fitter, born Crewe;
- [5] *Mary L. Tagell* (13), daughter, scholar, born Crewe;
- [6] *Mary Tagell* (11), daughter, scholar, born Crewe;
- [7] *Elizabeth Tagell* (11), daughter, scholar, born Crewe;
- [8] *John Tagell* (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] *James Tagell* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Hannah Tagell* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [11] *Fanny Tagell* (4), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [12] *Eliza Egginton* (18), domestic servant:

John Tagell, beer retailer, 19 London Street. [1883]

James Hewlett, beer retailer, 19 London Street. [1890]

1891 Census

19, London Street – GUNMAKERS ARMS

- [1] *Joseph Tippler* (58), manager of public house, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Martha Tippler* (54), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Charles Street* (20), lodger, general labourer, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Sarah Hardman* (15), visitor, born Halesowen;
- [5] *Thomas B. Hayward* (9), grandson, born Horseley Heath:

Smethwick Telephone 7/4/1894

“William Carsey, of Upper Grove Street, Smethwick was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the GUNMAKERS ARMS, London Street, Smethwick on the 26th ult. – *Henry Bailey*, the landlord of the house in question proved the case and defendant was fined 5s and costs, in default 7 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 9/6/1894

“Thomas Williams, of 2, Burke’s Yard, London Street, Smethwick was summoned by William Wright of the GUNMAKERS ARMS for assault, on the 28th ult. – Complainant stated that he was a barman at the public house named. On the night in question, defendant was in the house and using bad language. Witness told him to leave the house, but he refused to do so, and he ejected him. Defendant then struck and kicked him. Some time after he came back, and was again ejected, when he was violent. In reply to Mr. Heaton, witness said defendant was not drunk nor sober, but he was ‘haddled’ – A fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Arthur George, beer retailer, 19 London Street. [1897]

Arthur G. Shrimpton, beer retailer, 19, London Street. [1900]

1901 Census

London Street – GUNMAKERS ARMS

- [1] *Arthur Shrimpton* (37), core maker, iron foundry, born Walsall;
- [2] *Lavinia Shrimpton* (34), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Florence Shrimpton* (11), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Emily Shipman* (30), sister, barmaid, born Birmingham:

Alfred Edward Fewtrell, beer retailer, 19, London Street. [1909]

Charles James Udall – see also NEW BELL, West Bromwich.

1911 Census

19, London Street

- [1] *Charles Ernest Wilson* (42), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Ada Wilson* (47), wife, married 23 years, assisting in business, born Great Barr;
- [3] *James Wilson* (11), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *William L. Wilson* (9), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Elsie Wilson* (7), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Ivy Wilson* (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Florence Cole* (37), widow, servant, born Moseley:

Charles Ernest Wilson was fined £30 and £10 10s 6d costs, on 12th June 1911, for three cases of suffering his premises to be used for betting.

David Mason, beer retailer, 19, London Street. [1912]

The license renewal was refused at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, on 14th February 1912, on the grounds that *David Mason* was of a disorderly character. This decision was upheld on appeal to the Quarter Sessions on 10th April 1912.

[In the 1914 directory, *James Ashmore*, hairdresser, was listed as being at 19, London Street.]

HALF WAY HOUSE

297, (319), (359), (279), Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Smith [1861] – [1865]

Sarah Pickford [1871]

Ernest Underhill [1881]

William Clift Barratt [1889] – [1891]

Thomas Baker [1901]

William Tuby [] – **1904**;

Edgar Daniel Whitehouse **(1904 – 1907)**:

NOTES

319, Oldbury Road

359, Oldbury Road [1883]

297, Oldbury Road [1901]

It was situated between Spon Lane and Albert Road.

It had a beer, cider and wine license.

Joseph Smith, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

1861 Census

Oldbury Road - HALFWAY HOUSE

[1] *Joseph Smith* (61), brewer, born Yatton, Somerset;

[2] *Mary Smith* (59), wife, born Frampton (?), Somerset;

[3] *Sarah Taylor* (15), servant, born Oldbury:

Joseph Smith, beer retailer, Oldbury Road. [1864], [1865]

1871 Census

Oldbury Road - HALFWAY HOUSE

[1] *Sarah Pickford* (47), widow, beer retailer, born Ledstone, Devon;

[2] *Elizabeth Pickford* (19), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[3] *Agnes Pickford* (15), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

1881 Census

319, Oldbury Road - Public House - HALFWAY HOUSE

- [1] *Ernest Underhill* (28), corn dealer and retail brewer, born Quinton;
- [2] *Elizabeth Underhill* (27), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Evalini* (?) *Underhill* (13), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Agnes Underhill* (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Sarah Dewsbury* (16), domestic servant, born Ely:

Ernest Underhill, beer retailer and corn dealer, 359, Oldbury Road. [1883]

William Clift Barratt issued tokens.

He was described as a beer retailer of 319, Oldbury Road. [1890]

1891 Census

279, Oldbury Road – HALF WAY HOUSE INN

- [1] *William C. Barratt* (45), publican, born Tipton;
- [2] *Emma J. Barratt* (34), wife, born Bethnal Green, London;
- [3] *William D. Barratt* (10), son, scholar, born Bushbury;
- [4] *Louise C. Barratt* (8), daughter, scholar, born Bushbury;
- [5] *John H. Barratt* (5), son, scholar, born Wolverhampton:

William C. Barratt – see also ROWAY, West Bromwich, and SANDWELL, West Bromwich.

1901 Census

297, Oldbury Road – HALF WAY TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Baker* (61), publican, born Sutton [Sutton Coldfield?], Warwickshire;
- [2] *Annie Baker* (42), wife, born Chelsea, London:

Edgar Daniel Whitehouse – see also FIVE WAYS.

The license was surrendered in 1907, as part of a package to license the WATERLOO.

HAND AND BOTTLE

Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Harris [1861]

NOTES

1861 Census

Brasshouse Lane - HAND AND BOTTLE

[1] *Joseph Harris* (33), heater at iron works, born Oldbury;

[2] *Mary A. Harris* (31), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Margaret Harris* (12), daughter, scholar, born Rounds Green;

[4] *John H. Harris* (11), son, scholar, born Rounds Green;

[5] *George J. Harris* (1), son, born Smethwick:

HAWTHORN COTTAGE

Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1858]

Smethwick Telephone 27/11/1948

'Public House Changes at West Smethwick'

“.....Passing again to the other side of Spon Lane [towards Birmingham], and beyond the FIVE WAYS, almost opposite to Evans' stained glass works, there is shown on a map of 1858, a public house named the HAWTHORN COTTAGE INN, which had a marble alley at the back. We have not come across any resident who remembers its existence.....”

HOLLY BUSH

200, Grove Lane, (Cape Lane) / Poplar Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Orlando Oatridge [1851] – [1872]

James Quincey [] – **1896**;

Joseph Edwards (**1896** – [1897])

NOTES

Orlando Oatridge, beer retailer, Cape Lane. [1851]

1861 Census

Grove Lane

- [1] *Orlando Oatridge* (68), beer seller, born Uley, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Susan Oatridge* (66), wife, born Uley, Gloucestershire;
- [3] *William Mills* (36), son-in-law, labourer, born Copson, Leicestershire;
- [4] *Henrietta Mills* (31), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Elizabeth Mills* (6), granddaughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *George Sealey* (24), boarder, labourer, born Rugeley;

1871 Census

Grove Lane – HOLLY BUSH

- [1] *Orlando Oatridge* (78), beer retailer, born Uley, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Susan Oatridge* (76), wife, born Uley, Gloucestershire;
- [3] *William Mills* (47), son in law, night watchman, born Lutterworth;
- [4] *Henrietta Mills* (42), daughter, born Uley, Gloucestershire;
- [5] *Henry Mills* (23), grandson, engine fitter, born Harborne;
- [6] *Elizabeth Mills* (16), granddaughter, born Harborne;
- [7] *George Mills* (5), grandson, scholar, born Harborne;

Joseph Edwards, beer retailer, 200, Grove Lane. [1897]

Mitchells and Butlers surrendered the license in September 1899, as part of the granting of an 'off' license to William Carpenter, 50, Oxford Road.

At this time they claimed the pub was worth £2,000 and took about £17 per week.

West Bromwich Weekly News 2/11/1900

“On Tuesday night, at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, Mr. A. E. Sunderland offered for sale by auction two freehold properties in Smethwick and Birmingham. A house, formerly known as the HOLLY BUSH INN, together with 604 square yards of land, situated at the corner of Grove Lane and Poplar Street, Smethwick, realised £405.....”

HOLLY BUSH

122, The Uplands, / Parkes Street, (Bosoms End Road), (Broad Lane),
SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1908]

LICENSEES

George Henry Smith [1861]
Edward Warner [1871] – [1873]
Walter Green [1883] – **1916**;
Arthur Clewley (**1916 – 1920**);
Edward Harvey Evans (**1920**);
George Joseph Croughton (**1920 – 1926**);
William Checkley (**1926 – 1927**);
William Henry 'Billy' Walden (**1927 – 1933**);
Thomas Harry Turner (**1933 – 1942**);
Leonard George 'Len' Parry (**1942 – 1955**);
Alfred Hyde (**1955 – 1961**);
John Henry Bailey (**1961 – []**)
Connor Bernard Devine [1997]

NOTES

Bosoms End Road [1871]
Broad Lane [1873]
Uplands [1891]
122, The Uplands [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Bosoms End – Beerhouse

- [1] *George Henry Smith* (27), beer retailer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Eliza Smith* (26), wife, born Bromsgrove;
- [3] *George Henry Smith* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Hannah Maria Smith* (1), daughter, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Bosoms End Road

- [1] *Edward Warner* (32), bricklayer and beerhouse keeper, born Alvechurch;
- [2] *Charlotte Warner* (39), wife, born Alvechurch;
- [3] *John Lee* (14), stepson, bricklayer's labourer, born Alvechurch;
- [4] *Jenevera(?) Warner* (8), daughter, born Alvechurch;
- [5] *___ate Warner* (6), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Edward Warner* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Ann Warner* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Charlotte Warner* (1 week), daughter, born Smethwick:



c1920



1997



2012

Smethwick Telephone 6/9/1884

Alfred and Walter Green applied for an on–license for 122, The Uplands

Smethwick Telephone 28/12/1889 - Advert

“HOLLY BUSH Sick and Dividend Society held at the Uplands. Monday nights 8 until 9 o’clock. Anyone becoming a member will oblige the host. Dividend 1888 – 12s 4d; 1889 – 11s.”

1891 Census

Uplands – HOLLY BUSH INN

- [1] *Walter Green* (36), publican, born Cheltenham;
- [2] *Julia Ann Green* (34), wife, born Leamington;
- [3] *Ernest F. Green* (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Gladys E. Green* (1), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Alfred Green* (38), brother, gardener, born Cheltenham:

Smethwick Telephone 16/9/1893

“Wanted, a Strong Girl about 17 years, as general servant – Apply Mrs. Green, HOLLY BUSH INN, Uplands.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1894

“An inquest was held before Mr. Edwin Hooper (coroner) at the HOLLY BUSH INN, The Uplands, Smethwick, on Tuesday, concerning the death of *Mary Ann Willis*, aged 50 years, who resided at 130, Uplands, and who died suddenly on Sunday morning last. Mr. Joseph Haden was foreman of the jury. *George Willis*, husband of the deceased, stated that they had been married about 32 years. Deceased had enjoyed very good health until the last 12 months, but during that time she had suffered from pains in the back and neck. About three months ago a doctor attended her, and he said they might expect her to die at any time, as he thought she was suffering from heart disease. She had had several fainting fits. Deceased got up about half past seven on Sunday morning, and then appeared to be in better health than usual. She made no complaints of feeling unwell, and, after lighting the fire, prepared breakfast. After this she went about her usual house duties, and about eleven o’clock went to a Mr. Brown’s for some meat for dinner Ten minutes afterwards he heard that she had died in a fit.The jury returned a verdict of ‘Death from natural causes’.”

Walter Green, beer retailer, Uplands / Parkes St. [1897], [1900], [1909]

Smethwick Telephone 23/7/1898

“The employees of Messrs. Webb and Yarnold, builders, Church Lane, were entertained by their firm to a supper at the HOLLY BUSH, Uplands, on Friday night. Upwards of 50 sat down to an excellent spread, admirably catered for by the host Mr. *Walter Green*.....”

An application to make alterations was refused at the adjourned annual general licensing session on 15th September 1899.

Smethwick Telephone 23/9/1899

“Mr. F. Yarnold, Church Lane, entertained his workmen at the HOLLY BUSH INN, Uplands, sixty being present.....”

1901 Census

122, The Uplands – HOLLY BUSH INN

- [1] *Walter Green* (47), publican, born Cheltenham;
- [2] *Julia Green* (44), wife, born Leamington;
- [3] *Ernest Green* (18), son, fitter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Gladys Green* (10), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Mabel Green* (8), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Julia Green* (4), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Lizzie Dearne* (17), domestic servant, born Welton, Northamptonshire:

It was demolished in 1903.
It was rebuilt in 1903.

Smethwick Telephone 14/3/1908

“Borough Licensing Sessions Mr. Joy (instructed by Messrs. Caddick and Co.) in support of the application of Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers for the removal of the license of the VINE INN, a full license in Albert Street, to the HOLLY BUSH (a beerhouse) at the Uplands.- Mr. Joy said that the section of the Act was framed expressly to meet a case of this type, and he thought the Bench would be satisfied that it was a reasonable application. Mr. *Green*, the present tenant, had been at the HOLLY BUSH for 26 years, and he had not only satisfied the requirements of the magistrates and the police, but had also endeared himself to those customers who had frequented the house through thick and thin. By the latter phrase he meant that before 1903 the customers had to put up with a great deal, but in that year the old inn was pulled down and re-built in a very substantial style. If the magistrates acceded to their request it would confer a considerable convenience to the public in the immediate neighbourhood. Having referred to developments that were taking place at the Uplands, Mr. Joy said that the HOLLY BUSH was near the cricket and football grounds and the Drill Hall. With regard to West Smethwick, where they proposed to remove a license, they had a history which would repay study, but it would suffice if he said in a seriously congested area Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers had in return for something granted to them by the Bench adopted a policy which resulted in the disappearance of the HALFWAY HOUSE, the THREE CROWNS, the LAMB AND FLAG, and the BURTON TAVERN, while incidentally the license of the NEW NAVIGATION in Bridge Street had also been surrendered. They would see that his clients had done considerable towards reducing the facilities in that particular area to something like its proper proportion, and it could suffer no harm by a further reduction of one, which would result from the granting of his application. As to the HOLLY BUSH, the nearest fully licensed house was 400 yards away – The OLD CHAPEL INN – while the next was 750 yards distant – the QUEENS HEAD INN. In cases of emergency this was a long distance to go for stimulants, while it was a denial to a large body of respectable citizens who preferred wines or spirits rather than beer.- Evidence was given by Mr. *Green*, the licensee. He said that he had held the license for 26 years. He had often had persons call at the house and expect to be served with wines and spirits. The granting of the concession would confer a real want to the neighbourhood. He handed in a petition which had been numerously signed.

In reply to the Chairman, Mr. *Green*, said there was a gate which led to the cricket field.- Mr. Joy said that if the magistrates were under the impression that the bowlers pitched up ‘slows’ so that the ball could be hit over the fence and the cricketers thus enabled to quench their thirst, he thought there would be no objection to closing the gate. (Laughter) – Dr. Wilfred Jackson was called. He gave an instance in which a burning case occurred at the Uplands, and where considerable time was lost in getting a stimulant. Mr. Brassington, architect, gave evidence relating to the developments in the district, while witnesses were also called, who were members of a large sick club held on the premises. - This application was granted.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/4/1908

“There was a special meeting of the Magistrates on Thursday morning for the purpose of confirming the transfer of the license from the VINE INN, West Smethwick, to the HOLLY BUSH at the Uplands, and also for giving a final sanction to the opening of the new hotel at Cape Hill [WATERLOO].

The Mayor (Alderman Motteram) presided

The unusual attendance of Justices led to a singular state of affairs, a number of additional chairs having to be procured before the Magistrates could be accommodated, and even then the Bench was rather inconveniently crowded.

The Claims of the HOLLY BUSH

Mr. Joy appeared on behalf of Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers, and asked for the confirmation of an order for the removal of the VINE INN license to the HOLLY BUSH. He explained that the present house at the Uplands was not a full license, but if this concession was granted the full license of the West Smethwick house would be transferred. The requirements of the neighbourhood were pointed out to the Magistrates on the occasion of the application being granted. There was a real need for a spirit license at that place. The present house was a great improvement and the licensee (Mr. *Walter Green*) had been the tenant for twenty-six years. Mr. Joy mentioned a little matter that cropped up at the annual sessions in reference to a gate leading from the premises leading to the cricket field. It was suggested that to some of ‘the weaker members’ this was a source of temptation which might well be avoided. This aperture had now been closed, and when the cricketers hit the ball over the fence they will have to go round some other way. (Laughter.)

Mr. *Green* gave evidence. In reply to Mr. Joy he said that at the last hearing quite a number of witnesses spoke of their admiration of him and the conduct of his house.

Superintendent Goodwin said that he had seen the fence alluded to by Mr. Joy. It had now been closed to the satisfaction of the police.

The Mayor said that the conditions were considered satisfactory, and the license would be confirmed.

Mr. Joy asked that the name of the HOLLY BUSH might be retained. Although it was the license of the VINE INN that was being transferred, they were anxious that the old name should still be associated with the house.

Councillor Woodcock said that it would remind them of the rural days and keep them evergreen. (Laughter.)

Mr. Joy said that the VINE was really most appropriate for a wine license, but the HOLLY BUSH had these pleasant associations with it.

The Magistrates agreed to the sign being retained as the HOLLY BUSH.”

1911 Census

Uplands – HOLLY BUSH INN

[1] *Walter Green* (56), licensed victualler, born Cheltenham;

[2] *Julia Ann Green* (54), wife, married 29 years, assist in business, born Leamington;

[3] *Ernest Francis Green* (28), son, barman to father, born Smethwick;

[4] *Gladys Eva Green* (21), daughter, barmaid to father, born Smethwick;

[5] *Mabel Green* (18), daughter, barmaid to father, born Smethwick;

[6] *Lily Parry* (19), servant, born Smethwick;

[7] *Julia Evelyn Parry* (14), daughter, schoolgirl, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 22/9/1928

“The Christmas treat for the children of the Uplands is a Smethwick institution. Consequently, there was a great deal of interest in the exhibition of fruit, flowers and vegetables held during the weekend under the auspices of the HOLLY BUSH Sick and Dividend Society in aid of the good cause. This was the fifth of a notable series of displays of produce. Both horticultural organisations and gardeners in the district had been exceedingly generous, and the exhibition was undoubtedly the most effective that has yet been staged by the Society. There were many visitors, and £16 10s was raised.....”

It had a large roof sign until its removal in 1939.

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1934

“Among its varied and interesting functions during the course of the year, the Uplands Lodge of the RAOB places the children’s party as one of the most important. Originally, the Lodge, which has as its headquarters the HOLLY BUSH HOTEL, Broomfield, combined with the other Lodges in Smethwick to arrange a larger party in the Crocketts Lane Schools; but for the last four years, it has launched out on its own, with the greatest measure of success.

It can be said that Saturday’s party at the HOLLY BUSH was the most successful yet held. With the very able assistance of Mr. and Mrs. *Turner*, the host and hostess, the Lodge officials and members had made very complete arrangements to ensure that each of the fifty little guests had a very enjoyable time. Everything went smoothly, so that the function will remain long in the memories of the youngsters.

Tea was a very happy meal. The guests were attended to by a willing band of lady workers (the wives of the members), who saw to it that the wants of the little ones were fully satisfied. Afterwards there was the best of entertainments provided by Mr. Owen Hughes, and the well loved ‘Curly’.....”

Uplands Lodge of Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (No.6363) met here. [1950]

Alfred Hyde – see also OLD TALBOT.

Black Prince Lodge (NO 607) of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1998]

[2013]

HOLLY LANE TAVERN

Holly Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

[1883]

[1885]

Closed

Demolished

Its site became part of the Infectious Diseases Hospital [later Neurosurgical Hospital] site.

HORSE AND JOCKEY

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Edward Walker [1850]

HUSSAR

Windmill Precinct, Windmill Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

It opened on 19th October 1970.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

It closed in 2008.

It was demolished in 2009.



2008



IVY BUSH

218, (219), St. Paul's Road / Mallin Street, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1976]

Holdens Brewery [1994]

LICENSEES

Holmes []

Thomas Downing [1878] – [1886]

Mrs. Mary Downing [1890] – [1897]

Albert E Turner [1899] – [1900]

Harry Powell [1901] – **1912**;

Ellen Powell (**1912 – 1913**);

Albert Slim (**1913 – 1921**);

William Thomas Hall (**1921 – 1927**);

Horace Edwin Woollaston (**1927 – 1929**);

Wilfred Gordon Stevenson (**1929 – 1931**);

Austin William Davis (**1931 – 1935**);

Alfred Shenton (**1935 – 1939**);

George Henry Smith (**1939 – 1943**);

Harry Povey (**1943 – 1948**);

Charles Joseph Bird (**1948 – 1952**);

Edwin Albert Brookes (**1952 – 1960**);

William Boyle (**1960 – 1961**);

Thomas William Lefevre (**1961 – 1963**);

Thomas Lowe (**1963 – [1964]**)

R D Tura [1976]

Joseph Kirwan [1993]

L S Gill [1994]



1994

NOTES

219, St Paul's Road [1881]

218, St Paul's Road [1909], [1914], [1935], [1942], [1948], [1959], [1961]

It was situated on the east side of St. Pauls Road.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was originally called the BEECH INN.

It was the farmhouse of Downing's Farm.

1881 Census

219 St Paul's Road - IVY BUSH

- [1] *Thomas Downing* (58), farmer of 90 acres employing 3 men, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Downing* (56), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Lizzie Downing* (32), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *George Downing* (24), son, farmer, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William Downing* (23), son, farmer, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Lottie Downing* (22), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 9/10/1948

'Old Smethwick' by W. Ellery Jephcott

".....A curious feature of another document dated September 29th 1886, setting forth the names of the fields occupied on a yearly tenancy by *Thomas Downing*, describes him as 'of the BEECH INN, West Smethwick'. This was later, and is now, named the IVY BUSH INN but we have not found any record of the period when the change of sign was effected."

Smethwick Telephone 25/12/1948

'Changes on a West Smethwick Estate' by W. Ellery Jephcott

".....The IVY BUSH INN, where *Thomas Downing* resided, was originally erected as two private houses by a Mr. Holmes, who lived in one of them. He obtained a license for one, and eventually the two were made into one. *Thomas Downing* came there between 1868 and 1878. A correspondent who lived in St. Pauls Road opposite the farm recalls as a boy seeing *Thomas Downing* passing to and fro wearing a smock and carrying pails filled with milk suspended from a wooden yoke across his shoulders.

The *Downings* were very strict in their conduct of the IVY BUSH INN. They never opened the house on Sundays, though it possessed a seven day license, and the old lady, Mrs. *Mary Downing*, never took any part in serving the customers. This was left to the son and daughter, who remained unmarried and lived with her after their father's death."

1891 Census

S. Pauls Road – IVY BUSH INN

- [1] *Mary Downing* (75), widow, farmer and publican, born Londonderry [Smethwick];
- [2] *Elizabeth Downing* (43), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [3] *George Downing* (39), son, farm servant, born Smethwick:

Mrs. *Mary Downing*, beer retailer, 219, St. Pauls Road. [1890], [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 17/6/1899

"At the IVY BUSH INN, St. Pauls Road, a well attended meeting was held on Monday evening to make the final arrangements with regard to the formation of a sick, death and dividend society. The officers were all duly elected, and the club will commence today (Saturday) and be held every Saturday evening. It is hoped that the society will be of benefit to the district of West Smethwick."

Albert E. Turner, beer retailer, 219 St. Paul's Road / Mallin Street. [1900]

1901 Census

St. Paul's Road – IVY BUSH INN

- [1] *Harry Powell* (44), manager licensed house, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Ellen Powell* (40), wife, born Rowesdell, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Gertrude Brown* (17), barmaid, born Langley:

A Publican's license was granted on 9th March 1910.

1911 Census

St. Pauls Road – The IVY BUSH

[1] *Harry Powell* (50), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Ellen Powell* (50), wife, married 25 years, assisting in business, born Upton, Worcestershire;

[3] *Sarah Ann Clifton* (27), general servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 7/9/1912

“Died – *Powell* – On the 2nd instant, at the IVY BUSH, St. Pauls Road, West Smethwick, *Harry Powell*; aged 52.
– Interred Uplands Cemetery, 5th inst.”

William Thomas Hall – see also FIVE WAYS, and CAPE HOTEL, West Bromwich.

Wilfred Gordon Stevenson – see also RING O’ BELLS, West Bromwich.

Smethwick Telephone 18/2/1928

“There will be an important meeting of railwaymen at the IVY BUSH HOTEL, St. Pauls Road, this (Saturday) evening.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1938

“On Saturday last, at the IVY BUSH INN, Smethwick, an enjoyable dinner and entertainment marked the occasion of the presentation to Mr. J. Timmins, until recently General Foreman at the LMS Goods Depot, Spon Lane, of a Westminster chimes oak clock.

In making the presentation Mr. R. S. Brown (Goods Agent) referred in appreciative terms to the 44 years’ service given conscientiously to the Company. Mr. Timmins had worked at Oldbury, Brierley Hill, Wednesbury, Dudley and Spon Lane, and had earned an excellent reputation for efficient and reliable work and also the respect and goodwill of members of the public with whom he came into contact.....”

Alfred Shenton – see also SPON CROFT.

George Henry Smith – check HOP AND BARLEYCORN, Tipton.

Harry Povey – see also GRAPES, West Bromwich.

Charles Joseph Bird – see also WAGGON AND HORSES.

E. Brookes died in 1961.

Thomas William Lefevre – see also STATION.

Thomas Lowe – see also STATION.

A team from here took part in the Spon Lane Domino League, Southern Section. [1966], [1967], [1968]

[2013]



2013

JENNY LIND

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Rock []

NOTES

Thomas Rock issued tokens from here.

JUNCTION STORES

188, Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John White, Booth Street, Handsworth
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. [c. 1900]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased)

LICENSEES

John Wilkes [1871]
William Dodd [] - **1872**;
Mary Dodd (**1872** - [])
Joseph Pembrey [1878] - [1883]
Mrs. Sarah Ann Darby [1890] - [1891]
Edward Hinds [1894] - **1896**;
George Matthews (**1896** - [1900])
James Adrian Slim [1903] - **1904**;
Job Bache (**1904** - **1907**);
Thomas Dawson Davison (**1907** - **1908**);
William Blagburn Williamson (**1908** - **1910**);
William Mitchell (**1910** - **1911**);
Charles Hulse (**1911** - **1915**);

NOTES

It had a beerhouse and cider license.

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – JUNCTION STORES INN

- [1] *John Wilkes* (30), innkeeper, born Wednesfield Heath;
- [2] *Louise Wilkes* (30), wife, born Tonge, Staffordshire;
- [3] *John Wilkes* (10), son, scholar, born Tonge, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Richard Wilkes* (9), son, scholar, born Claverley;
- [5] *Elizabeth Wilkes* (7), daughter, born Claverley;
- [6] *Annie Wilkes* (5), daughter, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
- [7] *Eliza Wilkes* (3), daughter, scholar, born Londonderry, Staffordshire:

William Dodd died in 1872.

Joseph Pembrey, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1878], [1879]

Joseph Pembrey, beer retailer, 188 Rolfe Street [1883]

Mrs. Sarah Ann Darby, beer retailer, 188 Rolfe Street [1890]

1891 Census

188, Rolfe Street – JUNCTION INN

- [1] *Sarah Ann Darby* (48), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Amy L. Newey* (5), granddaughter, born Handsworth;
- [3] *Mary J. Payne* (18), general servant, born Birmingham:

Edward Hinds = Edward Hines

Smethwick Telephone 10/11/1894

“*Edward Hines*, landlord of the JUNCTION INN, Rolfe Street was charged with keeping his house open during prohibited hours on the 31st ult., and also with resisting Police-sergeant Dowler whilst in the execution of his duty.- George Rudd, of Watery Lane, Smethwick, was charged with being on the premises during prohibited hours Police-sergeant Dowler stated that at 12.40am, on Wednesday last....he looked through the side window of the defendant’s house. He saw a man sitting in the kitchen, and noticed him pick up a pint mug and drink out of it *Hines* was fined £5 and costs for keeping his house open.....and ordered to pay costs in the other case Rudd was fined 10s and costs

Smethwick Telephone 31/8/1895

“Licensing Sessions. Smethwick and Handsworth The persons proceeded against [during year ended June 30th 1895] for offences under the Acts were *Edward Hinds*, JUNCTION STORES..... beer house keeper (open for sale during prohibited hours) fined £5 and costs The persons upon whom notices of objection had been served Since the convictions took place the houses had been visited occasionally, and appear to have been satisfactorily conducted the Chairman announced that the magistrates had decided to renew the license to *Hinds* in the belief that he would conduct the house properly in future.”

Smethwick Telephone 23/5/1896

“*George Matthews*, landlord of the JUNCTION STORES, Rolfe Street”

– was fined £2 and costs (15s) but license not endorsed for permitting drunkenness [4/6].

George Matthews, beer retailer, 188 Rolfe Street. [1897], [1900]

James Adrian Slim was fined £1 and £2 17s 0d costs, on 5th May 1904, for permitting drunkenness. See also STORK.

William B. Williamson, beer retailer, 188 Rolfe Street [1909]
Check STATION.

1911 Census

188, Rolfe Street

[1] *William Mitchell* (57), publican, manager, born Bicker Lower, Fife;

[2] *Elizabeth Mitchell* (67), wife, married 33 years, born Ramsey, Huntingdonshire:

The license was surrendered in 1915.



c1900

KINGS HEAD

(Upper) Hagley Road, (Lordswood Road), Bearwood, (SMETHWICK), BIRMINGHAM

OWNERS

Holt Brewery Co. [1905]
Ansells Ltd.
Eastern Leisure (acquired in December 2006)

LICENSEES

Thomas Perrins [1870]
Samuel Allin [1879]
Alfred Birch [1884] – [1887]
William Samuel Chambers [1890]
Edward Hammond [1891] – [1892]
James Foster [1898]
Edward Hammond [1897] – [1903]
Richard Beach [1909]
Charles Chick [1911] – [1914]
Albert Tudor [1942] – [1948]
Bert Hammnett [1964]
Steve Wakeman (1982 – [])

NOTES

It was first granted a license in the reign of George III.

It was originally a cottage like building (at the rear of present building).

OLD KINGS HEAD, Beech Lane [1879]
YE OLDE KINGS HEAD [1909], [1912], [1914], [1948]

Thomas Perrins, KINGS HEAD, Lordswood Road, Harborne. [1870]

Smethwick Telephone 17/5/1884

“John Moore, Bridge Street, West Smethwick charged with obtaining refreshment at the KINGS HEAD by falsely claiming to be a traveller [i.e. he had come more than 3 miles] fined 33s.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/5/1887

“Smethwick Police Court. Thomas Duffield and Ann Duffield of Birmingham, Joseph Hall and Thomas Baugh of Smethwick were charged with obtaining intoxicating liquor from *Alfred Birch*, landlord of the KINGS HEAD, Hagley Road, by falsely representing themselves as travellers....”
- Fined.



Postcard 1905



c1931

1891 Census

Lordswood Road – KINGS HEAD

- [1] *Edward Hammond* (75), farmer, born Upwell, Norfolk;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hammond* (68), wife, born Long Sutton, Lincolnshire;
- [3] *Frances Ann Morley* (22), barmaid, born Radbourne, Derbyshire;
- [4] *Eliza E. Watkins* (23), domestic servant, born Kingswinford;
- [5] *Harry Lee* (20), servant, agricultural labourer, born Birmingham:

The pub was transferred into Birmingham jurisdiction on 1st November 1891.

It was demolished in 1903.

The present building opened in 1905.

1911 Census

Hagley Road – KINGS HEAD HOTEL

- [1] *Charles Chick* (41), licensed victualler, born Notting Hill, London;
- [2] *Louise Chick* (37), wife, married 14 years, assisting in the business, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Clara Emily Hadley* (20), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *Alice Mantle* (19), housemaid, born Wednesbury;
- [5] *Elizabeth Mangham* (36), cook, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Irene Chick* (12), daughter, school, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Madelaine Chick* (9), daughter, school, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1912 -Advert

“Bearwood Debating Society / KINGS HEAD HOTEL, Hagley Road, Edgbaston / Tomorrow (Sunday) / Chair taken at eight o’clock prompt / Albert E. Green, Hon. Sec. Eastbourne, Upper Hagley Road, Edgbaston.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/6/1912

“The first members’ show in connection with the newly formed Bearwood and District Canine Society was held at the KINGS HEAD HOTEL on Thursday night. It was a decided success. There were over a hundred entries, and the judge, Mr. L. P. C. Astley, of London, paid the members a very warm compliment on the character of the exhibits.....”



2008



Smethwick Telephone 10/1/1964 - Advert

“Twist and Twitch. Wednesday 15th January at the KINGS HEAD, Bearwood. 8-10.45 pm. Licensed Bar. Admission 2s 6d.”

Smethwick Telephone 28/1/1964 - Advert

“The Morgue, KINGS HEAD, Bearwood. Regular Twitch Sessions. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Tonight, February 28th – The Senators.”

AND

“Frenzied teenagers twitched and twisted the night away in a Bearwood Hall on Wednesday, watched by skeletons and ghouls from black painted walls.

It was the opening night of The Morgue – Bearwood’s first underground twitch and twist club for the over 18’s. So far more than 500 members have applied to join the club – converted at a cost of around £300. Many more applicants have been turned down, because the applicants were under 18 years of age. Explained the licensee Mr. *Bert Hammnett*, whose son Mike has helped provide the club’s morbid setting, ‘We are compelled by licensing laws to restrict the age of the members because the club is fully licensed.’.....”

It closed in 1980.

It reopened on 19th October 1982.

It was renamed QUANTUM.

It was renamed KINGS HEAD in 2006.

Closed [2007]

It underwent a £1.5 M refurbishment, including a 140 seat restaurant.

It reopened in 2008.

[2013]



2013

LAMB AND FLAG

44, George Street / Albert Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

James Curran, George Street, Smethwick
Leased by Mitchell and Co. [1890]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Mrs. Frances Norton [1871]
William Day [1883]
William Shaw [1890] – **1905**;
Francis William Fellows (**1905 – 1907**):

NOTES

It was situated on the south side of George Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

George Street – LAMB AND FLAG

- [1] *Frances Norton* (61), widow, beer retailer, born Dudley;
- [2] *Walter Harvey* (26), son, boat maker, born Cradley;
- [3] *Ann E. Millman* (25), domestic servant, born Bilston;
- [4] *Mary Ann Hardwick* (16), domestic servant, born Darlaston:

William Day, beer retailer, 44 George Street [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 27/9/1890

“Mr. *William Shaw*, of George Street, West Smethwick, applied for permission to alter his licensed premises. It was shown that this would be a public improvement, and the Bench acceded to the request.”

William Shaw, beer retailer, 44 George Street. [1890], [1897]

1891 Census

44, George Street

- [1] *William Shaw* (36), publican, born Kinver;
- [2] *Julia Shaw* (34), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Nellie Shaw* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Harry Shaw* (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Edith Shaw* (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Harriet Golding* (14), servant, born Westley, Cambridgeshire;
- [7] *Mary Howard* (22), servant, born West Bromwich:

William Shaw, beer retailer, 41, George Street. [1900]

Smethwick Telephone 13/11/1897

“Messrs. T. Harford and Son have been favoured with instructions from the trustees of the late James Curran, to offer for Sale by Public Auction at the SANDWELL HOTEL, West Bromwich on the above date [Nov. 23rd] Lot 2 – All That Exceedingly Valuable Corner Freehold Licensed Property, consisting of that well-known and noted Beerhouse the LAMB AND FLAG situate on the corner of George Street and Albert Street, West Smethwick..... The noted Beerhouse, the LAMB AND FLAG, in the occupation of Mr. *W. Shaw*, is let on lease to Messrs. H. Mitchell and Co. Ltd. having 23 years unexpired at September 28th last the accommodation consists of capital Bar, Bar Parlour, comfortable Smoke Room, Sitting Room, Bed Rooms, good Cellaring, Kitchen, and usual Outbuildings.”

Smethwick Telephone 28/1/1899

“To Close An Estate Messrs T. Harford and Son are favoured with instructions from the Trustees of the late James Curran to Sell by Public Auction on Tuesday February 7th 1899 Lot 3 – All that truly valuable freehold Beerhouse known as the LAMB AND FLAG with the Appurtenances thereto belonging, occupying an exceedingly prominent corner position, having extensive frontages to Albert Street and George Street, West Smethwick, now in the occupancy of Mr. *W. Shaw*. The accommodation of this beerhouse consists of capital Bar, Bar Parlour, Smoke Room, Sitting Room, Bed Rooms, Good Cellarage, Kitchen, and Outbuildings, Enclosed Yard, with a cart entrance from Albert Street aforesaid.

This house is let on a Repairing Lease at an annual rental of £30, To Messrs H. Mitchell and Co. Ltd., expiring September 29th 1920.”

1901 Census

44, George Street – LAMB AND FLAG INN

- [1] *William Shaw* (46), beer retailer, born Kinver;
- [2] *Julia Shaw* (44), wife, born Stourbridge;
- [3] *Nellie Shaw* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Harry Shaw* (13), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Edith Shaw* (11), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Frederick Shaw* (6), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Hetty Welch* (17), general servant, born Smethwick:

The license was surrendered in 1907 as part of the package to license the WATERLOO.

Smethwick Telephone 1/2/1908

“Sale by Auction A Corner Block of Well-built Freehold Property, recently licensed premises, and known as the LAMB AND FLAG, with the dwelling house, No. 13, George Street, adjoining.

The LAMB AND FLAG Premises can, at little expense, be divided into two houses, or one house and corner shop, with ample living accommodation. Should prove remunerative investment.”

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE

500, (571), Dudley Road, (Cape Hill), (Birmingham Heath), (Cape of Good Hope), BIRMINGHAM

OWNERS

John Fawdry
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Turner [1858]
Richard Thornton [1860] – [1861]
Alfred Ingram [1879] – [1897]
J Ingram [1898]
Alfred H Ingram [1901]
Harry Phillips [1909]
John Reeve Palmer [1911] – [1914]
Leonard George Parry [1931] – [1936]
Henry Jones [1942]
William Boyle [1948]

NOTES

Cape of Good Hope [1858]
571, Dudley Road [1891]
500, Dudley Road [1911], [1935], [1942], [1990]

ENGINE [1858], [1901]

It was built by John Fawdry.
He owned Birmingham Heath Farm.
He died in 1897 aged 89.

Richard Thornton issued tokens from here.

Alfred Ingram issued tokens from here.

It had a quoits ground. [1888]

Smethwick Telephone 6/9/1890

“The annual dinner in connection with Court ‘Good Hope’ of the Ancient Order of Foresters was held at the LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE INN, Cape Hill.”

1891 Census

571, Dudley Road – LOCOMOTIVE INN
[1] *Alfred Ingram* (62), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
[2] *Susannah Ingram* (62), wife, born Stourbridge;
[3] *George Ingram* (19), son, born Birmingham;
[4] *Marian Ingram* (15), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
[5] *Clifford Ingram* (13), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
[6] *Martha Ingram* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

Smethwick Telephone 3/12/1892

“Quoit Club Dinner. On Saturday evening the members of the LOCOMOTIVE Quoit Club held their first annual dinner at the LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE INN, Cape Hill. A large number sat down to an extensive spread, which was prepared by the host (Mr. *J. Ingram*).”

[J. Ingram may have been a typographical error.]

Smethwick Telephone 4/8/1894

“Death. – Watkins – On the 28th ult. at the residence of her father, LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE, Dudley Road, aged 31, Emma Watkins; deeply lamented.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/11/1898

“The 28th anniversary of Court ‘Good Hope’ A. O. F. was celebrated last Saturday night, when a dinner was held at the LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE, Dudley Road, Cape.....”

1901 Census

500, Dudley Road – ENGINE Public House

- [1] *Alfred H. Ingram* (34), public house manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Rose Ingram* (34), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Ada H. Ingram* (15), daughter, paper bag maker, born Cradley, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Annie Ingram* (11), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William J. Ingram* (7), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Susannah Ingram* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Martha Ingram* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Frederick W. Green* (17), barman, born Oldbury;
- [9] *Annie Hall* (17), cook, born Handsworth;
- [10] *Betsy Beard* (15), housemaid, born Langley;

Court ‘Good Hope’ (AOF) met here. [1903]

1911 Census

500, Dudley Road

- [1] *John Reeve Palmer* (49), licensed victualler, born Asbury, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Annie Eliza Palmer* (51), wife, assisting in business, born Birmingham;
- [3] *John Vincent Palmer* (23), son, foreign invoice clerk, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Frederick George Palmer* (19), son, gold chain maker, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Lucy Emily Griffin* (25), bar general assistant, born Birmingham;
- [6] *William Charles Shaw* (22), barman, born Birmingham;

Smethwick Telephone – October 1911

“Smethwick has enjoyed a remarkable immunity from serious tramway accidents. Since the electrification of the lines there has been an absence of untoward incidents on the route. On Sunday night, however, this record was broken by one of the most extraordinary fatalities which has ever occurred in the annals of the tramway service, and the affair has provided the chief topic of conversation throughout the week, which has been an eventful one in other respects. Taking place as it did at a late hour on Sunday night, the news did not spread with that rapidity which usually marks such disasters, and it was well on the day following that people began to realise the awfulness of the whole thing, and the evening papers found a ready sale. In their editions were recorded the death of one of the passengers, and the greatest solicitude was extended to all who were in the collision.

It is now possible with some degree of precision to record the facts. A car (No. 177) belonging to the Corporation left Edmund Street for Bearwood at 9.45pm. All went well until Montague Road was reached. This is a Board of Trade stopping place, and the driver pulled up to enable passengers to alight. It is at the end of the straight part on the incline; afterwards the track bends until the top is reached. As soon as the driver attempted to restart his car it began to go backwards. This is not altogether a novel experience. But it never occupies more than a second or two. In this case the driver found that the brakes failed to respond, and the car began to gain momentum in its descent. There were a goodly number of passengers, and they became frantic when they realised their peril. Coming up the hill was a car – No. 34 – belonging to the Birmingham and Midland Tramways, and there was no time to avert a

collision. The impact came to a point immediately outside the gates to the Cape Hill Brewery nearest Kelvin Grove, and the crash was terrible. The passengers had been restrained from jumping from either of the cars. Several men, however, were thrown violently off the Spon Lane car, the driver of which remained at his post until the moment when the crash came, when he jumped clear of his platform and thus escaped what would have been certain death. Everything was smashed – the woodwork and glass – but the bogeys kept to the rails and the passengers had the further fright on finding that both cars now commenced to run with increasing speed down the hill. The impetus was sufficient to carry them right to the stage at the boundary, where, outside the LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE INN was a further car – No. 180 – belonging to the City. Into this third car the two battered and wrecked cars came into violent collision, and although the damage done at this point was not so severe, yet the passengers had a further severe shaking, and the glass and splinters flew like fireworks.

From the moment of the first mishap it was realised by those in the vicinity that there could not be anything but very severe injuries sustained by a number of the passengers, and all assistance possible was summoned – doctors, ambulance men and police – for a long time the work of attending to a number of patients was watched by a crowd of spectators.

One of the outstanding features of a very remarkable affair was the splendid service rendered by the ambulance men connected with Mitchells and Butlers Brigade. It was a fortunate circumstance that the first part of the mishap occurred opposite the residence of the Superintendent Chris Taylor, the chief officer of the Brewery Ambulance Corps, and within a few seconds he was on the spot. He heard the crash of the collision and was in the street in time to see the two battered cars descending the hill. Intuitively, he realised that there would be need for as much skilled assistance as could be obtained at that hour, and he rushed across to the Brewery to summon all who could be of service. Before he reached the gates where the first collision occurred he found a man lying in a serious condition. He rendered immediate service, and while he went for appliances left the man in charge of another. Captain Chandler had the care of the most serious cases, using the BEEHIVE INN as a base.

The official records of the Chief Officer – which are unique in the annals of the Brigade – show that the following cases received attention at the hands of the members:-

George Wright (29), St. Mary's Road, Bearwood, fractured base of the skull. Fatal.

Samuel Westwood (52), of High Street, Smethwick, concussion.

Mary Davis of Church Road, Smethwick fractured base of the skull.

These three cases were those treated at the BEEHIVE INN by the medical gentlemen who were present. They were afterwards taken to the General Hospital, all being in a critical condition when admitted.

[Other minor injuries are also recorded. Mary Davis later died of her injuries.]

[1985]

Closed

It was demolished in 1993.

LONDON APPRENTICE

Soho Close, Windmill Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990's]

LICENSEES

Alvin Palmer [1995] – [2008]

NOTES

The license was transferred from the LONDON STORES on 27th June 1969.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2]

[2008]

Closed

It was sold for use as a religious building in 2010.



1997



2008

LONDONDERRY

Basons Lane / Queens Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Gwynne (1930 - 1933);
John Thomas Kirk (1933 - 1940);
Frank Robinson (1940 - 1941);
Doris Mary Ann Robinson (1941 - 1945);
Frank Robinson (1945 - 1952);
Robert Norman Wright (1952 - [1962])
Bostock []
Don Tustin [1981]

NOTES

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1928

“..... After a hearing occupying four hours, and a conference in private of another hour, the Magistrates decided to grant the application of Mitchells and Butlers in respect of the proposal to erect a hotel at the corner of Basons Lane and Queens Road, Londonderry.

Mr. H. H. Willison appeared for Mr. Joseph Frederick Strong, the builder, in support of the application.

Mr. William Hodgkiss appeared to oppose the application on behalf of the Oldbury Urban District Council, and Mr. Sidney Davis of ‘Bon Accord’, Victoria Road.

Mr. Hurst said the firm desired a provisional order to sanction the removal of the full publican’s license from the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Birmingham Street, Oldbury, to the house about to be erected at the corner of Basons Lane and Queens Road. The application, he said, had been made before, and so he emphasized features which were new. The policy underlying the application was that of ‘fewer and better’, and he took as an illustration the case of the THIMBLEMILL HOTEL. The site available was 5,983 square yards. A quantity had been given up for the purposes of a public improvement. Counsel went on to indicate the change that had taken place in the neighbourhood since the owners purchased the site eight or nine years ago; he showed the advance made in house building since last year: the number of dwellings nearer to the proposed hotel, had increased in a year from 387 to 563, and many others were nearing completion the application was granted”

It opened at 10am on 16th July 1930.

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1938

“LONDONDERRY Bowling Club. The seventh annual meeting of the above Club was held on Wednesday of last week at the LONDONDERRY INN, Basons Lane, Langley The meeting adopted new rules that had been prepared by a sub-committee and passed by the Committee.....”

John Thomas Kirk – see also SIR ROBERT PEEL.

Derry Alliance FC was founded here in 1946.
They were based here. [1950’s]

Don Tustin was married to Elsie.

News Telephone 20/8/1981

“Regulars at the LONDONDERRY pub were touched when they heard of a motor-bike marathon in aid of the Albert Bradford School for the handicapped in Smethwick.

They were too late to sponsor Mr. Arthur Hunt, whose son Keith attends the school, but a collection at the pub added another £150 to the £1,087 raised by the 397 mile ride.....”

[2009]

Closed

It was demolished in February 2011.



2006



2008

LONDON STORES

27, Soho Street / Oakfield Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mrs. Hadley, Grantham Road, Smethwick
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. [c. 1900]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased) (acquired)

LICENSEES

Mrs. Mary Ann Dawson [1883]
George H Round [1890] – [1900]
Samuel Mann [1901]
Frederick Henry Evans [] – 1904);
William Greathead (1904 – 1928);
William Henry Greathead (1928 – 1946);
Harold Morris Naylor (1946 – 1952);
Alfred Charles Davis (1952 – 1955);
Alfred Green (1955 – 1957);
Geoffrey Rimell (1957 – 1958);
Maurice Archibald Wormald (1958);
Frank Julian Crawford Birch (1958 – 1961);
Albert Leslie Fellows (1961 – 1963);
Vincent Patrick Bracken (1963 – 1966):



c1900

NOTES

It was situated on the western side of Soho Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

It was known locally as the "Plug and Dodger".

Mrs. Mary Ann Dawson, beer retailer, 27, Soho Street. [1883]

George Round, beer retailer, 27, Soho Street. [1890], [1900]

1891 Census

27, Soho Street

- [1] George Round (37), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] Harriet Round (37), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] George Henry Round (13), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] Ernest Round (11), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] Ellen Round (15), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] Liddie Jones (18), domestic servant, born Darlaston:

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1892

“LONDON STORES Sick and Dividend Society. – A committee meeting of the above society was held at the LONDON STORES, Soho Street, Smethwick, on Wednesday evening, to balance up accounts and arrange for the calling of a general meeting of the whole of the members The dividend will compare favourably with other kindred societies, viz, 12s per member.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1894

“An inquest was held before Mr. Edwin Hooper (district coroner) at the LONDON STORES, Soho Street, Smethwick yesterday morning, on the body of Phoebe Maria Williams (35) of New Market Street, Smethwick, who died on Tuesday morning last shortly after confinement. It appears that no doctor attended the woman until after death, her mother (Elizabeth Martin) attended to her. The coroner severely censured the mother of the deceased for not calling in medical assistance earlier, and he disallowed her expenses and handed them over to a neighbour who went in and did the best she could before the woman died. A verdict of ‘Death from natural causes, accelerated by want of medical aid’ was returned.”

Smethwick Telephone 2/3/1895

“Six Ways (Smethwick) Cycling Club – the first annual dinner of the above club took place on Saturday last, at the headquarters, LONDON STORES, Soho Street, when an excellent repast was provided by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *G. Round*).....”

Smethwick Telephone 31/10/1896

“The third annual dinner in connection with the Six Ways Cycling Club was held at the LONDON STORES Upwards of 50 members and friends sat down to a substantial repast, which was satisfactorily catered for by the host, Mr. *George Round*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/1/1897

“The annual meeting of the delegates representing the thirty-five lodges comprising the West Bromwich and Smethwick District of the United Order of Free Gardeners was held at the LONDON STORES INN on Saturday night [2/1]. Thirty-one of the lodges were represented. The District Master (Mr. James Cooper) presided and Mr. Joseph Gray occupied the vice-chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/3/1898

“Six Ways Cycling Club – a general meeting of the above club was held on Friday evening (25th ult.) at the headquarters, LONDON STORES, Soho Street – Mr. W. Jeffcott (vice president) in the chair.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/3/1899

“The annual dinner of the embers of ‘Liberty’ Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners was held at the lodge house, LONDON STORES, Soho Street (Bro. G. H. Round’s), on the 8th inst., when thirty members and friends enjoyed a very pleasant evening. Bro. William Jeffcoate was voted to the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/12/1899

“Six Ways Cycling Club – The annual dinner of the above club took place on Friday last, at the headquarters, LONDON STORES, Soho Street, when the members and friends sat down to a splendid repast provided by the host.....”

1901 Census

Soho Street – LONDON STORES Public House

[1] *Samuel Mann* (38), manager LONDON STORES PH, born Bilston;

[2] *Mary Mann* (39), wife, born Derby;

[3] *Emily M. Mann* (22), daughter, born Hull;

[4] *George S. Mann* (20), son, electrical engineer, born Hull:

William Greathead, beer retailer, 27 Soho Street. [1909], [1912], [1914]

1911 Census

27, Soho Street

[1] *William Greathead* (56), publican, manager, born Birmingham;

[2] *Ann Sophia Greathead* (58), wife, married 35 years, born Bromsgrove;

[3] *William Henry Greathead* (31), son, barman, born Balsall Heath, Worcestershire;

[4] *Nelly Greathead* (28), daughter, barmaid, born Balsall Heath, Worcestershire:

Smethwick Telephone 4/5/1912

“Deaths. – *Mann* – On April 25th, Mary, wife of *Samuel Mann*, late of LONDON STORES, Smethwick (after a long and painful illness), in her 51st year. Interred at Uplands May 1st.”

William Henry Greathead, beer retailer, 27, Soho Street. [1935], [1936]

A Publican’s license was granted on 2nd February 1954, and confirmed on 30th March 1954.

Vincent Patrick Bracken – see also DUDLEY ARMS.

It closed in 1966.

The license was in suspension from 17th February 1966.

The license was transferred to the LONDON APPRENTICE.

Demolished



c1950



LONDON WORKS TAVERN

35, (34), London Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Butler (acquired 3rd October 1866)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1912], [1914]
Mann, Crossman and Paulin

LICENSEES

Harriet Liggings [1851]
H Smith* [1858]
Mrs. Harriet Smith* [1860] – [1865]
William Butler **(1866 – 1876)**
James Dandy [1878] – [1883]
Thomas Emery [1888] – [1890]
William Alfred Biddle [1891] – **1892**;
William Breedon Parker **(1892 – 1893)**;
Thomas James Daniels **(1893)**;
Walter Daniel Franks **(1893 – [])**
John Lowe [1897] – [1909]
Ernest Harmer [1901]
Cornelius Drewry [1914] – **1922**;
Harriet Drewry **(1922 – 1923)**;
Thomas James Jacombs **(1923)**;
John Hall **(1923 – 1924)**;
Leonard Orme **(1924 – 1925)**;
William Thomas Renneville **(1925 – 1926)**;
William King **(1926 – 1931)**;
Reginald Alfred Millichamp **(1931 – 1932)**;
Henry Joseph Williams **(1932 – 1938)**;
Thomas George Cartwright **(1938 – 1948)**
Thomas Raymond Ward **(1948 – 1949)**;
Stanley Edgar Townsend **(1949 – 1953)**;
William James Hands **(1953 – 1955)**;
Gordon Field **(1955 – 1956)**;
Paul Joseph Byrne **(1956 – 1958)**;
Harriet Lopez **(1958 – 1965)**;
Harold Cyril Bates **(1965 – [1966]**
Don Dickson [1979]
Elizabeth Theresa Holian [1997]

NOTES

34, London Street [1901]
35, London Street

It was situated on the south side of London Street

Harriet Liggings = Harriet Liggins

1851 Census

LONDON WORKS

- [1] *Harriet Liggings* (50), widow, victualler, born Manchester;
- [2] Sarah Liggings (22), daughter, born London;
- [3] Margritt Liggings (14), daughter, born London;
- [4] Nathaniel Liggings (13), son, born Westminster;
- [5] Elizabeth Liggings (12), daughter, born Westminster;
- [6] John Tandy (5), visitor, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] John Scott (37), servant, labourer, born Smethwick:

* possibly the same person

1861 Census

London Street

- [1] *Harriet Smith* (58), widow, born Manchester;
 - [2] Eliza L. Smith (26), daughter, born London;
 - [3] Elizabeth Liggins (22), daughter, born London;
 - [4] Nalhieve Liggins (24), son, engine fitter, born London;
 - [5] John Tandy (16), grandson, tube maker, born Smethwick;
 - [6] Henry Tandy (14), grandson, tube maker, born Smethwick:
- [Did Harriet Liggings marry a Mr. Smith?]

Smethwick Telephone ?/6/1979

“M & B - 100 Years Roll By”

“.....In his [*William Butler*] spare time he worked behind the bar of the Old Crown Inn in Broad Street, Birmingham - and he obviously liked the work, because in 1866 he took over the LONDON WORKS TAVERN in Grove Lane, Smethwick.”

William Butler was born in Hinckley, on 13th March 1843.
He issued tokens from here.

1871 Census

London Street

- [1] *William Butler* (28), innkeeper, born Hinckley;
- [2] Mary J. Butler (29), wife, born Leicester;
- [3] William Butler (4), son, born Scotland;
- [4] Walter Butler (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] Henry Butler (7 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] Emma Ward (16), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

1881 Census

London Street - LONDON WORKS TAVERN

- [1] *James Dandy* (47), licensed victualler, born Hanbury, Worcestershire;
- [2] Hannah Dandy (45), wife, born Acocks Green;
- [3] Sarah A. Gibbs (25), general servant, born Acocks Green:

Smethwick Telephone 17/9/1887

“The first annual dinner of the Smethwick Cottage Garden and Flower Society was held at the LONDON WORKS TAVERN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 1/9/1888

“2nd Annual Flower Show at LONDON WORKS TAVERN last Monday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 7/9/1889

“On Monday the Annual cottage garden flower and vegetable show was held at the LONDON WORKS TAVERN. This show has grown so considerably that it has been decided to hold the show in a field next year.”

1891 Census

35, London Street – LONDON WORKS TAVERN

- [1] *William A. Biddle* (22), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Kate Biddle* (28), wife, born Walsall;
- [3] *Harold L. Biddle* (2), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Emma Andrews* (25), servant, born Bartle [Bartley?] Green:

LONDON WORKS Money Society amalgamated with the ROBINSON CRUSOE Loan and Investment Society in 1892.

Smethwick Telephone 21/5/1892

“The committee of the Cottage Garden and Flower and Vegetable Society (which is held at the LONDON WORKS TAVERN, London Street and the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Poplar Street).....”

Smethwick Telephone 3/9/1898

“On Sunday afternoon a man named Timmins, who is employed at the London Works, Cranford Street, was following his employment, when whilst shoveling coal, he accidentally came across a large cartridge about a foot long. The latter was similar to those used in mines for blasting purposes, and being rather curious over his ‘find’, subsequently adjourned to the LONDON WORKS TAVERN, where he handed it round to the customers. It eventually got into the hands of a man named John Colley (25), who set to work to get the powder from the case. Several of the company state that some ash dropped from a cigarette he was smoking, but it is thought, and with a great deal of probability, that he applied the lighted end to the powder. At any rate, there was a terrible explosion, and pieces of Colley’s hands were blown in all directions, and the furniture in adjoining houses was shaken. Great alarm was caused in the neighbourhood, and it was very fortunate that a large quantity of the powder had been taken out before the cartridge exploded. Had this not been so, it is feared that serious loss of life would have been occasioned by such foolish behaviour on the part of Colley. The man was immediately taken to the General Hospital, where the first and second fingers of the left hand, and also the thumb, were amputated. There was a clean hole through the right hand and portions of two fingers and some finger nails were found in the house.”

1901 Census

London Street – LONDON TAVERN

- [1] *John Lowe* (35), public house manager, born Conway, Caernarvonshire;
- [2] *Barbara Lowe* (32), wife, born Worcester;
- [3] *Bertha Lowe* (15), daughter, born Rhyl, Flintshire;
- [4] *Frederick Whitemore* (17), boarder, barman, born Leamington:

1911 Census

London Street – LONDON WORKS TAVERN

- [1] *Ernest Harmer* (36), licensed victualler, born Clifton on Teme, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Belinda Harmer* (38), wife, born Clifton on Teme, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Redvers Harmer* (10), son, school, born Shelsley Walsh, near Worcester;
- [4] *Ethel Amphlett* (20), niece, barmaid, born Shelsley Walsh, near Worcester;
- [5] *Colin Hughes* (27), barman, born 21, St. Johns Square, Wolverhampton;
- [6] *Amelia Freeman* (26), servant:

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

Leonard Orme – see also STATION.

William King – see also UNION.

Reginald Alfred Millichamp – see also CASTLE, and CROWN AND ANCHOR.

Henry Joseph Williams – see also FOUNTAIN.

Thomas George Cartwright was born circa 1902.

He died in November 1965.

See also MOILLIETT ARMS, and OLD HOUSE AT HOME.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League.

[They won the 'B' Section in 1950, and 1956/7, and in 1986.]

Paul Joseph Byrne – see also CROWN AND ANCHOR

Harold Cyril Bates – see also DUDLEY ARMS

An application for consent to structural alterations, by removing a partition in the bar, and increasing the drinking area, was granted by the Licensing Committee on 16th July 1965.

[2010]

Closed [2011], [2012]



1997



2005



2008

MALT SHOVEL

142, Rolfe Street / Engine Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Michael Ward, Church Lane, Smethwick
Holders Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Samuel Brighton [1870] – [1871]
Edward R Smith [1881]
Edwin Keen Smith [1883]
Chadd [1888]
Herbert Steventon [1890] – [1891]
Mrs. Wood [1893]
Frederick Wharton [1897] – **1914**);
Sarah Wharton (**1914 – 1922**);
Charles Henry Wharton (**1922 – 1923**);

NOTES

It was situated on the south side of Rolfe Street.

It had a beer and cider license.

[1867]

Samuel Brighton, beer retailer and blacksmith, Rolfe Street [1870]

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – MALT SHOVEL INN

- [1] *Samuel Brighton* (72), widower, beer house keeper, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Emma Dickens* (37), daughter, widow, assistant beer house keeper, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Mary A. Brighton* (42), unmarried, daughter, assistant beer house keeper, born Wednesbury;
- [4] *Mary E. Dickens* (4), granddaughter, scholar, born Harborne;
- [5] *Samuel Brighton* (47), unmarried, son, blacksmith at iron works, born Wednesbury:

1881 Census

142, Rolfe Street - MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *Edward R. Smith* (42), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Sarah Ann Smith* (43), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *William H. Smith* (20), son, moulder, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Edwin Smith* (18), son, moulder, born Smethwick;
- [5] *James Smith* (15), son, moulder, born Smethwick;
- [6] *George Smith* (13), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Alma Smith* (9), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Mary Ann Smith* (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Clara Smith* (3), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 22/9/1888

“Samuel Goddard of College Street, Spring Hill, Birmingham, nail cutter was summoned for assaulting John Richard Bell of Howard Street (Smethwick) on Tuesday 11th. inst. The complainant stated that on the afternoon of the day in question, he had occasion to go to the MALT SHOVEL INN, Rolfe Street. He there saw the defendant who was using abusive language and expressing a desire to fight. Defendant struck witness a violent blow in the mouth, and narrowly escaped knocking his pipe through his cheek. He did not give the defendant the slightest provocation Mrs. Chadd, wife of the landlord gave corroborative evidence 10s and costs or 14 days.”

Herbert Steventon, beer retailer, 142 Rolfe Street. [1890]

1891 Census

142, Rolfe Street – MALT SHOVEL INN

- [1] *Herbert Steventon* (46), innkeeper, born Bilston;
- [2] *Georgina Steventon* (37), wife, born Bilston;
- [3] *Georgina Steventon* (11), daughter, born Bilston;
- [4] *Sarah J. Steventon* (9), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] *Herbert Steventon* (7), son, born Bilston;
- [6] *Harriett Steventon* (5), daughter, born Bilston;
- [7] *Jack J. Steventon* (3), son, born Bilston;
- [8] *Sarah Brownwood* (16), servant, born Bilston:

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies At the annual meeting of the above society held at the MALT SHOVEL INN, Rolfe Street, on December 10th a dividend of 11s per member on the year’s working.....”

Frederick Wharton, beer retailer, 142 Rolfe St. [1900], [1909]

1901 Census

Rolfe Street – MALT SHOVEL INN

- [1] *Frederick Wharton* (44), beer retailer, born Stirchley, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Sarah Wharton* (41), wife, born Stirchley, Worcestershire;
- [3] *Harry Wharton* (19), son, barman, born Stirchley, Worcestershire;
- [4] *Florence Hart* (18), cook, born Handsworth:

1911 Census

Rolfe Street – MALT SHOVEL

- [1] *Frederick Wharton* (53), beerhouse keeper, manager, born Stirchley, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Sarah Wharton* (51), wife, married 31 years, assisting in business, born Droitwich;
- [3] *Florence Holmes* (27), general servant, born Walsall:

It closed on 21st November 1923 under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act 1910.

MOILLIETT ARMS

49, Cranford Street / Moilliett Street, (Heath Street), Soho, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Roderick and Son, Temple Row West, Birmingham
Henry Mitchell and Co.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1898], [1909], [1914]
Courage Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Hinsley [1850] – [1852]
John Sherwood [1855]
Joseph Allarton [1860] – [1861]
F Crumpton [1864] – [1865]
Elizabeth Fanny Crumpton [] - **1870**);
Samuel Faulconbridge (**1870** – [1873])
James Osman [1878] – [1881]
Richard Alma Boot [1883]
George White (**1883** – **1897**);
George Hodgkiss (**1897**);
Edward Clarke (**1897** – [1900])
Simeon Hill [1901]
Samuel Marriott [1903]
Mrs. Marriott [1905]
Samuel Marriott [1911]
Charles David Instone [1914] – **1948**);
Thomas George Cartwright (**1948** – **1956**);
Henry John Messer (**1956** – **1958**);
Isaac Taylor (**1958** – [])
John Bullock [1979]
Robert Davis [1981]
Phil Dale [1993]
Carl Higgs []



1997

NOTES

It was situated on the south-east side of Cranford Street.

MOILLIETT'S ARMS INN AND LONDON HOUSE

1851 Census

Cranford Street

- [1] *William Hinsley* (54), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Hannah Hinsley* (51), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Sarah Hinsley* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Henry Hinsley* (16), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Jane Harding* (23), house servant, born Atherstone, Warwickshire:

Smethwick Telephone 10/6/1950

'Personalities Of A Century Ago' by W. Ellery Jephcott

"It will have been noticed that the first meeting to launch the new church scheme [St. Matthew's] was held [in 1852] at the MOILLIETT ARMS INN. There was nothing unusual in such a procedure, for at that time licensed houses provided almost the only public meeting places The landlord of the MOILLIETT ARMS, *William Hinsley*, was evidently a good churchman, or he would not have been eligible to serve on the committee....."

1861 Census

Cranford Street – MOILLIETTS ARMS

- [1] *Joseph Allarton* (56), innkeeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Allarton* (58), wife, born Bridgnorth;
- [3] *Edwin Allarton* (19), son, commercial clerk, born Erdington, Warwickshire;
- [4] *Ellen Allarton* (22), daughter, born Erdington, Warwickshire:

1871 Census

Cranford Street

- [1] *Samuel Faulconbridge* (48), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Maria Faulconbridge* (58), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Anne M. Faulconbridge* (18), daughter, father's assistant, born Walsall;
- [4] *Charlotte Sault* (19), niece, barmaid, born London;
- [5] *Charles Philpotts* (19), hostler, born Bromsgrove;
- [6] *Mary A. Divetts* (63), sister in law, widow, dress maker, born Birmingham:

1881 Census

Cranford Street – MOILLIETT ARMS

- [1] *James Osman* (53), licensed victualler, born Cheltenham;
- [2] *Rebecca Osman* (53), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *William Osman* (31), son, coppersmith, born Kings Norton;
- [4] *John Egginton* (22), son in law, carpenter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Priscilla Egginton* (18), wife, born Birmingham;
- [6] *William Osman* (5), grandson, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Annie Jinks* (27), domestic servant, born Wednesbury;
- [8] *Martin Rastall* (18), servant, potboy, born Evesham;
- [9] *Joseph Tolley* (17), servant, potboy, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 12/9/1885 - Advert

"MOILLIETTS ARMS HOTEL, Cranford Street, Smethwick / The Oldest Harmonic Society in the district meets at this house / every Friday evening / every comfort and good talent always provided / First class wines and spirits, choice cigars. Mitchell's ales always on tap."

Smethwick Telephone 29/9/1888

"At West Bromwich Police Court on Monday, Thomas Hunt of New Street; James Taylor of Rolfe Street; William Bourne, Middlemore Road and Cornelius Grainger all of Smethwick were charged with stealing 25 gallons of ale valued at 25s, the property of *George White*, landlord of the MOILLIETT ARMS, Cranford Street. From the evidence given it appears that the prosecutor supplied refreshments at the Smethwick Cricket Club ground, when the barrel was left in a shed for the prosecutor's own convenience. The boys succeeded in gaining access to the ground, when they tapped the barrel and drank the ale. The Bench discharged Grainger and imposed a fine of 5s and costs in each of the other cases."

Smethwick Telephone 17/11/1888

George White was charged with permitting gambling in his house on 16th and 17th October. He was acting as a bookmaker's runner. He was fined £5 and costs.

Smethwick Telephone 19/1/1889

“Brookes Cycling Club, Smethwick. The above club held a Smoking Concert at their headquarters (the MOILLIETT ARMS, Cranford Street) on Thursday the 9th inst, a very good attendance of members and friends being present, amongst them were Frank Moore, the Tricycle Champion and Mr. ‘Bod’ Milthorpe, Amateur Champion of the North (both of whom are members of this club).”

[Messrs. J. & H. Brookes were of the Cape Cycle Works, Smethwick.]

See also RED COW

Smethwick Telephone 10/8/1889

Mr. *White* of the MOILLIETT ARMS, Cranford Street license not renewed at West Bromwich Licensing Sessions [28/8]

Smethwick Telephone 7/9/1889 - Advert

“MOILLIETT ARMS, Cranford Street. Proprietor Mr. *George White* The comfortable and spacious Club Room of the above house will be engaged for the Winter as follows:-

Every alternate Monday – The Druids Oak Lodge of the Ancient Order of Druids meets

Every Tuesday – The Smethwick Old Rifle Band meets for Practice.

Every Wednesday – The Select Quadrille Class meets for the 3rd season. Admission by invitation only which may be obtained on Application by Letter.

Every Thursday evening – A Smoking Concert With Birthnight.

Last Thursday each month – Singers and Friends Invited.

Every alternate Friday – The Toolmakers’ Society meets.

Every alternate Saturday – The Patternmakers’ Society meets.

Choice ales, spirits and cigars of the finest quality.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/9/1889

“Married. Swarbrick – *White*. On the 11th inst, by license, at Holy Trinity Church (by the Rev. Herbert Crump, Vicar) Samuel James only son of John and Elizabeth Swarbrick, of Broomfield to Ellen (Nellie) second daughter of *George* and *Emma White* of the MOILLIETT ARMS INN, both of Smethwick.”

1891 Census

49, Cranford Street

[1] *George White* (48), licensed victualler, born Fazeley, Staffordshire;

[2] *Emma White* (53), wife, born Handsworth;

[3] *Emily White* (26), daughter, born Birmingham;

[4] *George F. White* (25), son, iron manufacturer’s clerk, born Birmingham;

[5] *William E. White* (21), son, solicitor’s clerk, born Birmingham;

[6] *Florence L. White* (19), daughter, born Birmingham;

[7] *Alice B. White* (14), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;

[8] *Kate Hill* (20), general servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1892

“Smethwick Cricket Club Smoking Concert. On Monday evening a smoking concert in connection with this club was held at the MOILLIETT ARMS, Cranford Street.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/6/1894

“On Saturday evening last, the Smethwick branch of the Patternmakers’ Association celebrated their 20th anniversary, a dinner being held at the MOILLIETT ARMS About 50 members sat down to a very substantial repast, catered for in Mr. *G. White*’s best style.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/3/1895

“The gale resulted in considerable damage to property in Smethwick At the MOILLIETT ARMS HOTEL a chimney pot fell and caused a cloud of dust and soot in the tap room. The inmates, on rushing out of the house, are said to have presented the appearance of a minstrel troupe, being all covered with dust and soot.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/8/1896

“Police Court At Smethwick. Wednesday William Cotton (55), greengrocer, residing in Lewisham Road, Smethwick, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly in Lewisham Road on the 28th ult. Defendant pleaded that he heard his wife had died, and as she had been a great trouble to him he went to have ‘half a pint’ to rejoice over it. – It transpired, however, that defendant’s wife was not dead. A separation order was granted her a few weeks ago, defendant having to contribute 5s per week towards her maintenance. – Cotton was further charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the MOILLIETT ARMS HOTEL, Cranford Street, on Thursday morning In this case, defendant pleaded that he had only had ‘one glass’ and as he was old he could not stand it. – He was fined 2s 6d and costs in each case (amounting to 19s 6d): In default fourteen days imprisonment. – Defendant asked for time in which to pay the money, but as it was pointed out that he had more money upon him at the time he was locked up than the fine, his application was refused. Defendant then paid the amount.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/9/1897

“Richard Cann, Moilliett Street, Smethwick, was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the MOILLIETT ARMS on the 18th ult.- Police-sergeant Hall proved the case.- The magistrates took into consideration that it was the defendant’s first appearance and imposed a fine of 2s 6d and costs (9s 6d in all).”

Smethwick Telephone 18/9/1897

“Police Court at Smethwick *George White*, landlord of the MOILLIETT ARMS was summoned for supplying intoxicating liquor to a drunken person on the 29th August.- Police-sergeant Hall stated that on the date named he visited the MOILLIETT ARMS in company with Police constable Archer, and there saw a man named Richard Conn drunk, and leaning against the bar for support. He drew the attention of the barmaid to his condition, and she admitted that she had served him with beer Defendant pleaded that his daughter, who served Conn, did not notice his condition or she would not have served him.- Defendant was fined £1 and costs (11s).”

AND

“Correspondence. Sir,- On Wednesday last the Magistrates at Smethwick saw fit to fine me 20s, and costs for selling liquors to a drunken person. I should be glad if you would allow me to publicly state that the man was served with a half-pint of beer, and was apparently quite sober, further he at once offered to go with the officer of the law to two doctors to prove that he was not drunk, but his offer was not heeded. I may further state that the officer actually saw the man enter the house, and I submit that it was his first duty to follow and inform the waiter before it was possible for him to be served with anything to drink, instead of waiting until the harm was done. This was explained to the Magistrates. Yours &c, *George White*, MOILLIETT ARMS.....”

[It is possible that *White* was sacked by Mitchells and Butlers over this conviction.]

Smethwick Telephone 9/10/1897

“Mr. Albert A. Betham (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the MOILLIETT ARMS, Moilliett Street, on Monday, concerning the death of the landlord of that house, *George Hodgkiss* (50), who committed suicide by hanging himself on the Saturday previous.- *Louisa Hodgkiss*, wife of deceased, stated that her husband only took possession of the house on the 28th ult. He had always been in good health, but had occasional fits of despondency. Witness had never heard deceased threaten to take his life. Her husband, who was of a quiet disposition, went to bed as usual on Friday night, and slept well. Deceased, when called in the morning, seemed depressed and complained of being tired. He had no pecuniary difficulties and had always lived comfortably with his family. She had seen her husband walking about the yard in a despondent mood on Saturday morning. At 9.30 she missed him and he was afterwards found, by his son, hanging in a loft.- In reply to the Coroner, witness said that her husband had never been proprietor of a large business house before, and she thought that the worry of that, together with removing, had been the cause of the trouble.- *Frederick James Hodgkiss*, son of deceased, stated that his father appeared in good spirits on Saturday morning, and did not complain to him of being overdone. His father had no monetary difficulties. Deceased went about his business as usual on Saturday morning until 9.30. He was looking for him at that time in order to ask him a question, and upon going into the loft he saw his father suspended from a beam by a rope, which was tied around his neck. Witness immediately cut the body down, and thought he appeared to have some life left, efforts to restore him were in vain. Deceased made no movement *James Drage*, potman at the MOILLIETT ARMS, stated that he spoke to deceased at 9.30, when he was in his usual mood. Deceased had previously been talking to the customers in the bar.- Sergeant Hall stated When he reached deceased’s house, life was extinct, although the body was quite warm. In his opinion life would probably have been saved if proper means had been

used to restore animation as soon as the body was cut down.- Councillor Raybould said that it was a pity people were so ignorant as to the methods to adopt Sergeant Hall said that he did not wish the jury to think that the son had acted inadvertently. He had no doubt done all he could under the circumstances. The jury returned a verdict of 'Suicide whilst temporarily insane'."

Smethwick Telephone 30/10/1897

".....Mr. *Edward Clarke*, of the MOILLIETT ARMS, Cranford Street, has arranged a smoking concert for November 11th for the same object [to raise money for the relief of women and children in connection with the Engineers Lock-Out]"

- This raised £10 14s 6d.

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1898

"Druids Oak Lodge held at MOILLIETT ARMS....."

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1898

"Birmingham Equalized Order of Druids (Druids Oak Lodge 1436).- A smoking concert in connection with the above lodge was held on Monday evening last at the MOILLIETT ARMS....."

Smethwick Telephone 18/6/1898

"In connection with the 'Oak Lodge' (Druids), a summer smoking concert was held at the MOILLIETT ARMS HOTEL, Cranford Street, on Monday night. Bro. J. Judge, GM presided Bro. *E. Clarke* (host)....."

Smethwick Telephone 8/10/1898

"There was a large attendance at the MOILLIETT ARMS HOTEL, Six Ways, on Monday night, when an 'open' night was held, and Mr. W. Butler, Councillor S. Smith and Mr. E. Boore were initiated as honorary members of the Smethwick Branch of the Birmingham Equalized Order of Druids friendly society....."

Smethwick Telephone 28/1/1899

"An interesting ceremony took place at the MOILLIETT ARMS on Monday night, when Councillor John Gosling, Mr. Edwin Adams, Mr. T. Hedges, and Mr. F. Lawrence were initiated as honorary members of the Birmingham District Equalised Order of Druids Friendly Society. Councillor S. Smith presided over a large attendance of members and friends....."

Smethwick Telephone 29/4/1899

"The annual dinner of the 'Smethwick Oak' lodge of the Birmingham Equalised Order of Druids, was held at the MOILLIETT ARMS HOTEL, Cranford Street, on Monday night. After an excellent repast, admirably catered for by the host (Mr. E. Clarke), Mr. A. W. Edge presided over the gathering....."

1901 Census

Cranford Street – MOILLIETT ARMS

- [1] *Simeon Hill* (36), married, publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] Frederick Hill (11), son, born Smethwick;
- [3] Stanley Hill (8), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] William Hammond (33), boarder, iron plate worker, born Heath Town;
- [5] Sarah A. Hammond (32), boarder, born Smethwick;
- [6] William Hammond (3), boarder, born Smethwick;
- [7] Charles Hammond (1), boarder, born Smethwick;
- [8] Isabella Thompson (27), visitor, barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [9] Mary Lack (56), domestic servant, born Bilston:

Smethwick Telephone 24/10/1908

"There were some interesting presentations and a number of admirable speeches at a meeting held under the auspices of the Druids Oak lodge (Birmingham Equalised Order of Druids Friendly Society) at the MOILLIETT ARMS HOTEL, Six Ways, on Monday night. Alderman E. Adams presided....."

1911 Census

49, Cranford Street – MOILLIETT ARMS

- [1] Samuel Marriott (56), licensed victualler, born Darlaston;
- [2] Elizabeth Marriott (54), wife, married 31 years, house duties, born Darlaston;
- [3] Joseph Marriott (25), son, weighing machine fitter, born Smethwick;
- [4] Frederick Marriott (24), son, machine tool maker, born Smethwick;
- [5] Florence Marriott (22), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [6] Samuel Marriott (20), son, iron moulder, born Smethwick;
- [7] Olive Marriott (18), daughter, scales maker, born Smethwick;
- [8] Jennie Hough (23), domestic servant, born Bloxwich:

Plans were approved for alterations on 4th July 1912.

Thomas George Cartwright was born c.1902. He died in November 1965.

See also LONDON WORKS TAVERN, and OLD HOUSE AT HOME.

News Telephone 21/5/1981

“A Smethwick licensee had a window in his pub smashed and was threatened with a knife by a customer he had thrown out, magistrates at Oldbury heard.

John Michael Patrick Chowns (33), of Cheshire House, Windmill Lane, Smethwick, pleaded guilty to assaulting *Robert Davis* occasioning actual bodily harm, having an offensive weapon and damaging a glass window valued at £101.61.

His case was adjourned until June 24 for social enquiry reports to be compiled.....”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

Carl Higgs was a former prison officer.

He was married to Ros.

They had previously kept the WHITE SWAN, Baptist End, Netherton.

[2012]

Closed [2013]



2005



2008



2013

MUTE SWAN

Canalside, (near Bridge Street), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Harris [1871]

NOTES

1871 Census

Canalside – MUTE SWAN

- [1] *John Harris* (28), publican, born Creech, Somerset;
- [2] *Sarah J. Harris* (26), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Awithe T. Harris* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *John N. Harris* (3), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Rosana Harris* (1), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Phoebe Colley* (13), general servant, born Tibberton; [Tipton?]
- [7] *Joseph Hughes* (23), wife's brother, boatman, born Oldbury;
- [8] *Martin Hartill* (19), boarder, boatman, born Smethwick;

NEW CHURCH

190, (189), Windmill Lane / Howard Street, (Thomas Street), Six Ways, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Edward Cheshire
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. [1909], [1912], [1914]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Robert Bainbridge [1870] – [1873]
Edward Cheshire [1875] – [1892] non resident
William H Leigh* [1891]
Lee* [1893]
T Pearson [1894] – [1897]
Harold Lewis Gyde [1898] – [1901] manager
Charles Dench [1901] manager
Mrs. Dench [1903]
Ralph John Rogers [1911] – **1915**);
Egerton Burgess (**1915 – 1920**);
Herbert Edward George Mead (**1920 – 1921**);
Horace John George Clarke (**1921 – 1924**);
Alfred Edwin Floyd (**1924 – 1926**);
Joseph Le Vine (**1926 – 1937**);
Samuel 'Sam' Adkins (**1937 – 1944**);
Thomas Oakes (**1944 – 1946**);
George Thomas Parker (**1946 – 1956**);
Mrs. Ellen Parker (**1956 – 1957**)
Horace Edgar Price (**1957 – 1962**);
Anthony McMahon (**1962 – 1965**);
Raymond Read (**1965 – []**)



NOTES

Howard Street [1871], [1872], [1879], [1948]
Thomas Street [1870]
Windmill Lane [1870], [1881], [1892], [1897]
190, Windmill Lane [1891], [1942], [1948], [1964]

NEW CHURCH TAVERN

It had a beerhouse license.

Smethwick Telephone 22/2/1870

“On Monday evening Court St. Matthew [Foresters] held at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane.....”

1871 Census

Howard Street

- [1] *Robert Bainbridge* (38), licensed victualler, born Stockton, Durham;
- [2] *Emily Bainbridge* (37), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Robert J. Bainbridge* (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mary C. Bainbridge* (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Sarah J. Bainbridge* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Maria A. Bainbridge* (1 month), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Emma Simmons* (18), servant, born Birmingham:

Dudley Herald 25/10/1873

Robert Bainbridge was fined £8 8s 6d for being drunk and riotous.

Edward Cheshire issued tokens from here.

1881 Census

Windmill Lane - NEW CHURCH INN

- [1] *Edward Cheshire* (39), licensed victualler, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Ann Cheshire* (37), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Anna Cheshire* (12), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mabel S. Cheshire* (1), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Martha Seeley* (23), general servant, domestic, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Sarah Duffield* (19), general servant and barmaid, born Oldbury;
- [7] *Phoebe (Hawks ?)* (14), general servant, domestic, born Smethwick:

Edward Cheshire was born in Tifford, Oldbury in 1842.

He was educated at the Chance Brothers School.

He brewed the beer here.

He issued tokens from here.

He owned several pubs in Smethwick.

He established Cheshire's Brewery, which first brewed in December 1887.

He served on the Local Board of Health and later the District Council.

He was elected an alderman in 1899.

He was president of the Cripples Union.

He was president of the Smethwick Aid Society from 1905 to 1919.

He was president of Smethwick Musical Society.

He was Mayor of Smethwick.

He was president of the Birmingham Children's Hospital.

He died on 13th July 1919, and was buried at the Old Chapel.

Smethwick Telephone 5/7/1884

“Smethwick Bicycle Club held their annual meeting at the CHURCH TAVERN, Windmill Lane.....”

Smethwick Telephone 29/9/1888

“At Oldbury County Court on Wednesday before his Hon. Judge Griffiths, John Wilkins of High Park Road, Smethwick sued Messrs. Digger and Bissell, trustees of Liberty Lodge of the United Order of Free Gardeners, held at the CHURCH INN, Smethwick, for 12s being three weeks reduced sick pay alleged to be due to him from them verdict for the defendants.”

Smethwick Musical Society was founded here c. 1889.

Smethwick Telephone 5/7/1890

“Smethwick Musical Society. This Society, which is rapidly acquiring a name for itself and becoming a very successful and important institution, again entertained a number of members and friends at their Rooms, the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane.....”

1891 Census

190, Windmill Lane – NEW CHURCH INN

- [1] *William H. Leigh* (29), public house manager, born Manchester;
- [2] *Eleanor Leight* (27), wife, born Bolton, Lancashire;
- [3] *Joseph Leigh* (5), son, scholar, born Bolton, Lancashire;
- [4] *Mabel Leigh* (3), daughter, born Manchester;
- [5] *Herbert Leigh* (2), son, born Manchester;
- [6] *Eleanor C. Leigh* (5 months), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Sam Windley* (18), barman, born Todmorden, Lancashire;
- [8] *Joseph Bott* (22), barman, born Lichfield;
- [9] *Elizabeth Robinson* (56), general servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 2/5/1891

“Smethwick Musical Society. The second annual dinner in connection with the above society took place at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/12/1891

“On Wednesday evening a smoking concert was held at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, in connection with the Smethwick Liberal Association the large club room was crowded.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1892

“On Monday night a meeting of brewers, publicans and others interested in the licensing trade in the Smethwick, Soho and surrounding districts was held at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, Smethwick for the purpose of considering the scheme of the trade defence, with special reference to the general election put forward by the Midland Counties Federated Brewers’ Society.....”

Smethwick Telephone 13/2/1892

Smethwick Musical Society held annual meeting here.

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1892

“Mr. John Newey C.C. [County councillor] presided at the ‘Open Night’ of this [Smethwick Musical] Society, held on Tuesday evening at the NEW CHURCH INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 18/11/1892

“Smethwick Musical Society. An open night was given by the above society on Tuesday last at the NEW CHURCH INN where despite the inclemency of the weather, a large audience assembled to enjoy the musical treat arranged for their delectation.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1892

“The NEW CHURCH INN Sick Society – The annual meeting of the above society was held at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, on Thursday evening, the 8th inst. There was a good attendance of members The committee recommended a dividend of 8s per member, which is very good when they consider that they paid out £6 for deaths, and a heavy amount for sickness. This is the tenth year of the society, which numbers 150 members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 7/1/1893

“On Tuesday evening the employees of the Windmill Brewery were entertained to a sumptuous repast by their employer (Mr. Edward Cheshire) in the large club room at the NEW CHURCH INN the host and hostess (Mr. & Mrs. *Lee*) catered.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/1/1893

“Saturday last was the occasion of the annual dinner of the employees of Messrs. Charles Carr, bell and brass founders, Smethwick. It was held at the CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane.....”

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1894

“NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane. Host – Mr. *T. Pearson* last Tuesday evening the employees of the Windmill Brewery, Windmill Lane were entertained to a dinner at the NEW CHURCH INN, by Mr. Edward Cheshire.....”

The 5th annual dinner of the Smethwick Musical Society held here in May 1894

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1894

“A very interesting ceremony took place on Monday evening at the NEW CHURCH INN in connection with Court St. Matthew of the Ancient Order of Foresters. Bro. W. Higgins, who has now retired from the secretaryship of that Court, which office he has held for upwards of 19 years, being presented with a beautiful marble clock of Athens design.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/11/1894

“Mr. Edwin Hooper (coroner) held an inquest at the NEW CHURCH INN, on Tuesday afternoon, touching the death of Daisy Margaret Powis, aged three years and ten months, who resided with her parents at No.13 Howard Street, Smethwick, and who died on Sunday from the effects of scalds received on the previous day.

Sarah Powis, mother of deceased, stated that on Saturday, about one o'clock, she went into the garden, leaving the child playing with some books in the kitchen. There was a fire in the grate, but nothing to keep the children from it, and there was also a kettle, filled with boiling water, on the hob. She had not been in the garden above three or four minutes when she heard the girl screaming. She immediately ran to the house, and met the child by the door. Deceased's clothes were wet, and witness's first impression was that she had fallen into a bucket of water, but when she went into the house she noticed that the kettle had been upset, and then saw what had occurred. The child was scalded about the chest and arms, and she called a neighbour in. They rubbed oil and flour over the scalds, and then put the deceased to bed. She went for Dr. Mottram at twelve o'clock the same night.

.....The Coroner said that it would have been far better for her [Ann Tyler, the neighbour] to have kept away than give such an opinion [not to send for a doctor immediately].....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/3/1895

“The annual meeting in connection with the Smethwick Musical Society was held at the NEW CHURCH INN on Tuesday evening. Mr. *Edward Cheshire* (president) occupied the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 12/10/1895

“Smethwick Musical Society . The above society held a very successful open night at the NEW CHURCH INN Tuesday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 18/1/1896

“The annual dinner of the employees of Messrs. Charles Carr, Woodlands Bell Foundry, Grove Lane, took place at the NEW CHURCH INN on Friday evening (the 10th inst). Upwards of 50 sat down to dinner which was admirably catered for by Mr. *T. Pearson*.....”

- There was a similar report on 16/1/1897.

Smethwick Telephone 21/3/1896

“The annual meeting of Conservatives in the South East Ward, in connection with the Smethwick Conservative Association, was held at the NEW CHURCH on Monday night for the purpose of electing officers and committee.....”

Smethwick Telephone 12/9/1896

“Musical Society. An ‘open night’ in connection with this society took place on Tuesday evening at the NEW CHURCH INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/6/1897

“Smethwick Musical Society.- An open night of the above society was held on Tuesday evening at the NEW CHURCH INN Since the last meeting the room has been papered and decorated.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/10/1897

“St. Michael’s Swimming Club. A smoking concert in connection with the above club was held at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, on Thursday night, there being a large attendance of members and friends. Mr. William Cheshire presided.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/4/1898

“Smethwick Musical Society.- Mr. Felix Smith presided over a moderate attendance at the ‘Open Night’ of this society on Tuesday evening at the NEW CHURCH INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/5/1898

“John Rawlins (32), Grove Lane, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the NEW CHURCH INN, and further with assaulting the police. *Horace Lewis Gyde*, landlord of the NEW CHURCH INN, stated that prisoner went to his house on Monday night, and was, in consequence of his drunken condition, refused drink. On being ejected he struck and kicked witness on the legs.- Police-constable Briggs stated that defendant was creating a disturbance, and when arrested he became very violent and kicked and struck him. Police-constable Hall came to his assistance, and they had great difficulty in getting prisoner to the station. When in the police office he acted like a madman, caught Briggs by the throat, and was with great difficulty removed to the cells.- Prisoner pleaded that he was sorry for the offence, and said he had a wife and three children dependent upon him.- For refusing to quit, he was fined 10s and costs, and for the assault on the police 10s and costs, (in all 45s), in default, one month’s imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/1/1899

“The employees of Messrs. Cheshire Brewery Ltd. were entertained by the firm to an excellent dinner at the NEW CHURCH INN, on Friday night, the 30th inst.....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/2/1899

“The Smethwick Musical Society hold an ‘Open Night’ on Tuesday next at the NEW CHURCH INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 1/4/1899

“NEW CHURCH INN Sick Society – The first annual concert in aid of the benevolent (?) of the above society was held at the NEW CHURCH INN assembly room on Tuesday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/6/1899

“The Ivy Orchestral Band held its first ‘open night’ at the NEW CHURCH INN, on Wednesday night. This band, although it has been in existence only a few months, gives promise of a successful future.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/6/1899

“A meeting for the purpose of making arrangements for music in the park was held at the NEW CHURCH INN, on Wednesday night, under the chairmanship of Mr. R. Owen Hughes. A large committee, with Councillor W. H. Goodyear [Mayor in 1910] as president, was appointed, and members of the old committee are invited to join in the movement. A subscription list was opened, Councillor Goodyear giving £2 2s, and Mr. Owen Hughes 10s. It was decided that the first concert should be given on Sunday, July 2nd, at seven o’clock, when the programme will be supplied by the Ivy Orchestral Band and Mr. E. Clarke’s quartette. A further meeting of the Committee will be held next Wednesday night at nine o’clock.”

Horace Louis Gyde = Harold Louis Gyde

West Bromwich Weekly News 6/1/1900

“Benjamin Ellis (60) of Poplar Street, Smethwick, was summoned for assaulting *Harold Louis Gyde*, landlord of the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, and his son, Geoge Ellis (21) of the same address, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the NEW CHURCH INN. *Gyde* was charged on a cross summons for assaulting the younger Ellis It appeared that on Christmas Day, about closing time, the elder Ellis purchased a pint of beer at the NEW CHURCH INN, and a dispute arose over the change. Ellis commenced to use bad language towards Mrs. *Gyde*, and the other defendant also rushed in and joined him. The landlord ejected the younger Ellis, but he returned, and as Mr. *Gyde* was endeavouring to again put him out, the father struck him with an iron jug on the head several times. The serious wound which was inflicted necessitated the attendance of Dr. Stephen, who stated that the wound was a dangerous one, the bone being contused, while Mr. *Gyde* still had a black eye.- The elder Ellis pleaded that he struck *Gyde* in defence of his son, and the latter alleged that *Gyde* assaulted him.- The Bench dismissed the cross summons, but fined Benjamin Ellis 20s and costs (£1 10s 6d in all) and George Ellis 5s and costs (14s 6d altogether).”

West Bromwich Weekly News 12/5/1900

“*Harold Louis Gyde*, manager of the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, was summoned for assaulting Sarah Ann Whitman, of Raglan Road, on Easter Monday night Complainant alleged that defendant threw her out of his house without any cause, but the defence was that she refused to leave when told to do so, and Mr. *Gyde* simply pushed her out. The case was dismissed.”

1901 Census

189, Windmill Lane – NEW CHURCH INN

- [1] *Harold L. Gyde* (37), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary A. Gyde* (34), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Elsie E. Gyde* (13), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Harold L. Gyde* (8), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Archie Gyde* (6), son, born Birmingham;

Smethwick Weekly News 14/12/1901

“Richard Price (35), of Corbett Street, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, on the 7th inst. Mr. J. S. Sharpe appeared to prosecute.

Charles Dench, the manager of the house, said his wife, who was serving in the bar on Saturday afternoon, made a complaint to him. She had refused to serve, as he was drunk and using obscene language. He requested him to leave, but he refused. Since then defendant had apologised.

PC Beech deposed to seeing defendant drunk on these premises. When he was last before the Court he promised to be teetotal.

There was a further charge of being drunk in the street, and a fine of 10s and the costs was imposed in each case, a total of £1 15s.”

Smethwick Weekly News 31/5/1902

“On Tuesday afternoon an inquest was held at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, Smethwick, by the Deputy Coroner (Mr. A. A. Beetham) touching the death of Frederick Emanuel Johnson (29), late of 14, back of 66, Upper Grove Street, Smethwick, who died on the 26th inst.

Caroline Johnson said deceased was her husband. He was a galvaniser at Nettlefold’s. On Wednesday the 21st inst, he was taken ill, and went to see Dr. Whincello, of Dudley Road. He seemed to get worse on Saturday, and in the afternoon his talk seemed strange, and he had hardly anything to eat. On the Saturday night he was restless, and walked about the room nearly all night. He rose at 5.45 on Sunday morning and went out. Witness followed him and asked him where he was going, when deceased said he was going to work. When about 100 yards from the house he staggered and fell against the wall with his head bent forward. He must have died instantly, for he did not speak again. On the Sunday previous to his death deceased had said something about his going to fight. When he came in he did not seem to be hurt in any way except for having an eye slightly blacked.

In reply to the Coroner, witness said he was a healthy man, and earned good wages.

William Murray, of Baldwin Street, Smethwick, said he was a fellow-workman of deceased. On Saturday, the 16th, he arranged a fight with deceased because the latter had thrown a glass of beer in his face some time previously. On the Sunday they met at a place called the 'Soap Hole' on the canal side at about 9.15, and had a fight. They had only about two rounds, and then were stopped. It was a fair fight, and after five minutes they stopped, and shook hands, and became friends again.

Levi Barnett and PC Beech saw deceased lying with his back against the wall and head bent forward. The officer had made full enquiries and he found no suspicious circumstances.

The Coroner then summed up.

The foreman thought that a post-mortem would not help them, and they could draw a proper conclusion from the evidence given.

Some of the jurors differed from this, and wished to adjourn the inquest to have a post-mortem made, which was agreed to.

The inquest was resumed on Thursday. As Dr. Stephens was about to give his evidence one of the jurymen asked for Dr. Whincello to leave the room during this evidence. The request was complied with, after which Dr. Stephens said he was called to see deceased about 6am on Sunday, the 26th inst, when he found life to be extinct. He had made a post-mortem examination of the body, and had found no marks of violence. He found signs showing that deceased had suffered from pneumonia and pleurisy. There was a blood clot on the heart. He attributed death to pneumonia in both lungs, what was called double pneumonia.

Cross-examined: He did not think that deceased had been suffering from a fresh outbreak of pneumonia above four days. It would be a difficult case to diagnose in its earlier stages.

Dr. Whincello was then called in, and said deceased called in to see him on Wednesday or Thursday. He was one of the doctors for Nettlefold's workmen, but deceased was not forced to visit him. He examined deceased, who complained of a pain in his side, for a broken rib, but found none, but instead found that he was suffering from pleurisy. He gave him some medicine, and expected him to call again in two days, as the medicine should then have been consumed. On the Saturday night following deceased's wife called at the surgery for some medicine, and told the doctor that he was worse. She did not give him the impression that he was seriously ill.

At this point the witness was subjected to a severe cross-examination as to what his duty was in regard to deceased.

This led Dr. Stephens to remark that the jurymen were making insulting observations.

The Coroner thought the questions were not intended to be impertinent.

Dr. Stephens: They are an insult to any gentleman.

The wife of the deceased was recalled, and stated that when she visited Dr. Whincello's on the Saturday night she did not know that her husband was seriously ill, only that he was worse.

The Coroner pointed out that the medical man was bound to give proper attention to any person whether a private or a 'club' patient.

The jury then retired for consideration, and returned after an absence of half an hour.

The Foreman then said that the jury returned a verdict of Death from double pneumonia, and added a rider to the effect that Dr. Whincello had not given the attention he should have done.

Dr. Stephens explained that Dr. Whincello had not been asked to attend deceased at his house, and there was a custom not to attend unless requested.

The Coroner said that was the case only in the first visit. The Coroner then said he was afraid that no expenses could be allowed Dr. Whincello because of the rider, and this was confirmed by the jury.

Dr. Whincello: That is a matter for inquiry.

The business then concluded."

Smethwick Telephone 8/2/1908

"The monthly concert of the Smethwick Musical Society was given on Tuesday last at the NEW CHURCH INN....."

Smethwick Telephone 4/4/1908

"The Coroner (Mr. G. C. Lewis) held two inquests on Monday afternoon. The first was held at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, and had reference to the death of William Crockett (39), of Six Ways, who died suddenly on Sunday.- The evidence showed that deceased had suffered from influenza, and had been attended by Dr. Stephen. On Sunday he was sweeping up the yard when he was taken suddenly ill and died a few hours afterwards.- The doctor attributed death to heart failure, following influenza....."

1911 Census

190, Windmill Lane – NEW CHURCH INN

- [1] *Ralph John Rogers* (40), publican, born Shrewsbury;
- [2] *Elizabeth Rogers* (37), wife, married 13 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Ralph Horace Rogers* (12), son, born Walsall;
- [4] *Winifred Rogers* (10), daughter, born Walsall;
- [5] *Ethel Rogers* (8), daughter, born Walsall;
- [6] *Victor Rogers* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Florence Rogers* (15), visitor, born Shrewsbury:

Smethwick Telephone 9/3/1912

“Smethwick Musical Society. The Open Night of the above society was held on Tuesday, at the NEW CHURCH INN. Mr. J. Round presided, in place of Mr. J. J. W. Carr, who was unable to come, through illness. The audience was of the most enthusiastic character, and greatly appreciated the programme.....”

Smethwick Telephone 2/11/1912

“Smethwick Musical Society. The next open night of the above society will be held at headquarters, the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, on Tuesday evening next, commencing at 8.30pm. Mr. T. H. Paste will preside.....”

Smethwick Telephone 15/12/1928

“RAOB – Victoria Grove Lodge. A complimentary dinner was given by Bro. John Hinton to the brothers of the above Lodge, RAOB – GLE, at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, last week. About sixty members were present.

The dinner was followed by a concert, to which friends of the members were invited. The Rev. Bro. Charles Martin presided.....”

Joseph Le Vine – see also ABBEY.

Smethwick Telephone 8/1/1938

“A suggestion made to a friend by Mr. *Sam Adkins*, mine host at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, 10 weeks ago, resulted in the formation of a Committee which has made itself responsible for the provision of a children’s party, and a convivial evening for the old folk of the Six Ways district. The children’s party took place on Saturday, and the old folk’s dinner will be held on January 17th.

For the children’s party 150 invitations were issued. Two hundred and thirty children arrived, and it speaks well of the comprehensive manner in which the arrangements had been made that it was possible to provide for them all. It was a splendid feast, consisting of bread and butter, mince pies, fancy cakes and sponge cakes, and there was the best of all concerts to follow.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1938

“Nearly a hundred old folk were entertained to dinner at the NEW CHURCH INN, Windmill Lane, on Monday evening. Nothing quite like this interesting function has previously taken place in the Six Ways District, and Mr. and Mrs. *Sam Adkins* (who are in charge at the hostelry), together with the Committee which was responsible for the arrangements, are to be congratulated upon the success of a plan which was mooted only a few weeks ago. A suggestion made by Mine Host to a friend resulted in the formation of a Committee which made itself responsible for entertaining 200 children three weeks ago. The children having been satisfied, the next thought was for the old folk, and so invitations went out to residents of the Six Ways District of 65 years and upwards to attend a dinner and concert. There is now a plan for a summer outing for the children.

The question of funds has presented little difficulty. It was in October that the organisation came into being and since that time, a series of weekly concerts – admission threepence – has swelled the fund towards which many generous residents have contributed. Given a continuation of this generosity, the summer outing is almost an established fact.

Councillor and Mrs. J. Ernest Brain attended the old folks dinner. Mrs. Brain as a former resident of the Six Ways district, was glad of the opportunity of renewing many old acquaintances, whilst her husband, who is President of the Smethwick Musical Society, mentioned the interesting fact that it was in that very room that the Society was formed 50 years ago.....”

George Thomas Parker died in 1956.
He was married to *Ellen*.

Ellen Parker founded the NEW CHURCH Ladies' Social Club.

Anthony McMahon – see also BRITANNIA.

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1965

“About 100 members and guests of the Ladies' Social Club from the NEW CHURCH INN enjoyed their annual dinner and dance at the BLUE GATES HOTEL on Monday.”

Smethwick Telephone 5/2/1965

“.....The site of the old Windmill reading room is to be developed by Mitchells and Butlers Ltd., to provide a new public house with assembly room in place of the NEW CHURCH INN and VICTORIA public house which will go under the Helena Street plan.”

It was subject to a Compulsory Purchase Order as part of the Victoria Ward Clearance, in July 1964 and May 1965.

It closed on 22nd June 1969.

The license was transferred to the HUSSAR.

Demolished

NEW INN

Cross Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Arthur George Taylor [1885]

NOTES

Smethwick Telephone 16/5/1885

Petty Sessions, Smethwick. *Arthur George Taylor* was fined 5s and costs for keeping his house open after hours on Sunday.

NEW INNS

53, Union Street, / Crocketts Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchell and Butler Ltd. (acquired 5th July 1901) [1965]
Mann, Crossman and Paulin

LICENSEES

William Elcocks [1850] – [1851]
Joseph Edwards [1855]
William Edwards [1858] – [1872]
John Edwards [1876]
John Lee Morris [1878] – [1881]
Alfred G. Taylor [1882]
James Reavey [1887] – **1892**);
William Frederick James (**1892** – [1901]
George Watts [1911]
George Samuel Johnson [1912] – **1915**);
Thomas Henry Cole (**1915** – **1916**);
Annie Cole (**1916** – **1919**);
Thomas Henry Cole (**1919** – **1930**);
William Ernest Bartlett (**1930** – **1933**);
Harry Pearson (**1933** – **1934**);
Frederick Richard Jeffs (**1934** – **1936**);
Joseph Meadows (**1936** – **1944**);
George Freeman (**1944** – **1946**);
Stanley Aubrey Merrall (**1946** – **1948**);
Stanley Harris (**1948** – **1949**);
Thomas Davies (**1949** – **1952**);
Dennis Thomas Plumb (**1952** – **1954**);
Douglas Haigh (**1954** – **1957**);
William Arthur Perkins (**1957** – **1961**);
James Buick Anderson (**1961** – **1962**);
Alfred Leonard Mason (**1962**);
Ernest Charles Bellamy (**1962** – **1963**);
Francis James 'Frank' Nash (**1963** – **1965**);
Ronald Joseph Stewart (**1965**);
Ronald Rennie (**1965** – []

NOTES

[1845]

1851 Census

Union Street

- [1] *William Elcocks* (52), victualler, born Clee Hill, Shropshire;
- [2] *Ann Elcocks* (48), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Joseph Moles* (11), nephew, scholar, born Bromsgrove;
- [4] *Sarah Edwards* (21), servant, born Clee Hill, Shropshire;
- [5] *William Steins* (20), labourer, born Rugby;
- [6] *Charles Brown* (67), bell hanger, born Birmingham;
- [7] *George Hides* (21), lodger, labourer, born Hanley, Worcestershire;
- [8] *George Jones* (18), lodger, labourer, born Hanley, Worcestershire:

Joseph Edwards was also a brass caster. [1855]

1861 Census

Union Street

- [1] *William Edwards* (41), innkeeper, born Tipton;
- [2] *Hannah Edwards* (36), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Joseph E. Edwards* (14), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *John Edwards* (13), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Edward Edwards* (6), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *George Henry Edwards* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Thomas Edwards* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Unity Cooke* (26), visitor, dressmaker, born Tipton;
- [9] *Sarah Bullock* (25), house servant, born Sedgley:

1871 Census

Union Street

- [1] *William Edwards* (51), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] *Hannah Edwards* (46), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Thomas Edwards* (14), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Ann Butcher* (16), general servant, born Oldbury:

Dudley Herald 23/9/1876

“*John Edwards*, landlord, NEW INN, Union Street, Smethwick was charged with receiving stolen goods Committed for trial.”

1881 Census

53, Union Street - NEW INNS Public House

- [1] *John Lee Morris* (47), licensed victualler, born Worcester;
- [2] *Jane Morris* (54), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Alice Crook* (?) (13), niece, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Alexander Biston* (40), brewer, born Bridgnorth;
- [5] *Alice Smith* (19), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

Evening Star 18/2/1882

“A special license was granted to *Alfred G. Taylor*, landlord of the NEW INN, Union Street, Smethwick, authorizing him to sell at the Public Hall, on the occasion of the first annual ball of the Smethwick Volunteers, on Wednesday next, till two o'clock on the following morning.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/3/1884

Inquest at NEW INN, Union Street on *Martha Daniels* (7 weeks) - accidental suffocation.

James Reavey = *James Reaney*

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1887 - Advert

“NEW INN, Union Street, Smethwick. Prop. *James Reavey*. A Select Harmonic Meeting Is Held At This House Every Saturday Evening. Pleasant Company and Good Talent. Chair Taken At Eight o’Clock. Wines and Spirits of the Best Quality and choice cigars.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/5/1887

“On Monday evening the anniversary dinner of Court ‘Watt Villa’ (Ancient Order of Foresters) was held at the NEW INNS.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/8/1887

“Alfred W. Dando. To sell by auction at NEW INN, Smethwick on August 9th all that valuable commanding double fronted full licensed corner premises known as the NEW INN, Union Street and Crocketts Lane, Smethwick, occupying an excellent position in the centre of a thickly populated neighbourhood and now being in the occupation of Mr. *James Reaney*.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/8/1888

“A large number of Foresters connected with the various Courts in the Smethwick and West Bromwich district assembled at the NEW INN, Union Street, Smethwick on Monday evening, for the purpose of making a presentation to Bro. William Caldow (PDCR) on his retirement from the office of trustee after 45 years service.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/12/1888

“On Monday night the members of Court ‘Watt Villa’ No. 2455 (A.O.F.) held at the NEW INNS, Union Street.....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/9/1889

“.....sell by auction the brewing plant.....”

1891 Census

53, Union Street

- [1] *James Reavey* (52), lithographic printer, born Boston, Lincolnshire;
- [2] *Eleanor M. Reavey* (50), wife, born Leicester;
- [3] *Elizabeth M. Reavey* (29), daughter, assistant printer, born Leicester;
- [4] *Eleanor L. Reavey* (21), daughter, dressmaker, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Francis Reavey* (18), son, apprentice, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Thomas Reavey* (16), son, clerk, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Fred Reavey* (13), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [8] *Ellen Whitworth* (16), general servant, born Birmingham:

William Frederick James issued tokens from here.

Smethwick Telephone 27/7/1895

“Mr. Edwin Hooper (district coroner) held an inquest at the NEW INN, Union Street, Smethwick, on Monday, concerning the death of Frederick William Abel, aged nine years, who resided with his parents at 135, High Park Road Elizabeth Abel, mother of deceased, after giving evidence as to identification, said deceased had enjoyed good health. On Wednesday evening he went out to fly a kite on some waste ground near to his home, and was away about three quarters of an hour. When he came back shortly after seven o’clock, she noticed that he was covered in dust from head to foot, and she asked him the cause of it, but he made no answer. He afterwards said he had tumbled down the embankment of a brook, but made no complaint of having received any injuries, although he appeared to have received a shock. On Thursday and Friday he went to school as usual, and seemed to rejoice because the school children had ‘broken up’ for a three weeks holiday. He went to bed at half past eight o’clock on Friday night, when he appeared to be as well as ever he was, but on Saturday morning he did not get up as early as usual, and she then perceived that he was poorly. He said that his head was bad, and she thought he was suffering from a cold About five o’clock her husband went for Dr. Payton, who said he could not come until eight o’clock. Before he came back the child died The jury returned a verdict that the boy died from inflammation, caused by the fall.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/3/1897

“Mr. Albert A. Betham (Deputy coroner) held an inquest at the NEW INNS, Union Street, Smethwick, on Saturday morning, touching the death of John Honour (51), railway labourer, of New Street, Smethwick, who committed suicide by hanging himself on Friday.- Martha Honour, wife of deceased, stated that on Wednesday night deceased returned home from his work at Soho Goods Station, and complained of having hurt his back whilst lifting a weight. He went to bed and remained there on Thursday. On Friday he complained of being in pain, and said he should not go to work that day. Deceased was all right at 11.30, but when she went to take him his dinner at about quarter to one o’clock, she found he was not in his room. Something seemed to tell her to go up to the attic, and she did so, and found deceased hanging by a scarf from the stair rail There was insanity in the family, two uncles of deceased having been in asylums Deceased was addicted to drink some time ago, but not recently The jury returned a verdict of ‘Suicide whilst of unsound mind’.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/9/1897

“Maria Fullwood, a respectably dressed woman, residing in Sams Lane, West Bromwich, was charged with stealing an umbrella, of the value of 10s 6d, the property of *William F. James*, landlord of the NEW INNS, Union Street, Smethwick, on the 28th ult.- It appears that defendant called at complainant’s house on the date named and was served with some beer. She went into a private sitting room, and when she left an umbrella was missed. A barman followed her, and under the defendant’s cloak the umbrella was found.- Defendant said she took the umbrella by mistake, and she did not know what she was doing at the time, being intoxicated. She was fined 30s including costs.”

1901 Census

53, Union Street

[1] *William F. James* (42), licensed victualler, born Netherton:

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. were fined 20s and £3 10s 0d costs, on 15th September 1904, for permitting drunkenness.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8]

1911 Census

53, Union Street

[1] *George Watts* (40), manager public house, born St. Neots, Huntingdonshire;

[2] *Clara Watts* (44), wife, married 16 years, born Wednesbury;

[3] *Alban Watts* (15), son, school, born Darlaston;

[4] *George Watts* (13), son, school, born Weymouth;

[5] *Eveline Watts* (12), daughter, school, born Weymouth;

[6] *Annie Pearson* (20), general servant, born Princes End;

[7] *Frank Daw* (21), servant, barman, born Brewwood, Staffordshire:

Smethwick Telephone 3/2/1912

“A dinner took place at the NEW INNS, Union Street, on Saturday evening, in connection with the Smethwick branch of the United Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Ship Builders. An excellent repast was provided by the host (Mr. *G. Johnson*), after which there were several toasts and an interesting programme of songs and recitations.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/3/1912

“Under the auspices of the ‘Good Samaritans’ Sick and Dividend Society, a very enjoyable convivial evening was spent at the NEW INNS, on Saturday night. Mr. T. Chandler presided, and in a very appropriate speech, commended the objects of such an organisation.....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/11/1912

“The eighth annual dinner and concert of the Amalgamated Society of Boilermakers and Iron and Steel Shipbuilders (Smethwick Branch) was held at the NEW INNS, Union Street, on Saturday night. After the repast (which was admirably served by the host, Mr. *George Johnson*), Mr. W. Sharrocks, district delegate, extended a cordial welcome to the guests.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/2/1934

“The annual dinner of the RAOB (G. L. E.) ‘Good Samaritan’ Lodge was held at the NEW INNS, Union Street, Smethwick, on Friday last when a very enjoyable evening was spent.....”

Frederick Richard Jeffs – see also WINDMILL.

Stanley Harris was fined £10 and £12 12s 0d costs, on 9th June 1949, for ‘by servant or agent did sell intoxicating liquor during non-permitted hours’.

Ronald Stewart was born in Smethwick, circa 1933.
See also SWAN.

It closed on 31st March 1971.
Demolished

NEW NAVIGATION

75, Bridge Street, (Canalside), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Alfred Homer Ltd., Aston Cross
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 6th October 1899)

LICENSEES

Thomas Scott [1818]
Hannah Scott [1839]
Henry Smith [1841] – [1842]
Isaac Fanthom [1851] – [1865]
Leonard Bower [1867] – [1873]
Bartholomew Cassidy [1878]
David Gascoigne [1879]
James Neal [1883] – [1890]
Joseph Homer [1891] – **1896**;
George Day (**1896** – [1899])
John Green [1900]
William Holmes [1901]
(Professor) Alberto [1903]
Biddulph (**1906** – [])

NOTES

It was situated between the two canals.

NAVIGATION [1883], [1891], [1897], [1900]
NAVIGATION, Canalside [1851]

Tokens were issued from here bearing the words 'Homer's Ales'.

Thomas Scott was the brother of Richard Scott of the HAND OF PROVIDENCE.
He was a farmer [1818] and the parish constable.

1851 Census

Next to Smethwick lock – NEW NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Isaac Fanthom* (39), widower, innkeeper, born Knowle;
- [2] *Elizabeth Fanthom* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Harriet Fanthom* (5), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Sarah Hackett* (16), house servant, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Frederic Jesson* (20), house servant, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Jane Milner* (30), housekeeper, born Bedworth;
- [7] *Eliza Fanthom* (9), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham:

Isaac Fanthom = *Isaac Fantom*.
He issued tokens (as *Fanthom*)

1871 Census

75, Bridge Street – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] Leonard Bower (60), licensed victualler, born Ashover, Derbyshire;
- [2] Ann Bower (70), wife, born Sutton Coldfield;
- [3] Joseph B. Astbury (31), visitor, manufacturing engineer, born Hawarden, Flintshire;
- [4] Emily Astbury (22), visitor, born Birmingham;
- [5] Arthur E. Astbury (1), visitor, born Smethwick;
- [6] Elizabeth Seal (18), domestic servant, born Handsworth;
- [7] Robert Hows (26), visitor, agricultural labourer, born Whittington, Oxfordshire;
- [8] William Jones (38), visitor, wagon builder, born Ludlow:

David Gascoigne was also a shopkeeper. [1879]

1891 Census

Bridge Street – NAVIGATION INN

- [1] Joseph Homer (34), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] Eliza Homer (34), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Emma Homer (9), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] Joseph Homer (7), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] Nellie Homer (4), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [6] Rose Death (17), general servant, born Birmingham:

Joseph Homer – see also FOUNTAIN.

Smethwick Telephone 17/7/1897

“Building Committee recommended that the following plans be approved *George Day*, alteration to NAVIGATION INN, Bridge Street.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/9/1897

“Pedestrianism at NAVIGATION Recreation Grounds. At these newly opened grounds on Saturday, the preliminary rounds of Mr. *George Day*'s (proprietor) All-England Pedestrian Handicap were run through in the presence of a fair company of spectators.....”

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1898

“NAVIGATION Recreation Grounds, Smethwick.- The attractions of these grounds, on Tuesday, consisted of the preliminary rounds of Mr. *George Day*'s (proprietor) All-England 125 yards £20 Pedestrian Handicap.....”

Smethwick Telephone 12/2/1898

“Harry Macdonald (35) of no fixed abode, but hailing from Stourbridge, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Bridge Street on Saturday last. He was also charged with breaking a plate glass window at the same house.- *George Day*, landlord, said that prisoner went to his house, created a disturbance and refused to leave when ordered to do so, being ultimately ejected. When prisoner was outside, he threw a large stone at the window and broke it. The damage was estimated at £3 10s.- Police-constable Shipley also gave evidence.- Prisoner was fined 10s and costs (5s) and was also ordered to pay £1 towards the damage: in default 21 days imprisonment with hard labour.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/5/1898

“NAVIGATION Recreation Grounds The attraction at these grounds on Saturday should have been the preliminary rounds of Mr. *George Day*'s (proprietor) All-England 130 yards £50 Pedestrian Handicap. The above important event, however, was not commenced, but was put off until May 21st and 22nd, and an All-England 130 yards £7 10s Pedestrian Handicap was substituted.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 28/7/1900

“Richard Logan (36), labourer of Bridge Street, was charged with attempting to steal £1 1s 6d from behind the counter at the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Bridge Street, on Thursday last.

Mr. Clulow Jnr. prosecuted, and explained that during the barmaid’s absence from the bar she heard a noise of glasses being broken, and on returning to the bar she found the prisoner hiding underneath the counter on the serving side. The money was on a shelf, and the glasses round it had been disturbed and one broken.

Prisoner was further charged with assaulting PC Shipley, whom he kicked and struck when the officer arrested him. Prisoner denied the first charge, but was sent to gaol for a month with hard labour, and a further 14 days hard labour for the assault.”

1901 Census

Bridge Street – NEW NAVIGATION INN

[1] *William Holmes* (32), publican, born Walsall;

[2] *Lucy Holmes* (28), wife, born Walsall;

[3] *Rose Holmes* (3), daughter, born Oldbury;

[4] *Florrie Holmes* (2), daughter, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *Edith Anderson* (18), domestic servant, born Wolverhampton:

Smethwick Weekly News 17/5/1902

“On Tuesday afternoon the Deputy Coroner (Mr. A. A. Beetham) held an inquest at the NAVIGATION INN, Bridge Street, on the body of Thomas Yeomans (47), labourer, of the lock side, Bridge Street, who was found dead in the canal lock, Bridge Street, on the 10th inst, at about 12pm by Police-constable Archer.

Evidence was given to the effect that deceased left the house at about 11.10pm, on the 10th inst, when he appeared to be in his usual spirits. How he came to be in the canal could not be accounted for.

The jury returned an open verdict of Found Drowned.”

Professor *Alberto* was the stage name of a Mr. Tiltman, an illusionist and conjuror.

Mr. Biddulph was married to *Nellie*.

See also STORK, Great Bridge.

Smethwick Telephone March 1907

“There was only one important application made to the Licensing Justices for the Borough at the adjourned meeting on Wednesday, it was in respect of an application made by Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers Ltd., to erect a very imposing hotel at the Cape. A great deal of interest was manifested in the proceedings, and the court was inconveniently crowded.....

Mr. Joy (instructed by Mr. A. Caddick) appeared in support of Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers application, which was described as one in which they desired to ‘remove the license of the NEW NAVIGATION INN (L.V.), Bridge Street, to premises to be constructed at the corner of Waterloo Road and Shireland Road’. Mr. J. G. Hurst (instructed by Mr. C. E. Parish) opposed on behalf of residents and persons interested in the owners of the SEVEN STARS HOTEL.....

.....they [Mitchells and Butlers] were prepared to strike deep into clearing what was admittedly a somewhat congested area to be found in West Smethwick. They were willing to surrender no less than four licenced houses out of what all would consider a congested spot in that locality. This would be to such good purpose that he [Mr. Joy] thought the Magistrates would have no trouble in the future as to the question of redundancy. The following were the proposed surrenders – THREE CROWNS INN, Albert Street; HALF WAY HOUSE, Oldbury Road; LAMB AND FLAG, George Street and the BURTON TAVERN, George Street. It was a clean sweep of one whole district. Besides there was the present ‘off license’ at the site [Waterloo Stores], so that if they allowed the new license of the NEW NAVIGATION INN to be removed to the Cape then that would be a total of five licenses off the present total in the Borough of 166.....

The Bench retired for some time, and, on returning, granted the application, subject to the surrender of the licenses mentioned by Mr. Joy.”

Smethwick Telephone 11/4/1908

“The new hotel at the Cape – The WATERLOO – is to be opened next Wednesday. At the same time the NAVIGATION INN, situated between the two canals at Bridge Street, a rather uninviting quarter, would disappear. This is the NEW NAVIGATION, the house in the immediate vicinity, with the sign The OLD NAVIGATION being the place which gained considerable notoriety in the days when it was the custom for the local constable to deal with his prisoners in a rather more summary way than would be tolerated nowadays.....”

The license was transferred to the WATERLOO HOTEL in 1908.

NEW NAVIGATION

171, (169), Lewisham Road / Bridge Street, (Ruck of Stones Lane), (Downing Street), (Rolfe Street), (Forge Lane), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Baker Snr. [1893]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired 5th January 1900) [1914]
Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd. [1997]

LICENSEES

Luke Pope Jnr. [1818]
Mrs. Mary Pope [1831] – [1841]
William Worley [1851]
William Probert [1855]
Thomas Mytton [1858]
William Lester [1860] – [1861]
William Baker [1864] – [1865]
William Hunt [1870]
William Baker Snr. [1871] – **1895**);
William Baker Jnr. (**1895** – [1900])
Eli Shenston [1901]
J H Jeffrey [1903]
George Arm (**1907** – **1960**);
Stanley Rock Bryan (**1960** – **1962**);
William Joseph Cooper (**1962** – **1963**);
Dennis William Budge (**1963** – **1964**);
Thomas Kevin O'Connell (**1964**);
Geoffrey Frank Turner (**1964** – **1966**);
Arthur Russell Cox (**1966** – [])
Kewal Singh Johal [1981]
W L Speid [1983] – [1990]
Bhapinder Singh Kang [1997]



1997

NOTES

169, Lewisham Road [1901]
170, Lewisham Road

It was situated on north side of Lewisham Road, opposite Smethwick Locks.

NAVIGATION [1835], [1841], [1842]

OLD NAVIGATION [1851], [1858], [1860], [1861],[1865], [1871], [1881], [1893], [1894], [1895], [1898], [1899], [1935]

The pub had a ring attached to its chimney breast for chaining felons to.

Smethwick Telephone 1/3/1884

'Smethwick By An Old Inhabitant'

".....Body snatching was frequently carried out in those days. The Old Churchyard being very lonely, was at times visited by the wretches who carried on this horrid task. The bodies were generally sold to the medical students of Birmingham. Late one night the man in charge of the Canal Company's wharf, at the Crescent, Birmingham, heard a wheelbarrow being taken along the street. On going near it, two men ran away, leaving the wheelbarrow, which contained a corpse, that was afterwards found to have been taken from the Old Church Graveyard. One of the men was afterwards captured and brought by the Smethwick Constable to the NEW (?) NAVIGATION INN of which the constable was landlord. The culprit was chained to the grate of the taproom and proved a rare attraction to the people of Smethwick, crowds of whom visited the inn, and drank liberally of the ale, to get a look at the 'body snatcher' sent to Stafford."

Luke Pope Jnr. was also a nurseryman in Halfords Lane.
He died on 29th October 1827.

Mary Pope was the widow of *Luke Pope Jnr.*
She supplied Henry Downing's works and Soho Foundry.

1851 Census

OLD NAVIGATION INN

- [1] Elizabeth Worley (33), innkeeper's wife, born Kidderminster;
- [2] Mary Ann Watson (19), barmaid, born Handsworth;
- [3] Phoebe Roller (22), house servant, born Kidderminster:

1871 Census

Forge Lane – OLD NAVIGATION Public House

- [1] *William Baker* (48), brewer, born Tipton;
- [2] Sarah Baker (43), wife, born Burton on Trent;
- [3] Henry Baker (15), son, born Dudley;
- [4] Alice Baker (13), daughter, born Tividale;
- [5] William Baker (11), son, born Tividale;
- [6] Maryann Baker (9), daughter, born Swan Village;
- [7] Sarah Baker (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] Lucy Baker (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [9] Jobe Johnson (?) (41), lodger, carpenter, born Newcastle under Lyne;
- [10] Ellen Johnson (?) (34), boarder, born Cheadle, Staffordshire:

1881 Census

Lewisham Road - OLD NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *William Baker* (58), licensed victualler, born Tipton;
- [2] Sarah Baker (54), wife, born Burton;
- [3] William Baker (22), son, born Rowley;
- [4] Alice Baker (24), daughter, born Rowley;
- [5] Mary A. Baker (20), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [6] Sarah Baker (18), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] Lucy Baker (12), daughter, born Smethwick:

1891 Census

Lewisham Road – The OLD NAVIGATION Public House

- [1] *William Baker* (65), widower, publican, born Tipton;
- [2] Alice Baker (34), daughter, barmaid, born Tividale;
- [3] William Baker (32), son, barman, born Tividale;
- [4] Mary A. Baker (29), daughter, barmaid, born Swan Village;
- [5] Sarah Baker (26), daughter, barmaid, born Swan Village;
- [6] Lucy Baker (21), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick:

The Local Board approved plans for alterations in July 1893.

Smethwick Telephone 9/9/1893

“Public Notice.I, *William Baker*, now residing at 171, Lewisham Road Licensed Victualler, do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply at the next Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting.....for a license to hold any of the Excise Licenses that may be held by a Publican, to sell by retail under the Intoxicating Liquor Act of 1828, Intoxicating Liquor to be consumed either on or off the House or premises thereunto belonging, situate at No. 171, Lewisham Road and known by the sign of the OLD NAVIGATION INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“Mr. Sharpe applied on behalf of *William Baker*, of the NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road, for a full license. He said it was practically an application for a renewal, but as some additions had been made to the building, a new application was rendered necessary. He had held the license for 50 years, and there was nothing against the house granted.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/12/1893

“The inquest on the body of Walter Vale (25), who resided at 25, Mornington Road, Smethwick, was held before Mr. Edwin Hooper (district coroner), yesterday afternoon, at the OLD NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road. Charles Vale, father of the deceased, who is accused of causing the death of his son, was present in custody.

The first witness called was Emily Vale, wife of the deceased, who identified the body. Deceased went out about three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, saying he was going to have a drop of beer. She went to the Tavern at half past nine o'clock, but did not go in. Deceased and his father were quarreling in the house. She saw them come outside, but did not stay to see the bother, and went home. She came back again, and the quarrel was over. Deceased was lying on the ground a few yards from the Tavern. She asked him what was the matter, and he replied that his father had kicked him in the stomach. With the help of two men named Mason and Thomas she got him home Charles James Gibbs, landlord of the Wattville Tavern [Handsworth], Jane Powell, Elizabeth Davies, Sarah Ann Copson, Clara Meredith, and Albert Edward Vale (brother of deceased) also gave evidence. Powell and Davies stated that the father put his foot up to ward off his son, but Copson and Meredith said that he savagely kicked the deceased. Deceased struck the first blow There was a rupture on the bladder, which was the cause of death.....The jury retired to consider their verdict, and after a deliberation lasting about 20 minutes, returned a verdict of ‘Manslaughter against Charles Vale’.

The Coroner then committed Vale to Stafford on that charge.....”

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1894

“Ancient Order of Foresters. Celebration of Jubilee 1893. Social Evening, will be held in connection with Court ‘Watt Villa’ at the OLD NAVIGATION, Lewisham Road on Monday 22nd inst. at 8.30pm for the Presentation of Prizes. All Foresters are cordially invited.”

Smethwick Telephone 9/2/1895

“Social At The OLD NAVIGATION. – A social evening was held at the OLD NAVIGATION INN (Mr. *Baker*’s), Lewisham Road on Wednesday evening , there being a very good attendance. A capital programme was rendered A collection, which was made on behalf of the Smethwick Relief Fund, amounted to £1 5s.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/3/1895

“Death – On March 11th at NAVIGATION HOTEL, Lewisham Road, Smethwick, *William Baker*, aged 70 years.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/6/1895

“A meeting of licensed traders in the district was held at the NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road, Smethwick, for the purpose of taking into consideration important matters affecting the trade. Mr. J. Haden presided; and there were also present Messrs. W. F. James (hon. secretary of the Smethwick Licensed Trade Protection Society), T. H. Simpson, G. Round, J. Barrett, E. Pointon (secretary of the West Bromwich and Smethwick District Licensed Victuallers Association), J. Lynam (secretary of the West Bromwich, Smethwick and District Beer and Wine Trade Protection Society), H. Hinchley, J. Conniff, Rogers, Morris, W. Bowen, S. Horton, Wesley, *W. Baker*, Buller &c. The Chairman said that the object of these meetings was to try to abolish a very unfair system of trade, viz. that known as the ‘long pull’, which they knew had been carried on in various parts of the country for years. It was a very unjust and unfair system of trade, and was gradually ruining the small publicans. The Secretary (Mr. James) read communications from the various brewers in the district.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/12/1896

“OLD NAVIGATION Sick and Dividend Society. – The annual meeting of members of this society was held on Tuesday night at the OLD NAVIGATION INN (Mr. *W. Baker*’s) a dividend of 12s per member was accordingly decided.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1897

“Mr. Albert A. Betham (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the OLD NAVIGATION INN on Saturday morning, touching the death of an orphan child named Nellie Rowe, aged nine years, who resided at 27, Lime Street, and who died suddenly on Thursday night.- Esther Goode, a widow, residing at the address mentioned above, stated that the child’s parents were dead, and that she adopted her when she was but three weeks old. The mother died when deceased was one week old, and the father – who was a labourer at Nettlefolds’ works – when she was three weeks old. The child was healthy until about three months ago, when she complained of pains in her legs. She took deceased to the General Hospital, but was told there was nothing the matter with her, except that her teeth wanted extracting Deceased was of weak intellect, and did not attend school on that account.On the 7th inst., she was playing with her grandfather and singing all the day long until about ten minutes before she died. Between half past six and seven o’clock, whilst witness was nursing deceased, the latter suddenly began to vomit, and shortly afterwards her eyes began to ‘set’ the inquiry was resumed on Wednesday Dr. Urquhart, who was then called, stated that he had made a post mortem examination of the body, with the result that he discovered that deceased suffered from a disease of the heart, and any sudden movement or bending on her part would be quite sufficient to account for the sudden failure of the heart’s action. The body was that of a well nourished child, and from all appearances there was no neglect He attributed death from pericarditis with effusion..... The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the evidence of Dr. Urquhart.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1897

“A case of a very sad nature was reported to the Smethwick police last week. A single woman named Mary Robertson (36), who resided at her brother’s house in Oxford Road, died under rather mysterious circumstances on Thursday morning. The facts, as reported to the authorities, were that the deceased, although unmarried, had had three children, one of whom was living with her, and the other two with relatives in Birmingham and Middlesbrough. On Wednesday afternoon deceased, who, it is said, was pregnant, was found lying on the bedroom floor under suspicious circumstances. From this time she lost consciousness, and died on Thursday morning, as stated. On searching her a packet of powders, labeled ‘Poison’ was found in her pocket, and lying by her side was a jug, at the bottom of which was a little white sediment.....

The inquest on the body was opened on Saturday morning.....at the OLD NAVIGATION INN..... adjourned until Wednesday.

.....Dr. Urquhart stated that he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and he found that the only things which were abnormal were the heart, which was distinctly fatty, and both kidneys, which were in the state known as the large white kidney, a disease which was frequently induced by alcohol The only cause of death was blood poisoning through the state of the kidneys The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the doctor’s evidence.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1898 - Advert

“The OLD NAVIGATION INN Sick and Dividend Society, Lewisham Road, Smethwick. / Proprietor *W. Baker* / The above society re-commenced Tuesday, December 14th 1897. New members admitted free up to the end of January 1898. / Contributions 3 ½ d per week. No levies made. / Benefits – Death of Member, £3: Death of Member’s Wife, £1 10s: Sick Pay, 6s per week. / Dividend for 1897 – 10s per member.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1898

“An inquest was held on Saturday morning before Mr. A. A. Betham (acting coroner) at the OLD NAVIGATION INN, Bridge Street, Smethwick, concerning the death of Levi Bruerton (9), who resided with his parents at Oak Street, Smethwick, and who died suddenly at the Central Board Schools, Crocketts Lane on Thursday 10th inst. Levi Bruerton, father of the deceased, stated that the boy had had no illness since he was three years old, but had occasionally complained of a headache. Deceased was a roguish boy and fond of fighting, having had a fight with a big boy the night previous to his death. Deceased complained of feeling cold on Thursday, but went to school.- At this point the Coroner said that he should adjourn the enquiry for a post mortem examination of the body to be made.....

The adjourned inquest was held on Tuesday evening Dr. Urquhart was called, and he deposed to having made a post mortem examination of the body, with the result that he found the death was due to obstruction of the bowel There was no truth in the rumour that the boy had been treated unkindly at school. He had always received the greatest consideration The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the doctor’s evidence.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1898

“The adjourned inquest touching the death of Frances O’Brien (64), who resided at Bridge Street Stop, Smethwick, and who died on the 8th inst. from the effects of burns was held before Mr. A. A. Betham (acting coroner) at the OLD NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road, on Tuesday night.....

It will be remembered that on the 26th ult., the deceased was carrying a lamp, when it caught against the mantel-shelf, and the vessel containing the oil broke. The oil ignited, and set fire to her dress, the result being that she was badly burnt about the lower part of her body. There was considerable delay in obtaining medical aid and deceased expired on the 8th inst. Dr. Wilfred A. L. Jackson was now called, and he stated that he was called to see deceased on the 1st inst., finding that she was badly burnt about the lower part of her body. Deceased was very much exhausted death being due to exhaustion following burns The husband of the deceased, James O’Brien, was next called, and was reminded by the Coroner that at the opening of the inquiry he said several things that were untrue. Could he explain why he did not send for a doctor earlier? - Witness relied that as soon as he could borrow the money he sent for a doctor. The Coroner: But you didn’t send for one.- Witness: I told Mrs. Deakin and the daughter to go for one.- The Coroner: Mrs. Deakin had decided to go whether you wished it or not A jurymen said he knew witness had been out of work some time, and that his wife lent him the money for the doctor The Coroner, in summing up said the jury would be guided by the doctor’s evidence as to the actual cause of death and the husband was deserving of censure.....the Coroner said he felt as though the man deserved kicking.- Another juror said he hoped they would not kill the man until he had paid back the money, which he had borrowed off his (speaker’s) wife. (Laughter).....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/4/1898

“A daring burglary was perpetrated at the NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road, early last Sunday morning. Having apparently affected entrance through a fanlight over a door at the rear of the premises, the thieves ransacked all of the lower rooms, and the following articles stolen:- 2 new coats, half a dozen silver teaspoons, 3 silver pickle forks, pair of poultry knives, case of brandy and whisky, and several boxes of cigars. The thieves left behind them 2 old coats. The police have the matter in hand, but no arrest has yet been made.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/8/1899

“It is stated that the OLD NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road, has just changed hands for the handsome sum of £20,000. Mr. *W. Baker* having disposed of it to Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/10/1899

“A distressing case of drowning occupied the attention of the Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) and a jury at the OLD NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road, Smethwick, on Thursday afternoon. The circumstances surrounded the death of Thomas Marvin, aged four years, who resided with his parents at 32, Oak Street. Phoebe Martin, the boy's mother, stated that on Tuesday evening, her son went with his brother to play on a boat on the canal, and shortly afterwards she was told that he had fallen into the water A verdict of Accidental death was returned.....”

1901 Census

169, Lewisham Road – OLD NAVIGATION INN

- [1] *Eli Shenston* (35), public house manager, born Little Budworth, Cheshire;
- [2] *Sarah A. Shenston* (33), wife, born Moulton, Cheshire;
- [3] *Percey Shenston* (10), son, born Moulton, Cheshire;
- [4] *Harold Shenston* (6), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Fred Shenston* (5), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Edwin Kennerley* (22), widower, wife's brother, barman, born Moulton, Cheshire;
- [7] *Edgar Booth* (21), servant, barman, born Handley, Staffordshire;
- [8] *Clara Friswell* (20), general servant, born Birmingham;
- [9] *Amplis Roberts* (20), general servant, born Langley:

Smethwick Weekly News 28/9/1901

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (Coroner) held an inquest at the OLD NAVIGATION, Lewisham Road, respecting the death of John William Richards (30), a wheel cutter, formerly residing at Mornington Road, Smethwick, who died on Saturday last from the effect of injuries sustained on the 13th instant whilst following his employment at the Birmingham Railway Carriage Works.

Mr. A. Wolfe, Government Inspector of Factories and Workshops, was present, and Mr. Retallack, general manager, appeared on behalf of the company. The evidence showed that the deceased and a lad named Bertram Hayes were engaged in taking a wheel out of the furnace. Whilst in the act of turning it over deceased's tongs slipped and caught him under the left arm. Deceased who was unable to resume his work had suffered from delusions since Thursday last, and died on Saturday morning. The medical evidence showed that death was caused by blood poisoning, the result of the accident. It was stated that the lad Hayes had only worked with the deceased a few hours, and was not strong enough for the work. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and considered that there was negligence on the part of the foreman of the wheel department in employing inexperienced persons.”

Court 'Watt Villa' (AOF) met here. [1903]

Smethwick Telephone 22/8/1908

“Mr. *William Baker*, who was for many years proprietor of the NAVIGATION INN, Lewisham Road, died at his residence, Malvern House, Handsworth, last Sunday. The deceased was in his 51st year.”

Its name was changed to NEW NAVIGATION post 1908.

1911 Census

Lewisham Road – NAVIGATION HOTEL

- [1] *George Arm* (43), licensed victualler, born Bloxwich;
- [2] *Emily Arm* (44), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Millicent Arm* (3), daughter, born Halesowen;
- [4] *Charles Arm* (76), relative, retired bed manufacturer, born Bloxwich;
- [5] *Samuel Devitt* (22), assistant barman, born Newtown, Aston;
- [6] *Anna Partridge* (24), general servant, born Halesowen;
- [7] *Lucy Williams* (20), general servant, born Langley Green;
- [8] *Nelly Cowley* (22), general servant, born Langley Green:

George Arm was born in 1868.

He died in 1960 aged 91.

He had also kept the DOG at Warley and the SHENSTONE in Halesowen.

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1912

“Children’s Party at he NAVIGATION. The fourth annual New Year’s party was held at the above on Wednesday afternoon, when about a hundred of the children of the neighbourhood were entertained to a tea and concert by the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. *G. Arm*), who spared nothing to make the children happy. After tea, games were indulged in, and a concert was provided for them, when the following artistes added to the enjoyment of the evening:- Miss Elsie Wilson, Miss Lillie Timson, and Hawkes and Shirley (comedians), whose character sketches were heartily applauded by the children. Before leaving, each child was handed a present from the Christmas Tree. Mr. Charles proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. *Arm* and the artistes for their kindness.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/12/1912

“A verdict of Accidental Death was returned by a Coroner’s jury at an inquest held at the NAVIGATION INN, Bridge Street, on Monday evening. The deceased was the infant child of John and Eliza Hickman, of Mornington Road, and was found dead on Saturday morning.”

Stanley Rock Bryan – see also SEVEN STARS.

News Telephone 8/10/1981

“A Smethwick man stole money from the till of a local pub while his friend distracted the barman’s attention, Old Hill magistrates heard.

Thomas Micklewright (22) and Brian Hill (43), both of Great Arthur Street, each pleaded guilty at a previous hearing to stealing £12 cash from Mr. *Kewal Singh Johal*, licensee of the OLD NAVIGATION pub in Lewisham Road.....”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

[2005]

Closed [2007], [2013]



2004



2013

NEW STREET TAVERN

46, (47), New Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Holden Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Samuel Collins [1879] – **1892)**
Henry Taylor [1894] – [1897]
Robert Levick [1900]
Amelia Levick [1901]
William Perrins [1903] – **1904);**
Harry Peters **(1904 – 1906);**
William Turner **(1906 – 1908);**
Robert Ward **(1908 – 1911);**
John Smith **(1911 – 1914);**
Charles Surman **(1914 – 1915);**
Richard Clarke **(1915 – 1924);**
Leonard Thomas McCabe **(1924 – 1925):**

NOTES

46, New Street [1881], [1891], [1911]
47, New Street [1901]

It was situated on the western side of New Street.

It had a beerhouse – on license.

Samuel Collins, beer retailer, New Street. [1879]
Samuel Collins, beer retailer, 46, New Street. [1883], [1890]

1881 Census

46 New Street

- [1] *Samuel Collins* (48), publican, born Kidderminster;
- [2] Hannah Collins (48), wife, born Kinver;
- [3] Ann Perkins (78), mother in law, born Kinver;
- [4] Girterwood (?) L. P. Smith (13), niece, visitor, born Kinver:

1891 Census

46, New Street

- [1] *Samuel Collins* (58), widower, beer retailer, born Kidderminster;
- [2] William G. Didlick (33), nephew, packer, born Kinver;
- [3] Gertrude Didlick (22), niece, born Kinver;
- [4] George H. Didlick (1 month), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] Alice Goodhand (15), general servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 27/2/1892

“Deaths – *Collins* – On the 10th inst, at General Hospital, aged 59 years, *Samuel Collins*, NEW STREET TAVERN, Smethwick – Deeply regretted.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1894

“*Enoch Siddaway* (40), and *Enoch Siddaway* (17), father and son, were charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the NEW STREET TAVERN, Smethwick, on the 29th September, and also with assaulting *Henry Taylor*, the landlord A cross summons charged *Taylor* with assaulting the elder *Siddaway* *Taylor* stated that on the date named the elder *Siddaway* came to his house, and, after looking round to see who was in, went up to a man named *Holloway*. Without being invited, he picked up *Holloway*’s pot of beer, and drank some of it. He then commenced talking with *Holloway*’ when he (witness) asked him if he was going to call for any beer. *Siddaway* thereupon began to use bad language. Witness asked him if he had come to create a disturbance, and went round the bar and ordered him to quit. He refused to do so, and a scuffle ensued, in the course of which *Siddaway* pushed him down. His son, the other defendant, then came in, and he ordered him to leave. They both refused to do so, and the son ran at him, struck him on the eye, and knocked him down. The elder *Siddaway* then rushed at him, and he had to knock him down in self defence. Witness then telephoned for the police, who came and ordered them out The Bench dismissed all of the cases. Mr. *Tangye* recommending that *Siddaway* and his son not to go near the house again, and they promised not to do so.”

Henry Taylor, beer retailer, 46 New Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 30/12/1899

“Sick and Dividend Society a dividend of 13s 3d per member was declared.”

Robert Levick, beer retailer, 46, New Street. [1900]

1901 Census

47, New Street – Tavern

[1] *Amelia Levick* (61), widow, beerhouse keeper, born London;

[2] *Fred Levick* (22), son, lithographic printer, born Smethwick:

William Perrins was fined £2 and £3 0s 6d costs, on 9th June 1904, for permitting drunkenness.

Robert Ward, beer retailer, 46, New Street. [1909]

1911 Census

46, New Street – NEW STREET TAVERN

[1] *Robert Ward* (41), licensed victualler, born Tipton;

[2] *Fanny Sophia Ward* (41), wife, born Oldbury;

[3] *Annie Haris* (29), servant, born Dudley:

John Smith, beer retailer, 46, New Street. [1912], [1914]

He was fined £5 and costs in each of five cases of permitting his premises to be used for betting, on 27th November 1913.

The license was surrendered on the rebuilding of the CAPE OF GOOD HOPE (1920 Scheme).
It closed on 22nd December 1925.

NEW TALBOT

457, (1), (Upper) Hagley Road / Barnsley Road, (Anderson Road), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Samuel Scoltock [1887], [1891]
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

James Holland [1870] – [1871]
Samuel Scoltock [1887] – [1897]
William John Lawrence [1900] – [1901]
Mervyn Arnold [1903]
W Daffon [1908]
John William Daffon [1909] – **1942**;
Harry Baden Garner **(1942 – 1958)**;
Albert Eugene Hems **(1958 – 1965)**;
William John Narbett **(1965 – [])**

NOTES

1, Upper Hagley Road [1890], [1891], [1935]
1, Hagley Road [1891], [1897], [1909], [1911]
457, Upper Hagley Road [1948], [1965]

It had a beer and wine license.

It was known locally as "Dirty Bet's".

1871 Census

Beech Lane – NEW TALBOT INN

[1] *James Holland* (54), innkeeper, born Bromyard;
[2] *Ann Holland* (53), wife, born Rickets Castle, Shropshire;
[3] *Eliza Hawkeswood* (18), servant, born Cradley:
[This entry could refer to the DOG, but there is a more logical entry for that.]

Smethwick Telephone 3/5/1884

"Smethwick Police Court. Thomas Holland, Waterloo Rd." - charged with "representing himself as a traveller on Sunday 20th ult. and thereby obtaining refreshment during prohibited hours at the TALBOT INN, Hagley Rd."
- He was fined 2s 6d and costs.

Smethwick Telephone 2/4/1887

"Smethwick Police Court. *Samuel Scoltock*, landlord of the TALBOT INN, Hagley Road, Smethwick was summoned for keeping open his licensed premises for the sale of intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours witness said that on Sundays the defendant's house was nearly full of people"
- They were not all travellers - Case dismissed.



Smethwick Telephone 10/8/1889

“*Samuel Scoltock*, owner and occupier, of the NEW TALBOT INN, Hagley Road, Smethwick, beer retailer and wine seller.....”

Samuel Scoltock, beer retailer, 1 Hagley Road [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 27/9/1890

“Mr. A. H. Hebbert supported the application of Mr. *Samuel Scoltock*, of the Hagley Road for a publican’s license. He contended that it would be a great convenience in the neighbourhood, but the Magistrates were not of this opinion, and therefore refused to grant the application.”

1891 Census

1, Hagley Road – Public House TALBOT

- [1] *Samuel Scoltock* (57), publican, licensed beer retailer, born Madeley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Louisa Scoltock* (55), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Laura Scoltock* (17), daughter, domestic, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Alice Gough* (32), stepdaughter, domestic, born Birmingham:

1901 Census

1, Hagley Road

- [1] *William J. Lawrence* (26), beer and wine retailer, born Wednesbury;
- [2] *Emma Lawrence* (27), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Cyril H. J. Lawrence* (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mary A. Smith* (14), general servant, born Stourbridge:

Samuel Scoltock applied for a full license “either on or off the House or Premises thereunto belonging, situate at No. 1, Upper Hagley Road, Smethwick aforesaid and known by the sign of the NEW TALBOT of which premises I am the owner, and that the said Premises are of the annual value of £60, and that such House contains, exclusive of the Rooms occupied by the inmates thereof, Two Rooms. Given under my hand this 26th day of July 1891.”

It had five small rooms [pre 1905] – an application to convert into 3 rooms was granted c.1904.

William John Lawrence, 1, Hagley Road / Warley Road. [1900]

Smethwick Telephone 8/10/1904

“A horticultural society has been formed at Bearwood and holds its meetings at the TALBOT INN.”
[possibly the DOG]

Smethwick Telephone 4/1/1908

“Last Thursday and Friday the genial host of the NEW TALBOT INN, Upper Hagley Road (Mr. *W. Daffon*) distributed a large quantity of soup to the poor inhabitants of Bearwood. The recipients were relieved according to the number in family.....”

John William Daffon, beer retailer, 1, Hagley Road. [1909]

1911 Census

1, Hagley Road

- [1] *John William Daffon* (46), public house manager, born Ryton on Dunsmore, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Alice Daffon* (43), wife, married 20 years, assisting in business, born Edgbaston;
- [3] *Elsie May Daffon* (17), daughter, dress making, born Ward End, Little Bromwich;
- [4] *Henry Percy Daffon* (16), son, tool making, born Handsworth;
- [5] *Nellie Clements* (19), general servant, born Lichfeld:

John Daffon, beer retailer, 1, Upper Hagley Road. [1912]

John Daffon, beer retailer, 1, Hagley Road. [1914]

A Publican's license was transferred here, from the PRINCE ALBERT, Grove Lane, in 1914.

Smethwick Telephone 13/8/1938

“The annual show in connection with the Westfields Allotment-holders Association, Edgbaston, will take place in the grounds of the NEW TALBOT HOTEL, Hagley Road, today, (Saturday) week.”

Albert Eugene Hems – see also THIMBLEMILL.

[2009]

It was demolished in 2012.



2008

NEW TALBOT

151, (169), (80), High Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Robert Vernon [1891], [1894]
John Davenport and Sons Ltd. [1900]
Atkinsons Ltd. (acquired in 1926)
Peter Walker and Co. Ltd., Aston Park Brewery, Birmingham (acquired in 1929)

LICENSEES

Price Pennell [1855]
Thomas Jones [1858]
John Ingram [1860] – [1861]
Richard Griffiths [1864] – [1873]
Mrs. Harriet Jane Eastland [1878]
Miss Alice Mincher [1879]
James Wood [1881] – [1890]
Robert Vernon **(1889 – 1899)** non-resident
Joseph Vernon [1891] manager
George F Jester [1901] manager
Robert Vernon **(1903 – 1909);**
Elizabeth Slim **(1909 – 1910);**
Benjamin Darby **(1910 – 1911);**
Arthur Box **(1911 – 1912);**
Frederick Hinchley **(1912 – 1928);**
Frederick John Adkins **(1928 – 1930);**
Frederick George Jackson **(1930 – 1935)**
Wilford Henry Shilvock **(1935 – 1952);**
Ronald Henry Allport **(1952 – 1953);**
Albert Edward Franklin **(1953 – 1956);**
John Moseley **(1956 – 1957);**
Frank Humphries **(1957);**
Ronald Allansay **(1957 – 1961);**
John Anthony 'Tony' Holloway **(1961 – 1962);**
Raymond John Thomas Holdstock **(1962);**
Joseph Galliers **(1962 – 1964);**
Raymond Henry Swinson **(1964 – 1965);**
William Storey **(1965 – []**

NOTES

80, High Street [1883], [1890]
169, High Street [1897], [1900], [1901], [1903]
151, High Street [1909], [1911], [1935], [1936], [1948], [1959], [1961], [1965]

It was situated on the east side of High Street.

NEW TALBOT HOTEL, HIGH STREET,
SMETHWICK.

PROPRIETOR - - - ROBERT VERNON

SMOKING CONCERT
EVERY MONDAY, FRIDAY, AND
SATURDAY.
COMMENCING AT 8 P.M.

PIANIST MR. SAM TATE

Advert 1894

1861 Census

High Street West – east side

- [1] *John Ingram* (45), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Ellen Mary Ingram* (32), wife, born Warwickshire;
- [3] *Ellen Maud Ingram* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Jane Pithard* (18), house servant, born Worcestershire:

1871 Census

High Street

- [1] *Richard Griffiths* (47), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Elizabeth Griffiths* (42), wife, born Leicester;
- [3] *Kate Griffiths* (6), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Charles R. Griffiths* (9 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Mary Masses* (23), general servant, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Maria Potter* (19), barmaid, born Cambridge:

Richard Griffiths issued tokens from here.

1881 Census

High St. - NEW TALBOT

- [1] *James Wood* (42), victualler and farmer of 30 acres, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Martha Wood* (44), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Enoch Wood* (20), son, chemist, born Oldbury;
- [4] *William James* (25), visitor, clerk, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Maria Thomas* (15), barmaid, born Wolverhampton:

It had a billiard room. [1887], [1891], [1894]

Smethwick Telephone 5/3/1887

“Smethwick Police Court. *James Wood*, landlord of the NEW TALBOT INN, High Street, Smethwick was summoned for permitting gaming on his licensed premises on Saturday 19th February and also Monday 21st of February last”

– The case was adjourned.

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1887

“defendant had kept public houses for about 20 years and had never had a single complaint against him”

– He was fined 5s and costs.

1891 Census

169, High Street

- [1] *Joseph Vernon* (21), unmarried, hotel manager, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 18/7/1891 - Advert

“NEW TALBOT HOTEL / High Street, Smethwick / Proprietor – Robert Vernon / Handsomely fitted smoke and billiard rooms now open / Mitchell’s and Hennessy Brandies / Dunvill’s and Jameson’s Whiskies and Best Brands of Scotch Whisky / Agent for John Davenport & Sons Ales and Stouts / Caterer for Balls, Dinner Parties etc.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1894 - Advert

“NEW TALBOT HOTEL, High Street, Smethwick. Proprietor – Robert Vernon. Smoking Concert every Monday, Friday and Saturday. Commences at 8pm.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1894 - Advert

“NEW TALBOT HOTEL, Smethwick. Proprietor – Robert Vernon. Smoking Concert every Saturday and Monday commencing at 8pm. Billiards 8d per hundred game. Table by Burroughs and Watts – in splendid condition.”

1901 Census

169, High Street

- [1] *George F. Jester* (56), brewer's manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Harriett M. Jester* (19), daughter, manageress, born Aston;
- [3] *Fred Round* (27), boarder, barman, born Wales;
- [4] *Annie Rose* (25), domestic servant, born Rowley Regis;
- [5] *William Geens* (17), boarder, barman, born Smethwick:

1911 Census

151, High Street – NEW TALBOT INN

- [1] *Benjamin Darby* (66), hotel manager, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Lucy Jane Darby* (58), wife, married 36 years, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Emma Simpson* (19), domestic servant, born Brierley Hill:

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1912

“On Tuesday, the public examination was closed in the case of *Robert Vernon*, described as being in lodgings at the Woodman Hotel, Clent. The matter came on at the Stourbridge Bankruptcy Court.

Debtor, answering the Official Receiver, said that he was forty-eight years of age, and commenced business in 1889 at the NEW TALBOT INN, High Street, Smethwick, with a capital of £80, which was used in paying for the stock. He left this house in 1901, receiving £100 for the goodwill and being paid for the stock. He took this house again in 1904, and remained there till 1909. Having given an account of his licensing ventures, Mr. *Vernon* said he was sued at the Birmingham Assizes for slander in July 1909, and a verdict was given against him for £25 and costs, making a total of nearly £90, and there were his own solicitor's costs in addition. This amount was still owing. He went to New Zealand through the assistance of friends in December 1909.

The Official Receiver: Did you go to escape paying the damages in the slander action?

Debtor: No. I went to try and make some money if I could.

Is it a fact that all the houses you have had have either lost money or made no profit?

Debtor: The two houses belonging to me (the NEW TALBOT, Smethwick, and the Dragoon, Bromsgrove) both lost money.

Is it purely accidental that only your wife's houses pay?

Purely accidental.

She might say otherwise.

Answering Mr. Roberts, debtor said his wife would be quite willing to pay his debts if she could, but licenses and trade had depreciated.”

Frederick Hinchley = *Frederick Inchley*

Frederick John Adkins – see also HORSELEY TAVERN, Tipton.

Smethwick Telephone 10/3/1934

“At the meeting of the Smethwick Wireless Society, held at the Clubroom, NEW TALBOT INN, Mr. F. Inchley, of the General Electric Co. Ltd, gave a lecture on the ‘Osram Gasfilled Relay’. After briefly reviewing the development of the valve rectifier, he described the construction and special properties of the mercury vapour rectifier, which with the addition of a control grid, constituted the gas-filled relay.....”

Tony Holloway was married to *Jacqueline*.

See also FAIRFIELD, Halesowen, ODDFELLOWS, West Bromwich and ROUND OF BEEF, Cradley Heath.

Raymond Henry Swinson – see also BULLS HEAD, West Bromwich.

Closed

Demolished

NIGHT INN

53-54, (53), Great Arthur Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

53, Great Arthur Street [1996]

53-54, Great Arthur Street [2007]

[1996]

It closed in 2007.

An application was made, to Sandwell planning department, for a two storey extension to the front and side, on July 20th 2007.

- This was granted.

It became a banqueting suite. [2012]



2008



2013

NORTH WESTERN

80, (60), (61), High Street (11, Oldbury Road) / Halford Street, (Ford Street), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Joseph Shaw Round, Grange Road (later at South Road), Smethwick [1905]
H. Mitchell and Co.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1930]
Bera Mahli (acquired in 2000)

LICENSEES

Joseph Hall [1871] – [1872]
Robert Perkins [1878] – [1883]
Francis Humpage [1890]
Walter Wolfe [1891] – [1894]
Joseph Shaw Round [1895] – **1906**;
Frederick Benjamin Butler **(1906 – 1918)**;
James William Jukes **(1918 – 1926)**;
Stanley Hill **(1926 – 1940)**;
William Thomas Taylor **(1940 – 1942)**;
William Ronald Johnson Jones **(1942 – 1943)**;
Minnie Elizabeth Jones **(1943 – 1946)**;
Harry James Lucas **(1946 – 1947)**;
Henry Arthur Partridge **(1947 – 1950)**;
George Holyhead **(1950 – 1957)**;
Austen Anthony Rink **(1957 – 1961)**;
Alan Clifford Wyke **(1961 – 1964)**;
Donald Price **(1964 – [1965]**
Balbir Singh Mahli [2002]



c1900

NOTES

11, Oldbury Road [1881]
60, High Street
80, High Street [1909], [1911], [1942], [1948], [1959], [1961], [1965]

It was situated on the west side of High Street.

It had a beer and wine license.

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – THE NORTH WESTERN

[1] *Joseph Hall* (48), retail brewer, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Elizabeth Hall* (45), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Eliza Wilson* (28), domestic servant, born Orton on the Hill, Leicestershire:

Joseph Hall, beer retailer, High Street. [1872]

1881 Census

11, Oldbury Road

[1] *Robert Perkins* (47), beerhouse keeper;

[2] *Mary Ann Perkins* (50), wife;

[3] *Mary Ann Perkins* (4), granddaughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[4] *Sarah Elizabeth Burgess* (17), general servant domestic, born Smethwick:

Robert Perkins – see also GLASSHOUSE TAVERN.

Smethwick Telephone 17/1/1891

“On Wednesday night last, Mr. *Walter Wolfe*, of the LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street, Smethwick invited his customers and friends to dinner.....”

1891 Census

61, High Street – NORTH WESTERN INN

[1] *Walter Wolfe* (40), saddler and innkeeper, born Bramdean, Hampshire;

[2] *Charlotte Wolfe* (40), wife, born Southampton;

[3] *Frank Hassall* (18), apprentice saddler, born Blackheath;

[4] *Sarah Marton* (20), general servant, born Smethwick:

Walter Wolfe was also a harness maker, next door to the pub. [1892]

Smethwick Telephone 13/2/1892 - Advert

“Boxing !!! Boxing !!! / NORTH WESTERN INN / High Street, Smethwick / A grand boxing competition (for 9 stone amateurs who have never won a prize) will take place on Tuesday, February 23rd at 8 o’clock, for a prize value 2 guineas.”

- The prize was a marble time piece, acquired for 2 guineas under the auspices of the Smethwick Boxing Club.

J. Winnie (Smethwick) beat W. Duggins (Birmingham) in the final.

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1894

“*Walter Wolfe*, landlord of the NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street, Smethwick was summoned for keeping his house open for the sale of intoxicating liquors and also with selling during prohibited hours on the 1st inst. Messrs. H. Mitchell and Co, owners of the house fined defendant £1 3s 6d including costs.....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/2/1895

“On Friday, between 12 and 1 o’clock, Mr. *J. S. Round*, NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street, distributed 100 quarts of soup and 80 small loaves of bread to the poor and distressed of Halford Street and surrounding district.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/6/1895

“On Monday morning, Mr. Edwin Hooper (district coroner) held an inquest at the NORTH WESTERN INN touching the death of Charles Henry Johnson, aged three years, who resided at 64, High Street, Smethwick, and who was run over by a wagon and killed on Saturday afternoon The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.”

Smethwick Telephone 3/7/1897

“Smethwick Early Closers’ FC. A complimentary dinner to the players of the above club, to mark the occasion of their winning the Birmingham and District Wednesday Football League cup, took place at the NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street, on Wednesday night host Mr. *J. S. Round*, a gentleman, who it is well known, has the welfare of the game of football at heart, and is a firm supporter of the Early Closers’ club.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/8/1899

“A storm of unusual violence passed over Smethwick on Tuesday afternoon. The lightning was very vivid, and one flash in particular, about four o’clock, followed by a terrific clap of thunder, caused considerable damage to the locality. An earthenware chimney pipe at the NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street, was struck by the lightning and completely shattered, the fragments flying in all directions. Two or three courses of brick were also disturbed and it is said that but for the telephone wire, which was attached to the chimney, acting as a conductor, much more serious damage would have been caused. The large clubroom and bar were filled with sulphur fumes, soot etc., and the inmates were greatly alarmed by the occurrence. Fortunately no one was injured.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/12/1899

“Sick and Dividend Societies a dividend of 7s 9d per member was declared.”

Smethwick Weekly News 9/3/1901

“On Tuesday, Mr. H. A. Pearson (Coroner), held an inquest at the NORTH WESTERN INN touching the death of William Worsfield who died on Sunday last as the result of a peculiar injury at the District Ironworks. The Inspector of Factories was present, and Mr. Sidney Vernon represented the relatives, while Mr. J. Payton was present as Secretary to the Company. The evidence showed that deceased was a mill furnaceman at the works stated, and on the 14th February he was pulling the damper _____ furnace down, when his elbow caught a pile of iron and scratched it. Next day it began to swell, and Drs. Arthur and Wilfred Jackson attended him, but blood poisoning set in and he died as the result.

The jury returned a verdict in accordance with Dr. Wilfred Jackson’s evidence.”

Smethwick Weekly News 16/3/1901

“The sudden death of a girl of 13, named Ethel Piller, whose parents live at 64, Park Street, Smethwick, was enquired into on Monday, by the Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) and a jury, at the NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street. The deceased, it appeared, was in her usual health on Saturday, but about 8.30 on Sunday morning she was seized with the illness, and expired about three hours later. Dr. Urquhart was called in, but not until death had taken place, and he attributed it to synope, or failure of the heart’s action.

A verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned.”

1901 Census

High Street – NORTH WESTERN TAVERN

[1] *Joseph S. Round* (40), beer and wine retailer, born Oldbury;

[2] *Rachel Round* (40), wife, born Oldbury;

[3] *Florence Round* (20), daughter, born Oldbury;

[4] *Albert E. Round* (18), son, clerk (commercial), born Oldbury;

[5] *Elsie Round* (12), daughter, born Smethwick;

[6] *Elizabeth Doodhouse* (20), general servant, born Oldbury:

Joseph Shaw Round was president of the West Bromwich and District LVA. [1902], [1903]

‘Ne Plus Ultra’ Lodge (National United Order of Free Gardeners) met here. [1903]

Smethwick Telephone 21/1/1905

“Public Notice.I, *Joseph Shaw Round*, of The NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street, Smethwick beerhouse keeper, Do Hereby Give Notice that it is my intention to apply at the next General Annual Licensing Meeting the 13th day of February, 1905, for a Certificate authorizing the grant to me of any of the Excise Licenses that may be held by a Publican for the sale of Intoxicating Liquors to be consumed in the house.....”

1911 Census

80, High Street

[1] *Frederick Benjamin Butler* (33), publican, born Langley;

[2] *Florence Butler* (30), wife, married 4 years, born Oldbury;

[3] *Elizabeth Mullet* (25), general servant, born Warley, Worcestershire:

Smethwick Telephone 26/5/1928

“Councillor Arthur Cox was the guest of the evening at a very representative gathering under the auspices of the Smethwick Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Woodturning Machinists and held at the headquarters, the NORTH WESTERN HOTEL. The meeting had been arranged with a view to marking in a special way the service which Mr. Cox has rendered to the organisation, to the trade union and friendly society movement in general, and to local government as a member of the Town Council. He was asked to accept at the hands of his friends a suit _____ and a pocket wallet, lined with notes.....”

Stanley Hill, beer retailer, 80, High Street. [1935], [1936]

William Thomas Taylor – see also SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN.

A Full license was granted and confirmed on 5th April 1949.

Henry Arthur Partridge – see also CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

George Holyhead – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY, West Bromwich.

Smethwick Telephone 26/2/1965

“Mr. *Donald Price* licensee of the NORTH WESTERN INN, High Street, Smethwick, this week presented £64 8s 9d to the Midlands Spastic Association following donations from customers during the last 11 months.”

It closed on 31st March 1970.

It reopened as the RED FORT, a private club, in 1973.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2]

It was damaged by fire on the second floor, on 13th March 2012.

[2013]



1997



2013

NUT AND BOLT

Cranford Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Bailey [1867]

OLD CHAPEL

2, (170), The Uplands, (Church Road), Bosoms End, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Joseph Whitehouse

Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. (acquired in 1898)(?) [1900], [1905], [1909]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1922)

Ansells Ltd. [1984]

Bass, Mitchell and Butler

LICENSEES

Abraham Powell [] - **1737)**

Ann Powell [1737]

Samuel Smith [1784]

Isaac Smith [1785]

William Parsons [1801]

John Fell [1804]

John Parkes [1808]

John Welch [1809]

Richard Scott [1818] - [1834]

Mrs. Mary Scott [1834] - [1835]

Edward Scott [1839] - [1842]

Harry D Gunter [1851]

Thomas Stanford [1855]

Joseph Powell [1860] - [1872]

Joseph Williams [1878] - [1879]

Joseph Whitehouse [1880] - **1897)** non-resident

Joseph Bridge [1889] - [1891] manager

William Benjamin Clarke [1891] - [1892] manager

Joseph Hampson [1893] manager

Edward Cheshire [1898] - **1914);**

George Harriman [1899] manager

Edwin Harry Davey [1901] - [1903]

John Thomas Ford [1911]

Frederick Parker [1912]

Albert Edwin Turvey **(1914 - 1932);**

Edward Chatwin **(1917 - [] ?**

Oliver Percy Hastings **(1932 - 1942);**

Ann Maria Hastings **(1942 - 1945);**

Luke Ernest Latham **(1945 - 1947);**

Albert Edward Parker **(1947 - 1954);**

Reginald Boon **(1954 - 1960);**

Charles George William Townsend **(1960 - 1964);**

Lewis Arthur Cowen **(1964 - []**

Bill Chiswell [1993]

Richard Parker [1998] - [2005]



c1931



1994



2013

NOTES

Bosoms End [1861]
Old Chapel Lane [1881]
Church Road [1889]
170, Uplands [1935], [1936], [1942], [1948]
2, Uplands [1959], [1961]

HAND OF PROVIDENCE [1818]
CHAPEL HOUSE [1834], [1835], [1842], [1851], [1855], [1860],
[1861], [1870], [1872], [1878], [1879], [1892]
OLD CHAPEL [1889], [1892], [1899], [1900], [1909]

Abraham Powell died in 1737

Richard Scott was also a veterinary surgeon. [1834]
He was also a farmer.
He was married to *Mary*.

1851 Census

CHAPEL HOUSE

- [1] *Harry D. Gunter* (38), mine agent and victualler, born Rowley Regis;
- [2] *Harriet Gunter* (35), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *Eliza Gunter* (13), daughter, born Tipton;
- [4] *Ann Gunter* (10), daughter, born Tipton;
- [5] *Philip Gunter* (5), son, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Harriet Gunter* (1), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Mary Mosley* (20), general servant, born Worcestershire:

1861 Census

Bosoms End – CHAPEL INN

- [1] *Joseph Powell* (48), farmer of 37 acres and victualler, born Beech Lane;
- [2] *Ann Powell* (38), wife, born Langley Green;
- [3] *Harriet Gee* (23), niece, born Beech Lane;
- [4] *Emma Brown* (13), niece, born Bromsgrove;
- [5] *George Hunt* (18), son, carter, born Berksford(?), Gloucestershire:

1871 Census

Bosoms End Road

- [1] *Joseph Powell* (56), farmer of 60 acres employing 2 men, born Beech Lane;
- [2] *Ann Powell* (47), wife, born Bellbroughton;
- [3] *Joseph Powell* (11), grandson, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Harriet Gee* (33), domestic servant, born Beech Lane;
- [5] *Edward Bolton* (27), agricultural labourer, born Stratford on Avon:

1881 Census

Old Chapel Lane - OLD CHAPEL INN

- [1] *Henry Hall* (20), unmarried, domestic man servant; born Leicestershire;
- [2] *Polly Guttridge* (20), unmarried, barmaid, born London;
- [3] *Sarah Folly* (21), unmarried, domestic servant, born Dudley:



Smethwick Telephone 1/3/1884

'Smethwick By An Old Inhabitant'. [memories]

".....A women's club was held at that time at the CHAPEL HOUSE INN, and on Whit Mondays the ladies had a grand 'field day'. Accompanied by bands of music and each carrying a long wand called a club stick, they formed a procession 150 strong through the streets of Smethwick. The three daughters of the landlord of the inn led the procession carrying wands a little longer than the others...."

Smethwick Telephone 14/12/1889 - Advert

"OLD CHAPEL INN, Church Road, Smethwick. Manager – *Joseph Bridge*. JB wishes to inform the Sportsmen of Smethwick that Sparrow Shooting for Two Geese will take place this day, Saturday. First bird trapped at 2.30 sharp. Also that he will give a prize for the Best Amateur Singer in the evening commencing 8pm"

Smethwick Telephone 25/1/1890 - Advert

"OLD CHAPEL INN, Church Road, Smethwick. Manager – *J. Bridge*. JB begs to announce that a Free and Easy will be held every Saturday and Monday night. Also he will give a prize to the best Amateur singer. Chair taken at 7.30. NB – A large club room to be let – Apply the Host."

1891 Census

Church Road – OLD CHAPEL INN

- [1] *Joseph Bridge* (42), engine fitter, birthplace not known;
- [2] *Elizabeth Bridge* (42), wife, birthplace not known;
- [3] *H. J. Bridge* (16), son, sawyer, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Eleanor Bridge* (14), daughter, dressmaker, born Spon Lane;
- [5] *Maud Bridge* (12), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Jane Bridge* (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *G. H. Bridge* (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

William Clarke was a Staffordshire professional cricketer. [1891]

Smethwick Telephone 24/10/1891 - Advert

"To-night To-night / OLD CHAPEL INN Concert Hall / Proprietor – *W. Clarke*, Staffordshire Professional Cricketer / Concerts / Every Saturday, Monday Evenings, Commencing at 7.30 /....."

TO-NIGHT. TO-NIGHT.
OLD CHAPEL INN CONCERT HALL.
PROPRIETOR W. CLARKE.
Staffordshire Professional Cricketer.
—CONCERTS—
EVERY SATURDAY MONDAY EVENINGS,
Commencing at 7-30.
Special and Expensive Engagements of
MISS VESTA CAMPBELL
Serio-comic; and
MR. HARRY WITHERSTONE,
Eccentric Character Comedian, Pump and Pedestal
Dancer.
ALSO OTHER TALENTED ARTISTES.
Pianist Mr. A. Preston.
Chairman Mr. W. Clarke.
DANCING EVERY FRIDAY EVENING at 7-30.
INSTRUCTION CLASS EVERY TUESDAY
EVENING, at 7-30.

Advert 1891

Smethwick Telephone 6/2/1892

"A pony, belonging to Mr. *W. Clarke* of the OLD CHAPEL INN has been very successful at the World's Fair, Bingley Hall, Birmingham. It has won, in competitions open to all horses and ponies in the Midlands, 2 silver cups, 2 purses of gold, and champion's medal for being the best trotter....."

Smethwick Telephone 23/4/1892

"Disturbance at the OLD CHAPEL INN. At a special Petty Sessions held at the West Bromwich Police Station on Tuesday night, *Albert Povey*, Suffrage Street, Smethwick; *John Evans*, back 84 Corbett Street, Smethwick; and *Edward Wright*, 104 Church Lane, Smethwick were each charged with doing willful damage at the OLD CHAPEL INN, Smethwick, stealing £6 from the till, and assaulting the landlord and landlady, Mr. and Mrs. *Clarke*, on Monday evening. It appears that the prisoners, with a number of others, were spending Bank Holiday at the OLD CHAPEL INN and about 5 o'clock at night they commenced breaking the jugs and glasses and creating a general disturbance. When the landlord remonstrated with them they threw the jugs and glasses at him, smashed the windows, and he had to rush upstairs for his life and lock himself in a room. His wife and another lady visitor were badly assaulted, and a general riot seems to have taken place. When the place was quiet subsequently the landlord discovered that the mob had broken into the bar and stolen £6 from the till. The defendants were arrested on Monday night – Prisoners were all remanded to Handsworth until yesterday."

Smethwick Telephone 30/4/1892

“At the Smethwick Police Court on Wednesday Albert Povey (20) Jesse Evans (28) and Edward Wright (23) of Bosoms End, were charged with assaulting *William Clarke*, landlord of the OLD CHAPEL INN, and also with assaulting his wife, Jessie Clarke. They were further charged with doing wilful damage to windows, glasses, jugs, &c. Evans was also charged with threatening Bird and assaulting Mrs. Butterworth. - There were cross – summonses, charging *Clarke* with assaulting the three prisoners. William Bird of Raglan Road was also summoned for assaulting Evans with regard to the charge of stealing money from the till, they had decided to withdraw that part of the case The damage done at the house was very considerable, the whole of the bar windows being smashed in, and a large number of bottles and jugs were also broken Evans was fined 40s and costs, and ordered to pay 30s damages, or in default of payment six weeks imprisonment; Povey was fined 20s, and costs, and ordered to pay 30s damages or one month’s imprisonment. The case against Wright was dismissed.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/8/1892

OLD CHAPEL INN – Mr. *Joseph Whitehouse*

Smethwick Telephone 1/10/1892

“Licenses for music and singing were granted and *Joseph Whitehouse*, CHAPEL HOUSE INN, Church Lane. Mr. J. Sharpe said that last time an objection was raised in the latter case in consequence of the window of the room, in which singing took place, overlooking the churchyard, adjoining Smethwick Old Church: but he wished to say that the window had been blocked up, and that it did not now overlook the graveyard.”

Smethwick Telephone 3/6/1893

“*Joseph Whitehouse*, of the OLD CHAPEL INN, Church Road, Smethwick, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, on May 23rd ; and Josiah Hampson, manager of the public house named; Josephus Hampson, his son; and Sydney Guest, of Shireland Road, were charged with being drunk upon the premises Police-sergeant Gibbs stated that on the date named he, in company with Police-constable Bradbury, was on duty in Church Road. They saw a disturbance outside the OLD CHAPEL INN. Two men were stripped and wanted to fight, and there was a large crowd around them. On the officers’ appearance the two men ran into the house. They followed, and met the manageress in the doorway. She said she was glad they had come, as there had been a great disturbance, and she had been unable to stop it Mr. *Whitehouse* had kept the house for 6 years without any complaint having been made against him *Joseph Whitehouse* was fined 40s and costs (amounting in all to £2 7s) and Guest 2s 6d and costs. The Bench were of the opinion that there was considerable doubt in the two Hampson’s cases, and they would therefore be given the benefit of it.”

- *Joseph Whitehouse’s* license was renewed in September 1893 after being cautioned as to the future conduct of his house.

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1897

“An interesting match was witnessed at the OLD CHAPEL INN grounds, Smethwick, on Saturday last [9/1], between Smethwick Centaur and Heathfield, which met in the first round of ‘Springfield Rovers’ Challenge Cup. The game was well fought out, the Centaur winning by one goal to nil.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/3/1897 - Advert

“OLD CHAPEL INN, Smethwick / Is now entirely supplied with / Cheshire’s Choicest Ales / Wines and Spirits.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/1/1898

“William Hodgetts (25), Parkes Street, Uplands, was charged with unlawfully wounding Police-constable Orme on Tuesday night.- Superintendent Ainsworth said that about 11 o’clock the night previous the prisoner took part in a disturbance near the OLD CHAPEL INN, and it was alleged that he threw a brick at the officer, which struck him on the head and caused a serious wound. The officer was seriously injured, and unable to appear that day The Bench, however, remanded prisoner in custody for a week.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/3/1898

“At the Stafford Assizes on Tuesday – before Justice Kennedy – William Hodgetts (20), labourer of the Uplands, Smethwick, was indicted for unlawfully wounding Police-constable Thomas Orme It appeared that the constable was called into the OLD CHAPEL INN, Smethwick, to quell a disturbance between the prisoner and another man. He induced the men to leave the house, and it was alleged that the same night the prisoner threw a stone at the constable, hitting him on the head and knocking him down. It was also alleged that while the constable was on the ground prisoner ran across the road and kicked him The jury found prisoner guilty, and sentence was deferred until Wednesday, when he was sentenced to twelve months imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 3/9/1898

“A committee meeting in connection with the Bearwood Allotments Association was held on Monday night, at the OLD CHAPEL INN, Mr. J. Harris presided. . . .”

Smethwick Telephone 19/11/1898

“At a sitting of the London Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday, before Mr. Registrar Giffard, *William Benjamin Clarke*, now butcher’s manager, but formerly professional to the Smethwick Cricket Club, attended for public examination upon accounts showing debts £1,556 8s 5d, and assets nil. Under examination by Mr. Egerton S. Grey, assistant receiver, the bankrupt said he had figured as a cab owner, bookmaker, professional cricketer, and owner of racing and trotting horses. His insolvency was caused by losses on racehorses and gambling. Whilst he was in the employ of Smethwick Cricket Club he managed a public house.- The Official Receiver: And what are you doing now?- The witness replied that he was doing nothing at present. The cricket season was over. (Laughter) When he played for the county he got £3 a match, and there was also his engagement with the Smethwick Club. He had been concerned in two actions. One was brought by him and lost. That was in connection with ‘Topsy’s Baby’, a trotting mare. The other he brought to recover three trotting horses, and that he lost. (Laughter) He had run horses in steeplechases and at trotting matches. He had lost £350 by betting, and another £350 had gone in racing and training expenses. He had acted as a racing tipster during a portion of 1897, and he ‘made a bit’ out of that. (Laughter) This was his first failure.- Examination Concluded.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/7/1899

“William Hodgetts (21), of Bosoms End, Smethwick, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the OLD CHAPEL INN, on the 19th inst. on the day in question, the defendant visited the premises about six o’clock. The manager (Mr. *George Harriman*) told him he should not serve him with anything and requested him to leave. Defendant went away, but at ten o’clock he returned and persisted in remaining, and created a disturbance. Ultimately, with the assistance of a customer, he was ejected. Defendant was a very troublesome man, and was not wanted on the premises, having been a great trouble there, and also to the police. On previous occasions there had been disturbances in connection with the house in which he had figured A fine of 10s and costs (In all 18s 6d) was imposed: in default 14 days imprisonment.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 25/8/1900

“At Handsworth Police Court yesterday (Friday), before Messrs. G. Heaton and F. W. Barrows, Richard Ward was charged with unlawfully and maliciously wounding PC Thomas Orme.

Shortly after ten o’clock on the night of the 25th January, 1898, the officer was called to the OLD CHAPEL INN, Church Lane, Smethwick. Prisoner and another man named William Hodgetts were creating a disturbance, and at the request of the landlord he desired them to leave. They did so, but shortly afterwards Ward returned saying that he was going to drink his beer. Orme, however, refused to allow him to go in. He heard Ward say, ‘I’ll cut his ----- heart out before the night’s out.’ Half an hour later he saw prisoner and Hodgetts standing under a wall in the road. As he passed them they both threw something at him. He was struck in the side of his head and knocked down, and while on the ground he was kicked about the head and body until he became unconscious. As the result of the treatment he received he was incapacitated for duty for some weeks. Hodgetts was arrested the same night, but prisoner absconded and was only arrested by Police-constable Potts at Rochdale on the 15th inst. Hodgetts was tried at the March Assizes and sentenced to 12 months imprisonment. Dr. Marsh Jackson said for nine days Orme’s condition was critical. Prisoner was committed for trial.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 8/12/1900

“At the Stafford Assizes, on Tuesday, Richard Ward (33), potter, was charged with having wounded Thomas Orme with intent to do grievous bodily harm, at Smethwick, on January 25th 1898. Mr. Morton Brown prosecuted and Mr. Lawrence defended.

Prosecutor was a police constable stationed at that time at Smethwick, and on the day in question, he was called to turn prisoner and another man out of the OLD CHAPEL public house. Subsequently the men attacked the constable, kicking him and throwing stones at him, he being seriously wounded.

Mr. Lawrence sought to show that the injuries sustained were not the effects of the violence of the prisoner, but of the other man.

It was explained that the reason the case had not been brought earlier was because prisoner absconded. Prisoner was found guilty, and he was sentenced to twelve months hard labour.”

1901 Census

OLD CHAPEL

- [1] *Edwin Harry Davey* (30), manager, public house, born Harborne;
- [2] *Clara Davey* (28), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] *Alfred Harry Davey* (7), son, born Harborne;
- [4] *Stanley Davey* (10 months), son, born Harborne;
- [5] *Lily Kinchin* (19), domestic servant, born Langley, Worcestershire:

Smethwick Weekly News 13/12/1902

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (Coroner) held an inquest at the OLD CHAPEL INN, Church Lane, Smethwick, yesterday afternoon, touching the death of a young married woman named Ann Elizabeth Maria Hill (22), formerly of Church Lane, Smethwick, who was found dead in bed on the 9th inst.

Deceased’s husband, Thomas Hill, said that his wife had lately been suffering from anmmia, and on the night of the 9th his wife complained of a headache, and he sent for a powder from the chemists, which she took. She said she would go to the doctor the following morning, so they went to bed. At 4 o’clock the next morning he awoke and asked her how she was, and she replied a little better. When he awoke at 7 o’clock, however, she was dead.

Dr. Urquhart said he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and attributed death to syncope. He found no traces of powder in the stomach.

The jury returned a verdict of Death from Natural Causes.”

Smethwick Telephone June 1909

“Considerable interest in the application of Mr. *Edward Cheshire*, who is the licensee of the OLD CHAPEL INN, for the removal of the license of that old hostelry to new premises proposed to be erected in Meadow Road and Church Road. Mr. J. S. Sharpe said that from the plans the Magistrates would see that the proposed area was somewhat less than the present site.

The Chairman said that he was glad this point had been mentioned at the outset, because they had plans filed which showed the new licensing area to be nearly double that of the present inn.

Mr. Sharpe said that the OLD CHAPEL INN was an interesting old place, but like many other places of a similar character had become very dilapidated. It was very necessary, and very desirable, that something should be done, but there were reasons why Mr. *Cheshire* should not spend a large sum of money upon the place. The inn was very near to the Church and for this reason it was desirable that the license should be transferred. Although there had been good feeling between the incumbents and the owner and tenants there having been mutual consideration shown, it was very undesirable that there should be a public house so near a place of worship. For this reason, Canon Astbury (the Vicar) was anxious that the Bench should grant the application, which was to give Mr. *Cheshire* the power to build a house on the opposite side of the road in place of the present premises. There was a very generous offer accompanying the application. Mr. *Cheshire* desired to give up the whole of the site on which the present public house stands, and also the grounds – amounting to about 3,100 square yards, and worth nearly £1,000 – to the Church trustees. It was a gift which he beleived would be valued by the whole of the inhabitants of the Borough. He (Mr. Sharpe) hoped the citizens of Smethwick would have the opportunity of appreciating the generosity of Mr. *Cheshire*, which would complete and beautify the town’s oldest burial ground. Already, Mr. *Cheshire* had given a piece of land, and sold another portion to enlarge the churchyard. This was the third portion, and would make the whole of the corner of Church Road complete for Church purposes. Canon Astbury would attend and say that the scheme was for the benefit of the town of Smethwick and of the Old Church in particular, it had his hearty

co-operation and support. It would be a great boon, and was a very generous gift. For this munificence, what did Mr. *Cheshire* ask? He asked to erect a modern unpretentious building with just a little dash of the ecclesiastical style of architecture, in place of the present dilapidated inn. The Magistrates had the plans before them, and they would see the style of the premises they proposed to erect.

Major Parkes: Rather a lot of yellow about it.

Mr. Sharpe: We wanted to preserve the old style in keeping with the Church. We will have what colour you like; the Magistrates shall choose. (Laughter)

Mr. Sharpe said that they did not present it as a hard and fast proposal, they invited suggestions. The Magistrates would see there was a tea room to be provided, this was for meetings, or 'tea-fights', and the room could be shut off from the other premises. The chief benefit would be to the tenant, who had excellent accommodation; at present the rain was coming through the OLD CHAPEL INN, and interfering with the wallpaper. (Laughter) Mr. Sharpe said it was for the Bench to decide whether the town should benefit in two ways – but the more important was in regard to the gift. They were waiting to complete the presentation of the land for the completion of the church premises in that quarter and to remove an eye-sore to all who loved the historic associations of the Old Church. 'I am not asking you for much' concluded Mr. Sharpe, 'rather I am asking you to place me in a position to give you and the town of Smethwick something.'

Canon Astbury, who said he had been Vicar of Old Church for twenty-five years, was one of the witnesses called in support of the application. He said that amicable relationships had always existed since Mr. *Cheshire* had been owner of the inn, though this was not previously the case. (Laughter) Both the Church and township he said, would benefit from the presentation of the land on which the inn now stands. From a church point of view, it had been their hope for many years that the opportunity would present itself for them to obtain possession of that site. One of the trustees of the benefice – had said what a good thing it would be if they could secure that land and add it to the churchyard, and he was instructed to make known any chance which might occur. He went on to explain to the Bench that if there had been an application for an entirely new license, they would not have seen him there as it was merely the transfer of one license to another house. The Vicar pointed out the advantage which had accrued to that same locality by the replacement of the old HOLLY BUSH by a substantial and well-arranged building, and they hope for a similar improvement by the replacement of the old inn. The rev. gentleman also mentioned that recently, in seeking the sanction of the residents to the extension of the churchyard, they were continually asked why they did not get the whole of the corner. There was a strong feeling in the immediate neighbourhood in favour of the land being thrown into the churchyard.

The Chairman pointed out that the plan proposed a much larger licensed premises and that it was not correct to say that Mr. *Cheshire* wanted to take just as much as he had given.

Canon Astbury said that there was something in replacing a small ill-arranged building, which was probably good enough 150 years ago, when it was a farmhouse, and then granted a license. But today it was quite out of date.

Mr. Edwin Brant, people's warden at the Old Church, said it was the wish of the congregation that the application should be granted. They had often thought of the desirability of doing what Mr. *Cheshire* now offered.

The Chairman: If I were a member of your congregation, I should join in the same with.

Mr. Brant: He does not ask you to give him anything; he merely asks for his transfer and offers something. In making the canvas of residents recently, they met with a desire that something should be done and made possible by such an offer as Mr. *Cheshire* had made. They actually met with people who had an idea that the whole of the ground did belong to the Church, while one person said he had always been under the impression that the Vicar and Warden ran the public house. (Laughter)

The Chairman: Did you say the wardens ran into the public house. (Laughter)

Mr. Brant said he was sorry to say the whole of the land did not belong to the Church already; if it had they might long ago have done what was now so generously proposed.

Mr. Martin, the architect, gave evidence. He said that so far as the drinking area was concerned, they had in the plans only increased the amount by 70 feet, and this would be required, in view of the increased number of houses to be built.

The Chairman: No one would quibble about moving a license half a dozen yards, but the licensing area is more than doubled.

After further observations; Alderman Pinkney said he had not the slightest feeling personally against the removal, what he said was this – it was a larger place and in the interest of the Licensing Committee he said to the applicants; What do you offer?

Mr. Sharpe: We offer a thousand pounds – the value of the land.

The Chairman: The land is not of much value to us; we are here not to improve the district, but in the interests of licensing.

Mr. Sharpe pointed to the desirability of removing the license. Simply because they thought Mr. *Cheshire* might get increased accommodation for which he was not paying them, they said, 'No!' Surely this was unreasonable. They offered to give a site worth £1,000 to the Church, and erect another inn at a cost of £3,000 to replace a dilapidated place. Did the Magistrates prefer that class of house to a modern one?

The Chairman: We don't say that. It is larger; have you anything to offer?

Mr. Sharpe said that they would undertake to alter the plan and reduce the area to any requirements of the Bench if they would make suggestions. It meant that the people shall not play bowls.

Mr. Martin gave an undertaking to keep the plans and area in keeping with the present area of land.

Replying to the Magistrates, Mr. Martin said that although the area shown in the plans was 2,800 they would keep it within the limits of the old place, viz 1,320 square yards.

The application was refused."

Jesse Pennington (WBA and England footballer) played bowls here.

1911 Census

Old Church Road – OLD CHAPEL INN

[1] *John Thomas Ford* (41), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] *Fanny Maria Ford* (39), wife, married 17 years, assisting in business, born Birmingham;

[3] *Hilda Jessie Ford* (2), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *John Ford* (74), father, printer, compositor, born Claverley, Shropshire;

[5] *Amy Shirley* (17), domestic servant, born Handsworth:

John Thomas Ford – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE.

Smethwick Telephone 20/4/1912

"A rather serious disturbance at the OLD CHAPEL INN, on Easter Tuesday, had a sequel in charges of refusing to quit licensed premises and also of assault, being preferred against two young men named Arthur Bridges, Gilbert Road, and John New, Cheshire Road.

Mr. J. Sutton Sharpe appeared to prosecute on behalf of the licensees, Messrs. Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.

The landlord, (Mr. *Frederick Parker*) gave evidence to the effect that the men entered the house in a quarrelsome mood. When requested to leave they refused and had to be ejected. Both men assaulted the landlord, but Bridges was the worst offender.

Bridges told the Magistrates that he only defended himself.

A number of witnesses were called in support of the prosecution.

The Chairman said that the Magistrates were determined to assist managers in the proper conduct of their houses. If every effort was being made to carry on a respectable trade, they would not allow men like Bridges (who had a bad record) to act in that way. New had evidently, said Alderman Adams, got into bad company.

New was fined 2s 6d, and costs in each case, in default 14 days' imprisonment; and Bridges was fined 10s and costs in each case."

Grade II listed since 1947.

Charles George William Townsend – see also QUEENS HEAD, and WINDMILL.

Lewis Arthur Cowen – see also GEORGE.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

Richard Parker was married to Lisa.

[2013]

OLD CORNER HOUSE

1, (56), Soho Street / Rabone Lane / Rolfe Street, (Windmill Lane), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Abraham Hodgetts, West Bromwich

J. W. J. Kingstone Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 23rd February 1928 for £6,000)

LICENSEES

John Millwood [1861]

George Sweeney [1871]

Robert Sweeney [1891]

Mrs. Dougherty [1893]

Marriott [1895]

Joseph H Mutlow [1901] – [1903]

Harry Pike [] – **1904**;

Thomas Crump **(1904 – 1905)**;

John Gibbs **(1905 – 1934)**;

Lizzie Gibbs **(1934 – 1944)**;

William Burrows **(1944 – 1946)**;

Christopher George Matthews **(1946 – 1948)**;

James Gudger **(1948 – 1950)**;

Richard Alfred Nicklin **(1950 – 1952)**;

Edward Charles Beresford **(1952 – 1960)**;

William John Charles Davies **(1960 – 1962)**;

Kevin Jameson **(1962)**;

Joseph Henry Small **(1962 – 1965)**;

Alice Pratley **(1965)**;

Albert Samuel Lambert **(1965 – 1966)**;

Gwynfryn Marlais John **(1966 – []**

C S Gayden [1976]

Mohinder Singh Aujla **(1981 – []**

Shirley Lall* [1993]

S Lal* [1997]

Barry Thomas [2009]



Postcard



1997

NOTES

Rabone Lane [1861], [1891]

56, Soho Street [1901], [1911]

It adjoined Soho Station, LMS Railway.

It was originally the WHITE HORSE.

It had a beerhouse license.



2007

1861 Census

Rabone Lane – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *John Millwood* (43), publican, born Londonderry, [Smethwick] Staffordshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Millwood* (26), wife, born Knowle, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Edward John Millwood* (19), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Thomas Millwood* (14), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Frederick Millwood* (12), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *William Hunt* (56), lodger, pig killer and labourer, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Mary Ann Williams* (22), house servant, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Windmill Lane – WHITE HORSE INN

- [1] *George Sweeney* (57), publican, born Co. Roscommon;
- [2] *Ann Sweeney* (37), wife, born Worcester;
- [3] *Robert Sweeney* (26), son, turner, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Elizabeth Sweeney* (21), daughter, machinist, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Catherine Sweeney* (19), daughter, machinist, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Maria Sweeney* (16), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 15/3/1884

“Benjamin Cooksey (29) of 42, Oldbury Road, Smethwick met with a shocking death on the railway at Smethwick Station on the London and North Western Railway. It appears the deceased was in the employ of the Smethwick Local Board in the night soil department and up till nearly 12 o’clock last night was at work at the WHITE HORSE INN, Rabone Lane. Shortly before midnight he complained of being unwell, and left his work for the purpose of going home. On his way he had to pass over the Rolfe Street Level Crossing and whilst doing so was knocked down and run over by a luggage engine and train which passed about 12.12.a.m. The deceased’s right arm was nearly cut off and his head was severely injured. He was removed to his home, where he expired about three quarters of an hour after the accident.”

– Later inquest – accidental death.

1891 Census

Rabone Lane – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *Robert Sweeney* (46), brewer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Eliza Sweeney* (44), wife, born Stratford on Avon;
- [3] *Frank Sweeney* (16), son, iron twiner, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Lucy Sweeney* (14), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Ann Sweeney* (12), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Arthur Sweeney* (10), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Stephen Sweeney* (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *James Sweeney* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Edith Sweeney* (3), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Jane Shellis* (23), general servant:

Smethwick Telephone 21/1/1893

“Porters and Signalmen’s Annual Supper (Soho Station, London and North Western Railway). The above took place at the WHITE HORSE, Rabone Lane, Smethwick, on Saturday and Monday evenings last hostess (Mrs. *Dougherty*).....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“A meeting of the Smethwick Branch of the Manchester and Salford Lurrymen (sic) and Carters’ Union was held on Wednesday evening at the WHITE HORSE INN, Smethwick. The chair was occupied by Mr. W. H. Nicholls (district secretary), and Mr. G. T. Jackson (general secretary, of Manchester), addressed the meeting on behalf of the Union. There was a rather small attendance. Mr. Nicholls, after a few preliminary remarks, introduced the general secretary who pointed out the benefits to be derived by trade organisation. He said he was sorry to see the men of Staffordshire so backward in getting organised, and especially the carters, the lurrymen etc. He felt sure that if they only looked at trades unionism in its proper light they would not hesitate to organise.....”

Smethwick Telephone 2/2/1895

“The third annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Glass Workers, Brickmakers and General Labourers, was held at the WHITE HORSE INN, Soho Street on Monday. Upwards of 50 persons sat down to a substantial repast, provided in good style by the host (Mr. *Marriott*).....”

1901 Census

56, Soho Street – WHITE HORSE Public House

- [1] *Joseph Mutlow* (36), manager of beerhouse, born Ledbury, Herefordshire;
- [2] *Helen Mutlow* (37), wife, born Hereford;
- [3] *Gladys Mutlow* (9), daughter, born Ledbury, Herefordshire;
- [4] *Nellie Mutlow* (4), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Clarence Mutlow* (2), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Elsie Birchall* (20), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

Thomas Crump – see also ROYAL OAK.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9], [1911/12]

1911 Census

Soho Street – WHITE HORSE

- [1] *John Gibbs* (38), hotel manager, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Lizzie Gibbs* (39), wife, married 13 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Phoebe Leason* (20), domestic servant, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mable Fellworth* (17), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

William Burrows – see also ROBIN, and GEORGE, Pottery Road, Oldbury.

A publican’s license was granted on 7th February 1950 – confirmed on 3rd April 1950.

Albert Samuel Lambert – see also BEEHIVE.

It was renamed OLD CORNER HOUSE [1990]

Mohinder Singh Aujla – see also GEORGE.

* probably the same person.

[2012]



2013

OLD CRYSTAL PALACE

70, Cranford Street / Alma Street / Soho Street, (Six Ways), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Orme

Mrs. Phoebe Orme, Cranford Street

Walter Showell and Sons Ltd. (acquired 6th October 1893) [1914]

Showell's Brewery Ltd.

Licensed Properties Ltd., 157, Great Charles Street, Birmingham

Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. (leased)

Frederick Smith Ltd. (acquired on 30th September 1950)

William Butler and Co. Ltd. (acquired on 30th September 1958)

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Powner [1861] – [1865]

J Moore []

Mrs. Mary Ann Higgins [1870] – [1873]

Joseph Haden [1878] – **1893**;

Ernest Sheldon **(1893 – [])**

Henry Hinchley [1895] – [1901]

J Kimberley [1903] – [1905]

Charles Henry Mitchell [1909]

Archie Martin [1911] – **1920**;

Tubitha Horton **(1920 – 1923)**;

James Vann **(1923 – 1924)**;

Alfred Gilbert **(1924 – 1926)**;

Henry Leo Jeacock **(1926 – 1928)**;

Ernest Walter Clark **(1928 – 1930)**;

William Rollason **(1930 – 1934)**;

Edgar James Laurie Walters **(1934 – 1936)**;

John Bailey **(1936 – 1938)**;

William Edward Parker **(1938 – 1943)**;

Albert Edward Gurney **(1943 – 1945)**;

William Arthur Rushton **(1945 – 1949)**;

William Henry Platt **(1949 – 1953)**;

William 'Bill' Gardner **(1953 – 1954)**;

Joffre Henry Tripp **(1954)**;

Joseph George Chambers **(1954 – 1955)**;

Frederick George Thomas Rogers **(1955 – 1957)**;

Dermot Sheehan **(1957 – 1959)**;

Raymond Smith **(1959 – 1960)**;

Kenneth Harold Sheldon **(1960 – 1962)**;

Alan Arthur Waterhouse **(1962 – 1964)**;



1950s



1964

NOTES

It was situated on the north east side of Cranford Street.

CRYSTAL PALACE [1864], [1865], [1881], [1900]

CRYSTAL PALACE HOTEL [1903]

It was known locally as "Coppertop" because of the large dome.

Thomas Powner, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

J. Moore issued tokens from here.

Mrs. Mary A. Higgins, beer retailer, Cranford Street [1870]

1871 Census

Cranford Street

- [1] *M. A. Higgins* (48), widow, licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *William Higgins* (24), son, engine fitter at works, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Jane Higgins* (14), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Gregory Higgins* (11), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Elizabeth Henry* (21), domestic servant, born Oldbury:

Joseph Haden – see also WAGGON AND HORSES, Lewisham Road

1881 Census

Cranford Street - CRYSTAL PALACE INN

- [1] *Joseph Haden* (36), licensed victualler, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] *Jane Haden* (36), wife, born Tutbury, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Adelaide L. Haden* (12), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Joseph A. Haden* (10), son, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Sophia Greenfield* (20), general servant, born Aldershott (sic):

Smethwick Telephone 23/2/1889

"Action Against A Tramway Company. At Oldbury County Court on Wednesday *Joseph Haden*, landlord of the OLD CRYSTAL PALACE, Cranford Street, Smethwick, brought an action against the Birmingham and Midland Tramway Co. to recover £15 damages alleged to have been sustained through the negligence of the defendant's servants It appeared that on October 23rd last pony and trap in collision with tram....."

- Verdict for the defendants.

1891 Census

70, Cranford Street

- [1] *Joseph Haden* (47), publican, born Cradkey, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Jane Haden* (47), wife, born Tutbury, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Adelaide Haden* (22), daughter, barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Mary Leech* (19), general servant, born Cradley, Staffordshire:

Smethwick Telephone 23/4/1892

“Mr. Thomas Howell is instructed by the Executors of the late Mr. William Orme to Sell by Auction, at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, On Wednesday, May 4th, 1892 Lot 1. All that very valuable Full-licensed FREEHOLD PUBLIC HOUSE with the Outbuildings and Premises thereto belonging, known as the OLD CRYSTAL PALACE INN forming the corner of Cranford Street and Alma Street, Smethwick, in the occupation of Mr. *Joseph Haden*, at the very low rental of £40 per annum.

This House, which occupies a most advantageous position on a road of good traffic, is in close proximity to some of the most important Works in the district, and in the immediate vicinity of the great market centre known as the Six Ways. It has not changed hands for 18 years.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/1/1893

“London and North Western Railway Goods Department Annual Dinner. The above took place at the CRYSTAL PALACE, Cranford Street on Saturday, when upwards of 50 sat down to an excellent repast Host and hostess Mr. and Mrs. *Haden*.”

Smethwick Telephone 9/9/1893 - Plans approved by the Local Board

“that the plans of W. Showell and Co. of CRYSTAL PALACE, Cranford Street, be approved subject to urinal being provided to the satisfaction of the Surveyor.”

Henry Hinchley = Henry Hinceley

Henry Hinchley became a blacksmith, and was employed in this department at the Soho Foundry of James Watt and Company.

He was elected to the Town Council (Soho Ward) in 1899.

He died in October 1903.

Smethwick Telephone 19/1/1895

“The 18th annual dinner of the employees of the London and North Western Railway and Messrs. Pickford and Co. (Soho Goods Station) was held on Saturday evening at the CRYSTAL PALACE INN, Cranford Street, Smethwick. A large company sat down to a capital spread, which was catered in admirable style by the host Mr. *H. Hinchley*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/3/1895 - Advert

“CRYSTAL PALACE, Soho, Smethwick. *Henry Hinchley* begs to inform his friends and the public generally that H. E. Twyford Esq. (Showells Ltd.) will provide the talent for the high class Smoking Concert on Monday Evening next, March 18th 1895, at Eight o'clock. Admission free. Ales, spirits and cigars of the very best quality and at moderate prices.”

Smethwick Telephone 6/4/1895

“An interesting gathering of Foresters took place on Monday last at the OLD CRYSTAL PALACE HOTEL a goodly number came from Birmingham.....”

Smethwick Telephone 18/5/1895

“The annual dinner in connection with Messrs. Nettlefold's Nail Department took place on Friday evening at the OLD CRYSTAL PALACE, Cranford Street. After the cloth had been drawn Mr. W. Tyers was voted to the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/10/1895 - Advert

“OLD CRYSTAL PALACE Concert Hall / corner of Soho Street and Cranford Street / Six Ways, Smethwick / Managing Director – *Harry Hinchley* / Musical Director – D. Cross / Concerts every Friday and Saturday evenings / Everything Good / Special Talent each week / Alec Burns & Frank Summers on Monday next / Showell's Splendid Ales On Tap / I.P.A. and A.K. bottled ales / Wines, Spirits and Cigars of finest quality only.”

AND

“Mr. *H. Hinchley*, of the CRYSTAL PALACE HOTEL was unanimously elected District Chief Ranger of the Birmingham and District (A.O.F.) [Ancient Order of Foresters] on Monday last. The District is a very large and important one, having a membership of about 9,000 with funds amounting to £50,000.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/11/1895 - Advert

“OLD CRYSTAL PALACE Concert Hall, Corner of Soho Street and Cranford Street / Six Ways, Smethwick / Managing proprietor – *Harry Hinchley*, Musical director – D. Cross / Concerts every Friday, Saturday and Monday evenings / Everything Good. Special Talent each week /.....”

O I D
CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERT HALL,
Corner of Soho Street and Cranford Street,
SIX WAYS, SMETHWICK.

Managing Proprietor HARRY HINCHLEY
Musical Director D. CROSS.

CONCERTS
EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & MONDAY
EVENINGS.
Everything Good. Special Talent each week.

FRANK LACKEY, DESCRIPTIVE VOCALIST,
WILL APPEAR
ON MONDAY, NOV. 11th.
Chairman - - - HARRY TAYLOR.

SHOWELLS' SPLENDID ALES ON TAP.
I.P.A. & A.K. BOTTLED ALES.

WINES, SPIRITS, AND CIGARS
OF FINEST QUALITY ONLY.
For a chat on Friendly Society matters call on Harry
Hinchley.

BN Look out for Grand Friendly Societies
Concert, on November 25th.

Advert 1895

Smethwick Telephone 13/2/1897

“District Council the Building Committee recommended that the following plans be approved.....

Messrs. W. Showell and Sons Ltd, additions to CRYSTAL PALACE INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 8/5/1897

“Amalgamated Society of Toolmakers and Machinists. The fourteenth annual dinner and social gathering of the Smethwick branch was held at the CRYSTAL PALACE, Cranford Street, on Monday last. After full justice had been done to the excellent spread provided by the host Mr. *H. Hinchley*, Bro. Morgan occupied the chair and gave a hearty welcome to all present.....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/4/1898

“The CRYSTAL PALACE better known as the ‘Copper Top’ Saloon Party held their annual dinner on Thursday last at the CRYSTAL PALACE HOTEL About 40 sat down to the splendid repast provided by host *H. Hinchley*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/7/1898

“The CRYSTAL PALACE, Six Ways, was ‘all alive’ on Wednesday afternoon, the occasion being Mr. *H. Hinchley*’s ‘popular ladies’ outing’. The party consisting of over a hundred seated in comfortable vehicles started at 2.20 for Earlswood.....”

Smethwick Telephone 15/4/1899

“The 48th anniversary of Court ‘Robin Hood’ (Smethwick and West Bromwich District) [A.O. F.] was celebrated by a dinner at the CRYSTAL PALACE HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick, on Wednesday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/12/1899

“The workers of Mr. *H. Hinchley* in the recently contested election for the representation of Soho Ward, together with a few friends, celebrated the return of Councillor *Hinchley* by a dinner at the CRYSTAL PALACE on Tuesday last.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 30/6/1900

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) held an inquest on Thursday at the CRYSTAL PALACE, Soho Street, Smethwick, respecting the death of Charles Pickering, aged four years and nine months, High Park Row, Smethwick, who was drowned in the Birmingham Canal, at the French Walls wharf.

On Tuesday night, shortly before six o’clock, deceased was playing on an empty boat, with a lad named Bertie Cox, when he saw his sister approaching, and in trying to get on to the towing path mis-judged the distance and fell into the water. A man named William Wall dived under a couple of empty boats, but could not rescue the boy.

A verdict of Accidental death was recorded.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 19/1/1901

“On Tuesday an inquest was held at the CRYSTAL PALACE INN, by Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) respecting the death of John Whitmore, aged three years, whose parents live in Cranford Street.

Deceased fell over the fire guard and upset a pot of tea over himself. A verdict of Accidental death was returned.”

1901 Census

Cranford Street – CRYSTAL PALACE

- [1] *Henry Hinchley* (50), public house manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Harriett L. Hinchley* (52), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Harriett L. Hinchley* (26), daughter, music teacher, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Edith A. Hinchley* (24), daughter, board school teacher, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Louisa M. Clayton* (18), niece, domestic servant, born Tamworth:

Henry Hinchley – see also BEEHIVE, Oldbury.

Court 'Robin Hood' (A.O.F.) met here. [1903]

1911 Census

Cranford Street – CRYSTAL PALACE Public House

- [1] *Archie Martin* (44), hotel manager, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Janet Martin* (40), wife, married 20 years, born Dudley;
- [3] *May Martin* (18), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Raymond George Simms* (23), barman, born James Bridge;
- [5] *Elizabeth Hale* (36), servant, born Stratford on Avon:

Smethwick Telephone 25/8/1928

“There was a very joyous sound at Six Ways on Thursday morning – the cheering of children. A very jolly crowd of kiddies was ‘embarking’ for a day’s excursion to delightful Habberley Valley. The outing is an innovation at Six Ways: it is the idea of Mr. *E. W. Clark*, who is mine host of the CRYSTAL PALACE HOTEL, and it was taken up very enthusiastically by the people of the district. The work of organisation was inaugurated only a few weeks ago, but enthusiasm can achieve great things. All were desirous of ensuring that every youngster should experience the delights of Worcestershire’s Arcadia. Accordingly, there has been considerable activity with the object of securing the ‘wherewithall’. The worthiness of the scheme being realised, there was a generous response. Concerts and competitions organised by the indefatigable Mr. *Clark* and a very energetic committee, have largely been responsible for an excellent result being attained.

The party comprised of about 150, including a number of mothers to keep a vigilant watch over the younger members. Mrs. *Clark*, who has been untiring in her efforts to secure the success of the excursion, accompanied the party, and made the arrangements en route. Nothing was forgotten that would contribute to their happiness. Imposing parcels of prizes for the sports in the afternoon were loaded on the ‘charas’. Every child ‘even if he ran backwards’ – to employ one phrase that was heard – received a toy. There was a further delight – for the children: six dozen mouth-organs were provided for the home-coming. They had ‘music all the way’, although many of the little ones were almost too tired to join in the popular ditties. Without exception, everyone was happy; and the suggestion was general that Habberley Valley should be the destination for the next outing.”

Ernest Walter Clark – see also ROYAL EXCHANGE, West Bromwich.

Smethwick Telephone 20/1/1934

“There was a good attendance of members at the annual general meeting of the OLD CRYSTAL PALACE Sick and Dividend Society. The report on the past year’s working showed that the general, fund income (including interest from investments) amounted to £320 15s 6½d. After paying expenses, including sick pay amounting to £113 12s 6d, a dividend of 15s per full member was paid, leaving a balance in hand of £3 19s 1d.

Prospective members may obtain full particulars from the Secretary on Monday evenings between 7 and 8pm, at the OLD CRYSTAL PALACE, Cranford Street, Soho.”

Albert Edward Gurney – see also OLD PORT, Tipton.

It closed on 10th May 1964.

It was demolished in the 1960’s.

Flats were built on the site.

OLD ENGINE

106, Rabone Lane / Engine Street, New Village, (Church End), (Cape of Good Hope), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

John Hipkins, Balsall Heath Road, Birmingham
Showell's Brewery Ltd. (acquired on 6th October 1893) [1912]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1914]

LICENSEES

Samuel Sheldon [1834] – [1851]
Joseph Skeet [1855]
William Higgins [1858] – [1861]
James Millington [1861]
William Sheldon [1864] – [1865]
Edward Bray [1867]
Mrs. Mary S Bray [1870] – [1871]
Francis Edward Davies [1872] – [1873]
George Smith [1878] – [1883]
Mrs. Jane Hopkins [1890]
Edward Whelan [1891] – [1892]
John William Haines [] – **1893**;
Alfred Griffin Maybury (**1893** – [1898])
George Day [1901]
Parry [1903] – [1909]
Arthur Lockett [1911]
Bill King []
James Turner [] – **1914**;

NOTES

Engine Street [1855], [1858]
106, Rabone Lane [1901], [1911]

ENGINE AND FORGE [1834], [1835], [1839]
ENGINE [1834], [1851], [1855], [1860], [1861]
OLD ENGINEER [1883], [1890], [1892]
OLD ENGINE [1858], [1884], [1892], [1895]

Smethwick Telephone 1/12/1951

'Smethwick And Round About' by W. Ellery Jephcott

".....soon transferred his [William Caldw] activities to the Ancient Order of Foresters, for he records that on August 13th 1842, he assisted in opening Court 'Chevy Chase' No. 1489 at the ENGINE INN."

Smethwick Telephone 16/2/1884

'Smethwick By An Old Inhabitant.'

".....Rev. Edward Dale minister of the Old Chapel All acknowledged Mr. Dale a beautiful reader, and once when I attended church with the Odd-Fellows from the OLD ENGINE, he presented from the text 'I have been young and now are old'....."

1861 Census

Rabone Lane – ENGINE INN

- [1] *James Millington* (38), married, victualler, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Mary Fettin* (23), barmaid, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Sarah Hackett* (24), domestic servant, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Charlotte Higgins* (17), visitor, born Staffordshire:

Edward Bray issued tokens from here.

1871 Census

Rabone Lane

- [1] *Mary S. Bray* (48), widow, licensed victualler, born Fenny Stratford, Buckinghamshire;
- [2] *Edward Bray* (4), grandson, scholar, born St. Helens;
- [3] *Elizabeth Magneys* (?) (16), house maid, born Wolverhampton;
- [4] *William Smith* (53), lodger, engine smith, born Derby;
- [5] *Jonathan Millington* (43), lodger, engine smith, born Wigan;
- [6] *George Anderton* (28), lodger, engine smith, born Manchester:

George Smith – see also VINE [1879]

Smethwick Telephone 16/9/1884

“Notice - The only Electric Bar within 3 miles of Smethwick is fitted up at the OLD ENGINE, Rabone Lane, Smethwick.”

1891 Census

Rabone Lane

- [1] *Edward Whelan* (39), publican, born Ireland;
- [2] *Annie Whelan* (26), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Patrick Whelan* (29), brother, publican's assistant, born Ireland;
- [4] *Edith Giddis* (17), general servant, born Uxbridge:

Smethwick Telephone 10/7/1892

“.....it was stated that Court ‘Chevy Chase’ [Ancient Order of Foresters] was established on the 9th August 1842, and was the first Court started in Smethwick. It was commenced in a room at the OLD ENGINE INN, Rabone Lane, and continued to hold its meetings there up till July 1891, when after repeated efforts it was removed to the present public house.” [WINDMILL].

John William Haines was the son of *John Haines* (WHITE SWAN).

He was born in the WHITE SWAN, Brasshouse Lane.

He died in 1904.

See also BRIDGE (Old Hill), WHITE SWAN (Oldbury) and COCK, Brasshouse Lane.

Smethwick Telephone 23/2/1895

“On Thursday, Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd. (per Mr. *A. G. Maybury*, OLD ENGINE, Rabone Lane) gave soup and bread to 270 persons. This makes the third week of distribution.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/8/1897

“*Thomas McEvoy*, 108 Rabone Lane, Smethwick, was summoned for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the OLD ENGINE INN, Rabone Lane on the 6th inst.- Defendant was fined 5s and costs, in all 15s.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/8/1898

“OLD ENGINE Flying Club [pigeons]. – A dinner was held in connection with this club on Thursday night, when prizes were distributed to members. The catering of Mr. and Mrs. *Maybury* gave every satisfaction.....”

1901 Census

106, Rabone Lane

- [1] *George Day* (45), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Esther Day* (47), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Ada Day* (23), daughter, mother's help, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Alfred Day* (22), son, barman, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Frederick Day* (17), son, barman, born Birmingham:

A soup kitchen for children was started here in December 1904.

1911 Census

106, Rabone Lane

- [1] *Arthur Lockett* (37), licensed victualler, born Bodicote, Banbury;
- [2] *Mary Ann Lockett* (39), wife, married 14 years, born Leamington;
- [3] *Albert Arthur Lockett* (12), son, schoolboy, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Mary Jane Madelin* (35), servant, born Tipton;
- [5] *Nelly Hunt* (3), visitor, born Hanley, Staffordshire:

[1912]

It closed on 4th March 1914, and the license was removed to new premises at Cape Hill.

OLD HOUSE AT HOME

183, Halfords Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Samuel Neal [1861]
John Badsey [1871]
Edward Horton [1881]
Charles Watson [1885] – [1893]
William Downing [1897] – [1900]
William 'Billy' Williams [1901] – **1929**);
Mary Ann Williams (**1929 – 1931**);
Gilbert John Whitehouse (**1931 – 1939**);
Alfred Frederick Wort (**1939 – 1941**);
William Adams (**1941 – 1946**);
Leslie Mark Tarrant (**1946 – 1948**);
George Richard Worrall (**1948 – 1956**);
Amy Hannah Worrall (**1956**);
Emily Brown [] manageress
Thomas George Cartwright (**1956 – 1965**);
Elsie Cartwright (**1965 – [1966]**)

NOTES

It was situated on the west side of Halfords Lane.

It was built by Daniel Holloway as a house in the 1840's.

1861 Census

Halford Street – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *Samuel Neal* (37), boiler maker, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Rebecca Neal* (40), wife, born Wroxeter, Shropshire;
- [3] *Ann Neal* (9), daughter, scholar, born Handsworth;
- [4] *William Neal* (7), son, scholar, born Handsworth;
- [5] *Samuel Neal* (5), son, scholar, born Handsworth;
- [6] *Elizabeth Neal* (1), daughter, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Halfords Lane – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *John Badsey* (62), beer house keeper, born Ledbury;
- [2] *Ellen Badsey* (56), wife, born Ledbury;
- [3] *Harriett Badsey* (20), daughter, born Ledbury;
- [4] *William Badsey* (8), grandson, born Ledbury;
- [5] *Ellen Hartwell* (4), granddaughter, born Worcester;
- [6] *James Andrews* (37), visitor, born London:

1881 Census

183, Halfords Lane

- [1] *Edward Horton* (54), beer retailer, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Sarah Horton* (55), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *James Horton* (29), son, born Oldbury;

1891 Census

183, Halfords Lane – OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *Charles Watson* (55), licensed beer seller, born Aldridge, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Eliza Watson* (51), wife, born Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire;
- [3] *John Watson* (14), son, chandelier maker's apprentice, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Eliza Watson* (11), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Thomas Watson* (8), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Agnes Watson* (16), daughter, domestic servant, born West Bromwich;
- [7] *Dora Valentine* (44), boarder, barmaid, born Ireland;

Charles Watson was described as a beer retailer, 183 Halfords Lane.

Smethwick Telephone 15/4/1893

“*Charles Watson* (57) and *Eliza Watson* (53) of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN, Halfords Lane, Smethwick were charged with being drunk on their own licensed premises on the 1st inst. the case against the wife was dismissed, but the male defendant was fined 10s and costs, amounting in all to 17s.”

Charles Watson's license was renewed in September 1893 after he was cautioned as to the future conduct of his house.

William Downing, beer retailer, 183 Halfords Lane. [1897], [1900]

An application to make alterations was refused at the adjourned general licensing sessions on 13th September 1899.

1901 Census

182, Halford Lane – OLD HOUSE AT HOME Public House

- [1] *William Williams* (25), public house manager, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Ann Williams* (27), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Wilfred Leslie Williams* (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Elizabeth Reeves* (19), barmaid, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Clara Darby* (16), general servant, born West Bromwich;

Smethwick Weekly News 1/6/1901

“OLD HOUSE AT HOME Smoking Club. On Whit Tuesday this society had a very enjoyable trip to Llangollen. From Trevor, which was reached at nine o'clock, after a three hours' ride, the party proceeded by boat to Llangollen, stopping on the way to be photographed. Llangollen was reached about 12 o'clock, and at 12.30 a splendid dinner was provided at the Grapes Hotel. After dinner the party had a very enjoyable ride to Chirk, where they were again photographed in the Castle Arms Hotel. After tea, which was also provided at the Grapes Hotel, the time was pleasantly spent until the time of departure, eight o'clock. Songs, cards and speeches were indulged in during the return journey. During the speeches the host (*Mr. W. Williams*), and the committee with their chairman and secretary were thanked for having carried out the arrangements so admirably. The Chairman remarked that after meeting all the expenses there still remained a balance in hand, and it was unanimously decided to purchase pipes for the Chairman and Secretary with that balance. Home was reached at 11.30pm.”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1908/9]

1911 Census

183, Halfords Lane – The OLD HOUSE AT HOME

- [1] *William Williams* (35), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Ann Williams* (37), wife, married 14 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Wilfred Leslie Williams* (13), son, school, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Iris Hilda May Williams* (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Phyllis Nock* (22), servant, born Dudley Port:

Smethwick Telephone 21/9/1912

“The OLD HOUSE AT HOME Angling Society, Halfords Lane, fished their annual contest at Erdington. The first three prize-winners were: 1, W. Williams; 2, H. Simms; 3, F. Clarke. The Society is open to membership during first quarter.”

William Williams, beer retailer, 183 Halfords Lane. [1912], [1914]

Billy Williams had played full back for West Bromwich Albion and England. [1897], [1899]

He married *Polly Woolley*, daughter of *Joseph [SPON CROFT]*.

The full license of the SPON LANE TAVERN was transferred here in 1913.

Smethwick Telephone 24/3/1928

“The wedding of Miss *Iris Williams*, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. *W. Williams*, of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Halfords Lane, and Mr. *W. E. Adams*, also of Halfords Lane, Smethwick, took place at St. James’ Church, Handsworth, last Sunday. It was of more than usual interest to football enthusiasts, because the groom is a member of Walsall FC, and the bride’s father is a former Albion and international back.....”

It had a bowling green. [1930’s]

Gilbert John Whitehouse was married to *Clare*.

He served in the Royal Flying Corps during World War One.

Smethwick Telephone 10/2/1934

“It was a very interesting function that took place at The OLD HOUSE AT HOME, Halford Lane, on Wednesday evening, when a presentation was made to Mr. *W. H. Poulton*, as a mark of appreciation of his services as secretary of The OLD HOUSE AT HOME Sick and Dividend Society. Mr. Poulton, who retired from the position at the end of last year, had held the honorary office for sixteen years, during which term a most trying time had been experienced, two of the most exacting items of course being the ‘flu’ epidemic which swept the country just after the War, and unemployment, but Mr. Poulton, with characteristic efficiency was able to see the club through its lean years and was instrumental in helping to increase the membership.

It was fitting, therefore, that some recognition of his work should be made, and a concert worthy of the occasion was arranged. Mr. *F. Hughes*, who succeeded Mr. Poulton as Secretary, was responsible for the arrangements for the convivialities.

Mr. *G. H. Davies* (President) presided and had the support of Mr. *W. G. Martin* (representing Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers Ltd), who, with a few choice remarks, made the presentation, which was in the form of a Westminster chimes timepiece, suitably inscribed. Mrs. Poulton was the recipient of a handsome wristlet watch. Miss *Dolly Biddle* (soprano), was responsible for several numbers, and Mr. *Joe Deeley* (comedian), purveyed mirth, all the items being enthusiastically received.

Mr. *Harry James* was at the piano.”

Alfred Frederick Wort – see also RED LION.

Smethwick Heritage Telephone - May 2003

‘Life Over The Steps’ by *Frank Clarke*

“.....Moving along to the OLD HOUSE AT HOME it was the only pub around that sold bitter, as in these days [1940’s?] it was hard to keep.”

Leslie Mark Tarrant – see also TWO BREWERS.

Emily Brown died in 1954.

Smethwick Telephone 12/11/1965

“The funeral of *Thomas George Cartwright*, licensee of the OLD HOUSE AT HOME INN.....will take place at West Bromwich Crematorium today. Mr. *Cartwright*, who was 63, died on Monday in St. Chad’s Hospital, after being admitted the previous day. He leaves a wife and three sons. From 1938 to 1947 he was the licensee of the LONDON WORKS TAVERN, Cranford Street and until 1956 he was at the MOILLIETT ARMS, Six Ways. Mr. *Cartwright* had been the licensee at the OLD HOUSE AT HOME for the last 9 years.”

Closed

It was demolished circa 1997 to make way for the Metro car park.

OLD TALBOT

144, (27), High Street, (Oldbury Road) / Trinity Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Joseph Whitehouse [1883], [1896]
Cheshire's Brewery [1898], [1909], [1912], [1914]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1913)

LICENSEES

Thomas Robinson [1841] – [1851]
Mrs. Sarah Robinson* [1851] – [1865]
Price Pennell [1855] ?
Mrs. Sarah Robinson* [1870]
Thomas Prentis** [1871]
Thomas James Prentis** [1872]
J Prentice*** [1873]
Mrs. Jane Prentis*** [1878] – [1879]
Joseph Whitehouse [1883] – [1897] non-resident
William Absalom Evans (1890 – 1891) manager
Mrs. Sarah E Evans [1901]
Thomas Williams [1903] – [1911]
John Wright [1918] – 1928);
Bert Adrian Slim (1928 – 1932);
Thomas Harry Turner (1932 – 1935);
Horace Coley (1935 – 1937);
John Joseph Biggs (1937 – 1948);
Lewis William Minton (1948 – 1949);
Alfred Hyde (1949 – 1955);
Harold Cyril Bates (1955 – 1956);
William Albert Peach (1956 – 1960);
William John Narbert (1960 – 1965);
Raymond Truby (1965 – 1966);
William Denis Sharp (1966 – []
Thomas Daniel McDowell [1983] – [2001]
Gurmail Singh Johal [2008]

NOTES

Oldbury Road [1851]
27, High Street [1883], [1890], [1897], [1901], [1903], [1911]
144, High Street [1909], [1935], [1936], [1948], [1959], [1961],
[1965], [1996]

It was situated on the west side of High Street.

TALBOT [1842], [1851], [1871]
OLD TALBOT [1891]

It was a home brew house.



c1900



FOR FAMILY USE—PURE & DELICATELY FLAVOURED ALE

EQUAL in PURITY and VALUE to any supplied by any other Firms

BREWED FROM THE FINEST

MALT AND HOPS.

Advert 1891

Thomas Robinson was also a brewer.

He was described as a brewer and maltster. [1851]

He was married to Sarah.

1851 Census

Oldbury Road

- [1] Sarah Robinson (83), widow, innkeeper and common brewer, born Upper Lean, Staffordshire;
- [2] William Robinson (49), son, traveller in ale and porter trade, born Upper Lean, Staffordshire;
- [3] Thomas Robinson (44), son, brewer, born Lullington, Derbyshire;
- [4] Mary Robinson (37), daughter, house keeper, born Lullington, Derbyshire;
- [5] Fred Robinson Prentice (15), visitor, school....., born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Robinson Prentice (11), scholar, born Walsall;
- [7] Sarah Holden (?), (17), servant, born Clent:

1861 Census

High Street West

- [1] Sarah Robinson (93), widow, victualler, born Tean, Staffordshire;
- [2] William Robinson (60), son, born Sullington, Derbyshire;
- [3] Thomas Robinson (56), son, born Sullington, Derbyshire;
- [4] Frederick Robinson (25), grandson, brewer, born Walsall;
- [5] Elizabeth Robinson (21), granddaughter, house keeper, born Walsall;
- [6] Elizabeth Stanley (18), servant, born Henley in Arden;
- [7] Henry Pepper (16), servant, carter, born Longbennington, Lincolnshire:

* possibly the same person

1871 Census

High Street – TALBOT INN

- [1] Thomas Prentis (33), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] Jane Prentis (33), wife, born Shenstone, Staffordshire;
- [3] Susan Mitchell (21), domestic servant, born Hunstone, Staffordshire;
- [4] Wilfred (?), (21), man servant, born Liverpool:

** probably the same person

*** possibly the same person

Joseph Whitehouse had his brewery here.

Smethwick Telephone 17/1/1891

“An inquest was held on Monday at the OLD TALBOT INN, High Street, Smethwick, respecting the death of William Absalom Evans (55), manager of the said house who was found dead in a wine cellar on the preceding Friday. Ellen Evans, wife of the deceased, said that for the last twelve months her husband had enjoyed fairly good health Mr. Joseph Whitehouse stated that he was a brewer and proprietor of the OLD TALBOT deceased had been manager since October 21st ”

- Verdict – natural causes.

J. Whitehouse & Co. adverts appear. [1894], [1895], [1897]
Advert disappears from Smethwick Telephone after 3rd April 1897.



Smethwick Telephone 17/11/1894

“John Edwards, of High Street was summoned by Thomas Groves, of Tiverton Road for assaulting him on the 3rd inst. – Complainant alleged he went into the yard at the back of the OLD TALBOT INN, Smethwick, when the defendant followed him, and, without any provocation whatever, struck him on the face several times, and knocked him down. – Defendant pleaded that Groves was the aggressor. – A fine of 5s and costs (amounting in all to 15s) was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 9/11/1895

“*Joseph Whitehouse*, landlord of the OLD TALBOT INN, High Street, was summoned for being drunk on his licensed premises, and Charles Shields, Victoria Park Road, was summoned for being on the premises on 12th October. – Mr. J. S. Sharpe defended – police constable Myatt deposed to seeing defendant Shields in the house in a drunken condition. – For the defence Mr. Sharpe contended that even if it was proved that the man was drunk it was not with the connivance of the landlord. – After hearing the whole of the evidence the case against *Joseph Whitehouse* was dismissed, but Shields was fined 2s 6d and costs.....”

Smethwick Telephone 20/8/1898

“To let. OLD TALBOT Brewery, High Street, Smethwick. This well-lighted and commodious building to let, containing three floors each 37’ by 29’. Would suit builder or manufacturer. Apply Cheshire’s Brewery Ltd., Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 2/9/1899

“The general annual licensing sessions for Handsworth and Smethwick He [Superintendent Ainsworth] had to bring under the notice of the justices three licensed victuallers, who, although they had not extended their licensed areas, had, without the sanction of the justices, made certain internal alterations during the year Cheshire’s Brewery Company, OLD TALBOT INN, High Street, Smethwick, who had made the tap room and the bar into one, and a room which was formerly a sitting room into a smoke room.....”

- The license was renewed at the adjourned annual general licensing sessions on 13th September 1899.

1901 Census

27, High Street – TALBOT HOTEL

- [1] *Sarah E. Evans* (26), widow, public house manageress, born Preston, Lancashire;
- [2] Catherine B. Hanson (18), clerk and barmaid, born Birmingham;
- [3] Mary Jones (34), widow, general servant, born Quarry Bank:

1911 Census

27, High Street – OLD TALBOT INN

- [1] *Thomas Williams* (43), innkeeper, born Tipton;
- [2] Sarah Williams (45), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] Harriet Williams (9), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] Ralph J. Williams (7), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] Louisa Rabone (17), general servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 20/4/1912

“As a result of the disorganisation of traffic on the railway due to the late coal strike, the Good Friday Outing Club (the headquarters of which are at the OLD TALBOT HOTEL, High Street) were unable to arrange their usual annual this year. The members were, however, fully compensated for their disappointment by the generosity of the host (Mr. *J. Wright*), who caused invitations to be sent to the members to be his guest at a repast and social evening, held in the clubroom on Wednesday last. About 30 members assembled, and partook of a sumptuous repast. The chair was taken by Mr. F. J. Gardner, and the vice chair by Mr. H. Wright (Oldbury).....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/7/1928

“The departure from Smethwick of Mr. *John Wright*, mine host of the OLD TALBOT INN, to take up a position at Erdington, was referred to by the Magistrates at the Law Courts on Thursday. Mr. *Wright* attended to apply for an hour’s extension for Friday, when his many friends in the Borough arranged to make him a presentation. Alderman Pinkney said they understood that Mr. *Wright* had been at the OLD TALBOT for close on a quarter of a century, and during that time there had been no complaint with respect to the management of the house, and that was the first occasion on which an extension had been applied for. That record was a great credit to him. He thought he ought to tell the Mayor that Mr. *Wright*’s management had been exemplary; they felt sure he would do equally well in his new environment.

The Magistrates’ Clerk (Mr. S. Shakespeare) and Superintendent Challinor also joined in the tribute.”

Bert Adrian Slim – see also BRITISH QUEEN, Oldbury.

Alfred Hyde – see also HOLLY BUSH.

Raymond Truby – see also SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

[2013]



1997



2013



2008

PACKET HOUSE

36, (119), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Birmingham Canal Navigations
George Unett (acquired in 1837)
Joseph Whitehouse, boatman
Mrs. Whitehouse
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Hadley [1864] – **1871**;
Mrs. Emma Hadley (**1871** – [1872])
Joseph Burrell [1879] – [1883]
Abel Burton [1889] – [1893]

NOTES

119, Rolfe Street [1871]
36, Rolfe Street

It was situated on the north side of Rolfe Street.

Passengers for the packet boats, plying between Birmingham and Wolverhampton, would catch them on a wharf at the rear of the house, reached by a side passage.

John Hadley, beer retailer, Rolfe Street [1864], [1865], [1870]

1871 Census

119, Rolfe Street

[1] *John Hadley* (56), beerseller, born Harborne;

[2] *Emma Hadley* (55), wife, born Oldbury;

[3] *Samuel Hadley* (83), father, widower, retired founder, born Harborne;

[4] *Elizabeth Hadley* (46), sister, general servant, born Harborne:

Mrs. Emma Hadley, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1872]

Joseph Burrell, beer retailer and shoeing smith [1878], [1879]

1881 Census

36, Rolfe Street - PACKET HOUSE

- [1] *Joseph Burrell* (39), publican, born Nottingham;
- [2] *Jane Burrell* (39), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Catherine Burrell* (17), daughter, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Robert Burrell* (15), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Joseph Burrell* (13), son, born Oldbury;
- [6] *Florence Burrell* (8), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Herbert Burrell* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [8] *William Burrell* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Fanny Burrell* (2), daughter, born Smethwick:

Joseph Burrell, beer retailer, 36 Rolfe Street. [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 29/8/1885

“Quarterly meeting of West Bromwich, Smethwick and District Retail Brewers’ Protection and Benevolent Association In the case of Mrs. Burrell of the PACKET INN in Smethwick, it had been agreed to make her a grant of two guineas in respect of the death of her husband although she was not entitled to any benefit from the association.”

Abel Burton, beer retailer, PACKET INN, Rolfe Street [1889]

Abel Burton, beer retailer, 36 Rolfe Street [1890]

1891 Census

36, Rolfe Street – PACKET INN

- [1] *Abel Burton* (41), publican, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Alice Burton* (39), wife, born Dudley;
- [3] *James D. Burton* (13), son, born Tipton;
- [4] *Maud E. Burton* (7), daughter, born Smethwick:

Abel Burton – see also ENGINEERS ARMS, Oldbury.
He died on 5th January 1897.

Smethwick Telephone 3/1/1891

“The annual meeting, in connection with the Sick and Dividend Society held at Mr. *Burton*’s PACKET HOUSE..... took place on Tuesday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 2/1/1892

“On Saturday evening a dinner was held at the PACKET HOUSE, Rolfe Street (Mr. *Burton*’s) in connection with the Sick and Dividend Society which has been held at that house during the last three years.....”

Smethwick Telephone 7/1/1893

“The Sick and Dividend Society, held at Mr. *Burton*’s the PACKET HOUSE INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick has declared a dividend of 9s 2d per member for the year just ended. Mr. *Burton* was appointed treasurer During the year a considerable sum of money has been paid out in sick pay.”

The license was transferred by Cheshire’s Brewery and the building was sold to the Corporation and closed.

It was demolished when Rolfe Street was redeveloped in order to replace a level crossing with a bridge.

PARK

304, High Street, (Newlands Green / Bearwood Hill), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell and Co. **(1893 - []**
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1900], [1912], [1914]

LICENSEES

R Jordan **(1893 - [1894]** manager
Louis Arthur Blackband [1894] - [1897]
Edward Clasker [1901]
Alfred James Nichol **(1901 - 1903);**
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. **(1903 - 1914);**
George William Taylor [1911] manager?
Gertrude Annie Maxwell **(1914 - 1915);**
John Thomas Merriman **(1915 - 1921);**
James Rowan **(1921 - 1924);**
Ernest Lees **(1924 - 1925);**
Thomas Charles George **(1925 - 1927);**
Ralph Bevan **(1927 - 1936);**
Ernest William Luther **(1936 - 1939);**
Mrs. Isabel Louise Luther **(1939 - 1955);**
Benjamin Claude Fletcher **(1955 - 1958);**
Arthur William Whitehouse **(1958 - 1963);**
Dennis William Goodman **(1963 - []**
Sid Facer []
Tommy McDowell [1993]
Philomena Marie McDowell [2001]



1997

NOTES

It was built on the site of the SOW AND PIGS.

304 High Street [1909], [1935], [1936], [1948], [1959], [1961], [2008]
Newlands Green

Smethwick Telephone 28/10/1893

“For many years there stood on Bearwood Hill an old hostelry known by the ‘elegant’ title of ‘The SOW AND PIGS’ It was only to be expected that when the Victoria Park was made, and the number of houses being built in the immediate vicinity of the SOW AND PIGS, that accommodation for the comfort of man and beast would be found necessary. Messrs. Henry Mitchell and Co. have had a building erected, which, whilst giving the necessary convenience for trades purposes they may also be congratulated upon a structure which will worthily add to the architectural edifices of Smethwick. It should also be stated that this firm, when informed by the Surveyor to the Local Board that it would be a valuable concession to set back the street line of their contemplated new building, generously gave up the land required, and so allowed the Local Board to widen the street, which at this point was dangerously narrow. Having thus set back it was found that no portion of the old building could be utilized, and so an entirely new erection was necessary. We have been over the premises, and find everything carried out in a systematically practical manner with artistic finish. The ground floor has a bar at the angle, and, is fitted up in an elaborate manner. The counter and the back fittings in polished walnut, with the usual accessories, are all en suite.

The glazing in the windows being specially French embossed with lead lights in the upper squares, executed by Mr. Samuel Evans of Smethwick, and are well worthy of his reputation. The smoke room has a cosy appearance, the comfortable seats and the walnut fittings reflecting credit upon Mr. Samuel Mason of Birmingham, who has carried them out. At the side of the bar is a large assembly room; this, when finished will form an admirable dining or recreation room. The provision for the occupants of the house is well conceived, there being ample kitchen, scullery and bedroom accommodation. It is intended that the catering for dining purposes shall be a special feature in the establishment. There are good stables and coach-house The exterior presents an ornate appearance, and may be described as a free treatment of the renaissance style of architecture. The doorways with their massive pilasters and pedimented heads, the elliptical arches over the ground floor windows with the octagonal pillarets between, and the fenestration of the first floor with a boldly designed cornice, surmounted with the half timbered gables, produce an original and at the same time most satisfactory effect. We understand that the bricks and terra cotta dressings have been supplied by Messrs. Joseph King and Co. of Stourbridge, and all the ornamental work has been specially modelled. The painting throughout has been done by Mr. Holmes, of Brierley Hill, whilst the building contract has been carried out by Messrs. Brookes and Tandy, also of Brierley Hill, in a very substantial manner. We must not forget to mention that the grates and ranges have been supplied by Mr. Samuel Smith, of the Beehive Foundry, Smethwick; and the gas fittings by Mr. George Hadley, of Birmingham. Also that the designs of the whole of the buildings and fittings have been made by the architects (Messrs. Wood and Kendrick, of West Bromwich), under whose supervision the work has been completed. The house is opened today (Saturday) for general business, and we have no doubt but that the enterprise of Messrs. Mitchell and Co. will receive due recognition.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/11/1893

“The opening of the handsome building now known as the PARK HOTEL, opposite the entrance to Victoria Park, Bearwood Hill, was an auspicious one. It is one of the most elaborate and conveniently fitted-up hotels for miles around. Before the doors were opened, a small crowd of people gathered around the entrance, anxious to have an early glance at the interior of the hotel, of which the exterior gave such a promising index. At 12 o’clock, the time announced for the opening, the hotel was declared open to the public. Mr. J. E. Chambers (the energetic and courteous secretary of the firm of Henry Mitchell and Co. Limited, proprietors of the hotel) drew the first glass of ale, and Mr. John Lones (a very old servant of the firm) was the recipient of the same, and at once drank to the success of the PARK HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/11/1893 - Advert

“ Now Open. Now Open / The PARK HOTEL / (opposite Victoria Park) Bearwood Hill, Smethwick / The above is Newly-erected, Commodious, and Luxuriously Fitted Throughout / Adjoining the above will shortly be Opened an Assembly Room suitable for Banquets, Clubs, Private & Public Parties, Meetings &c. / Proprietor – R. Jordan / Late of the Kensington, High Street, Birmingham / Mitchells Gold Medal Ales, Wines, Spirits, Cigars &c. / Of the Finest Qualities.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1894

“Mitchell’s Brewery Musical and Social Club. The members of the above club held their first musical evening on Friday the 6th inst. in the Assembly Room at the PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill. Mr. H. Mitchell Jnr. Presiding the room in which they met is one of the finest and most comfortable assembly rooms in the district.....”

NOW OPEN NOW OPEN

THE

PARK HOTEL

(opposite Victoria Park)

BEARWOOD HILL, SMETHWICK.

The above is
NEWLY-ERECTED, COMMODIOUS,
AND LUXURIOUSLY FITTED THROUGHOUT.

Adjoining the above will shortly be
OPENED AN ASSEMBLY ROOM
Suitable for
BANQUETS, CLUBS, PRIVATE & PUBLIC
PARTIES, MEETINGS, &c.

PROPRIETOR R. JORDAN.
(Late of the Kensington, High Street, Birmingham.)

MITCHELL'S GOLD MEDAL ALES,
WINES, SPIRITS, CIGARS, &c.
Of the Finest Qualities.

Advert 1893

Smethwick Telephone 3/2/1894

“Serious Assault On A Musician. At the Handsworth Police Court, yesterday, Benjamin Tonks (20), 47 Ballot Street, John Winney (19), Shireland Road, and Charles Taylor (18), Florence Road, of Smethwick, were charged on a warrant with unlawfully assaulting Samuel Ellis, fitter, of Woodlands Street, Smethwick. Prosecutor plays the piano at the PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill, and on the night of the 20th ult. the defendants, with others, came into the concert room, and taking exception to a solo on the concertina, commenced to make a noise and use bad language. Prosecutor, who was to a certain extent responsible for the proper conduct of the room, called the proprietor’s attention to the prisoners, and shortly after 10 o’clock they were ejected from the premises. This appears to have excited their ill-feeling and one of them was heard to say, “We’ll wait for that.” When prosecutor left the house at closing time prisoners and another man not in custody, who were waiting on the other side of the road, came up to him and struck him. He retired into the house and waited until he thought the coast was clear. However, later on reaching the corner of Windmill Lane, the prisoners surrounded him, knocked him down, and whilst he was on the ground kicked and punched him until he was rendered unconscious by their brutal treatment. He was badly injured, and had since been attended by Dr. Lunn. Prisoners were fined £1 each and costs.”

Smethwick Telephone 21/7/1894

“On Friday, the 13th inst., the members of the Committee and officers in connection with Mitchell’s Brewery Cricket and Athletic Club dined together at the PARK HOTEL Mr. *Jordan*’s well-known ability as a public caterer was never better displayed.....”

Smethwick Telephone 1/12/1894

“Order of Druids Friendly Society – On Wednesday evening a convivial meeting of members, friends and district officers of the above Order was held at Mr. *Blackband*’s PARK HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/1/1895

“Last Tuesday a convivial meeting was held at the PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill, in connection with the Loyal Park Lodge (Ancient Order of Druids).....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/11/1895 - Advert

“PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill / Large and well-arranged Assembly Hall / Select Harmonic Meetings Held Every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday Evenings at Eight o’clock / Well-appointed Smoke Room.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/5/1896

“The first annual smoking concert in connection with the ‘Loyal Park’ Lodge of the Equalized Order of Druids was held at the PARK HOTEL assembly room on Friday night (22nd inst.).....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/7/1896 - Advert

“PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill / Large and well arranged Assembly Room / Select Harmonic Meetings Held every Monday, Thursday and Saturday Evenings at Eight o’ clock / Well Appointed Smoke Room / Superior Wines, Spirits and Cigars / Mitchell’s Ales.”

Smethwick Telephone 11/7/1896

“On Wednesday night a public meeting was held at the PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill, Smethwick, for the purpose of opening a branch of the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners decided.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1898

“A smoking concert will take place at the Assembly Room, PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill, on Wednesday evening; in connection with the Smethwick and District Gardening and Bearwood Road Allotments Associations.”

PARK HOTEL,
BEARWOOD HILL.
Large and well-arranged
ASSEMBLY ROOM.
SELECT HARMONIC MEETINGS
Held every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday
Evenings at Eight o'clock.
WELL-APPOINTED SMOKE ROOM.
SUPERIOR WINES, SPIRITS & CIGARS.
MITCHELL'S ALES.

Advert 1895

Smethwick Telephone 9/7/1898

“The first annual outing connected with the PARK HOTEL Sick and Dividend Society took place on Saturday last, the destination being Bromsgrove Lickey. About 30 members and friends turned out for the afternoon drive, the brakes being supplied by Darby and Co.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 12/5/1900

“The twelfth annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick Swimming Club took place on Wednesday night at the PARK HOTEL. Mr. J. M. Harley (president) occupied the chair.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 19/5/1900

“A disturbance of a very serious nature occurred last Saturday afternoon at the PARK HOTEL, as the result of which Edwin Adams (18) of Ada Road, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the PARK HOTEL when ordered and with two assaults. Mr. T. W. Clulow prosecuted.- It appeared that prisoner entered the house with three companions and commenced to use bad language. He was ordered to leave, and the barman (Harry Smith) went towards him, but received a kick which knocked him down. Prisoner also threw two jugs, one hitting the manager’s daughter, while another smashed a decanter of port wine and two glasses. Prisoner was eventually ejected, and he pulled out a knife and attempted to re-enter the house threatening to ‘do for’ the barman.- Prisoner did not deny the offences, and as he had a number of previous convictions he was sent to gaol for two months with hard labour.”

1901 Census

PARK HOTEL

- [1] *Edward Clasker* (38), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Florence Martha Clasker* (38), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Frederick J. Clasker* (17), son, butcher, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Kate A. Clasker* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Arthur R. Clasker* (13), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Edmund C. Clasker* (7), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Florence M. Clasker* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Henry Smith* (21), barman, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Weekly News 4/5/1901

“Traders’ Association. On Tuesday night a meeting of this association was held at the PARK HOTEL, Smethwick; Mr. G. H. Rayner presiding over a large attendance.

The Chairman reported that a deputation waited upon the Watch Committee of the Town Council with respect to the recent prosecutions for obstructions in the street, and he thought that the Watch Committee would grant them some concessions, although they had not replied to the points put before them by the deputation.

A deputation from the Smethwick Branch of the Shop Assistants’ Union waited upon the association requesting them to support them in an effort to obtain earlier hours of closing than at present. It was stated that an extensive canvas had been made of the trades in the borough, who were mostly in favour of the proposal.

The Chairman said the association would consider the question at a future meeting, but would no doubt support the assistants all they could.

Numerous complaints were made by almost every person present respecting the increase in their gas bills for the past quarter.

Alderman Goodyear said that probably some steps would be taken by the Gas Committee to see that such a thing did not occur in the future.”

Smethwick Weekly News 1/2/1902

“Smethwick Traders’ Association. On Thursday night a general meeting of the members of this association was held at the PARK HOTEL, Bearwood Hill. Mr. C. H. Rayner presiding. Mr. J. Austin introduced the question of municipalisation of telephones. He suggested that united action should be taken by the local authorities.....”

1911 Census

High Street – PARK HOTEL

[1] *George William Taylor* (34), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] *Ivy Taylor* (34), wife, married 13 years, born Birmingham;

[3] *George William Taylor* (13), son, born Smethwick;

[4] *Mary Ball* (40), widow, domestic servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1912

“Federation of Hairdressers; Smethwick Branch. The annual meeting in connection with the above, took place at the PARK HOTEL; Mr. T. S. Smith presiding.

A very satisfactory report for the past year was presented by the secretary (Mr. F. W. Curtis).....”

Smethwick Telephone 2/3/1912

“Bearwood Rifle Club. The annual general meeting the above was held at the PARK HOTEL, Smethwick, on the 22nd ult, the President (Alderman E. Adams, JP) occupying the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/11/1912

“The eighteenth annual show under the auspices of the Smethwick and District Chrysanthemum Society was this year held at the PARK HOTEL. There was considerable interest in the event, and the display of blooms was highly creditable to the exhibitors, to whom the season has not been altogether favourable. Owing to the space available being limited, it was impossible to have the groups as usually; instead of plants in pots, the blooms were set up singly.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/1/1918

“The fatal termination to an accident which occurred at the St. George’s Works of Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, on Friday, was the subject of enquiry by the Coroner (Mr. G. C. Lewis), at the PARK HOTEL yesterday.

The deceased was *Harry Pownall* (35), a moulder, of Rosefield Road.

He was engaged with other men raising a ladle of molten metal by means of a crane and chains. One man was deputed to steady the ladle, but something burned his arm, and he momentarily let go, with the result that the metal splashed. In trying to get out of the way, Pownall fell over the chain, with the result that his arms and legs were severely burned. He died on Thursday morning as a result of the injuries.

Mr. Frank Chapman represented the relatives.

Mr. Norris Foster represented the firm.

Mr. Cook, H.M. Inspector of Factories, was present.

Mr. C. Cooper was foreman of the jury.

James Breeze, a fellow moulder, said that they were bringing a ladle of molten metal from the cupola. Pownall was hoisting the chain. Some metal fell on his (witness’s) hand as he was steadying the ladle, and he had to release hold, with the result that the ladle overturned. The metal poured out. Pownall had to escape by jumping, but his foot caught in the chain, and that threw him into the metal. Pownall’s clothing was set on fire, and this had to be extinguished. He was attended by a doctor at once, and sent home.

By the Coroner: The ladle was top heavy, in order that the metal could be poured. If by any means it was released it would upset.

By Mr. Chapman: The ladle contained about 9cwt of molten metal. There was a catch provided which would have held the pot, but this could not be applied at the time. The accident happened in a corner, and deceased had to jump forward to try and escape. He thought that but for the chain he would have got clear.

Dr. Robb said the man was suffering from extensive burns. The cause of death was heart failure following shock. The injuries to the hands were due to metal, but the others to the burning clothing, which caused death.

The Coroner said that whether the apparatus could be improved was a question which would be considered by the Factory Inspector; if anything could be done it would be done. A man could not be expected to have molten metal on his hands without flinching. Unfortunately in this case, the flinching had very bad results.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental death, due to the man’s clothing being set alight by his falling into molten metal.”

Smethwick Telephone 23/3/1918

“Bearwood Rifle Club. This club, which attained considerable success in its pre-war times, has managed to maintain its organisation, notwithstanding the difficulties which have been experienced during the past four years. This was ascribed in a large measure to the enthusiastic and capable hon. sec., Lieut. P. Treanor, upon the occasion of the annual meeting, which was held at the PARK HOTEL on Saturday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/12/1919

“The first concert in connection with the Smethwick Branch of the National Brassworkers and Metal Mechanics, took place at the PARK HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/3/1928

“Situations Vacant. Strong Woman for morning work and 3 evenings a week. – Apply PARK HOTEL, High Street, Smethwick.”

Arthur William Whitehouse – see also ABBEY, and SIR ROBERT PEEL.

Sid Facer was married to Betty.
See also ABBEY, GEORGE, and OLD CROSS, Oldbury.

It had a football team. [1965]

Teams from here were champions of the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League ‘B’ Section in 1974 and 1977.

[2008]

Closed [2009], [2010]

It reopened as JEE JEE’S Bar and Restaurant in 2011.

[2013]



2008



2012

PATTERNMAKERS ARMS

3, Bridge Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Hadley [1871]
John Gibbs [1872] – [1883]
Harry Rabone [1890] – [1897]
Albert Dunn [1899]
Laurence Ranford [1900]
Samuel Dugard [1901]
John Ellis [1901]
Alfred Freeth [1902]
Walter Worrall [1903]

NOTES

It was situated on the west side of Bridge Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

3, Bridge Street

- [1] *William Hadley* (40), moulder in iron works, born Harborne;
- [2] *Ann Hadley* (37), wife, born Wapping, Middlesex;
- [3] *William Hadley* (10), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [4] *Thomas Hadley* (8), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [5] *James Hadley* (6), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [6] *Walter Hadley* (4), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [7] *George Hadley* (1), son, born Harborne:

John Gibbs, beer retailer, Bridge Street [1878]

1881 Census

3, Bridge Street - PATTERNMAKERS ARMS

- [1] *John Gibbs* (47), publican, born Aston Cantlow, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Hannah Gibbs* (42), wife, born Aston Cantlow, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Elizabeth Gibbs* (10), daughter, scholar, born Handsworth;
- [4] *Ada Gibbs* (8), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *John Gibbs* (6), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

John Gibbs, beer retailer, 3 Bridge Street [1883]

Harry Rabone, beer retailer, 3 Bridge Street [1890], [1897]

1891 Census

3, Bridge Street

- [1] *Henry Rabone* (28), stoker, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Lucy Rabone* (31), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Lucy Rabone* (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Rosa Rabone* (4), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Henry Rabone* (11 months), son, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 18/3/1899

“Walter Smith (22), Cranford Street, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the PATTERNMAKERS ARMS, Bridge Street, on the 1st inst.- *Albert Dunn*, the landlord, asked for the case to be withdrawn, but Superintendent Ainsworth pressed for it to process Defendant did not appear but was represented by his sister.- The landlord stated that, on the date named, Smith went into his house and became quarrelsome. He refused to go and had to be ejected.- Defendant had been to him and apologized dismissed – defendant to pay the costs (2s 6d).....”

Laurence Ranford, beer retailer, 3 Bridge Street [1900]

1901 Census

Bridge Street – PATTERNMAKERS ARMS

- [1] *Samuel Dugard* (48), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Sarah Dugard* (43), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Harry Dugard* (20), son, brass polisher, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Emily Dugard* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Louisa Dickens* (15), boarder, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Albert Reeves* (3 months), grandson, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Weekly News 26/10/1901

“*John Ellis*, of the PATTERN MAKERS ARMS, Bridge Street, Smethwick, was charged with being drunk on his own licensed premises on the 28th September. Mr. J. S. Sharpe appeared for defendant.

PC Wood stated that he visited defendant’s house, in company with PC Meighan. The defendant was in the passage drunk, walking along, and supporting himself by the wall. He told defendant he was drunk, and as he followed them to the door, he advised him to go in and sit down. He again visited the house at 11.15, and then found him trying to unfasten the door to let his wife in, but could not undo the bolt.

PC Meighan gave corroborative evidence, and a woman named Parnell, who sent for some beer, said defendant gave the little girl short change out of 6d, and when she went to him about it, he abused her. He was drunk at the time.

Mr. Sharpe said defendant had kept licensed houses for many years, and this was the first charge laid ever brought against him. The defendant gave evidence to the effect that he had had no beer that night. His housekeeper’s son, and two other witnesses, all said defendant was sober.

A fine of 10s and costs was imposed, 19s in all.”

Samuel Dugard was convicted of permitting drunkenness, in 1901, and was fined 60s and costs.

Smethwick Weekly News 21/6/1902

“*Alfred Freeth* (29), licensee of the PATTERN MAKERS ARMS, Bridge Street, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 31st May. Mr. A. Turton appeared to prosecute, and Mr. J. S. Sharpe defended.

Mr. Turton explained that when the evidence had been given he thought the magistrates would come to the conclusion that the men were drunk. It was a rough house, and was not an ordinary offence, inasmuch as it concerned three men. One was named William Logan, who was drunk. He came staggering out of the house, but afterwards returned. The officers then went in, and in the tap room saw two other men named Aldridge and Doswell. The former was swaying about in his seat, and the latter was asleep. Each had some beer in a cup before him. Doswell was put out, and when outside fell down, and was taken into custody. When the landlord was questioned he said he had served Doswell with two pints, and he would get the other two men out. He also remarked that it was a rough house, and he wished he was out of it, and he was sorry.

PC's Archer and Powell gave evidence in support of this.

Mr. Sharpe, for the defence, said that Cheshire's Brewery Company owned the house, and had always tried to get good tenants. It was a difficult house to manager, and was in a rough neighbourhood. It was practically a charge of conniving, but the men were if anything drunk when they came in, for they had had no beer there. This would be borne out, he thought, by the fact that no summons had been served for selling to a drunken person, as was usual. Several witnesses, including the defendant and his wife, gave evidence to the effect that the men only arrived just before the police, and had had no beer served them there, though it was not denied that they were drunk.

Alderman Lones said the Bench recognised the difficulty the defendant would have to put up with, and had carefully considered the matter and had taken into account his respectability.

A fine of £5 and costs, £7 17s 6d in all, was imposed.”

Closed

PHEASANT

Abbey Road, (Pottery Road), (Pheasant Lane), (Slatch Hill Road), Warley Green, (Beech Lanes), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Smout
Miss Galton, Droitwich
Hannah Maria Ray
James Roland Ray (later at Pheasant Villas, c. 1912, and later of Hunt View, Romsley)
Samuel White and Son, Bellefield Brewery, Winson Street, Birmingham (acquired c 1919)
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired in 1920)
Ansells Ltd.
Highgate and Walsall Brewery Co. Ltd. [2009]

LICENSEES

Henry Smout [1851] – [1854]
Herbert Hand [1861]
Charles Cooper [] – **1864**);
Mrs. Ann Slaney (**1864** – [1873]
Henry Millward [1872] – [1879]
William Vase [1883]
Isaac Bridgewater [1884]
H Ray []
James Ray [1886] – **1890**);
Mrs. Hannah Maria Ray (**1890** – **1900**);
James Rowland Ray (**1900** – **1912**);
William Joseph Merritt (**1912** – **1916**);
Jane Elizabeth Merritt (**1916** – **1919**);
Samuel White (**1919** – **1920**);
Frederick Walter Smith (**1920** – **1922**);
Jesse Charles Davis (**1922**);
Walter Cater (**1922** – **1923**);
Frederick Walter Smith (**1923** – **1924**);
Dorcas Cartwright (**1924** – **1926**);
Harry James Walter (**1926** – **1930**);
William James Price (**1930** – **1931**);
Francis George Cartwright (**1931** – **1932**);
Samuel Alfred Abbott (**1932** – **1933**);
William Ewart Lawley (**1933** – **1937**);
Charles William Cass (**1937** – **1945**);
Harvey Roland Turton (**1945** – **1949**);
Frederick Richard Mason (**1949** – **1956**);
Etta Mason (**1956** – [1962]
Tom Mewis (**1978** – [1984]
Sandra Perry [1995]



c1938

NOTES

It was situated on the western side of Abbey Road.

Warley Green [1851], [1873]
Slatch Hill Road [1861]
Pheasant Lane [1891]
Abbey Road [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

A pigeon club was based here.

[1822]

1851 Census

Warley Green

- [1] *Henry Smout* (30), married, victualler and maltster, born Packington, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Mary Smout* (53), mother, house keeper, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Charles Bulies* (21), servant, general labourer, born Whitacre, Worcestershire:

Henry Smout was also a maltster. [1854]

1861 Census

Slatch Hill Road – public house PHEASANT INN

- [1] *Herbert Hand* (42), publican, born Saltley;
- [2] *Elizabeth Hand* (39), wife, born Water Orton;
- [3] *Frank Hand* (9), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Mary J. Hand* (7), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Charles A. Hand* (5), son, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Clara Hand* (3), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Henry Hand* (12 months), son, born Warley Wigorn:

Stourbridge Observer 18/3/1865

“At the Public Office [Halesowen] on Tuesday last, *Ann Slater* (sic), landlady of the PHEASANT INN, was charged by Superintendent Overend, with having on Friday evening, March 10th, allowed gambling with cards in her house. The offence was proved by Police-constable King, who was present during the whole of the time that the gambling was taking place, he being disguised. The magistrates fined the defendant 20s and costs.”

Stourbridge Observer 9/6/1866

On Tuesday, at the Petty Sessions, *Ann Slaney*, landlady of the PHEASANT INN, Warley Wigorn, was charged with having her house open for the sale of beer during prohibited hours. Mr. Shakespeare appeared for the defence.

Police-constable Turner, of Oldbury, said he visited the defendant's house last on Sunday, the 27th of May, about a quarter past 11am, in plain clothes, by direction of his superior officer, and saw three men in the passage drinking ale out of a pint cup. He had a glass of ale, and while he was there another man came to the door, saying he came from West Bromwich, and had a bottle of porter. There were three other men as well and three women came to the door and had some porter taken to them outside.

Mr. Shakespeare quoted the case of *Tenant and Cumberland*, and contended that as the doors of this house were closed the charge of keeping the doors open for the sale of drink as stated in the summons could not be substantiated. He therefore asked that the summons should be allowed to fall to the ground. The magistrates, however, overruled the objection and the case proceeded.

In cross examination the officer said that the blinds of the large room were drawn down. He knew two out of the three persons that were in the passage; they came from Oldbury. The cup was in the hand of the man he did not know, and there was ale in it. They did not tell him they were waiting to see defendant's son-in-law about some pigs. When he asked for the ale defendant did not say it was not opening time, and she had rather not fill any. He



did not tell her he was a traveller. He would not swear that Mr. Millard the son-in-law was not the third person. He was in the house about ten minutes.

Mr. Shakespeare, in defence, denied that there was any drink served, and asked why the policeman did not bring one of the men that he said had been drinking there. He would call three witnesses to deny the statement of the prosecution.

Mr. Millard, son-in-law to the landlady, said that he sold a man named Yorke some pigs on the previous Tuesday, and that Yorke and his son-in-law and another man was at his mother-in-law's house on the day in question waiting to see him about the pigs. He was upstairs cleaning him when the men came and they waited for him about ten minutes. He came down stairs about twenty minutes to twelve. They were not drinking. We transacted business together.

Sarah Hopewell, servant to Mrs. *Slaney*, heard the policeman ask for a glass of ale. There were three men in the house at the time. They asked to see Mr. Millard. They did not have anything to drink. There was a bottle of porter taken to some men and women outside. The policeman asked for a glass of ale and her mistress refused it at first. He said he was a traveller, and very thirsty, and had walked from Oldbury. The defendant said she would let him have it if he would stand and drink it quick.

Mr. Miles Overend said that some time ago the defendant was fined 20s and costs for allowing gambling in her house. For this offence she was fined 10s and costs.

Mr. Shakespeare gave notice of appeal, 1st because the offence, if any, was that of selling and not keeping the house open; 2nd, because the offence stated in the summons was not proved; 3rd, because whatever drink was served was served to travellers; 4th, because there was no proof of any ale being supplied during prohibited hours."

1871 Census

Warley Salop – PHEASANT INN

[1] *Ann Slaney* (63), widow, publican, born Stourbridge;

[2] Elizabeth Rogers (16), general servant, born Smethwick:

Stourbridge Observer 21/9/1872

"Richard Parrish, of Smethwick, was charged with indecently assaulting Emily Maria Millward, six years old, daughter of Mr. *Henry Millward*, landlord of the PHEASANT INN, Worley (sic), on the 27th August. The offence was committed in a field belonging to prosecutrix's father, but the facts are unfit for publication. After hearing the evidence, the prisoner was committed to take his trial at the next Worcester Sessions."

- Worcester, because the PHEASANT came under the jurisdiction of Halesowen.

[Was Henry Millward the Mr. Millard mentioned in the 9th June 1866 report?]

H. Ray issued tokens from here.

Smethwick Telephone 27/8/1887

"Oldbury Police Court. *James Ray*, landlord of the PHEASANT INN, Warley, was summoned for selling during prohibited hours on Sunday 14th inst....."

- dismissed

1891 Census

Pheasant Lane – PHEASANT INN

[1] *Hannah M. Ray* (54), widow, publican, born Smethwick;

[2] Samuel Ray (35), son, born Smethwick;

[3] Emma Underhill (40), sister, unmarried, born Smethwick;

[4] Hannah Wilson (30), domestic servant, born Wednesbury:

Smethwick Telephone 28/1/1899

"PHEASANT INN Sick and Dividend Society – On Friday evening (20th inst) the third annual supper was held at the PHEASANT INN, Warley. The chair was taken by Mr. S. Neale, who is president of the society....."

1901 Census

Abbey Road – PHEASANT INN

- [1] *James R. Ray* (39), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Phillipa Ray* (32), wife, born Thornhill, Derbyshire;
- [3] *Lilliam Johnston* (18), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

1911 Census

Abbey Road – PHEASANT INN

- [1] *James Rowland Ray* (49), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Philipa Ray* (42), married 22 years, born Sussex;
- [3] *Jane Elisabeth Cowles* (38), servant, born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Evangeline Howell* (20), servant, born Staffordshire:

Smethwick Telephone 14/12/1912

“Bearwood Rifle Club. The annual dinner of the members of this club took place at the PHEASANT INN, Warley. Alderman E. Adams, JP, (president) occupied the chair.....”

Frederick Walter Smith – see also BEAR.

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1938

“The annual meeting of the Warley Woods and District Amateur Gardeners’ Association was held at the PHEASANT HOTEL on Wednesday night. Mr. George Newman, President, was in the chair. Mrs. Cass, who, with Mr. Cass, has rendered very acceptable service to the Association, presented the prizes gained at the shows and competitions during the year.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/5/1957

‘Recollections of the Old PHEASANT INN at Warley’ by *W. Ellery Jephcott*

“.....the time when *Roland Ray* was the licensee of the house it was a little old fashioned place, with one large room and a ‘snug’ at the back, which was reserved for the regular customers.

When the *Rays* had the PHEASANT it was both a farm and a licensed house; the farmland extending for some distance at the rear. The premises included a brewery, supplied with water from its own well, for like most public houses of that period the licensee did his own brewing, and the home brewed ales of the PHEASANT INN enjoyed a considerable reputation.

The premises also included stables and a Dutch barn. At the rear, adjoining the summer house, was a greenhouse 100 feet long, and the rose gardens which were famous in the district. In these were seats and tables, and here on summer evenings and particularly weekends, the residents of the locality and visitors from a considerable area around, used to foregather in their hundreds and enjoy their beer among the rural surroundings. A shooting range and skittle alley were numbered among the attractions There was also a long, but narrow pool in the grounds, which contained fish and was fed from a stream abounding in watercress.....”

James Rowland Ray = *James Roland Ray*

He built 12 houses in Pottery Lane.

He retired to Romsley.

William Merritt married *Jenny Cole*.

She had been an assistant in the pub when *Roland Ray* ran it.

Warley Boxing Club was based here.

It was founded as the Pheasant Boxing Club in the 1930’s by *Harry Allmark* and *Bill Clewley*.

Francis George Cartwright – see also WAGGON AND HORSES, Oldbury.

Samuel Alfred Abbott – see also WAGGON AND HORSES, Oldbury.

Demolished

It was rebuilt in 1938.

It had a bowling green. [1958], [1965], [2003]

Plans were approved for alterations to the premises on 7th December 1960.

It had a bowling club [1965]

Tom Mewis was an ex cooper at Ansell's Brewery.

[2013]



2001



2013

PHOENIX

259, (245), Wattville Street / Downing Street, Handsworth, BIRMINGHAM

OWNERS

Thomas Walker and Co. [1897]
Ansell's Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Edward Webster [1892] non-resident
Charles Ellis [1901]
Jonathan William Dunn [1909] – [1912]
James Carney [1914]
Jack Dene Jenkins [1942]
William Frederick Lane [1948]
Arthur York [1966]



1997

NOTES

245, Wattville Street [1897], [1901]
259, Wattville Street [1942], [1948], [1961], [1965]

Handsworth [1892], [1942], [1961]

[This is included because of its proximity to the Smethwick boundary]

An inquest held here in May 1895, on Howard Price (5), of 36, Downing Street, who was drowned in the Smethwick locks.

1901 Census

245, Wattville Street

- [1] *Charles Ellis* (40), licensed victualler's manager, born Kidderminster;
- [2] *Eliza Alice Ellis* (48), wife, manageress, born Chipping Norton;
- [3] *Bertha Cox* (68), mother in law, widow, born Stane, Worcestershire;
- [4] *Charles Francis Wasp* (25), barman, born Newcastle on Tyne:

[1983]

It closed in 1987, "to be turned into a clothing company." [R. B. and Sons]

PLOUGH

176, (216), Oldbury Road, (High Street), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Holder's Brewery Co. Ltd.

John William James Kingstone Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 23rd February 1928 for £6,000)

LICENSEES

Samuel Downing [1834] – [1850]

Robert Walker [1851]

John Downing [1860] – [1861]

William Case [1864] – **1871**;

Harry Downing Gunter (**1871** – [])

Thomas Kendrew [1872]

John Clarke [1873]

Samuel Heeley [1878] – [1879]

Richard Knight [1881] – [1883]

James Dangerfield [1889] – **1894**;

George Jerrams (**1894** – **1895**);

Eliza Bowen (**1895** – **1896**);

William Blackham (**1896**);

Mrs. Mary Ann Cole (**1896** – **1899**);

Thomas Joseph Johnson (**1899**);

Julia Ricketts (**1899** – **1900**);

Edward Barreyatt (**1900** – **1901**);

Mary Elizabeth Berreyatt (**1901** – **1902**);

William Henry Johnson (**1902** – **1904**);

Tom Scriven* (**1904** – [] ?)

John William James Kingstone (**1904** – **1926**);

Thomas Scriven* [1911] manager?

John James Kingstone (**1926** – **1928**);

Walter Hooper (**1928** – **1930**);

Mrs. Harriet Maria Smallwood (**1930** – **1935**);

NOTES

216, Oldbury Road [1881], [1883]

176, Oldbury Road [1891], [1897], [1901], [1935]

It was situated on the south-west side of Oldbury Road.

It had a Sick & Dividend Society.

Tokens were issued for this.

Samuel Downing was also a maltster. [1834], [1850]

1851 Census

Oldbury Road

- [1] *Robert Walker* (45), licensed victualler and cabinet maker, born London;
- [2] *Elizabeth Walker* (47), wife, born London;
- [3] *Caroline Walker* (15), daughter, born London;
- [4] *Robert Walker* (11), son, born London;
- [5] *Leford Walker* (4), son, born Beddington, Surrey;
- [6] *Henry Fiseborn* (?) (20), cabinet maker's apprentice, born Beddington, Surrey;
- [7] *Daniel Bailey* (22), servant, brewer, born Eastington, Warwickshire:

Smethwick Telephone 27/11/1948

'Public House Changes at West Smethwick' by W. Ellery Jephcott

".....In 1858 there was a flour mill adjoining. The licensee in 1834 was *Samuel Downing*, who also carried on the business of a maltster. The kiln in which the malt was prepared stood at the side of the public house, and this part of the premises became the pottery of Howson Taylor, where he produced the Ruskin Pottery which has achieved a considerable amount of fame....."

1861 Census

Oldbury Road – THE PLOUGH

- [1] *John Downing* (67), publican and maltster, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Elizabeth Downing* (45), wife, born Tat Bank;
- [3] *Sarah Downing* (20), daughter, born Warley Wigorn;
- [4] *Samuel Downing* (19), son, born Warley Wigorn;
- [5] *Mary Downing* (16), daughter, born Warley Wigorn;
- [6] *Emma Downing* (8), daughter, scholar, born Warley Wigorn;
- [7] *John D. Downing* (6), son, born Warley Wigorn:

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – PLOUGH INN

- [1] *William Case* (61), innkeeper, born Darlaston;
- [2] *Sarah Case* (60), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Thomas Case* (32), son, glass flattener, born Aston:

Samuel Heeley = Samuel Healey

1881 Census

216 Oldbury Road - PLOUGH INN

- [1] *Richard Knight* (32), licensed victualler, born Warwickshire;
- [2] *Ann Knight* (34), wife, born Herefordshire;
- [3] *C* (?) *Moss* (13), nephew, scholar, born Colwell:

1891 Census

176, Oldbury Road – PLOUGH INN

- [1] *James Dangerfield* (61), licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Margaret Dangerfield* (60), wife, born Netherton:

Smethwick Telephone 18/4/1891

"A meeting in connection with the Knights of Labour the next meeting will be held at the PLOUGH INN, Oldbury Road, Smethwick on Monday, May 11th."

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1894

“National Order of Free Gardeners – On Saturday night the annual meeting of delegates from the lodges and courts comprising the West Bromwich and Smethwick districts of the above order was held at the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick. Thirty two of the lodges were represented The total number in the 34 lodges at the end of the year was 2903.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/1/1897

“Thomas Cecil (40), of Church Street, West Smethwick, was charged with stealing 2s, the money of *Mary Ann Cole*, landlady of the PLOUGH INN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick. Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted and Mr. J. G. Botteley (Birmingham) defended. – From the evidence addressed it appears that on the 16th inst. the prisoner entered the public house mentioned and was served with something for which a two shilling piece was tendered in payment. Mrs. *Cole*, the landlady, placed that coin on the table – the usual course adopted, in case some dispute should arise as to the amount tendered – and gave the customer the change. She left the coin on the counter, and when prisoner, who was the only man in the room, left, the money was missing. Prosecutrix observed prisoner put his arm on the counter, and also saw him walk away. He left the house, but subsequently Mrs. *Cole* accused him of theft, and he replied that he should make her prove it. When arrested he admitted to Police constable Collier and Inspector Hodkinson that had not the prosecutrix been so nasty, he should have settled the matter. – Prisoner pleaded not guilty and Mr. Botteley contended that the evidence was purely circumstantial. – Mr. Gadd, mineral water manufacturer, by whom prisoner is employed, gave Cecil a good character. – The Bench fined prisoner £1 and costs (£2 3s in all); in default one month imprisonment.”

Edward Berreyatt = Edward Berreyall = Edward Berresfall

West Bromwich Weekly News 15/9/1900

“A pleasant run by brake was made, on Sunday last, from the PLOUGH AND HARROW INN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick, to Brewood. About twenty, with the proprietor (Mr. E. Barreyatt) made up the company. Dinner was served at the Angel Hotel, towards which Mr. Barreyatt made a good donation. After pleasant walks through the country lanes, the return journey commenced about 5.30, home being reached at 9 o'clock, all having thoroughly enjoyed the outing.”

1901 Census

176, Oldbury Road – The PLOUGH

- [1] *Edward Berreyatt* (62), licensed victualler, born Bensfield, Northamptonshire;
- [2] *Mary E. Berreyatt* (40), wife, assists in business, born Haswell, Durham;
- [3] *Emily Berreyatt* (19), daughter, born Newcastle on Tyne;
- [4] *Mary Berreyatt* (17), daughter, born Monmouth;
- [5] *Alice Croos* (4), granddaughter, born Monmouth;
- [6] *Annie Richards* (22), assists in business, born Monmouth;
- [7] *Frederick Ward* (20), boarder, plasterer, born Monmouth:

Tom Scriven played football for Wesleyan Rovers and Small Heath FC (Birmingham City).

* probably the same person

1911 Census

Oldbury Road – PLOUGH INN

- [1] *Thomas Scriven* (39), publican, born Brierley Hill;
- [2] *Sarah Scriven* (40), wife, assistant in business, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Thomas Scriven* (6), son;
- [4] *Elijah Wesley* (20), barman, born West Bromwich:

Walter Hooper – check also GATE, Oldbury.

Harriet Maria Smallwood – see also PERROTT ARMS, Oldbury.

It was put up for sale in June 1935.

It closed on 7th June 1935.

The license was transferred to the new SPON CROFT.

It became Southall Bros. and Barclay, who had already had converted the Howson Taylor pottery next door.



c1935

PRINCE ALBERT

212, Grove Lane, (Cape Lane), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Charles Gibbs, Wattville Street, Handsworth
City Brewery Ltd. (acquired in 1895)
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

Frederick Lees [1861] – [1872]
Mrs. Mary Ann Lees [1878] – [1879]
Walter Silvester [1881] – [1883]
Charles J Gibbs [1884] – [1887]
George Henry Biddle [1887] – **1894**);
George Smith (**1894 – 1896**);
Samuel Lyons (**1896 – 1908**);
John Pillow (**1908 – 1909**);
Henry John Hope (**1909 – 1912**);
Henry Jordan (**1912**);
Ernest Round (**1912 – 1914**):

NOTES

It was situated on west side of Grove Lane.

Cape Lane [1865]

Frederick Lees was also a corn dealer. [1865]

1861 Census

Grove Lane

- [1] *Frederick Lees* (33), retail brewer, born Birmingham;
- [2] Mary A. Lees (29), wife, born Great Bridge;
- [3] Jane Lees (6), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] Mary A. Lees (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] Caroline Lees (1), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] Frederick Lees (2 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] Joseph Lees (30), brother, born Birmingham;
- [8] Julia Hill (22), house servant, born Worcestershire:

1871 Census

Grove Lane – PRINCE ALBERT INN

- [1] *Frederick Lees* (44), licensed victualler and corn dealer, born Birmingham;
- [2] Mary A. Lees (37), wife, born Great Bridge;
- [3] Jane Lees (16), daughter, born Harborne;
- [4] Caroline Lees (14), daughter, born Harborne;
- [5] Mary A. Lees (13), daughter, born Harborne;
- [6] William F. Lees (3), son, born Harborne:

1881 Census

212, Grove Lane - PRINCE ALBERT INN

- [1] *Walter Silvester* (21), licensed victualler, born Harborne;
- [2] *Mary Silvester* (22), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Justina* (?) *Silvester* (15), sister, barmaid, born Harborne:

Smethwick Telephone 22/11/1884 - Advert

“PRINCE ALBERT CONCERT HALL, Grove Lane, Smethwick. Proprietor - *C. J. Gibbs*.

Every Tuesday Evening an Harmonic Meeting is held at this hall. Chairman - *W. Woodhouse*. Pianist - *J. Jackson*. Admission free. The best glass of ale in the town, and choice cigars.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/11/1887

“On Monday last, a flower show was held at the PRINCE ALBERT, Grove Lane proprietor *Mr. G. H. Biddle*.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/2/1890

“*James Williams* (26) of Dugdale Street, Birmingham was fined 10s, including costs, or 7 days for stealing a half pint glass, belonging to *George Henry Biddle* of the PRINCE ALBERT INN, Grove Lane.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/7/1890

“In connection with the Court ‘Liddesdale’ (No.2278) Ancient Order of Foresters held at the PRINCE ALBERT INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, the anniversary and dinner will take place.....”

1891 Census

212, Grove Lane – PRINCE ALBERT

- [1] *George H. Biddle* (54), publican, born Stourbridge;
- [2] *Susannah Biddle* (59), wife, born Darlaston;
- [3] *Eliza Warrol* (20), general servant, born Darlaston;
- [4] *William Bars* (28), boarder, born Darlaston:

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1892

“Order of Ye Jollie Bohemians – No.3 Tent – PRINCE ALBERT INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick. Prop. Bro. *Biddle*. Thursday nights at 8 o’clock.”

Smethwick Telephone 20/10/1894

“*George Smith*, landlord of the PRINCE ALBERT INN was summoned by *Henry Harcourt*, a music hall singer, of New John Street West, Birmingham, for assaulting him on the 8th inst. – Complainant stated that on the night of the day named, he went to the defendant’s house to fulfill an engagement. He entered the house at five minutes past eight, when defendant rushed at him; and, without any provocation whatever, hit him twice on the chest, caught hold of him by the throat, and used various threats. – This statement was corroborated by another witness. – Defendant said Complainant was the worse for beer, and used obscene language. He ordered him to leave the house, and as he would not go forced him out – A witness named *Goodwin*, who was called for the defence, said complainant caused a disturbance – Complainant said he was one of the greatest favourites that ever came to Smethwick. – A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 11/5/1895

“A further meeting [see also VICTORIA] of the local publicans was held at the PRINCE ALBERT INN on Wednesday. *Mr. Haden* presided. – The secretary (*Mr. T. W. James*) read a copy of a circular which had been issued by the local brewers, asking them to assist the retail trade in preventing the ‘long pull’ business. Replies were received from Messrs. *Mitchell and Co.* and *Mr. Edward Cheshire*, each of whom expressed sympathy with the object. – The secretary was instructed to thank each of these for their favourable replies. – On the motion of *Mr. Bowker*, seconded by *Mr. Round*, the meeting was adjourned for a fortnight.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/8/1895

“Smethwick Police Court. Edwin Cartwright (36) of Exeter Road, Smethwick, was charged with indecently assaulting a little girl named Kate Gardner, of the PRINCE ALBERT INN on the 7th inst. – She alleged the defendant behaved improperly towards her in the smoke room of the public house – The Bench considered the evidence was insufficient and discharged prisoner.”

Smethwick Telephone 2/4/1898

“Slogging Gangs At Six Ways – Terrorising The Neighbourhood. Joseph Porter (17), Roseberry Street, Birmingham, was charged with stealing a glass of the value 2d, from the PRINCE ALBERT INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, the property of the landlord, *Samuel Lyons*, on Sunday night last. Prosecutor stated that the prisoner and a number of other youths visited his house on Sunday night, and on their departure four or five glasses were missed. He identified one produced as his property.

Police-sergeant Hall stated that he arrested prisoner at 10 o’clock on Sunday night, in Moilliett Street, Smethwick. Upon searching him at the police station, he found the glass produced in his trousers pocket At the time of his arrest, prisoner had a buckle belt fastened around his left arm. In explanation of this Sergeant Hall said that gangs of youths from Birmingham had been in the Six Ways district three times during the past week and owing to their violent conduct they had been a terror to the neighbourhood As it was the prisoner’s first offence and he promised to behave better in the future, the Bench imposed a fine of 10s including costs.”

1901 Census

212, Grove Lane

[1] *Samuel Lyons* (55), stone mason, born Rugeley;

[2] Sarah A. Lyons (51), wife, born Penkridge:

Smethwick Weekly News 31/5/1902

“*Samuel Lyons*, licensee of the PRINCE ALBERT INN, Grove Lane, Smethwick, was charged with selling to a drunken person and with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises on the 26th April. Mr. J. S. Sharpe appeared to prosecute, and Mr.Pritchard defended.

Mr. Sharpe explained that at 10.50pm on Saturday, the 26th April, two officers visited the house, and in the bar they saw a man named Sims leaning against the partition and counter. He was swaying about and was drunk, and had some beer before him. The landlord was behind the counter, and when his attention was drawn to the man’s condition he curtly replied that he could manager the business himself. The officers then went out and waited for Sims, and after ten minutes took him to the police station. The officers then returned with Sgt. Heappy, who asked the defendant to account for his conduct. The defendant said that Sims had been quiet, and afterwards stated that Sims had had no beer there. The defendant’s wife then interrupted and contradicted the statement, saying that he had had some.

For the defence it was stated that defendant had a good character, and that the man Sims had been in early in the afternoon, and came again in the evening, and had not spent several successive hours in the house drinking.

The Bench considered the case proved, and inflicted a fine of £2 and costs for permitting, and the costs in the other. The total amounted to five guineas.”

Samuel Lyons – see also CROWN AND CUSHION, West Bromwich.

1911 Census

Grove Lane – PRINCE ALBERT INN

[1] *Henry John Hope* (51), public house manager, born Handsworth;

[2] Emily Hope (51), wife, married 30 years, born Handsworth:

Ernest Round was fined £5 and costs, on 29th December 1913, for permitting drunkenness.

The license was removed to the NEW TALBOT, Upper Hagley Road in 1914.

Smethwick Telephone 29/4/1950

'A Notable Strike Recalled' by W. Ellery Jephcott

“Another popular licensed place of resort was the PRINCE ALBERT INN, in Grove Lane, which had the additional attraction of one of the old type music halls held in a large room at the rear of the house. Delicensed some years ago, it is now used for the business of a wholesale grocer.”

PUFFING BILLY

Raglan Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990's]

LICENSEES

Doug Jones (1974 - [1981])

NOTES

It opened on 7th June 1971, with the license transferred from the BEEHIVE.

Doug Jones was married to Jean.

It had a pool team. [1981]

News Telephone 23/4/1981

“Youngsters from the Arden Special School in Smethwick are in for a double summer treat – thanks to regulars at the PUFFING BILLY pub in Raglan Road.

Six members of the school staff, including headmaster Mr. John Tomkinson, were at the pub to carry off £80 in pennies and tuppences left in a bottle on the bar at the pub.

Now youngsters at the school will definitely be getting a double summer bonus this year – a trip to the West Midlands Safari Park thanks to Bewdley and Smethwick Round Tables and a day trip to Blackpool to see the sights. The bottle on the bar brainwave came from PUFFING BILLY regular Alan Vernon, of the Uplands, whose wife Brenda, teaches at the Arden Road school.....”

[2012]



1997



2013

QUEENS HEAD

200, Queens Road / Londonderry Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mrs. Augustus Parkes, Leicester

Messrs. Arnold and Son, solicitors, Temple Row, Birmingham

Thomas Darby [1894]

Cheshire's Brewery Co. Ltd. (leased) [1900]

Mrs. Augusta Parker, 5, Waterloo Street, Birmingham [c. 1908]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased c. 1915)

Atkinsons Ltd.

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Aaron Perrins [1845]

Mrs. Elizabeth Perrins [1854] – [1860]

Robert Burrell [1884] – **1887**;

Enoch James Wood (**1887 – 1893**);

Thomas Darby (**1893 – 1895**)

Thomas Fletcher (**1895 – 1896**);

Mrs. Alice Williams (**1896 – 1898**);

Cheshire's Brewery Co. Ltd. (**1898 – 1902**);

George W Williams [1900] – [1901] manager?

Richard Gough (**1902 – 1908**);

Charles Henry Cotton (**1908 – 1916**);

Arthur Albert Wheatcroft (**1916 – 1920**);

Joseph Harold Horton (**1920 – 1924**);

Alfred George Soobroy (**1924 – 1927**);

John 'Jack' Groves (**1927 – 1934**);

John Edward Beddows (**1934 – 1947**);

Victor Clarence Pemberton (**1947 – 1949**);

George James Clay (**1949 – 1962**);

Norman Sidney Price (**1962 – 1964**);

Charles George William Townsend (**1964 – []**)

James Jones []

Geoff Capewell [1970's]

Stephanie Eardley [2002]

NOTES

[1844]

It originally came under the jurisdiction of Oldbury Magistrates.

Aaron Perrins was also a farmer. [1845]

1891 Census

Londonderry

- [1] *Enoch James Wood* (29), unmarried, licensed victualler, born Oldbury;
- [2] *William Wood* (23), brother, stud groom, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Elizabeth Ward* (29), widow, housekeeper, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 27/2/1894 - Advert

“Good Accommodation. QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Londonderry. Proprietor – *Thomas Darby*, wines, spirits, cigars etc. of first class quality only. Mitchell’s Prize Medal Ales.”

Thomas Darby – see also GOLDEN CROSS, High Street.

West Bromwich Weekly News 8/12/1900

“On Saturday evening a farewell supper took place at the QUEENS HEAD, Londonderry, near Smethwick, when a company of fifty sat down to an excellent dinner of six courses, arranged for the purposes of bidding farewell to Private Joseph Jackson, of Londonderry (3rd Worcester Regiment) who is again recalled to South Africa Host and hostess Mr. and Mrs. *Williams*.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 5/1/1901

“On Monday evening Mr. *G. W. Williams*, of the QUEENS HEAD, Londonderry, gave a complimentary supper to a number of friends who assembled to do justice to the good things he had provided. 72 sat around the tables, and after the ‘hungry man’ had been filled the cloth was removed, and Mr. Roland Haynes was unanimously voted to the chair.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 30/3/1901

“Boy wanted to look after pony and make himself generally useful. Wages 2s 6d, all found. *Williams*, QUEENS HEAD, Londonderry, Smethwick.”

1901 Census

Queens Road – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *George W. Williams* (30), publican, born at sea (British subject);
- [2] *Emma Williams* (38), wife, born Aston, Staffordshire;
- [3] *Leonard Williams* (9), son, born Aston, Staffordshire;
- [4] *Martha Nash* (27), general servant, born Hanley, Staffordshire;
- [5] *William Garner* (13), pot boy, born Warley, Worcestershire:

Cheshire's Brewery Co. Ltd. were fined 40s and costs, on 12th November 1901, for permitting drunkenness.

1911 Census

200, Queens Road

- [1] *Charles Henry Cotton* (39), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Elizabeth Cotton* (41), wife, married 3 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Ethel Lyall* (21), domestic servant, born Handsworth;
- [4] *William Henry Thurston* (17), barman, born Abergavenny:

It was transferred into the jurisdiction of Smethwick Magistrates on 1st April 1928.

Bilston and Willenhall Times 11/8/1928

“On Monday evening, Mr. J. Elwell’s concert party gave a capital entertainment at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Londonderry. The spacious and well laid out grounds were packed with people and the party in the large assembly room had difficulty in gaining accommodation.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/6/1934

“Mr. *Beddows*, who recently took over the management of the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Londonderry, in succession to Mr. *Jack Groves*, is an enthusiastic wireless hobbyist. In addition to installing loudspeakers in several rooms in the hotel, Mr. *Beddows* has placed a microphone in the Assembly Room so that concerts may be ‘broadcast’ via a loudspeaker, on to the adjoining bowling green. His set comprises also an electrically operated gramophone with an automatic record-changing device, which plays eight records in any previously arranged order without attention. It is merely necessary to place the pile of records on the instrument and at the conclusion of each tune the tone-arm automatically rises and swings outward for the next record to drop into place.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/3/1938

“The fourth annual dinner and concert of the Warley branch of the British Legion will be held at the QUEENS HEAD HOTEL, Londonderry, on Friday, March 25th. Mr. C. Kenrick is Chairman of the branch.”

Norman Sidney Price – see also BOATMAN.

Charles George William Townsend – see also OLD CHAPEL, and WINDMILL.

Geoff Capewell left to run a pub in Stratford on Avon.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2]

[2013]



1997



2012



2008

QUEENS HEAD

32, (39), Queen Street / 1, James Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Hannah Neale, James Street, Smethwick
Henry Mitchell and Co.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired 5th July 1895) [1903]

LICENSEES

John Partridge [1855] – [1881]
Arthur Partridge [1883]
Thomas Neale [1890] – **1893**);
Joseph Haden (**1893** – []
Thomas Oliver Wellings (**1896**);
John Mason (**1896** – **1898**);
Mrs. Sarah Margaret Mason* (**1898** – **1900**);
Sarah Margaret Griffiths* (**1900** – [1903]
Harry Griffiths [1901]
Frederick Powiss [1904]
Edwin Taylor (**1907** – **1913**);
Mrs. Ada Taylor (**1913** – **1925**);
Harold Osman Jones (**1925** – **1927**);
Cyril Mills (**1927** – **1928**);
Frederick William Belton (**1928** – **1934**);
Mrs. Amy Ethel Belton (**1934** – **1948**);
Frederick Thomas Webb (**1948** – **1963**);
Alan Edward Wilkes (**1963**);
Leslie Banks (**1963** – **1965**);
Mrs. Lily Fox (**1965** – []

NOTES

1, James Street [1903]
32, Queen Street [1881], [1935]
39, Queen Street [1911]

It was situated on east side of Queen Street.

1861 Census

Queen Street

- [1] John Partridge (37), innkeeper, born Kingswinford;
- [2] Ann Partridge (39), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] Eliza Newland (19), daughter in law, born Smethwick;
- [4] James Partridge (10), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] John Partridge (6), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] Arthur Partridge (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] Eliza Davies (19), servant, born Tipton:

1871 Census

Queen Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *John Partridge* (47), innkeeper, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Ann Partridge* (49), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *John Partridge* (17), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Arthur Partridge* (13), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Elizabeth Partridge* (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Mary J. Partridge* (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

1881 Census

32 Queen Street - QUEENS ARMS

- [1] *John Partridge* (57), licensed victualler, born Kingswinford;
- [2] *Ann Partridge* (60), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *John Partridge* (26), son, iron moulder, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Arthur Partridge* (23), son, engine fitter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Elizabeth Partridge* (20), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Mary J. Partridge* (19), daughter, barmaid, born Smethwick:

1891 Census

32, Queen Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Thomas Neale* (42), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Elizabeth Neale* (42), wife, born York;
- [3] *Kennington Neale* (14), son, office boy, post, born York;
- [4] *William Neale* (10), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Rose Neale* (8), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Frederick Neale* (4), son, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 7/1/1893

“*Thomas Neale*, landlord of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Queen Street, Smethwick, and *Elizabeth Neale*, his wife, were charged with being unlawfully drunk on their own licensed premises on the 17th December each was fined 20s and costs.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/7/1893

“*Thomas Neale* and *Elizabeth Neale*, his wife, of the QUEENS HEAD INN, Queen Street, Smethwick were charged with being drunk on their own licensed premises on the 7th ult. The female defendant did not appear, it being explained she was too ill to attend each fined £2 and costs: 1 month imprisonment in default.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/12/1896

“A dinner was held at the QUEENS HEAD, Queen Street, on Tuesday evening in connection with the Chrysanthemum Show recently held at the house.....”

Smethwick Telephone 3/9/1897 - Advert

“QUEENS HEAD INN, Queen Street, Smethwick / The 2nd Annual Chrysanthemum Show / will be held on Saturday and Sunday, November 21st and 22nd, 1897 / Schedules will be ready shortly.”

Smethwick Telephone 11/12/1897

“The second annual dinner of the Committee and friends of the QUEENS HEAD Chrysanthemum Show was held at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Queen Street, on Wednesday night, when about 35 sat down to an excellent spread.....”

Smethwick Telephone 25/12/1897

“On Tuesday, in the Queen’s Bench Division, Lord Justice Vaughan Williams gave judgment in the actions tried before him at the Birmingham Assizes of *Neal v Mitchell and Co.* and *Neal v Neal*

The action raised the question of the validity of a deed of settlement made by Mrs. *Neal* in favour of two of her younger sons, the plaintiff, *James Neal*, claiming as her heir in law because her marriage with her deceased husband’s brother was illegal. The younger sons had conveyed the QUEENS HEAD, Smethwick, to Messrs. Henry Mitchell and Co., brewers, Birmingham, and James Neal sought to recover from the firm that property

The plaintiff was the eldest surviving son of William Neal and Hannah Gilbert, his wife, who were married on the 20th January 1833. William Neal, the father, died on the 6th March 1851

In December 1852 the widow Neal was minded to marry the brother of her deceased husband, Thomas Neal

He [the judge] found as a fact that, knowing of this proposed conveyance to Mitchell’s, the plaintiff assented to it. He, therefore, gave judgment for the defendants, with costs. He granted a stay of execution, with a view to an appeal on terms.

The learned Judge, in the second case of *Neal v Neal* which was an action between members of the family raising the same question, said he would also enter judgment for the defendant, with costs.”

John Mason was married to Sarah Margaret.

He died on 18th July 1898.

* possibly the same person (remarried?)

Smethwick Telephone 24/9/1898

“Show of Chrysanthemums will be held at the QUEENS HEAD on Saturday and Sunday, November 12th and 13th

..... upwards of £8 will be offered for competition.....”

Smethwick Telephone 8/4/1899

“Mrs. *Mason*, of the QUEENS HEAD, Queen Street, has secured the contract for providing the refreshments at the Smethwick [cricket?] grounds during the ensuing season.”

Smethwick Telephone 23/9/1899

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) and a jury enquired into a peculiar case of blood poisoning at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Queen Street, on Monday afternoon. It had reference to the death of Francis John Blunt (31), who kept the outdoor license known as ‘The Smethwick Stores’, 43, Queen Street – Evelinn Blunt, the widow, who seemed very depressed, said deceased never enjoyed robust health. About a month ago he was opening a salmon tin when he scratched his finger. She saw a small blister on his middle finger, and advised him to go to the doctor. He consulted Dr. J. B. Pitt, who had attended him ever since, and on Monday Dr. Jordan Lloyd was called in. Up till that time she did not think there was any cause for anxiety, but her husband got worse and died on Saturday morning at three o’clock.- Dr. J. B. Pitt said he saw the deceased on the Monday after the accident, when he came to his surgery. He was then suffering from a very inflamed finger, and his hand was very much swollen. Deceased, who had a poisoned hand, told him of the accident with the salmon tin. After about a week’s treatment he seemed to be getting on very well, but he went to the licensing sessions on August 30th, and bruised his hand. The swelling which had subsided, returned, and the wound became unhealthy. It did not seem to improve at all, and as his health began to suffer, and he had a shivering attack, he (witness) suggested that they should call someone else in.. Dr. Jordan Lloyd was consequently consulted on Monday, and he held a favourable view of the case, providing deceased took the medicine. Witness had noticed on the Sunday that deceased had not taken a dose of the medicine which he had given him to check his condition, because he said it was nasty. Deceased gradually got worse, and died on Saturday, as stated. Death was due to blood poisoning, the result of his finger being pricked by the salmon tin.- A juror said rumours were prevalent that deceased had not been properly looked after, and that he bruised his hand whilst fighting. Another juror said that deceased had had from him eight bottles of ‘Martells’ in a week, besides other spirits.- P.C. A. Williams was called, but he could throw no light on these matters.- Mrs. Blunt’s sister, who had been staying at the house, was also questioned, but she said that deceased was a temperate man, and as to his relationship with his wife they were passionately devoted to each other. As she left the room the witness fainted and fell to the floor.- Inspector Hodkinson said there was no evidence as to the rumours, and the Coroner observed that he did not think they should have been brought forward. In summing up, he pointed out that it was necessary to hold an inquest because death was really the result of an accident.- The jury returned a verdict of ‘Accidental death’.”

AND

“...held an inquest at the QUEENS HEAD INN on Tuesday morning, respecting the death of Phyllis Erskine Harding, aged one year and eight months, whose parents reside at 139, Church Lane and who died on Wednesday afternoon from the effects of scalds received on the previous Friday Accidental death.”

Smethwick Telephone 2/12/1899

“Chrysanthemum Society Dinner – The annual dinner of the Smethwick and Suburban Chrysanthemum Society was held at the QUEENS HEAD, Queen Street, on Wednesday night. Mr. C. H. Young presided over a goodly company.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 2/6/1900

“A well-attended meeting of the supporters of the Smethwick Wesleyan Rovers Football Club was held on Wednesday night at the QUEENS HEAD INN, Queen Street, Smethwick, to consider the position of the club. Mr. J. S. Round presided The Chairman referred in his opening remarks to the position of junior football, and pointed out that it was a hard struggle for junior clubs like the Rovers to carry on. He complained of the poaching of the larger clubs, and said as soon as a player showed signs of developing into a class player he was enticed away by a club with more money, who could afford to offer him a tempting bait in the way of high wages. It was not to be expected that players should refuse such an inducement, but he did consider that if a player promised to assist his club for a season, he should keep his word and not leave the club in the lurch half-way through the season. He appealed to the Rovers’ players to stick to the club, for he did not see why a junior organisation in Smethwick should not flourish, and he trusted the Rovers would keep going for many years.

The secretary [Mr. Biddle] then presented the balance sheet for last season, and explained they were in financial difficulties. The total income had been £6 2s 2½d and the expenditure £6 3s 11d, so that the adverse balance on the season’s working was only 1s 8½d – (hear, hear)

Unfortunately there was an old debt of £15 15s 7d, and they were being pressed for payment of a portion of it.

Mr. Whittingham said he hoped the club would be carried on, because Mr. Round was their representative on the Birmingham Association, and if they ceased to exist he would have to retire. He would, of course, be nominated by another club, but he should like them to still have him as their representative.

The report was adopted, and a number of suggestions were made for raising the necessary funds. Mr. Day promised to promote a benefit concert, for which he guaranteed £5. Mr. G. Round to pay for subscription lists being printed, and Councillor Hedges promised a donation of a guinea. Ultimately these offers were accepted with thanks, and it was decided to issue subscription lists.....”

1901 Census

Queen Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Harry Griffiths* (28), public house keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Sarah M. Griffiths* (30), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Rose M. Williams* (21), barmaid, born Brixton, London;
- [4] *Mary E. Andrews* (42), general servant, born Harborne:

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. were fined 10s and £2 10s 6d costs, on 14th April 1904, for permitting drunkenness.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1908/9]

1911 Census

39, Queen Street – QUEENS HEAD

- [1] *Edwin Taylor* (38), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Ada Taylor* (37), wife, married 12 years, assisting in business, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Edward Frank Taylor* (6), son, school, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Rhoda Sherwood* (23), general servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 28/9/1912

“A highly successful show in connection with the Smethwick and District Amateur Gardeners’ Society, took place last Saturday at the QUEENS HEAD, Broomfield, Smethwick. The judge was Mr. W. H. Woodward, of Bournville, who declared that the quality of the exhibits was equal to anything he had seen this year. The competition was keen, and many considered that the outdoor chrysanthemums were the finest ever shown in the district....”

Closed

RABONE TAVERN

Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Caldow (acquired in 1851 for £50)

LICENSEES

William Caldow (**1851** - [])

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Caldow was born in Galloway in 1813.

He was apprenticed as a millwright.

He moved to Smethwick in March 1841.

He worked for Aspinall Jones & Co., Smethwick Foundry in Rolfe Street, until 1844, when he moved to Boulton & Watt's Soho Foundry for whom he installed swing bridges, engines etc. until 1854.

He then went back to the Smethwick Foundry before moving to Chance Brothers lighthouse works at Spon Lane in 1856.

He opened a beerhouse in Wattville Street, in 1850, and called it the ROSE AND THISTLE.

He died in 1882

RAILWAY

234, Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd. [1897]

LICENSEES

William Humphreys [1871] – [1872]
John Whitehouse [1878] – [1881]
Mrs. Hannah Whitehouse [1890]
Josiah Gutteridge [1891]
Jethro Powderhill []
George Henry Keeley [1897] – [1903]

NOTES

It was situated between the railway station and High Street.

RAILWAY STORES [1871]
STORES [1878], [1881]

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – RAILWAY STORES INN

[1] *William Humphreys* (65), refreshment house keeper, born Broseley;
[2] *Jane Humphreys* (63), wife, born Broseley:

William Humphreys, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1872]

John Whitehouse, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1878], [1879]

1881 Census

234, Rolfe Street – Public house – THE STORES

[1] *John Whitehouse* (56), publican, born West Bromwich;
[2] *Hannah Whitehouse* (53), wife, born West Bromwich;
[3] *Ada Whitehouse* (22), daughter, barmaid, born West Bromwich;
[4] *David Whitehouse* (19), son, iron roller, born West Bromwich;
[5] *Arthur Whitehouse* (10), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

Mrs. Hannah Whitehouse, beer retailer, 234, Rolfe Street. [1890]

1891 Census

Rolfe Street – RAILWAY INN

[1] *Josiah Gutteridge* (56), married, brewer's manager, born Tipton;
[2] *Mary Yates* (30), barmaid, born Wolverhampton;
[3] *Emma J. Yates* (14), under barmaid, born Rounds Green:

Josiah Gutteridge – see also STATION.

Jethro Powderhill was also a hansom cab driver, operating from Rolfe Street Station.

Smethwick Telephone 18/2/1893

“Edward Howells of Pope Street, Smethwick was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the RAILWAY STORES, Rolfe Street, Smethwick on Saturday night the 4th inst. fined him 5s and costs, in default 3 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/6/1897

“William Gander (29), 56, Tillington Street, Birmingham, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the RAILWAY INN, Rolfe Street, on Wednesday the 2nd inst The Bench imposed a fine of 1s plus costs.”

George Henry Keeley applied for a full license in August 1897.

Smethwick Telephone 5/8/1899

“Alfred Taylor (60), Carriage Row, Smethwick, was summoned for being drunk on the licensed premises of the RAILWAY INN, Rolfe Street on the 22nd ult. a fine of 5s and costs was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/8/1899

“The RAILWAY INN Flower Show, Smethwick, held its annual supper on Thursday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/12/1899

“Sick and Dividend Society RAILWAY INN, Rolfe Street a dividend of 11s 6d per member was declared.”

George Henry Keeley, beer retailer, 234 Rolfe Street. [1900]

1901 Census

Rolfe Street – RAILWAY INN

[1] *George Henry Keeley* (30), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;

[2] *Rose Ann Keeley* (33), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Charles Henry Keeley* (11), son, born Smethwick;

[4] *George William Keeley* (9), son, born Smethwick:

Closed

RAILWAY TAVERN

George Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Martin [1851]

NOTES

1851 Census

George Street – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *John Martin* (57), carpenter and retail brewer, born Clifton, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Sarah Martin* (55), wife, born Draycot, Warwickshire;
- [3] *William Martin* (24), son, carpenter, born Clifton, Warwickshire;
- [4] *Joseph Martin* (16), son, general labourer, born Clifton, Warwickshire;
- [5] *Sarah Martin* (14), daughter, born Clifton, Warwickshire;
- [6] *Mary Jane Martin* (11), daughter, born Clifton, Warwickshire;
- [7] *Matthew William Martin* (5), son, scholar, born Rickmansworth;
- [8] *John Dixon* (30), lodger, civil engineer, born South Shields;

RAILWAY TAVERN

47, Oldbury Road / Galton Street, (Fenton Street), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Charles Darby, BUSH INN, Wood Lane, West Bromwich
Darby's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Parker [] - **1871**
Mrs. Ellen Millington [1891]
Charles Curt [1893]
Samuel Davis [1895]
Frederick Mason [1898] - [1901]
Stephen Richard Caddick [1903]- **1922**;
Albert Stephen Caddick (**1922 - 1940**);
Robert William Winspeare (**1940 - 1948**);
George Wilfred Henry Hadley (**1948 - 1952**);
Horace Jellicoe Holder (**1952 - 1960**):



NOTES

It was situated on the south-west side of Oldbury Road, almost opposite to the CROWN.

It had a beerhouse license.

Joseph Parker had worked at the CROWN Brewery; initially as an errand boy, and progressed to chief assistant. He moved from the RAILWAY to the BIRMINGHAM HOUSE in West Bromwich, and later the BULLS HEAD, Tame Bridge, Wednesbury.

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – RAILWAY INN

- [1] Ann Richards (37), gardener's wife, born Shrewsbury;
- [2] Mosley R. Bowes (26), lodger, chemical labourer, born Merton, Surrey:

1891 Census

47, Oldbury Road – RAILWAY TAVERN

- [1] *Ellen Millington* (40), widow, licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] Thomas Millington (18), son, lamp manufacturer, born Oldbury;
- [3] Harry Middleton (16), son, labourer, shovel works, born Oldbury;
- [4] Jane Middleton (14), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 13/5/1893

“Charles Curt (21) of St. George's Street, Smethwick, was charged with being drunk on his licensed premises on the 1st inst. The RAILWAY TAVERN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick.....”

[CHECK THIS!]

Smethwick Telephone 26/10/1895

“Smethwick Police Court. William Howell (24) and Joseph Howell (22), both of Roebuck Lane, were summoned for willfully breaking three jugs of the value of 2s, the property of *Samuel Davis*, landlord of the RAILWAY TAVERN, Oldbury Road, Smethwick on the 19th inst. – It was alleged that because the Complainant refused to supply the Defendants with beer as he thought they had had sufficient, they created a disturbance, and caused the ‘company’ to leave the room. The defendant, Joseph Howell, broke three jugs. – As there was no evidence against William Howell the charge against him was dismissed; but Joseph was ordered to pay 11s 6d, including costs, or in default 14 days imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1898

“RAILWAY INN Sick and Dividend Society.- The first quarterly meeting of the above society was held at the RAILWAY INN, Oldbury Road, on Tuesday night. Mr. J. Steele (President) occupied the chair. The report of the secretary (Mr. S. Smith) was most satisfactory, and it was mentioned that the host (Mr. *F. Mason*) had promised to subscribe to the funds £1 for every 50 members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies RAILWAY INN, Oldbury Road.- The annual meeting of the society held here took place on Tuesday The balance sheet allowed a dividend of 9s 9d per member.....”

Frederick Mason, beer retailer, 47 Oldbury Road / Galton Street. [1900]

1901 Census

47, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Frederick Mason* (25), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Florence A. Mason* (23), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Edward Mason* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Minnie Masters* (14), general servant, born Newport, Monmouthshire:

Frederick Mason – check also BEEHIVE.

S. R. Caddick issued tokens from here.

1911 Census

47, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Stephen Richard Caddick* (51), beer retailer, born Bilston;
- [2] *Louisa Caddick* (47), married 24 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Edwin Henry Caddick* (23), son, stock fitter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Albert Stephen Caddick* (21), son, journalist, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Edgar Walter Caddick* (11), son, school, born Smethwick:

Stephen Richard Caddick – check also UNION, Oldbury.

A wine license was granted on 8th February 1933, and confirmed on 6th April 1933.

Albert Stephen Caddick, beer retailer, 47, Oldbury Road. [1935], [1936]

Horace Holder was married to *Kathleen*.

He was born circa 1916 in West Bromwich.

See also SWAN, Smethwick, GREYHOUND and QUEENS HEAD, West Bromwich.

The license renewal was referred to the Compensation Authority on 1st March 1960.
It closed on 31st December 1960.

Demolished

RAILWAY TAVERN

Sloe Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry D Morgan [1901]

NOTES

1901 Census

Sloe Lane – RAILWAY TAVERN

[1] *Henry D. Morgan* (43), licensed victualler, born Margam, Glamorganshire;

[2] *Eliza A. Morgan* (38), wife, born Berkley, Gloucestershire;

[3] *Minnie H. Morgan* (15), daughter, born Fresford, Somersetshire;

[4] *George H. Morgan* (14), son, born Fresford, Somersetshire;

[5] *Robert Morgan* (12), son, born Fresford, Somersetshire;

[6] *Elizabeth Morgan* (11), daughter, born Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire;

[7] *Elsie Bruton* (13), sister in law, born Berkley, Somersetshire:

RAILWAY

177, Wellington Street / Vittoria Street, Soho, BIRMINGHAM

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Samuel Nichols [1855]
George Edward Niblett [1911]
Albert Thomas Cole [1935]
Henry Herbert Moore [1948]

NOTES

1911 Census

Wellington Street – RAILWAY INN

- [1] *George Edward Niblett* (51), manager of fully licensed public house, born Cheltenham;
- [2] *Margaret M. M. Niblett* (45), wife, married 19 years, assisting in management, born Argentine;
- [3] *Alfred Oliver Niblett* (16), son, engine fiter, born Argentine;
- [4] *William Morrison Niblett* (15), son, engineer, born Argentine;
- [5] *John Eli Niblett* (11), son, school, born Argentine;
- [6] *Selina H. Niblett* (8), daughter, school, born Argentine;
- [7] *Nora B. Niblett* (6), daughter, school, born Argentine;
- [8] *George Barrett* (30), barman, born Birmingham;
- [9] *Charles Hope* (29), barman, born Witton, Staffordshire;

[1983]

Closed [pre 1997]

Demolished

[This is included because of its proximity to the Smethwick boundary.]



1997

RED COW

High Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Ansells Ltd. [1964]
Pubmaster [2004]



1997

LICENSEES

John Leonard Jellicoe **(1938 - 1944);**
Mrs. Constance Catherine (Jellicoe) (Bryant) Wall **(1944 - 1951);**
Terence Edgar Walker **(1951 - 1955);**
William Bethwaite 'Billy' Elliot **(1955 - 1960);**
Joseph James 'Joe' Fellows **(1960 - [1965])**
Peter Healey []
Brian Oxley **(1980 - [])**
Malkit Singh Bhandal [1993] - [1997]
Bera Mahli **(2010 - [])**

NOTES

RED COW HOTEL [1948], [1959], [1961]

It was built in 1936 to replace the original pub in Newlands Green.
It opened on 1st December 1937.

Smethwick Telephone 12/2/1938

"..... The opening of the new RED COW is in accordance with the established policy of the {Licensing} Committee for 'Fewer and Better Houses', and while some people may deprecate the advance made in this respect, the Committee are satisfied that the social demands are more adequately met, and the improved conditions generally appreciated....."

Smethwick Telephone 5/3/1938

"A supper dance arranged by the Supreme Laundries Ltd, which was held at the RED COW HOTEL, on Monday was a great success. Thanks are extended to Mr. and Mrs. *Jellicoe* (the host and hostess) for help, and also to Miss Betty Betts for her part in the entertainment. Mr. Sadler acted as MC, while Eric Evitts and his Boys supplied the necessary music."

Billy Elliot was an ex-footballer. He played right wing for West Bromwich Albion, from 1938. He also played for Carlisle United, Wolverhampton Wanderers (1936-1937), Dudley Town, and Bournemouth.

He was born in August 1919 in Cumberland.
He moved from here to the Farcroft, Oxhill Road, Handsworth.
He died in 1966.
See also GREAT WESTERN, West Bromwich.

Brian Oxley was married to Judith.

News Telephone 7/5/1981

“There was a lot of reminiscing at the RED COW hotel in Smethwick last week.

The occasion was the 32nd reunion dinner of the members of the 212 and 215 Field Companies from Smethwick.....”

It was the headquarters of the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

The Red Cow sign blew down in high winds, in April 2008, and was badly damaged.

It was replaced c. 2010.

[2013]



2006



2011

RED COW

Newlands Green, (296 & 298, High Street), (Birmingham (Road) Street), (Oldbury Road), (68, Bearwood Hill), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Joseph Freeth
William Smallwood
Humphrey Lewis (acquired in 1841 for £625)
Mrs. Sarah Lewis [1898]
Edward Lewis
Ansells Ltd. (acquired in 1927)

LICENSEES

Joseph Freeth [1756]
William Smallwood [1813] – [1818]
Humphrey Lewis [1835] – [1851]
Charles Lewis [1855] – [1883]
Mrs. Sarah Lewis [1891] – **1907**;
Edward Lewis **(1907 – 1927)**;
Ernest Swallow **(1927 – 1930)**;
George Henry Scaife **(1930 – 1931)**;
Gilbert Bertram Evans **(1931 – 1932)**;
Albert Randall Stokes **(1932 – 1935)**;
Frederick Henry Vaughan **(1935 – 1938)**;



THE OLD RED COW INN, SMETHWICK (From Bearwood Road)

1969

NOTES

Oldbury Road [1851]
Bearwood Hill [1851]
Birmingham Street [1864]
Birmingham Road [1865]
68, Bearwood Hill [1891]
296 & 298, High Street [1935]

A sign outside stated 'Established in 1587'.
[This date is a falsehood.]

[1706]

William Smallwood was also a farmer. [1818]
He died in December 1840.

Humphrey Lewis = *Humphry Lewis*

1841 Census

Bearwood Hill

- [1] *Humphry Lewis* (50), publican, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Sarah Lewis* (45), wife, born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Charles Lewis* (20), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Edward Lewis* (15), born Staffordshire:

The last bull-bait in England was held here in 1845, in the space between the RED COW and the SOW AND PIGS.

1851 Census

Bearwood Hill

- [1] *Humphrey Lewis* (63), victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Sarah Lewis* (58), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Charles Lewis* (32), son, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Bearwood Hill

- [1] *Charles Lewis* (52), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
 - [2] *Sarah Lewis* (42), wife, born Little Bromwich;
 - [3] *Sarah Lewis* (14), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
 - [4] *Humphrey Lewis* (12), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
 - [5] *Edward Lewis* (10), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
 - [6] *Charles Lewis* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
 - [7] *Eliza Lewis* (2), daughter, born Smethwick:
- Next door lived *Sarah Lewis* (77), widow, retired licensed victualler.

1881 Census

Bearwood Hill - RED COW

- [1] *Charles Lewis* (62), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Sarah Lewis* (53), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Sarah Lewis* (22), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *James Lewis* (20), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Charles Lewis* (16), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Eliza Lewis* (12), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 28/4/1888

“A Bicycling Club for Smethwick. A meeting of Smethwick cycling gentlemen was held at the RED COW HOTEL on Wednesday evening April 4th, when it was decided to form a club to be called ‘The Brookes Cycling Club’ Mr. W. K. Bradley of Broomfield, Smethwick was appointed Secretary. All cyclists in the neighbourhood are cordially invited to join. The first run is to Sutton today (Saturday) starting at 3 o’clock prompt from the RED COW, Bearwood Hill, Smethwick. A meeting will be held at the above place on Wednesday next at 8.30 o’clock.”

See also MOILLIETT ARMS

1891 Census

68, Bearwood Hill – RED COW

- [1] *Sarah Lewis* (60), widow, publican, born Castle Bromwich;
- [2] *Sarah Lewis* (34), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Charles Lewis* (25), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Eliza Lewis* (22), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 17/10/1891

“Court Excelsior (Ancient Order of Foresters) will be opened at the RED COW INN, Bearwood Hill, on Tuesday evening when a good number of the members and officers from the various local lodges are expected to attend.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/10/1891

“On Tuesday evening the very interesting ceremony of establishing a new Court, in connection with the Smethwick and West Bromwich district [Ancient Order of Foresters], took place at the RED COW INN In addition to the new members or founders of the Court – who had previously, in accordance with the rules of the Order, been initiated into the opening Court Liddesdale, No. 2,278 – there were present the district officers, and a goodly number of visiting brethren from the other Courts of Smethwick. Bros. S. Smith, C. C., J. Newey, Thos. Potter, and George Bowden (members of the Local Board) were also present.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/2/1892

“To celebrate the formation of Court Excelsior (Ancient Order of Foresters), a dinner was held at the RED COW INN, Bearwood Hill on Tuesday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/7/1892

“Bearwood Permanent Money Society. The inaugural dinner of the above society was held at the RED COW INN on Wednesday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/1/1893

“The members of ‘Court Excelsior’ meeting at the RED COW HOTEL have arranged to hold a smoking concert on the occasion of their next Court night, 24th January, Councillor Smith will preside.”

Smethwick Telephone 3/6/1893

“Amelia Burton (40), of Warley, was charged with stealing a picture, valued at 4s 6d the property of *Sarah Lewis*, of the RED COW INN, Bearwood Hill, on 26th April. – Detective Robinson stated that, on Monday last, he visited a house at 89 Victoria Road, Smethwick, where he noticed the picture hanging over the fireplace. He made enquiries concerning it, and was told that a woman named Burton brought it there about a month ago. He after arrested prisoner at Warley the same evening. – Prisoner, who pleaded guilty, was sentenced to one month’s imprisonment with hard labour.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/8/1893

“Smethwick Petty Sessions. A Dear Kiss. Charles Lewis (27), of the RED COW INN was charged with assaulting Clara Poole (17), of Bearwood Road, on the 31st July. Mr. J. S. Sharpe defended. Complainant alleged that on the day named she was employed at the above named public house, which is kept by defendant’s mother. At night, when she was leaving, and as she was passing through a stable, defendant caught hold of her, kissed her, and also made an improper proposal. She told defendant to go to his wife, and complained to her mother of defendant’s conduct when she reached home.

For the defence, the assault was denied, and it was contended that if the defendant kissed complainant, she encouraged him to do so, as she admitted, on being cross-questioned, that he had kissed her many times previously. – The Bench fined defendant £2 10s, including costs; in default, one month’s imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/12/1897

“Licensed property at Smethwick is at a high premium. The freehold property situate at the junction of Bearwood Hill and Bearwood Road consisting of the fully-licensed public house, the RED COW, with goodwill and possession, together with ten cottages, let at weekly rentals amounting to £89 1s per annum, was offered for sale by auction by Messrs. Fowler, Pemberton and Bewley, at the Property Mart, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Wednesday. The highest bid was £18,000, but the property was not allowed to change hands at this high figure, the lot being withdrawn.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/2/1898

“The new billiard room at the RED COW INN, Bearwood Hill, was opened on Friday 18th inst., when a match was played between those well known players F. Bateman (Birmingham) and J. Chapman. There was a large attendance including Councillors John Newey and W. H. Goodyear.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/9/1898

“Local Licensing Sessions Mr. Pritchett (Birmingham) applied on behalf of *Sarah Lewis* to make alterations to the premises of the RED COW INN Mr. Pritchett pointed out that the license had been held by the *Lewis* family for about 200 years, and the present applicant had herself resided there for 48 years. The premises were her own freehold property, and it was probably the only house in Smethwick where the beer that was sold was brewed on the premises. As they were no doubt aware, it was a very old house, and was very inconvenient in many ways. The bar was originally made out of a cottage, and had been there for at least 50 years. It was in order to increase the accommodation in that bar and the parlour adjoining that the application was made. It was proposed to re-build the cottage on exactly the same foundations, and to close three doors, viz., what was originally the front door, the existing door into the cottage, and the back door of the cottage. The plans showed an out-door department, but that part of the application was abandoned. The premises could be quite closed so far as access from the yard at the rear was concerned. By way of improving the place and road, Mrs. *Lewis* proposed to surrender a plot of land at the front of the house which was her property, this being for the benefit of the public. The existing porch in which people now sat and drank in summertime would be taken down, and the doorway blocked up. It was proposed to spend only about £200 on the alterations.- Evidence was then given in support of the application.”

- The application was refused.

Smethwick Telephone 11/2/1899

“Mr. *E. Lewis*, of the RED COW INN, Bearwood Hill, and well known billiard player Mr. T. Chicks of the Ivy House Hotel, Soho Road, Handsworth, commenced a ‘friendly’ game of 1800 up (*Lewis* receiving a start of 750) at the RED COW INN on Wednesday night. There was a large company present and the game proved very interesting. Mr. Chicks ran to his points (750), Mr. *Lewis* (with 1118) being seven points behind on the handicap. The game will be concluded at the Ivy House Hotel next Monday night.”

1901 Census

68, Bearwood Hill – RED COW TAVERN

- [1] *Sarah Lewis* (70), widow, publican, born Little Bromwich;
- [2] *Charles Lewis* (34), son, invalid, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Anne Wood* (27), niece, servant, born Wolverton;
- [4] *William Wilks* (25), barman, born Hatherley, Worcestershire:

Smethwick Telephone 1/8/1908

“The death has occurred on Sunday last, at his residence in High Street, of Mr. Charles Edward Jeffery, who for a number of years assisted Mr. *Edward Lewis*, in the management of the RED COW HOTEL. He was in his 44th year and leaves a widow and two children.”

1911 Census

High Street – RED COW INN

- [1] *Edward Lewis* (50), brewer and publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Beatrice Lewis* (36), wife, married 12 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Emma Rhyn* (56), widow, servant, born Sussex;
- [4] *Sarah Morris* (29), cook, born Willenhall;
- [5] *Sarah Sherman* (22), servant, born Walsall:

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1912 - Advert

“RED COW Sick and Dividend Society / This Society meets every Tuesday Evening from 7.30 till 8.45. Anyone wishing to join heartily invited. Dividend last year 11s 6d. / T. Millington. Secretary, 82, St. Albans Road, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 2/3/1918

“One of the most successful of the numerous snooker handicaps which have been promoted at the house of Mr. *E. Lewis*, the RED COW HOTEL, was brought to a fitting termination by the presentation of the prizes on Friday evening last. There was a good number present, and Mr. A. Rosser, who was invited to make the presentations, spoke of the real pleasure which had been brought to the ‘boys’ from the RED COW, who were serving on the various fronts of the battle zone, and also to those who were serving at home, by means of the snooker handicaps and other efforts which have been carried out by the visitors to that hostelry, and in which Mr. H. Crogan had taken an active part

It was decided to allocate the proceeds from the snooker handicap as follows:- Two guineas to the Mayoress’s War Depot, and two guineas to the Smethwick Crippled Children’s Union.”

It was demolished c. 1937.

It was replaced by a new building in High Street.

Smethwick Telephone 5/3/1938

“Messrs. Ansells Ltd, Aston Brewery, have contributed £5 5s to the fund which has been inaugurated to purchase the model of the old RED COW INN, to be placed in the Borough Museum at the Library. The model is the work of Mr. J. Charles Blackwell.”

RED LION

Baldwin Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Smethwick Telephone 4/12/1886

“An inquest was held on Friday 26th inst. at the RED LION INN, Baldwin Street on the body of Mr. William Cox aged 69 – Elizabeth Cox said deceased was her father in law and had been living with her at 82 Baldwin Street. For the past 8 months he had kept his bed from repeated strokes of paralysis On Saturday last witness went to his bedroom and found him in bed with his throat cut. He told her he had done it with a table knife.....”

– The verdict was Suicide while temporarily insane.

RED LION

Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Jones [1841] – [1851]

NOTES

1841 Census

Brasshouse Lane

- [1] *Thomas Jones* (35), boatman, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Ann Jones* (30), born Staffordshire;
- [3] *Ann Jones* (9), born Staffordshire;
- [4] *Elizabeth Jones* (4), born Staffordshire;
- [5] *Sarah Jones* (2);
- [6] *Joseph Jones* (5 months);
- [7] *Ann Smallwood* (15):

1851 Census

Brasshouse Lane – RED LION TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Jones* (46), boatman and retail brewer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Anne Jones* (41), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Anne Jones* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Elizabeth Jones* (14), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Sarah Jones* (11), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *John Joseph Jones* (10), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Daniel Jones* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Thomas William Jones* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Edward Burton* (24), visitor, boatman, born Smethwick;
- [10] *Edward Giles* (23), visitor, boatman, birthplace not known;
- [11] *Philip Smith* (18), visitor, boatman, born Smethwick:

Thomas Jones, beerhouse, Brasshouse Lane. [1851]

RED LION

33, Thomas Street / Howard Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990's]

LICENSEES

Samuel Horton [1891] – [1897]
Henry Green [1900] – **1921**);
Owen Benjamin Bourne (**1921 – 1922**);
Albert Belcher (**1922**);
George Travis (**1922 – 1937**);
Frederick Hart (**1937 – 1938**);
Wilfred Gordon Bowler (**1938 – 1941**);
Albert William Hooper (**1941**);
Albert Frederick Wort (**1941 – 1948**);
George William Keay (**1948 – 1950**);
John Farmer (**1950 – 1953**);
Stanley Stanford (**1953 – 1956**);
James Thomas Lake (**1956 – 1958**);
Frederick George Jacobs (**1958 – 1962**);
Albert John Tattam (**1962 – 1964**);
Thomas Clarence Egginton (**1964 – []**)
Fred Fox [1988]

NOTES

It was situated on the east side of Thomas Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

Smethwick Telephone 7/2/1891

“*Samuel Horton* and Fanny (sic) Horton, his wife residing at the RED LION INN, Thomas Street, Smethwick were summoned for being drunk and disorderly on 22nd ult. the defendants had been to a ball at the Public Hall 10s fine and costs each.”

1891 Census

33, Thomas Street

- [1] *Samuel Horton* (39), publican, born Wednesbury;
- [2] Anne Horton (38), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] William Horton (14), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] Daisy Horton (9), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] Frank Horton (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] Samuel Horton (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] Bertie Horton (12 months), son, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1892

“LION Permanent Money Society. The annual general meeting of the above society was held at the RED LION INN, Thomas Street on Tuesday evening, a large number of members being present.....
the Committee recommended a dividend of 11s 9d each, which was considered very satisfactory, this being their first year.....”

Samuel Horton, beer retailer, 33 Thomas Street [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1898

“Sheffield Equalized Independent Druids. On Saturday evening a pleasant meeting of the ‘Pride Of The Lion’ Lodge (No. 237) was held at the RED LION INN, Thomas Street Mr. Henry Butler was initiated an honorary member.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/1/1899

“On Saturday evening a very enjoyable meeting of the ‘Pride of the Lion’ Lodge, No. 237, of the Sheffield Equalised Independent Druids, was held at the lodge house, RED LION, Thomas Street when in addition to the host and several other members, Mr. Thomas Hedges was initiated as honorary member.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 8/12/1900

“The sudden death of a married woman named Jane Sutton (45), who resides at 45, Bolham Road, Smethwick, was inquired into by the coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) and a jury, on Monday morning, at the RED LION INN, Thomas Street. It appeared that on the previous Friday, Mrs. Sutton went out of the house about 8 o’clock to do some shopping, being then apparently in the best of health. When she returned about an hour later she complained of feeling unwell, and went to bed, where she shortly afterwards expired. Dr. Urquhart was called in after death had ensued, and from his examination he formed the opinion that death was due to heart disease. The jury returned a verdict of death by natural causes.”

1901 Census

33, Thomas Street

[1] *Henry Green* (23), beer retailer, born Oldbury;

[2] *Sarah A. Green* (23), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Ellen Owen* (16), servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Weekly News 8/3/1902

“Sheffield Equalised Independent Druids. On Tuesday evening the Pride of the Lions Lodge held a grand smoking concert at the RED LION INN, Thomas Street, Smethwick. The chair was taken by Mr. W. Carr, and the vice chair by Bro. S. Sherwood.....”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Air-gun League. [1902]

Henry Green, beer retailer, 33 Thomas Street. [1909], [1912], [1914]

1911 Census

33, Thomas Street – RED LION INN

[1] *Henry Green* (33), beer retailer, born Oldbury;

[2] *Sarah Ann Green* (33), wife, married 12, years, born Birmingham;

[3] *Doris Verena Green* (6), daughter, school, born Smethwick;

[4] *Ivy Josephine Green* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;

[5] *Green* (under 1 month), son, born Smethwick;

[6] *Polly Moore* (21), general servant, born Coseley;

[7] *James Harrison* (47), visitor, carpenter in works shop, born Handsworth;

[8] *Jane Harrison* (44), visitor, married 16 years, born Dudley;

[9] *Maud Harrison* (11), visitor, school, born Handsworth:

Owen Benjamin Bourne – check also NAGS HEAD, Tipton.

George Travis, beer retailer, 33, Thomas Street. [1935]

Cover de Lion Lodge (No.5002) Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

A wine license was granted in February 1938.

Albert Frederick Wort – see also OLD HOUSE AT HOME.

A Publican's license was granted on 8th February 1949, and confirmed on 5th April 1949.

John Farmer – check also PLOUGH, Oldbury.

Stanley Stanford – check also BRADES TAVERN, Oldbury.

It was extended and renovated in 1960.

Smethwick Telephone 17/4/1964

“Television personality Jan Brookes was invited to the RED LION, Thomas Street, Smethwick, to knock down a pile of pennies.....”

Thomas Clarence Egginton – check also MILL, West Bromwich.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2]

[1996]

Closed

It was converted into two houses. [2006]



1996

RED LION +

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Mrs. Emma Butler [1850]

RED LION +

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Smallwood [] - **1858**)

NOTES

Wolverhampton Chronicle 17/2/1858

“On Monday afternoon an elderly man, one of the oldest inhabitants of Smethwick, of the name of *Thomas Smallwood*, who has for some years kept a public house called the RED LION, was found in the brewhouse attached to his own house, hanging from a projection in the wall. Upon being cut down he was found dead. *Smallwood* some years ago had by industry and frugality amassed a considerable sum of money, but lost it by the failure of an iron-master, who died insolvent about fourteen years ago. Since that time *Smallwood* has known much adversity, and gradually descended from one step of poverty to another. He lost his wife about Christmas, since which time he has been observed to wear a more dejected appearance. Some pressing pecuniary troubles, which the poor old man felt, and perceived himself unable to contend with, no doubt impelled him to the commission of this rash act. He leaves behind him a large family, young and destitute.”

ROBIN

60, (61), Suffrage Street / 76, Corbett Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Edward Brookes
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 5th July 1901) [1960]
Courage Ltd.
Pat and Helen Brennan [1994]

LICENSEES

Edward Brookes [1870] – [1901]
John Nevitt [1901]
Eli Shenton [1901] – **1919**;
Albert Edward Newton (**1919 – 1921**);
Alfred Lees (**1921 – 1935**);
Henry Hall (**1935 – 1941**);
Alfred Thomas Robinson (**1941 – 1946**);
William Burrows (**1946 – 1950**);
George Thomas Baker (**1950 – [1964]**)
Sean Brennan [1979] – [1983]
Peter McHugh (**1994 – []**)



1996

NOTES

60 Suffrage Street [1881], [1883], [1890], [1897], [1935]
76, Corbett Street [1903]

It was originally known as the ROBINSON CRUSOE. [1900], [1903], [1970], [1983]

It was known locally as 'The Robin'.

Edward Brookes, beer retailer, Suffrage Street. [1870]
He married Jane Peat.

1871 Census

Suffrage Street

- [1] *Edward Brookes* (38), innkeeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Jane Brookes* (31), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *John Brookes* (59), brother, labourer, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Mary Beddall* (16), general servant, born Birmingham:

1881 Census

60 Suffrage Street

- [1] *Edward Brookes* (46), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Jane Brookes* (41), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Emma Beddall* (21), general servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 18/8/1888

“ROBINSON CRUSOE Mutual Investment and Loan Society. The annual supper of the above society was held at the Club Room of the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Suffrage Street, on Friday 17th August.....”

Smethwick Telephone 8/11/1890

“The annual dinner in connection with the ROBINSON CRUSOE Mutual Loan and Investment Society was held on Thursday evening, October 30th.....”

Smethwick Telephone 2/5/1891

“On Wednesday morning enquiry at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Corbett Street, Smethwick, upon the body of Charles William Jones (aged 1 year and 7 months) son of Charles William Jones, bricklayers’ labourer, residing at No.2 Smart’s Buildings, Corbett Street.”

– He was drowned in Victoria Park pool. – Verdict. Accidental drowning.

Smethwick Telephone 20/2/1892

“The annual dinner in connection with the ROBINSON CRUSOE Loan and Investment Society, Suffrage Street, Smethwick, took place at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN on Wednesday evening. The dinner was also intended to celebrate the amalgamation of the LONDON WORKS TAVERN Money Society with the ROBINSON CRUSOE Society.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1898 - Advert

“Engineers’ Lockout / A discussion on the above will take place at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Corbett Street on Monday next, January 24th / Chair to be taken by G. Baycliffe at 8 o’clock / All sections of Trades Unionists Invited / To secure success you must federate.”

[This meeting was reported on in the January 29th edition.]

Smethwick Telephone 2/4/1898

“The funeral of Mrs. E. *Brookes* of the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Corbett Street, who died on the 21st ult. after a long and painful illness, took place at the Old Church on Friday 25th ult. The deceased, who bore her affliction with fortitude and quiet submission, was of a kindly disposition, which gained her many friends. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. G. Astbury and amongst those who followed the remains to the last resting place were Mr. *Edward Brookes* (husband) and many relatives.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/4/1898

“The ROBINSON CRUSOE Sick and Dividend Society.- The members of the above society held their quarterly meeting last Tuesday evening at the house of Mr. E. *Brookes*, ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Suffrage Street.- After the minutes were read by the secretary (Mr. W. Armstrong) the statement of account for the quarter were given.....”

Smethwick Telephone 12/11/1898

“An inquest was held at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN on Friday night, concerning the death of Jane Rea (69), a widow of 53, Shireland Road, who died at the residence of her daughter, 37, Corbett Street, on Wednesday night.- Mary Jane Barnsley, daughter of the deceased, stated that her mother visited her on Wednesday afternoon, and during witness’s absence, she fell down the cellar steps Accidental death.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies The ROBINSON CRUSOE, Suffrage Street.- The annual meeting of the members of the above club was held on Tuesday. Mr. W. Armstrong read the minutes.....a dividend of 9s 3d per member was declared.....”

1901 Census

Suffrage Street – ROBINSON CRUSOE

[1] *John Nevitt* (46), married, publican (manager), born Birmingham;

[2] *Leonard T. Pearsall* (21), potman, born Birmingham;

[3] *Emma Taylor* (62), boarder, nurse, born Newtown, Montgomeryshire:

Smethwick Weekly News 4/5/1901

“A man named Alexander Clark (76), scrap iron dealer, of Ballot Street, Smethwick, met with a shocking death near his residence on Thursday morning. He was leaving his premises with a horse and trap, and when passing down a side entrance to his yard the horse took fright and bolted. Deceased was thrown out of the trap backwards, and fell upon his head. When picked up immediately afterwards it was found that his neck was broken, death apparently having been instantaneous. The shocking occurrence produced a painful sensation in the locality.

Yesterday morning Mr. A. H. Pearson (coroner) held an inquest at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Corbett Street. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and expressed sympathy with the deceased’s family.”

Smethwick Weekly News 22/6/1901

“Jesse Evans, Jubilee Avenue, Corbett Street, was charged with refusing to quit the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Corbett Street, on the 8th inst, and doing damage to a window to the extent of 1s.

Eli Shenton, the landlord, said defendant was drunk and refused to leave, when he ejected him. Defendant then broke a window.

There were several previous convictions and a total fine of £1 17s 6d was imposed.”

Smethwick Weekly News 17/8/1901

“On Sunday the police received information of the death of Elizabeth Ann Reavley (65), of Windmill Lane, Smethwick, which occurred at her home during Saturday night. Deceased retired to bed about 9.30 on Saturday night, and on Sunday morning was found lying at the bottom of the stairs dead, her neck having been broken. It is supposed that while walking from one room to another for the purpose of attending to her husband, who is 89 years of age, she accidentally fell down the stairs. Her husband rang the bell for her about one o’clock on Sunday morning, and failing to get any answer he went in search of her, and was horrified to find her lifeless body.

Mr. H. A. Pearson held the inquest at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN on Monday afternoon, and the jury, after hearing the evidence, returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/11/1908

“A singular case occupied the attention of the Coroner (Mr. G. C. Lewis) and a jury on Monday afternoon. The enquiry, which was held at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, concerned the death of a three year old child, named William Harvey Harrison, whose parents reside in Tiverton Road.- The mother of the child stated that she put him to bed on Friday afternoon, and as was the child’s custom he knocked the bedroom floor in an hour’s time to call her upstairs. On going in response to his call, she found that his tongue was ‘all thick with brimstone, which he had sucked off about twenty matches,’ the sticks of which were lying on the rug.- In reply to the Coroner, the witness said that she could not say how the child had got hold of the matches; they must have been on the table.- The Coroner: It is a dangerous thing to leave matches, when children are about; there is the danger of fire as well as poisoning.- Mrs. Harrison said that she cleaned the child’s tongue, and gave him some milk. He appeared to be little the worse for his adventure, and after playing in the street for some time he took his father’s tea, where he was given a drink. On returning home, he was put to bed, but about an hour later he became ill. She gave him an emetic, and as he did not get better she took him to a doctor, to whom she told what had happened.- Despite his efforts, however, the child died about 6am on Saturday Death by misadventure.”

1911 Census

61, Suffrage Street

[1] *Eli Shenton* (45), public house manager, born Budworth, Cheshire;

[2] Sarah Ann Shenton (43), wife, married 20 years, born Moulton, Cheshire;

[3] Percy Shenton (20), son, engineer’s turner, born Moulton, Cheshire;

[4] Harold Shenton (16), son, engineer’s pattern maker, born Birmingham;

[5] Frederick Shenton (15), son, born Birmingham:

Eli Shenton was married to Sarah.

Their son Fred was killed in 1917, serving with the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, in France.

Smethwick Telephone 21/9/1912

“A very enjoyable drive to Meriden was enjoyed by the friends of the host of the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Corbett Street, on Saturday afternoon. Mr. *E. Shenton*, who accompanied the party, had arranged for landaus to take them through Castle Bromwich. High tea was served at the Queens Head Inn, by Mrs. West. After a visit to the beautiful countryside, the return was commenced, and Smethwick was reached in good time. Thanks were tendered to Mr. *Shenton* for his kindly hospitality.”

Smethwick Telephone 5/10/1912

“The members of the Druids Oak Lodge (Birmingham Equalised District Order of Druids), entertained Mr. R. T. Perks, who for seventeen years filled the position of secretary, to dinner at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, last week. The chair was taken by Bro, G, Ediss, while another honorary member (Alderman Adams, JP) occupied the vice chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/11/1912

“An interesting ceremony in connection with the Druids Oak Lodge 1496, the headquarters of which are at the ROBINSON CRUSOE INN, Corbett Street, took place on Monday evening, when two new hon. members were initiated in Councillor J. Finnegan and Mr. T. Heeley, the latter being one of the candidates in the recent municipal elections in Soho Ward. There was a strong gathering of brethren.....”

Smethwick Telephone 15/8/1919

“General Servant Wanted; live in; sleep out; good references required. Also Charwoman for mornings. Apply ROBINSON CRUSOE, Suffrage Street, Smethwick.”

Robin Hood Lodge (No.3897) of Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes met here. [1935]

William Burrows was vice president of Victoria Branch of the British Legion, which held its meetings here. See also OLD CORNER HOUSE, and GEORGE Pottery Road, Oldbury.

George Thomas Baker – see also STATION, and GEORGE, Pottery Road, Oldbury.

Teams from here were champions of the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League, 'A' Section. 1951/2, 1952/3, 1953/4, 1956/7.

Robinson Crusoe FC played in the West Midlands Alliance. [1963/4]
They won the Mayor of Smethwick's Charity Cup in 1964.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2]

Peter McHugh was married to Phyllis.

It was refurbished and reopened on 2nd December 1994.

It was renamed ROBIN.

[2013]



2008

ROSE AND THISTLE

Wattville Street / Downing Street, HANDSWORTH

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Caldow (1850 - 1851)

William Caldow (1852 - 1857)

J Povey [1858]

Joseph Perry [1864]

Joseph Povey [1865]

NOTES

It was opened as a beerhouse by *William Caldow* on 8th May 1850.
He spent £40 for brewery plant, and fixtures etc. necessary for carrying on the business.

Smethwick Telephone 1/12/1951

'Smethwick and Round About' by W. Ellery Jephcott

"In subsequent years *William Caldow* played a prominent part in the extension of the Ancient Order of Foresters throughout the Midlands. In 1852 he founded Court 'Watt Villa' at the ROSE AND THISTLE INN, Wattville Street, Handsworth, of which he was the licensee....."

Wines and spirits license granted 1853.

Joseph Povey was also a butcher. [1865]

[This pub is included because of its proximity to the Smethwick border.]

ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE

80, (79), (78), Cross Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Fisher [1878] – [1883]
Peter Frederick Morris [1890] – [1891]
Richard Bowker [1894] – [1897]
Martha Bowker [1898]
William Whieldon [1899] – [1901]

NOTES

78, Cross Street
79, Cross Street [1883], [1890]
78+79, Cross Street [1891]

It was situated on the south-east side of Cross Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

John Fisher, beer retailer, Cross Street [1879]
John Fisher, beer retailer, 79 Cross Street [1883]

1881 Census

78, Cross Street - ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE
[1] *John Fisher* (32), unmarried, holloware turner, born West Bromwich;
[2] *Mary Fisher* (48), mother, widow, born Wednesbury;
[3] *Henry Honeybond* (40), boarder, butcher, born Worcester;
[4] *Dorcas Honeybond* (30), boarder, born West Bromwich;
[5] *Leonard Honeybond* (14), boarder, scholar, born Wolverhampton;
[6] *Thomas Honeybond* (6), boarder, scholar, born West Bromwich;
[7] *Harriett Honeybond* (2), boarder, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 3/5/1884

“Cornelius Dicken was charged with committing rape upon Mary Parsons, a married woman living in Rabone Lane, on Monday night [28/4]. Complainant stated that on Monday she was in the ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE beerhouse in Cross Street. Prisoner came in and asked her to drink with him. She left about 11 o'clock to go home. Prisoner followed her out and asked if he should go with her. She refused, but he continued to follow her and when going over some waste ground he committed the offence. She screamed and a policeman arrested the prisoner.”
- He was subsequently fined £1 and costs - the charge was reduced to common assault because the complainant was drunk.

Peter Frederick Morris, beer retailer, 79 Cross Street [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 19/4/1890

“*Peter Frederick Morris*, landlord of the SHAMROCK AND THISTLE, Cross Street, Smethwick, was charged with opening his house for the sale of intoxicating liquor on the 10th February and further with attempting to bribe P.C. Reynolds at the same time and place.”

– He was fined 20s and costs.

1891 Census

78+79, Cross Street – ROSE, SHAMROCK, AND THISTLE

[1] *Peter F. Morris* (29), widower, stationary engine driver, born West Bromwich;

[2] *Charles Morris* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

[3] *Ellen Morris* (5), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[4] *Florence Smith* (18), general servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 23/9/1893

“On Tuesday evening [19/9] a meeting of malleable nailcasters was held at the ROSE AND SHAMROCK INN, Cross Street, Smethwick It was unanimously decided to form a Malleable Nailcasters’ Association, a secretary being appointed protem, and the amount of the weekly contribution being fixed.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/12/1894

“The A1 Sick and Dividend Society. – This society is held at the ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE INN (Mr. *R. Bowker*’s), Cross Street, Smethwick. The annual meeting of members took place last week. After hearing the auditor’s report the best thanks of the meeting were awarded them for the satisfactory manner in which they had discharged their duties, and the secretary (Mr. W. Perkins) for the able manner in which he had kept the accounts. Thanks were also tendered to Mr. Higgins (money steward), and Mr. *Bowker* (treasurer). Considering the amount of sickness and all expenses of the society, and that a good sum was carried to the reserve fund, the dividend of 13s 3d to each member was regarded as very satisfactory.”

Smethwick Telephone 28/12/1895

“ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE Society At the annual meeting of the Sick and Dividend Society a dividend of 10s 9d was declared.....”

Richard Bowker, beer retailer, 79, Cross Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1898

“*Martha Bowker*, landlady of the ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE, Cross Street, Smethwick, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on her licensed premises on the 12th February Inspector Hodkinson stated that he, in company with Police-constable Collier, visited the defendant’s house at 11.20 on the morning of the date named and found four men sitting at a table in the tap room. One of the men, named Butler Horton, was drunk. Witness called the attention of the landlady, who had just entered, to the man, and she took his beer away from him. She said that she had only served him with a pint previously, and told him to come again when he was sober Mr. Harper, contended that Horton had not left his work many minutes before the officer arrived, and as Mrs. *Bowker* was not in at the time, her daughter served him with a pint of beer. He was conversing with the other men and had not touched the beer when the officers arrived. Mrs. *Bowker* took his beer from him because the officers said he was drunk, though she believed him to be sober.- After hearing the evidence of seven witnesses, the Bench dismissed the case, giving defendant the benefit of doubt.- A case against Horton was dealt with similarly.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE.- The annual general meeting of the members of the above society was held on Monday night. Mr. W. Perkins presided a dividend of 8s 9d was declared.....”

Smethwick Telephone 25/3/1899

“The employees of the Stour Valley Foundry, Crocketts Lane, had a dinner st the ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE, Cross Street, on Thursday week. The catering of the host, Mr. *W. Wheildon* gave every satisfaction.....”

William Wheildon = William Wheildon

William Wheildon, beer retailer, 79, Cross Street. [1900]

West Bromwich Weekly News 17/3/1900

“*William Wheildon*, licensee of the ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE, Cross Street, Smethwick, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and supplying drink to a drunken person on February 3rd The Bench gave defendant the benefit of the doubt and dismissed both cases.”

1901 Census

80, Cross Street – ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE INN

[1] *William Wheildon* (29), beerhouse keeper, born Oldbury;

[2] I. J. *Wheildon* (29), wife, born Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire;

[3] F. E. *Wheildon* (4), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] Lily *Wheildon* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;

[5] Willie *Wheildon* (1), son, born Smethwick;

[6] Susan Duckworth (15), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

Closed

ROYAL EXCHANGE

153, (154), (152-153), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Meade and Co. Ltd., Wellhead Lane, Perry Barr, Birmingham
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Lea [1864] – [1883]
Mrs. Elizabeth Lea [1884] – [1890]
Edward J Jones [1891]
James Bishop [1897] – [1900]
W H Talbot [1901]
A Roberts [1903]
Joseph Thomas Thorley [1904]
William Worrall [] – **1904**;
Arthur George Shrimpton **(1904 – 1905)**;
Joseph Thomas Thorley **(1905 – 1907)**;
John Frederick Lea **(1907)**;
John Thomas Ford **(1907 – 1909)**;
Alfred Caddick **(1909 – 1910)**;
George Yarnell **(1910 – 1914)**;

NOTES

152-153, Rolfe Street [1883]
153, Rolfe Street [1890], [1891], [1911]
154, Rolfe Street [1901]

It had a beerhouse license.

George Lea, beer retailer, Rolfe Street [1864]
George Lea, beer retailer, 152-153, Rolfe Street [1883]
He was described as a beer retailer and grocer, Rolfe Street [1870], [1878], [1879]
George Lea was married to *Elizabeth*.
He died c. 1883.

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE INN

- [1] *George Lea* (41), unmarried, shopkeeper, born Harborne;
- [2] Elizabeth Parkes (43), boarder, housekeeper, born Handsworth;
- [3] Mary J. Parkes (24), boarder, assistant shopkeeper, born Handsworth;
- [4] Owen Gee (25), boarder, assistant shopkeeper, born West Bromwich;
- [5] Mary A. Lea (6), niece, scholar, born Harborne;

Smethwick Heritage Telephone (May 2003)

'Smethwick Nuts and Bolts'

"George Lea was also a grocer [1870] and provision dealer and a hop and seed merchant and sold boots and shoes. On the second floor of his extensive premises, which had a bar long enough to accommodate 80 persons, he carried on a skittle alley. An interesting memento of this has survived in the form of a bronze token, a little larger than a sixpence, bearing on one side an illustration showing soldiers firing a cannon with the words Smethwick Pill, and on the other the name *George Lea*, the value 2d and the words 'American Bowling Saloon'."

1881 Census

153, Rolfe Street

- [1] *George Lea* (51), grocer _____, born Harborne;
- [2] *Elizabeth Lea* (55), wife, born Handsworth;
- [3] *Mary Ann Lea* (16), niece, born Harborne;
- [4] *Charles Payton* (18), grocer's servant, born Deddington, Oxfordshire;
- [5] *Fred Lewis* (30), son in law, widower, builder, born Buckley, Flintshire;
- [6] *Frank Lewis* (2), son, born Smethwick:

Mrs. Elizabeth Lea, beer retailer, 153 Rolfe Street [1890]

1891 Census

153, Rolfe Street

- [1] *Edward J. Jones* (45), widower, publican, born Bridgnorth;
- [2] *Thomas Jones* (5), son, born Handsworth;
- [3] *Ellen Jones* (7), daughter, born Handsworth;
- [4] *Thomas Southall* (34), lodger, puddler at ironworks, born West Bromwich:

James Bishop, beer retailer, 153 Rolfe Street (south side) [1897], [1900]

1901 Census

154, Rolfe Street – ROYAL EXCHANGE INN

- [1] *W. H. Talbot* (40), beer retailer, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Jane Talbot* (43), wife, born Hill Top;
- [3] *Benjamin Talbot* (21), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Arthur Talbot* (18), son, brass caster, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Bertie Talbot* (15), son, brass tube drawer, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Ernest Talbot* (10), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Samuel Talbot* (8), son, born Smethwick;
- [8] *John H. Talbot* (11 months), son, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Weekly News 20/7/1901

"Thomas Chatwin, of Bridge Street, Smethwick, was fined 13s 6d, including costs, or seven days' imprisonment, for refusing to quit the ROYAL EXCHANGE INN, when requested to do so by the landlord on the 6th inst."

Arthur George Shrimpton was fined £2 and £2 10s 6d costs, on 5th January 1905, for permitting drunkenness.

John Thomas Thorley was fined 40s and £3 16s 6d costs, on 22nd November 1906, for permitting drunkenness.

John Thomas Ford married *Fanny Maria Reeves*.

See also OLD CHAPEL.

1911 Census

153, Rolfe Street

- [1] *George Yarnell* (44), publican's manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Lily Yarnell* (30), wife, assisting in business, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Elsie Victoria Yarnell* (14), daughter, assisting in business, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Charles Henry Yarnell* (11), son, school, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Arthur George Yarnell* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Yarnell* (1 month), daughter, born Smethwick:

The license was surrendered in 1914.

Closed

Demolished

ROYAL OAK

91, Halford Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Downing, Holly Lane, Smethwick
J. W. J. Kingstone Ltd., Summit Brewery [1927]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Halford [1861] – [1872]
Thomas Crump [1897] – **1904**;
Charles Arthur Peabody (**1904 – 1920**);
George Wesley East (**1920 – 1925**);
Albert Edwards (**1925 – 1931**):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

William Halford, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

1861 Census

1, Halford Street

- [1] *William Halford* (53), beer seller, born Myrcott, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Mary Halford* (56), wife, born Donnington, Shropshire;
- [3] *William Halford* (18), son, pottery worker, born Selly Oak;
- [4] *Ellen Halford* (16), daughter, born Selly Oak;
- [5] *William Clark* (23), visitor, engine driver, born Willncote, [Wilmcote?], Warwickshire;
- [6] *Matilda Halford* (21), visitor, no occupation, born Willncote, Warwickshire:

William Halford, beer retailer, Halford Street. [1865]

1871 Census

Halford Street – THE ROYAL OAK

- [1] *William Halford* (67), publican, born Evesham;
- [2] *Mary Halford* (67), wife, born Donnington Wood, Shropshire;
- [3] *Thomas Halford* (25), son, carter, born Worcestershire:

William Halford, beer retailer, Halford Street. [1872]

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies The ROYAL OAK, Halford Street.- The annual meeting of the members of the above society was held on Wednesday night. A dividend of 11s 3d per member was declared.....”

Thomas Crump, beer retailer, 91 Halford Street. [1900]

1901 Census

91, Halford Street

- [1] *Thomas Crump* (39), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Eliza (?) Crump* (41), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *John T. Crump* (12), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *George Crump* (9), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Ernest Crump* (7), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Louisa Crump* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *James Crump* (1), son, born Smethwick:

Thomas Crump – see also OLD CORNER HOUSE.

1911 Census

91, Halford Street

- [1] *C. A. Peabody* (35), license holder under brewery, born Smethwick;
- [2] *F. Peabody* (37), wife, married 10 years, born Walsall;
- [3] *Gladys May Peabody* (9), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *William Arthur Peabody* (6), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Florence Foster* (21), niece, born Smethwick:

Charles Arthur Peabody, beer retailer, 91 Halford Street. [1912], [1914]

It was sold at auction on 23rd February 1928 for £4,000.

The license was surrendered on the grant of a Removal Order of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street, to Abbey Road..

It closed on 13th September 1931.

It was converted into three dwelling houses.

ROYAL OAK

29, Spon Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

George Pearsall, Chapel Street, Handsworth
Atkinsons Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Dawes [1864] – [1871]
James Pearsall [1881] – [1882]
William Day [1889]
Mrs. Janet Carey [1890]
John Edward Gibbs [1891] – **1904**);
Samuel Jones (**1904 – 1912**);
Mrs. Mary Ann Jones (**1912 – 1914**);
Frederick Skipp (**1914 – 1915**):

NOTES

It was situated on the northern side of the entrance to Chance's glass works.

It had a beer and wine license.

William Dawes, beer retailer, Spon Lane [1870]

1871 Census

Spon Lane – ROYAL OAK

- [1] *William Dawes* (55), beer retailer, born Knowle;
- [2] *Emily Dawes* (47), wife, born Penkridge;
- [3] *Elizabeth Dawes* (13), daughter, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [4] *William Dawes* (11), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
- [5] *Alfred Dawes* (7), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Esther Stevens* (19), general servant, born Smethwick:

William Dawes – see also OLD BARREL, Wednesbury.

1881 Census

29, Spon Lane – ROYAL OAK INN

- [1] *James Pearsall* (41), widower, beerhouse keeper, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Elizabeth Pearsall* (11), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Mary A. Pearsall* (8), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Esther Turner* (35), sister, widow, domestic servant, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Agnes Hadley* (18), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Evening Star 9/2/1882

“On Wednesday, a petition was filed in the Oldbury County Court, by *James Pearsall*, of the ROYAL OAK, Spon Lane. The liabilities were estimated at £400. Mr. James Hartill, Oldbury, is the solicitor in this matter.”

Mrs. *Janet Carey*, beer retailer, 29, Spon Lane (west side). [1890]

1891 Census

29, Spon Lane – ROYAL OAK INN

[1] *John E. Gibbs* (29), licensed victualler, manager, born Stratford on Avon;

[2] *E. Gibbs* (26), wife, born Tipton;

[3] *Percy Gibbs* (3), son, born Oldbury;

[4] *Horace Gibbs* (1), son, born Oldbury:

Edward Gibbs, beer retailer, 29, Spon Lane. [1897], [1900]

Smethwick Telephone 25/2/1898

“Mr. W. Hackett has received instruction to Sell By Auction Lot 1 – Spon Lane (by order of the Executors of the late Mr. Samuel Pearsall) – All that Old-established, Double-fronted, Freehold Free Licensed House, the ROYAL OAK INN, Spon Lane, with Two Houses adjoining, one used as a Shop, together with the Premises, now in the occupation of Gibbs, Mason and Pearsall, producing at a very low rental £58 10s per annum.

The licensed house has a Beer and Wine License and the Premises comprise Entrance Hall, Well fitted Bar, Smoke Room, Tap Room, Living Kitchen, Three Bedrooms, Club Room, and Two Cellars with Rolling Way. At the rear is Scullery, Brewhouse, Stabling for two horses, Coach House, Enclosed Yard and large Gateway Entrance from Spon Lane.

The Auctioneer calls special attention to the position of the above House, as it is almost corner position to the main entrance to Messrs. Chance’s Large Glass Works, has a good frontage to Spon Lane, is within one minute’s walk of the Spon Lane Passenger and Goods Stations, and is surrounded by other large works, where hundreds of hands are employed, and it forms an opportunity seldom to be met with in this district, to secure a good Free House, doing a good trade, and possession can be had on March 25th inst. next.”

The license was renewed at the adjourned annual licensing sessions on 11th September 1899 on the understanding that the premises were “put in proper repair”.

1901 Census

29, Spon Lane – ROYAL OAK TAVERN

[1] *John E. Gibbs* (39), beer retailer, born Oldbury;

[2] *Emma Gibbs* (34), wife, born Tipton;

[3] *Percy G. Gibbs* (14), son, born Oldbury;

[4] *Horace J. Gibbs* (12), son, born Oldbury;

[5] *Florence G. Gibbs* (8), daughter, born Smethwick;

[6] *Lorna Gibbs* (5 months), daughter, born Smethwick;

[7] *Clara Yendel* (15), general servant, born Smethwick:

John Edward Gibbs was fined 10s and costs, or 7 days in default, on 4th February 1904, for permitting drunkenness.

1911 Census

29, Spon Lane

[1] *Samuel Jones* (40), publican, born Tat Bank, Oldbury;

[2] *Mary Jane Jones* (41), wife, married 14 years, assisting in business, born Tat Bank, Oldbury;

[4] *Clara Taylor* (18), general servant, born Hereford:

Samuel Jones, beer retailer, 29 Spon Lane. [1912]

Mary Ann Jones = *Mary Jane Jones*

Mrs. Mary Jane Jones, beer retailer, 29 Spon Lane. [1914]

See also WHITE LION, Oldbury.

Frederick Skipp – check also VICTORIA, West Bromwich.

It closed on 30th September 1915 under the Compensation Clause of the Licensing Act 1910.
It was absorbed into the glassworks site.

SAMPSON LLOYD

24-26, Cape Hill, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

J. D. Wetherspoon [2002]
Penn Street Taverns (acquired in 2005)

LICENSEES

Dean Richard Cole [2001] – [2002]
Martin Dowling (**2005** – [])

NOTES

The building was originally a Lloyds Bank, opened in 1908.

[2000]
[2009]

Closed [2010], [2012]

It reopened in 2012.

[2013]



2001



2005



2013

SCOTCH TAVERN

Scotch Row, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

William Bagley [] - **1859**):

NOTES

The pub was bought by Chance Brothers, along with the rest of Scotch Row, in 1859, and incorporated into the glassworks.

SEVEN STARS

39, (35, 37 and 39), (1), (109), Cape Hill / Windmill Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Edward Cheshire, "Lawnside", Bearwood Road [1891]
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. (acquired 2nd July 1897) [1900], [1908], [1912], [1914]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Bass Taverns
Goose Pubs [2001]

LICENSEES

Cooper []
Stephen Ward [1890] - **1891**)
Thomas Henry Simpson (**1891** - [1897]
William Hammond [1901]
Fairfield [1901] - [1903]
William Carpenter [1907] - [1912] manager
Edward Mann [1914] - **1941**);
Joseph Henry Beckley (**1941** - **1944**);
Frank William Welch (**1944** - **1958**);
James Thomas Shutt (**1958** - **1959**);
Edward Norman Wood (**1959** - **1962**);
Stanley Rock Bryan (**1962** - **1965**);
Eamonn Breen (**1965** - []
Trevor Ford [1993]



1997

NOTES

109, Cape Hill [1891]
1, Cape Hill [1897], [1900], [1901]
35, 37 and 39, Cape Hill [1909], [1931], [1935], [1936], [1948]
39, Cape Hill [1911]
35 - 39, Cape Hill [1942], [1959], [1961]

SEVEN STARS HOTEL [1897], [1948]

Smethwick Telephone 9/2/1884

'Smethwick By An Old Inhabitant'

".....continuing our journey some 300 yards, we again strike the main road, and somewhat fatigued enter the SEVEN STARS, said to be the oldest beer house in the parish. Whilst host *Cooper* is obtaining for us a supply of bread and cheese and his celebrated tankard of 'nut brown ale' we observe, rising in all its beauty, above the tall trees on the other side of the road, the family mansion of the Townsends....."

Smethwick Telephone 22/7/1950

'Old Smethwick: Development of Cape Hill' by W. Ellery Jephcott

"We are indebted to an old resident of Smethwick - he is 83, and has lived in the town all his life stood Seven Stars Row, a line of seven cottages with gardens in front. The centre one was the SEVEN STARS INN. All was open fields below these....."

Smethwick Telephone 6/9/1890

“Notice. I, *Stephen Ward*, SEVEN STARS, Cape Hill, Smethwick beerhouse keeper, being interested as occupier in certain premises about to be constructed for the purpose of being used as a house for the sale of intoxicating liquor to be consumed on the premises, and to be situate at Cape Hill and Windmill Lane do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply for an order sanctioning the provisional removal and confirmation of the removal of the license now in force and held by me the owner of the premises Edward Cheshire, Lawnside, Bearwood Road, brewer.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/9/1890

“Adjourned Licencing Sessions. In connection with the application of Mr. *Stephen Ward* Mr. A. H. Hebbert said this license was already in existence and this was an application for permission to make considerable alteration and extension to the premises for the convenience and benefit of the neighbourhood. They wished to pull down the existing building, which was in a very dilapidated condition. The SEVEN STARS INN was about the oldest beerhouse in Smethwick, and the district had grown to such an extent that the present premises were totally inadequate for the conduct of business. It was also very inconvenient at present, because the yard at the rear was a party one, and there were two or three entrances. They proposed to put up a very handsome building including seven or eight shops, which would be a great improvement to the district, and level with the building line. This application was granted on condition that Mr. Cheshire, the owner of the premises, pledged himself to carry out the plans in their entirety. They considered it would be a public improvement.”

1891 Census

109, Cape Hill – SEVEN STARS

- [1] *Stephen Ward* (45), beer retailer, born Woodgate, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Charlotte Ward* (48), wife, born Hill Top, West Bromwich;
- [3] *Alice Maud Ward* (15), daughter, assistant barmaid, born Bloomsbury, Nechells;
- [4] *Ada Edith Ward* (12), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham:

Thomas Henry Simpson, beer retailer, applied for a full license 16th July 1891. It was refused at the adjourned Licensing Session on 30th September 1891.

Smethwick Telephone 3/10/1891

“.....The application of *Thomas Henry Simpson*, landlord of the SEVEN STARS, Cape Hill, for a full license was taken next.- Mr. Young, who also supported this application, referred to the character of the applicant, pointing out that he was formerly a schoolmaster at Castle Bromwich. He had a certificate to his character signed by Lord Newport, and the Rector of Castle Bromwich, and others, each of whom bore the highest possible testimony to the character of Mr. *Simpson*. With regard to the suitability of the premises, he observed that they were very spacious and commodious, and formed a great improvement to that particular district. The neighbourhood was increasing rapidly, and there was a great requirement for a full license; in fact, an entirely new district had sprung up. The increase in the population of that neighbourhood within a comparatively short period amounted to about 2,800. If spirits were urgently required, there was no place in that immediate neighbourhood where they could be obtained. The tram depot was near to this applicant’s house, and on many occasions there had been urgent cases, in which spirits had been required. In one instance, a person was carried out of the tram in a fainting condition. He particularly drew the notice of the Bench to the fact that it was not a ‘tied house’ He [*Simpson*] had had over 2,000 applications for spirits during the three months he had been at the house. He had not ‘primed’ people to make the application, in order to keep the record. Mr. *Simpson* handed the Bench his agreement with Mr. Cheshire, in order to satisfy them on the point that it was not a ‘tied house’ – Mr. Sharpe then addressed the Bench, urging them not to grant the application, as the district was amply provided for in this respect.”

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“*Thomas Henry Simpson*, of the beer-house SEVEN STARS, Cape Hill, applied for a full license for that house. He stated that the rent was £60, and the nearest full licensed house was 400 yards away.....”

- This was refused.

Smethwick Telephone 29/9/1894

“Several applications for new licenses at Smethwick were considered at the adjourned licensing sessions, which were held at Handsworth on Tuesday. In two instances, the applications were successful – in both cases on the condition that another license be surrendered. Mr. *T. H. Simpson*, of the SEVEN STARS, Cape Hill, was at last rewarded for his indomitable perseverance, the Magistrates granting him a full license. It was the fourth time he had appealed to the justices for this concession; and, notwithstanding the excellent manner in which he presented his case, it was only granted on the condition that another license was abandoned, thus affecting a decrease of one in the number of licenses at Smethwick.....”

Smethwick Telephone 20/10/1894

“Mr. Edwin Hooper (district coroner) held an inquest at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, Smethwick, on Thursday, concerning the death of Charlotte Bennett, aged five months, who resided with her parents at 185, Montague Road The first witness called was Harriet Bennett, mother of the deceased, who stated that she had resided at Montague Road for about eighteen months, but previous to that at Rowley. Deceased had always been hearty, and took her food well ever since she was born, in fact she had been in perfect health until last Friday The jury, after some consultation privately, returned a verdict of “Died from natural causes, death being accelerated by want of medical attendance” and requested him (coroner) to reprimand the parents.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/10/1895

“The members of Court ‘St. Matthew’ (No. 5,264) A. O. F. having resolved to hold a social evening at least once a month during the coming winter, the first took place on Monday evening at the Court house, SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill. The business of the Court being over by 9 o’clock, a concert (to which non-members were admitted) commenced. Bro. W. Best, C. R. occupied the chair, and Bro. Billingham S. C. R., the vice chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/11/1896

“John Letts (37), employed in the bicycle trade, of Staniforth Street, Birmingham, was brought up on charges of refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, Smethwick, breaking a plate-glass embossed window at that hotel and doing damage to the extent of 30s, and further with assaulting the landlord, *Thomas Henry Simpson*.- It appears that on Saturday afternoon, about a quarter to five, the prisoner, who was drunk, was in the SEVEN STARS HOTEL creating a disturbance. He was ordered to leave by a barman, and refusing to do so, was ejected. Although no roughness was displayed towards him, the prisoner returned to the house at another door, having a brick-end in his possession. This he threw at the glass panel of the door, smashing it, Mr. *Simpson*, who happened to be behind the door, receiving a severe cut on the wrist and other injuries from the broken glass.- Prisoner admitted that he was drunk, but pleaded that he must have been roughly handled to throw the brick.- The Bench ordered him to pay fines and costs amounting to £2 11s 6d; in default of payment, five weeks imprisonment.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/5/1897

“The Smethwick Trades Council does not make so big a show as some of its neighbours, but occasionally it deals with subjects of great interest to the community. At a meeting on Wednesday night, held at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, three subjects occupied the attention of the Council, viz the long hours of shop assistants, the rate of wages paid to employees in some trades in the district, and the weekly ticket system on the workman’s early cars of the Birmingham and Midlands Tramways system.....”

Smethwick Telephone 15/1/1898

“Public Notices. Ancient Order of Foresters. (Court Liddesdale, No. 2278). I Deeply Regret To Announce the Death of Brother John Henry Lamb, of 178, Icknield Port Road [Birmingham]. The funeral will take place To-Day (Saturday), at Uplands Cemetery, Smethwick at 2.30 o’clock, when I hope all members connected with the Order in Birmingham, West Bromwich, and Smethwick will endeavour to be present. Brothers Please Assemble At Above Address or SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill. Secretary, 66, Raglan Road, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 5/11/1898

“On Monday, Court ‘St. Matthew’ No. 5,264 of the A. O. F., held a smoking concert at the club house, SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Court, which took place on October 31st 1868.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1898

“Court ‘St. Matthew’, No. 5,264 of the A. O. F., held at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill had a pleasant duty to perform on Monday evening last in initiating Mr. Lincoln Wilks, of the CASTLE INN, Cranford Street as honorary member.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/3/1899

“Mr. A. Betham (deputy coroner) held an inquest at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, on Wednesday morning, relative to the death of Violet Sheldon (7), who resided with her parents at Sycamore Road, Smethwick James Pearce, residing at 89, Corbett Street, Smethwick, said that he was employed as a drayman at Cheshire’s Brewery, where he had worked for the last eight years. About half past four on Monday afternoon, he was leading his horse out of the brewery yard, when the deceased rushed along the footpath near the gateway. She was knocked down by his horse’s forefoot, and the wheel of the dray passed over her body before he could stop it. There was a heavy incline. He endeavoured to take hold of the girl by the left hand, but could not manage it.- In reply to the Coroner, witness said that he had not had any beer that day; in fact, he had not tasted it since last Whitsuntide. The horse was quite manageable. His mate picked the girl up, and he helped to take her to Dr. Stephens’ surgery, in Raglan Road. The doctor said she was dead. He had never had such an accident before.

Frank Sheldon, father of the deceased, said he was a glass finisher, and lived at 118, Sycamore Road, Smethwick. The deceased was seven last birthday. He last saw her alive on Monday morning; she was then all right and healthy. She went to a school in Waterloo Road. On Monday afternoon she went to a fellow scholar’s home, and the accident occurred as she was returning home. His daughter was not deaf The Deputy coroner said the evidence showed that there was no blame to be attached to the draymen. What had really caused the accident in his opinion was the curious gateway leading from the brewery. It was on the incline at that point, and was also laid with ashes. One thing for the Brewery Co. to consider the advisability of having the boards around the gateway constructed differently, so that passers-by could see the vehicles before they emerged from the brewery. Mr. Botteley [J. Bottely of W. Shakespeare and Co.] said the Company would be prepared to consider any recommendation which the jury might make. Councillor Goodyear said he thought the boards were a temporary arrangement, whilst the extensions were being carried out The Foreman said it was the opinion of the jury that it was a pure accident, and a verdict was returned accordingly.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/4/1899

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) held an inquest at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, on Thursday morning concerning the death of Matilda Bannister, aged two years, who resided with her parents at 130, Florence Road, and who was found drowned under distressing circumstances on Tuesday afternoon. Selina Bannister, mother of deceased, stated that about 3.30 on the day in question, she saw her child playing in a neighbour’s yard along with a little boy. Shortly afterwards she heard a scream and she ran outside, and saw her child was dead Accidental death.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 31/3/1900

“Mr. A. H. Pearson (coroner) held two inquests on Monday at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, which caused him to give a much needed warning of the danger of allowing young children to sleep with their parents. One enquiry concerned the death of Leslie Harold Hounslow, the three month old child of Alfred and Clara Hounslow, of 38, Montague Road, Smethwick, who was found dead in bed on Sunday morning. The child slept with the father and mother, and was put to bed on Saturday night in its usual health, but was found dead the following morning.- Dr. Shields was called in after death and he found that the child had been suffocated, there being only six inches of room for it between the parents. The jury returned a verdict of Accidentally suffocated and the Coroner cautioned the parents for their negligence the other inquest was regarding the death of George Alexander Ward, one month old, the child of Emily and Edward Ward of 50, Bampton Road, Smethwick. This case was practically similar to the last Accidentally suffocated.”

1901 Census

1, Cape Hill

[1] *William Hammond* (37), manager, licensed victualler, born Welton, Northamptonshire;

[2] *Louisa Hammond* (39), wife, born Banbury;

[3] *Oliver Hammond* (8), son, born Birmingham;

[4] *Nellie Hammond* (4), daughter, born Birmingham;

[5] *Alfred Hammond* (3), son, born Birmingham;

[6] *William Hammond* (6 months), born Smethwick;

[7] *Elizabeth Hammond* (59), mother, born Welton, Northamptonshire:

Smethwick Weekly News 20/6/1901

“Joseph James, of 85, Trafalgar Road, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, on the 22nd inst.

The manager (Mr. *Fairfield*) refused to serve him, and he would not go, he ejected him.

Defendant was fined £1 17s 6d, including costs.”

Smethwick Weekly News 15/2/1902

“Yesterday morning the Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) held an inquiry at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, Smethwick, touching the death of *Elsie Beatrice Witcome*, aged eleven years, who died on Wednesday from the effects of burns sustained the day before at her home in Grange Road, Smethwick.

Mary Ann Witcomb, mother of the deceased, said the girl was kneeling in front of the fire with her back to it, lacing her younger brother’s boots. She was wearing two thin garments at the time. The little boy saw her nightdress smoking, and said, ‘Your pinafore’s on fire.’ Witness was upstairs when she heard the screams, and she ran down and saw the flames all round her. She wrapped her in a rug and sent for Dr. Motteram. When asked, the girl said she did not know how it became alight, but she thought it must have been a spark.

PC Hughes deposed to having gone to the house and saw the child severely burned.

Dr. Motteram said he was called to the house about ten minutes after the accident, and he dressed the wounds and attended her until her death, which was caused by shock following extensive burns. He remarked that when the burns covered over half the body, the victim invariably died.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and all sympathised with the mother in her distress.”

Court ‘St. Matthew’ (AOF) met here. [1903]

Cheshire’s Brewery Ltd. were fined £6 and £3 4s 6d costs, on 25th February 1904, for permitting drunkenness.

An application was made to the annual licensing session, in March 1908, to extend into the next door shop, and to use it as an off license, and also to provide a bowling green by demolishing adjoining outbuildings. This was refused.

1911 Census

39, Cape Hill – SEVEN STARS HOTEL

[1] *William Carpenter* (49), widower, public house manager, born Hazleton, Gloucestershire;

[2] *Rufus Carpenter* (20), son, reservist, out of employment, born Brierley Hill;

[3] *Sidny Carpenter* (16), son, draper’s assistant, born Brierley Hill;

[4] *Meneva Carpenter* (17), daughter, milliner, born Brierley Hill;

[5] *Mary Shaw* (48), housekeeper, born Hereford:

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1912

“A successful concert was held at the SEVEN STARS HOTEL on Wednesday night on behalf of Mr. *William Hackett*, the former commissioner at this hotel, who is leaving for New Zealand. Mr. T. H. Paste presided, and was supported by Mr. *Carpenter* (host).

Mr. Hackett has been commissioner for about three years, and has won the esteem of the manager, staff, and customers of the hotel.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/1/1918

“General or Woman Wanted (daily), at once, good wages, also Potman. – Apply Mrs. *Mann*, SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/3/1919

“Barmaid. Wanted at once, experienced; good references; good wages. – Apply SEVEN STARS HOTEL, Cape Hill.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1934 - Advert

“Come and Join / The SEVEN STARS Sick and Dividend Society / Held on Friday from 8 till 9pm / Good Dividends & Substantial Reserve Funds / Age 17 to 45 / Entrance free First Quarter.”

Joseph Henry Beckley – see also STAR, and RED LION, West Bromwich.

Frank William Welch – see also BEEHIVE.

Stanley Rock Bryan – see also NEW NAVIGATION, and BRITANNIA.

Eamonn Breen – see also VICTORIA.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

[1997]

It was renamed GOOSE AT CAPE HILL. [2001]

[2004]

It was renamed SEVEN STARS. [2007]

[2013]



2004



2013

SEVEN STARS

24, Rolfe Street, (Canalside), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Cheshire's Brewery [1893]

LICENSEES

Charles Mason [1871]

Thomas Jones [1879] – [1883]

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – SEVEN STARS INN

[1] *Charles Mason* (62), beerhouse keeper, born St. Johns, Worcester;

[2] *Naomi Mason* (65), wife, born Lea (?), Herefordshire:

1881 Census

24, Rolfe Street – SEVEN STARS

[1] *Thomas Jones* (33), beer retailer, born Smethwick;

[2] *Rachel Jones* (40), wife, born Brierley Hill;

[3] *Martha Jones* (8), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[4] *Annie Jones* (7), daughter, born Smethwick:

Thomas Jones, beer retailer, Canalside. [1879]

Thomas Jones, beer retailer, 24, Rolfe Street [1883]

The license was given up in exchange for the license of the STATION in 1893.

Closed

Demolished

The site became part of Merrick and Heath.

SHIRELAND

Shireland Road / Montague Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Fisher **(1924 - 1932);**
Samuel Richard Powell **(1932 - 1954);**
William Boyle **(1954 - 1960);**
William George Sharp **(1960 - [1965])**



2008

NOTES

Smethwick Telephone 27/9/1890

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions. Mr. Henry Mitchell Jnr. Applied for a publican’s license for a new hotel, which he desired to erect in Montague Road. Mr. Alfred Caddick supported the application and presented plans. He explained that the hotel, to be named the SHIRELAND ARMS would (if the Magistrates granted the application) be erected on the Shireland estate. A similar application was made last year, but since then there had been considerable extension in the number of houses in the immediate neighbourhood. On the Shireland estate there were upwards of 600 houses, and at the present time plans were passed for the erection of another hundred. There was not a house on that estate which was entitled to provide bedroom and hotel accommodation. At festival times, or when there was any great stir in Birmingham, there was a great absence of hotel accommodation, and additional accommodation was required. He had a memorial signed by upwards of 400 residents in the vicinity and another one signed by over 100 persons Mr. Mitchell Jnr. Said they intended to expend £4000 on the erection of this hotel The application was refused.”

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“Mr. Walker (Messrs. A. and E. Caddick, West Bromwich), applied for a provisional license for premises to be erected at the corner of Shireland Road and Montague Road. It was stated by the lessee, Mr. Henry Mitchell Jnr., that the building would cost £4,000, and the rent would be about £200 a year. The nearest full licensed house was 950 yards away The application was unopposed.”

A license was granted on the condition the nearby BELL and VINE pubs were closed.
Final Order granted on 3rd April 1924.

It was built by George Webb, builders.
It opened on 1st December 1924.

Samuel Richard Powell was married to Leah.

William Boyle – see also IVY BUSH.

An application for consent to structural alterations, in respect of service facilities and access points to the mixed smoke room, were approved on 16th July 1965.

[2013]

SIR ROBERT PEEL

42, (43), (44), Poplar Street / Lower Cross Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. [1893]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Smith [1878] – [1881]
Thomas Millward [1883]
Edward Cheshire [1884] – [1892]
William Henry Glaze [] – **1896**;
Thomas Emery (**1896** – [])
George Crabtree [1897]
William John Ingram [1898]
Arthur Harvey [1900] – [1901]
Thomas Goff [1903] – **1917**;
Albert Cudd (**1917** – **1921**);
Arthur Stanley (**1921** – **1924**);
Edith Annie Stanley (**1924**);
Thomas George Bluck (**1924** – **1925**);
William Fletcher (**1925**);
Frederick George Essom (**1925** – **1932**);
John Thomas Kirk (**1932** – **1933**);
Sidney Bowyer (**1933**);
William Henry Taylor (**1933** – **1940**);
George Edward Cooke (**1940** – **1942**);
John Stevenson (**1942** – **1952**);
Harry Gerald York (**1952** – **1953**);
Arthur William Whitehouse (**1953** – **1958**);
Kenneth William 'Ken' Goddard (**1958** – **1960**);
Marshall Holding (**1960** – **1961**);
Jack Jones (**1961**);
Ronald Turner (**1961** – **1962**);
John Joseph Gargan (**1962** – **1964**);
Anthony Vernon Smith (**1964** – **1965**);
Malcolm Sidney Davies (**1965** – [])

NOTES

42, Poplar Street [1881], [1903], [1912], [1914], [1942], [1948], [1961]
43, Poplar Street [1891], [1900]
42+43, Poplar Street [1901]
44, Poplar Street [1911]

It was situated on the south side of Poplar Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

William Smith, beer retailer, Poplar Street. [1878], [1879]

1881 Census

42, Poplar Street

- [1] *William Smith* (29), publican, born Cape, Birmingham;
- [2] *Amelia Smith* (30), wife, born Cape, Birmingham;
- [3] *Jessie A. Robinson*, daughter, scholar, born Cape, Birmingham;
- [4] *Joseph J. Robinson* (10), son, scholar, born Cape, Birmingham;
- [5] *Sarah Ann Smith* (1), daughter, born Smethwick:

Thomas Millward, beer retailer, 43 Poplar Street [1883]

Edward Cheshire, beer retailer, 43 Poplar Street [1890]

Smethwick Telephone 27/9/1890

“A jovial evening was spent at Mr. *Cheshire*’s SIR ROBERT PEEL, Poplar Street on Saturday by the members of the Woodlands Band, assisted by friends A vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Cheshire for the manner in which the arrangements had been carried out.”

1891 Census

43, Poplar Street

- [1] *Edward Cheshire* (37), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Ann E. Cheshire* (33), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *William Cheshire* (14), son, baker, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Edward Cheshire* (11), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Albert Cheshire* (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Annie Cheshire* (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Nellie Harris* (15), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 10/10/1891

“A very good gathering assembled at the house of Mr. *Cheshire*, SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Poplar Street, to inaugurate the first annual dinner of the SIR ROBERT PEEL Cottagers’ and Gardeners’ Flower and Vegetable Society.”

Edward Cheshire was convicted of permitting betting during the year ending 31/8/1892.

Smethwick Telephone 23/4/1892

“On Thursday evening, a well attended meeting of tradesmen was held at the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Grove Lane.....”

- They discussed the effects of the Local Board’s decision not to allow Sunday opening on small traders.

Smethwick Telephone 21/5/1892

“The committee of the Cottage Garden and Flower and Vegetable Society (which is held at the LONDON WORKS TAVERN, London Street and the SIR ROBERT PEEL, Poplar Street).....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/7/1892

“*Edward Cheshire*, landlord of the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Lower Cross Street, was summoned for the same offence [permitting gambling]. In this case Police-constable Miller said that on the 26th May he visited the house of the defendant. The landlady received bets from himself, Watson and other persons, one of whom was a woman He [Mr. Stubbins for the defence] pointed to the fact that the defendant had kept that house for eight years, that he had conducted the house in a very respectable manner, and that there had been no complaint against him Defendant was fined £5 and costs.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/9/1892

“The first annual flower and vegetable show was held at the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Poplar Street on Saturday, Sunday and Monday last.....”

Smethwick Telephone 8/10/1892 - Advert

“A Goose Club is held at SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Poplar Street.....”

Smethwick Telephone 29/7/1893 - Advert

“SIR ROBERT PEEL, Poplar Street, Smethwick. A Smoking Concert will take place every Friday evening at 7.30pm. Gentlemen Respectfully Invited. Proprietor – *E. Cheshire*. Pianist – Mr. Jones.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1894

“Inquest at Six Ways. – Yesterday morning Mr. Edwin Hooper (coroner) held an inquest at the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Poplar Street, Six Ways, touching the death of Thomas Turner (78), milkman, of Poplar Street who died on the 23rd inst. – It appeared that on the 16th inst. deceased was entering the GLOBE INN, when he fell down and injured his elbow and other parts of his body. He also had a fall on the Monday previous. – A letter was read from Dr. Arthur Jackson, stating that the deceased died of old age, accelerated by the fall. – A verdict of Accidental Death was returned.”

George Crabtree, beer retailer, 43 Poplar Street [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1898

“Joseph Butler (24) back of 24 Grove Lane, Smethwick, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SIR ROBERT PEEL INN, Poplar Street, and also with assaulting the landlord, *William John Ingram*, on the 9th inst.- Complainant stated that defendant went to his house and caused a disturbance, eventually striking him on the face.- Complainant intimated that he did not wish to press the case, and it was dismissed on payment of costs (11s).”

Arthur Harvey, beer retailer, 43 Poplar Street / Lower Cross Street. [1900]

1901 Census

42+43, Poplar Street – Tavern

- [1] *Arthur Harvey* (34), licensed victualler and jeweller, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Nellie Harvey* (33), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Arthur William Harvey* (6), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Maggie Davies* (21), general servant, born Cardiff;
- [5] *Lizzie Thompson* (23), general servant, born Ireland:

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

1911 Census

44, Poplar Street

- [1] *Thomas Goff* (52), publican, born Leamington;
- [2] *Sarah Ann Goff* (50), wife, married 27 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Annie Goff* (24), daughter, warehouse, screw works, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Kate Goff* (22), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Emma Goff* (20), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Thomas Goff* (18), son, turner, engineering works, born Birmingham;
- [7] *Harold Goff* (16), son, driller, engineering works, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone - Letter from Miss G. Winspear, Oldbury

“.....I remember the licensee was named *Goff*, and when the Goffs left it was taken over by a Mr. *Stanley* who later committed suicide.”

John Thomas Kirk – see also LONDONDERRY.

Sidney Bowyer – see also ROYAL OAK, Tipton.

William Henry Taylor, beer retailer, 42, Poplar Street. [1935], [1936]

Arthur William Whitehouse – see also ABBEY and PARK.

Malcolm Sidney Davies – see also CROWN AND ANCHOR.

[1965]

Closed
Demolished



SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN

154, Foundry Lane, (Slough Lane), (Soho Foundry Lane), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell and Co. [1897]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Stokes [1861] – [1870]
Mrs. Emma Stokes [1871] – [1873]
Miss Sarah Stokes [1878]
James Weaver [1879] – [1884]
Mrs. Sarah Eden [1890]
Thomas Field [1891] – **1911**;
Richard Marsh Williams **(1911 – 1914)**;
Frank Read **(1914 – 1916)**;
Charles Read **(1916 – 1919)**;
Frank Read **(1919 – 1931)**;
Frank Arthur Etheridge **(1931 – 1941)**;
William McRae **(1941 – 1942)**;
William Thomas Taylor **(1942)**;
Sarah Taylor **(1942 – 1943)**;
Harry Worthington **(1943 – 1944)**;
William Jacob Hope **(1944 – 1955)**;
Thomas George Edwin Wallis **(1955 – 1956)**;
John Morris **(1956 – 1958)**;
Alfred William Freer **(1958 – 1960)**;
Alan John Capstick **(1960 – 1961)**;
Samuel Moore **(1961 – 1963)**;
Alan Richard Arthur Harrod **(1963 – 1965)**;
Raymond Truby **(1965)**;
Raymond White **(1965 – [])**
Millicent Edwards [1997]



1997

NOTES

It was situated on the north side of Foundry Lane.

It had a beerhouse license.

John Stokes, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

1861 Census

Slough Lane – SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN

- [1] *John Stokes* (41), publican, born Handsworth;
- [2] *Emma Stokes* (44), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Emma Stokes* (14), daughter, born Handsworth;
- [4] *Mary Ann Stokes* (12), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Sarah Stokes* (12), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Jane Stokes* (10), daughter, born Handsworth;
- [7] *Martha Stokes* (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Maria Stokes* (5), daughter, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Foundry Lane – THE FOUNDRY TAVERN

- [1] *Emma Stokes* (50), widow, publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Emma Stokes* (23), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Sarah Stokes* (21), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Mary Ann Stokes* (21), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Jane Stokes* (18), daughter, born Handsworth;
- [6] *Martha Stokes* (16), daughter, born Handsworth;
- [7] *Maria Stokes* (14), daughter, born Smethwick:

James Weaver issued tokens from here.

1881 Census

154 Foundry Lane

- [1] *James Weaver* (46), publican, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Ellen Weaver* (57), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Laura Weaver* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Kate Cook* (15), general servant, born Dudley Port:

James Weaver – see also BOILERMAKERS ARMS.

1891 Census

SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Field* (25), beerhouse keeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Laura Field* (25), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Oliver S. Field* (4 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Annie E. Duckworth* (16), general servant, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 23/2/1895

“The first annual supper was held last Monday night at the SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN (Mr. *T. Field's*) in connection with the Sick and Dividend Society held at this house. There are over 60 members in the society.....”

Smethwick Telephone 1897

“Building Committee The committee recommended that the following plans be approved.....H. Mitchell and Co. proposed extension of licensed area of SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN.....”

- These plans were approved at the licensing sessions on 8th September 1897.

Smethwick Telephone 13/5/1899

“At an inquest held before Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) at the SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN, Foundry Lane, Smethwick, on Wednesday morning, several jurymen complained of being summoned on the jury. Mr. Ludlam, of Soho Street, said they were called away from their business at 10.30 that morning, which was only half an hour before the time fixed for the inquiry, and they had to walk more than a mile to get there. He considered it disgraceful and scandalous. Whenever an inquest was held, the shopkeepers of Six Ways were summoned to serve on the jury. That morning everyone came from Soho Street. It transpired that Councillor H. Raybould had been summoned, but he failed to appear when his name was called.- The Coroner said that Councillor Raybould ought not to have been summoned, because he attended on the last jury. He should excuse his absence in consequence.- Mr. *H. Hinchley* [landlord of the CRYSTAL PALACE] (another juror) said he thought the police officer should have looked about in the neighbourhood for jurymen, and not fetch them all the way from Six Ways. They did not mind doing their share, but they objected to being summoned time after time.- Mr. Ludlam said he was fetched away from his business, which was his living. He might as well be in the army.- It was also mentioned that two jurymen had had to close their shops in order to answer the summons.- Another jurymen observed that he should there were no respectable people at that end of Smethwick, or they would never have fetched them from Six Ways.- At the close of the inquest, the Coroner informed the officer engaged in the case that as far as possible he should summon men who lived in the neighbourhood of the inquest, and not call upon the same people time after time.”

- The inquest had been on 6 months old William Carney, who had been fed some ‘fat bacon’ which caused convulsions.

Smethwick Telephone 4/11/1899

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) held an inquest at the SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN, Foundry Lane, on Tuesday morning, concerning the death of Peace Caroline Cunliffe (84), who resided at 26, Albert Road, Smethwick, and who died suddenly on Saturday night Death from Natural Causes.”

1901 Census

154, Foundry Lane – FOUNDRY TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Field* (34), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Laura Field* (34), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Oliver Field* (10), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Gwendoline Field* (18), niece, barmaid, born Stafford;
- [5] *Alice Jakeman* (34), general servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Weekly News 20/4/1901

“A well attended meeting of the Committee of the West Bromwich and District Licensed Trade’s Protection and Benevolent Association, was held on Wednesday evening at the SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN, Foundry Lane, Smethwick, the president (Mr. J. Round) occupying the chair. There was also present Messrs. T. Brennand (vice president), E. Pointon (secretary) G. West, P. Higgins, W. Higgins, J. Fullwood, J. Rollason, T. Capsey, G. Woolley, S. Baggott, G. Bertram, A. L. Bonas, T. Harris, D. Bagnall, L. Wilkes, T. Field, &c.

A discussion took place with regard to the Child Messenger Bill.

The Chairman said the Bill as at present constituted was very unreasonable and simply ridiculous. License holders in the Black Country, he believed, were all of the opinion that some reformation in the trade was necessary, and he considered that if the age limit were reduced from 16 to 12 years, and the penalties which it was proposed to place upon publicans transferred to the senders of the children, all the members of the trade would approve of the measure. (Hear, hear)

The latter were desirous of effecting an improvement in the conditions under which they traded, and they would listen with pleasure to any reasonable and sensible movement to bring this about, but it was absurd to say they should not be allowed to serve a boy or a girl under 16 years of age.

A Member: They are often married by then.

Mr. Woolley remarked that very young children were simply a nuisance to the publican.

In reply to a member, the chairman said he did not think the presentation of a petition to the local members of Parliament requesting them to oppose the bill would be of any good whatever.

Ultimately, on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Fullwood, a resolution was unanimously passed deciding to communicate with Sir Henry Meysey Thompson, Bart, and Mr. Ernest Spencer, MP, urging them to use their influence in securing a reduction of the age limit for serving children with intoxicants, and also a modification in the penalties it was proposed to inflict upon license holders..

A committee consisting of the Chairman, Messrs. T. Edwards, T. Capsey, A. L. Bonas, and G. West, was appointed to make arrangements in connection with the annual excursion of the association.

The Chairman was elected a delegate to attend the annual conference of the Licensed Victuallers' National Defence League, to be held at Colston Hall, Bristol, on May 15th and 16th next.

A vote of condolence was passed with the family of the late Mr. T. H. Corbett, who was for many years a member and trustee of the association.

A vote of thanks was passed to the president for presiding.”

Smethwick Weekly News 26/10/1901

“William Davies, of the Black Patch, was charged with being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of the SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN, kept by Mr. *Thomas Field*, on the 17th inst.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe, who appeared to prosecute, said defendant went to the house and Miss Eadon refused to serve him. He would not go, and Mrs. *Field* sent for the police. The man ultimately left, after giving a great deal of trouble. There was practically no defence, and defendant was fined £1 6s 6d including costs.”

Thomas Field was a committee member of the West Bromwich and District LVA [1902]

1911 Census

Foundry Lane – SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN

[1] *Richard Marsh Williams* (25), publican, born Birmingham;

[2] *Agnes Martha Williams* (24), wife, married 2 years, assisting in business, born Cleobury Mortimer;

[3] *Louisa Williams* (19), sister, assisting in business, born Birmingham;

[4] *Samuel James Williams* (15), brother, jewel case maker, born Birmingham:

William Jacob Hope – see also STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT.

Alan John Capstick – see also CROWN.

Alan Richard Arthur Harrod – see also UNION.

Raymond Truby – see also OLD TALBOT.

[2013]



2008



2013

SOW AND PIGS

65, Bearwood Hill, (Oldbury Road), (Birmingham Road), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Downing, Holly Lane
Henry Mitchell and Co.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired on 6th January 1893)

LICENSEES

Elizabeth Horton [1818]
Thomas Scott [1835]
Mary A Scott [1839] – [1841]
Hannah Scott [1841] – [1842]
Edward Scott [1850]
Samuel Hall [1851] – [1864]
John Bolton [1864] – [1870]
James Thornet [1872]
T G Bristow [1873]
Joseph Sankey [1878]
Richard Joseph Mould [1879]
Dennis Mould [1881]
Richard Joseph Mould [1883] – **1892**);
John Sheath (**1892** – []
Clara Harrison [1893]

NOTES

Oldbury Road [1851]
Oldbury Road [1864], [1865] - John Bolton
Birmingham Road [1864], [1865] - S. Hall

Smethwick Telephone 9/2/1884

'Smethwick By An Old Inhabitant' [childhood memories]

“.....Refreshed and invigorated [in the SEVEN STARS] we turn to the right, and ere reach the Brook come upon two hostelries the SOW AND PIGS and the RED COW in the open space between these houses, the ‘fancy’ congregated to bait the bull or pitch their cocks in deadly combat.....”

1841 Census

Bearwood Hill

- [1] Mary Scott (35), publican;
- [2] Emma Scott (10);
- [3] Sarah Scott (5), born Staffordshire;
- [4] Hannah Scott (5), born Staffordshire;
- [5] Edward Dudley, manservant:

1861 Census

Bearwood Road – SOW AND PIGS Public House

- [1] *Samuel Hall* (44), engine smith, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Jane Hall* (31), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Samuel Hall* (19), son, engine smith, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Sarah Ann Hall* (13), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Emma Hall* (7), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Joseph Hall* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *James Hall* (1), son, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Mary Anne Stibbs* (13), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

John Bolton was convicted twice “in past 3 years” - August 1870.

1881 Census

Bearwood Hill - Public House

- [1] *Dennis Mould* (72), horse dealer, born Harborne;
- [2] *Deborah Mould* (69), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] *Joseph Mould* (42), licensed brewer, born Harborne;
- [4] *Charlotte Mould* (39), daughter, dressmaker, born Harborne;
- [5] *Elizabeth Mould* (31), daughter, barmaid, born Harborne:

1891 Census

65, Bearwood Hill – SOW AND PIGS

- [1] *Robert (sic) J. Mould* (52), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Deborah Mould* (79), mother, widow, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Hannah Mould* (50), sister, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Charlotte Mould* (47), sister, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 9/1/1892

“Unreserved Sale, SOW AND PIGS INN, Bearwood Hill, Smethwick.

Mr. W. H. Pass is favoured with instructions from Mr. *Mould*, who is leaving, to be sold by auction on the above premises on Monday next, January 11th 1892, a quantity of household furniture and the whole of the brewing plant and other effects comprising – set of mahogany bedsteads and hangings, chest of drawers, deal tables, mahogany drinking tables, mash tub, deal vats, 12 spirit casks, 90 gallon cask, valuable fermenting vessel, bagatelle table with slate bottom, 2¾ pockets of hops and numerous other effects.”

Smethwick Telephone 1/10/1892

“Adjourned Licensing Sessions [28/9]. Mr. *John Sheath*, SOW AND PIGS, Bearwood Hill made application for a provisional license for new premises to be erected on the proposed new line of road. Mr. Walker (from the office of Messrs. E. & A. Caddick), in supporting the application, stated that the Smethwick Local Board were desirous of carrying out certain improvements at Bearwood Hill, and had applied to Messrs. Mitchell for a piece of land. This rendered it absolutely necessary to pull the house down. Mr. J. C. Stuart, surveyor to the Local Board, gave evidence as to the improvements which the Board proposed to carry out. – The Hon. A. C. G. Calthorpe asked why it was proposed to alter the name of the house from the SOW AND PIGS to the PARK INN. Mr. Walker, “Because people don’t like saying they have been to the SOW AND PIGS but they don’t mind saying they have been to the PARK. (Laughter).” - Granted”

Smethwick Telephone 22/7/1893

“Amelia Bates, of Bearwood Road, Smethwick, was summoned by *Clara Harrison*, of the SOW AND PIGS INN, for assaulting her on the 15th inst. Mr. J. S. Sharpe defended. Complainant stated that on Saturday night, defendant visited her house, and without any provocation whatever, struck her on the face, and threw a jug of beer over her. She could assign no reason for the assault, except it was because defendant’s husband visited the house occasionally. – Several witnesses gave corroborative evidence. – William Harrison, husband of the last named complainant, was charged with assaulting Amelia Bates on the same date. The latter stated that she went to the public house for husband, when she was struck by Mrs. *Harrison*, and afterwards thrown out by the company. Harrison who was not in the house at the time of this disturbance, then came up and struck her across the mouth, causing it to bleed. – Defendant stated that Mrs. Bates was causing a disturbance, and he requested her to go away. She then picked up some stones to throw at him, and he merely put his arm up to prevent her. Mrs. Bates was fined 16s, including costs, and the case against Harrison was dismissed.”

Closed

SPON CROFT

292, (314), (274), Oldbury Road / Spon Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Thomas Lloyd, Oldbury Road, Smethwick
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. [1894]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [1990's]

LICENSEES

Thomas Lloyd [1870] – [1891]
Joseph Woolley [1900] – **1905**);
Samuel Allen (**1905 – 1906**);
Walter Hodgetts (**1906 – 1907**);
Charles Gwynne (**1907**);
Joseph Andrews (**1907 – 1910**);
Alfred Shenton (**1910 – 1918**);
Emily Elizabeth Shenton (**1918 – 1919**);
Alfred Shenton (**1919 – 1931**);
Arthur Benton (**1931 – 1941**);
Eric Rothery Ellis (**1941 – 1947**);
William Edward Tonkinson (**1947 – 1962**);
Edna Tonkinson (**1962 – 1963**);
Paul Joseph Byrne (**1963 – []**)
John Benson (**1990 – []**)

NOTES

314, Oldbury Road [1881], [1883], [1890]
274, Oldbury Road [1891]
292, Oldbury Road [1901], [1909], [1911]

It was situated on north east side of Oldbury Road

SPONCROFT TAVERN [1871], [1881], [1891], [1894]

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Lloyd, beer retailer, Oldbury Road. [1870], [1878], [1879]
Thomas Lloyd, beer retailer, 314, Oldbury Road. [1883], [1890]

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – SPON CROFT TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Lloyd* (39), beer seller, born Northfield;
- [2] *Julia Lloyd* (33), wife, born Harborne;
- [3] *Bertha Lloyd* (12), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Julia Lloyd* (9), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Thomas Lloyd* (7), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *William Lloyd* (4), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Alice Lloyd* (1), daughter, born Smethwick:

1881 Census

314, Oldbury Road - SPON CROFT TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Lloyd* (49), beer retailer, born Northfield;
- [2] *Julia Lloyd* (43), wife, born Halesowen;
- [3] *Bertha Lloyd* (22), assistant barmaid, born Harborne;
- [4] *Thomas Lloyd* (17), scholar, born Harborne;
- [5] *William Lloyd* (14), scholar, born Harborne;
- [6] *Alice Lloyd* (11), scholar, born Harborne;
- [7] *Sarah A. Lloyd* (8), scholar, born Harborne;
- [8] *Louisa Lloyd* (5), scholar, born Harborne;
- [9] *Edith Lloyd* (7 months), born Harborne:

1891 Census

274, Oldbury Road – SPONCROFT TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Lloyd* (59), publican, born Northfield;
- [2] *Julia Lloyd* (53), wife, born Quinton;
- [3] *Thomas Lloyd* (27), son, fitter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Alice Lloyd* (21), daughter, school teacher, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Sarah A. Lloyd* (18), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Louisa Lloyd* (15), daughter, school teacher, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Edith Lloyd* (10), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 11/8/1894

“Smethwick Local Board. Building Committee. The committee recommended that the following plans be approved Mr. E. Cheshire, alteration to the SPON CROFT TAVERN.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 16/3/1901

“Mr. A. Betham, deputy coroner held an inquest on Tuesday morning at the SPON CROFT TAVERN, West Smethwick, respecting the death of *Thomas Buchanan Tillson* (43), hairdresser of Oldbury Road, who died under singular circumstances on Monday afternoon. From the evidence of the widow it appeared that the deceased partook of a hearty dinner on Monday, and afterwards shaved a customer, but he was seized with a fit of coughing, and expired almost immediately. He had always enjoyed good health.

Dr. Ashton said in his opinion deceased died from apoplexy, and the jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.”

1901 Census

292, Oldbury Road – SPON CROFT

- [1] *Joseph Woolley* (49), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Jane Woolley* (46), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Thomas Woolley* (19), son, student, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Louisa Bates* (20), barmaid, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Fanny Shepherd* (17), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Joseph Woolley's daughter married *Billy Williams*. – see OLD HOUSE AT HOME

J. Woolley was a committee member of the West Bromwich and District LVA. [1902]

Joseph Andrews, beer retailer, 292, Oldbury Road. [1909]

He was the son of *Mary Ann Andrews* of the CROWN.

He held the Midland Counties swimming sprint championship.

He played water polo for Smethwick.

William Edward Tonkinson – see also COTTAGE SPRING, Tipton.

Smethwick Telephone 14/4/1951

'White Swan became Dirty Duck' by *W. Ellery Jephcott*

"*Joe Andrews* held the license of the SPON CROFT TAVERN for a few years, and was followed by *Alfred Shenton* A native of Birmingham, he [*Alfred Shenton*] was apprenticed to the jewellery trade, but did not like it, so ran away and joined the 1st Staffordshire Regiment. He became a sergeant and served in Egypt, India, and Burma, before leaving the army in 1898. He was recalled to the colours on the outbreak of the South African War, and had three years in South Africa In 1909 he became licensee of the SPON CROFT TAVERN Mr. *Shenton* converted a loft into a dining room where he catered for shilling dinners."

1911 Census

292, Oldbury Road

- [1] *Alfred Shenton* (37), beerhouse keeper, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Emily Elizabeth Shenton* (32), wife, married 8 years, assisting in business, born Cubbington, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Albert Edward Shenton* (5), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Ellen McAdams* (20), general servant, born Lemegan, Ireland:

Alfred Shenton, beer retailer, 292, Oldbury Road. [1912], [1914]

See also IVY BUSH.

Smethwick Telephone 17/8/1918

"The magistrates assented to the transfer of the SPON CROFT TAVERN to Mrs. *Shenton*, whose husband has joined the colours."

Smethwick Telephone

'Rub-a-dub Memories of the Old Washtub'

".....The licensee I recall was Mr. *Shenstone*, who was a very nice chap except when he was suffering from one of his recurring bouts of gout in the feet - at which time he became a changed character and virtually unapproachable."

Provisional Order of Removal of license of PLOUGH INN granted on 11th February 1931.

Thomas Shenton, beer retailer, 292, Oldbury Road. [1935], [1936]

It closed on 6th June 1935.
The original pub was demolished circa 1938.

It was rebuilt on opposite side of Spon Lane, on the site of Thomas Mallin's large house.
It opened on 7th June 1935.
The license was transferred from the PLOUGH, Oldbury Road..

A team from here were champions of the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League, 'A' section in 1948.

Smethwick Telephone 3/1/1964 - Advert

“Twistland. SPON CROFT HOTEL. Pop in tonight [Friday] and Sunday. For the latest with the greatest. 8pm. Come early to avoid disappointment. Fully licensed. Admission 3s.”

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

John Benson was born in Smethwick.

Paul Joseph Byrne – see also CROWN AND ANCHOR, and LONDON WORKS TAVERN.

It closed in 1995.
It was demolished in 1999.
A temple was built on the site.



c1935

SPON LANE TAVERN

31, Spon Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.

Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired 6th January 1899) [1909]

LICENSEES

John Calloway [1839] – [1850]

Samuel Underhill [1851] – [1861]

Joseph Underhill [1861] ?

Mrs. Harriet Underhill [1864] – [1879]

George Besant [1890] – **1892**;

Edward Viner **(1892)**;

Robert Henry Davenport **(1892 – 1897)**;

Walter Dayson **(1897 – []**

Alfred Chambers [1901]

Joseph Moore [1909] – manager.

NOTES

It was situated on west side of Spon Lane, to the south of the entrance to Chance's glassworks.

John Calloway, beer retailer, Spon Lane. [1841]

Black Country Bugle - Pub of the Month

“.....*Sam Underhill's* Basin Farm became better known as the SPON LANE TAVERN.....”

1851 Census

Spon Lane

[1] *Samuel Underhill* (41), victualler, born Oldbury;

[2] *Harriet Underhill* (37), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Harriet Underhill* (9), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;

[4] *Myra Underhill* (6), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;

[5] *Mary Underhill* (5), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;

[6] *Samuel Underhill* (3), son, born West Bromwich;

[7] *John Underhill* (2), son, born West Bromwich;

[8] *Hannah Barns* (20), general servant, born West Bromwich;

[9] *Emma Parish* (19), general servant, born Smethwick;

[10] *William Roberts* (17), brewer / general servant, born Halverchurch [Alvechurch ?], Warwickshire:

Samuel Underhill was also a baker and shopkeeper. [1860]

1861 Census

Spon Lane

- [1] *Samuel Underhill* (51), licensed victualler, born Langley;
- [2] *Harriet Underhill* (47), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Harriet Underhill* (19), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Myra Underhill* (16), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Mary Underhill* (15), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *John Underhill* (12), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [7] *William Underhill* (9), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [8] *Nancy Louisa Underhill* (5), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Mary Byrnes* (26), domestic servant, born Ireland;
- [10] *Catherine Flanagan* (16), domestic servant, born Ireland:

1871 Census

Spon Lane - SPON LANE TAVERN

- [1] *Harriet Underhill* (57), widow, licensed victualler, born West Bromwich;
- [2] *Myra Underhill* (26), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Mary Underhill* (25), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *John Underhill* (22), son, beer retailer, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *William Underhill* (19), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Nancy Underhill* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Sarah Tew* (25), general servant, born Buckingham:

A license for music and singing was granted on 28th September 1891.

Smethwick Telephone 7/2/1891

“*George Besant*, publican, of Spon Lane, West Smethwick, was summoned for keeping a carriage without having first obtained a license for same Fined £1 2s 6d and costs.”

1891 Census

Spon Lane – SPON LANE TAVERN

- [1] *George Besant* (38), publican manager, born Nailsea, Somerset;
- [2] *Clara Besant* (36), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Elsie Besant* (12), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Ernest Besant* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Jane Hartwell* (19), general servant, born West Bromwich:

Smethwick Telephone 17/10/1891

“*George Besant*, landlord of the SPON LANE TAVERN was summoned for opening, keeping and using his premises for the permission of gambling on the 1st October £10 fine and costs (£12 19s 6d in all).”

Smethwick Telephone 29/10/1892

“*Henry Robert Davenport* (sic), landlord of the SPON LANE TAVERN, West Smethwick, was charged with selling intoxicating liquor during prohibited hours on Sunday 16th inst. Mr. *Davenport* has kept the SPON LANE TAVERN for 7 or 8 months and held it on lease for 40 years, he had spent a considerable amount of money on the house and was consequently very careful in conducting his business to the satisfaction of the law.”

– He was fined 10s and costs.

Robert Henry Davenport's license was renewed in September 1893 after he was cautioned as to the future conduct of his house.

Smethwick Telephone 15/5/1897

“Joseph Green (40), Oxford Road, Smethwick, was charged with attempting to steal money from the till of Mr. *J. R. Davenport*, landlord of the SPON LANE TAVERN, on Tuesday, the 4th inst. – Mrs. Davenport said that at 10.30 on the day named she heard money jingling in the bar, and on going there she saw prisoner leaning over the counter, and attempting to abstract some money from the till. In answer to Mr. Glover, who defended, witness said that prisoner had always been straightforward before this occurrence. He had been in her husband’s employ as a drayman for about three months. He once lost 16s belonging to complainant which he had collected from a customer. – Police constable Collier deposed that he arrested the prisoner on the 5th inst., and in answer to the charge he said, “I am sorry now; But if the Missus had not come I should have had some”. - Mr. Glover said that defendant always had a good character, and as it was his (complainant’s) first appearance he thought the Bench might deal with the case under the First Offenders’ Act. – Mr. Smith [S. Smith, magistrate] said this course could not be adopted and the prisoner was fined £1 and costs; or, in default, one month’s imprisonment.”

1901 Census

31, Spon Lane – SPON LANE TAVERN

- [1] *Alfred Chambers* (42), innkeeper, born Wolverhampton;
- [2] *Jane Chambers* (41), wife, born Wednesbury;
- [3] *Alfred Chambers* (17), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Lilly Chambers* (16), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Marian Chambers* (2), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Gladys Chambers* (4 months), daughter, born Birmingham:

Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd. were fined £5 and £7 costs, on 22nd October 1904. for permitting the premises to be used in contravention of the Betting Act.

The license renewal was objected to in 1904 on the grounds that “the licensed premises have been ill-conducted” and secondly “That the premises are structurally unsuitable.”

The license was transferred to the OLD HOUSE AT HOME in February 1913.

SPREAD EAGLE

Taylors Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

NOTES

Closed

It became the Spout House.

It was demolished in 1937.

STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT

111, Rolfe Street / Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell and Co. [1891]
Cheshire's Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Richard Jones [1871]
Mary Phillips [1881]
Walter Slim [1890]
Henry Bromwich [1891]
Jefferies [1893]
John Henry Clark [1897]
Joseph Edwards [1900]
Charles James Walden [1901]
Frederick William Smith [1903] - **1904**);
William Tickle (**1904 - 1913**);
William Arthur Newall (**1913 - 1920**);
William Bert Gordon (**1920 - 1932**);
Frederick Charles Sheppard (**1932 - 1940**);
William Edward Dennis Mahony (**1940 - 1942**);
William Jacob Hope (**1942 - 1944**);
James Round (**1944 - 1948**);
Thomas Henry Weaver (**1948 - 1959**);
Donald George Thursfield (**1959 - 1963**);
Sidney Joseph Ramsbottom (**1963 - [**



c1930

NOTES

It was situated on the south side of Rolfe Street

It had a beerhouse license.

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT INN

- [1] Richard Jones (28), blacksmith (unemployed), born Harborne;
 - [2] Sophia Jones (24), wife, born Oldbury;
 - [3] William A. Jones (11 months), son, born Harborne;
 - [4] Emily Jones (19), general servant, born Broseley, Shropshire:
- [Richard Jones was probably also the licensee.]

1881 Census

111, Rolfe Street - STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT

- [1] Mary Phillips (45), beerhouse keeper, born West Bromwich;
- [2] Charles Phillips (19), son, moulder, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Emma Phillips (19), daughter, born West Bromwich:



Walter Slim, beer retailer, 111 Rolfe Street. [1890]

1891 Census

111, Rolfe Street – STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT INN

- [1] *Henry Bromwich* (62), circular sawyer and publican, born Warwick;
- [2] *Amelia Bromwich* (60), wife, born Upton Gray, Hampshire;
- [3] *Robert Bromwich* (25), son, tube drawer, brass works, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Philip Bromwich* (20), son, brass tube polisher, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Emily Bromwich* (14), daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 29/8/1891

“Annual Licensing Sessions, Handsworth Mitchell & Co. plans for extensive alterations to the STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT public house in Rolfe Street, which, it was explained, was in a very dilapidated condition at the present time.”

Smethwick Telephone 8/10/1892 - Advert

“The STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT (Top of Rolfe Street). The extensive alteration and decoration are now complete. Which makes the above house the Finest Beerhouse in the district. Commodious club room and smoke room. Mitchell’s noted prize medal ales. Cigars etc. of the finest quality.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/2/1893

“Smethwick Petty Sessions. Joseph Taylor (20) of Rolfe Street, Smethwick was charged with being on premises for an unlawful purpose on Tuesday night – Mr. *Jefferies*, landlord of the STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT, Rolfe Street, stated that he found defendant in the back yard of his house at 11.25pm on the day named. He had had to get over a wall 7 feet high to get there. In answer to a question by witness he said he had got over for the purpose of finding a night’s lodgings – fined 2s 6d and costs or 7 days.”

Smethwick Telephone 20/1/1894

“The annual dinner of the employees of the London and North Western Railway and Messrs. Pickford and Co. took place at the STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT on Saturday last. . . .”

John Henry Clark, beer retailer, 111 Rolfe Street. [1897]

Joseph Edwards, beer retailer, 111 Rolfe Street [1900]

1901 Census

Rolfe Street – STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT INN

- [1] *Charles James Walden* (26), publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Ellen Walden* (24), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Charles Walden* (51), father, hatter, born Kenilworth:

1911 Census

Rolfe Street – STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT

- [1] *William Tickle* (43), beerhouse manager, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Annie Tickle* (45), wife, married 20 years, assisting in business, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Beatrice Ellen Tickle* (15), niece, typist and shorthand, born Allesley, near Coventry;
- [4] *Fanny Bloxham* (23), niece, servant, born Allesley, near Coventry:

William Tickle – see also WAGGON AND HORSES, and ROYAL EXCHANGE, West Bromwich.

A wine license was granted on 9th February 1938, and was confirmed on 6th April 1938.

Frederick Charles Sheppard – check also BOOT AND SLIPPER.

A Publican's license was granted and was confirmed on 5th April 1948.

[1961]

It closed in 1982.



2004



2007

STAR

151, Rolfe Street, (Bridge Street), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

James Nichol, Selly Oak
Harry Sheldon, Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

John Sheldon [1851] – [1855]
Joseph Skeet [1858]
Mrs. Charlotte Skeet [1860] – [1873]
James Nichol [1879] – **1893**;
Thomas Hanks [1891] manager
John Henry Nichol (**1893 – 1905**)
John William Powell [1901] manager
William Hill (**1905 – 1906**);
Edmund Charles Rooker (**1906 – 1907**);
Herbert Tuckley (**1907**);
Thomas Webb [1909] ?
John James Underwood (**1907 – 1914**);
George Yarnell (**1914 – 1921**);
Louis Stephen Foster (**1921 – 1924**);
William Thomas Palmer (**1924 – 1935**);
Albert Smith (**1935 – 1938**);
Norman Whichello (**1938 – 1939**);
Joseph Henry Beckley (**1939 – 1941**);
Alfred Howard Barnett (**1941 – 1943**);
Ernest George Dunford (**1943 – 1946**);
Edgar Taylor Dwyer (**1946 – 1954**);
Leonard John Duckworth (**1954 – 1956**);
Bernard Charles Davies (**1956**);
Matthew Joseph Kevin Hyland (**1956 – 1957**);
Bernard Williams (**1957 – 1958**);
William Kidney (**1958 – 1961**);
Harold Fortnam (**1961 – 1963**);
Frederick Fern (**1963 – 1964**);
Ernest Wilde (**1964 – []**)
Jeet S Torna [1997]



1997

NOTES

It was situated on the south side of Rolfe Street.

It was known locally as the "Wrexham".

STAR [1855], [1864], [1870], [1872], [1879], [1883], [1897], [1900], [1935], [1936], [1942],
[1948], [1959], [1961], [1981], [1986]
STAR AND COMMERCIAL [1893], [1997]
COMMERCIAL [1892]

John Sheldon, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1851]

The first meeting of the Local Board of Health was held here on 16th June 1853.
[This was their only meeting here.]

Mrs. *Charlotte Skeet* = Mrs. Charlotte Street

1861 Census

Rolfe Street

- [1] *Charlotte Street* (54), widow, innkeeper, born Smethwick;
- [2] Elizabeth Baker (21), servant, born Halesowen;
- [3] Ann Robinson (63), servant, born Smethwick;
- [4] Sarah Ann Robinson (24), visitor, born Smethwick:

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – STAR COMMERCIAL INN

- [1] *Charlotte Street* (61), widow, licensed victualler, born Harborne;
- [2] John Sheldon (42), son, born West Bromwich;
- [3] Catherine Higgins (18), domestic servant, born Harborne:

1881 Census

151, Rolfe Street

- [1] William Roberts (27), barman, born Liverpool;
- [2] Catherine Roberts (27), wife, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 25/7/1885

"On Monday evening a Conservative gathering was held at the STAR HOTEL, Rolfe Street. There was a large attendance, Mr. Henry Mitchell presiding....."

1891 Census

151, Rolfe Street – The WREXHAM

- [1] *Thomas Hanks* (37), licensed victualler's manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] Ellen R. Hanks (35), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] Oliver J. Hanks (9), son, born Birmingham;
- [4] Ernest D. Hanks (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [5] Nellie J. Hanks (9 months), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] Jane M. Cox (13), servant, born West Bromwich:

Thomas Hanks – see also GEORGE, Wednesbury.

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1892

"On Tuesday morning an inquest at the COMMERCIAL INN, Rolfe Street....."

Smethwick Telephone 17/9/1892

“Death of Mr. James Nichol proprietor of the WREXHAM, Rolfe Street died at his residence, Frankton, Selly Oak.....”

1901 Census

Rolfe Street – WREXHAM

[1] *John William Powell* (26), vaults manager, born Wellington, Shropshire:

1911 Census

151, Rolfe Street – WREXHAM Public House

[1] *John James Underwood* (51), hotel manager, born Smethwick;

[2] *Clara Rebekah Underwood* (48), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Esther Calloway* (77), mother in law, widow, born Wolverhampton;

[4] *Joseph Thomas Carrington* (21), lodger, fitter, motor cars, born Smethwick;

[5] *Rose Amphlett* (21), niece, clerk, cycle manufacturer, born Smethwick;

[6] *William Smith* (19), barman, born Bradley;

[7] *May Matilda Calloway* (4), niece, born Smethwick;

[8] *May Hall* (18), servant, born Handsworth:

John James Underwood was born in Halford Street, Smethwick c. 1860.

He was described as a beerhouse keeper in August 1895.

He died in January 1934, aged 74, and was buried at the Uplands Cemetery.

See also – SWAN, BRIDGE, and BOILERMAKERS ARMS, Smethwick, and CAPE HOTEL, West Bromwich

Joseph Henry Beckley – see also HORSE AND JOCKEY, West Bromwich, and SEVEN STARS, Smethwick.

Edgar Taylor Dwyer – see also UNION.

Frederick Fern – see also WAGGON AND HORSES.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1981/2], [1986/7]

A team from here were champions of the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League ‘B’ Section in 1985.

It closed in 1997.

It reopened as GLASSI JUNCTION Bar & Restaurant. [2012], [2013]



2004



2013

STATION

1, (4), Rolfe Street / Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Cheshire's Brewery Ltd. [1893], [1898], [1900], [1909]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Josiah Gutteridge [1870] – [1883]
John Wardle (1894 – [1897])
Mrs. Emma Wardle (1897 – [1898])
Walter Hodgetts (1898 – 1903); manager
Cheshire's Brewery Co. Ltd. (1903 – 1914);
William Blagburn Williamson [1911] manager
Mary Alice Williamson (1914 – 1921);
Frederick Herbert Ryder (1921 – 1925);
Leonard Orme (1925 – 1944);
George Thomas Baker (1944 – 1947);
Ernest Searle Brierley (1947 – 1956);
John Thomas Pratt (1956 – 1957);
Samuel Hancock (1957 – 1961);
Thomas Lowe (1961 – 1963);
Thomas William Lefevre (1963 – [])



c1900

NOTES

4, Rolfe Street [1881]
1, Rolfe Street [1901], [1911], [1935], [1942], [1948], [1959], [1961], [1965]

It was situated on the north side of Rolfe Street.

Josiah Gutteridge = Joseph Guttridge

Josiah Gutteridge, beer retailer, Rolfe Street [1870], [1879]

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – STATION INN

- [1] *Josiah Gutteridge* (36), retail brewer, born Tipton;
- [2] Elizabeth L. Gutteridge (28), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Samuel P. Gutteridge (8), son, scholar, born Tipton;
- [4] Josiah M. Gutteridge (5), son, scholar, born Balsall Heath;
- [5] Mary E. Gutteridge (3), daughter, scholar, born Balsall Heath;
- [6] Lucy J. Nicklin (14), domestic servant, born Tipton;

STATION HOTEL,
ROLFE STREET SMETHWICK.
Handsomely-fitted with every Convenience, and
Comfortable Smoking and Other Rooms.
E DWARD CHESHIRE'S FINEST SELECTED
ALES AND STOUTS SUPPLIED.
A Handsome Commodious Club Room to Let for
Meetings, and Provident Societies. Apply to—
J. WARDLE - - PROPRIETOR.

Advert 1894

Dudley Herald 16/6/1877

“At West Bromwich Police Court on Saturday [9/6] before John Laws (24) and Samuel Hodgetts (21) were charged with passing a counterfeit half crown. On the 6th of June Laws went into the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick, kept by *Joseph Gutteridge* and in exchange for a glass of ale tendered a half crown, receiving the change. He then went to a beerhouse on the opposite side of the street. The peculiar conduct of the prisoner going so quickly from one public house to the other aroused the suspicion of a cabman at the stand opposite the STATION INN Laws was remanded for one week, Hodgetts discharged.”

1881 Census

4, Rolfe Street - STATION INN

- [1] *Josiah Guttridge* (46), beer retailer, born Tipton;
- [2] Elizabeth L. Guttridge (38), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] Samuel P. Guttridge (18), son, clerk, born Tipton;
- [4] *Josiah M. Guttridge* (14), son, school teacher, born Balsall Heath;
- [5] Mary E. Guttridge (13), daughter, scholar, born Balsall Heath;
- [6] Rebecca Gough (18), domestic servant, born Tipton:

Josia Gutteridge – see also RAILWAY.

Smethwick Telephone 30/9/1893

“Mr. Edward Cheshire applied for a license for a house to be erected opposite the London and North Western Station in Rolfe Street. He proposed to spend something like £1500 in the erection of the building. He pledged himself to give up the license of ‘The SEVEN STARS’, Rolfe Street, if the magistrates granted this application.”

- It was granted.

Smethwick Telephone 22/9/1894

“Near the site of the old STATION INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick, has arisen a noble structure, an indication, we venture to hope, of a new era of prosperity in this erstwhile busy thoroughfare. By the use of enormous quantities of concrete and Staffordshire bricks the apparently insuperable difficulty of bringing the ground floor level with the raised street has been skillfully surmounted, and we heartily congratulate the enterprising owner (Mr. E. Cheshire of the Windmill Brewery), and the well known architect (Mr. W. Jenkins of Birmingham) on the result of their labours. The building has been successfully and substantially completed by Messrs. J. Harley and Sons, of Rolfe Street. Its proximity to the principal station in Smethwick should prove it of great service to commercial and other travelers. The house contains a spacious bar, with out-door department entirely separate from all drinking parts, a fine smoke-room, and a pleasantly situated club room, with lavatory &c; and also the coziest domestic accommodation. The corridors and passages are wide, lofty and well ventilated, there is a beautiful staircase and the cellarge is second to none. In the interest of the traveling public, the proprietor should apply as soon as possible for a full license. The house has been opened this week by the landlord, Mr. *J. Wardle*, chief of the Fire Brigade, and late of the STORES, High Street.”

J. Wardle was married to *Emma*.

Smethwick Telephone 24/11/1894 - Advert

“STATION HOTEL, Rolfe Street, Smethwick / Handsomely-fitted with every Convenience, and Comfortable Smoking and Other Rooms. / Edward Cheshire’s Finest Selected Ales and Stouts Supplied. / A Handsome Commodious Club Room to Let for Meetings and Provident Societies. Apply To:- / *J. Wardle* - - Proprietor.”

Smethwick Telephone 22/12/1894

“STATION INN Sick and Dividend Society – The annual meeting in connection with this society took place at the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, on Tuesday evening, when Mr. Bishop presided. The statement of accounts was presented, a dividend of 9s 3d each was declared, after leaving 1s per member in hand. There are upwards of 80 members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 29/12/1894

“The third annual dinner of the Smethwick postmen was held at the STATION INN on Wednesday last, when there was a good number of postmen and their friends.....”

Smethwick Telephone 13/4/1895 - Advert

“STATION HOTEL, Rolfe Street, Smethwick / Handsomely fitted with every convenience and comfortable smoke and other rooms. / Agent for Cheshire’s Ales. / An Ordinary daily from 12.30 to 2.30 / A handsome, commodious Club Room to let for Meetings and Provident Societies / Apply to *J. Wardle* proprietor”

Smethwick Telephone 12/12/1896

“The STATION INN Sick and Dividend Society, after a successful year, has after meeting all expenses, declared a dividend of 9s 3d per member.”

AND

“There was a smoking concert at the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, on Monday evening, in connection with Court ‘William Caldow’ (A.O.F.).....”

John Wardle, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 11/9/1897

“The Licensing Sessions *Emma Wardle* of the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, applied for a full license Mrs. *Wardle* held a license for the sale of beer to be consumed on the premises; therefore she was simply asking for an enlargement of the license she already held. The grounds of the application were that within the last few years Smethwick – especially the locality in which the house was situated – Had very largely developed, and in the vicinity a theatre [Theatre Royal] was being erected, the requirements of which his client thought she would be able to supply when it was in full swing. There was no refreshment room at the railway station, and she was frequently applied to by passengers for what she asked that day.”

- It was refused.

Smethwick Telephone 6/11/1897

“*Emma Wardle*, landlady of the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, Smethwick, was summoned for being drunk on her own licensed premises on October 19th Mrs. *Wardle* had kept the STATION INN for three years, and previous to that had the license of THE STORES, High Street, for fourteen years, without a stain on her character, this being the first time she had been summoned for anything. Evidence in support of this statement was given by Mrs. *Wardle* Lilly Round (barmaid), Arthur Round (barman), Jane Russell (charwoman), Rebecca Jones (of Oldbury), Mary Ann Neale (sister of the defendant) and Selina Brown (sister in law of the defendant).- Ultimately the Bench dismissed the case. Mr. Harding remarking that they thought there had been a mistake.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1898

“On Monday last members and friends of Court ‘William Caldow’ A. O. F. met at the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, to perform a very pleasant task in presenting to the secretary (Bro. George Jones) a very handsomely framed emblem and badge.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/4/1898

“*J. Wardle* of the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, writes with reference to a case heard at the Police Court last week, in which Ellen Lunn, Crocketts Lane, summoned Horatio Smith The woman asserted that she was drinking in the STATION INN, but this Mr. *Wardle* denies, pointing out that he refused to serve her.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/5/1898

“*Emma Wardle* (50), landlady of the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, was summoned for being drunk on her own licensed premises on the 22nd ult. Mr. J. S. Sharpe appeared to defend. Police-constable Smith stated that at 9.45 pm on the date in question, he visited the defendant’s house, and saw her in the bar. She was drunk and staggered into the passage, where he told her she was drunk and incapable of conducting the business. She replied that she had only had one ‘Bass’ that day A fine of 10s and costs (7s) was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/9/1898

“An application was made by *Walter Hodgetts* for a full license for the STATION INN Mr. O’Connor appeared in support of the application, and pointed out that the hotel was a large and commodious building, situate close to the new theatre, and was largely frequented by commercial travelers. If the application was granted, they were prepared to surrender an ‘on’ beer license in the same locality – one which was obtained prior to 1869, and was not, therefore, under the complete control of the Bench as others might be. The house was already licensed for beer, and they would really be granting no additional facilities for drinking The applicant in his evidence said that between June 1st and September 1st 1,094 persons had asked at his house for wines and spirits, but had, of course, to be refused.- Superintendent Ainsworth offered objection to the application, pointing out that the back premises overlooked a towing path, and there was nothing to prevent people entering that way, while the police would not be able to see. Access could also be had from the back of the adjoining premises.- Councillor E. Cheshire (Cheshire’s Brewery Ltd., the owners of the house) explained that arrangements were being made for the house to be perfectly enclosed, and the objections of the police would be amply met.”

- It was refused. He made a further application in 1899, which was also refused.

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies STATION INN.- This society held its annual meeting on Tuesday evening; Mr. *W. Hodgetts* presiding. Mr. J. Bishop (secretary) presented the balance-sheet and annual report, which provided for a dividend of 8s for 66 members.....”

AND

“STATION HOTEL Shooting Club. The second monthly competition in connection with the above club took place on Tuesday and Friday, May 7th and 10th.....”

Walter Hodgetts, beer retailer, 1, Rolfe Street. [1900]

1901 Census

1, Rolfe Street

[1] *Walter Hodgetts* (41), public house manager, born Edgbaston;

[2] Alice Hodgetts (37), wife, born Ladywood;

[3] Arthur Walker Hodgetts (10), son, born Quinton;

[4] Mabel Hodgetts (19), niece, school teacher, born Hall Green;

[5] Mary Ann Hughes (40), domestic servant, born Northfield:

Smethwick Weekly News 18/5/1901

“Handsworth and District Shooting League. A League match between Wattville Tavern and STATION HOTEL took place at Wattville Street, on Wednesday.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 17/5/1902

“We congratulate the Smethwick Air Gun Club on the conclusion of a most successful season. The members are excellent shots, and have richly deserved the honours they have won.

On Wednesday evening Mr. *Walter Hodgetts*, of the STATION HOTEL, Rolfe Street, the headquarters of the club, showed our representative the Birmingham and District Challenge Cup, of which the club have happily become the possessors.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 7/6/1902

“On Thursday evening the annual dinner in connection with the Shooting Club (held at this house) took place. A very large company assembled to partake of an excellent repast put upon the tables by Mr. and Mrs. *W. Hodgetts*. As reported a few weeks ago, this club has obtained the championship of the Handsworth and District Shooting League, and also won 16 cups and 6 medals in open competition with 45 teams of Birmingham and district.....”

Court ‘William Caldow’ (AOF) met here. [1903]

A Full license was granted on 4th March 1903.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

Smethwick Telephone 29/8/1908

“The Ratepayers’ Association. A meeting of this association was held at the STATION HOTEL on Tuesday night. There was a good attendance, Mr. W. Davis presided.....”

1911 Census

1, Rolfe Street – STATION HOTEL

[1] *William Blagburn Williamson* (46), publican, manager, born Newcastle on Tyne;

[2] *Mary Alice Williamson* (44), wife, married 19 years, born West Smethwick;

[3] *Herbert Leurs* (33), barman, born Evesham;

[4] *Fanny Harrison* (25), servant, born Smethwick:

William Blagburn Williamson – see also JUNCTION STORES, Smethwick and RED LION, West Bromwich and THREE CROWNS, West Bromwich.

Smethwick Telephone 27/4/1912

“Air-gun shooters assembled in good number at the STATION HOTEL, on Tuesday evening, when the annual meeting of the local League was held. Mr. J. S. Round (president) was in the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/9/1912

“An interesting meeting took place at the STATION HOTEL, under the auspices of the Smethwick branch of the Postmen’s Federation, when the opportunity was taken of making a presentation to Mr. H. Elwood, who was successful in passing the examination qualifying him to the promotion as sorting clerk. It was a matter of cordial congratulation that he obtained eighth place in the list of 200 competitors. He has now taken up his duties at the Birmingham Head Office, after 15 years’ service as postman at Smethwick.

The present consisted of a case of cutlery, which was suitably inscribed. It was handed to Mr. Elwood by the President of the Smethwick branch of the Federation (Mr. T. J. Haynes.....”

Smethwick Telephone 15/12/1928

“Members of the Smethwick Branch of the Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers honoured three of their number at a special meeting at the STATION INN, Rolfe Street, on Monday. Free cards of membership were presented to Mr. William Shilton, Mr. T. Wood and Mr. Edward Shakespeare, who each have been associated with the Branch for over fifty years.....”

George Thomas Baker – see also GEORGE, Pottery Road, Oldbury.

John Thomas Pratt – see also BRITISH QUEEN, Oldbury.

Thomas Lowe – see also IVY BUSH.

Thomas William Lefevre – see also IVY BUSH.

It had a football team. [1965]

It closed in 1970.

Demolished

The site was later occupied by Davis Motors.

STORES

127, High Street / Brasshouse Lane, (510, Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK

OWNERS

W. S. Welch, High Street, Smethwick

LICENSEES

Harry Baker [1881] – [1887]
J Wardle [1883] – **1894**);
H Salloway (**1894 – 1895**)
Minton Edwin Teddington [1898] – **1905**);
George Samuel Johnson (**1905 – 1910**);
Frederick Skipp (**1910 – 1913**):

NOTES

It was situated between Rolfe Street and Cross Street.

1881 Census

510, Oldbury Road – public house

- [1] *Harry Baker* (28), beerhouse keeper, born Dudley;
- [2] *Mary Baker* (34), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Catherine Mary Wood* (9), step daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Minnie Wood* (8), step daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Major Dain Wood* (6), stepson, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Christopher Wood* (5), stepson, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Alice Maud Baker* (9 months), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [8] *Ellen Hartill* (20), general servant domestic, born Campden, Gloucestershire:

Harry Baker - See GEORGE.

[Did *Harry Baker* marry *Mary Wood*, widow (?) of *Major Wood*, of the GEORGE?]

Harry Baker, beer retailer, 510 Oldbury Road [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 25/10/1890

“Carpenters and Joiners Annual Dinner. Last Saturday evening the above society held their annual dinner at the club house (Mr. *Harry Baker*'s) THE STORES, High Street, Smethwick.”

Smethwick Telephone 11/9/1893

“Robert Cooper of Stony Lane, Smethwick was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of The STORES, High Street, Smethwick, on Saturday night a fine of 2s 6d and costs, or 7 days was imposed.”

Smethwick Telephone 5/1/1895

“A Sick and Dividend Society has been formed at the STORES, High Street, Smethwick. The membership now numbers 65. Anyone desirous of becoming enrolled should apply at once to the host (Mr. *H. Salloway*).”

Smethwick Telephone 18/5/1895

“THE STORES, Corner of High Street and Brasshouse Lane.....”

Smethwick Telephone 31/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies THE STORES, High Street. This society, held at Mr. *Toddington*'s, declared a dividend of 8s 3d per member.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/12/1899

“Sick and Dividend Society a dividend of 10s 6d per member was declared.....”

1911 Census

127, High Street

- [1] *Frederick Skipp* (59), licensed victualler, born Gloucester;
- [2] *Sarah Skipp* (46), wife, married 28 years, born Northampton;
- [3] *Gladys Skipp* (21), daughter, born Shifford;
- [4] *Cyril Smith* (15), son, scale making, born Cheltenham;
- [5] *Adeline Smith* (17), daughter, born Cheltenham;
- [6] *Dorris Skipp* (12), daughter, born Cheltenham;
- [7] *Edward Skipp* (10), son, born Cheltenham;
- [8] *Marjory Skipp* (8), daughter, born Cheltenham;
- [9] *Harold Skipp* (5), son, born Cheltenham:

It closed on 27th November 1913 under the Compensation Clauses of the Licensing Act 1910.
It became part of W. S. Welch and Son, drapers and furnisners.

STORK

11, (17), Harding Street / Brook Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Holden Brewery Co.Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Samuel Harris [1871]
Joseph Slim [1878] – [1899]
James Adrian Slim [1900]
George Levick [1901] – **1949**);
Sidney Alan Swinden (**1949 – 1956**);
Ernest Arthur Round (**1956 – 1960**);
Matilda Round (**1960 – []**)

NOTES

It was situated on the south side of Harding Street.

17, Harding Street [1890], [1891], [1900], [1901], [1909], [1911], [1942], [1948], [1959], [1961], [1965]
11, Harding Street

It had a beerhouse license.

It had a half crown screwed to the counter in the bar.

1871 Census

Brook Street / Harding Street

- [1] *Samuel Harris* (75), beerhouse keeper, born Broseley, Shropshire;
- [2] *Mary Harris* (79), wife, born Broseley, Shropshire;
- [3] *Thomas Harris* (34), son, born Birmingham:

Joseph Slim, beer retailer, Harding Street [1878], [1879]
Joseph Slim, beer retailer, 17 Harding Street. [1883], [1897]
He issued tokens from here.

1891 Census

17, Harding Street

- [1] *Joseph Slim* (48), widower, publican, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Clara Slim* (24), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Adrian J. Slim* (21), son, engine turner, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Laura A. Slim* (19), daughter, born Bilston;
- [5] *John B. Slim* (11), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *William J. Slim* (3), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Annie M. Dean* (39), relative, widow, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 11/3/1899

“Died. *Slim* – On the 4th inst. suddenly at 17, Harding Street [STORK], *Joseph Slim*, aged 56. Deeply lamented. Interred at Holy Trinity Church.”

AND

“Mr. H. A. Pearson held an inquest at the NEW INNS, Union Street, on Monday, touching the death of *Joseph Slim* (56), landlord of the STORK INN, Harding Street, who died from the effects of poison on Saturday night. Mr. J. M. Lones was foreman of the jury.- *James Adrian Slim*, son of deceased, stated that his father had enjoyed fairly good health, but had been depressed for some time. He had never heard his father threaten to take his life, but he had often expressed a wish to die. The deceased was about to have a new lease of the premises, for which he was going to pay a great deal more money, and this had troubled him considerably. On Saturday he seemed in his usual spirits, and was serving the customers until closing time. About 11.30 they all went to bed, but shortly afterwards he heard shouts of ‘Adrian’. He immediately went to his father’s assistance, and found him lying on the floor by the side of his bed, apparently in no pain. Deceased died in a very few minutes. The glass produced was one in which deceased took whisky and water, and was quite empty, while the paper which Detective Collier found behind a chest of drawers had contained poison.- Emily Slim, wife of the last witness, stated that deceased had been strange in his manner of late. On Saturday night she heard deceased call for her husband, and when she got into the room, he said ‘I have poisoned myself’. He said she would find the glass on the table. Witness tasted the liquid which was left in the glass, but could only taste whisky. There was a little blue powder on the table, but no sediment in the glass.- Dr. James Milne, assistant to Dr. Urquhart, stated that he had attended deceased for gout and chest affection. The kidneys and heart were not healthy as a result of the gout, but deceased appeared to be getting better. He had noticed how depressed deceased had been. On Saturday he was sent for and found deceased lying on the floor quite dead. The paper had contained Battle’s vermin killer, which contained about 25 percent of strychnine.- In reply to the coroner, witness said that a sixpenny packet would be a very large dose. He explained that a moderately small dose would produce convulsions, deceased had taken a very large quantity, which would kill almost immediately. The cause of death would be strychnine poisoning.- Detective Collier deposed to finding the paper produced behind a chest of drawers. He had made enquiries, and had found that deceased had purchased a sixpenny packet of Battle’s vermin killer from a local chemist. He examined the poisons book and found that all the conditions of the Pharmacy Act had been complied with. He was told that the deceased was personally known to the chemist, and that at the time the poison was purchased he explained that it was for the purpose of killing rats.- In his opinion the deceased had emptied the contents into his mouth, and then rinsed his mouth with the whisky and water. This was accounted for by the fact that no sediment was found in the glass.

The Coroner said it was a very sad case.- The son was re-called and questioned by the jury. He said that there had been no family quarrel at all, and deceased had no domestic trouble whatsoever.- The jury returned a verdict of ‘Suicide whilst temporarily insane’.”

James Adrian Slim was the son of *Adrian*.
He was married to Emily.

James Adrian Slim – see also JUNCTION STORES

1901 Census

17, Harding Street

[1] *George Levick* (26), coach builder at railway carriage works and owner of beerhouse, born Smethwick;

[2] *Laura Levick* (27), wife, manageress of beerhouse, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Clara Levick* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *Elsie Levick* (3), daughter, born East Leigh, Hampshire;

[5] *Robert Levick* (1), son, born Smethwick;

[6] *Jane Taylor* (50), mother in law, born Smethwick:

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

George Levick, beer retailer, 17, Harding Street. [1909], [1912], [1914], [1935], [1936]
He issued tokens from here.

1911 Census

17, Harding Street – The STORK

[1] *George Levick* (36), beer retailer, born Smethwick;

[2] *Laura Levick* (37), wife, married 16 years, assisting in the business, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Clara Levick* (15), daughter, assisting in the business, born Smethwick;

[4] *Elsie Levick* (13), daughter, school, born Eastleigh, Hampshire;

[5] *Robert Levick* (11), son, school, born Smethwick:

A Publican's license was granted on 6th February 1951, and confirmed on 3rd April 1951.

A team from here were champions of the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League, 'A' section, in 1969.

It closed on 31st March 1970.

SWAN

56, (55), (61), (90), Oldbury Road (High Street) / Holly Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Jemima Harris and David Darby, John Street, Lozells, Birmingham
John Davenport and Sons Brewery Ltd.
Atkinsons Brewery (acquired in 1926)
Peter Walker and Co, Ltd., 31a Colmore Road, Birmingham (acquired 1929)
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (acquired in 1959) [1965]

LICENSEES

John Rudge [1822]
Joseph Morris [1834] – [1835]
John Rudge [1839] – [1858]
Mrs. Jane Rudge [1860] – [1870]
John Frederick Rudge [1871] – [1884]
Robert Vernon [1889] – **1899**); non-resident
Baron John Davenport (**1899 – 1919**); [probably Davenport's Brewery]
John James Underwood [1900] – [1903] manager
Albert Edward Williams [1911] manager?
John Groves (**1919 – 1927**);
Major Darby (**1927 – 1929**);
John Lee Ireland (**1929 – 1930**);
William Robert Lewis Roach (**1930 – 1934**);
Samuel Ward (**1934**);
John Groves (**1934 – 1937**);
Gilbert Webley (**1937 – 1945**);
Nathan William Smith [1942] ?
John Marie Becks (**1945 – 1947**);
Geoffrey Edward Roland Farnhill (**1947 – 1949**);
Edmund John Reeves (**1949 – 1951**);
Geoffrey Edward Roland Farnhill (**1951 – 1955**);
Ernest Walter Clay (**1955 – 1960**);
Horace Jellicoe Holder (**1960 – 1965**);
Ronald Joseph Stewart (**1965 – []**)
Charles Wheeler []
Jose Silva [1987]
Sandra Weaver [2001]



NOTES

High Street [1851]
61, Oldbury Road [1861]
90, Oldbury Road [1883], [1890]
55, Oldbury Road [1891], [1897], [1900],[1901]
56, Oldbury Road [1909], [1935], [1936], [1942], [1965]

It was situated on the south side of Oldbury Road.
The original pub was located on the opposite side of the road. It was possibly demolished when Galton Bridge was built.

SWAN HOTEL [1892], [1903]
SWAN AND GALTON GARDENS [1873], [1889]

It was a home brew house.

Commercial inn. [1839]

It had a bowling green.

Joseph Morris was also a maltster. [1834]

John Rudge was also an ale and porter brewer. [1850]
John Rudge was also a common brewer. [1851], [1855]

John and Samuel Rudge, brewers, SWAN Brewery. [1850]

1861 Census

61 Oldbury Road – SWAN INN
[1] *Jane Rudge* (40), widow, innkeeper, born Netherton;
[2] *S. A. Rudge* (20), son, grocer's assistant, born Smethwick;
[3] *F. Rudge* (14), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
[4] *J. W. Rudge* (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
[5] *Ann Bird* (36), servant, born Evesham;
[6] *William Hartley* (38), servant, born Bridgnorth;
[7] *Samuel Bird* (13), waiter, born Smethwick:

Jane Rudge was also a grocer. [1864]

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – THE SWAN
[1] *John Frederick Rudge* (25), innkeeper, born Smethwick;
[2] *Mary Rudge* (20), wife, born West Bromwich;
[3] *Thomas William Rudge* (20), brother, engine fitter, born Smethwick;
[4] *Matilda Clarke* (16), domestic servant, born Smethwick;
[5] *Daniel Lunn* (53), widower, ostler and gardener, born Oswestry:

West Bromwich Weekly News 19/6/1875

“At the West Bromwich Police Court on Saturday a case of much interest to publicans was set down for hearing. Mr. *John Frederick Rudge*, of the SWAN INN, Smethwick, and owner of the Galton Gardens, was summoned by the police for selling intoxicating drinks on his grounds without a license. The offence alledged against the proprietor of the house was that at certain periods of the year he held galas at his place, and that liquors were sold in a field at the back of the house, but which could not be lawfully be considered part of the licensed premises. Mr. H. Jackson defended.- Police sergeant Astbury was called to prove the case. He stated that on Whit Monday there was a fete given at the back of defendant’s home in a field, situated about eight yards from the back of his buildings. It was enclosed from the road by high boarding, and was separated from the house by two fences seven or eight feet high. Intoxicating drinks were sold in canvas tents which were put up in different parts of the field. Some of the people gained access to the ground by entrance through the house, and others through the doors at the top of the field The case was one of the greatest importance to his [Jackson’s] client, and for that matter to other people as well, because the question involved what constituted licensed premises. In this instance he should be prepared to show the Bench that, for thirty years, the field had been used for gala purposes at holiday times and Mr. *Rudge* himself had sold liquors on this ground for three or four years consented to visit the defendant’s place, and the case was adjourned for a month.”

1881 Census

Oldbury Road

- [1] *J. Frederick Rudge* (36), licensed victualler and brewer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *J. F. Rudge* (28), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Frederick S. Rudge* (6), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *William H. Rudge* (4), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *E. Baker* (24), barmaid, born Oldbury;
- [6] *A. Fox* (18), general servant (domestic), born Oldbury:

Evening Star 14/1/1882

“Mr. E. Hooper, coroner, held an inquest yesterday at the SWAN INN, respecting the death of Timothy Marshall (69), boiler maker, formerly residing at No 85, Oldbury Road.

Ann Maria Hunt said the deceased was her father, and lived with her. On Sunday last he had been drinking all day, and returned home about 10.30 in a state of intoxication. He went to bed shortly afterwards, but got up again and fell down the stairs. His head was badly injured, and he remained unconscious until death, which took place on Wednesday.

In reply to the coroner, witness said deceased was a man of intemperate habits, and had fallen down stairs several times before.

The jury returned a Verdict of Accidental Death.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/7/1884

At the Birmingham Police Court on Wednesday morning, before Mr. Kynnersley (Stipendiary), an application was made by Mary Jane Hadley, now residing at 120, King Edwards Road, Birmingham, for an affiliation order upon *John Frederick Rudge*, landlord of the SWAN INN, Smethwick. Mr. A. Young (instructed by Mr. W. F. Hooper) appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Nathan (instructed by Mr. Wilson) for the defendant.

Mary Jane Hadley, the complainant, said she was a married woman, her husband being in America, where he had been since September 1881. Witness had been living in Holly Lane, opposite the defendant, whom she had known for about two years. Some time in July or August of last year, during the absence of the defendant’s wife at Blackpool, witness went to the defendant’s house and improper familiarities took place between them. A few nights afterwards the defendant threw some dirt at her window and induced her to pay another visit to his house, where she stayed some time. She went a third time, but never saw anyone at the house except the defendant. Mrs. Rudge shortly afterwards returned, but left again at the latter end of the year, after which the defendant renewed his relations with the witness. When it was discovered that witness was pregnant, the defendant said he would give her money and some of Mrs. Rudge’s clothes if she would keep the matter secret. He gave her several sums of money. Witness admitted that she had been intimate with other men. After the birth of the child, witness, in company with two other individuals, went to the offices of Mr. Hughes, solicitor, West Bromwich, and signed a paper.

In cross examination, she said Mrs. Rudge asked her to swear the child on the defendant, in view of certain divorce proceedings which were pending. Mrs. Rudge's sister and mother said they would make it a good thing for witness if she would swear the child. She was aware that the paper which she signed at Mr. Hughes's office was a declaration that a man named Cooper, with whom she had been intimate, was the father of the child, although she knew this to be untrue. Mrs. Rudge did not promise to pay her £20 the day the affiliation proceedings were over, and £30 the day the divorce came on.

In reply to Mr. Young, witness said she was a laundry woman. When witness went to Mr. Hughes's office at West Bromwich, Mr. Hughes said, 'Who is the father of the child, Mrs. Hadley?' Witness replied, 'Mr. *Rudge*, of course.' The solicitor said, 'You're not going to sign the declaration to that effect?' and witness answered, 'No, I am going to sign it on Cooper, on account of Mr. *Rudge*, who is having a divorce from his wife, and she is not to know of it.' The declaration was then produced, and was signed by witness, who afterwards went to an eating-house in New Street, West Bromwich where Harris paid for the refreshments witness and his friend Bently had.

Mr. Young here read the declaration, which set forth that although she was acquainted with *Rudge*, nothing wrong had ever taken place between them. She signed the declaration at the instigation of Harris, who told her that *Fred* – meaning *Rudge* – would see she was not short of money.

Further evidence was given to the effect that the defendant had given the complainant money through the agency of the man Harris, and had called at Hadley's mother's house for complainant.

The case for the complainant having concluded on Wednesday, Mr. Nathan opened the case for the defence. After pointing out that the case was a most unusual one, because it was practically and avowedly a step to other proceedings, he criticised the evidence for the complainant, and stated that he should be able to not only disprove the allegation against the defendant, but to prove that he was the victim of a wicked conspiracy, got up by Mrs. Rudge in view of her divorce proceedings. He should also prove what was well known outside, that the complainant was a woman of a very immoral character, and was habitually intimate with a number of men with whom she at different times cohabited.

Evidence for the defence was then called.

John Frederick Rudge, the defendant, said that last year his wife was away from home from the end of June till the 7th of July. It was true that on one occasion he threw stones at Mrs. Hadley's window at night, but he only did so to arouse the attention of a man named Hunt who lived there.

After other evidence had been given the Stipendiary made an order for the defendant to pay 5s a week and costs. Mr. Nathan gave notice of appeal."

Smethwick Telephone 29/11/1884

"Petty Sessions. Wednesday. The Smethwick Scandal. – *John Frederick Rudge*, publican, SWAN INN, Dudley Road (sic), surrendered to a warrant for non payment of bastardy arrears due to Mary Jane Hadley – upon the amount of the arrears £2 10s, with £7 11s being paid the defendant was discharged."

Smethwick Telephone 27/11/1948

'Public House Changes at West Smethwick' by W. Ellery Jephcott

".....At the rear of the old inn [SWAN] were the Galton Grounds, several acres in extent, which extended to St. Pauls Road and included the whole area now occupied by Draycott Road. Here was a circular track, where pedestrian events were regularly held, and many noted runners appeared. The area was also used for sports and fetes, at which balloon ascents used to be a popular feature."

Smethwick Telephone 8/6/1889 - Advert

"SWAN HOTEL, Galton Gardens, Smethwick / Proprietor – Mr. *Robert Vernon* / Begg to inform his numerous friends and the public generally that the above House has been renovated and is now complete with every accommodation for Large or Small Parties / Spacious Billiard and Smoke Room. / The Bowling Green is now in Splendid condition. Quoits etc. / Dancing on the Green every Monday and Saturday evening, with an efficient Quadrille Band in attendance. / First Class Refreshments at Moderate Prices. / Large Assembly Room suitable for Dinners, Meetings or Clubs to be held at reasonable terms. / Great Attraction for Whit Monday. Match for £20 Between Two Local Runners. Also 125 yards Handicap on Saturday and Monday June 8th and 10th. 1st Prize £2; 2nd 12s 6d; 3rd 7s 6d / The Grounds have been put in good order / Admission Threepence Each / Good Stabling."

1891 Census

55, Oldbury Road – SWAN HOTEL

- [1] *Robert Vernon* (28), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Vernon* (33), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *William J. Vernon* (1 month), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *John Crowson* (37), visitor, living on his own means, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Betsy Clements* (50), widow, nurse (monthly), born Wednesbury;
- [6] *Louisa Williams* (17), general servant, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 26/9/1892

“Flower show at SWAN HOTEL. A very successful flower show was held at the SWAN HOTEL, Oldbury Road on Monday evening. There were about 90 entries, the exhibits being staged in the billiard room.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/1/1895

“The sixth annual meeting of the Amalgamated Society of Trades was held at the SWAN HOTEL, Oldbury Road, Smethwick, when about 30 members sat down to a most excellent supper provided free by the worthy host (*Mr. J. Vernon*).”

Smethwick Telephone 12/11/1898

“*Mr. H. A. Pearson* (coroner) held an inquest at the SWAN HOTEL, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick on Tuesday afternoon, concerning the death of *Harriet Cook* (35), a married woman, who resided at 121, Roebuck Lane, and who died on Sunday night.- *Albert Cook*, husband of the deceased, stated that his wife had been confined to her bed for eighteen months through the use having gone from her legs. On Sunday night she became worse, and he went for a neighbour, but when he returned in about ten minutes she was dead. Deceased was a sober woman.- The Coroner reprimanded witness for treating the matter so lightly.- *Ann Moore* of Pitt Street, West Bromwich, stated that she went to visit deceased on Sunday night. Witness had not seen her for about three months previously, but she appeared much worse on this occasion, and she enquired whether a doctor had been consulted. Receiving an answer in the negative, she decided to send for one early on Monday as she had no money with her; but deceased almost immediately expired *Dr. J. B. Pitt* stated that he attended deceased about a year ago for a kind of blood poisoning, but he had not seen her since *Albert Cook* was re-called, and censured by the Coroner.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 24/2/1900

“On Friday last *Mr. W. Skidmore*, plumber and sanitary engineer, of Oldbury Road, gave a complimentary dinner at the SWAN HOTEL (host *Mr. J. Underwood*) when about thirty sat down to a splendid repast.”

1901 Census

55, Oldbury Road

- [1] *John J. Underwood* (41), hotel manager, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Clara R. Underwood* (39), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Esther Calloway* (67), visitor, widow, born Wednesfield Heath;
- [4] *Frank Soyce* (26), lodger, iron moulder, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Elizabeth Sheldon* (17), general servant, born West Bromwich:

John James Underwood was born in Halford Street, Smethwick c. 1860.

He was described as a beerhouse keeper in August 1895.

He died in January 1934, aged 74, and was buried at the Uplands Cemetery.

See also – STAR, BRIDGE, and BOILERMAKERS ARMS, Smethwick, and CAPE HOTEL, West Bromwich

Stanford Brothers, mineral water manufacturers were situated at the rear. [1903]

1911 Census

Oldbury Road – SWAN INN

- [1] *Albert Edward Williams* (28), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Olive Emma Amy Williams* (21), wife, married 5 years, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Eric James Williams* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Leslie Williams* (9 months), son, born Dudley;
- [5] *Liza Parkes* (22), servant, born Dudley;
- [6] *Gertrude Hollingmode* (14), servant, born Dudley;

It was demolished in 1934, and rebuilt.

Horace Holder was married to *Kathleen*.

He was a committee member of the West Bromwich, Smethwick and Oldbury LVA. [1965]
See also RAILWAY TAVERN, Smethwick, GREYHOUND, and QUEENS HEAD, West Bromwich.

Ronald Stewart was born in Smethwick circa 1933.

See also NEW INN.

News Telephone 2/7/1981 - Advert

“The SWAN / Oldbury Road, Smethwick / Presenting in Cabaret every Friday Night / 3rd July Mr. Greg Hunter (Male Vocalist) / 10th July Hobson’s Choice (Comedy Duo) / 17th July Sarah King (Female Vocalist) / 24th July Angel Cann (Vocalist) / 31st July Dev Shaun (Comedian) / Free and Easy every Saturday with Mr. Peter Salmon.”

Closed [2003]

It was demolished in 2004.

THE SWAN

OLDBURY ROAD, SMETHWICK

PRESENTING IN CABARET EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT

3rd JULY MR. GREG HUNTER (Male Vocalist)

10th JULY HOBSONS CHOICE (Comedy Duo)

17th JULY SARAH KING (Female Vocalist)

24th JULY ANGEL CANN (Vocalist)

31st JULY DEV SHAUN (Comedian)

FREE AND EASY EVERY SATURDAY WITH MR. PETER SALMON

Advert 1981

SWAN +

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Wright [1841] – [1842]

NOTES

Check OLD SWAN / WHITE SWAN

THIMBLEMILL

174, Thimblemill Road / Norman Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Enterprise Inns [2007]



2008

LICENSEES

John William Townend **(1928 - 1929);**
William Henry Williams **(1929 - 1933);**
Henry James Gallent **(1933 - 1935);**
Henry James Casley **(1935 - 1950);**
Albert Eugene Hems **(1950 - 1958);**
Leslie John Holder **(1958 - [1965])**

NOTES

Smethwick Telephone 10/3/1928

“..... Smethwick is very intimately concerned with the business transacted at the meeting of the Oldbury Justices on Wednesday.

The THIMBLEMILL HOTEL. For instance, the new hotel at the Thimblemill – which will receive the designation from its historic surroundings – will actually be within the confines of the Borough when it is opened shortly. There were several references to the scheme, which is regarded as ‘the last word’ in the matter of licensed houses. Mr. J. H. Hurst, KC, for instance, recalled that he made the application two years ago, and he said that it illustrated the kind of house which modern policy and the owners (Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers) are endeavouring to substitute for those which satisfied a less exacting public and less exacting Bench. The eminent counsel recalled the strenuous opposition from every side which assailed the proposal of the firm. But he ventured to think that not one who opposed the application, who saw the new hotel to-day, but would recognise that the opposition was entirely misconceived and that all those who came forward and said that the project was going to depreciate their property, would now see that every one of those fears were really ill founded and without justification.

The Justices confirmed their previous decision in regard to the THIMBLEMILL HOTEL.”

It originally came under the jurisdiction of Oldbury until 1st April 1928.

It opened on 5th April 1928.

The architects were Wood and Kendrick of West Bromwich.

Albert Eugene Hems – see also NEW TALBOT.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

[2012]

THREE CROWNS

13, Albert Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Butler and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

George Hicks [1861] – [1878]
J Grayer []
Henry Cooper [1888] – [1890]
Samuel Holloway Leech [1891]
John Prince [1897]
Joseph Aldridge [1903] – **1906**);
Samuel Allen (**1906 – 1907**);
George Butler (**1907**):

NOTES

It had a beerhouse license.

1861 Census

Albert Street – THREE CROWNS INN

- [1] *George Hicks* (61), retail brewer, born Yatton, Somerset;
- [2] Harriet Hicks (61), wife, born Congresbury, Somerset;
- [3] Henry Hicks (5), grandson, scholar, born Harborne:

George Hicks, beer retailer, Albert Street [1864], [1865], [1870], [1878]

1871 Census

Albert Street – THREE CROWNS

- [1] *George Hicks* (71), beer retailer, born Yatton, Somerset;
- [2] Harriet Hicks (71), wife, born Congresbury, Somerset:

J. Grayer issued tokens from here.

Henry Cooper, beer retailer, 13 Albert Street. [1890]

1891 Census

13, Albert Street – THREE CROWNS INN

- [1] *Samuel H. Leech* (48), publican, born Bilston;
- [2] Ann Leech (47), wife, born Lichfield;
- [3] Jenny Leech (25), daughter, born Walsall;
- [4] Samuel Leech (20), son, iron worker, born Bilston;
- [5] Lucy Leech (13), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [6] Harriet Leech (10), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [7] James Carter (45), brother in law, iron worker, born Rugeley;
- [8] Elizabeth Carter (40), sister in law, born Walsall Wood;
- [9] Elizabeth Carter (1), niece, born Wolverhampton:

Samuel Holloway Leech was married to Ann. She died in 1893.
See also RAILWAY, Bradley, Bilston.

Smethwick Telephone 24/2/1894

“Stephen Healey (25), of Albert Street, and James Boyle (27), of George Street, West Smethwick, were charged with assaulting Albert and Harry Bennington, brothers, of Oldbury Road and Feeder Street on the 10th inst. the two Benningtons went into the THREE CROWNS public house, Albert Street on the night of the date named. The defendants and a man named Gaden were also there. Albert Bennington had some words with Gaden, but no serious disturbance took place, and Gaden left the house. When he left, the defendant Boyle interfered, and took the matter up, endeavouring to get Harry Bennington to fight. He refused to enter into the disturbance, and went out of the house. He had no sooner got outside, when Boyle and Healey struck Albert Bennington, knocked him down and kicked him whilst he was on the floor. Hearing the disturbance, Harry Bennington returned to the house, and begged the two defendants, who were standing over his brother, to let him alone. They then turned upon him, knocked him down, and kicked him so badly that he was rendered insensible. He had to be taken to West Bromwich Hospital on a stretcher, where he was detained for a week In the course of the evidence it was stated that a boxing club was held at the public house, and that Healey was at the head of it.- Mr. J. H. Pearson said that there was no doubt Healey had been guilty of a very brutal assault, and it was lucky for him he was not brought up on a capital charge. He would have to go to gaol for three months with hard labour. Boyle would have to pay £1 and costs in each case (amounting in all to £3 8s); or in default of payment, go to gaol for 21 days in each case.”

John Prince, beer retailer, 13 Albert Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 9/4/1898

“On Monday afternoon, Mr. H. A. Pearson, the newly appointed coroner for the south east district of Staffordshire, held his first inquest at the THREE CROWNS INN, Albert Street, West Smethwick, concerning the death of Elizabeth Weaver, aged six months The evidence shewed that deceased had always been a very weak child, and had been attended by a doctor until shortly before its death.- The jury returned a verdict of ‘Death from Natural causes’.”

Samuel Allen was fined £2 and £2 17s 6d costs, on 4th March 1907, for permitting drunkenness.

The license was surrendered in 1907, as part of the package enabling the WATERLOO to obtain a license.

TRAVELLERS REST

76, Brasshouse Lane / Lewisham Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Joseph Hefford, West Bromwich
William Turner
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

William Bridges [1851] – [1861]
George Green [1861] – [1883]
Joseph Hefford [1890] – **1896**;
William Turner **(1896 – 1905)**;
Harry Shirley **(1905 – 1917)**;
Arthur Wakeman [1911] manager
Thomas Robert Holwell **(1917 – 1920)**;
William Philip Ash **(1920 – 1925)**;
Benjamin Harry Whittingslow **(1925)**;

NOTES

It was situated on west side of Brasshouse Lane.

William Bridges, beer retailer, Brasshouse or Halford Lane. [1851]

1851 Census

Brasshouse Lane – TRAVELLERS REST public house

- [1] *William Bridges* (46), retail brewer, born Lincolnshire;
- [2] *Ann Bridges* (42), wife, born Leicestershire;
- [3] *Mary Ann Bridges* (14), daughter, scholar, born Sparkbrook;
- [4] *James Bridges* (12), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [5] *William Bridges* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Samuel Bridges* (5 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Sarah Houghton* (12), house servant, born Kempsey;

1861 Census

Brasshouse Lane – TRAVELLERS REST

- [1] *George Green* (38), coal dealer, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary Ann Green* (32), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Mary Ann Green* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;

1871 Census

Brasshouse Lane – TRAVELLERS REST

- [1] *George Green* (45), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Mary J. Green* (25), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Mary A. Green* (15), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Agnes Stibs* (18), visitor, born West Bromwich;

1881 Census

76, Brasshouse Lane

[1] *George Green* (55), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;

[2] *Mary J. Green* (32), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Phoebe E. Green* (6), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *Matthew Shipley* (17), domestic servant, born West Bromwich:

1891 Census

76, Brasshouse Lane – TRAVELLERS REST

[1] *Joseph Hefford* (49), publican, licensed victualler, born Aldbury, Herefordshire;

[2] *Mary J. Hefford* (43), wife, born Spon Lane;

[3] *Lizzie Green* (16), stepdaughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *Phoebe Smith* (15), domestic servant, born West Bromwich;

[5] *Lue Reynolds* (17), general servant, born West Smethwick:

[It appears that Joseph Hefford married George Green's widow Mary J.]

Smethwick Telephone 12/1/1895

“On Wednesday morning, Mr. Edwin Hooper (coroner) held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, touching the death of *William Freeth* aged 6 years Death from natural causes.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/9/1896

“*James Evans* (23), of St. George Street, Smethwick, was summoned by *William Turner*, landlord of the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick, for refusing to quit the licensed premises when ordered to do so.- When the case was called on Mr. *Turner* said the defendant had apologized for his conduct, and he, therefore, wished to withdraw the case.- Superintendent *Ainsworth*, however, objected to this course being taken, pointing out that there was a record against the defendant.- The evidence was then taken, and defendant was fined 5s and costs, in default fourteen days imprisonment.”

Plans for alterations were approved at the Licensing Sessions on 8th September 1897.

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1898

“The annual supper in connection with the TRAVELLERS REST Sick and Dividend Society took place on Thursday evening, when 58 members sat down to a splendid spread provided by the host Mr. *W. Turner*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1898

“An inquest was held before Mr. A. A. *Betham* (acting coroner), on Thursday, at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Brasshouse Lane, concerning the death of *Kate Wilcher*, aged six months, who resided with her parents at 59, Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick, and who died suddenly on Monday last Death from natural causes.”

Smethwick Telephone 5/3/1898

“An inquest was held on Monday, before Mr. A. A. *Betham* (acting coroner) at the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Brasshouse Lane, concerning the death of *Albert Abel Rupert Beardsmore*, aged 2 years 8 months death from natural causes.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/11/1898

“*Joseph Green* (41), a labourer residing in Halfords Lane, Smethwick, visited the TRAVELLERS REST INN, Brasshouse Lane, last Saturday morning, and occupied one section of the bar all to himself. The barmaid had occasion to go into the kitchen and whilst there she heard a suspicious noise proceeding from the bar. She at once returned, and discovered *Green* leaning over the counter with his hand in the till. Of course, she called for assistance, and prisoner was prevented from leaving the house by two other customers and was now ordered to pay a fine of 20s including costs, or go to gaol for 14 days.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies TRAVELLERS REST INN.- The annual general meeting of this society was held on Tuesday. Mr. T. Graham presided Considering the heavy expenditure, owing to deaths and sickness, it gave general satisfaction.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 27/1/1900

“It was a very sad case which Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) had to inquire into at the TRAVELLERS REST, Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick on Thursday morning. The subject of the investigation was the death of a child named Louisa Rollinson (4) whose parents reside at Sandwell Place, Halfords Lane, Smethwick, and who died on Tuesday afternoon from the effects of burns. Accidental Death.”

West Bromwich Weekly News 17/11/1900

“Mr. A. A. Betham (Deputy Coroner), held an inquest at the TRAVELLERS REST, Brasshouse Lane, on Wednesday, concerning the death of Thomas Gibbs, the fourteen months’ old son of Frederick and Elizabeth Gibbs, of Middlemore Road, Smethwick, which took place on Monday. The child had been ailing during the previous week, and on the 5th inst was taken to Dr. Jackson’s surgery and attended to. It was not afterwards medically treated and on Monday the child died.

The Deputy Coroner commented upon the fact that the doctor was not again brought to see the child, and as the husband was earning 26s per week poverty could not be pleaded as an excuse.

The verdict was Death from natural Causes.”

1901 Census

76, Brasshouse Lane – TRAVELLERS REST TAVERN

- [1] *William Turner* (39), publican, born Stone;
- [2] *Beatrice Turner* (28), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Ethel M. Turner* (7), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Beatrice M. Turner* (5), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Lucie Turner* (3), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Fanny Davis* (22), general servant, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Nellie Harrison* (16), barmaid, born West Bromwich:

Teams from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1906/7], [1907/8]

1911 Census

76, Brasshouse Lane – TRAVELLERS REST

- [1] *Arthur Wakeman* (40), public house manager, born Bromsgrove;
- [2] *Lillie Wakeman* (38), wife, married 9 years, born Bingham, Nottinghamshire;
- [3] *Arthur R. Wakeman* (7), son, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Rose Kings* (18), domestic servant, born Bromsgrove:

The license was transferred to the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lewisham Road, in 1925.
It closed on 30th April 1925.

TRAVELLERS REST

Halfords Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Isaac Shuttleworth [1858]

NOTES

Check Brasshouse Lane.

TWO BREWERS

Queens Road, Londonderry, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Admiral Taverns [2007]

LICENSEES

William Bowser (1932 – 1940);
George Richard Morrell (1940 – 1948);
Leslie Mark Tarrant (1948 – 1951);
John Stockley (1951 – 1964);
John Henry 'Jack' Richards (1964 – 1965);
Frank Edward Smith (1965 – []
Steve Bayliss [] – 1987);



NOTES

Provisinal Order to remove license of BOOT AND SLIPPER was granted on 13th February 1932.
Final Oder granted on 7th July 1932.
It opened on 8th July 1932.

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1934

“The Entertainment Committee at the TWO BREWERS HOTEL, Queens Road, Londonderry, made the arrangements for a concert which was held on Wednesday evening. Contributions to an excellent programme were forthcoming from Mr. Gilbert Heyheard and Mr. James Jackson.....”

A women’s section of British Legion’s Londonderry Branch was founded in 1937, by five women, here.

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1938

“At a dinner held under the auspices of the TWO BREWERS Musical Society at Londonderry on Monday, a cheque for £60 was presented to the Smethwick Cripples’ Union.

The Society’s President (Mr. J. Stirrup) thanked the members for their generous support to the appeal on behalf of the Cripples’ Union, and mentioned that last year’s cheque totalled only £20.....”

A Heinkel III bomber crashed opposite here during World War Two.

Leslie Mark Tarrant – see also OLD HOUSE AT HOME.

John Stockley – see also GEORGE, Birmingham Road, Oldbury.

Jack Richards – see also WAGGON AND HORSES.

News Telephone 26/3/1981

“Hundreds of motor-cyclists from all over the country will be passing through Warley at the weekend as part of a ‘freedom rally’ to protest about proposed changes in the law relating to motor-cycles.

Bikers from as far away as Scotland and Yorkshire will be meeting at the TWO BREWERS pub in Smethwick on Saturday before riding to the Lickey Hills for a ‘freedom run’ through Birmingham to Sandwell Valley.

The protest has been organised by the Birmingham, Black Country and District Motor Cycle Action Group.

Committee member, Mr. Bob Davies, of Harvest Road, Smethwick said, ‘Basically, we’re trying to get as many motor-cyclists together as possible to draw attention to new proposals affecting riders.

‘Although 90 per cent of the new laws are good, they aren’t being made by people who ride bikes and we strongly object to the fact that such things as using headlights in the daytime will be compulsory – that’s why we’re calling this a freedom rally. We want freedom of choice.’.....”

Steve Bayliss was married to Annie.

[2006]

Closed [2007], [2008], [2009]

It was demolished in 2009.



2006



2007

TWO MILE OAK

Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph Edwards [1861] – [1865]

NOTES

1861 Census

Oldbury Road – 2 MILE OAK

[1] *Joseph Edwards* (45), engine driver and retail brewer, born Tipton;

[2] *Ann Edwards* (41), wife, born West Bromwich;

[3] *Emma(?) Edwards* (20), daughter, born Tipton;

[4] *Joseph Edwards* (18), son, labourer, born West Bromwich;

[5] *William Edwards* (16), son, labourer, born Aston;

[6] *Mary Ann Edwards* (14), daughter, scholar, born Winson Green;

[7] *Warwick Edwards* (12), son, scholar, born Bristol;

[8] *Sarah Edwards* (10), daughter, scholar, born Durdham, Gloucestershire;

[9] *Elizabeth Edwards* (8), daughter, scholar, born Durdham, Gloucestershire;

[10] *Fanny Edwards* (6), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich;

[11] *Adelaide Edwards* (2), daughter, scholar, born West Bromwich:

Joseph Edwards, beer retailer, Oldbury Road. [1864], [1865]

UNION

32, Upper Grove Street / Lower Cross Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Walter Harley, Clydesdale, Edgbaston
Holders Brewery Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Thomas Hankhorn [1883] – [1900]
Arthur Joyner Hussell [1901] – **1904**);
John Bench (**1904 – 1907**);
Gertrude Maud (Bench) Davis (**1907 – 1927**);
William Crutchley (**1927 – 1931**);
Frank Read Jnr. (**1931**);
William King (**1931 – 1954**);
Edgar Taylor Dwyer (**1954 – 1955**);
Alfred Oliver Lake (**1955 – 1960**);
Bernard Thomas Rollings (**1960**);
Albert Leslie Nutt (**1960 – 1961**);
Stanley Edwards (**1961 – 1962**);
Alan Richard Arthur Harrod (**1962 – 1963**);
Samuel Moore (**1963 – []**)

NOTES

It was situated on the north side of Upper Grove Street.

It had a beerhouse license.

Thomas Hankhorn = Thomas Hankon = Thomas Hankhon

Thomas Hankhorn, beer retailer, 32 Upper Grove Street [1883], [1890], [1900]

Smethwick Telephone 31/5/1890

“Smethwick Police Court. *Thomas Hankon*, landlord of the UNION INN, Lower Cross Street was summoned for being drunk on his licensed premises and further with permitting drunkenness on the 3rd inst.”
– He was fined 10s and costs for each offence.

A license for music and singing was granted on 28th September 1892.

Arthur Joyner Hussell was convicted, on 17th July 1901, for permitting drunkenness.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick Air-Gun League. [1907/8], [1908/9]

Gertrude Maud Bench married Arthur Davis on 21st September 1908.

1911 Census

32, Upper Grove Street

[1] *Gertrude Maude Davis* (38), married, beer retailer, born Birmingham;

[2] John Lewis Bench (13), son, school, born Birmingham;

[3] Doris Gertrude Bench (11), daughter, school, born Birmingham;

[4] Laura Bench (9), daughter, school, born Birmingham;

[5] Hulbert Bench (7), son, school, born Birmingham;

[6] Gertrude Annie Davis (1), daughter, born Smethwick;

[7] Ada Roberts (22), domestic servant, born Langley Green:

William King, beer retailer, 32, Upper Grove Street. [1935], [1936]

See also LONDON WORKS TAVERN.

A Publican's license was granted on 7th February 1950, and was confirmed on 3rd April 1950.

Edgar Taylor Dwyer – see also STAR AND COMMERCIAL.

Alan Richard Arthur Harrod – see also SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN

Samuel Moore - see also SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN.

[1963]

Closed

Demolished

VICTORIA

1, Messenger Road (1, High Park Road) / 209, Windmill Lane, Six Ways, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. [1893]

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1909], [1912], [1914], [1961]

LICENSEES

J Hodgkiss [1893] – **1898**;
G F Collins (**1898** – []
John Frederick Collins [1900]
Samuel A Wedgbury [1901] – [1903]
Fred Morris [1911] – **1915**);
George Henry Groves (**1915** – **1920**);
Frederick James Wasley (**1920** – **1922**);
Henry Arthur Partridge (**1922** – **1925**);
Thomas Oakes (**1925** – **1934**);
John Fereday (**1934** – **1938**);
Leonard Charles Sage (**1938** – **1940**);
Charles Henry Duberley (**1940** – **1947**);
Ernest Victor Perks (**1947** – **1956**);
Lewis Harold Stanton (**1956** – **1958**);
William Mitchell Robertson (**1958** – **1962**);
Harold Allen (**1962** – **1965**);
Eamonn Breen (**1965**);
Michael Ernest Taylor (**1965** – []



NOTES

1, High Park Road [1900], [1909], [1935], [1936], [1942], [1948]
1, Messenger Road [1965]

It was situated on the south side of High Park Road.

It was originally the CRYSTAL PALACE until 1892.

VICTORIA HOTEL [1893], [1899], [1900], [1903], [1909], [1914], [1935], [1936], [1959]

Smethwick Telephone 6/2/1892

“The VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways (formerly known as the CRYSTAL PALACE) will be reopened today (Saturday). It has been entirely rebuilt and adapted to the requirements of the district.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/4/1892

“On Friday evening, the 8th inst., the Grand Assembly Room at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick, was crowded to excess. On this occasion a smoking concert was held in connection with the Smethwick Liberal Association. Mr. George Bowden presided....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/4/1892

“Oddfellowship has flourished in Smethwick for many years, but it can be safely asserted that never during the long history of the Order in the district has there been such an enthusiastic meeting of its adherents as that which took place at the NEW VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways. The chief interest of the occasion centred upon the initiation of Mr. H. Gilzean Reid, Mr. John Newey, Mr. George Bowden, Mr. John Stones and Dr. Urquhart as honorary members, and it certainly speaks well for the enterprising management of this particular lodge (Foundation Of Truth, Manchester Unity), when they can get such influential gentlemen, not only interested in the Order but to become members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 30/4/1892

“Notice. Court Liddesdale No. 2278. AOF. All the future meetings of the above court will be held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick. Opening night. Tonight.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/9/1892

“The annual dinner of Court Liddesdale (No.2278, AOF) took place at the VICTORIA HOTEL..... on Saturday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1892

“Mr. Henry M. Meysey Thompson MP, Mr. A. H. Griffiths JP and Major S. N. Thompson were initiated honorary members of ‘The Loyal Foundation Of Truth Lodge’ of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows at the VICTORIA HOTEL on Monday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1892

“Court Liddesdale No.2278 AOF – In connection with the above court, a smoking concert was given on Monday evening at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, in aid of the funds of Foresters New Convalescent Home Building Fund There was a good attendance, and an excellent programme was provided. Glees and songs were rendered by the following members of the Smethwick Musical Society.....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/1/1893

“Charwoman wanted at once – apply VICTORIA HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/1/1893

“Amalgamated Society of Engineers – On Monday evening a benefit concert was given in the large Assembly Room, VICTORIA HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/3/1893

“The large and splendidly fitted club room at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways was the scene of an interesting and enthusiastic gathering of Oddfellows on Monday evening, the occasion being the initiation of Mr. Henry Mitchell Jnr. And Mr. W. H. Goodyear as honorary members of the Foundation Of Truth Lodge.....”

Smethwick Telephone 8/7/1893

“Wanted – A respectable woman for cleaning. Apply VICTORIA HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/10/1893 - Advert

“VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick. The 1st Smoking Concert of the season will be held in the Large Assembly Room on Tuesday, October 27th 1893. A grand array of talent. Chair taken at 7.30. Accompanist – Mr. E. Deeming.”

Smethwick Telephone 4/11/1893

“Ancient Order of Foresters – Court Liddesdale (No.2278). On Saturday evening last a very interesting ceremony took place at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, in the initiation of Captain H. Mitchell as a honorary member of the above court.”

Smethwick Telephone 11/11/1893 - Advert

“To Friendly Societies, Trade Clubs, Organisers of Public and Private Meetings &c. / The Large Assembly Room / At The VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick / May be arranged for on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday Evenings / Apply at the Hotel / Mitchell’s Prize Medal Ales, Wines, Spirits, Cigars etc.”

TO FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, TRADE
CLUBS, ORGANISERS OF PUBLIC
AND PRIVATE MEETINGS, &c.

—
THE
LARGE ASSEMBLY ROOM

AT THE
VICTORIA HOTEL,
SIX WAYS, SMETHWICK,

MAY BE ARRANGED FOR ON
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, or THURSDAY
EVENINGS,

APPLY AT THE HOTEL
—
MITCHELL’S PRIZE MEDAL ALES,
WINES, SPIRITS, CIGARS, ETC.

Advert 1893

Smethwick Telephone 13/1/1894

“Amalgamated Society of Engineers (Smethwick branch) – Two very successful smoking concerts were held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick on the 11th and 15th ult. for the benefit of the unemployed members of the Smethwick Branch of the above society It is pleasing to add that a net profit of £12 was realized.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/2/1894

“Smethwick and Handsworth Poultry and Fanciers Society. Next Poultry Show, any variety (to members only) will be held on Wednesday March 21st in the Assembly Room at the VICTORIA At the same time and place an open competition for terrier dogs, any variety, within the radius of 10 miles, will be held. The president, Captain H. Mitchell will give a prize for the best in show. Competent judges appointed.....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/6/1894

“On Wednesday evening last, at the VICTORIA HOTEL Mr. J. H. Dixon Jenkinson of Handsworth, gave a lecture to members of the Smethwick and Handsworth Poultry and Fanciers’ Society. Mr. G. Mountford presided.....”
[The topic of the lecture was ‘Chicken Rearing.’]

Smethwick Telephone 6/10/1894

“Smethwick and Handsworth Poultry and Fanciers Society. The above society held a chicken show on Wednesday evening at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick. Before proceeding with the business, the Chairman (Mr. Geo. Moorfield) made mention of the illness of the president (Captain H. Mitchell), and it was decided that the secretary should write a letter of condolence to his wife.....”

Smethwick Telephone 8/12/1894

“The ‘Foundation of Truth’ Lodge, Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, again had its honorary membership roll increased at a specially interesting meeting held last Monday evening – the names added being those of four prominent local gentlemen, namely, Mr. B. G. Walker (Clerk to the School Board), Mr. C. Woodcock (secretary to the Smethwick Building Society), Mr. H. Raybould, and Mr. E. Adams.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/12/1894

“In connection with the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, a concert was held in the large assembly room, VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, on Wednesday evening, in aid of the unemployed members. There was a large attendance, among those present being Messrs. W. H. Goodyear, G. Bowden, J. Stones, H. Raybould, T. W. Evans, J. Smith &c. Mr. Polkinghorn presided.....”

Smethwick Telephone 29/12/1894

“The first annual show of poultry, pigeons and cage birds, in connection with the Smethwick and Handsworth Poultry and Fanciers’ Society was held in the assembly room at the VICTORIA HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 26/1/1895

“On Saturday last an open night in connection with Court ‘Liddesdale’ (A. O. F.) was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/2/1895

“The Distress. Distribution of Soup &c. On Thursday, Mr. *Hodgkiss*, of the VICTORIA HOTEL distributed 100 quarts of soup and 100 loaves of bread, being assisted, in his endeavours to relieve the distress, by Mr. H. Raybould, Mr. C. Allarton, Messrs. J. and H. Shaw, Mr. F. Lawrence, and Mr. A. Wyatt.”

AND

“The first annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick and Handsworth Poultry, Pigeon and Fanciers’ Society was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL on Wednesday evening. Major S. N. Thompson presided. After the dinner (which was served up in Mr. *Hodgkiss*’s best style).....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/3/1895

“Concert In The Aid Of The Relief Fund.- A concert was given at the VICTORIA HOTEL, on Monday last, under the auspices of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, in aid of the Smethwick Relief Fund. There was a fairly numerous attendance We understand the proceeds will amount to £7.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/3/1895

“There will be an open night in connection with Court ‘Liddesdale’ No. 2278 A. O. F. at the VICTORIA HOTEL..... tonight.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/4/1895

“A meeting of members of the licensing trade was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick, on Wednesday afternoon with a view of ‘formulating a scheme for the protection of the trade against that injurious, that unfair, and that unjust ‘long pull’ business.....”

Smethwick Telephone 23/11/1895 - Advert

“VICTORIA HOTEL / Six Ways / Large and well appointed Assembly Room / Select Harmonic Meeting / Held every Friday Evening at Eight o’clock / Local Headquarters of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers / Superior Wines, Spirits & Cigars / Mitchells Ales.”

Smethwick Telephone 9/11/1895

“Last Monday evening Mr. J. E. Mitchell and Mr. A. H. Herbert (magistrates’ clerk) became honorary members of the Oddfellows ‘Foundation Of Truth’ Lodge (Manchester Unity), held at the VICTORIA HOTEL.....”

Smethwick Telephone 25/1/1896

“Smethwick and Handsworth Poultry and Fanciers’ Society. The annual dinner in connection with the above society took place at the VICTORIA HOTEL on Wednesday evening. There was a large company and an excellent repast was provided by the host Mr. *Hotchkiss* giving every satisfaction....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/7/1896 - Advert

“VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways. / Large and well-appointed Assembly Room / Select Harmonic Meeting Held Every Friday evening at Eight o’clock / Local headquarters of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers / Superior Wines, Spirits & Cigars / Mitchell’s Ales.”

Smethwick Telephone 19/9/1896

“On Saturday evening, at the conclusion of the ordinary Court business, a social gathering in connection with Court Liddesdale, Ancient Order of Foresters, was held at the headquarters, VICTORIA HOTEL for the purpose of celebrating the freeing from debt of the Foresters Convalescent Home at Clent.....”

VICTORIA HOTEL,
SIX WAYS.

Large and well-appointed
ASSEMBLY ROOM.

SELECT HARMONIC MEETING
Held every Friday Evening at Eight o'clock.

Local Headquarters of the Amalgamated
Society of Engineers.

SUPERIOR WINES, SPIRITS & CIGARS.

MITCHELL'S ALES.

Advert 1895

Smethwick Telephone 20/2/1897

“The third annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick and Handsworth Poultry and Fanciers’ Society was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL A good menu was provided by the host (Mr. *J. Hodgkiss*).....”

Smethwick Telephone 1/1/1898

“Nettlefolds St. George’s.- The employees at the above works held their third annual dinner at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Windmill Lane; Mr. T. Woodhouse presided and Mr. W. Thompson occupied the vice-chair. There was a capital attendance and a very enjoyable evening was spent.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/3/1898 - Advert

“Hearts of Oak Benefit Society. Selection of Delegates 1898. / An Important Meeting will be held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, Smethwick, on Thursday next, March 24th, when the candidates and other gentlemen will speak on the working of the Society’s Government and the London Monopoly. Chair to be taken at 8 sharp. Please bring your Blue Books for Reference. Vote and work for the C. M. B. A. candidates.”

Smethwick Telephone 30/4/1898

“With a view of arousing interest in the Order, there will be an open night in connection with the ‘Loyal Foundation of Truth’ Lodge of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, at the VICTORIA HOUSE, Six Ways, on Monday evening. This is the only lodge connected with the Order in Smethwick, the membership numbering upwards of 120.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/5/1898

“At the CAPE HOTEL, Spon Lane, on Monday evening, a very interesting ceremony took place, Mr. *Hotchkiss* (late of the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways) being presented with a testimonial in the shape of a splendid clock, and a diamond ring being given to his wife.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/7/1898

“Court ‘Liddesdale’ (A. O. F.) – It having been decided to hold a series of ‘open’ nights in connection with the above Court, the first was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL on Monday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 13/8/1898

“On Monday evening a very interesting meeting was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, the lodge house of the ‘Loyal Foundation of Truth’ Lodge, Birmingham District, M. U. of Oddfellows, being the occasion of the initiation of Councillor Lincoln Tangye as an honorary member of the lodge
..... Among those present were Councillor Samuel Smith, Messrs. Charles Woodcock, James Bonehill, Samuel Wheeler, E. Clarke, J. Steele, F. Swinden The members of the Druids Oak Lodge (Birmingham Equalized Order of Druids) came en bloc, thus showing the good feeling that exists between the two societies.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/9/1898

“A very interesting meeting of the Loyal Foundation of Truth Lodge (Oddfellows) was held on Monday evening at the VICTORIA HOTEL when the club room was very tastefully arranged by host Mr. *G. F. Collins*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/11/1898

“On Saturday last a smoking concert was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL under the auspices of the Smethwick Branch of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, during which presentations were made to two of the officers of the branch.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/4/1899

“On Monday night an interesting ceremony was performed at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, when the Reverend C. E. Medhurst [vicar of St. Michael’s Church, Crocketts Lane], and Mr. A. H. Sears were initiated into the ‘Loyal Foundation Of Truth’ lodge of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/9/1899

“A pathetic case of suicide formed the subject of an enquiry by the Deputy-Coroner (Mr. A. A. Betham) and a jury at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, on Monday night. The circumstances surrounded the death of a widow named Ann Foxall (55), who resided at 14, High Park Road, and who died under suspicious circumstances on Saturday night. Mr. T. Rabone was foreman of the jury.

Arthur Foxall, son, was the first witness called, and he stated that on Saturday morning about seven o'clock he saw his mother, who appeared to be in good health as she had been since she fell own stairs at home in Tiverton Road about a year ago. Witness explained that his mother sustained a severe cut on her forehead on that occasion, and had complained ever since of pains in her head. At dinner time he again saw her, and she then was suffering with her head. At seven o'clock in the evening he heard a fall at the top of the stairs, and on going thither saw that his mother had fallen to the floor. He carried her to her bed, and she asked for some water. It was while he was doing this that his mother called him and told him she had taken poison. He at once went for assistance Suicide whilst temporarily insane.”

Smethwick Telephone 14/10/1899

“On Tuesday morning, at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, the Coroner (Mr. H. A. Pearson) enquired into the death of Ann Street (82), a spinster residing at 196 Windmill Lane, who died as a result of an accident on Friday last. Jane Street, niece of the deceased, stated that her aunt had always enjoyed good health until about six weeks ago, when she fell down in Windmill Lane Accidental death.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/11/1899

“An interesting ceremony was performed at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, on Monday night, when the Reverend T. W. Wilkes (vicar of St. Paul's), Mr. C. J. Fox Allin (Borough Surveyor) and Mr. J. W. J. Kingstone were initiated as honorary members of 'Loyal Foundation of Truth' Lodge of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows.....”

1901 Census

1, High Park Road – VICTORIA HOTEL

[1] *Samuel A. Wedgbury* (42), hotel manager, born Birmingham;

[2] *Kate Wedgbury* (40), wife, born London;

[3] *Lily F. Wedgbury* (17), daughter, born Birmingham;

[4] *Gertrude B. Wedgbury* (16), daughter, born Birmingham;

[5] *Thomas Wedgbury* (14), son, born Birmingham;

[6] *Samuel A. Wedgbury* (12), son, born Birmingham;

[7] *Ethel Wedgbury* (9), daughter, born Birmingham;

[8] *Florence M. Wedgbury* (8), daughter, born Birmingham;

[9] *Emily Wedgbury* (5), daughter, born Birmingham;

[10] *Harry C. Day* (27), hotel barman, born Birmingham;

[11] *William I. Postans* (21), hotel barman, born Birmingham;

[12] *Ernest Lane* (21), hotel barman, born Stone, Worcestershire:

Smethwick Weekly News 10/8/1901

“..... fatal accident happened at the Six Ways, Smethwick, when a London lady, named Elizabeth Parker (32), of Swanscombe Road, Chiswick, who was visiting her aunt, Mrs. Pegg, in High Park Road, fell down the cellar steps and was killed.

Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner), held the inquest on the body at the VICTORIA HOTEL. Mrs. Pegg detailed the sad circumstances, and mentioned that the deceased only visited her on the Friday night. On Saturday, after dinner, she was assisting to clear the things away, and went to put some on a shelf at the cellar head, when, being rather dark, her foot slipped and she fell to the bottom. When they hoisted her up she was found to be suffering with a severe scalp wound, and she died shortly afterwards.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, and recommended the coroner to communicate with the owner of the property, suggesting that the steps should be protected in some manner.”

Smethwick Weekly News 18/1/1902

“On Thursday night last the Deputy Coroner (Mr. A. A. Beetham) held an inquiry at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Smethwick, respecting the death of Ellen Pain (47), a married woman, formerly residing at Moilliett Street, Smethwick, who died on Wednesday from the effects of injuries sustained by falling down the stairs at her residence on Saturday night last. It appeared that deceased had an affliction of the eye and was retiring to bed at about 11 o'clock on that date when she fell backwards down the stairs. She sustained a fracture of the skull and other injuries, and died on Wednesday night.

The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Court 'Liddesdale' (AOF) met here. [1903]

A soup kitchen was set up here (for children) in December 1904.

Inquests held here. [1905]

Smethwick Telephone 10/10/1908

“Monday next will be an open night at Court 'Liddesdale' (AOF), whose meetings are held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways. Upon this occasion Alderman E. Adams and Mr. C. J. Ediss will be initiated as honorary members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/10/1908

“Under the auspices of the 'Loyal Foundation of Truth' Lodge, Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, a meat tea will be held at the VICTORIA HOTEL, Six Ways, on Monday, October 26th.....”

1911 Census

209, Windmill Lane – VICTORIA HOTEL

- [1] *Fred Morris* (41), public house manager, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Eliza Morris* (40), wife, married 21 years, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Arthur Thomas Morris* (18), son, gun engraver, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Elsie Morris* (11), daughter, school, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Lily Morris* (8), daughter, school, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Elsie May Howell* (20), domestic servant, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Louis Cecil William Saunders* (20), barman, born Bromsgrove:

Smethwick Telephone 18/4/1912

“The annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick branches of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers, was held at the VICTORIA HOTEL. The affair was most successful. Mr. H. Tranter presided, and the arrangements, which had been so successfully made by Mr. H. C. Hickling, were carried through with great interest to the guests.....”

Smethwick Telephone 27/4/1938

“VICTORIA Children's Outing Fund. From all points of view, the concert held at the VICTORIA HOTEL last Monday was a huge success.....”

Ernest V. Perks died in 1956.

Eamonn Breen – see also SEVEN STARS.

[1965]

Subject of a Compulsory Purchase Order in July 1964 and May 1965.

It closed in 1969.

It was demolished as part of the Helena Street development.

VINE

26, Albert Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

William Downing, Holly Lane, Smethwick
Holt Brewery Co. Ltd. (acquired on 5th April 1895)

LICENSEES

Job Calloway Snr. [1853] – **1858**);
Job Calloway Jnr. (**1858** – [1861]
John Calloway [1861]
Job Grigg [1864] – [1865]
William Gregg [1865]
Henry West [1867] – [1873]
James Aspy [1878] – [1879]
William Jones [1881]
Charles James Gibbs [1883]
Eli Wall [1889] – [1894]
Arthur Waldron [] – **1896**) manager
Robert Stapleton [1897] – [1903]

NOTES

Job Calloway was also a builder. [1855]

Job Calloway = John Calloway

1861 Census

Albert Street – VINE INN

- [1] *John Calloway* (51), bricklayer and victualler, born Brades [Oldbury];
- [2] *Martha Calloway* (56), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Hannah Calloway* (28), daughter, barmaid, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Ann Hunt* (62), visitor, sempstress, born Sedgley;
- [5] *Selena Morris* (15), servant, born West Bromwich:

Job Grigg and *William Gregg* appear in the same 1865 Directory.
[Perhaps they were one and the same person.]

1871 Census

Albert Street – VINE INN

- [1] *Henry West* (42), licensed victualler, born Daynton, Gloucestershire;
- [2] *Hannah West* (38), born Radford, Warwickshire;
- [3] *Henry West* (15), son, painter on glass, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Alice West* (18), daughter, born Belgium (British citizen);
- [5] *John West* (11), son, scholar, born Luxembourg (British citizen);
- [6] *Matthias West* (8), son, scholar, born Luxembourg (British citizen);
- [7] *William S. West* (2), son, born Smethwick;
- [8] *William Cullow* (26), boarder, bookkeeper in hollowware manufacturers, born Clifton on Teme;
- [9] *Annie Yates* (18), general servant, born Darlaston:

Henry West – see also BRITANNIA, West Bromwich.

1881 Census

26, Albert Street – VINE INN

- [1] *William Jones* (52), cooper, born Snodsbury, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Ann Jones* (49), wife, born St. Helens;
- [3] *William Jones* (16), son, labourer unemployed, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Agnes Jones* (18), daughter, domestic servant, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Richard Jones* (7), son, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [6] *Amy Jones* (3), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [7] *John Wilson* (34), boarder, labourer (general), born Flintshire:

Smethwick Telephone 22/3/1884

Inquest at VINE INN, Albert Street, West Smethwick on *John Price* (72), glass packer, Oldbury Road committed suicide by suffocation – handkerchief in mouth – whilst of unsound state of mind.

Smethwick Telephone 5/5/1888

“Inquest at VINE INN, West Smethwick touching the death of *Rosa Noble* (aged 3 years 11 months), whose parents reside at Victoria Street, Smethwick and who was killed on the tramway on Friday last knocked down by a tram Accidental death.”

Smethwick Telephone 2/2/1889

“The fourth annual dinner, in connection with the local branch of the Window Glass United Federation Society – the members of which are employed at *Chance’s Spon Lane Works*, took place at the VINE INN, Albert Street, West Smethwick on Saturday evening.....”

1891 Census

26, Albert Street – VINE INN

- [1] *Eli Wall* (37), licensed victualler, born Great Alne, Warwickshire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Wall* (33), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Winifred L. Wall* (12), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Alice Morris* (17), general servant, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 5/9/1891

“The Glassmakers’ Strike. The glassmakers held an enthusiastic meeting at the VINE INN, West Smethwick on Friday evening, 28th inst. [ult.].....”

- They had been on strike since July 13th.

Smethwick Telephone 26/9/1891

“The Glassmakers’ Strike. On Tuesday, a meeting of the glassblowers and others in the employ of Messrs. *Chance Bros.*, Spon Lane glassworks, who are out on strike, was held at the VINE INN, West Smethwick. It was reported that a contribution to the strike fund had been received, being the proceeds of a collection made at an open air religious service held at West Bromwich last Sunday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 20/6/1896

“The Holt Brewery Company, Birmingham, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on the licensed premises of the VINE INN, Albert Street, West Smethwick the Holt Brewery Company were the licensees of the VINE INN, which was a fully-licensed house, and which was under the charge of a man named *Arthur Waldron*, who was also charged in conjunction with other persons, with being drunk on the premises. It appeared that on Sunday night, May 24th, Police-constables Orme and Eden visited the premises at about a quarter to nine, and found the house in a state of great disorder. There were from 25 to 30 people in the house in various degrees of intoxication the manager of the house told them [Orme and Eden] that there had been a wedding Mr. Stubbins said the house should be put under proper management at once.....”

1901 Census

26, Albert Street – VINE TAVERN

[1] *Robert Stapleton* (60), innkeeper, born Silsoe, Bedfordshire;

[2] Ann Stapleton (57), wife, born Bloxwich;

[3] Mabel Morris (7), adopted daughter, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Weekly News 13/9/1902

“On Wednesday evening a concert took place at the VINE INN, Albert Street, West Smethwick (host Mr. *Robert Stapleton*), for the benefit of William Westwood, who has been unable to follow his employment as glasscutter at Messrs. Chance’s for the past two years. There was a very large company present, and the chair was occupied by Mr. Norman Williams.....”

The license was transferred to the HOLLY BUSH, Uplands, in 1908.

Smethwick Telephone 20/6/1908

“Sale by auction. All that well built and commodious, freehold premises, recently known as the VINE INN (the license of which has recently been surrendered), Albert Street, West Smethwick. There is a large double fronted house, with covered gateway entrance and extensive yard. The house contains Hall, front Bar and tap room with bay windows, smoke room, kitchen, scullery with range, Club room 37’2” [11.3metres] long and three good bedrooms. Outside are the usual outbuildings, stabling with loft over, and exceptionally large walled yard.”

VINE

89, (88), Cross Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Joseph Whitehouse [1889]
Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd. [1898]
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

LICENSEES

Joseph Ball Price [1870] – [1875]
George Smith [1879] – [1881]
Thomas Allen [1883]
Joseph Whitehouse [1889] – [1897] non-resident
Mrs. Ellen White [1890] – [1891] manageress
Alfred Treglown [1895] – [1900]
Richard Harper [1901]
Clara Davy [1911]
Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd. [] – **1912**;
William Henry Fell **(1912 – 1914)**;
Arthur Samuel Walker **(1914 – 1916)**;
Harry Cleaver **(1916 – 1919)**;
John Badham **(1919 – 1924)**;

NOTES

88, Cross Street [1891]
89, Cross Street [1901]

It was situated on the south-east side of Cross Street.

It was built by George Augustus Sheldon (born West Bromwich, 1820).

1871 Census

Cross Street

- [1] Joseph B. Price (39), licensed victualler, born London;
- [2] Sarah Price (39), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] Laura M. Price (7), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] Harold E. Price (3), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] Ellen Cooper (11), niece, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] Caroline Young (17), general servant, born Birmingham;
- [7] Phoebe M. Price (7), niece, scholar, born Smethwick;

Joseph Ball Price issued tokens from here.

VINE INN ASSEMBLY ROOMS,

CROSS STREET, SMETHWICK.

MANAGING PROPRIETOR - - ALF. TREGLOWN

TO-NIGHT (SATURDAY).

DAN BIGLOW, Musical Comedian.

J. H. BOW, Black and White Variety Comedian

MONDAY NEXT,

THE GREAT HARRY SANSOM,

The Funniest of Comedians.

HARRY NEASBY, Song and Dance Artist.

CHAIRMAN - - - MR. HARRY JOHNSON

PIANIST - - - MR. D. H. CROSS.

Doors open at 7-30. Commence at 8.

SHOWELL'S ALES, WINES AND SPIRITS, AND
CIGARS ARE OF THE VERY BEST.

~~EST~~ No Person admitted under the age of 20.

The Sick and Dividend Society commences on
Tuesday Next, January 4th, 1898.

Advert 1898

George Smith – see also OLD ENGINE.

1881 Census

88 Cross Street – VINE INN

[1] *George Smith* (52), retailer of beer and spirits, born Austrý;

[2] *Elizabeth Smith* (54), wife, born Birmingham:

Thomas Allen – check VOLUNTEER.

Smethwick Telephone 21/12/1889 - Advert

“VINE INN CONCERT HALL, Cross Street, Smethwick. Prop. *J. Whitehouse*. Christmas Week Only. The above spacious hall will be open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday when the following artistes will appear.....”

Smethwick Telephone 25/1/1890 - Advert

“VINE INN CONCERT HALL, Cross Street Manageress – *Mrs. White*.....”

1891 Census

88, Cross Street – VINE INN

[1] *Ellen White* (32), widow, publican, born Smethwick;

[2] *Alice White* (12), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[3] *Maud M. White* (8), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[4] *John E. White* (6), son, scholar, born Smethwick;

[5] *Alfred Treglown* (33), boarder, engine and machine turner, born Portland, Dorsetshire;

[6] *Ellen Down* (20), general servant, born Staffordshire:

Smethwick Telephone 4/2/1893

“*Samuel Cemm*, of *Rolfé Street*, Smethwick was fined 1s and costs, or 7 days, for refusing to quit the licensed premises of the VINE INN.....on the 28th ult.”

Smethwick Telephone 30/11/1895

“*Walter Eades* (34), *Brearley Street*, *Handsworth* and *Robert Bennett* (30), *Railway Terrace*, *Heath Street*, *Handsworth*, were summoned for being drunk and quarrelsome on the licensed premises of the VINE INN, Cross Street, Smethwick, on the 20th inst. and refusing to quit when ordered to do so.- *Alfred Treglown*, landlord of the house in question.....”

Smethwick Telephone 15/1/1898 - Advert

“VINE INN Assembly Rooms, Cross Street, Smethwick / Managing proprietor – *Alf. Treglown* / Select Concerts / Every Monday and Saturday Evening / This Week / The Great *Harry Sansum*, The Funniest of Comedians / Vocalist: *Harry Johnson* / Chairman – *Mr. Harry Johnson* / Pianist – *Mr. D. H. Cross* / Doors Open at 7.30. Commences at 8 / *Showell's Ales, Wines and Spirits*, Are of the Best Quality / *Alf. Treglown's Cigars* are the Tale of Smethwick / What is I. P. A. / Join Our Sick and Dividend Society. Entrance Free This Month.”

VINE INN ASSEMBLY ROOMS,
GROSS STREET, SMETHWICK.
MANAGING PROPRIETOR - - ALF. TREGLOWN
SELECT CONCERTS
EVERY MONDAY and SATURDAY EVENING
THIS WEEK.
THE GREAT HARRY SANSUM,
The Funniest of Comedians,
Vocalist: HARRY JOHNSON.
CHAIRMAN - - - MR. HARRY JOHNSON
PIANIST - - - MR. D. H. CROSS.
Doors open at 7-30. Commence at 8.
SHOWELL'S ALES, WINES AND SPIRITS, ARE
OF THE BEST QUALITY.
ALF. TREGLOWN'S CIGARS ARE THE TALE
OF SMETHWICK.
WHAT IS I. P. A.
Join our Sick and Dividend Society. ENTRANCE
FREE this Month.

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1898

“A smoking concert in aid of the locked-out engineers was held on Thursday night, in the VINE Assembly Rooms, Cross Street. Mr. Jeffcott (Birmingham) occupied the chair, and there was also a large attendance, including a deputation from the society of engineers.- The Chairman said that he was pleased the engineers were coming to terms which were considered satisfactory to master and man; but he pointed out that it could be quite another month before work was properly resumed. He was afraid that people were under the impression that now the ‘strike’ was practically ended, no more funds were needed, but that was not so The concert was repeated last (Friday) night. It is expected that over £10 will be realized for the locked-out engineers.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/4/1898

“VINE INN Assembly Rooms, Cross Street, Smethwick. Managing proprietor *Alf. Treglown*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1898

“A complimentary concert was given at the VINE INN Assembly Rooms, Cross Street, on Wednesday, on behalf of Mr. Fred Bailey.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies The society held at the VINE INN, Cross Street, has had a prosperous year, a dividend of 12s per member having been declared. Twenty five new members were enrolled at the general meeting.....”

1901 Census

89, Cross Street – VINE INN

- [1] *Richard Harper* (51), licensed victualler, born Cheltenham;
- [2] *Mary Harper* (58), wife, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Albert Harper* (22), son, tool maker, born Small Heath, Birmingham;
- [4] *Edgar Harper* (20), son, cabinet maker, born Small Heath, Birmingham;
- [5] *Lily Harper* (16), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [6] *Frank Blakewell* (21), lodger, widower, electro plater, born Balsall Heath, Warwickshire;
- [7] *Emily Davis* (20), lodger, jeweller, born Bearley, Worcestershire;
- [8] *Richard Harper* (3), grandson, born Sparkbrook [Birmingham]:

Richard Harper issued tokens from here.

Showell's Brewery Co. Ltd. were fined 10s and £3 5s 3d costs, on 19th November 1903, for permitting drunkenness.

An auction of furniture was held here in January 1908.

1911 Census

Cross Street – VINE INN

- [1] *Clara Davy* (36), married, manager licensed house, born Smethwick;
- [2] *Harry Davy* (17), son, barman, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Stanley Davy* (10), son, school, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Gladys Davy* (6), daughter, school, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Florence Samdee* (?) (22), servant, born Smethwick:

William Henry Fell – see also PLOUGH AND HARROW, West Bromwich.

John Badham – see also BRITANNIA.

It closed on 16th April 1924.

The license was transferred to the SHIRELAND.

VINE

Grove Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Joseph James Wheway [1903]

NOTES

Check GROVE.

VOLUNTEER

197, Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Henry Smith [1870] – [1871]
Thomas Allen [1878] – [1881]
Abel Lankester [1883]
Henry Bourne [1884] – [1893]
Harry Powell **(1896 – [1900])**

NOTES

FORGE [1891]

It was situated on the south side of Rolfe Street.

It had a music hall / concert hall attached.

Henry Smith, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1870]

1871 Census

Rolfe Street – VOLUNTEER INN

- [1] *Henry Smith* (46), beerseller and hairdresser employing 1 man, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Mary Birt* (61), mother in law, nurse, born Tipton;
- [3] *Ellen E. Smith* (18), daughter, lacquerer, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Thomas J. Smith* (8), son, scholar, born Harborne;
- [5] *Charles H. Roberts* (27), visitor, gardener, born Overton, North Wales;
- [6] *Clara Shingers* (22), boarder, charger, born Birmingham:

Thomas Allen, beer retailer, Rolfe Street. [1878], [1879]

1881 Census

197 Rolfe Street – VOLUNTEERS TAVERN

- [1] *Thomas Allen* (52), beer retailer, born Wellington, Somerset;
- [2] *Rebecca Allen* (47), wife, born Wellington, Somerset;
- [3] *John Allen* (12), son, scholar, born Handsworth;
- [4] *James Charles Allen* (4), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

Abel Lankester, beer retailer, 197 Rolfe Street. [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 23/11/1889

“The Agitation Among Boatmen. A large and enthusiastic meeting of boatmen belonging to Birmingham, Smethwick and the various towns in the Black Country was held at the VOLUNTEER INN on Saturday night, for the purpose of considering the wages question and the desirability of forming a boatman’s association for the districts named above.”

– This was resolved.

Henry Bourne, beer retailer, 197 Rolfe Street. [1890]
He issued tokens from here.

1891 Census

197, Rolfe Street – Public House FORGE TAVERN

[1] *Henry Bourne* (43), publican, born Arley, Worcestershire;

[2] *Mary Bourne* (45), wife, born Bewdley;

[3] *Annie Lucas* (21), daughter, married, born Arley, Worcestershire;

[4] *Annie Lucas* (3 months), daughter, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 31/12/1892

“At a meeting of the members of the VOLUNTEER INN (Rolfe Street) Sick, Death and Dividend Society on Thursday then 22nd inst. a dividend of 9s 6d per member was declared.....”

Smethwick Telephone 14/1/1893

“A general meeting of the Boatman’s Union was held on Saturday last at Mr. *H. Bourne*’s VOLUNTEER INN a good number being present. It was unanimously decided that 10s per week be paid out of the funds to every member as long as the frost continues.”

Smethwick Telephone 26/8/1893

“Boatman’s Union. – In consequence of the colliers’ strike and shortness of work, the members of the Smethwick Branch of the above union are receiving, out of their funds, 10s each, and will continue to do so as long as the strike lasts. The members meet every fortnight at the VOLUNTEER INN, Rolfe Street and any boatman wishing to join can obtain all information at the club house.”

Smethwick Telephone 18/7/1896 - Advert

“*Harry Powell* (Better known as ‘Harry, the Barber’, late of High Street) having taken to / The VOLUNTEER INN, Rolfe Street / Will be pleased to see Old and New Friends / Mitchell’s Mild and Bitter Ales / Choice Cigars.”

Harry Powell, beer retailer, 197 Rolfe Street. [1897]

Smethwick Telephone 26/3/1898

“The VOLUNTEER INN Guinea Club.- The members of the above club held their dinner on Saturday evening at the VOLUNTEER INN, Rolfe Street, when upwards of 40 sat down to an excellent repast, served up in good style by the host, Mr. *H. Powell*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies The VOLUNTEER INN.- The annual meeting of the above club was held on Monday evening at the house of Mr. *Harry Powell*, Rolfe Street Mr. S. Woodhouse presided. Mr. Charles Smith (secretary) read the minutes.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/7/1899

“The annual outing in connection with the VOLUNTEER INN, Rolfe Street, took place on Sunday last, about 40 visiting Rednal. The whole outing was an entire success, everyone being pleased by the kind manner in which the host (Mr. *H. Powell*) catered for the party.”

Harry Powell, beer retailer, 197, Rolfe Street. [1900]

VULCAN ARMS

7, Moilliett Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Benjamin Whitford [1870] – [1881]

Charles Albert Tew [1883]

Joseph Middleton **(1884 – 1886)**

Joyce Slim [1891]

Walter Slim [1897] – [1900]

Mrs. Joyce Slim [1901]

A A Bate [1903]

NOTES

Benjamin Whitford, beer retailer, Moilliett Street [1870], [1878], [1879]

1871 Census

Moilliett Street

[1] *Benjamin Whitford* (54), retail brewer and coal dealer, born Newport, Monmouthshire;

[2] *Mary Whitford* (47), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *John Whitford* (84), widower, father, former weaver, born Worcestershire:

1881 Census

7 Moilliett Street – VULCAN ARMS

[1] *Benjamin Whitford* (64), blacksmith and licensed victualler, born Monmouthshire;

[2] *Mary Whitford* (57), wife, born Smethwick:

Charles Albert Tew, beer retailer, 7 Moilliett Street. [1883]

See also FORGE.

Smethwick Telephone 17/4/1886

“Bankruptcy Examination. A meeting of the creditors of *Joseph Middleton*, VULCAN ARMS, Moilliett Street, Smethwick, was called at the offices of the Official Receiver, Colmore Row on Tuesday morning. The statement of affairs showed liabilities of £205, assets nil. – In his report the Official Receiver stated that the bankrupt commenced business in February 1884 at the VULCAN ARMS, Moilliett Street, Smethwick. He had a capital of £150, which he paid to Messrs. J. A. and A. Thompson, on account of the goodwill, fixtures etc., which was valued at £217. The balance Messrs. Thompson advanced upon security of the lease. In October last a creditor pressed for payment of his account, and issued a writ for £25. The license also had to be renewed about this time, and not having sufficient funds the bankrupt closed the house. The landlord then distrained for rent, and informed the bankrupt the lease was void in consequence of the house being closed. About a fortnight after this the bankrupt gave up possession to the landlords, who gave his wife a small portion of the furniture and £3. The furniture was now at Winson Green Road and was claimed by the wife. There were no books of account – There were no creditors present – The estate remains in the hands of the Official Receiver until the debtor’s public examination.”

1891 Census

7, Moilliett Street

[1] Joyce Slim (55), married, born Bristol;

[2] Walter W. Slim (31), son, fitter, born Smethwick:

Walter Slim, beer retailer, 7 Moilliett Street. [1897]

West Bromwich Weekly News 16/6/1900

“*Walter Slim*, licensee of the VULCAN ARMS, Moilliett Street, Smethwick, was summoned for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, and for supplying drink to a drunken person on the 9th April.

Mr. J. S. Sharpe prosecuted on behalf of the police, and Mr. S. Eardley defended.

There was a difference of opinion between the magistrates and the case was dismissed.”

1901 Census

7, Moilliett Street – VULCAN INN

[1] *Joyce Slim* (66), widow, publican, born Bristol;

[2] Walter William Slim (41), son, born Smethwick;

[3] Ada B. Slim (26), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] Claud H. Slim (11), grandson, born Birmingham:

Closed

WAGGON AND HORSES

84, (85), Lewisham Road / Cambridge Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Holders Brewery Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased) (acquired)

LICENSEES

John Burton [1881]
Kate Cakebread []
Charles Tomlin [1891] – [1900]
Joseph Haden [1901] – **1909**;
Mrs. Jane Haden (**1909 – 1913**);
Adelaide Louisa Shirley (**1913**);
Alfred King (**1913 – 1914**);
Adelaide Louisa Shirley (**1914 – 1920**);
John Thomas Brown (**1920 – 1923**);
Frederick Pearson (**1923 – 1926**);
Joseph Smith (**1926 – 1927**);
Nathan William Smith (**1927 – 1949**);
Edwin Albert Brookes (**1949 – 1952**);
Charles Joseph Bird (**1952 – 1953**);
George Downes (**1953 – 1962**);
John Henry 'Jack' Richards (**1962 – 1964**);
Frederick Fern (**1964 – []**)
Margaret Mary Conaty [1997]



c1920



1997

NOTES

85, Lewisham Road [1891], [1909]
84, Lewisham Road [1935]

WAGGON AND HORSES HOTEL [1935], [1936], [1942], [1948], [1959], [1961]

1881 Census

Lewisham Road – WAGGON AND HORSES
[1] John Burton (58), retail brewer, born Birmingham;
[2] Sarah Burton (56), wife, born Birmingham;
[3] Frederic Burton (17), son, brass cutter, born Birmingham:

Charles Tomlin = Charles Tomlins

Charles Tomlin was born on 2nd October 1832.

1891 Census

85, Lewisham Road – WAGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Charles Tomlin* (60), publican, born Hartlebury, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Eliza Tomlin* (55), wife, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Joseph Tomlin* (22), son, forgeman, smith, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Henry Tomlin* (17), son, blacksmith, born Smethwick:



1901 Census

Lewisham Road – WAGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Joseph Haden* (57), beerhouse keeper, born Cradley, Worcestershire;
- [2] *Jane Haden* (57), wife, born Tutbury, Staffordshire:

Smethwick Weekly News 17/8/1901

“The Smethwick police have been informed of a burglary which was committed during the night of the 9th inst, at the premises of the WAGON AND HORSES INN, Lewisham Road, Smethwick, kept by *Joseph Haden*. It is stated that early on Saturday morning some workmen passing the house noticed that one of the windows was open, and aroused the inmates. It was then found that during the night one of the window panes had been broken, the catch unfastened, and the premises entered and searched. Three pounds of thick twist tobacco, several boxes of cigars, and a quantity of cigarettes had been taken, of the value of 24s. The thief or thieves had been evidently disturbed during their marauding, and must have hurriedly left, for a jemmy was found in one of the rooms. The affair is being investigated.”

Joseph Haden – see also OLD CRYSTAL PALACE.

Check also BOOT AND SLIPPER and QUEENS HEAD.

He was fined £2 and £3 8s 6d costs, on 11th June 1903, for selling drink to a drunken person.

Smethwick Telephone 2/5/1908

“Deaths – Tomlins – On April 28th, at Wattville Road, Handsworth, *Eliza*, the beloved wife of *Charles Tomlins*, formerly of the WAGGON AND HORSES.....”

Smethwick Telephone 21/11/1908

“Death – *Haden* – On November 5th at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lewisham Road, *Joseph*, dearly beloved husband of *Jane Haden*; aged 64, deeply missed.”

Mrs. *Jane Haden*, beer retailer, Lewisham Road. [1909]

1911 Census

Lewisham Road

- [1] *Jane Haden* (67), widow, beerhouse keeper, born Staffordshire;
- [2] *Harry Shirley* (38), son in law, licensed victualler, born Handsworth;
- [3] *Adelaide Lucy Shirley* (42), daughter, married 13 years, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Joseph Adolphus Shirley* (11), grandchild, school, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Lucy Shirley* (6), grandchild, school, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Raymond Shirley* (2), grandchild, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Agnes Grimmett* (25), general servant, born West Bromwich;
- [8] *Jane Kate Garner* (22), general servant, born Oldbury:

Smethwick Telephone 20/1/1912

“An inquest was held at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Brasshouse Lane, on Friday morning, concerning the death of Ezekiel William Grainger (35), of Oxford Road, Smethwick.

The evidence showed that Grainger went home at 6.30 on Tuesday night. He went to bed an hour later, but at 10.45, the lodger – a man named Badhams – heard a noise, and on going to the bottom of the stairs saw deceased lying head-foremost at the foot of the stairs. He was put in bed, but died at midnight.

Dr. Evans, who was called in after death, said that the man had evidently injured the spine, causing paralysis. A verdict of Accidental death was returned.”

‘Old Smethwick’ by W. Ellery Jephcott – Smethwick Telephone 28/4/1951

“.....The latter [WAGGON AND HORSES] had just been rebuilt. Previously it was a little farm house where milk as well as beer was sold; and the landlady bore the unusual name of *Kate Cakebread*.”

It was rebuilt.

New premises opened on 1st May 1925.

A full license was granted in 1925, from the TRAVELLERS REST.

Smethwick Telephone 26/5/1934

“A well varied programme was gone through at a concert at the WAGGON AND HORSES HOTEL, Lewisham Road, on Wednesday, under the auspices of the Sandwell Horticultural and Musical Society. The effort was one to supplement the prize fund.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/7/1934

“The Annual Carnation Show in connection with the Sandwell Horticultural Society will take place at the WAGGON AND HORSES, Lewisham Road, during the weekend.”

Smethwick Telephone 13/10/1934

“The Sandwell Horticultural and Musical Society held its annual leek show at the WAGGON AND HORSES HOTEL, Lewisham Road, last weekend. The exhibits were not very numerous, but the quality was such as to present the judge (Mr. G. W. Rymer) with a very difficult task in selecting the prize winners.....”

Smethwick Telephone 20/10/1934

“An onion show held in connection with the Sandwell Horticultural Society at the WAGGON AND HORSES HOTEL during the week-end attracted a good number of exhibits. Mr. A. Draper, of Handsworth, who officiated as judge commented favourably upon the quality of the exhibits.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/7/1938

“The annual Carnation Show in connection with the Sandwell Horticultural Society will be held this weekend at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Lewisham Road. There are entries for the four classes of different varieties.”

It had a cycling club. [1940's]

Nathan William Smith died in 1949.

Edwin Albert Brookes – see also IVY BUSH.

Charles Joseph Bird – see also IVY BUSH.

Jack Richards – see also TWO BREWERS.

Frederick Fern – see also STAR.

[2013]



WAGGON AND HORSES

103, (193), (105), (138), Oldbury Road / Nine Leasowes, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Showell and Son Ltd. [1890]
Charles Clifford Cooper, c/o Turks Head, Lombard Street, Birmingham
Florence May Deeley, Downing Street, Smethwick
F. M. Lawley, Fair View, Shenstone
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.
Mercury Taverns [2001]

LICENSEES

William Randle [1851]
William Random [1861] - **1868**);
Alphonse Bregy (**1868** - [1879]
Stephen Lawley [1883] - [1891]
Charles Lawley [1892] - [1900]
Stephen Lawley [] - **1901**);
George Frederick Howell (**1901** - **1906**);
Thomas Horton (**1906** - **1907**);
Edwin Gerrard Carroll (**1907** - **1910**);
Archie Martin (**1910**);
John Brown (**1910**);
Alfred Lewis Smith (**1910** - **1913**);
Ethel Maude Smith (**1913**);
William Tickle (**1913** - **1916**);
Samuel Albert Wedgbury (**1916** - **1924**);
Joseph Henry Jacques (**1924** - **1925**);
William Bedford (**1925** - **1948**);
James Round (**1948** - **1961**);
Patrick Thomas Neary (**1961** - **1965**);
Trevor Joseph Haynes (**1965** - []
Mrs. Nancy Murphy [1981]

NOTES

138 Oldbury Road [1881], [1883], [1890]
103 Oldbury Road [1891], [1897], [1900], [1901], [1909], [1911], [1935], [1936], [1942],
[1948], [1965]
105 Oldbury Road [1903]
193 Oldbury Road

It was situated on the south-west side of Oldbury Road.

It had a Sick and Dividend Society.

1851 Census

Oldbury Road

- [1] *William Randle* (30), brewer, born Earl Shilton, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Randle* (40), wife, born Oldbury;
- [3] *Sarah Deeley* (16), daughter in law, born Oldbury;
- [4] *Mary Ann Randle* (5), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *William Randle* (2), son, born Smethwick:

[I have included this because it looks suspiciously like the family in 1861.]

William Random = William Randon

1861 Census

Oldbury Road – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *William Random* (40), retail brewer, born Shilton, Leicestershire;
- [2] *Elizabeth Random* (45), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Mary Ann Random* (16), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *William J. Random* (12), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [5] *James H. Random* (9), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Alfred Random* (8), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [7] *Levi Random* (7), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

William Random, beer retailer, Smethwick. [1861]

William Random, beer retailer, Oldbury Road [1864], [1865]

1871 Census

Oldbury Road – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Alphonse Bregy* (28), licensed victualler, born France (British subject);
- [2] *Elizabeth Bregy* (25), wife, born Liverpool;
- [3] *Alice Bregy* (5), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Hannah Bregy* (3), daughter, born West Bromwich;
- [5] *Alphonse Bregy* (6 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Eglantine Bregy* (14), sister, born Smethwick;
- [7] *George Ramford* (21), servant (public house), born Withbourne, Worcestershire;
- [8] *Elizabeth Litherland* (19), domestic servant, born Smethwick:

West Bromwich Weekly News 8/5/1875

“George Evans was charged with being drunk and also with assaulting Pc Marshall in the execution of his duty.- *Alphonse Bregy*, landlord of the WAGGON AND HORSES, Oldbury Road, Smethwick, proved the charge of drunkenness and Pc Marshall the assault Defendant was fined 20s and costs; in default, one month’s imprisonment in each case.”

1881 Census

138 Oldbury Road – WAGGON AND HORSES

- [1] *Margaret Franley(?)* (28), widow, licensed victualler, born Liverpool;
- [2] *Alice Bregy* (15), niece, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [3] *Anastasia Bregy* (12), niece, scholar, born West Bromwich;
- [4] *Mary A. Stockley* (21), barmaid, born Swindon, Staffordshire;
- [5] *Elizabeth Slater* (21), domestic servant, born Great Bridge;
- [6] *Walter Bath* (24), inn servant, born Birmingham:

Smethwick Telephone 11/7/1885

“Inquest at WAGGON AND HORSES on Eliza Jane Viney, a married woman residing at Causer Street, West Smethwick – deceased gave her husband some pork for his meal on Monday afternoon. He remarked that he did not care for it and left the house. On returning he found that the deceased had taken a quantity of carbolic acid in a cup of cocoa, which resulted in her death Verdict – Committed suicide during temporary insanity.”

Smethwick Telephone 16/8/1889

“Inquest at the WAGGON AND HORSES on Wednesday morning touching the death of Harriet Haycock aged 2 years 6 months. Harriet Haycock, wife of James Haycock, identified the body. The deceased resided with herself and husband at 272 Oldbury Road mother left deceased and an 11 month old baby locked in the kitchen while she went to the bakehouse at Five Ways child found on fire, burning to death”

- Verdict – Accidentally burnt.

Plans were approved for alterations in September 1890.

1891 Census

103, Oldbury Road – WAGGON AND HORSES

[1] *Stephen Lawley* (63), widower, licensed victualler, born Stafford;

[2] *Florence M. Lawley* (11), daughter, scholar, born Worcester;

[3] *Mary Etheridge* (62), sister, widow, housekeeper, born Stafford;

[4] *Arthur Swadling* (18), barman, born Leamington:

Smethwick Telephone 20/8/1898

“Mr. H. A. Pearson (coroner) enquired into a peculiar and sad case on Monday, when he presided over an inquest held at the WAGGON AND HORSES INN, Oldbury Road, West Smethwick. The subject of the enquiry was a boy named Louis Arnold Kidson, aged two years and four months, who resided with his parents at 271 St. Paul’s Road, and who died from strangulation on Saturday afternoon. The evidence of the mother, Sarah Louisa Kidson, showed that since last October the deceased enjoyed good health. After partaking of his dinner on Saturday, the deceased and his older brother Reynold (aged about three years) went into the garden to play Subsequently she had occasion to enter the garden, when she saw the deceased lying down by the side of a line post, with his brother sitting at his side Arriving at the scene, she saw that deceased was suspended from the post by a cord, which was fastened around his neck. The body was on the ground, but his head was in a reclining position, and did not quite touch the ground. She severed the cord, but he was then dead. A doctor was immediately called, and he pronounced life extinct. She had often seen the boys playing at ‘horses’ Police-constable Payne said he had made full enquiries into the affair, and there were no suspicious circumstances. The Coroner briefly summed up, and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1898

“John Timms, Hawthorn Street, Smethwick, was charged with being drunk on the licensed premises of the WAGGON AND HORSES, West Smethwick, on the 27th ult.- a fine of 10s and costs was imposed: in default 14 days imprisonment.”

Archie Martin – see also COTTAGE SPRING, West Bromwich.

1901 Census

103, Oldbury Road – WAGON AND HORSES

[1] *George Howell* (28), licensed victualler, born Wolverhampton;

[2] *Mary A. Howell* (27), wife, born Wolverhampton;

[3] *Eric M. Howell* (2), son, born Small Heath [Birmingham];

[4] *Isaac F. Howell* (16), brother, engine fitter, born Wolverhampton;

[5] *William Madeley* (24), brother in law, barman, born Wolverhampton;

[6] *Katherine A. Pars* (16), visitor, manufacturer’s clerk, born Saffron Walden, Essex;

[7] *Elizabeth Wilkes* (31), visitor, dressmaker, born Bridgnorth:

1911 Census

103, Oldbury Road – WAGGON AND HORSES

[1] *Alfred Lewis Smith* (30), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;

[2] *Ethel Maude Smith* (28), wife, married 4 years, born Birmingham;

[3] *Maisie Ethel Smith* (3), daughter, born Great Barr;

[4] *Louisa Williams* (30), domestic servant, born Oldbury:

William Tickle, beer retailer, 103, Oldbury Road. [1914]
See also STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT.

William Bedford – see also GLASSHOUSE.

James Round – see also STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT.

Patrick Neary – see also CROWN, and HARMONIC, Oldbury.

A Provisional Order was granted, authorising the Ordinary Removal of the license to other proposed premises to be erected at the rear and partly on the existing site of the premises, was made at Warley Licensing Sessions on 25th April 1966.

It closed in 1966.

It was demolished in January 1967.

It was rebuilt.

The new building opened in 1970.

News Telephone 23/7/1981

“A Smethwick pub has come to the rescue of a vandal hit local school.

Youths broke into the Albert Bradford Special School in Holly Lane, Smethwick, and stole three buggies used to take children on outings. They also daubed paint over wheelchairs.

But now the school is £342 better off thanks to kind hearted locals at the WAGGON AND HORSES Pub on Oldbury Road.

The pub has already started a fund raising bottle to collect cash to help the school buy a minibus.

When they heard about the raid they decided to start a second bottle where customers could drop in donations and where cash from charity events could be stored.

The bottles were broken open by Albion star John Wile.....”

It was renamed DESI 2 in the early 1990's.

[2013]



2008



2013



WATERLOO

Waterloo Road / Shireland Road, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. [1909] [1914], [1960]

Maggie Byrne [1999]

Five Rivers Investments (acquired in October 2012 for £15,000)

LICENSEES

Joseph James Drage [1911] – **1919**;

Wallace Hemming (**1919 – 1928**);

Thomas Varley (**1928 – 1939**);

William Norman Bridge (**1939 – 1947**);

Colin Payne Roberts (**1947 – 1948**);

Gordon Stanley Sercombe (**1948 – 1950**);

Walter Dendy (**1950**);

Eric Wood (**1950 – 1952**);

Granville Vincent Baggott (**1952 – 1957**);

George Frederick Jelf (**1957**);

Edward Norman Phillips (**1957 – 1959**);

William James Steele (**1959 – 1963**);

John Mills (**1963** – [1964]

Bob Field []



Early 1900s



1907

NOTES

Grade II* listed

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

It was originally an off license (WATERLOO STORES) which was owned by Titus Mason (of Mason's pop company). [1900]

He moved from here to Wigorn Stores, Bearwood when the Waterloo Stores was demolished.

He was born in 1849, the son of James (see CAPE OF GOOD HOPE).

He died in 1934.

Smethwick Telephone June 1907

“There was only one important application made to the Licensing Justices for the Borough, at the adjourned meeting on Wednesday, it was in respect of an application made by Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers Ltd., to erect a very imposing hotel at the Cape. A great deal of interest was manifested in the proceedings, and the court was inconveniently crowded. What might have proved a very wearisome business was greatly relieved by the humour of several members of the legal profession, who always ‘shine’ on these occasions Mr. Joy (instructed by Mr. A. Caddick) appeared in support of the application, which was described as one in which they desired to ‘remove the license of the NEW NAVIGATION INN (LV), Bridge Street, to premises to be constructed at the corner of Waterloo Road and Shireland Road’. Mr. J. G. Hurst (instructed by Mr. C. E. Parish) opposed on behalf of residents and persons interested in the owners of the SEVEN STARS HOTEL The Bench retired for some time, and, on returning, granted the application, subject to the surrender of the licenses mentioned by Mr. Joy.”

[Full details of this meeting are recorded in the Smethwick Telephone.]

Smethwick Telephone 4/4/1908

“.....Mr. Joy also applied for the final order in respect to the new hotel which Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers have provided at Cape Hill. He mentioned that the sanction to transfer the license of the NEW NAVIGATION INN, Bridge Street, to the new hotel at the corner of Waterloo Road and Shireland Road was granted in March 1907, while a month later the provisional order was made. The owners were now in a position to ask the Justices for a final order, and although a purely formal matter they now sought this approval. They would see that the building had been carried out in accordance with the plans which were submitted to them, and the Architect (Mr. W. H. Kendrick) would give evidence on the subject. In reference to the surrender of the license this would be handed to the Clerk before the new hotel was opened.

Alderman Pinkney enquired when the owners expected to open the new hotel, because it was quite possible that some of the Magistrates might like to inspect it. Mr. Joy intimated that the new hotel would be opened on April 15th. A further application was in regard to the name for the new hotel. Mr. Joy said that if the Magistrates had no objection they would like to adopt the name of the WATERLOO. He pointed out that the license was now attached to the NAVIGATION INN, but as there was another house of that name they had thought it desirable to find a new one, and the owners had decided to ask them to sanction The WATERLOO.

Mr. Shakespeare pointed out that the builders had already put a ship on the building in the anticipation of its being called the NAVIGATION.

Alderman Pinkney said that the Mayor had suggested that they should call it The ASQUITH – evidently because of the memorable year in which it would be opened. (Laughter).

Mr. Joy: Such a name might be an evil omen. (Renewed laughter).

The Magistrates gave their assent to the proposed new title – The WATERLOO HOTEL.”

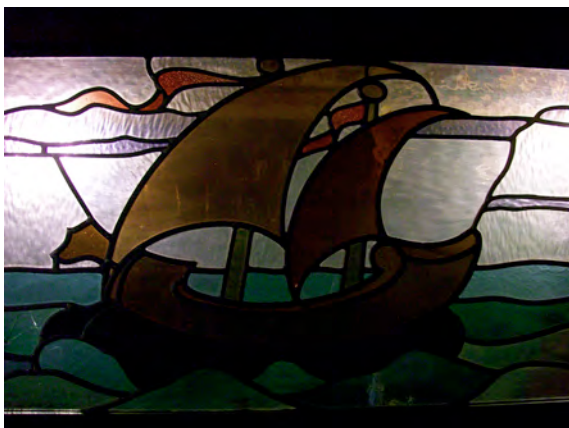
Smethwick Telephone 11/4/1908

“The new hotel at the Cape – The WATERLOO – is to be opened next Wednesday [15/4]. At the same time the NAVIGATION INN, situated between the two canals at Bridge Street, a rather uninviting quarter, will disappear.....”

1911 Census

WATERLOO HOTEL

- [1] *James Joseph Drage* (30), licensed victualler, born Warwick;
- [2] *Amy Drage* (28), wife, married 6 years, assisting in business, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Ivy Drage* (5), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [4] *William Edgington* (31), barman, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Walter Badham* (23), potman, born Worcester;
- [6] *Kathleen Albrighton* (21), barmaid, born Nuneaton;
- [7] *Charlotte Griffiths* (23), barmaid, born Kinver;
- [8] *Maud Marion Coley* (23), domestic servant, born Great Bridge;
- [9] *Florence May Barnes* (23), domestic servant, born Balsall Heath, Birmingham;
- [10] *Emily Cattel* (27), domestic servant, born Wednesbury;
- [11] *Frances Walker* (17), domestic servant, born Liverpool:



Smethwick Telephone 10/2/1912

“Mr. C. F. Welch presided at the 16th annual meeting of the Smethwick Glass Insurance Company, at the WATERLOO HOTEL, on Monday evening.

The report of the directors was very gratifying, and recommended the payment of a dividend of 10 per cent.

The Chairman spoke most encouragingly of the work of the institution, and its prospects.

The retiring directors (Messrs. C. F. Welch and Charles Earle) were re-elected.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/2/1912

“A very pathetic case engaged the attention of the Coroner (Mr. Gerald C. Lewis) and a jury on Thursday, when an inquest was held at the WATERLOO HOTEL. The circumstances relating to the death of a child named Laura West, aged 3½ years, who was on a visit from America, and was residing with her grandparents in Pearman Road, Smethwick.

It was stated that the child came to England with her parents. Her father returned a few days ago, but the child remained here with her mother. At 11.30am on Sunday the child was waiting to be bathed by the mother. The bath was on the hearth and contained some boiling water. The mother went to fetch some cold water, when the child overbalanced and fell into the hot water. The incident was witnessed by her grandfather (Mr. John Potter). The child was very severely scalded about the body, and was attended by Dr. Tullis Baillie. However, she died on Tuesday. The jury returned a verdict of Accidental death.

Sympathy was tendered to the relatives, the Coroner joining in the expression of regret at such a painful fatality.”

Smethwick Telephone 30/3/1912

“A very significant tribute was paid to Mr. Thomas Booth, the Secretary of the Cape Mutual Permanent Money Society, on Wednesday night, when he was entertained at a complimentary dinner given in his honour at the WATERLOO HOTEL. The function was held in celebration of the completion of 26 years service in the Secretarial office of this important Society.....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/5/1912

“Smoker at the WATERLOO HOTEL. The Smethwick Traders’ Cricket Club and friends met at the above hotel to make a presentation to Mr. and Mrs. E. Plevy (who are shortly leaving for Australia). A very enjoyable evening was spent.....”

Smethwick Telephone 26/10/1912

“The annual dinner in connection with the 1st Midland Field Company, Royal Engineers’ NCOs will be held at the WATERLOO HOTEL, Cape Hill, next Friday.....”

AND

“A thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent at the WATERLOO HOTEL on Wednesday evening, when the annual dinner of the Horse Show Committee and the Charity Sports was celebrated. There was an admirable attendance.....”

Smethwick Telephone 2/11/1912

“The first annual banquet of the members of the Smethwick and District Butchers’ and Pork Butchers’ Association was held at the WATERLOO HOTEL on Wednesday night. It was a most successful gathering, and a number of interesting topics were alluded to by the speakers. The Mayor (Alderman W. H. Goodyear) presided.....”

Smethwick Telephone 4/1/1919

“Bearwood Rifle Club. The annual meeting of the above club was held at the WATERLOO HOTEL, Cape Hill, on the 18th ult. The dinner, a pre-war feature, was restored on this occasion. Mr. Edwin Adams, JP, (the President) was in the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 3/3/1928

“The annual meeting of the Smethwick Traders’ Association will be held on Tuesday next, at the WATERLOO HOTEL, Cape Hill.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/3/1928

“Situations Vacant. General (about 22) to live in: must have good references – Apply (evenings only) WATERLOO HOTEL, Cape Hill.”

Thomas Varley arrived here after managing the Hastings Tavern in Coventry.

Smethwick Telephone 27/1/1934

“The annual dinner of the Caretakers and Repair Staff under the Smethwick Education Committee was held at the WATERLOO HOTEL on Saturday.

Its success was a tribute to the admirable arrangements made by the host, committee and secretary (Mr. A. Cole).

In his preliminary remarks, the chairman (Mr. F. Withers) made reference to the parting of a much esteemed friend and colleague, the late Mr. F. Pritchard.

His remarks were supplemented by Mr. Stansbie and a moment of silence was observed.

Following an excellent dinner, the staff were entertained by a concert party led by Mr. George Benton.”

Smethwick Telephone 10/2/1934

“With a galaxy of artistes and a large and enthusiastic audience of well-wishers, the complimentary concert to Mr. James Round, given at the WATERLOO HOTEL on Friday night, was a great success.

Mr. C. T. Booth, who had been one of the chief promoters of the concert, presided, and mentioned that a number of letters of appreciation of Mr. Round’s services to the musical realm had been received. The Mayor (Councillor E. Hewitson, JP), Mr. Edwin Adams, JP, and Mr. Arthur Mitchell were among those who joined in this tribute.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/2/1934

“Alderman C. W. Taylor presided at the annual meeting of the Bearwood Allotments Association, held at the WATERLOO HOTEL, on Wednesday night. There was a large attendance, among those present being Alderman E. H. Charnock, Chairman of the Allotments Committee of the Town Council and of the Allotments’ Federation.

The Secretary (Mr. W. Kitchen), in his report, mentioned that two years ago an endeavour was made to organise the tenants of the plots in Wilson Road, and it was a matter for satisfaction that twenty of the cultivators had joined the Association. The objects of the organisation had been furthered and the co-operative effort had been appreciated, the fullest advantage having been taken of the facilities for obtaining seeds, bulbs and implements.....”

Smethwick Telephone 1/9/1934

“The thirteenth annual show organised by the WATERLOO Beds Fund, in aid of the Royal Cripples Hospital, will take place at the WATERLOO HOTEL, this weekend.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/10/1934

“Mrs. C. W. Taylor presented the prizes to the successful exhibitors at the annual show of the Bearwood Allotments Association, at the WATERLOO HOTEL, on Tuesday night.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/1/1938

“The annual dinner of the Smethwick Charity Sports and Horse Show Committee will take place at the WATERLOO HOTEL on Wednesday, February 9th.”



Smethwick Telephone 5/2/1938

“Mr. W. G. Mills presided at the annual meeting in connection with the WATERLOO Beds Fund, held at the WATERLOO HOTEL on Monday night. There was a very satisfactory attendance – an indication of the sense of satisfaction that the beneficent work has been revived.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/9/1938

“The horticultural show in aid of the Waterloo Beds Fund will be held on September 18th, at the WATERLOO HOTEL. The Mayor and Mayoress have intimated their intention of being present, together with Miss Smith, the matron of the Woodlands, and representatives of the Smethwick Cripples’ Union.”

Granville Vincent Baggott was discharged conditionally for 12 months, on 17th May 1954, after being charged for selling adulterated gin.

A team from here took part in the Smethwick and District Charity Darts League. [1986/7]

Bob Field was an ex-butcher.

He was married to Pat.

[2008]

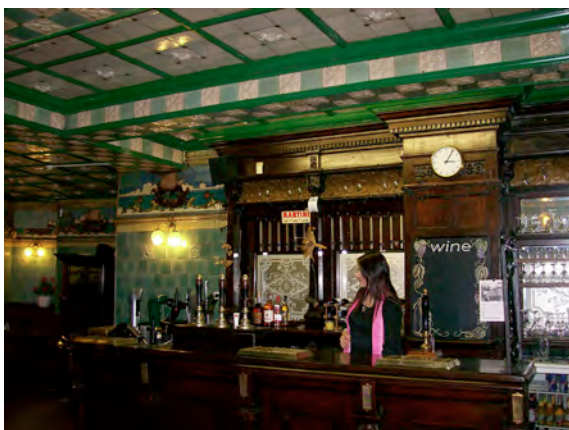
Closed [2009], [2013]



1997



2013



2008

WHITE GATE

SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

John Eccleshall [1818]

WHITE SWAN

Canal Banks, Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

LICENSEES

Thomas Hughes [1861]
John Haines []
Heneky (?) Cooper []
William Hammond [] - **1896**;
Thomas Clewley (**1896** - [1897]
James Howard Colclough []
Edwin Toole [1901] last licensee

NOTES

It was situated between the two canals, off Brasshouse Lane.

OLD SWAN
WHITE SWAN [1896]
OLD WHITE SWAN
SWAN [1901]

1861 Census

Canal Banks – WHITE SWAN
[1] *Thomas Hughes* (35), heater, iron, born West Bromwich;
[2] *Rosehannah Hughes* (34), wife, born Oldbury;
[3] *Sarah Hughes* (16), daughter, born Oldbury;
[4] *Joseph Hughes* (13), son, born Oldbury;
[5] *George Hughes* (8), son, scholar, born Oldbury;
[6] *Thomas Hughes* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
[7] *Ann Hughes* (2), daughter, born Smethwick:

John Haines married the daughter of *Thomas Hughes*.
He was also a haulier.

Heneky Cooper was a bare knuckle fighter.

Thomas Clewley, beer retailer, Brasshouse Lane. [1897]

1901 Census

Brasshouse Lane – SWAN INN
[1] *Edwin Toole* (56), public house manager, born Small Heath;
[2] *Trisa Toole* (49), wife, born Smethwick;
[3] *Thomas Toole* (18), son, grocer, born Smethwick;
[4] *Alice Toole* (13), daughter, born Smethwick;
[5] *Sarah Toole* (10), daughter, born Smethwick;
[6] *Florence Toole* (9), daughter, born Smethwick:

James Howard Colclough married *Gertrude Annie Cooper* on 1st August 1908.

Smethwick Telephone 28/4/1951

'More About Old Inns' by W. Ellery Jephcott

"The WHITE SWAN seems to have been patronized chiefly by boatmen."

Closed

Smethwick Telephone 10/2/1912

"Samuel Jones, Son, and Vernon on Monday 19th February

Brasshouse Lane – Lot 1 – All that Freehold Property formerly known as the OLD WHITE SWAN INN, and Three Cottages at the rear thereof, lying between the high and low level of the canals off Brasshouse Lane, Smethwick....."

[It realized £192 10s.]

Smethwick Telephone 22/6/1918

"Jones, Son and Vernon, F.A.I., at the BLUE GATES HOTEL, Smethwick, on Monday, July 1st 1918 By Edgar Whitehouse, Deceased, Canal Side (off Brasshouse Lane), Smethwick.

Lot 1 – The well-built Freehold De-licensed House & Premises, formerly known as the SWAN INN, and being situate on the Canal Side, between the Higher and Lower Levels of the Wolverhampton and Birmingham Canals, just off Brasshouse Lane....."

[It sold for £275, including three cottages.]

The license was surrendered.

Demolished



1997

WHY NOT

32, High Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

J. H. Hodgetts, Smallbrook Street, Birmingham
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd. [1895]

LICENSEES

Thomas Warner [] - **1870**);
Ebenezer Richard Smith (**1870** - [1871]
Joseph Bridge [1878] - [1883]
William Gillard [1884]
Charles Powell [1887] - [1901]
Ezra Homer [1903] - **1905**)
Isaiah Waterfield [] - **1905**): ?

NOTES

It was situated on the west side of High Street.

It had a beer and cider license.

Ebenezer Richard Smith, beer retailer, High Street. [1870]

Dudley Herald 5/3/1870

“To be sold by private treaty a public house (known by the name of the WHY NOT) together with outhouses, stabling, garden and premises now in the occupation of Mr. *Warner*.”

1871 Census

High Street

- [1] *Ebenezer R. Smith* (55), beerhouse keeper, born Sedgley;
- [2] *Lavinia L. Smith* (45), wife, born Tipton;
- [3] *Elizabeth Henley* (78), mother in law, dependant, born Tipton;
- [4] *Charlotte Prencher* (14), domestic servant, born Tividale:

Joseph Bridge, beer retailer, High Street. [1879]

1881 Census

High Street

- [1] *Joseph Bridge* (32), publican, born Oldbury;
- [2] *Betsy Bridge* (33), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Herbert J. Bridge* (5), son, scholar, born Smethwick;
- [4] *Eleanor Bridge* (4), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [5] *Maude Bridge* (2), daughter, born Smethwick;
- [6] *Jane Elizabeth Bridge* (4 months), daughter, born Smethwick:

Joseph Bridge, beer retailer, 32 High Street. [1878], [1879], [1883]

Smethwick Telephone 5/4/1884

“Murderous Assault. – On Monday [31/3] at Tipton Police Court; Isaac Downes, Park Street, Smethwick was charged with committing a violent assault on *William Gillard* landlord of the WHY NOT on Saturday last. According to the evidence given the parties had been in the TALBOT and the prisoner committed the assault by striking Complainant on the forehead with part of a brick causing serious injury remanded.”

Smethwick Telephone 12/4/1884

“Unlawful Wounding. Isaac Downes (49) moulder of Park Street, Smethwick unlawfully wounding *William Gillard*, beerhouse keeper of the WHY NOT, Smethwick hit with brickbat fractured skull remanded with bail.”

Smethwick Telephone 10/3/1887

“*Charles Powell*, landlord of the WHY NOT INN, High Street, Smethwick permitting gaming in his house on the 18th ult.....”

– He was fined 10s and costs.

Smethwick Telephone 10/8/1889

“*Charles Powell* of the WHY NOT INN, High Street beer house keeper.”

Charles Powell, beer retailer, 32 High Street. [1890], [1897]

1891 Census

32, High Street

[1] *Charles Powell* (38), publican, born Smethwick;

[2] *Mary Powell* (37), wife, born Birmingham;

[3] *Gertie Powell* (6), daughter, scholar, born Smethwick;

[4] *Lawson Powell* (13), son, scholar, born Smethwick:

Smethwick Telephone 19/9/1891

“*Charles Powell*, landlord of the WHY NOT INN was summoned for keeping his house open during prohibited hours on 27th August.....”

– The case was dismissed.

Charles Powell was fined £5 and costs and ordered to pay £1 solicitor’s fee for permitting betting on 20th July 1892.

Smethwick Telephone 25/11/1893

“*Charles Powell*, landlord of the WHY NOT INN, High Street, Smethwick, was summoned for keeping his house open for the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquors, during prohibited hours, on the 2nd inst the Bench considered the case had been proved, and imposed a fine of £5 and costs.....”

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1894

“At Staffordshire Quarter Sessions, on Wednesday, *Charles Powell*, landlord of the WHY NOT INN appealed against a conviction of the magistrates on November 22nd for keeping his house open for the sale of intoxicants during prohibited hours the conviction was quashed, with costs.”

Smethwick Telephone 7/7/1894

“WHY NOT INN to sell by auction household furniture and effects.....”

Smethwick Telephone 13/7/1895

“Smethwick Council Meeting Building Committee They recommended that the following plans be approved H. Mitchell & Co., alteration to WHY NOT INN.....”

Charles Powell, beer retailer, 32, High Street. [1900]

1901 Census

32, High Street – WHY NOT Public House

[1] *Charles Powell* (49), innkeeper, born Smethwick;

[2] *Elizabeth Powell* (48), wife, born Smethwick;

[3] *Annie Powell* (19), daughter, born Smethwick;

[4] *Gertie Powell* (16), daughter, born Smethwick;

[5] *William Metherhall* (24), son in law, widower, bricklayer's labourer, born Smethwick;

[6] *Frank Greenland* (16), barman, born Smethwick:

The license was surrendered.

It expired on 5th April 1905.

It was demolished.

Smethwick's first cinema was built on the site.

[Was this the Prince's Cinema?]

WINDMILL

154, (148), Windmill Lane / Ballot Street, SMETHWICK

OWNERS

Benjamin Woodhouse
Titus Mason (acquired in May 1886 for £650)
Mrs. J. Collins (acquired c. 1890)
Henry Mitchell and Co. Ltd.
Mitchells and Butlers Ltd. (leased [1912]) (acquired)

LICENSEES

John Williams [1855]
Samuel Weston [1858]
John Nicholls [1860] – **1869**;
Joseph Manning (**1869** – [1879])
Sarah Ann Bird [1881]
Benjamin Woodhouse [1883]
Titus Mason (**1886** – [1890])
John Frederick Collins [1890] – **1897**;
Mrs. Sarah Jane Collins (**1897** – **1910**);
Thomas Allen Butt (**1910** – **1916**);
Florence Elizabeth Butt (**1916** – **1919**);
Thomas Allen Butt (**1919** – **1931**);
Fred Ryder (**1931** – **1936**);
Frederick Richard Jeffs (**1936** – **1938**);
Harry Nicholls (**1938** – **1962**);
John Frederick Kelly (**1962** – **1963**);
Edna Tomkinson (**1963** – [])
Ray Harris [1993]



1996

NOTES

148, Windmill Lane [1881], [1892], [1897]
154, Windmill Lane [1891], [1900], [1909], [1911], [1935], [1936], [1942], [1948], [1959], [1961], [1993]

It was situated on the north-west side of Windmill Lane.

WINDMILL INN [1890], [1891]
WINDMILL HOTEL [1891]
WINDMILL TAVERN [1898]

It had an assembly room.

John Nicholls = John Nickolls

1871 Census

Windmill Lane

- [1] *Joseph Manning* (46), licensed victualler, born Netherton;
- [2] *Emma Manning* (28), wife, born Park Gate, Yorkshire;
- [3] *John Manning* (13), son, scholar, born Princes End;
- [4] *William Manning* (11), son, scholar, born Princes End;
- [5] *Ambrose Manning* (8), son, scholar, born Bilston;
- [6] *Emily S. Manning* (6), daughter, scholar, born Bilston;
- [7] *George Manning* (4), son, scholar, born Bilston;
- [8] *Joseph Manning* (11 months), son, born Smethwick;
- [9] *Esther Pershouse* (21), general servant, born Tipton:

1881 Census

148 Windmill Lane

- [1] *Sarah Ann Bird* (36), widow, licensed victualler, born Oakey Moor, Staffordshire;
- [2] *Louisa Bird* (11), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [3] *Ann Bird* (8), daughter, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Annie Bird* (3), daughter, born Birmingham;
- [5] *Elizabeth Lampton* (19), domestic servant, born Birmingham:

Titus Mason founded *Mason's* pop company. He became tenant at the Waterloo Stores off license after leaving here. He moved on to the Wigorn Stores, Bearwood when this off license was demolished to make way for the WATERLOO HOTEL. He was born in 1849 and died in 1934.

Smethwick Telephone 4/1/1890

"National United Order of Free Gardeners. On Saturday night an interesting event took place at the 'Oak Lodge' held at the WINDMILL INN....."

Smethwick Telephone 20/9/1890

"WINDMILL HOTEL Amateur Gardeners' and Cottagers' Society. The committee of the above society met on Friday, September 12th....."

1891 Census

154, Windmill Lane – WINDMILL INN

- [1] *John F. Collins* (40), licensed victualler, born Birmingham;
- [2] *Sarah J. Collins* (38), wife, born Smethwick;
- [3] *Frederick J. Collins* (6), son, scholar, born Birmingham;
- [4] *Clara Williams* (20), general servant, born Tipton:

Smethwick Telephone 5/9/1891

"The second annual show of 'The WINDMILL HOTEL Amateur Gardeners' and Cottagers' Society' was held at the WINDMILL HOTEL on Saturday, Sunday and Monday last....."

Smethwick Telephone 12/9/1891

"On Saturday the members of the Oak Lodge of the National United Order of Free Gardeners' Friendly Society (West Bromwich and Smethwick District) held their first annual dinner at the club house (Mr. *Collins*' WINDMILL INN)....."

Smethwick Telephone 3/10/1891

"On Saturday evening last the members of the WINDMILL Amateur Gardeners' and Cottagers' Society held their annual dinner at the WINDMILL INN....."

Smethwick Telephone 21/5/1892

“The Chamberlain Benefit Concert Fund. The committee of the above fund met on Tuesday evening at the house of Mr. *Collins*, WINDMILL INN to finally settle up the business.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/7/1892

“On Saturday night, a dinner, to celebrate the Jubilee of Court ‘Chevy Chase’ of the Ancient Order of Foresters, took place at the WINDMILL HOTEL, Windmill Lane it was stated that Court ‘Chevy Chase’ was established on the 9th August 1842, and was the first Court started in Smethwick. It was commenced in a room at the OLD ENGINE, Rabone Lane and continued to hold its meetings there up till July 1891, when after repeated efforts it was removed to the present public house.....”

Smethwick Telephone 22/10/1892 - Advert

“To Property Owners. A Meeting of Property Owners will be held at the WINDMILL INN on Wednesday night at eight o’clock.

This meeting is for the purpose of considering the question of Connection of Drains for which notices have been issued to Property Owners by the Local Board. All Property Owners are requested to attend.”

Smethwick Telephone 29/10/1892

“Meeting of Property Owners. On Wednesday night a well attended meeting of property owners was held at the WINDMILL INN for the purpose of considering the question of the connection of drains for which notices have been issued by the Local Board. Mr. H. Raybould presided – The Chair contended that if the Local Board forced them to connect their properties with the sewer they ought to meet the property owners half way. Eventually they would be compelled to have water closets which would be a great expense to them. – Mr. C. Summerton suggested that a deputation wait upon the Local Board to try and settle the matter resolution deciding to form themselves into an association to protect the interests of the property owners in the drainage matter against the Local Board was passed.....”

Smethwick Telephone 5/11/1892 - Advert

“TO PROPERTY OWNERS OF SMETHWICK.

A meeting will be held at the WINDMILL INN on Wednesday next, November 9th, to Consider the Legality of the Notice served on Property Owners by the Local Authority, requesting them to connect with the Deep Sewer. All interested in this matter are earnestly requested to attend. Chair to be taken at Eight o’clock. H. Raybould, Chairman. G. Pearsall, Secretary.”

Smethwick Telephone 20/1/1894

“National United Order of Free Gardeners (Oak Lodge No. 1262) – At the usual fortnightly meeting of this lodge, held on Saturday last at the house of the respected treasurer Bro. *Collins*, WINDMILL INN.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/3/1894

“Court Chevy Chase (1489), Ancient Order of Foresters. The members of the above held their quarterly meeting last Saturday evening at the Court House, WINDMILL INN On this occasion the members presented the host (Mr. *John Collins*) with a framed emblem as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his kindly courtesy and consideration for their welfare.”

Smethwick Telephone 24/3/1894

“A meeting in connection with the Smethwick and District Licensed Victuallers’ Association was held at the WINDMILL INN on Thursday afternoon. Mr. Thomas Rusby (President of the Association) occupied the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 29/9/1894

“Last Wednesday evening a dinner and social was held at the house of Mr. *J. F. Collins*, WINDMILL INN, on the occasion of Mr. Samuel Farrant leaving the town for Colchester after a residence here of more than fifty years, and for many years occupying the position of foreman smith at the Patent Nut and Bolt Works.....”

Smethwick Telephone 13/10/1894

“The first annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick Trades Council was held at the WINDMILL INN on Wednesday evening. A substantial spread was provided by Mr. *J. F. Collins* (host), full justice being done to it.....”

Smethwick Telephone 17/11/1894

“Forestry in Smethwick. In continuation of the above movement the members of Court ‘Chevy Chase’ (No. 1489), who meet at the WINDMILL INN had another splendid gathering on Saturday evening. Bro. Edward Jones P. C. R. [Past Chief Ranger] presided, and among the distinguished persons present, and who also took part in the discussions of the evening, were – Bro. Councillor J. V. Stevens (Birmingham), Bro. Middleton D. C. R. [District Chief Ranger] (Birmingham), Bros. Merriman and Harris P. D. C. R.’s of the Birmingham Midland District, Bros. Wood, Wilson and others; also Bro. J. Sherman of Langley District, and last, but not least, the District Officers (Bros. J. Cotterell D. S., D. Wesson D. S. C. R., C. Burgess, J. Goodwin, T. Thompson P. D. C. R.’s) ”

Smethwick Telephone 2/2/1895

“The Oak Lodge (National United Order of Free Gardeners) held at Mr. *Collins*’, Windmill Lane have arranged to give a dinner to upwards of 100 poor children at the club house next Wednesday.....”

Smethwick Telephone 9/2/1895

“The Distress Distribution Of Soup &c The members of the ‘Oak Lodge’ of the United Order of Free Gardeners, which meets at the house of Mr. *J. F. Collins*, WINDMILL INN have set a worthy example to kindred societies this week. They have subscribed to a fund for relieving the distress which prevails in the district, and on Wednesday dinner-time a dinner was provided to upwards of 200 poor children from the various schools. The dinner consisted of soup, bread, meat and vegetables. It is scarcely necessary to say that the meal was thoroughly enjoyed by the children, who presented a most interesting sight.”

Smethwick Telephone 23/2/1895

“For the purpose of relieving distress prevalent in the Windmill Lane district, the customers of the WINDMILL INN opened a subscription list last Saturday. The list was headed with a donation of 10s 6d by Mr. *J. F. Collins* (the landlord) and over £4 was obtained. With this sum a dinner, consisting of soup, beef and vegetables was given at the house on Thursday to between 200 and 300 poor children, and at the same time over 100 loaves of bread were distributed amongst the necessitous poor of the neighbourhood.”

AND

“The annual dinner of the employees of Messrs. Nettlefolds Engineering Department, Heath Street Works, took place at the WINDMILL INN on Friday evening the 13th inst.....”

Smethwick Telephone 28/12/1895

“WINDMILL INN Sick and Dividend Society – The annual general meeting of this society was held on Wednesday evening (the 18th inst.) at the WINDMILL INN the dividend declared was 11s per member. The number of members at the end of the year was 61.....”

Smethwick Telephone 25/1/1896

“An excellent gathering of Foresters and friends took place on Saturday night at the WINDMILL INN the Court house of Court ‘Chevy Chase’ (1489). The first toast was ‘The A. O. F. – the Birmingham and Midland District’, which was proposed by Bro. J. Cottrell in his well-known able manner.- It was responded to by Bro. *H. Hinchley* (of the CRYSTAL PALACE, Smethwick) who is present Chief Ranger.....”

Smethwick Telephone 19/12/1896

“WINDMILL INN Sick and Dividend Society the annual meeting of the above society at WINDMILL INN on Wednesday evening.”

Smethwick Telephone 27/3/1897

“A meeting of the West Bromwich, Smethwick, and District Licensed Trade Association was held at the house of Mr. *J. F. Collins*, WINDMILL INN on Thursday evening. Mr. C. H. Brock presided and there were also present Mr. *J. F. Collins*, Mr. E. Pointon (secretary.....”

Smethwick Telephone 15/5/1897

“The third annual dinner in connection with the Excelsior football club took place on Wednesday evening at the WINDMILL INN About 60 members and friends sat down to an excellent spread provided by the host, Mr. *J. F. Collins*.....”

Smethwick Telephone 10/9/1897 - Advert

“WINDMILL INN, Windmill Lane, Smethwick / Proprietor – Mr. *John F. Collins* / The third annual Smethwick and District Chrysanthemum Show / will be held at the above inn on Saturday and Sunday 13th and 14th November, 1897 / Schedules are now in course of preparation, and will be ready shortly / John H. Green, secretary, 91, Windmill Lane, Smethwick”

John Frederick Collins died on 21st October 1897.
He was married to *Sarah Jane*.

Smethwick Telephone 13/11/1897 - Advert

“The Third Smethwick and District Chrysanthemum Show / will be held in the assembly room when upwards of £10 in Prizes and several Special Prizes will be offered for competition / Show will be open at six o'clock on Saturday evening and on Sunday during opening hours.”

Smethwick Telephone 11/12/1897

“Invitation Dinner and Presentation of Prizes.- On Monday evening the annual dinner in connection with the Smethwick and District Chrysanthemum Show took place at the WINDMILL INN upwards of sixty sat down to an excellent repast.....”

Smethwick Telephone 24/9/1898

“WINDMILL INN proprietress Mrs. *S. J. Collins* 4th Annual Chrysanthemum Show Saturday and Sunday, November 12th and 13th upwards of £15 will be offered for competition.....”

Smethwick Telephone 1/10/1898

“The members of Court ‘Chevy Chase’ held their 56th anniversary at the WINDMILL INN, Windmill lane, on Saturday evening, and at the same time did honour to one of their members, Bro. Edward Jones, who has held the office of District Chief Ranger for the past twelve months.....”

[Court ‘Chevy Chase’ was the oldest Court in Smethwick.]

Smethwick Telephone 24/12/1898

“Sick and Dividend Societies WINDMILL INN. At the annual meeting of this society on Wednesday, the accounts showed that sickness had been very heavy during the year, and after carrying forward a substantial amount to next year, a dividend of 6s 8d was declared. There are about 130 members.....”

Smethwick Telephone 11/3/1899

“The annual dinner in connection with the WINDMILL Benevolent and Coal Club was held at the WINDMILL INN, on Wednesday evening. A substantial repast was provided by the hostess (Mrs. *Collins*), to which ample justice was done by upwards of 40 members and friends. Mr. W. Field occupied the chair.....”

Smethwick Telephone 26/8/1899

‘Smethwick Debating Society’

“The charter of incorporation: Its powers and possibilities, formed the theme for discussion at the usual weekly meeting of the above society held at the WINDMILL INN on Thursday evening.....”

Smethwick Telephone 16/12/1899

“The annual dinner in connection with the WINDMILL INN Chrysanthemum Show, was held on Monday night in the assembly room of the above.....”

West Bromwich Weekly News 8/12/1900

“Smethwick and District Chrysanthemum Society. The annual dinner and distribution of prizes in connection with the above society’s sixth exhibition took place on Monday evening last at the WINDMILL INN.....”

Smethwick Weekly News 16/2/1901

“On Tuesday a man named David Willetts, who formerly resided in Ballot Street, Smethwick, died suddenly whilst employed at the London Works.

Mr. H. A. Pearson held an inquest at the WINDMILL INN, on Wednesday, on the body, but there were no suspicious circumstances, and a verdict of Death from Natural Causes was returned by the jury.”

1901 Census

154, Windmill Lane – WINDMILL INN

[1] *Sarah J. Collins* (48), widow, licensed victualler, born Smethwick;

[2] *Frederick J. Collins* (16), son, born Birmingham;

[3] *Emma Guest* (27), servant, born Northfield, Staffordshire;

[4] *Laura Collins* (20), servant, born Smethwick;

[5] *Jennie Collins* (18), servant, born Smethwick:

[Were Laura and Jennie the daughters of Sarah J?]

Smethwick Weekly News 23/11/1901

“The Smethwick and District Chrysanthemum Society held their seventh annual exhibition in the assembly room at the WINDMILL INN, Windmill Lane, on Saturday and Sunday last, which proved to be the most successful that has been held in Smethwick.....”

Court ‘Chevy Chase’ (AOF) met here. [1903]

‘Oak’ Lodge (National United Order of Free Gardeners) met here. [1903]

1911 Census

154, Windmill Lane

[1] *Thomas Allen Butt* (35), licensed victualler, born Smethwick;

[2] *Florence Elizabeth Butt* (33), wife, married 10 years, born Small Heath [Birmingham];

[3] *Allen Godfrey Butt* (7), son, born Bordesley Green, Aston Parish;

[4] *Constance Butt* (9), daughter, born Small Heath;

[5] *Reuben Parsons* (25), barman, born Hartlebury, Worcestershire:

Smethwick Telephone 6/1/1912

“..... Mr. Walker made an application on behalf of Messrs. Mitchells and Butlers for sanction to make alterations at the WINDMILL INN, Windmill Lane. In presenting the plans, Mr. Walker pointed out that the premises were now approached by six steps. This was objectionable. He also pointed out the rooms were very low. The alteration would make the rooms considerably more lofty, and there would be only one step at the entrance. The out-door department would be separated from the other parts of the house. The manager’s apartments would be improved and a bathroom provided.

Mr. W. H. Kendrick (architect) gave evidence. He said the drinking area would not be increased.

The Chairman said the Bench regarded the scheme as a decided improvement and they would grant it.”

It was sold at auction in February 1912 for £1,250.

Smethwick Telephone 22/12/1928

“WINDMILL Sick and Dividend Society.

Mr. H. Bruce presided over a good attendance at the third annual meeting of the above Society held at the WINDMILL INN, Windmill Lane.

The report showed that £100 had been paid out in sick benefit and £17 in funeral benefit. A dividend of 9s per member was declared and a good balance was carried forward.....”

Frederick Richard Jeffs – see also NEW INN.

Smethwick Telephone 19/11/1938

“The WINDMILL Music Society. A series of concerts are now in progress at the WINDMILL INN, Windmill Lane, the proceeds of which it is hoped to augment the funds of the Sons of Rest (Victoria Park). The Committee intend to have a different chairman every week, so as to give an impetus to the cause.

Last week a splendid concert was arranged, the artistes taking part were: Wal Watley (comedian) and Mr. Sid Redley, whose entertainment was greatly enjoyed by those assembled. Mr. George Smith presided.”

Smethwick Telephone 17/12/1938

“There was a good attendance of the members at the 13th annual meeting of the WINDMILL Sick and Dividend Club. Mr. H. Coxhill, who presided, was able to record a progressive year. Dividends of 15s for old members and 14s for new members were declared.”

John Frederick Kelly – see also GEORGE.

It closed in 2001.

It was converted into housing.

LIST OF SMETHWICK PUBS

ABBEY Abbey Road, SMETHWICK
ATTICUS Three Shires Oak Road, SMETHWICK
BARLEYCORN Bearwood Road / Dawson Street, SMETHWICK
BARLEY MOW 9+10, (9), High Park Road, Six Ways, SMETHWICK
BEAR 500, Bearwood Road (Bear Lane) (Bearwood Lane) / Three Shires Oak Road, Bearwood, SMETHWICK
BEEHIVE 153, (132), (133), Raglan Road, (Cape Hill), SMETHWICK
BELL 107, Cross Street, SMETHWICK
BIRD IN HAND 300, (323+324), (283+284), Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK
BLUE GATES 100, (49), High Street / Stoney Lane, SMETHWICK
BOATMAN 31, (29), Great Arthur Street, (Canalside), SMETHWICK
BOILERMAKERS ARMS 166, Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK
BOOT AND SLIPPER 110, (1), Rolfe Street / Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK
BRIDGE 28, Bridge Street, SMETHWICK
BRITANNIA 277, (261), (301), Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK
BRITANNIA 32, Spon Lane, SMETHWICK
BRITISH ENGINEER 18, Wellington Street, (18, (19), Slough Lane), (19, (18), Sloe Lane), Merry Hill, SMETHWICK
BROOMFIELD TAVERN 7, Broomfield, SMETHWICK
BUFFALO INN 22, Vittoria Street, SMETHWICK
BURTON TAVERN 81, George Street, SMETHWICK
CAPE OF GOOD HOPE 251, (196), (210), Cape Hill, (Cape Road), (Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK
CAPE TAVERN + SMETHWICK
CASTLE 23, Cranford Street / Fawdry Street, SMETHWICK
COCK 8, Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK
COCK 174, (173), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK
COCK AND MAGPIES 26, Hagley Road West, (Beech Lanes), (Oldbury), SMETHWICK
COTTAGE OF CONTENT Canalside, (The Stop), (Batson and Ratcliff Passage), Bridge Street, (Great Harford Street), SMETHWICK
COTTAGE SPRING Vittoria Street, SMETHWICK
CROSS 101, Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK
CROSS + SMETHWICK
CROWN 47, (120), High Street, (26, (478), (120), Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK
CROWN AND ANCHOR 65, Cross Street / Rolfe Street / Hill Street, (New Street), SMETHWICK
CRYSTAL PALACE 1, High Park Road, (Six Ways), SMETHWICK
DEVONSHIRE ARMS George Street, SMETHWICK
DOG 8, Hagley Road West, (Beech Lanes), SMETHWICK
DUCK 364+365, (365), (386), (348), (26), Oldbury Road / Bridge Street, SMETHWICK
DUDLEY ARMS Cape Hill / Roseberry Road, SMETHWICK
EXCELSIOR Cranford Street, SMETHWICK
FALCON 361, Messenger Road / 85, Baldwin Street / Thomas Street, ((65), (85), (86), High Park Road), SMETHWICK
FILE MAKERS ARMS Cranford Street, SMETHWICK
FITTERS TAVERN Hill Street, SMETHWICK
FIVE WAYS 303, (326), (325½), (286), (70), Oldbury Road / Albert Road, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK
FORGE TAVERN Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK
FORGE TAVERN 177, (176), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK
FOUNTAIN 20, Cranford Street / London Street, SMETHWICK
FRENCH WALLS TAVERN French Walls Row, French Walls, SMETHWICK
GAIETY Crocketts Lane, SMETHWICK
GALTON BRIDGE INN 69, Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK
GATE SMETHWICK
GEORGE 13, Albert Street, SMETHWICK
GEORGE 102, Grove Lane / Grove Street, (1, Oldbury Road), (Cape Lane), SMETHWICK
GEORGE 113, (149), High Street, (Oldbury Road) / Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK
GEORGE STREET TAVERN 15, George Street / Victoria Street, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK
GLASSHOUSE TAVERN 58, George Street, SMETHWICK
GLOBE 201, Grove Lane, (Cape Lane), Six Ways, SMETHWICK
GOLDEN CROSS 68, (65), (66), High Street, (Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK
GOLDEN FLEECE 17, Oldbury Road / St. Paul's Road, SMETHWICK
GRAND TURK 204, Wattville Street, BIRMINGHAM
GRAPES Hill Street, SMETHWICK
GRAPES 375, (368), (396), (359), Oldbury Road / Bridge Street, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK
GREAT WESTERN 18, Rabone Lane / Foundry Lane, (Rabone Bridge), SMETHWICK
GREYHOUND 95, Soho Street, Six Ways, SMETHWICK
GROVE TAVERN 130+131, (201), Grove Lane, (Cape Lane), SMETHWICK
GUNMAKERS ARMS 19, London Street, SMETHWICK
HALF WAY HOUSE 297, (319), (359), (279), Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK
HAND AND BOTTLE Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK

HAWTHORN COTTAGE Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK
HOLLY BUSH 200, Grove Lane, (Cape Lane) / Poplar Street, SMETHWICK
HOLLY BUSH 122, The Uplands, / Parkes Street, (Bosoms End Road), (Broad Lane), SMETHWICK
HOLLY LANE TAVERN Holly Lane, SMETHWICK
HORSE AND JOCKEY SMETHWICK
HUSSAR Windmill Precinct, Windmill Lane, SMETHWICK
IVY BUSH 218, (219), St. Paul's Road / Mallin Street, West Smethwick, SMETHWICK
JENNY LIND SMETHWICK
JUNCTION STORES 188, Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK
KINGS HEAD (Upper) Hagley Road, (Lordswood Road), Bearwood, (SMETHWICK), BIRMINGHAM
LAMB AND FLAG 44, George Street / Albert Street, SMETHWICK
LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE 500, (571), Dudley Road, (Cape Hill), (Birmingham Heath), (Cape of Good Hope), BIRMINGHAM
LONDON APPRENTICE Soho Close, Windmill Lane, SMETHWICK
LONDONDERRY Basons Lane / Queens Road, SMETHWICK
LONDON STORES 27, Soho Street / Oakfield Street, SMETHWICK
LONDON WORKS TAVERN 35, (34), London Street, SMETHWICK
MALT SHOVEL 142, Rolfe Street / Engine Street, SMETHWICK
MOILLIETT ARMS 49, Cranford Street / Moilliett Street, (Heath Street), Soho, SMETHWICK
MUTE SWAN Canalside, (near Bridge Street), SMETHWICK
NEW CHURCH 190, (189), Windmill Lane / Howard Street, (Thomas Street), Six Ways, SMETHWICK
NEW INN Cross Street, SMETHWICK
NEW INNS 53, Union Street, / Crocketts Lane, SMETHWICK
NEW NAVIGATION 75, Bridge Street, (Canalside), SMETHWICK
NEW NAVIGATION 171, (169), Lewisham Road / Bridge Street, (Ruck of Stones Lane), (Downing Street), (Rolfe Street), (Forge Lane), SMETHWICK
NEW STREET TAVERN 46, (47), New Street, SMETHWICK
NEW TALBOT 457, (1), (Upper) Hagley Road / Barnsley Road, (Anderson Road), SMETHWICK
NEW TALBOT 151, (169), (80), High Street, SMETHWICK
NIGHT INN 53-54, (53), Great Arthur Street, SMETHWICK
NORTH WESTERN 80, (60), (61), High Street (11, Oldbury Road) / Halford Street, (Ford Street), SMETHWICK
NUT AND BOLT Cranford Street, SMETHWICK
OLD CHAPEL 2, (170), The Uplands, (Church Road), Bosoms End, SMETHWICK
OLD CORNER HOUSE 1, (56), Soho Street / Rabone Lane / Rolfe Street, (Windmill Lane), SMETHWICK
OLD CRYSTAL PALACE 70, Cranford Street / Alma Street / Soho Street, (Six Ways), SMETHWICK
OLD ENGINE 106, Rabone Lane / Engine Street, New Village, (Church End), (Cape of Good Hope), SMETHWICK
OLD HOUSE AT HOME 183, Halfords Lane, SMETHWICK
OLD TALBOT 144, (27), High Street, (Oldbury Road) / Trinity Street, SMETHWICK
PACKET HOUSE 36, (119), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK
PARK 304, High Street, (Newlands Green / Bearwood Hill), SMETHWICK
PATTERNMAKERS ARMS 3, Bridge Street, SMETHWICK
PHEASANT Abbey Road, (Pottery Road), (Pheasant Lane), (Slatch Hill Road), Warley Green, (Beech Lanes), SMETHWICK
PHOENIX 259, (245), Wattville Street / Downing Street, Handsworth, BIRMINGHAM
PLOUGH 176, (216), Oldbury Road, (High Street), SMETHWICK
PRINCE ALBERT 212, Grove Lane, (Cape Lane), SMETHWICK
PUFFING BILLY Raglan Road, SMETHWICK
QUEENS HEAD 200, Queens Road / Londonderry Lane, SMETHWICK
QUEENS HEAD 32, (39), Queen Street / 1, James Street, SMETHWICK
RABONE TAVERN Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK
RAILWAY 234, Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK
RAILWAY TAVERN George Street, SMETHWICK
RAILWAY TAVERN 47, Oldbury Road / Galton Street, (Fenton Street), SMETHWICK
RAILWAY TAVERN Sloe Lane, SMETHWICK
RAILWAY 177, Wellington Street / Vittoria Street, Soho, BIRMINGHAM
RED COW High Street, SMETHWICK
RED COW Newlands Green, (296 & 298, High Street), (Birmingham (Road) Street), (Oldbury Road), (68, Bearwood Hill), SMETHWICK
RED LION Baldwin Street, SMETHWICK
RED LION Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK
RED LION 33, Thomas Street / Howard Street, SMETHWICK
RED LION + SMETHWICK
RED LION + SMETHWICK
ROBIN 60, (61), Suffrage Street / 76, Corbett Street, SMETHWICK
ROSE AND THISTLE Wattville Street / Downing Street, HANDSWORTH
ROSE, SHAMROCK AND THISTLE 80, (79), (78), Cross Street, SMETHWICK
ROYAL EXCHANGE 153, (154), (152-153), Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK
ROYAL OAK 91, Halford Street, SMETHWICK

ROYAL OAK 29, Spon Lane, SMETHWICK
SAMPSON LLOYD 24-26, Cape Hill, SMETHWICK
SCOTCH TAVERN Scotch Row, SMETHWICK
SEVEN STARS 39, (35, 37 and 39), (1), (109), Cape Hill / Windmill Lane, SMETHWICK
SEVEN STARS 24, Rolfe Street, (Canalside), SMETHWICK
SHIRELAND Shireland Road / Montague Road, SMETHWICK
SIR ROBERT PEEL 42, (43), (44), Poplar Street / Lower Cross Street, SMETHWICK
SOHO FOUNDRY TAVERN 154, Foundry Lane, (Slough Lane), (Soho Foundry Lane), SMETHWICK
SOW AND PIGS 65, Bearwood Hill, (Oldbury Road), (Birmingham Road), SMETHWICK
SPON CROFT 292, (314), (274), Oldbury Road / Spon Lane, SMETHWICK
SPON LANE TAVERN 31, Spon Lane, SMETHWICK
SPREAD EAGLE Taylors Lane, SMETHWICK
STAFFORDSHIRE KNOT 111, Rolfe Street / Rabone Lane, SMETHWICK
STAR 151, Rolfe Street, (Bridge Street), SMETHWICK
STATION 1, (4), Rolfe Street / Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK
STORES 127, High Street / Brasshouse Lane, (510, Oldbury Road), SMETHWICK
STORK 11, (17), Harding Street / Brook Street, SMETHWICK
SWAN 56, (55), (61), (90), Oldbury Road (High Street) / Holly Lane, SMETHWICK
SWAN + SMETHWICK
THIMBLEMILL 174, Thimblemill Road / Norman Road, SMETHWICK
THREE CROWNS 13, Albert Street, SMETHWICK
TRAVELLERS REST 76, Brasshouse Lane / Lewisham Road, SMETHWICK
TRAVELLERS REST Halfords Lane, SMETHWICK
TWO BREWERS Queens Road, Londonderry, SMETHWICK
TWO MILE OAK Oldbury Road, SMETHWICK
UNION 32, Upper Grove Street / Lower Cross Street, SMETHWICK
VICTORIA 1, Messenger Road (1, High Park Road) / 209, Windmill Lane, Six Ways, SMETHWICK
VINE 26, Albert Street, SMETHWICK
VINE 89, (88), Cross Street, SMETHWICK
VINE Grove Lane, SMETHWICK
VOLUNTEER 197, Rolfe Street, SMETHWICK
VULCAN ARMS 7, Moilliett Street, SMETHWICK
WAGGON AND HORSES 84, (85), Lewisham Road / Cambridge Road, SMETHWICK
WAGGON AND HORSES 103, (193), (105), (138), Oldbury Road / Nine Leasowes, SMETHWICK
WATERLOO Waterloo Road / Shireland Road, SMETHWICK
WHITE GATE SMETHWICK
WHITE SWAN Canal Banks, Brasshouse Lane, SMETHWICK
WHY NOT 32, High Street, SMETHWICK
WINDMILL 154, (148), Windmill Lane / Ballot Street, SMETHWICK

HOW TO USE THE INFORMATION

PUB NAME

This is generally the name by which the pub was officially known. Other names, either changes or nicknames, are to be found in the notes section.

Names marked with + are, at present, not specifically identified as being any of those listed before them, and have not been attributed yet because of the lack of data available.

Pubs are not listed necessarily under their current name.

A number of beerhouses were never given a name, and these appear at the end of the pub lists as Beerhouse – Unnamed. Only those that I am pretty sure had 'on' licences are included.

This is sometimes the case with alehouses too.

Can't find the pub you want?

It's probably had its name changed. Try using the search facility to locate the pub name, or nickname, that you know.

ADDRESS

Eg. 52, (79), Haden Street, (Haden Lane) / Cox Alley, Kates Hill, DUDLEY

Numbers and street names in brackets denote earlier addresses. These are usually detailed in the notes section. Buildings were renumbered with development and demolition, or the renaming of the street etc.

/ = on the corner with.....

Sometimes districts are also included, such as Kates Hill above. These are often historical and are now obsolete, but can be located on early maps.

OWNERS

These are listed where known.

They include companies and individuals, and occasionally the dates acquired and prices paid.

LICENCEES

Often the owner was the licensee, and even when they employed managers their names would appear in directories.

Where known, names are appended with (manager, non-resident, tenant etc.).

Dates

These are differentiated by the use of brackets and/or italics.

[1862] = This was the case in 1862. Where the date appears on its own it refers to the earliest or latest reference found.

This also applies where a pub has its name changed, eg.

[2001] followed by "Its name was changed to XXXX. [2003]"

This means that in 2001 it still had its previous name, but by 2003 its name had been changed to XXXX.

[1862] = Information from a directory dated 1862, so may have been out of date when it was published. As much as five years in some cases!

[c. 1862] = About 1862, but exact date not known.

[1860's] = Some time in this decade.

[] = No date available, but the detail is inserted in roughly the right chronological place.

(1862 – [1863]) = Started in 1862 and was still the case in 1863.

[1862] – **1863) = It was the case in 1862 and ended** in 1863.

(1862 – 1863) = Started in 1862 and **ended** in 1863.

(1862 – 1863); the ; signifies that the licensee was immediately followed by the next person in the list. Sometimes the licence transfer came months after a person's death, but the transfer date is the one used, if date of death is not known.

Sometimes the licensing registers contradict findings from other sources such as directories. Where this occurs the ; is still used, the anomalous name is given a question mark and is placed in a suitable chronological place, and the next person is the one that follows the ;

Eg.

Fred Smith [1916] – **1927);**

Joseph Bloggs [1921] ?

George Jones **(1927 – 1932)**

In the register George Jones follows on from Fred Smith, but Joseph Bloggs was mentioned in another source in 1921. He is left in for completeness.

When using original documents, such as licensing registers, which are sometimes damaged, it is impossible to read some material (including dates). Where this has occurred, and only the decade or century is decipherable, I have used underscoring to replace the missing digits in an effort to keep the licensees in the correct order.

Eg. Fred Smith **(188_ – 18_);**

John Jones **(18_ – 189_):**

If the date is followed with a : this signifies the last person to hold the licence.

NOTES

These start with locations, and are followed by previous names or nicknames of the pub. These are then followed by other details, often where dates are unknown.

Historical details then follow chronologically where possible.

Some pubs listed are the same as others, but so far I have been unable to connect them. This is especially true when directories only list the pub name and licensee, and more than one pub of that name existed at the time. These are often identified by:-
Check OTHER PUB NAME.

Licensees are often associated with more than one pub, and pubs are sometimes rebuilt on different sites to their original one. These are identified by:-
See OTHER PUB NAME

Titles – only Miss and Mrs are used here (when known).
No other titles are used.
ie. Major George Cox was not a major. Major was his first name.

Often names were spelt differently in the sources used. This is identified where possible, and one spelling is used for consistency.

Where I have decided that different spellings are the same person I have identified this
eg. *Smith* = *Smithe* = *Smyth*

Where I am unsure about this I have identified it thus

* possibly the same person

or

* probably the same person

Where sources are quoted these appear in **colour**, followed by the quote in black in a different typeface from the remainder of the information. Sometimes I have paraphrased a quotation, and some have had additions entered by myself.

Information which has been transcribed by me from handwritten sources, such as censuses, parish records, licensing minutes etc., should be correctly spelt, but the reader is advised to check the original for themselves. In cases where I have been unable to transcribe individual names, only those letters that are clear are given. eg, Osbal__on ? The underscore does not indicate the number of missing letters, as this is often as unclear as the name itself.

Where I am not 100% sure that I have deciphered a name correctly this is indicated by a question mark in parentheses ie. (?)

Census records are presented in a different form than the original.

[1] = position in the household.

This is followed by the name and (age).

Relationship to [1] follows, and then occupation (if any is listed).

Finally comes the place of birth. Where these places are local to the Black Country, or are larger towns and cities, no county name is given.

Where birthplaces are given in the Black Country it has to be remembered:-

(a) Harborne once included Smethwick

(b) Kingswinford once covered places such as Brierley Hill, Pensnett, Quarry Bank and Wall Heath

(c) Sedgley once included Coseley and the Gornals

(d) West Bromwich once included Great Bridge (now in the Tipton file), Great Barr and Hamstead (not considered by me as part of the Black Country).

Most local newspapers were weekly and appeared on a Saturday.
This does not apply to the Express & Star, Midland Counties Evening Express, or Evening News / Star.

Newspaper articles sometimes spell the same thing (eg. Surname) differently in a single report. Where the proper spelling is known this is altered by me, but when I am unsure they are left as they appear.

A gazeteer is provided to give approximate locations of place names in relation to larger towns and cities in Britain.

Where a licensee changes her name by marriage, her former surname appears in brackets
ie. Jane (maiden or previous married name) Smith.

Where names of spouses are known, they are listed in the past tense, even though many may be still husband and wife. This is merely a convention used by me for convenience.

[text] Where square brackets occur, with text in a different typeface inside, this signifies comments of my own.

Some entries, in all sections, are followed by a number of question marks (without parentheses). These show the extent of doubt that I have over that entry.

The historical nature of the contents has meant that the old currency of pounds shillings and pence is used frequently. A pound (£) was divided into 20 shillings (s) and a shilling was divided into 12 pence (d). Halfpennies and farthings (1/4d) were also in use.

This is also the case where other measures, length, weight etc., are used. See glossary for details.

GLOSSARY

A number of terms may be unfamiliar and their meanings are listed below. Also abbreviations appear in quotations and they are translated below.

acre A measure of area equal to 4840 square yards.

alehouse An obsolete term meaning both a house licensed to sell ale, or one with a full license, as distinct to a beerhouse.

ante 1869 Licensed before 1st May 1869, and applies to beerhouses which were protected from refusal to renew the license, unless statutory rules were broken.

These were:-

(a) That the premises were frequented by thieves, prostitutes or people of bad character.

(b) Failure of an applicant to provide evidence of a good character.

(c) The applicant had been disqualified due to misconduct.

A.O.F. Ancient Order of Foresters

apprentice One who was bound to a skilled worker for a specified time to learn the trade.

axle tree maker One who made axles for coaches and waggons.

bagatelle A billiards derived game in which players have to negotiate wooden pins in order to navigate balls around a table.

bagman A travelling salesman.

banksman A man in charge of the cages at a pit head.

barm yeast / fermenting liquor

barrel A barrel containing 36 gallons.

base coin Counterfeit coin

beerhouse A pub which was only licenced to sell beer.

billiard marker A person who attends on players at billiards and records the progress of the game.

bill poster One who pastes up bills, notices or placards.

billycock A hard felt hat popular in Victorian times.

black list Anyone convicted of drunkenness was placed on this list. It was an offence to serve such a person, knowingly, for three years after being listed.

black saddler Someone who made cart, gig and other saddles in black leather.

blacksmith Someone who forges and shapes red hot iron with a hammer and anvil, also one who shoes horses.

bobber Metal polisher.

boots A hotel servant who cleans boots, runs errands etc.

brake A long waggonette.

breeze Furnace refuse used in making building material.

bridle cutter A person who cut leather to make horses' bridles.

brown saddler A person who made riding saddles from brown leather.

buckle tongue maker A person who made the metal points that go in the holes of belts, harness etc.

bushel A measure of 8 gallons.

butty A mining term for one who takes a contract for work in a coal mine.

c. circa

cabman One who drove a cab.

C.A.M.R.A. Campaign for Real Ale

carter A carrier, usually with a cart or waggon.

chartermaster A middleman who negotiated mining contracts and supplied the labour.

charwoman A cleaner.

cheap Jack A travelling hawker, who professes to give great bargain.

cobbler One who mended shoes.

commercial When applied to an inn or hotel it meant that commercial travellers were catered for, often at a reasonable price.

common brewer A brewer whose beer is brewed for the public, generally, not just for a pub.

Compensation Authority A body set up to decide the amount of compensation to be paid to the owner, when a licensing authority proposes to refuse a license renewal on grounds other than the statutory ones relating to the character or the conduct of the house.

Compensation was paid by the Inland Revenue from moneys collected from a levy on licenses.

compositor Someone who set type for printing.

cordwainer shoemaker (not a boot maker)

core A device used in casting and moulding processes to produce internal cavities.

Cork club A charitable organisation in which the members had to carry a cork on their person at all times. They were challenged by other members of the club to produce their cork, and if they could not, they had to pay a 'fine' into the charity fund.

corn factor A middleman in corn deals.

C.R. Chief Ranger – an office within the Ancient Order of Foresters.

currier Horse groom / leather trade finisher who greases the dry leather to make it flexible.

cwt hundredweight, 112 pounds (approximately 51 kilograms)

d (old) pence

D.C.R. District Chief Ranger – an office within the Ancient Order of Foresters.

D.D.M. Deputy District Master – an office within the Ancient Order of Foresters.

die sinker Someone who engraves dies for stamping or embossing, or cutting screw threads on metal.

D.M. District Master – an office within the Ancient Order of Foresters.

draper A dealer in cloth, cloth goods, and sewing needs.

dray A low strong cart for heavy goods.

dropsy A morbid accumulation of watery fluid on any part of the body.

edge tool maker A person who made knives and agricultural tools such as scythes.

f. founded

factor's clerk A clerk to a manufacturer.

farrier A horse doctor, or blacksmith who shoes horses.

filling A Victorian term meaning to serve beer / alcohol.

firkin A barrel containing 9 gallons.

florin A coin of the value 2s (10p).

footpad A highwayman on foot.

freehold Legal ownership and control of a building or a piece of land for an unlimited time.

French polisher Someone who polished quality furniture using French polish, wax or lacquer.

gaming The playing of games of chance for winnings.

gawn A small round tub with a handle, used for carrying the wort.

General Annual Licensing Meeting This was the principal licensing meeting, and was sometimes called the **Brewster Sessions**. They were usually held during the first fortnight of February every year.

grains of paradise Aframomum melegueta. A form of ginger native to the swamps of West Africa. The seeds (grains) were used in brewing to give the impression of strength. Its use became illegal in Britain in 1816.

guinea An amount of £1 1s 0d.

haberdasher A dealer in small wares, as ribbons, tapes etc.

half crown A coin of the value 2s 6d.

hame One of the two curved bars of a draught horse's collar.

harbouring the police Allowing police officers to be on the licensed premises when they should be on duty. The exceptions being when they have permission of a senior officer, or are engaged in preventing / detecting a breach of the licensing laws, or keeping order.

higgler or **higler** pedlar, usually with a horse and cart

hogshead A barrel containing 52½ gallons.

hoof prints / marks During the winter of 1855 there was a spate of people reporting these marks being visible in the snow on their roofs.

hostler see ostler

inst. / instant (during) the current month

intoxicating liquor spirits, beer, cider, wine and British wine

japanner A person who made 'japanned' object using the Japanese lacquer techniques.

journeyman Fully qualified tradesman who had served an apprenticeship.

kilderkin A barrel holding 18 gallons.

liquor water (brewing)

L.M.S. London, Midland and Scottish (railway)

L.N.E.R. London and North Eastern Railway

long pull This was a practice in which more beer was served than the quantity ordered. It was originally encouraged by brewers to improve trade, but around 1900 they began to object to it, to improve takings!
It is no longer illegal.

m. married

M. U. Manchester Unity (of Oddfellows)

milliner A dealer in Milan goods, or more commonly a maker / seller of women's hats, trimmings etc.

Minorca a breed of laying poultry

oliverman An operator of a forge hammer worked by foot

on tramp travelling

Order of Discharge An order by a court of law saying that a person or company that is bankrupt is no longer responsible for paying back its debts.

ordinary A meal provided at a fixed cost.

Ordinary Removal A method of attaching a license of any description to premises previously unlicensed by the removal of a license of the same description from other premises.

ostler Someone who attends to horses at an inn.

paviour One who does paving work.

Penny dreadful A cheap sensational serial or tale.

perch A measure of area equal to 30¼ square yards (25.3 square metres).

platelayer One who laid and maintained railway tracks.

posting house (post house) A place where horses were kept as replacements to pull stage coaches, which arrived there. (A staging post is an alternative name.)

potboy / potman Someone who worked in public houses, collecting and washing dirty pots or glasses.

provisional renewal When the Justices refer a license to the Compensation Authority this is granted. It enables the pub to continue until a decision is made. If the license is extinguished this renewal expires 7 days after compensation is paid, if not then it becomes unconditional.

publican's license This license authorizes the sale of any intoxicating liquor for consumption on or off the premises.

puddler (pudler) Wrought iron worker, he would stir molten pig iron to form wrought iron.

puncheon An Imperial measure of 72 gallons.

quart An Imperial measure of liquid equal to two pints.

quarter A measure of eight bushels; equivalent to 8 barrels of beer.

quartern A quarter of a pint.

R. A. O. B. Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes.

rat killing ledger A blood sport in which dogs kill as many rats, in a given time; the one killing most being the winner. Gambling took place – hence the ledger (book in which bets were recorded).

rim lock A locking device that attaches to the surface of a door or window.

rood A measure of area of about a quarter of an acre.

s shillings

sennight A week (ago)

shingler Manipulator of puddled balls of iron to remove impurities.

Sick and Dividend Society A society in which annual / monthly / weekly contributions were made by its members in order to provide "insurance" payouts when work preventing sickness, or death, occurred to its members. A dividend was paid (usually in December) from the remaining investment.

sinker Well or shaft digger.

6 day license Pubs with this type of license were not allowed to open on Sundays.

smoking concert A concert where those attending were allowed (or even encouraged!) to smoke.

sovereign A coin of the value of £1.

spragging Mining term for propping.

stallman Keeper of stable underground (mining).

temperance hotel (house) A building run along the same lines as pubs / hotels, but without alcohol.

ult / ultimo (during) the previous month

union fermentation system A system of fermentation, developed in the 19th century, in which fermenting beer is kept in rows of large barrels (unions) interconnected by pipes and troughs, which allows the yeast to continually circulate through the beer. It is often referred to as the Burton Union system.

W. B. A. West Bromwich Albion

whitesmith A metal worker in tin, or light metals.

WM masonic term for Worshipful Master.

wood turner Someone who turns wood on a lathe.

wort The malt solution that results from the main brewing operation.

£ pound

THE ACTS

Below is a list of some of the Acts of Parliament relating to licensing, and some of their effects. By no means is all legislation here.

Alehouse Act, 1828

Laid down, for the first time, a uniform code of procedure for annual licensing and transfer sessions. Premises licensed under this Act were enabled to sell not only 'Ale' but other intoxicating drinks.

Beerhouse Act, 1830

A reforming Act intended to discourage the consumption of spirits (especially gin). Excise licenses could be taken out without having to go through the justices, and this resulted in the growth of beerhouses nationwide.

Refreshment Houses Act, 1860

Effectively put the sale of wine on an even footing with beer, as it enabled a refreshment house keeper to sell wine without obtaining a justice's license.

Wine and Beerhouse Act, 1869

Gave the licensing justices control over all premises where intoxicating liquor was sold for consumption on the premises. No new licenses could be obtained without applying to them, but existing beer and wine licenses were protected (see ante 1869, above).

This inhibited the continuing growth of beerhouses resulting from the 1830 Act.

Licensing Act, 1872

This established a procedure whereby a new license was only valid after a second, Confirmation procedure had taken place.

Licensing Act, 1902

This granted justices the same rights over off licenses as they had over on licenses, since 1869.

Licensing Act, 1904

This set up the compensation procedure for the extinguishing of unnecessary licenses, or those of unsound premises, but did not affect ante 1869 beerhouses.

GAZETTEER

The following places appear in the main text. Below is their location in reference to bigger towns or cities. Distances and directions are approximate. Not all places in the text are mentioned below.

ABBOTS BROMLEY, Staffordshire - 7 miles S of Uttoxeter

ABERCARN, Monmouthshire - 10 miles NW of Newport

ACTON TRUSSELL, Staffordshire - 4 miles SE of Stafford

ADMASTON, Shropshire is part of Telford

ALBRIGHTON, Shropshire - 7 miles NW of Wolverhampton

ALDRIDGE, Staffordshire - 4 miles ENE of Walsall

ALREWAS, Staffordshire - 7 miles SW of Burton upon Trent

ALTON, Hampshire - 9 miles SE of Basingstoke

ALVECHURCH, Warwickshire - 4 miles NW of Redditch

AMESBURY, Gloucestershire - 7 miles N of Salisbury

ANSTEY, Leicestershire - 4 miles NW of Leicester

ARLEY KINGS - 10 miles N of Worcester

ARMITAGE, Staffordshire - 4 miles NNW of Lichfield

ASHOVER, Derbyshire - 4 miles NE of Matlock

ASTLEY, Lancashire - a suburb of Chorley

ASTLEY ABBOTTS, Shropshire - 2 miles N of Bridgnorth

ASTON, Warwickshire is probably the part of Birmingham

ASTON CANTLOW, Warwickshire - 5 miles NW of Stratford

ATTLEBOROUGH, Norfolk - 14 miles NE of Thetford

AUDLEY, Staffordshire - 4 miles NW of Newcastle under Lyne

AUSTREY, Warwickshire - 5 miles ENE of Tamworth

BALSALL HEATH, Worcestershire is part of Birmingham

BALSCOTT, Oxfordshire - 4 miles W of Banbury

BARNBY DUN, Yorkshire is part of Doncaster

BARROW UPON SOAR, Leicestershire - 2 miles SE of Loughborough

BARTON, Oxfordshire is a suburb of Oxford

BARTON, Yorkshire - 6 miles SW of Darlington

BARTON UNDER NEEDWOOD, Staffordshire - 4 miles SW of Burton upon Trent

BASCHURCH, Shropshire - 7 miles NW of Shrewsbury

BAVERSTOCK, Wiltshire - 7 miles W of Salisbury

BEDDINGTON, Surrey is part of the London Borough of Sutton

BEDWORTH, Warwickshire - 3 miles S of Nuneaton

BELTON, Rutlandshire - 6 miles SW of Oakham

BENTLEY, Warwickshire - 6 miles NW of Nuneaton

BEOLEY, Worcestershire - 2 miles N of Redditch

BERKELEY, Gloucestershire - 11 miles SSW of Stroud

BERRINGTON, Shropshire - 4 miles SSE of Shrewsbury

BICKENHILL, Warwickshire - 3 miles NE of Solihull

BINFIELD, Berkshire - 8 miles SE of Reading

BISHOP WILTON, Yorkshire - 12 miles ENE of York

BLABY, Leicestershire - 5 miles S of Leicester

BLACKLEY, Lancashire is part of Manchester

BLOCKLEY, Worcestershire - 10 miles SE of Evesham

BLYMILL, Staffordshire - 10 miles SW of Stafford

BONEHILL, Staffordshire is part of Tamworth

BOURTON ON THE WATER, Gloucestershire - 4 miles SSW of Stow on the Wold

BRACKENFIELD, Derbyshire - 4 miles ESE of Matlock

BRADFORD ON AVON, Wiltshire - 8 miles SE of Bath

BRAMPTON, Derbyshire is part of Chesterfield

BRAMPTON, Huntingdonshire - 2 miles SW of Huntingdon

BRAUNSTON, Northamptonshire - 3 miles NNE of Daventry

BRERETON, Staffordshire - 1 mile S of Rugeley

BREWOOD, Staffordshire - 6 miles W of Cannock

BRICKLEHAMPTON, Worcestershire - 3 miles SE of Pershore

BRIDSTOW, Herefordshire - 1 mile W of Ross on Wye

BRINDLE, Lancashire - 5 miles SE of Preston

BROCTON, Staffordshire - 4 miles SE of Stafford

BROOME, Worcestershire - 5 miles ENE of Kidderminster

BROSELEY, Shropshire is part of Telford

BURGHILL, Herefordshire - 3 miles NNW of Hereford

BURNHILL GREEN, Shropshire - 6 miles NE of Bridgnorth

BURNTWOOD, Staffordshire - 4 miles W of Lichfield

BURTON IN LONSDALE, Lancashire / Yorkshire - 9 miles E of Carnforth

BURWARTON, Shropshire - 10 miles NE of Ludlow

CARLTON, Leicestershire - 12 miles W of Leicester

CARSINGTON, Derbyshire - 2 miles WSW of Wirksworth

CASTLE DONINGTON, Leicestershire - 12 miles SW of Nottingham

CASTLE FROME, Herefordshire - 10 miles ENE of Hereford

CASTLE MORTON, Worcestershire - 5 miles E of Ledbury

CASTOR, Northamptonshire - 4 miles W of Peterborough

CHADDESLEY CORBETT, Worcestershire - 4 miles ESE of Kidderminster

CHEADLE, Staffordshire - 7 miles NW of Uttoxeter

CHELMARSH, Shropshire - 4 miles S of Bridgnorth

CHESLYN HAY, Staffordshire - 2 miles S of Cannock

CHESWARDINE, Shropshire - 4 miles SE of Market Drayton

CHETTON, Shropshire - 4 miles WSW of Bridgnorth

CHILLINGTON, Staffordshire - 4 miles NW of Wolverhampton

CHIRBURY, Shropshire - 3 miles E of Montgomery

CHORLEY, Staffordshire - 3 miles WSW of Lichfield

CHURCH LAWTON, Cheshire - 6 miles WSW of Congleton

CLAINES, Worcestershire - 2 miles N of Worcester

CLAYHANGER, Staffordshire is just W of Brownhills

CLEETON, Shropshire - 3 miles NE of Ludlow

CLIFTON, Derbyshire - 1 mile SW of Ashbourne

CLIFTON UPON DUNSMORE, Warwickshire - 2 miles E of Rugby

CLIFTON CAMPVILLE, Staffordshire - 10 miles E of Lichfield

CLIFTON ON TEME, Worcestershire - 10 miles NW of Worcester

CLUN, Shropshire - 5 miles N of Knighton

COALBROOKDALE, Shropshire is part of Telford

COALPORT, Shropshire is part of Telford

CODDINGTON, Nottinghamshire - 3 miles E of Newark

COGGESHALL, Essex - 6 miles E of Braintree

COLLINGTON, Herefordshire - 4 miles N of Bromyard

COLTON, Staffordshire - 2 miles N of Rugeley

COLWICH, Staffordshire - 3 miles NW of Rugeley

CONDOVER, Shropshire - 5 miles S of Shrewsbury

CONGRESBURY, Somerset - 7 miles E of Weston-super-Mare

CORBIT, Worcestershire is possibly another name for Chaddesley Corbett

CORELEY, Shropshire - 5 miles NE of Tenbury Wells

COUNTRESTHORPE, Leicestershire - 6 miles S of Leicester

COVEN, Staffordshire - 5 miles N of Wolverhampton

CRADLEY, Herefordshire - 3 miles W of Great Malvern

CUBBINGTON, Warwickshire is on the NE outskirts of Leamington Spa

DALLINGTON, Northamptonshire - 2 miles NW of Northampton

DAVENHAM, Cheshire - 2 miles S of Northwich

DAWLEY, Shropshire is part of Telford

DILWYN, Herefordshire - 6 miles SW of Leominster

DRAYCOTT IN THE CLAY, Staffordshire - 4 miles SE of Uttoxeter

DRIGHLINGTON, Yorkshire - 6 miles SW of Leeds

DUKENFIELD, Cheshire is part of Greater Manchester

DYMCHURCH, Kent - 10 miles SE of Ashford

EARL SHILTON, Leicestershire - 10 miles SW of Leicester

EAST HARLING, Norfolk - 8 miles E of Thetford

EASTLEIGH, Hampshire - 5 miles NE of Southampton

EASTNOR, Herefordshire - 3 miles E of Ledbury

EAST STOKE, Dorsetshire - 3 miles W of Wareham

ECCLESHALL, Staffordshire - 6 miles W of Stone

EDWINSTOWE, Nottinghamshire - 6 miles ENE of Mansfield

EDGERTON, Shropshire - near Ludlow (OS SO605812), now abandoned

EPSTONE, Staffordshire is probably a former spelling of Ipstones

ERDINGTON, Warwickshire is part of Birmingham

ESSINGTON, Staffordshire - 4 miles NE of Wolverhampton

FEATHERSTONE, Staffordshire - 5 miles NNE of Wolverhampton

FENNY STRATFORD, Buckinghamshire is part of Milton Keynes

FENTON, Staffordshire is part of Stoke on Trent

FILLONGLEY, Warwickshire - 7 miles NW of Coventry

FLOCKTON, Yorkshire - 7 miles E of Huddersfield

FOLESHILL, Warwickshire is part of Coventry

FRADLEY, Staffordshire - 5 miles NE of Lichfield

FRESHFORD, Somersetshire - 6 miles SE of Bath

FULLBROOK, Oxfordshire - 6 miles WNW of Witney

GAILEY, Staffordshire - 4 miles W of Cannock

GNOSSALL, Staffordshire - 6 miles W of Stafford

GOSCOTE is part of Walsall

GREAT ALNE, Warwickshire - 6 miles SE of Redditch

GREAT BARR, Staffordshire is part of Birmingham

GREAT HAYWOOD, Staffordshire - 4 miles NE of Rugeley

GREAT MARLOW, Buckinghamshire - 4 miles SSW of High Wycombe

GRENDON, Warwickshire - 5 miles SE of Tamworth

GRESSINGHAM, Lancashire - 5 miles E of Carnforth

GUILSFIELD, Montgomeryshire - 3 miles N of Welshpool

HADLEY, Shropshire is part of Telford

HAGBOURNE, Berkshire - 1 mile S of Didcot

HAGLEY, Worcestershire - 2 miles S of Stourbridge

HAMSTALL RIDWARE, Staffordshire - 4 miles ENE of Rugeley

HANDSACRE, Staffordshire - 5 miles N of Lichfield; 3 miles S of Rugeley

HANDSWORTH, Staffordshire is part of Birmingham

HANLEY, Staffordshire is part of Stoke on Trent

HANLEY CASTLE, Worcestershire - 8 miles S of Worcester

HARBURY, Warwickshire - 6 miles SE of Warwick

HARLEY, Warwickshire - 10 miles SE of Shrewsbury

HARPOLE, Northamptonshire - 4 miles W of Northampton
HARTINGTON, Derbyshire - 9 miles NNW of Ashbourne
HARTLEBURY, Worcestershire - 4 miles S of Kidderminster
HARWELL, Berkshire / Oxfordshire - 2 miles W of Didcot
HATHERTON, Staffordshire - 2 miles W of Cannock
HAWARDEN, Flintshire - 6 miles W of Chester
HAYFIELD, Derbyshire - 10 miles N of Buxton
HAZLETON, Gloucestershire - 10 miles E of Cheltenham
HEDNESFORD, Staffordshire - 2 miles NE of Cannock
HIGHAM, Derbyshire - 8 miles S of Chesterfield
HIGHBRIDGE, Somerset - 7 miles N of Bridgwater
HIGHLEY, Shropshire - 7 miles S of Bridgnorth
HINTS, Staffordshire - 3 miles W of Tamworth
HIXON, Staffordshire - 5 miles ENE of Stafford
HOLLINGTON, Derbyshire - 5 miles ESE of Ashbourne
HORSEHAY, Shropshire is part of Telford
HUGGLESCOTE, Leicestershire - 1 mile S of Coalville
HYDE, Cheshire is part of Greater Manchester
ILMINGTON, Warwickshire - 8 miles S of Stratford
INGESTRE, Staffordshire - 3 miles ENE of Stafford
IPSTONES, Staffordshire - 5 miles SE of Leek
IRONBRIDGE, Shropshire is part of Telford
IRONVILLE, Derbyshire - 3 miles N of Heanor
KEMPSEY, Worcestershire - 4 miles S of Worcester
KIDSGROVE, Staffordshire is part of Newcastle under Lyne
KILSBY, Northamptonshire - 5 miles SE of Rugby
KINGS ARLEY, Worcestershire - see Arley Kings
KINGS BROMLEY, Staffordshire - 4 miles N of Lichfield
KINLET, Shropshire - 8 miles S of Bridgnorth
KINVER, Staffordshire - 4 miles W of Stourbridge
KIRKTON, Dumfriesshire - 4 miles N of Dumfries

KNUTSFORD, Cheshire - 11 miles NW of Macclesfield

LAMPORT, Northamptonshire - 8 miles WSW of Kettering

LAPLEY, Staffordshire - 7 miles WNW of Cannock

LEEK WOOTTON, Warwickshire - 3 miles N of Warwick

LEIGH SINTON, Worcestershire - 5 miles SW of Worcester

LENTON, Nottinghamshire is part of Nottingham

LINDRIDGE, Worcestershire - 8 miles W of Stourport

LISKEARD, Cornwall - 12 miles E of Bodmin

LITTLE ASTON, Staffordshire - 5 miles E of Walsall

LITTLE BRICKHILL, Berkshire - 5 miles N of Leighton Buzzard

LITTLE BUDWORTH, Cheshire - 4 miles W of Winsford

LITTLE COMPTON, Gloucestershire - 4 miles NW of Chipping Norton

LITTLE HORWOOD, Buckinghamshire - 4 miles ESE of Buckingham

LITTLE HAYWOOD, Staffordshire - 5 miles E of Stafford

LOCKINGTON, Leicestershire - 7 miles NW of Loughborough

LONG BENNINGTON, Lincolnshire - 7 miles N of Grantham

LONG BUCKBY, Northamptonshire - 5 miles NE of Daventry

LONG COMPTON, Warwickshire - 12 miles SW of Banbury

LONG ITCHINGTON, Warwickshire - 6 miles E of Leamington Spa

LONGDON, Staffordshire - 2 miles NNW of Lichfield

LONG LAWFORD, Warwickshire - 2 miles NW of Rugby

LONG MELFORD - 14 miles S of Bury St. Edmunds

LONG SUTTON, Lincolnshire - 13 miles E of Spalding

LONGTON, Staffordshire is part of Stoke on Trent

LOYSWEEDON, Northamptonshire - see Weedon Lois

LULLINGTON, Derbyshire - 6 miles S of Burton on Trent

MADLEY, Herefordshire - 6 miles W of Hereford

MADELEY, Shropshire is part of Telford

MANTON, Wiltshire - 1 mile WSW of Marlborough

MARCHINGTON, Staffordshire - 4 miles SE of Uttoxeter

MARGAM, Glamorganshire - 3 miles SE of Port Talbot

MARTON, Shropshire - 6 miles SE of Welshpool

MEASHAM, Derbyshire - 4 miles SSW of Ashby de la Zouch

MEOLE BRACE, Shropshire - 2 miles S of Shrewsbury

MELFORD, Suffolk (see Long Melford)

MERTON, Surrey became a London borough

The MIDDLE, Shropshire - 8 miles NW of Shrewsbury

MIDDLETON, Warwickshire - 3 miles ENE of Sutton Coldfield

MILFORD, Staffordshire - 3 miles ESE of Stafford

MINETY, Wiltshire - 8 miles WNW of Swindon

MOIRA, Leicestershire - 3 miles WSW of Ashby de la Zouch

MONK BRETTON, Yorkshire - 2 miles NE of Barnsley

MONMORE GREEN is between Wolverhampton and Bilston

MOULTON, Cheshire - 3 miles S of Northwich

MURSTON, Leicestershire - 5 miles W of Grantham

NAILSEA, Somerset - 10 miles WSW of Bristol

NAPTON ON THE HILL, Warwickshire - 10 miles ESE of Warwick

NEWDALE, Shropshire is part of Telford

NEWHALL, Derbyshire - 3 miles SE of Burton upon Trent

NEW INVENTION is part of Willenhall

NEW MILLS, Derbyshire - 8 miles SE of Stockport

NEWPORT, Shropshire - 15 miles ENE of Shrewsbury

NEWSTEAD, Nottinghamshire - 9 miles WNW of Nottingham

NORMANTON, Derbyshire is part of Derby

NORTHENDEN, Cheshire - 5 miles S of Manchester city centre

NORTHFIELD, Worcestershire is a part of Birmingham

NORTHWICH, Cheshire - 18 miles E of Chester

NORTON CANES, Staffordshire - 2 miles ESE of Cannock

OAKAMOOD, Staffordshire - 10 miles E of Stoke on Trent

OAKENGATES, Shropshire is part of Telford

OCKER HILL is part of Tipton

OPENSHAW, Lancashire - 2 miles E of Manchester city centre

ORTON ON THE HILL, Leicestershire - 6 miles E of Tamworth

OSGATHORPE, Leicestershire - 7 miles W of Loughborough

OVERTON, Hampshire - 8 miles WSW of Basingstoke

PARKGATE, Yorkshire is part of Rawmarsh, 2 miles N of Rotherham

PATTINGHAM, Staffordshire - 7 miles W of Wolverhampton

PAXFORD, Worcestershire - 11 miles ESE of Evesham

PEMBERTON, Lancashire is a district of Wigan

PEMBRIDGE, Herefordshire - 7 miles W of Leominster

PENDLEBURY, Lancashire - 4 miles NW of Manchester city centre

PENDLETON, Lancashire - 7 miles NW of Burnley

PENKRIDGE, Staffordshire - 6 miles S of Stafford

PENSAX, Worcestershire - 6 miles WSW of Stourport

PERSHORE, Worcestershire - 8 miles SE of Worcester

POLESWORTH, Warwickshire - 4 miles E of Tamworth

PONTESBURY, Shropshire - 8 miles SW of Shrewsbury

PORTLAND TOWN, Middlesex was part of Marylebone, London

PORTOBELLO is part of Willenhall

QUATFORD, Shropshire - 2 miles SE of Bridgnorth

RADBOURNE, Derbyshire - 4 miles W of Derby

RADFORD SEMELE, Warwickshire - 2 miles ESE of Leamington Spa

RADCLIFF ON TRENT, Nottinghamshire - 5 miles E of Nottingham

RAMSEY, Huntingdonshire - 10 miles SE of Peterborough

RAVENSTONE, Leicestershire is to the W of Coalville

REPTON, Derbyshire - 5 miles NE of Burton upon Trent

RODINGTON, Shropshire - 6 miles E of Shrewsbury

ROTHWELL, Northamptonshire - 4 miles WNW of Kettering

ROWINGTON, Warwickshire - 5 miles NW of Warwick

RUARDEAN, Monmouthshire - 3 miles NW of Cinderford

RUGELEY, Staffordshire - 6 miles NWN of Lichfield

RUSHOCK, Worcestershire - 4 miles N of Droitwich

SALTCOATS, Ayrshire - 12 miles WNW of Kilmarnock

SAMBROOK, Shropshire - 6 miles SSE of Market Drayton

SANDON, Staffordshire - 5 miles NE of Stafford

SAWLEY, Yorkshire - 4 miles W of Ripon

SAWTREY, Huntingdonshire - 10 miles S of Peterborough

SCALEBY, Cumberland - 6 miles NNE of Carlisle

SECKINGTON, Warwickshire - 4 miles NE of Tamworth

SEISDON, Staffordshire - 6 miles W of Wolverhampton

SHARESHILL, Staffordshire - 3 miles SW of Cannock

SHEEN, Staffordshire - 8 miles SSE of Buxton

SHELSLEY WALSH, Worcestershire - 9 miles NW of Worcester

SHENSTONE, Staffordshire - 4 miles E of Brownhills

SHEPSHED, Leicestershire - 4 miles W of Loughborough

SHIFNAL, Shropshire - 10 miles NNE of Bridgnorth

SHILTON, Leicestershire – check Earl Shilton

SHORT HEATH, Staffordshire is between Bloxwich and Willenhall

SHUSTOKE, Warwickshire - 10 miles ENE of Birmingham

SIBSON, Leicestershire - 9 miles ESE of Tamworth

SILSOE, Bedfordshire - 9 miles S of Bedford

SILVERDALE, Staffordshire is part of Newcastle under Lyme

SILVERSTONE, Northamptonshire - 4 miles SSW of Towcester

SNARESTONE, Leicestershire - 9 miles ENE of Tamworth

SNOWSHILL, Gloucestershire - 6 miles SSE of Evesham

SOUTHAM, Warwickshire - 7 miles E of Leamington

SOUTH LITTLETON, Worcestershire - 2 miles NE of Evesham

SOUTH MUSKHAM, Nottinghamshire - 2 miles N of Newark on Trent

STANTON, Derbyshire - 3 miles SE of Burton upon Trent

STANTON, Staffordshire - 18 miles E of Stoke on Trent

STATHERN, Leicestershire - 10 miles N of Melton Mowbray

STIRCHLEY, Shropshire is part of Telford

STOCKINGFORD, Warwickshire - 2 miles W of Nuneaton

STOCKLAND, Dorsetshire / Devonshire - 6 miles NE of Honiton

STOCKTON, Herefordshire - 2 miles NE of Leominster

STOCKTON, Shropshire - 4 miles N of Bridgnorth

STON EASTON, Somersetshire - 14 miles SW of Bath

STONNALL, Staffordshire - 2 miles E of Brownhills

STUDLEY, Warwickshire - 4 miles SE of Redditch

SUCKLEY, Herefordshire - 8 miles WSW of Worcester

SUTTON, Shropshire - 2 miles SE of Shrewsbury

SWINBROOK, Oxfordshire - 4 miles ENE of Witney

SWINDON, Staffordshire - 5 miles W of Dudley

TANWORTH IN ARDEN, Warwickshire - 4 miles NE of Redditch

TETBURY, Gloucestershire - 10 miles SW of Cirencester

THAME, Oxfordshire - 13 miles E of Oxford

THORNBURY, Herefordshire - 6 miles N of Bromyard

THORNHILL, Derbyshire - 8 miles ENE of Chapel en le Frith

THORPE, Derbyshire - 4 miles NW of Ashbourne

TICKHILL, Yorkshire - 8 miles S of Doncaster

TICKNALL, Derbyshire - 8 miles S of Derby

TIDESWELL, Derbyshire - 6 miles E of Buxton

TILSTOCK, Shropshire - 2 miles S of Whitchurch

TINGEWICK, Buckinghamshire - 3 miles W of Buckingham

TODMORDEN, Lancashire / Yorkshire - 8 miles SE of Burnley

TONG, Shropshire - 9 miles NW of Wolverhampton

TREFEGLWYS, Montgomeryshire - 10 miles W of Newtown

TRENTHAM, Staffordshire is part of Stoke on Trent

TRYSULL, Staffordshire - 6 miles WNW of Dudley

TUNSTALL, Staffordshire is part of Stoke on Trent

TUTBURY, Staffordshire - 4 miles NNW of Burton on Trent

TYBURN, Worcestershire is part of Birmingham

ULEY, Gloucestershire - 6 miles SW of Stroud

UPPER ARLEY, Worcestershire - 5 miles NW of Kidderminster

UPPER TEAN, Staffordshire - 9 miles SE of Stoke on Trent

UPTON ON SEVERN, Worcestershire - 9 miles S of Worcester

UPTON GREY, Hampshire - 5 miles ESE of Basingstoke

UPWELL, Norfolk - 6 miles W of Downham Market

WAGBEACH, Shropshire - 10 miles SW of Shrewsbury

WAINFLEET, Lincolnshire - 5 miles SW of Skegness

WALCOT, Shropshire - 6 miles E of Shrewsbury

WALL, Staffordshire - 2 miles WSW of Lichfield

WALTON, Derbyshire is a suburb of Chesterfield

WALTON, Staffordshire - 1 mile SW of Stone

WALTON UPON TRENT, Derbyshire - 4 miles SSW of Burton upon Trent

WAPLEY, Gloucestershire - 6 miles NE of Bristol

WARMINGTON, Northamptonshire - 8 miles SW of Peterborough

WATER ORTON, Warwickshire - 6 miles NNE of Birmingham

WEEDON LOIS, Northamptonshire - 10 miles S of Daventry

WEEFORD, Staffordshire - 5 miles W of Tamworth

WELFORD ON AVON, Warwickshire - 4 miles WSW of Stratford upon Avon

WELLESBOURNE, Warwickshire - 7 miles S of Warwick

WELLINGTON, Shropshire is part of Telford

WELSHAMPTON, Shropshire - 8 miles ESE of Whitchurch

WELTON, Northamptonshire - 3 miles N of Daventry

WENTNOR, Shropshire - 5 miles NE of Bishops Castle

WESTBURY, Shropshire - 8 miles W of Shrewsbury

WEST DERBY, Lancashire is part of Liverpool

WESTLEY WATERLESS, Cambridgeshire - 5 miles SW of Newmarket

WESTON LONGVILLE, Norfolk - 8 miles NW of Norwich

WESTON ON TRENT, Staffordshire - 6 miles SSE of Derby

WHEATON ASTON, Staffordshire - 7 miles W of Cannock

WHISTON, Staffordshire - 7 miles SE of Leek

WHITTINGTON, Staffordshire - 3 miles SE of Lichfield

WHITTINGTON, Shropshire - 3 miles NE of Oswestry

WHITWICK, Leicestershire - 2 miles NW of Coalville

WICK, Worcestershire - 9 miles SE of Worcester

WIGGINTON, Staffordshire - 2 miles N of Tamworth

WILLEY, Shropshire - 5 miles NW of Bridgnorth

WILNECOTE, Staffordshire - 2 miles SE of Tamworth

WIMBLEBURY, Staffordshire - 2 miles E of Cannock

WINCHCOMBE, Gloucestershire - 6 miles NE of Cheltenham

WINSHILL, Derbyshire - 2 miles E of Burton on Trent

WISTANSTOW, Shropshire - 9 miles NW of Ludlow

WITBOURNE, Worcestershire - 8 miles W of Worcester

WITHINGTON, Herefordshire - 5 miles NE of Hereford

WITHINGTON, Staffordshire - 3 miles W of Uttoxeter

WOLVERLEY, Worcestershire - 2 Miles N of Kidderminster

WOMBOURNE, Staffordshire - 5 miles WNW of Dudley

WOOD END, (Staffordshire) is part of Wednesfield

WOODVILLE, Leicestershire - 3 miles WNW of Ashby de la Zouch

WORTHEN, Shropshire - 12 miles WSW of Shrewsbury

WRIBBENHALL, Worcestershire - 3 miles WSW of Kidderminster

WROCKWARDINE, Shropshire is part of Telford

WROXETER, Shropshire - 5 miles SE of Shrewsbury

WYRLEY, Staffordshire could be Little Wyrley or Great Wyrley, between Cannock and Brownhills

YATTON, Somerset - 11 miles SW of Bristol

YORTON, Shropshire - 7 miles N of Shrewsbury

SOURCES

Over the years I have consulted a wide range of sources. These are listed below. Certain areas covered by censuses have not yet been used, and not ALL of the newspapers and magazines have been consulted COMPLETELY.

CENSUSES

1841 (7/6)
1851 (30/3)
1861 (7/4)
1871 (2/4)
1881 (4/4)
1891 (5/4)
1901 (31/3)
1911 (2/4)

PARISH REGISTERS

St. Edmund's, Dudley
St. Giles', Rowley Regis
St. Thomas', Dudley

LICENSING REGISTERS

Bilston and Sedgley
Darlaston
Dudley
Kingswinford
Oldbury
Smethwick
Stourbridge
Tipton
Walsall and Bloxwich
Wednesbury
West Bromwich

NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

Ales and Tales, the newsletter published by Dudley and South Staffordshire, and Stourbridge and Halesowen Branches of CAMRA.

Beerwolf, the newsletter published by Wolverhampton Branch CAMRA

Bilston and Willenhall Times

Black Country Bugle, published by the Black Country Bugle, 41 High Street, Cradley Heath. B64 5HL
e-mail editor@blackcountrybugle.co.uk

The Blackcountryman, published by the Black Country Society.
e-mail editor@blackcountryman.co.uk

The Brewers' Journal

Brewery History Society Journals

The Brewing Trade Review

Brierley Hill Advertiser

County Express

Deer's Leap, The. The house magazine of Mitchells and Butlers Ltd.

Dudley Advertiser

Dudley Herald

Dudley News

Evening News

Evening Star

Express & Star

Kils and Kins, the newsletter published by Walsall Branch CAMRA

London Gazette

Midland Advertiser (and Wednesbury Borough News)

Midland Counties Evening Express

The New Imbiber / Independent Imbiber

Oldbury Weekly News

Smethwick Heritage Telephone. The magazine of the Smethwick Heritage Centre Trust
e-mail editor@smethwick-heritage.co.uk

Smethwick Telephone

Smethwick Weekly News

Stourbridge (Cradley Heath, Halesowen and District) Observer

Tipton Herald

Walsall Observer

Wednesbury Herald

West Bromwich Weekly News

Wolverhampton Chronicle

DIRECTORIES

Ace's Directory of Darlaston (1953/54)
Aubrey's Staffordshire Directory (1931)
Bennett's Business Directory for Warwickshire, Worcestershire and South Staffordshire (1911–12)
Bentley's History & Guide & Directory of Worcestershire (1841)
Blocksidge's Dudley Almanack (1881–1914), (1925–1930)
Bridgen's Directory of Wolverhampton (1833)
Cassey & Co.'s Worcestershire Directory (1860)
Cope's Directory of Staffordshire (1908)
Corporation Directory for Birmingham & its environs (1863)
Crocker's Post Office Wolverhampton & District Directory (1884)
Dixon & Co. General and Commercial Directory of the Borough of Birmingham..... (1858)
Elton & Brown's Tipton & District Almanack (1901)
Ford's Household Almanack (1881)
Harrison & Harrod's Directory & Gazetteer of Staffordshire with Dudley (1861)
Herald Yearbook and Directory (1899–1902)
Holden's Directory (1816–17)
Hulley's Directory of the Hardware District (1889–90)
Hulley's Directory of Wolverhampton (1874)
Jones' Mercantile Directory of the Iron District of South Staffordshire and East Worcestershire (1865)
Kelly's Directory of Birmingham (1879), (1883), (1888), (1890), (1892), (1896), (1897), (1900), (1904), (1907), (1909), (1912), (1914), (1921), (1926), (1928)
Kelly's Directory for Birmingham (with its suburbs) and Smethwick (1930), (1933), (1934), (1942), (1943), (1944), (1945), (1946), (1949), (1951), (1955–1959), (1962), (1965), (1967/68)
Kelly's Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire and Worcestershire (1850)
Kelly's Directory for Staffordshire (1888), (1892), (1900), (1904), (1908), (1911), (1912), (1916), (1921), (1928), (1932), (1936), (1940)
Kelly's Directory for Staffordshire, Warwickshire & Worcestershire (1870), (1921)
Kelly's Directory for Warwickshire & Worcestershire (1916)
Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire (1884), (1888), (1892), (1896), (1921), (1924), (1928), (1932), (1936)
Kelly's Post Office Directory for Birmingham & District (1845)
Lewis' Worcestershire General and Commercial Directory (1820)
Littlebury's Worcestershire Directory (1873)
Mark & Moody's Directory for Stourbridge and District (1900)
Melville's Directory of Wolverhampton & District (1851)
Parson's Directory of Staffordshire and General (1818)
Pigot's Directory of Birmingham (1834), (1841), (1842)
Pigot & Co. Directory of Staffordshire (1822), (1828), (1830), (1842)
Pigot & Co. Directory of Worcestershire (1835)
Post Office Directory for Birmingham (1879)
Post Office Directory for Birmingham and its suburbs (1878)
Post Office Directory for Staffordshire (1849), (1860), (1868), (1872)
Post Office Directory for Worcestershire (1872)
Robson's London and Birmingham Directory (1839)
Ryder's Annual for Wednesbury (1889)
Ryder's Annual Wednesbury Red Book & Directory (1901)
Slater's Directory of Staffordshire (1850)
Slater's Directory of Worcestershire (1862)
Smethwick Annual and Year Book (1903)
Stevens' Directory of Wolverhampton and 6 miles Round (1879–1880)
Stourbridge Almanack & Directory (1914)
White's Directory of Birmingham (1873)
White's General and Commercial Directory of Birmingham (1855)

White's History, Gazetteer & Directory: Staffordshire (1834)
White's Directory for Staffordshire (1834), (1851), (1855), (1873)
Willenhall Red Book (1929)
Wolverhampton Directory (1879)
Wolverhampton Red Book (1900), (1928), (1938–1939)

BOOKS

Alton Douglas Presents series (published by Brewin Books Ltd.):-

'Memories of West Bromwich' (1999)

'Amblecote Directory 1905 to 1915' compiled by Nick Baker (2001)

'An ABC of the Licensing Laws' by the Solicitor to the London Central Board (c. 1960)

'Any Road Up. Memories of life in Tipton' collected by Heather Wastie (1998)

The Archive Photographs series (published by Chalford Publishing Co.):-

'Wolverhampton' compiled by Mary Mills and Tracey Williams (1996)

'Around Tettenhall and Codsall in Old Photographs' collected by Mary Mills (1990)

'The Best of Times: The Best of Places' compiled and edited by Dave Reeves (1997)

'Bilston in Old Photographs' collected by Elizabeth A. Rees (1988)

'Black Country Breweries' by Joseph McKenna (2005)

'The Black Country Good Beer Guide' compiled by the Black Country Branches of CAMRA (1994)

'The Black Country Good Beer Guide' compiled by the Black Country Branches of CAMRA (2006)

'A Black Country Pub Crawl of West Bromwich' compiled by Peter Hill (1992)

'The Black Country as seen through Antique Maps' by Eric Richardson (2000)

'The Black Country At Play' by Alton Douglas, Dennis Moore etc. (1994)

'Black Country Pubs in Old Photographs' compiled by Robin Pearson and Jean Wade (1991)

'The Black Country Remembered' by Alton Douglas, Dennis Moore etc. (1996)

'The Book of the Black Country' by Jon Raven (1988)

'The Brewing of Good Honest Beer'. Issued by Mitchells & Butlers Ltd. (1929)

Britain in Old Photographs series (published by Sutton Publishing):-

'Bilston, Bradley & Lady Moor' by Ron Davies & Roy Hawthorne (2000)

'Bilston, Bradley & Lady Moor. A Second Selection' by Ron Davies (2002)

'Bilston, Bradley & Lady Moor. A Third Selection' by Ron Davies (2003)

'Bilston, Bradley & Lady Moor. A Sixth Selection' by Ron and Joan Davies (2009)

'Blackheath' by Anthony H. Page (2000)

'Brierley Hill' by Stan Hill (1995)

'Brierley Hill' by Ned Williams and the Mount Pleasant Local History Group (2011)

'Cradley Heath, Old Hill & District' by Ron Moss & Bob Clarke (1998)

'Cradley Heath, Old Hill and District: A Second Selection' by Ron Moss (2004)

'Darlston, Moxley & Bentley' by Ian M. Bott (2000)

'Dudley' by H. Atkins, D. Matthews & S. Robins (1998)

'Great Bridge & District' by Terry Price (2000)

'Great Bridge Memories' by Terry Price (2004)

'Great Bridge Revisited' by Terry Price (2002)

'Halesowen' by David L. Eades (1998)

'Halesowen. A Second Selection' by David L. Eades (2000)

'Lye & Wollescote' by Denys Brooks & Pat Dunn (1997)

'Netherton' by Ned Williams (2006)

'Oldbury, Langley & Warley' by Terry Daniels (2002)

'Quarry Bank' by Ned Williams etc. (1998)

'Quarry Bank and the Delph' by Ned Williams and the Mount Pleasant Local History Group (2009)

'Rowley' by Anthony H. Page (2001)
 'Sedgley & District' by Trevor Genge (1995)
 'Sedgley & District. A Second Selection' by Trevor Genge (1997)
 'Sedgley & District. A Third Selection' by Trevor Genge (1999)
 'Sedgley & District. A Fifth Selection' by Trevor Genge (2004)
 'Sedgley, Coseley & The Gornals' by Trevor Genge (2001)
 'Stourbridge, Wollaston & Amblecote' by Bob Clarke & Michael Reuter (1997)
 'Stourbridge, Wollaston & Amblecote. A Second Selection' by Bob Clarke & Michael Reuter (2000)
 'Tipton' by John Brimble and Keith Hodgkins (1995)
 'Tipton. A Second Selection' by John Brimble and Keith Hodgkins (1997)
 'Tipton. A Third Selection' by Keith Hodgkins and John Brimble (2001)
 'Walsall Past and Present' by David F. Vodden (1999)
 'Walsall Revisited' by David F. Vodden (1997)
 'Wednesbury in Old Photographs' by Ian M. Bott (1994)
 'Wednesbury Memories' by Ian M. Bott (2004)
 'Wednesbury Revisited' by Ian M. Bott (1998)
 'Wednesfield and Heath Town' by Elizabeth A. Rees & Mary Mills (1992)
 'West Bromwich Revisited' by David F. Vodden (1999)
 'West Bromwich Memories' by Terry Price (2006)

'Britain's Lost Breweries and Beers' by Chris Arnot (2012)
 'The Burton Ale Guild of Master Cellarmen, Pub Guide' (1993)
 'By Road & Rail To Tettenhall' by Ned Williams (1980)
 'The CAMRA National Inventory' edited by David Gamston (2003)
 'The Caring Community' by John R. Stenson (1994)
 'A Century of the Black Country' by Ned Williams (1999)
 'A Century of British Brewers' by Norman Barber (1994)
 'Century of British Brewers plus' by Norman Barber (2005)
 'Cheers for a Thousand Years 985-1985' by A. A. Rose (1985)
 'The Curiosities of Dudley and the Black Country 1800-1860' by C. F. G. Clark (1881)
 'Coseley. A Walk Back In Time' by C Beryl Wilkes (1994)
 'Down The Dip' by John R. Stenson (1998)
 'Do You Remember?' by John R. Stenson (2000)
 'Dudley As It Was' by David Radmore (1977)
 'Freeman's Black Country Folk' published by the Black Country Society (1970)
 'Further Around Kingswinford and Wall Heath in Old Photographs' compiled by Ray James & Ron Julian (2000)
 'Gone But Not Forgotten' by John R. Stenson (1999)
 'Haden Hill House and Its Environs' by Jackie Kendall and John Billingham (1999)
 'The Highgate Brewery' by Keith J. Lloyd (1980's)
 'A History of Cape Hill Brewery' by T. W. Hartland and K. Davies (2002)
 'A History of Holden's' by John Richards (1986)
 'A History of Lower Gornal' by Andrew Barnett (1975)
 'A History of Simpkins Breweries' by John Richards (1984)
 'A History of West Bromwich' edited by MW Greenslade (1976)
 'History Around Us. Halesowen' by John Billingham (1996)
 'The History of Batham's' by John Richards (1993)
 '101 Real Ale Pubs in the Black Country' compiled by Peter Hill (1994)

Images of England series (published by Tempus Publishing Ltd.):-

'Bilston, Tettenhall and Wednesfield' compiled by Mary Mills and Tracey Williams (1998)
 'Bushbury and Featherstone' compiled by Alec Brew (1999)
 'Heath Town and Fallings Park' compiled by Alec Brew (1999)
 'Penn and Blakenhall' compiled by Alec Brew (1998)
 'Smethwick' by Andrew Maxam and David Harvey (2007)

'Whitmore Reans' compiled by Anthony Rose (2000)
 'Wolverhampton. A Century of Change' by Alec Brew (2000)
 'Wolverhampton Pubs' by Alec Brew (2004)

 'The Incorporated Brewers' Guild Directory' compiled by Miss J. A. Simpson (1990)
 'Innkeeping' edited by Brian Spiller (1964)
 'Inns, Ales, and Drinking Customs of Old England' by Frederick W. Hackwood (1909)
 'Inns and Inn Signs of Dudley' by Mark H. Washington Fletcher (1953)
 'I Remember Rushall' by Walsall Local History Centre (2002)
 'Jack Judge. The Tipperary Man' by Verna Hale Gibbons (1998)
 'Journey Down The Golden Mile, West Bromwich' by M. M. Meanders (1991)
 'Just Beyond The Hill' by John R. Stenson (1995)
 'Langley & Round About' compiled and edited by Suzie Drew & Diane Callow (1997)
 'The Law of the Six-Day Licences' by James Grayston (1901)
 'Making and Moving in Langley' edited by Terry Daniels (1999)
 'Mary Parton Remembers' by Patrick Quirke & Bill Lowe (2009)
 'Memories of Dudley' by Alton Douglas, Dennis Moore etc. (1989)
 'Memories of Stourbridge' published by True North Books Ltd. (2000)
 'Memories of Walsall' by Alton Douglas, Dennis Moore etc. (1989)
 'Memories of Wolverhampton' by Alton Douglas, Dennis Moore etc. (1988)
 'Molineux House. A History' by Patrick Quirke
 'Molineux Memories' by Wolverhampton Archives & Local Studies (2009)
 'More Memories of Old Warley' – Warley Local History Society (2004)
 '1991 things you wanted to know about Wolverhampton' published by Broadside (1991)
 'Nostalgic Dudley' by Margaret Wakefield (1998)
 'Oak House, West Bromwich' (3rd edition)
 'Oldbury and Rowley Regis in Old Photographs' collected by John Maddison (1991)
 'Old Memories of Old Warley' collected by Old Warley History Society (2002)
 'Old Time Oldbury' collated by Terry Daniels (2000)

Ottaker's Local History series (published by Tempus Publishing Ltd.):-

'Walsall' compiled by Pippa Bradley (2002)

 'Oldbury. The Town of the Four Moons' edited by Dave Reeves (1994)
 'Our Lost Village' by Lillian M Jewkes (date unknown)
 'Past & Present Wolverhampton' by Ned Williams (2002)
 'Playing and Performing in Langley' edited by Terry Daniels (2004)
 'The Publican's Manual' by Herbert Jeffries (1894)
 'Public House Checks of Birmingham and Smethwick' by R. N. P. Hawkins (1978)
 'The Pubs and Breweries of the Old Dudley Borough' by John Richards (1989)
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